



St Mary's Parish
E C H U C A
Growing in faith together

Newsletter

**3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time.
20th & 21st of January 2024**

Reflection

Today we reflect on the first and most important responsibility of discipleship, namely, evangelisation, the goal of which is the proclamation of the reign of God. God seems to choose the most unlikely people to preach to others. It does not matter who brings the good news, but who receives it. Jonah the prophet was sent to outsiders, even enemies. The disciples were fishermen who spoke to the people of their own country. God's salvation is intended for all, and it seems to make little difference who brings this good news.

Today's readings call for repentance. The grace of God requires a new way of living, a life of faith and commitment. The gospel invites us into the age of fulfilment, a salvific reign of truth, compassion and kindness. It is a way of life that leads to justice.

There is an urgency in these readings. This world in its present form is passing away, and God's call demands a total response. Like the disciples, we must leave the familiarity of our former ways and follow the call that we have heard in the depths of our hearts. We are called first to enter the reign of God and then to spread it. As ambassadors of God, we bring the good news of salvation wherever we are and in whatever we do. Called by God, we now begin to live in a totally different way, guided by the values of the reign of God rather than those of the world that is passing away. © Dianne Bergant CSA

Parish Priest: Fr. Novelito Lim

Email: nlim@stmarysechuca.org.au

Mobile: 0450 185 021

Community Coordinator: Julie Moyle

Email: pcc@stmarysechuca.org.au

Mobile: 0409826336

Admin Assistant: Marianne Kelly

Parish Office Hours

Thursday : 9am - 1pm (January)

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

PARISH MASS TIMES

Weekend Mass Times: 20th & 21st January 2024

Saturday: 6:00pm Mass

Sunday : 9:30am Mass

Weekday Masses: 22nd - 26th January

Wednesday: 12.00pm Mass/Communion Service

Weekend Mass Times: 27th & 28th January 2024

Saturday: 6:00pm Mass

Sunday : 9:30am Mass

Reconciliation: Not in January

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

PARISH CALENDAR (January)

January.

The office will only be open on a Thursday from 9.00am to 1.00pm.

24th January—Ladies' Night 5:30pm

26th January—Australia Day (Public Holiday)

29th January—Combined Staff Mass (St. Mary's and St. Joe's)

29th January—Social Committee 2.00pm Parish Centre

You're all invited to our **'Wednesday's Ladies' Drinks'**. On the 4th Wednesday of each month we will gather in the meeting room for a relaxing get together and catch up. We will provide some nibbles, you will need to bring along your own drinks. (We aim to share the hosting role each month.) All are welcome - please come along with a friend or two! Looking forward to seeing you there.

Kay Westblade 0447 501 069 and Jan Tarr 0429 237 780

24th of January, 2024



Can and Bottle Collection Point!

We will have a collection point beside the Parish kiosk for aluminium cans (not crushed) and glass bottles.

Please encourage your friends and family to collect too!

All funds raised by the Parish will go to supporting the needs of our community.

Looking forward to your support.



Dear Parishioners,

Temporary Parish Office Arrangements for January 2024

I'll be away on my annual holiday, returning to the Philippines from December 26th to January 26th. With no permanent Parish Secretary available, we've collaborated with the Senior Leadership Team to create a temporary plan for smooth operations.

In January, the Parish Office will be open exclusively on Thursdays from 9 am to 1 pm, managed by Marianne Kelly, our administrative assistant. On days when Marianne is unavailable, Julie Moyle will be the point of contact for urgent matters like Anointing of the Sick (reaching out to Fr. Des or Fr. Damien), parish emergencies, pastoral concerns, and essential needs. Julie will coordinate with various ministry groups. Building issues will go to the Maintenance Team (Rob Morris, Bob Cooper, and Bunny Oliver), and financial matters will go to Margaret Hart. Mary Atkins and our team will continue managing funerals and liturgical matters.

We regret any inconvenience caused and appreciate your patience. We're maximising the support of our staff and volunteers during this time. Thank you for your understanding and continued support. We hope to resume normal parish office operations soon.

Fr. Novie



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.

Columban Calendars are available at the Office for \$10.00.

"God's Word 2024" have not arrived as yet.

If you have any news items/events please email to the office.



ROSTERS: This Week - 20th & 21st January 2024

Commentators/Lectors:

- 6.00pm:** Terry McKitterick
Chamali Stouter, Carla Chisholm
- 9.30am:** Rachel McAsey
Kerry McLoughlan, Anne Marie Cairns

Ministers of the Eucharist

- 6.00pm:** Tania Dixon
- 9.30am:** Mel Slattery, Marg Walter

St Anne's Church Cleaners: 20th

Kay Westblade, Eileen Pineo, Bev Stapleton

Setting up the Church: 20th Christine Sebire

Setting up the Church: 21st Noela Boyer

Baptism Preparation: Holly Morris

Counters: 23rd Pat Whyte, Adrian Costello

Hospital Visiting: Jackie Delahunty

Gardening: Jim & Prue Galea, Rose Quinn

ROSTERS: Next Week - 27th & 28th January 2024

Commentators/Lectors:

- 6.00pm:** Christine Sebire
Rose Quinn, Dominic Karunanayke
- 9.30am:** Margaret Hart
Jarrod O'Brien, Cecilia Merrigan

Ministers of the Eucharist

- 6.00pm:** Allison McKitterick
- 9.30am:** Erick Melad, Kay Westblade

St Anne's Church Cleaners: 27th

Pat Sanderson, Bev Kenna

Setting up the Church: 27th Rose Quinn

Setting up the Church: 28th Julie Moyle

Baptism Preparation: Holly Morris

Counters: 30th Eileen Pineo, Lois Williams

Hospital Visiting: John and Julie Moyle

Gardening: Jim & Prue Galea, Rose Quinn

I have emailed out the rosters for Hospital Visiting and St Anne's cleaning. Please let me know if I have missed any body or you have not received them. Also let me know if you have not received any other of the rosters, I can't fix what I don't know.

YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE

Sick: Julio and Nati Acebron, Eileen Anderson, David Baker, Bruno Barbera, Monica Beckwith, Dan Carey, Howard Clark Jnr, Pat Davey, John & Chloris Dignan, Anne Dodd, Caroline Farley, Bernadette McClelland, Fred Molluso, John Monigatti, Margaret Oman, Murray Perrett, Beatrice Phillips, Peter Phillips, Meredith (Maddick) Ryan, Patricia Voge, Jodie Walton, Jayden Williams, Judy Wallace.

Anniversaries: Molly Booth, Robert Russell, Dianne Egan, Bill Sidorow, Maggie Mullens, Mary McWhinney, Fabian Lucic, Pino Surake, Yvonne Dargan, Patricia Bannon, John Gleeson, Mary Parr, Brett Hughes, George McDonald, Bridie Lowrie, Trevor Green, Margaret Hessel, Noel Pearson, Irene Williams, Veronica Smith, Leila Lacey, John Stapleton, Murray Magdziarz, Jack Borneman, Agnes Kotsiakos, Pauline Stephens, Neville Tonizzo.

Deaths:

First Reading

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

A reading from the prophet Jonah

The word of the Lord was addressed to Jonah: 'Up!' he said 'Go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach to them as I told you to.' Jonah set out and went to Nineveh in obedience to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was a city great beyond compare: it took three days to cross it. Jonah went on into the city, making a day's journey. He preached in these words, 'Only forty days more and Nineveh is going to be destroyed.' And the people of Nineveh believed in God; they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth from the greatest to the least. God saw their efforts to renounce their evil behaviour. And God relented: he did not inflict on them the disaster which he had threatened.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 24:4-9

R. Teach me your ways, O Lord.

Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. **R.**

Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord. **R.**

The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor. **R.**

Next week: 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

27th & 28th January Year B

1st Reading:

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 94:1-2, 6-9

2nd Reading:

Corinthians 7:32-35

Gospel:

Mark 1:21-28

Second Reading

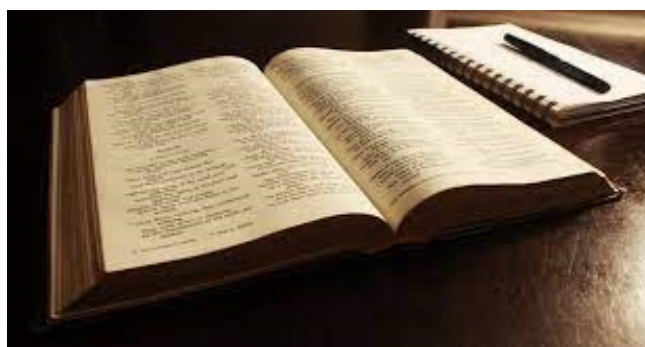
1 Corinthians 7:29-31

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

Brothers: our time is growing short. Those who have wives should live as though they had none, and those who mourn should live as though they had nothing to mourn for; those who are enjoying life should live as though there were nothing to laugh about; those whose life is buying things should live as though they had nothing of their own; and those who have to deal with the world should not become engrossed in it. I say this because the world as we know it is passing away.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The kingdom of God is near:
believe the Good News!

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 1:14-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.' As he was walking along by the Sea of Galilee he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake - for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men.' And at once they left their nets and followed him. Going on a little further, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they too were in their boat, mending their nets, he called them at once, and, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the men he employed, they went after him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.