



Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A- Sunday, 25th October 2026



Entrance Antiphon Cf Psalm 104:3-4

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice;
turn to the Lord and his strength;
constantly seek his face.

First Reading Exodus 22:20-26

A reading from the book of Exodus

If you are harsh with the widow or the orphan, my anger will rage against you.

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this, "You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

"If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

"If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 17:2-4. 47. 51. R. v.2

(R.) I love you, Lord, my strength.

1. I love you, Lord, my strength,
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.
My God is the rock where I take refuge;
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.
The Lord is worthy of all praise:
when I call I am saved from my foes. **(R.)**

2. Long life to the Lord, my rock!
Praised be the God who saves me.
He has given great victories to his king
and shown his love for his anointed. **(R.)**

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

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

You turned away from idols to serve God and await his Son.

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you.

This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation John 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.
Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 22:34-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Communion Antiphon Cf Psalm 19:6

We will ring out our joy at your saving help
and exult in the name of our God.



"You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind."

Matthew 22:37

St. Laurence O'Toole, Leongatha and St. Joseph's, Korumburra

St Laurence O'Toole Leongatha

St Kevin's Meeniyen

St Joseph's Mirboo North

St Andrew's Tarwin Lower

Parish Safeguard Officer: Sam Wright

<https://www.catholicparish.app/leongatha>

Parish Priest: Fr Stanly Devasia
Parish Secretary: Ann Hemming
37 Ogilvy St. (PO Box 166) Leongatha 3953
Telephone: 5662 2020
Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs 8.30-4.30
Closed All Day Wednesday & Friday
Email: leongatha@cdsale.org.au

St Joseph's Korumburra

PO Box 166, Leongatha 3953

Telephone: 5662 2020

email: leongatha@cdsale.org.au

Parish Safeguard Officer: Pamela McKillop

<https://www.catholicparish.app/korumburra>



<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61576079216409>



WEEKEND MASSES

Leongatha

Saturday 5.30pm
Sunday 11.00am

Korumburra

Sunday 9.30am

Tarwin Lower

Mass held on Saturday before 3rd Sunday at 4.00pm
Liturgy with H/C Saturday 4pm before 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th
Sunday

Mirboo Nth

Mass held 1st Sunday at 4.00pm
Liturgy with H/C 9.30 on 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Sunday

Meeniyen

Mass held on Saturday before 2nd & 4th Sunday at 4.00pm
Liturgy with H/C Sunday 9.30am on 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Anniversaries: Mary Joseph, Anne Cunningham

The deceased Clergy of the Diocese of Sale

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual
light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.*

Sick: Cathy Abood

WEEKDAY MASS or LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH HOLY COMMUNION TIMES

KORUMBURRA

Wednesday	Parish/Class Mass	9.30am
Friday	Mass	9.30am

LEONGATHA

Tuesday	Mass	5.00pm
Wednesday	No Mass	
Thursday	Mass	5.00pm
Friday	Mass	9.30am

RECONCILIATION TIMES

Leongatha: Friday after 9.30am Mass & before or after
5.30pm Mass on Saturday.

Korumburra: Sun before 9.30am Mass

PARISH ROSTERS

LEONGATHA	31st Oct	1st Nov
Flowers:	E Stephens	
Cleaning:	J & N Salvatore	
Greeting:	R Yates	S Cannata
Reader:	A Hemming	M&H Holloway
Special Minister	M Thomas	J Schelling
	M Murphy	M Holloway
	A Vaughan	M Stephan
Cuppa after Mass	Mathew & Beena	Van & David

KORUMBURRA:

1/11 Cleaning:	B Hosking / M Barrett
1/11 Greeter:	S Fitzgerald
November	
Reader:	P McKillop
Commentator:	S Ward
Sacristan:	Maree, Denise, Mark
Special Minister:	Derek & Frank
Altar Server	M Ludenia
Laundry:	M Trewin
Flowers:	Jackson Family

The Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary

St. Laurence O'Toole Church Leongatha

Saturday: Before 5.30 pm Mass—5.00pm

Sunday: Before 11am Mass—10.30am

We are a child safe parish. Any children, young persons and adults at risk have a right to feel safe and be safe. If you are concerned about any form of abuse, or believe that someone is at significant risk, you should immediately raise your concerns with one of our Parish Child Safety Officers. They can be contacted through the Parish Office. Telephone 03 56 622 020

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Benambra Honours St Francis of Assisi

More than 200 pilgrims from across Gippsland and beyond recently gathered in Benambra to mark the 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis of Assisi. Commencing with a vigil service at St Mary's in Bairnsdale, the pilgrimage continued into the High Country to St Francis of Assisi Church—the only church in the Diocese of Sale dedicated to the saint. Celebrations included an animal blessing by Bishop Greg Bennet, the presentation of a first-class relic, and a special Pilgrimage Mass honouring St Francis's call to peace, simplicity, and care for creation. To read the full story and view photos from the day, visit: tinyurl.com/yc3k7hym

175 Years of Faith & Heritage in Yarram – You're Invited!

Join the Catholic Parish of Yarram in celebrating 175 years of Catholic life across Gippsland. Bishop Greg Bennet will join Fr Darren Howie and diocesan clergy to celebrate a special Anniversary Mass at **11:00 am on Sunday, 15 November 2026** at St Mary's Catholic Church, Commercial Road, Yarram.

Following Mass, all are welcome in the St Mary MacKillop Hall for light refreshments, a brief local history talk, an exhibition of historical memorabilia, and school tours.

- **RSVP:** Please email Sue Benc at suebenc57@gmail.com with any dietary requirements.
- **More Details:** <https://tinyurl.com/5n77pu6>

OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD

St Laurence's Parish:

(Amount Pledged per Week)	\$2,307.08
Pledged amount received last week	\$2,025.00
Church Loose (1st collection)	\$368.00
Presbytery (2nd collection)	\$1,316.00
Catholic Mission Special Collection	\$1,054.35

St Joseph's Parish

(Amount Pledged per Week)	\$871.69
Pledged amount received last week	\$1,000.00
Church Loose(1st collection)	\$105.35
Presbytery (2nd collection)	\$406.70
Catholic Mission Special Collection	\$376.30

Newcomers or Update Details

Welcome and thanks for worshipping with us at Korumburra and Leongatha Parishes.

If you are new to the Parish or have changed your details or need Thanksgiving Envelopes, please complete your details and drop the form on a Collection plate or drop off to the Parish Office.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

New Parishioner Change of Address or Phone #
Thanksgiving: Envelopes or Electronically (please circle)

ALL HALLOWS' EVE

History and Origins: The tradition of dressing up for Halloween dates back to European and Celtic traditions. The word hallow means **holy** and the word 'Halloween' comes from the words 'All Hallows' Eve, an ancient Celtic festival that was a celebration of the end of harvest and preparation for the harsh winter ahead. When the Romans took over the Celtic lands in A.D 50, they also had a similar celebration to honour the dead. Over the centuries, many people believed that on this night the boundary between the deceased and the living would be blurred and the dead would walk among the living. In order to confuse them they would wear masks.

The Catholic Influence: In AD 609, Pope Boniface IV, established two days to honor the dead and celebrate the saints (November 1st and November 2nd). As Christianity spread in the 9th Century throughout Celtic territories, a new 'All Hallow's Eve' tradition was being formed. On All Hallows Eve, the evening before All Saints' Day-1st November, a day when Catholics honor and celebrate all known and unknown saints, martyrs and faithful souls in heaven and All Souls Day 2nd of November, the celebration of all the faithful departed in purgatory, a vigil mass would be offered in preparation for the feast days. The mass was known as the 'The vigil of All Hallows' or the 'Vigil of All Saints' and was often followed by a visit to the cemetery where people would pray for their departed family members placing candles and gifts for the celebration of the next day. These candles were placed in pumpkins so that the congregation could carry the candles from the vigil mass to the cemetery in a procession, commonly known as the 'Jaco-o-lanterns'. Later the tradition would have it that children dressed up as their favorite Saints and collected their toys, treats, clothes, warm blankets and food items to donate to the less fortunate to help them prepare for the harsh winter ahead.

How can we celebrate Halloween as Catholics today? In our modern world, Halloween has become one of the most important celebrations of the year. Children and adults dress up as their favourite heroes, superstars, ghosts and goblins.

As Catholics, we can use this evening to prepare our hearts for celebrating the saints who have gone before us, inspire us to live holy lives and remind us that we are all called to become saints. Rather than joining the majority, we can make All Hallows' Eve a beautiful celebration of Faith, generosity, kindness and the lives of those who followed Christ. Practical ways can include dressing up as saints, reading the life of a saint, etc.

The goal isn't to judge how others celebrate, but to bring Christ into our own family traditions and keep the beautiful meaning of All Saints' Day and All Soul's Day alive.

Saints are not just people we remember — they are people we can learn from and aspire to become.

Parish/Diocese News

Dear Parishioners, To help us prepare for the upcoming Sunday Mass and receive the Word of God more deeply, St. Patrick's Seminary & University in Menlo Park, California, offers weekly reflections hosted by Dr. Nina Heereman, Professor of Sacred Scripture. These reflections are accessible on the **YouTube channel Caritas Christi**.

I strongly encourage you to take advantage of this valuable spiritual resource. Gaining a richer understanding of the context, theology, and geographical background of Holy Scripture enables us to participate more fully and fruitfully in Eucharistic worship.

World Youth Day 2027 will be held in Seoul, South Korea: The Catholic Diocese of Sale and DOSCEL are jointly coordinating the Diocese of Sale pilgrimage to World Youth Day, Seoul 2027, led by Bishop Greg Bennet. The approximate date is 30 July 2027 to 8th August 2027 and the pilgrimage is open to young people aged 16-35 years. For more information please contact Fr. Stanly.

Reminder to all volunteers that the Volunteer Code of Conduct must be signed and returned to Parish Office as soon as possible. Thank you for your cooperation and ongoing support of our Parishes. Forms available at all churches or from Ann at the Parish Office

NOVEMBER CEMETERY MASSES: (Please bring chair)

Leongatha Cemetery - Saturday 7th November 10.30am

Korumburra - Wednesday 25th November 10.30am

Meeniyah - Saturday 21st November 4.00pm

Mirboo North Blessing of the Graves - Sunday 1st November 3.30pm prior to 4pm Mass

LEONGATHA PARISH:

PIETY STALL: Beautiful Advent & Christmas Daily Reflection Books are now available for \$7. Titled "Presence" these booklets run from Sun Nov 29 till Sun Jan 10 and include a weekly Art Feature. They are great way to make time to prepare for Christ's coming in the Christmas Season. Also available are Columban Art Calendars for 2027 at \$11 each and St Vincent de Paul Christmas cards – packs of 8 or individual.

LEONGATHA CWL: Sadly, after more than 90 years of operation the time has come for our Branch to close. Our AGM at 1.30pm on November 10 will be our very last meeting! We would like to thank all past and present members and our wonderful parishioners for their support over the years. It has been 9 decades of faith, purpose and friendship while at the same time raising funds for the Parish and many charities. Thank you all.

Gospel Reflection Group Meets on Mondays during the school term from 1.30-3pm in the Parish Centre. This is a small friendly group that reads the coming Sundays Gospel then discusses and relates it to their everyday life, finishing with a cuppa.. Everyone is most welcome

Wednesday Adoration and Prayer: we invite you to come and join our Hour of Prayer on Wednesdays 10am to 11am (after 9.30am Mass if available) in St Laurence's church. We begin with a hymn, prayer and the Rosary, then have quiet adoration and personal prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament. All invited to participate for part of or full session.

Cuppa: first weekend of the Month

To subscribe to the weekly bulletin please use the link to join. <https://www.catholicparish.app/subscription?id=0010I00000B2zMFI&req=subscribe>

KORUMBURRA PARISH:

God's Light to the World -Jesus Saturday 31 Oct at 4pm for activities & dinner at 5pm. Held at St Paul's Anglican Church Bridge Street Korumburra. Contact Leanne 0410 007 979 for further information. *Children must be accompanied by an adult.*

Cuppa: first Sunday of the Month

To subscribe to the weekly bulletin please use the link to join <https://www.catholicparish.app/subscription?id=0010I00000B2zMDIA&req=subscribe>

Vocation Prayer

HEAVENLY FATHER, Lord of the harvest, we earnestly ask you to bless our diocese and the Church with many priests, deacons and religious who will love you fervently, and gladly and courageously live their lives in service to your Son's Church under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Bless our families and parishes that we may be given the grace and strength to live our baptismal vocation to be holy, as You are. Bless us that we will respond to your invitation to be living witnesses and disciples of hope as we discern our life in your son, Jesus Christ.

Bless young men and women to respond openly and generously to your invitation to become ministers of your Word and Sacraments, or to serve You faithfully in the covenant of Marriage, or the dignity of single life.

Mary, Mother of the Church, the model of every vocation, help us to say "yes" to the Lord who calls us to cooperate in the divine plan of salvation.

AMEN