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Church Opening Hours:

Monday: Closed
Tuesday – Sunday:
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM (Standard Time)
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM (Daylight Saving Time)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We respectfully acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Yorta Yorta Nation. 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.

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:
St Mary's Echuca: BSB Number: 083-543
Account Number: 45-782-9206

26th & 27th September 2026

Parish Newsletter

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Looking at the Readings

Having the ability to reflect on our decisions and change our minds is not a bad thing, especially if it helps us align with the will of God. Are we humble enough to acknowledge a mistake and make a change? Jesus addressed his message to the chief priests and the elders of the people, some of whom were proud and could not understand the essence of the law. It was for this reason that Jesus told them that sinners would enter into the kingdom of God before them. Why? Because sinners were the ones who were able to self reflect, regret what they had done, and change their behaviour, making room for God in their hearts. Therefore, it is not a sign of humility.

Lord, help us humble ourselves today and make the necessary changes to align ourselves with your values.



PARISH MASS TIMES

Weekend Masses: 26th & 27th September 2026

Saturday: 6:00pm Mass
Sunday: 9:30am Mass

Weekday Masses: 28th September – 2nd October 2026

Wednesday: Communion Service (Council of Priests Meeting)
Friday: 11.30am Adoration
12.00pm 1st Friday Mass

Reconciliation:
Baptism:
Weddings:

Approach Fr Novie before Mass
Every Second weekend of the Month
By Appointment with the Parish Priest

Parish News

“Even just one of these children” is the theme chosen by Pope Leo XIV for the 112th World Day of Migrants and Refugees (WDMR), which will be marked on Sunday, 27 September 2026.

The theme focuses on minors on the move, recalling the duty to welcome each one of them, as the Gospel teaches us. It also refers to Matthew 18:5: “Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.”

In a statement, the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development (DPIHD) emphasises: “With this choice, the Holy Father intends to express the Church’s concern for minors directly involved in migration, recalling the duty to welcome each one of them, as the Gospel teaches us.”

The DPIHD also notes that this is “not the first time that the Popes have spoken authoritatively on this issue, but the current migration situation presents new challenges that seriously threaten the rights and dignity of the youngest among us and require urgent and effective responses. Therefore, this is not a matter of discussing numbers or percentages, because ‘even just one’ has the highest value.”



Revelations Magazine: We’d Love to Hear Your Story!

With limited space in each edition, the Revelations Team carefully selects ministries and groups to feature. This year, we’d especially love to hear from ministries that haven’t been featured before or recently, as well as any ministry or group who would love to be included.

✉ **If you’d like your ministry or group to be considered, simply send your Expression of Interest to cindyaura.austria@gmail.com by Friday, 25 September 2026, including your name and ministry/group.**

No article is needed at this stage — just let us know you’re interested! Further details will be shared with the selected ministries. We look forward to hearing your stories and celebrating the wonderful people and ministries of St Mary’s.

Fr. Novie’s Annual Leave: Just a heads-up that I’ll be taking my annual leave from 5 October to 6 November. This year, I’ll be heading home to the Philippines to spend time with my family and celebrate my mother’s 75th birthday. It will be a special time for me to be with my family and have a little break. While I’m away, Fr Des will be looking after the parish and celebrating our Masses. Please give him a warm welcome and support him during his time with us. Please keep me and my family in your prayers, and I look forward to seeing you all again when I return.

Final Farewell

The St Mary’s Bereavement Support Group invites all parishioners to an informal afternoon to help us think about and plan ahead for our funeral wishes and Advance Care Planning.

📅 **Wednesday, 30 September**
☕ **Cuppa – 4.30pm**
🕒 **Presentation – 5.00pm**
📍 **Parish Meeting Room**

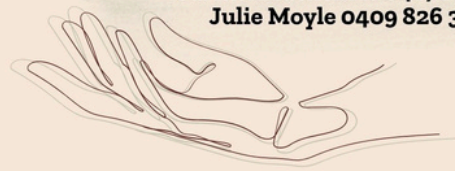
Guest Speakers: Loretta Lilford and Parish Bereavement Support Team

This will be a relaxed opportunity to learn, ask questions and think about planning ahead for ourselves and our loved ones.

Please note that the event will be live-streamed for those who have family members interested in attending, but live elsewhere. This gathering is open to all parishioners.

If you’d like more information on this event, please discuss with one of the Bereavement Support Group members. We look forward to seeing you there.

Carmel Mackenzie 0417 164 669
Julie Moyle 0409 826 336



🌟 **BE PART OF OUR STORY!** 🌟

Sponsor Revelations Parish Magazine

We’re preparing our next issue of Revelations and inviting local businesses, parishioners and families to support us through sponsorship or advertising.

Your support helps us share our parish stories, celebrate our ministries and keep our community connected.

✉ **Interested in becoming a sponsor?**
Please contact the Parish at (03) 5482 1127

or

Cindy Narvasa

Editor-in-Chief, Revelations 2026

✉ **pcc@stmarysechuca.org.au**

☎ **[0467900382]**

Thank you for helping us share our story as we grow in faith together!

Parish Calendar

29th September:	5.15pm Finance Meeting
30th September:	4.30pm Final Farewell Session
2nd October:	9.00am Mary's Makers *11.30am Adoration *12.00pm 1st Friday Mass
3rd October:	Horticulture Flower Show in the Hall
5th October:	Fr Novie leaves for a well earned holiday
11th October:	Annual Luncheon of the Family Groups
14th October:	5.00pm Bereavement Meeting
15th October:	2.00pm Social Club Meeting
16th October:	9.00am Mary's Makers

Regular Schedule

Sophia Sisters: Every Tuesday 1:30pm (Parish Centre)
Men's Ministry: Every Saturday 9am (Parish Centre)
Ladies Drinks: 4th Wednesday 5:30pm (Parish Centre)

G'Day Weekend: Every 3rd Weekend of the Month
Children's Liturgy: Every G'Day Weekend

Prayer Requests

For Those Who Are Unwell

Bruno Barbera, Dan Carey, Pat Davey, Howard Clark Jnr, Caroline Farley, Fred Molluso, Jim Byrne, David Baker, Meredith Ryan (Maddick), Antonia Molluso, Barb Smith, Carmel Murphy, Dominga Cabantac, Geoff Brown, John & Elaine Farley, Margaret McMahon, Paul Wallace, Elizabeth Kyne (Weekly), Margaret Hoelter, Ruth Phillips, Domenico Scanbellone

Death Anniversaries

Leslie Noonan, Wilma Scott, Mini Sanchez, Fran O'Neale.



May the warm embrace of our Christian community extend a joyful welcome to

Jebadiah and Bleu

as they receive the sacrament of Baptism this weekend.
(Sunday)

Recent Deaths

ROSTER THIS WEEK 26th & 27th September

Mass	LECTORS		Eucharistic Ministers	Church Set-up
6:00pm	Tania Dixon Rose Quinn, Christine Sebire		Bob Cooper Kim Wallace	Mary Atkins
9:30am	Noela Boyer Abilain Liwanag, Kenneth Uzoh		Divanne Balos John Moyle	Rachel McAsey
Prayers of the Faithful	Rose Quinn	Counters	Roma Bowman & Margaret Hart	
St. Anne's	Cindy & Jonas Narvasa		Hospital Visit	Carmel Mackenzie

ROSTER NEXT WEEK 3rd & 4th October

Mass	LECTORS		Eucharistic Ministers	Church Set-up
6:00pm	Mary Atkins Nick Lee, Carol Purdon		Prue Crowe-Galea Leah Williams	Rose Quinn
9:30am	Gracie Drakatos Barb Greeb, Doreen Stringer		Adrian Costello Bebher Mitchell	Kate Bruty
Prayers of the Faithful	Noela Boyer	Counters	Pat Whyte & Adrian Costello	
St. Anne's	Jan Tarr, Gabe Phelan, Jenny Morris		Hospital Visit	Barb Green

Monthly (October)

Gardening	Ken Harfield & Alfred Grigg	Baptism Prep	Mary Byrne
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1st Reading

Ezekiel 18:25-28

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

**This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 24:4-9

R. Remember your mercies, 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.
Do not remember the sins of my youth.
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.**



2nd Reading

Philippians 2:1-5

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.

**This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

John 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;
I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 21:28-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go", but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir", but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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Readings for Next Week

**Next Week: 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time, A
3rd & 4th October 2026**

1st Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 79:9, 12-16, 19-20
2nd Reading: Philippians 4:6-9
Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43

Safeguarding

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 our Safeguarding Officer:

Mel Slattery
M: 0417 822 589
E: melslattery.home@gmail.com