

Reflection

The liturgy of the word opens with Isaiah's image of the Day of the Lord when all will be fulfilled. People will gather in the presence of God for a banquet that is more magnificent than any royal banquet or wedding feast. All suffering, mourning and sorrows will also end. We understand why this reading is also popular for funerals for it offers a vision of heaven with the best of everything.

The responsorial psalm (also used at funerals) complements the readings. The response also reinforces this sense: "I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life." We are invited into God's presence and enjoy his comfort and great largess.

The Gospel is the third parable in a sequence addressed to the chiefs priests and the elders of the people (The two sons, Matt 21:28-32, 26th Sunday; the landowner and the wicked tenants Matt 21:33-43, 27th Sunday; the wedding feast and the guest not dressed appropriately, Matt 22:1-14, 28th Sunday that is today). We should not fall into the trap and say those nasty people, we know better and we behave correctly. Yet Jesus' words are still relevant to people today. We are God's holy people, we are baptised and participate in the church's mission and worship. Can these words of warning to the leaders apply to us today?

May the warm embrace of our Christian community extend to the Palmer and Lawrence Families as we joyfully welcome Charlie and Mason into our midst, showering them with love, and spiritual growth as they receive the sacrament of Baptism this weekend (Saturday).

Parish Priest: Fr. Novelito Lim
Email: nlim@stmarysechuca.org.au

Parish Secretary: Colette Porter
Mobile: 0457 583 536

Admin Assistant: Marianne Kelly

Parish Office Hours
Tuesday - Friday : 9am - 1pm
St Mary's Parish Centre
224-230 Anstruther Street, Echuca
Ph: (03) 5482 1127

Email: admin@stmarysechuca.org.au

Website: www.stmarysechuca.org.au

Facebook: St Mary's Parish Echuca

Community Coordinator: Julie Moyle

Email: pcc@stmarysechuca.org.au

PARISH MASS TIMES

Weekend Mass Times:

Saturday: 6:00pm Mass
Sunday : 9:30am Mass
G'Day Weekend

Weekday Masses: 16th - 20th October

Wednesday: 12.00pm Mass (Church)
With St Mary's Children
Thursday: 9.00am Mass (Parish Centre)
Friday: 9.00am Mass (Church)

Reconciliation: Approach Fr. Novie Before Mass
Baptism: Every Second Sunday of the Month
Weddings: By Appointment with the Parish Priest
Ladies' Group: Every Tuesday 2pm (Parish Centre)
Men's Group: Every Saturday 9am (Parish Centre)
Playgroup: Every Friday 9am (Parish Centre)
During school terms

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We respectfully acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Yorta Yorta Nation. This land is sacred, this land is gift, this land is thousands of years old. We acknowledge the immense beauty of this land and the dreams of the Yorta-Yorta People. We pay our respects to elders past and present and acknowledge the lessons the Yorta-Yorta people teach us about care, respect and justice for mother earth. We remember their story as we journey together in a spirit of hope, justice and peace.

If you wish to assist in "further supporting the Parish" we offer different ways of giving... direct debit, credit card or planned giving envelopes. Please ring the office for more details.

PARISH BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS are as follows:

St Mary's Echuca
BSB Number: 083-543
Account Number: 45-782-9206

Child Safety: Through our policies and practices, we protect the right of children to feel safe and to be safe. We promote the well-being and inclusion of all children. For more information, contact the parish office and look for the Child Safety Officer Mel Slattery.

PARISH NEWS

Community Connect - 14th and 15th October 'Share the Dignity'

'Share the Dignity' is a national charity making a difference in the lives of women experiencing homelessness, domestic violence or simply doing it tough. The charity collects and distributes period products and other personal hygiene products. Items include – Shampoo and Conditioner, Toothpaste, Toothbrush, Deodorant, Soap and Period Products. A collection box will be available at Mass for the next couple of weeks. If you are able to donate, please note that all products collected locally are distributed to local women experiencing hardship. Feel free to call Julie Moyle on 0409 826336 if you have any questions or queries. Thank you.



REVELATIONS

We're thrilled to announce the inaugural Parish magazine launch in December 2023 and invite you to join this exciting endeavour. The launch event is on the 10th of December 2023, at our Parish Christmas Party.

To ensure the success of this project, we are seeking your help for sponsorship to assist with production costs. Your support in the following categories is greatly appreciated:

Gold Sponsorship: \$150
(includes a quarter-page advertisement)

Silver Sponsorship: \$100
(offers a double business card-size advertisement)

Bronze Sponsorship: \$50
(provides a business card-size advertisement)

We are also seeking one major sponsor for the second-to-last page of the magazine, available for a \$1000 contribution.

We plan to print 200 hard copies for distribution and will feature the magazine on our Parish website. Sponsors can provide a JPEG image or business card for inclusion, and tax invoices/receipts are available upon request.

Your consideration and potential support are highly valued as we aim to make our inaugural Parish magazine a vibrant reflection of our community. For more information, please contact Julie Moyle, Parish Community Coordinator, at 0409-826-336 or via email at pcc@stmarysechuca.org.au.

**Liturgical Ministry Seminars
St. Brendan's Church, Shepparton
(Wednesday 18 Oct 2023, 5:30-8:30pm)**

Join us for the Catholic Mission Weekend on October 21st and 22nd, 2023, and be part of a meaningful experience. Don't forget to pick up envelopes at the entrances of the church to support the Catholic Mission.



St Mary's Care for Creation Group

In 2015 Pope Francis wrote his letter to the world *Laudato Si'* - The Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor. The Bishops of Australia then established Catholic EarthCare which works with Caritas to address the issues Pope Francis highlighted which are destroying the earth and making millions of people poor.

All over Australia, Parishes, Schools and families have signed up to work on an audit which increases our awareness of how we need to change our hearts, minds and lifestyles so all beings on this God-given planet can thrive. Come and join us!

COMBINED FAMILY GROUP LUNCHEON

DOOR
PRIZES

ALL PARISHIONERS MOST WELCOME

Where: FROMELLES
RSL

When: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22nd 2023

Time: 12.00pm

RSVP SUNDAY 15th OCTOBER

TO LEADERS IF IN FAMILY GROUP OR
OTHERWISE CARMEL 0417 164 669



PURCHASE OWN MEALS

G'DAY Weekend

EVERY 3RD WEEKEND
OF THE MONTH

Please wear your NAME TAGS and join us for CUPPA after the Mass.
Donation Box is available to cover the monthly supply of coffee, tea, sugar, cups etc.

Dear Parishioners,

After a challenging 3½ years, we are so happy to share with you that Elijah has been granted permanent residency. This news has brought much joy and relief to our family.

Thank you to each and every one of you who has walked this journey with us, for all of your prayers, love and support. This has been such an answer to prayers, we feel so blessed to belong to such an amazing Parish family.

Colette, Sarah, Trinity, Rebekah, Isabelle, Patrick and Elijah.



Hangabout Playgroup

9am - 10:15am Friday mornings during the school terms.

St Mary's Parish 224 Anstruther St Echuca
(enter via side gate).

Enjoy fun activities - craft, singing, story time, outdoor play with the kids and meet others.

Mums, Dads & Carers are all very welcome



Contact Mel Slattery 0417 822 589 if you require further details.

PARISH CALENDAR (October-November)

14th & 15th October—G'Day Weekend –Men's Ministry and Care for Creation Team

14th & 15th October—Community Connect Share the Dignity

17th October—St Joe's Graduation Mass 5.00pm

17th & 18th—Colette away Secretaries Conference

18th October—Mass with St Mary's children 12.00pm
Liturgical Ministries Seminar 3.00pm

22nd October—Combined Family Groups Gathering

24th October—Finance Meeting 4.30pm

27th to 31st— Fr Novie away

29th October—St Mary's Family Mass

1st November—All Saints' Day Mass 12.00pm

1st November—PPC Meeting 5.30pm

2nd November—All Souls' Day Mass at St Mary's School 12.30

We are thrilled to announce the launch of our new Kid's Corner, located at the back of the church. In Kid's Corner, you'll find a variety of activities to keep you engaged during the service: **Colouring Sheets:** We have prepared delightful colouring sheets for you to unleash your creativity. You can choose to stay at the back of the church to colour or take them to your seats. **Books:** We have a collection of wonderful books for you to enjoy. You can borrow a book to read and discover new adventures. We hope the Kid's Corner adds more joy to your church experience. Feel free to explore it during your next visit!



ROSTERS: This Week - 14th & 15th October

Commentators/Lectors:

6.00pm: Kristy Serpell
Doug Black, Carol Purdon

9.30am: Cecilia Merrigan
Rachel McAsey, Jarrod O'Brien

Ministers of the Eucharist

6.00pm: Bob Cooper
9.30am: Julie Moyle, Mel Slattery

St Anne's Church Cleaner: 14th
Eileen Roberts, Tania Dixon

Setting up the Church: 14th Mary Atkins

Setting up the Church: 15th Rod Chisholm

Baptism Preparation: Jacqui Deola

Counters: 16th Brendan Shingles, Andrew Kennedy,
Peter Davey

Hospital Visiting: Jackie Delahunty

Gardening: John Zealley, Ken Hatfield, Alfred Grigg

ROSTERS: Next Week - 21st & 22nd October

Commentators/Lectors:

6.00pm: Chris Lee
Nick Lee, Sr Margaret

9.30am: Rachel McAsey
Anne Marie Cairns, Noela Boyer

Ministers of the Eucharist

6.00pm: Kate Bruty
9.30am: John Moyle, Beber Mitchell

St Anne's Church Cleaner: 21st
Cecilia Merrigan, Barb Green, Kerry McLoughlan

Setting up the Church: 21st Carol Purdon

Setting up the Church: 22nd Rachel McAsey

Baptism Preparation: Jacqui Deola

Counters: 23rd Roma Bowman, Margaret Hart

Hospital Visiting: John and Julie Moyle

Gardening: John Zealley, Ken Hatfield, Alfred Grigg

YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE

Sick: Bruno Barbera, Pat Davey, Dan Carey, Howard Clark Jnr, Jayden Williams, Jodie Walton, Murry Perrett, John & Chloris Dignan, Beatrice Phillips, Anne Dodd, Patricia Vogele, Fred Molluso, Meredith (Maddick) Ryan, Peter Phillips, David Baker, Stephen Baker, Monica Beckwith, Julio and Nati Acebron.

Anniversaries: Kelvin Webb, Vanessa Makoni, Charles Hodson, Dorothy Carter, Bill Vagg, Jack Shearer, Tom Henderson, Stella Moore, Tom Arnold, Jack Stanley, Lissa Bosse, Ray Wallace, Betty Kyne, Anthony Allan.

Deaths: Cristina de Jesus, Marita Oliver (cousin of our local Oliver's), Max Dupuy

First Reading Isaiah 25:6-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

On this mountain,
the Lord of hosts will prepare for all peoples
a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines,
of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines.
On this mountain he will remove
the mourning veil covering all peoples,
and the shroud enwrapping all nations,
he will destroy Death for ever.
The Lord will wipe away
the tears from every cheek;
he will take away his people's shame
everywhere on earth,
for the Lord has said so.
That day, it will be said: See, this is our God
in whom we hoped for salvation;
the Lord is the one in whom we hoped.
We exult and we rejoice
that he has saved us;
for the hand of the Lord
rests on this mountain.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 22

**R. I shall live in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life.**

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name,
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. **R.**

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **R.**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. **R.**

Next week: 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

21st & 22nd October Year A

1st Reading: Isaiah 45:1, 4-6

Responsorial Psalm: 95:1, 3-5, 7-10

2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5

Gospel: Matthew 22:15-21

Second Reading Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too.
I have been through my initiation and now I am ready
for anything anywhere; full stomach or empty stomach,
poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with
the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same,
it was good of you to share with me in my hardships.
In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus,
as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our heart
that we might see how great is the hope
to which we are called.

Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 22:1-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people:
'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who
gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants
to call those who had been invited, but they would not
come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who
have been invited," he said, "that I have my banquet all
prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been
slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding."
But they were not interested: one went off to his farm,
another to his business, and the rest seized his servants,
maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious.
He dispatched his troops, destroyed those murderers
and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, "The
wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved
to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and
invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these
servants went out on to the roads and collected together
everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the
wedding hall was filled with guests.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

