

Newsletter

The Transfiguration of the Lord
5th & 6th August 2023



Reflection

Peter, James and John were stunned by their experience on the mountain. Their wonder at seeing Jesus radiant in the presence of Moses and Elijah, became even more overwhelming when a bright cloud cast them into shadow and the voice boomed from the cloud. It took the touch of Jesus to relieve them of fear and bring them down the mountain. The imagery in the book of Daniel indicates that much happens on levels that we cannot understand in the moment. In Peter's second letter, reflecting on the experience he shared with James and John, he writes that he now understands what had happened in the Transfiguration; he is no longer fearful but can confirm boldly what the voice said on the mountain. May the touch of Jesus guide us through the moments in our lives that seem incomprehensible, that in time we may recognise more fully their significance.



Wedding Notice: We congratulate Eileen Fullard and Anthony Oliveri on your wedding this weekend. Through the power of Christ, may you grow together through faith.

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 Church
Sunday : 9:30am Church

Weekday Masses: 7th —11th August

Wednesday: 12.00pm Mass (Church)
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)
Except for School Holidays

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

Carrying Forward the Plenary Council

Online Workshops

Dr Chris Cotter and Leslie Cooper will be facilitating two online workshops focusing on the findings from the Plenary Council and the ways we can implement actions to support the commitments agreed to at the Council. These online sessions will start and end in prayer and invite participants to read and reflect on the decrees and share and listen to thoughts and ideas -- a process consistent with that used at the Plenary Council.

Choose either an evening session on Tuesday 8 August 7.00 – 8.30 p.m.,

or a morning session on

Wednesday 9 August 9.00 – 10.30 a.m.

This event is free to all. You must register to receive Zoom login details. To register go to:
<https://www.trybooking.com/CJKVC>

An invitation to all ladies of St. Mary's Parish and beyond to join in a



\$10
Tickets

Ladies Breakfast

On the 2nd of September 2023,
Saturday starting at 9:30 am at the
Parish Centre.

Tickets are \$10 each and will be available
after weekend Masses until the 26th/27th of
August or at the parish office (03 5482 1127)
during office hours from
Tuesday to Friday, 9 am to 1 pm.

We are excited to announce that the **Parish Senior Leadership Team** has joined the Divine Renovation Traction Program! This program aims to revitalise and renovate our parish community, providing a structured approach to gain momentum and steady progress.

Though you, as a parish, had initiated the Divine Renovation journey in the past years, the challenges brought about by COVID and changes in parish priests caused some delays. However, with this new program, the New Leadership Team are determined to move forward together as a parish, keeping you informed every step of the way.

Let us embrace this opportunity to strengthen our community and deepen our faith. We look forward to the positive changes and growth that lie ahead. Please stay tuned for updates and get involved as we begin this inspiring journey together.



Sacraments of Initiation for Children and Teens

If you know any children aged 8 to 12 years old interested in Baptism or youth aged 13 to 17 years old seeking Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist, we invite them to receive the Sacraments of Initiation.

Please inform the parish office by the 15th of August to register for our Rite of Christian Initiation for Children (RCIC) program. Led by Lauren Gould, this program will be conducted in collaboration with St. Mary's Primary School and St. Joseph's College.

Let us come together to support and nurture the faith journey of our young ones. We look forward to a blessed and enriching experience for all involved.

G'Day Weekend

Our next G'Day Weekend is the **19th and 20th of August**. We encourage you to wear your **name badges** on these days but if you wish to wear them to Mass on other weekends that is OK as well.

Repair Café: Do you need a small repair? St Mary's Parish Care for Creation group is working with the Uniting Church to offer an alternative to sending items to landfill.

Venue: The Uniting Church Hall, Cnr Pakenham and Hare Sts.

Dates: August 12th, Sept 9th.

Hours open: 10am - 12 Noon.

For more information, or to offer to volunteer, contact:
Cecilia Merrigan 0400 863 190

Stewardship Statements Available

The Stewardship Statements are now available at the back of the church. Please note that there might be some mistakes in the Pledge

Total due to changes in contributions during the Stewardship Program in the middle of the financial year. Colette has manually adjusted them from the PACS program. We kindly ask for your understanding and consideration. Hopefully, by the end of this financial year, the Total Pledge will be accurately reflected.

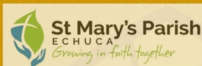
Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

Join Our Counters Team!

We invite all parishioners interested in joining our Counters Team to help us with the important task of counting collections. Counters are rostered once a month on a Tuesday at 9:15 am.

For both current and new counters, there will be a meeting on the 15th of August 2023 at 9:30 am at the Parish Centre. During the meeting, we will discuss the updated counting process and enjoy a catch-up over morning tea.

Your participation is highly valued, and we look forward to working together to serve our parish community.



Confirmation and First Eucharist

You are cordially invited to be part of a momentous occasion with **Bishop Shane Mackinlay** to preside over this spiritually enriching event.

6 pm Saturday
26th August 2023

9:30 am and 11:30 am Sunday
27th August 2023

PARISH CALENDAR (August— September)

2nd August-PPC Meeting

St Mary's Primary School (Staff Spirituality Day)

5th August—Eileen Fullard and Anthony Oliveri (Wedding)

6th August—Mass at Tongala (11.30am)

9th August—Liturgy Meeting (5pm)

10th August—St. Mary's School Mass (12:30pm)

11th August— Aged Care Liturgy

Wallies Family Group "Pamper Party"

15th August—Assumption Mass (12nn— Church)

Finance Committee Meeting (4.30pm)

16th August—Bereavement Team (5pm)

Sacramental team (5:30pm)

17th August—St. Mary's Whole School Mass (12:30pm)

19th 20th August— G'Day Weekend

23rd August—Confirmation Mass Rehearsal (5pm)

24th August— Yr 6 Mass, Reconciliation of Shewan Maddie Jackson

26th August—Confirmation Mass 6pm

27th August—Confirmation Mass 9:30am and 11:30am

30th August— Soup and Sandwiches

The Echuca Library is arranging English Conversation classes for new arrivals to Australia.

One session is scheduled for the afternoon, but an evening class is needed for those who are working.

If you would like to volunteer to be available on Wednesday evenings from 7-8pm to chat informally with our friends who have recently come to our country, please contact Cecilia on 0400863190.

ROSTERS: This Week - 5th & 6th August

Commentators/Lectors:

6.00pm: Tania Dixon
Rose Quinn, Marie McDonald

9.30am: Margaret Hart
Chris Armstrong, Michelle Shingles

Ministers of the Eucharist

6.00pm: Dominic Karunanayake
9.30am: Kay Westblade, Bernie Oliver

St Anne's - 5th: Pat Sanderson

Setting up the Church: 5th: Carol Purdon

Baptism Preparation: Sarah Byrne

Counters - 8th: Pat Whyte, Adrian Costello

Gardening: Michael Delahunty, Damien Byrne,
Fr Des

ROSTERS: Next Week - 12th & 13th August

Commentators/Lectors:

6.00pm: Kristy Serpell
Sr Margaret, Nick Lee

9.30am: Noela Boyer
John Vagg, Felix Pontejos

Ministers of the Eucharist

6.00pm: Chris Lee
9.30am: Mel Slattery, Lauren Gould

St Anne's - 12th: Eileen Roberts, Tania Dixon

Setting up the Church: 12th: Christine Sebire

Baptism Preparation: Sarah Byrne

Counters - 15th: Eileen Pineo & Lois Williams

Gardening: Michael Delahunty, Damien Byrne,
Fr Des

YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE

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

Anniversaries: Mel Pitts, Therese Mulcahy,
Leigh McCann, Arthur Fraser, Toni Spencer, Norm Wright, John Lord, Kath Byrne.

Recent Deaths: Shelley Grace (nee Phyland) Brian and Margaret's Daughter, Cheryl Pierce (David Baker's Sister)

First Reading Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

A reading from the book of Daniel

As I watched:
Thrones were set in place and one of great age took his seat. His robe was white as snow, the hair of his head as pure as wool. His throne was a blaze of flames, its wheels were a burning fire. A stream of fire poured out, issuing from his presence. A thousand thousand waited on him, ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him. A court was held and the books were opened. I gazed into the visions of the night. And I saw, coming on the clouds of heaven, one like a son of man. He came to the one of great age and was led into his presence. On him was conferred sovereignty, glory and kingship, and men of all peoples, nations and languages became his servants. His sovereignty is an eternal sovereignty which shall never pass away, nor will his empire ever be destroyed.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 96:1-2, 5-6, 9

R. The Lord is king, the most high over all the earth.

The Lord is king, let earth rejoice, let all the coastlands be glad. Cloud and darkness are his raiment; his throne, justice and right. **R.**

The mountains melt like wax before the Lord of all the earth. The skies proclaim his justice; all peoples see he glory. **R.**

For you indeed are the Lord most high above all the earth exalted far above all spirits. **R.**

Next week: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

12th & 13th August Year A

1st Reading: 1 Kings 19:9, 11-13

Responsorial Psalm: 84:9-14,

2nd Reading: Romans 9:1-5

Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33

Second Reading 2 Peter 1:16-19

A reading from the second letter of St Peter

It was not any cleverly invented myths that we were repeating when we brought you the knowledge of the power and the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ; we had seen his majesty for ourselves. He was honoured and glorified by God the Father, when the Sublime Glory itself spoke to him and said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour.' We heard this ourselves, spoken from heaven, when we were with him on the holy mountain. So we have confirmation of what was said in prophecies; and you will be right to depend on prophecy and take it as a lamp for lighting a way through the dark until the dawn comes and the morning star rises in your minds.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

This is my Son, my beloved, in whom is all my delight: listen to him.

Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 17:1-9

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured: his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus. As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order, 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.