



KYABRAM CATHOLIC PARISH

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

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

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Parish Priest - Fr Uday Marneni ALCP/OSS

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Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Year A

Sunday 18 October 2026



Readings for
this week:

Isaiah 45:1,4-6
1 Thessalonians 1:1-5
Matthew 22:15-21



Readings for
next Sunday:

Exodus 22:20-26
1 Thessalonians 1:5-10
Matthew 22:34-40



Liturgical Jottings

Marriage and Liturgy II

Since 1960's the renewed format of the rite of Marriage understandably follows the standard pattern or framework employed for all the restored sacramental liturgies. It includes an entrance or gathering rite, a liturgy of the word, a rite of marriage, a liturgy of the eucharist or a prayer-blessing section, and a conclusion or dismissal rite. The ritual provides a "Rite for Celebrating Marriage During Mass," a "Rite for Outside Mass," a "Rite for Celebrating Marriage Between a Catholic and unbaptized persons," and "Texts for Use in the Marriage Rite and in the Wedding Mass." (*New Dictionary of Sacrament Worship pp796ff*)

The Lectionary has many scripture readings for the couple and celebrant to choose from. The Missal, also, has many options for prayers and blessings and "Soft" options for processions, seating and standing during the Rite.

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Looking at the Readings

The first reading of this Sunday is a surprise to be included in our Liturgy of the Word and somewhat incongruous in Old Testament / Hebrew scriptures. Cyrus, the king of Persia is a pagan ruler, but the Lord God has called him by name to subdue nations and anointed him as the Saviour of God's people! He was king of Persia from 550 to 530 BC and practiced a conciliatory policy, showed great tolerance to other cultures, through carefully planned economic programs lifted burdens from people and ended the Babylonian deportation of the Israelites. Cyrus returned all the stolen treasures from the temple, restored their land and decreed the rebuilding of their cities and the Temple. A pagan king was chosen to do God's work on earth.

This reading sharply contrasts with the Gospel where another pagan king, claiming both godlike status and divine right subdued the Israelites and demanded taxes from them. Caesar, the Roman emperor and foreign occupier, however, did establish the Pax Romana, therefore the heavy tax to finance his army and rule. The Pharisees asked Jesus about the tax: "to pay: yes or no" Yes, would be blasphemy, acknowledging divine claim. No, would be seditious and possibly inciting rebellion. A trap!

Both readings caught the imagination and religious sentiment of the hearers to remember and later record and for us to always consider: Where do our loyalties lie? What is valuable to us? What does God ask us to do? The answers are not given in the texts; we must work it out for ourselves.

Sunday ClipArt

The image for this week depicts King Cyrus ruling the kings of other nations (Isaiah 45:4). *Steve Erspamer © 1992 Archdiocese of Chicago*

Quotes of the Day

When there is an income tax, the just man will pay more and the unjust less on the same amount of income. *The Republic Book1, Plato*

A tax is a fine for doing well, a fine is a tax for doing wrong.

Mark Twain

Prayer on Taxes

For the Tax Collector: "Be merciful to me, a sinner." (*Luke 18:13*)

For the Tax Payee: "Deliver us, Lord, we pray, ... we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress," (*Prayer after the Our Father*)

On the Lighter Side

Sherlock Holmes got audited by the tax office because he had way too many deductions.

Spiderman pays no tax because all his income is net.

Golf is just like taxes: you drive hard to get to the green and end up in a hole



PLEASE PRAY FOR

Sick: Kaye Hodgson, Michael Ianacone, Barbara Cameron, Shane Boyd, Pat Commons, Julie Kleinert, Noreen Gallardo, Kady Mitchell-Treacy, Olive McElroy, Philip Bowman, Millie Perry, Frances Corso.

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries:

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

ROSTERS

Sunday 25 October 8.30am

Commentator – C Goode

Lector – R Chapman

Special Minister – M Di Petta

Sunday 1 November 8.30am

Commentator – L Sorbello

Lector – N Watt

Special Minister – A Brunt

Saturday 7 November at 5pm

Commentator – S Carroll

Lector – **Help Required**

Special Minister – L Cosgriff

PLATE AND ENVELOPE COLLECTION

Last weekend Collection: \$ 931.00

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

RECONCILIATION: Second Saturday (Weekend) of month 30 mins before Mass in St Augustine's Church.

ANointing MASS: First Thursday of the month at 10am in St Augustine's Church.

OFFICE CLOSED

The office will be closed Tuesday 20 October for staff and volunteers to attend the Deanery meeting in Shepparton.

YEAR 12 STUDENTS

Year 12 students have completed their school year. Please keep them in your prayers at this time as they prepare for their exams. May God bless them and give them clear minds during this important time. May their hard work be rewarded, and may they be guided and supported throughout their exams.

100th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

This weekend we remember Nancy Taylor as she celebrates her 100th birthday in heaven. We thank her for the way she contributed to our parish community over the many years she was with us.

Happy heavenly birthday Nancy.

TOWN OF KYABRAM 150 YEAR CELEBRATION

You are warmly invited to attend an ecumenical prayer service hosted by the Minister's Fellowship to celebrate 150 years of the Town of Kyabram on Sunday 25th October 5pm at Uniting Church. This will be followed by a free BBQ tea. Please byo drinks, chairs and picnic rugs. There will also be a historical Churches display in the Uniting Church Hall on Saturday 24th October 11am-3pm and on Sunday 25th 11am-6pm. All welcome. Come along, celebrate our community's history, and share in this special occasion together.

ALL SAINTS' DAY - Sunday 1 November

We invite children (and adults!) to celebrate the Feast of All Saints by dressing up as their favourite saint or by wearing something that represents or symbolises a saint. Children will be invited to join the procession with Fr Uday at the beginning of Mass.

After Mass, everyone is welcome to stay for a cuppa and fellowship. Please bring a plate to share. You are also welcome to bring a statue of your favourite saint to be blessed. **Come dressed as a saint and join in the celebration!**

MASS TIME TABLE

Weekly Masses

Sun 18th October - 8.30am Mass – Fr M Grace

Weekly Masses

Tue 20th October - 4pm Rosary, 4.15pm Liturgy

Thu 22nd October - No Mass

Sat 24th October – No Mass

Sun 25th October - 8.30am Mass – Fr M Morley

Weekly Masses

Tue 27th October - 4pm Rosary, 4.15pm Liturgy

Thu 29th October – 9.15am Year 9-11 Community Liturgy

Sun 1st November - 8.30am Mass

Sun 1st November - No Mass Tongala

MEMORIAL SERVICE

The annual memorial service to remember loved ones will be held on Wednesday 11th November 7pm. All Welcome

ANNUAL CEMETERY MASS

The Annual Cemetery Mass will be held on Saturday 14th November at 9am. Please bring a chair and hat.

NO TONGALA MASS

There will be no Mass at Tongala for November or December due to Fr Novi being unavailable.

NOVEMBER MONTH OF HOLY SOULS.

November is the month of the Holy Souls. This year All Souls Day falls on Monday 2nd November. **Mass offerings envelopes** for our deceased are available at both doors.

How do we help the "holy souls"? The Catechism of the Catholic Church recommends prayer for the dead in conjunction with the offering of the Eucharistic Sacrifice and also encourages "almsgiving, indulgences, and works of penance undertaken on behalf of the dead" (CCC #1032).

Let us not forget to pray for our dear departed, have Masses offered for them, visit their graves, and make daily sacrifices for them. God can foresee and apply the merits of our prayers, penances and works of charity, done even years after their death, for our departed dear ones, in favour of our deceased dear ones, at the moment of their deaths. Please note Rosary will be recited at 5pm on Monday 2nd November in the church. All welcome!

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**ONE IN CHRIST
UNITED IN
MISSION**
100 YEARS OF WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

**catholic
mission**

For Yamikani*, getting to school means walking long distances in pain, often without enough food or strength to make the journey. For many families in vulnerable and remote areas like rural Malawi, education has become an impossible choice.

But there is hope. Led by Fr Matthew Semba, a new primary school is being built, offering children a safe place to learn, grow, and look ahead with renewed possibility.

This World Mission Month, you are invited to share in this mission, standing with families as they rebuild their lives and create a brighter future for their children.



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MONTHLY EVENTS

- 1st Tuesday - Men's Group 6pm - Presbytery
- 1st Thursday - Anointing Mass 10am
- 1st Saturday - Monthly working bee 9.30am (church cleaning)
- 2nd Wednesday - Ladies Cuppa and Chat 2pm - Fauna Park Cafe
- 2nd Saturday - Adoration 4pm
- 3rd Wednesday - Prayer Meeting 5.30pm - Presbytery

Please note these dates and times are subject to change, please check bulletin for updates, times and venues.



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John & Vicky
0408 553 972

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 one of our Parish Child safety officers Mary Zobec 0427 190 282 or Annete Ryan 0408 502 858.

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 honored. May we join and build a future based on compassion, justice, faith and reconciliation.

"Holy Communion is the shortest and safest way to heaven." – St. Pius X

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Phil 2:15-16
Alleluia, alleluia! / Shine on the world like bright stars; / you are offering it the word of life. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 22:15-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Give to Caesar the things that belong to Caesar and to God the things that are God's.

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius and he said, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.



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Breaking Open the Word

WHO IS OUR GOD?

Homilists today may be tempted to use this Gospel as an encouragement to honour taxation: every citizen contributes to the common good, and perhaps parishioners might even be urged to contribute a little more to the parish coffers. After all, Jesus does say, 'Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar!' While we certainly have a responsibility to support those social structures that advance the common good, and to assist those who struggle, something more troubling is at work in this Gospel.

The setting is the Temple Mount, where Matthew presents Jesus undergoing a theological trial before religious leaders and guardians of orthodoxy. It is a scene repeated in every generation of Jesus' followers: the attempt by theological rigorists to indict those whom they regard as out of step with orthodox teaching. Jesus refuses the premise of their question. Instead, he asks them to produce the coin used to pay the tax and to identify the figure and inscription upon it. 'Caesar's,' they reply.

Here lies the real issue. These religious leaders publicly champion the Torah's fundamental confession that there is only one God. Yet, in Israel's most sacred place, the Temple, they carry an image of the god-king Caesar. Their actions contradict the faith they claim to defend. Thus, today's Gospel is not primarily about the lawfulness of taxation. It is about fidelity to the Divine One. Beneath the question of what belongs to Caesar lies the more searching question: Who is our God, the One to whom our ultimate love, allegiance and obedience belong?

Fr Michael Trainor

THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

18 OCTOBER 2026

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Isa 45:1, 4-6

I have taken the hand of Cyrus to subdue nations before his countenance.

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whom he has taken by his right hand to subdue nations before him and strip the loins of kings, to force gateways before him that their gates be closed no more:

It is for the sake of my servant Jacob, of Israel my chosen one,

that I have called you by your name, conferring a title though you do not know me. I am the Lord, unrivalled;

there is no other God besides me.

Though you do not know me, I arm you that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that, apart from me, all is nothing.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 95:1, 3-5, 7-10. R. v. 7

R. Give the Lord glory and honour.

1. O sing a new song to the Lord, / sing to the Lord all the earth. / Tell among the nations his glory / and his wonders among all the peoples. **R.**

2. The Lord is great and worthy of praise, / to be feared above all gods; / the gods of the heathens are naught. / It was the Lord who made the heavens. **R.**

3. Give the Lord, you families of peoples, / give the Lord glory and power, / give the Lord the glory of his name. / Bring an offering and enter his courts. **R.**



4. Worship the Lord in his temple. / O earth, tremble before him. / Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.' / He will judge the peoples in fairness. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Thess 1:1-5

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

We are mindful of your faith, hope, and love.

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

■ The word of the Lord.