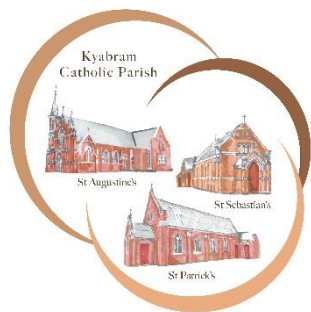




KYABRAM CATHOLIC PARISH

St Augustine's-Kyabram ~ St Patrick's-Tongala ~ St Sebastian's-Merrigum

St Augustine's – Kyabram, 69 Church Street, PO Box 341, Kyabram Vic, 3620

Tel: 03 – 5852 1026 Email: kyabram@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

Website: www.kyabramcatholicparish.org.au

Parish Priest – Fr Uday Marneni ALCP/OSS

Fourth Sunday of Advent ~ Cycle C

Sunday 22 December 2024



Readings for
this week:

Micah 5:1-4
Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-44



Readings for
next Sunday:

1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28
1 John 3:1-2, 21-24
Luke 2:41-52



Liturgical Jottings Advent and Easter

Advent, as a season of the church, evolved in the end of the fourth century in Gaul and Spain as preparation for the Feast of Christmas, 25 December, the winter solstice. The birth of Christ was regarded by the Christians of the day as the beginning of the mystery of humanity's deliverance from the darkness of sin, culminating with the feast of Easter. Hence the season of Advent took on some of the elements of the season of Lent.

Also at this time the meaning of the festival of Christmas varied. From just a memorial of Christ's birth (St Augustine) to a sacramental type in celebrating the actual event in the present moment (St Leo). Rome did not have a season of Advent until the sixth century. Several prayers of the Advent liturgies point to the resurrection of Christ: "to free us from sin and renew his life within us. [Collect 3rd Tuesday of Advent]. Also see the prayer opposite.

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Focus on the Readings

The scripture texts for this Sunday carry several themes. Micah, a shepherd from Bethlehem, prophesies the coming of a ruler-shepherd with power and majesty of God. The Letter to the Hebrews unites the coming of Christ as one who suffers and offers himself to complete his purpose; thus taking up the Advent-Easter connection (see the column on the left).

On the fourth Sunday of Advent we are now ready to prepare for the birth of Christ. This year, cycle C Gospel account is the visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary with her kinswoman Elizabeth. Comparing with Cycle A, the annunciation to Joseph, and Cycle B the annunciation to Mary, we can infer that Elizabeth also received an annunciation from a messenger of God that Mary will bear the Saviour. Here are five faith-filled people in the drama of Christmas: Zechariah and Elizabeth, Joseph and Mary and John, yet to be born leaping for joy. Each and everyone have a wonderful role in welcoming the Saviour into the world. May we enter the drama of Christmas with faith and our part to play.

Advent / Easter Prayer



Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection. *Collect Prayer of the fourth Sunday of Advent and the Angelus*

Excerpts from the Synod 2024

The need for conversion certainly concerns the relations between men and women. ... Inequality between men and women is not part of God's design. In the new creation, this difference is reconsidered in the light of the dignity of Baptism: "As many of you as were baptised into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus" (Gal 3: 27-28). ... We bear witness to the Gospel when we seek to live in relationships that respect the equal dignity and reciprocity between men and women. The widely expressed pain and suffering on the part of many women from every region and continent, both lay and consecrated, during the synodal process, reveal how often we fail to do so. (Part 1 n.52)

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Sick: Norris Bell, Olive McElroy, Paul Genio, Tony Barca, John Moran, Jodie Potts, Frances Corso, Philip Bowman, Ron Florence, Kadyn Mitchell-Treacy.

Recently Deceased: Antonino Barca, Finola Price

Anniversaries: Giuseppina Quattrocchi, Giuseppe Zobec, Felisa Baric

(Please email or contact the Parish Office to add names to our prayer list)

ROSTERS

Sunday 29 December 8.30am

Commentator – J Chant

Lector – C Cabaraban

Special Minister – J Stockdale

Sunday 5 January 8.30am

Commentator – N Watt

Lector – M DiPetta

Special Minister – K McGlade

Saturday 11 January at 6pm

Commentator – L Ratcliffe

Lector – C Anderson

Special Minister – L Cosgriff

PLATE AND ENVELOPE COLLECTION

Collection: \$ 1854.70

Thank you for your generosity and support for our Parish. May God bless you, always.

PARISH DETAILS

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Uday Kumar Marneni ALCP/OSS

PARISH SECRETARY

Vicki Arnel – 0417 147 695

PARISH PASTORAL ASSISTANT

Mary Zobec – 0427 190 282

Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 8.30am-4pm

PRINCIPALS

St Augustine's College -Tim Campbell – Phone 5851 3000

St Patrick's Primary - Jackie Stockdale – Phone 5859 0371

MASS TIMES

KYABRAM

Week Day: Tuesday Rosary 4pm, Mass 4.15pm & Thursday 9.15am

Saturday: 2nd and 4th weekend of month: 6pm EDT (5pm EST)

Sunday: 8.30am

TONGALA: First Sunday of month 11.30am

MERRIGUM: Third Sunday of month 12 noon

RECONCILIATION - Second Saturday of month at 5.30pm (before 6pm Mass) in St Augustine's Church.

ANOINTING MASS - held on the first Thursday of the month at 10am in St Augustine's Church.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Sunday 22 December – 8.30am

Tuesday 24 December – 7.30pm Carols,
- 8pm Mass (Church)

Wednesday 25 December – 8.30am



MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM FR UDAY

Fr Uday wishes all parishioners a grace filled Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year 2025. May God bless and fill our families with His love and graces.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Kyabram Catholic Parish would like to wish all parishioners, teachers, staff and students a very Merry Christmas and best wishes for a happy and safe New Year and an enjoyable break over the school holidays.

ST SEBASTIAN'S MERRIGUM

It is with sadness that we announce the decision has been made and confirmed with the Bishops guidance, that St Sebastian's church Merrigum will be closed. The Bishop will be decommissioning the church on Sunday 2 February 2025 at 12 noon. Please save the date and please share with past parishioners. More details to come.

CHARITY CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

1st Prize \$100 Three620

2nd Prize \$50 Open House

3rd Prize \$20 Open House.

Tickets 3 for \$5. Drawn: Christmas Day

ST VINNIES LEAVING COLLECTION

A leaving collection for St Vinnies will be taken up at all Christmas Masses.

PARKING

Father would like to ask parishioners assistance in leaving the driveway area as parking for those with disabilities or walker. Please be thoughtful of others.

ANOINTING MASS

Please note the next anointing mass will be held on **Thursday 9nd January** at 10am, followed by a cuppa.

MASS TIME TABLE

Weekly Masses

Sun 22nd December - 8.30am

Tue 24th December - 7.30pm Carols, 8pm Mass

Wed 25th December - 8.30am

Thu 26th December - No Mass

Weekly Masses

Sun 29th December - 8.30am

Tue 31st December - No Mass

Thu 2nd January – No Mass

Weekly Masses

Sun 5th January - 8.30am

Sun 5th January - 11.30am Tongala

Tue 7th January - 4pm Rosary, 4.15pm Mass

Thu 9th January – 10am Anointing Mass

Sat 11th January - 6pm

VALE FINOLA PRICE

The Kyabram Catholic Parish Community mourns the loss of Finola Price, a dedicated volunteer and valued member of our Parish. Finola brought with her a wealth of experience, arriving in Kyabram highly recommended by her former employers and Parish Priests, including the late Fr. Bob McGuire and Monsignor Frank Hickey.



Her quiet dedication and organisational skills shone in her work in Parish administration setting up our child safety program involving many hours, her pastoral visits to elderly parishioners and her service on the Parish Pastoral Council.

Finola's faith-filled life and her commitment to the Parish were evident in all she undertook. Her gentle presence and thoughtful contributions will be deeply missed. May she now rest in peace, reunited with her beloved Trevor, in the eternal embrace of our Lord.

LADIES CUPPA AND CHAT

There will be no cuppa and chat in January. See you in February.

MONTHLY WORKING BEE

The next working bee will be on **Saturday 4 January at 9.30am.**

CHRISTMAS APPEAL

This Christmas, families like Sakhina's are facing the devastating risk of disease due to a severe lack of clean water and proper sanitation in the world's largest refugee camp. But with your support, we can bring hope to these families. As part of the second-largest

humanitarian network in the world, Caritas Australia and our partner Caritas Bangladesh are on the ground, ready to act. Together, we can improve access to clean water, provide better sanitation, and help reduce the spread of deadly waterborne diseases this Christmas. Donate today at caritas.org.au/christmas

CARITAS APPEAL FOR LEBANON

As you would know from the news, Lebanon is facing a dire humanitarian crisis. Caritas partners are providing emergency assistance, including medical, food and hygiene support; emotional and social support; cash for shelter for displaced and conflict-affected families; and providing partner centres to serve as shelters. Donations can be made at www.caritas.org.au or by calling 1800 024 413. If you would like to read the digital version of Caritas news, please click on the following link <https://www.caritas.org.au/news/our-magazine/>

SHORT RESIDENTIAL RETREATS IN SANDHURST TAKE TIME – TO PRAY, TO REST A WHILE, TO RECONNECT

A short residential retreat may be just the thing. The Sandhurst Retreat and Accompaniment Team (formed by Spiritual Directors, Mary Murphy, Mark Needham, Paul White, and Fran Smullen) offers Retreats in our Diocese at a minimal cost to groups or individuals. If interested contact: Sandhurst Retreat & Accompaniment Team. E: retreatteaminfo@gmail.com

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ciavarellas@my.betta.com.au

CHILD SAFE PARISH

We are a Child Safe Parish, we have a zero tolerance for child abuse and aim to provide a safe, supportive and welcoming environment to all visiting children, young persons and vulnerable adults. If you are concerned for any form of abuse that is immediate you should call 000; a significant risk or harm, whether or not you have formed this belief on reasonable grounds, you should immediately raise your concerns with the Parish Child safety officer Mary Zobec 0427 190 282.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

As we come to worship, we remember the Yorta Yorta & Bangerang People the original custodians of this land. We acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples with deep respect. May the Elders, past and present, be blessed and honoured. May we join and build a future based on compassion, justice, faith and reconciliation.

*"Where there is charity and wisdom, there is neither fear nor ignorance."
"I am who I am before God, no more and no less." – St. Francis of Assisi*