

Reflection

The age old maxim: "One cannot trifle with the liturgy" is addressed in the first reading and the gospel. Malachi condemns the worship practices of the priests and people of the day for offering second rate or imperfect sacrifices, lacking sincerity and abandoning their heritage. Jesus warns the scribes and Pharisees of their hypocrisy and being out of touch with the reality of the lives of the people and the ways of God. Matthew's criticism of these groups is not absolute. He notes the Pharisees fast and give alms to the poor (Matt9:24) and the scribes discern the good in the "old and the new" (Matt 13:52).

This gospel passage cannot merely be seen as a historical account of the practices of the day, they serve also as a critique and admonition of present practices within Matthew's community and by inclusion within future Christian communities. There will always remain the dichotomy of giving recognition and honour to leaders and responsible persons and maintaining our belief in the one true God and the example of Christ our Lord who came in humility and as a servant to all.



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Parish Office Hours
Tuesday - Friday : 9am - 1pm
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Community Coordinator: Julie Moyle
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PARISH MASS TIMES

Weekend Mass Times: 4th—5th November

Saturday: 6:00pm Mass
Sunday : 9:30am Mass
11.00am Tongala

Weekday Masses: 6th—10th November

Tuesday: Office Closed Melbourne Cup
Wednesday: 12.00pm Mass
Thursday: 9.00am Mass
Friday: 9.00am Mass

Weekend Mass Times: 11th—12th November

Saturday: 6:00pm Mass
Sunday : 9:30am Mass

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

Festive Christmas Raffle

Hello fellow Parishioners

Our Christmas raffle for 2023 will be bumper hampers! We are asking all Parish families to donate an item for a hamper. Non-perishable goods, such as wine, chocolates, gourmet goodies, home décor, books or vouchers would be great. If you're not able to purchase goods, you might like make a donation for us to purchase something on your behalf. The Festive Christmas raffle will be drawn on 10th December at our Parish Christmas party. Tickets will be available for sale at both Masses from the 11th/12th November - \$2 each or 3 for \$5. If you have any queries please contact Margaret Hart on 0419 506 254 or Julie Moyle on 0409 826 336. Thank you so much for your support.



Fr Novie, Margaret and Julie.

We're excited to announce our partnership with the Loddon Campaspe Multicultural Services (LCMS) to serve our growing multicultural community better. LCMS is committed to helping us in any way they can.

In our ongoing support for the multicultural community, we're pleased to offer fridge magnet information cards in 13 different languages, including Tagalog, English, Italian, and Sinhalese. These cards provide essential information and resources.

Additionally, we have little emergency first aid kits, sunscreens, and hand sanitisers available for free at the back of the church, accessible to everyone. We extend our heartfelt thanks to LCMS for their collaboration and look forward to continued cooperation with their organisation.



Month of the Holy Souls

November Mass envelopes can be found in the church entrances throughout the entire month of November. You can place them in the collection bags during the offertory or give them directly to Fr. Novie if you have specific Mass times in mind for them. Otherwise, Fr. Novie will gather them and include them in our Masses during the last weekend of November. These prayers are dedicated to our dearly departed family members, friends, and community members during this sacred month of the Holy Souls.



Senior Leadership Team Meeting Update (October 24, 2023)

- Parish Evaluation - In a positive light, many events are unfolding, including school family Masses, G'day Weekends, and Community Connect, reflecting our commitment to multicultural inclusion and hospitality.
- We will be engaging in a conversation with the senior leadership team, parish pastoral council, and liturgy team to ensure a seamless inclusion of baptisms during Mass. We appreciate the increasing number of baptisms and aim to enhance the experience. Should they take place during Mass or after? Let's explore how we can do it better.
- Christmas Party - Mark your calendars for December 10, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. We'll begin with Mass, followed by our AGM (or brief presentations) and the exciting launch of the Parish magazine, "Revelations."



G'Day Weekend and Family Mass

St. Mary's Primary School and St. Joseph's College,
in partnership with the Parish Sacramental Team,
cordially invite all to join us in celebrating
the remarkable journey of our Sacramental Children in 2023.

Picnic Day

9:30 am Mass followed by morning tea, entertainment, including a jumping castle, face painting, and games for the children on the parish grounds

19 NOVEMBER 2023



Christ the King Sunday 26th November 2023

The day will begin with a Mass at 9:30 AM,
followed by an Australian barbecue on the parish
grounds to celebrate the increasing diversity
within our congregation.



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 (November)

5th November - 11.00am Mass Tongala

7th November - Office is closed Melbourne Cup holiday

8th November - Liturgy Meeting 5.00pm

10th November - Aged-Care Liturgy 10.00am

12th November- Wallies Family Group "Lunch at Carmel & Ted's"

12th-17th November - Fr Novie away

15th November - Communion Service 12.00pm

17th-19th November - Men's Ministry Retreat

(Morning Glory Resort)

18th-19th November- G'Day Weekend (Social Justice)

19th November - Family Mass and Picnic (Sacramental Team)

21st November—Finance Meeting 4.30pm

22nd November—Fr Novie's Birthday



25th November— Testimony Saturday Mass

26th November - (Christ the King) followed by Parish BBQ.

Fellow Parishioners

We have a new 'family group' in our Parish without a television. If any of you have a television you no longer need, could you please let Fr Novie know?

Thanks in advance.



Thank You!

On behalf of the Echuca/Moama Share the Dignity' team, we would like to express our deep gratitude to each and every one of you who donated goods, bags or money in our recent campaign. We have been very humbled by your support. Be assured that all goods given will be distributed to a local woman in need this year. Again, thank you so much.

Julie Moyle

ROSTERS: This Week - 4th & 5th November

Commentators/Lectors:

6.00pm: Rose Quinn
Sr. Margaret, Marie McDonald

9.30am: Barb Green
Win Lavery, Michelle Shingles

Ministers of the Eucharist

6.00pm: Dominic Karunanayke
9.30am: Margaret Hart, Phil Stiles

St Anne's Church Cleaner: 2nd

Pat Sanderson, Bev Kenna

Setting up the Church: 4th Rose Quinn

Setting up the Church: 5th Noela Boyer

Baptism Preparation: Holly Morris

Counters: 7th Eileen Pineo, Lois Williams

Hospital Visiting: Noela Boyer

Gardening: Doug Black, Ray Lewis

ROSTERS: Next Week - 11th & 12th November

Commentators/Lectors:

6.00pm: Kristy Serpell
Colette Porter, Rebekah Porter

9.30am: Cecilia Merrigan
Rod Chisholm, Jenny Morris

Ministers of the Eucharist

6.00pm: Leah Williams
9.30am: Mel Slattery, Beber Mitchell

St Anne's Church Cleaner: 9th

Eileen Roberts, Tania Dixon

Setting up the Church: 11th Mary Atkins

Setting up the Church: 12th Rod Chisholm

Baptism Preparation: Holly Morris

Counters: 14th Brendan Shingles, Andrew Kennedy,
Peter Davey

Hospital Visiting: Karla Chisholm

Gardening: Doug Black, Ray Lewis

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 Vogege, Fred Molluso, Meredith (Maddick) Ryan, Peter Phillips, David Baker, Stephen Baker, Monica Beckwith, Julio and Nati Acebron, Bernadette McClelland.

Anniversaries: Geraldine Shannon, Pat, Helen and Marcus Timms, Don Oberin, Nina Petrini, Desmond Taylor, Jean Gorse, Charlie Pavone, Murray Williams, Margaret Slattery, Lyle Fraser.

Death:

First Reading Malachi 1:14 - 2:2, 8-10

A reading from the prophet Malachi

I am a great king, says the Lord of hosts, and my name is feared throughout the nations. And now, priests, this warning is for you. If you do not listen, if you do not find it in your heart to glorify my name, says the Lord of hosts, I will send the curse on you and curse your very blessing. You have strayed from the way; you have caused many to stumble by your teaching. You have destroyed the covenant of Levi, says the Lord of hosts. And so I in my turn have made you contemptible and vile in the eyes of the whole people in repayment for the way you have not kept to my paths but have shown partiality in your administration. Have we not all one Father? Did not one God create us? Why, then, do we break faith with one another, profaning the covenant of our ancestors?

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 130

R. In you, Lord, I have found my peace.

O Lord, my heart is not proud
nor haughty my eyes.
I have not gone after things too great
nor marvels beyond me. **R.**

Truly I have set my soul
in silence and peace.
A weaned child on its mother's breast,
even so is my soul. **R.**

O Israel, hope in the Lord
both now and for ever. **R.**



Next week: 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

11th & 12th November Year A

1st Reading: Wisdom 6:12-16

Responsorial Psalm: 62:2-8

2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 2:7-9, 13

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

Like a mother feeding and looking after her own children, we felt so devoted and protective towards you, and had come to love you so much, that we were eager to hand over to you not only the Good News but our whole lives as well. Let me remind you, brothers, how hard we used to work, slaving night and day so as not to be a burden on any one of you while we were proclaiming God's Good news to you.

Another reason why we constantly thank God for you is that as soon as you heard the message that we brought you as God's message, you accepted it for what it really is, God's message and not some human thinking; and it is still a living power among you who believe it.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

You have one Father, your Father in heaven;
you have one teacher: the Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Matthew 23:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Addressing the people and his disciples Jesus said, 'The scribes and the Pharisees occupy the chair of Moses. You must therefore do what they tell you and listen to what they say; but do not be guided by what they do: since they do not practise what they preach. They tie up heavy burdens and lay them on men's shoulders, but will they lift a finger to move them? Not they! Everything they do is done to attract attention, like wearing broader phylacteries and longer tassels, like wanting to take the place of honour at banquets and the front seats in the synagogues, being greeted obsequiously in the market squares and having people call them Rabbi.

'You, however, must not allow yourselves to be called Rabbi, since you have only one Master, and you are all brothers. You must call no one on earth your father, since you have only one Father, and he is in heaven. Nor must you allow yourselves to be called teachers, for you have only one Teacher, the Christ. The greatest among you must be your servant. Anyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and anyone who humbles himself will be exalted.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.