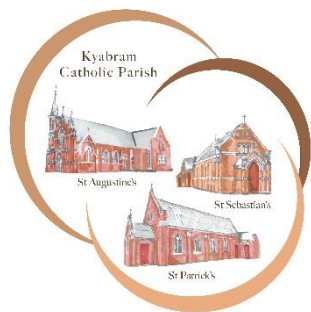




KYABRAM CATHOLIC PARISH

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

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord ~ Cycle C

Sunday 12 January 2025



Readings for
this week:

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11
Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7
Luke 3:15-16, 21-22



Readings for
next Sunday:

Isaiah 62:1-5
1 Corinthians 12:4-11
John 2:1-11



Liturgical Jottings

The River Jordan

The River Jordan is mentioned twice in the Sunday Liturgy: in the Collect and in the Preface as the place of Jesus' Baptism. The waters of Jordan are a figure of a vehicle "that takes one to heaven." St. Gregory of Nazianzus uses the image: "Baptism is the destruction of sin, the vehicle to carry us to God."

"On this day the element of water is consecrated; Jordan stops flowing and holds back its waters as it sees the Saviour purifying himself in them. O Christ, our King, as a man you went down into the river, hastening because of our sins to receive from the Precursor the baptism meant for slaves." Hymn of St Sophronitus
This is the feast of the Lord that we see today! the Jordan; we see him casting into the Jordan the death due us for our disobedience, the stinging goad of error, and the chains that bound Adam; we see him giving to the world the baptism that saves.

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Looking at the Readings

Surprisingly the place, time and agent of Jesus' Baptism are not mentioned in Luke's account of the Baptism we read today. Those details we have received from the Gospels according to Matthew, Mark and John. Luke takes us directly to the significance of the mystery-event.

First mentioned part was that Jesus was at prayer (3:21) indicating the importance of the event. For Jesus was at prayer before other important events: before he chose the twelve Apostles (5:16); before Peter's profession of faith (6:12); before the transfiguration (9:18); and before his own passion (22:41). Luke records another significant moment in Acts when the Apostles, Mary and other disciples were at prayer on the days leading up to Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended upon them (Acts 1:14; 2:1). The descent of the Holy Spirit, in response to prayer, becomes the significance of the Baptism of the Lord.

Secondly mentioned in Luke are the words of the voice from heaven: "You are my Son, the Beloved, in you I am well pleased." The event becomes a second Epiphany - the manifestation of God. The word epiphany, from the Greek meaning "to show to" another word associated with it is "theophany": to show, to manifest, God to the world. Various Eastern Rite Churches unite the Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord and the Miracle at the wedding feast of Cana into one celebration of the Theophany of Jesus. By coming into the world, Jesus has shown the kindness and love of God.

Prayer of the Day

Today the grace of the Holy Spirit descends upon the waters in the form of a dove.

Today the waters of the Jordan are changed into a remedy by the presence of the Lord.

Today the sins of men are wiped away in the waters of the Jordan.

Today paradise is opened to mankind, and the Sun of Justice shines upon us.

Today the kingdom of heaven has become ours. (*St Sophronitus*)

Quote of the Day

The Lord was Baptized, not to be cleansed Himself, but to cleanse the waters, so that those waters, cleansed by the flesh of Christ which knew no sin, might have the power of Baptism. *St Ambrose of Milan (340? - 397)*

On the Lighter Side

The local butcher and his wife presented their twin infants for baptism. The priest asked: "What are their names?"

"Steak and kidney," blurted the nervous father. "Joe, you fool," whispered his wife: "It's Kate and Sydney."



PLEASE PRAY FOR

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

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries: Antonino Barca, Iris Nicholson

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

ROSTERS

Sunday 19 January 8.30am

Commentator – E Luvara

Lector – J Chant

Special Minister – N Livsey

Saturday 25 January at 6pm

Commentator – S Carroll

Lector – W Mulchahy

Special Minister – L Busch

Sunday 26 January 8.30am

Commentator – C Cabaraban

Lector – M Carver

Special Minister – J Chant

PLATE AND ENVELOPE COLLECTION

Last weekend Collection: \$ 895.50

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.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

Fr Uday would like to thank all the Parish Pastoral Council team for their contributions, the parish appreciates your commitment and support. There are now vacancies so we are calling for nominations of those interested in joining the Parish Pastoral Council. There are nominations forms in the gathering space and nomination forms can then be given to Fr Uday or placed in the mailbox at the presbytery or handed into the office they need to be received by Sunday 16 February.

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 share with others.

NO MASS IN FEBRUARY FOR TONGALA

As Father Novitelle Lim is not available there will be no Mass in Tongala on Sunday 2 February. As this is the date of the decommissioning Mass for Merrigum, we invite all parishioners attend this significant event.

CALENDARS

There are still a number of calendars available in the gathering space. Columban calendars \$10 – Cane wall Calendars \$20.

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.

MONTHLY WORKING BEE

The next working bee will be on **Saturday 1 February at 9.30am.**

LADIES CUPPA AND CHAT

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

MASS TIME TABLE

Weekly Masses

Sun 12th January - 8.30am

Tue 14th January - 4pm Rosary, 4.15pm Mass

Thu 16th January - No Mass

Weekly Masses

Sun 19th January - 8.30am

Sun 19th January - 12 noon Merrigum

Tue 21st January - 4pm Rosary, 4.15pm Mass

Thu 23rd January - No Mass

Sat 25th January - 6pm Mass

Weekly Masses

Sun 26th January - 8.30am

Tue 28th January - 4pm Rosary, 4.15pm Mass

Thu 30th January - No Mass

Weekly Masses

Sun 2nd February - 8.30am

Sun 2nd February - 12 noon Merrigum decommissioning Mass

You are invited to the decommissioning Mass of St Sebastian's - Merrigum



Celebrants: Bishop Shane Mackinlay & Fr Uday Marneni

Date: Sunday 2 February 2025

Time: 12 noon

Place: St Sebastian's Church, 78 Morrissey Street,
Merrigum, VIC, 3618

A celebration gathering with lunch provided will be held
after Mass at the Merrigum Bowling Club, Morrissey Street,
Merrigum.

Enquiries: 5852 1026

Email: kyabram@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

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THE FIVE EFFECTS OF BAPTISM



We are granted justification or sanctifying grace

When we're baptised, our original sin is forgiven and, in the case of adults, personal sins.



We receive the three theological virtues

Faith, hope and charity, the gifts of the Holy Spirit and the other virtues are received.



We receive the sacramental grace

It offers the necessary help to live a Christian life. It makes us capable of believing in God, of waiting on Him and loving Him.



A sacramental character is imprinted in us

It is an indelible spiritual mark that is imprinted during Baptism. It makes us part of the Church, Body of Christ.



It makes us part of the common priesthood of the faithful

Participation is in two forms: active, through evangelization and sanctifying all temporal realities and passive, by receiving the other sacraments.

THE SEVEN SACRAMENTS **CatholicLink** SOURCE: CATHOLIC.NET

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.

"Give something, however small, to the one in need. For it is not small to one who has nothing. Neither is it small to God, if we have given what we could." -St. Gregory Nazianzen