

Lakeside Pastoral Region Bulletin

The Catholic Parishes of Boolaroo, Booragul, Toronto and Morisset

Our Lady Help of Christians - 84 Main Road, Speers Point

St Mary's - 2 Bayview Street, Warners Bay

St Michael the Archangel - 46 Ranclaud Street, Booragul

St Joseph's - 140 Wangi Road, Toronto

Sts Patrick & Brigid - 6 Martinsville Road, Cooranbong

St John Vianney - 60 Yambo Street, Morisset

We acknowledge the Awabakal & Darkinjung people - the traditional custodians of this place

SUNDAY, 19TH APRIL 2026

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR A

PARISH TEAM

Emergencies

PH: 0493 969 362

Parish Priest

Fr Darryl Mackie PP, EV
darryl.mackie@mn.catholic.org.au

PH: 0409 611 949

Assistant Priests

Fr Paul Kamau CSSp

Fr Peter Njau CSSp

Fr John Purnell

PARISH ADMINISTRATION

7 Milson Street, Charlestown

60 Yambo Street, Morisset

Phone: 4943 4153

Maryanne Barry

Lisa Christoff

Rosanna Suckling

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lakesideregion@mn.catholic.org.au

Office Hours:

Parish Hub Office:

Mon - Fri 9:00am - 3:00pm

Morisset Office:

Mon - Fri 9:00am - 2:00pm

Website:

www.boolaroocatholicchurch.com

torontoparish.org

www.vianneymorisset.org

BAPTISMS & SACRAMENTS

Booking via Parish Website

Baptisms celebrated most Sundays.

UPCOMING MASS TIMES:

Sat 18 April

Mass 5:30pm Boolaroo
Mass 5:00pm Cooranbong

Sun 19 April

Mass 9:00am Warners Bay
Mass 9:00am Toronto
Mass 9:30am Morisset
Mass 6:00pm Warners Bay

Tue 21 April

Mass 9:00am Booragul
Mass 9:30am Morisset

Wed 22 April

Mass 9:00am Boolaroo

Thu 23 April

Mass 9:30am Warners Bay

Fri 24 April

Mass 9:30am Toronto

Dear Parish Family,

Did not our hearts burn within us.....

The Emmaus story is one of my favourite passages of Scripture. In fact, it was the Gospel chosen for my ordination as a priest. I chose it because it spoke so deeply of my own journey - from being a country boy, to becoming involved in the Youth Conference of St Vincent de Paul (opening my eyes), then into a career in banking, and finally to the call to ministry. Let's take a closer look at this passage.

I often hear people say, "I just wish I could get away from it all... take some time and space." We know that feeling. The pressures of work, routine, and personal struggles can build up, and if we had the freedom, we might just pack our bags and leave - escape for a while. That's exactly what these two disciples were doing as they walked along the road to Emmaus. They were getting away from it all. We're not even told that they were both men - it could just as easily have been a man (Cleopas) and a woman. What matters is that they were human, and they were hurting.

They, along with many others, believed they had found the Messiah. They had walked with Jesus, listened intently to his words, and witnessed the extraordinary impact he had on people—the blind, the crippled, the sinner, the forgotten. They shared meals with him, gatherings where no one was excluded. Being with him somehow made you feel truly alive. And then... it all fell apart.

He was arrested, subjected to a false trial, handed over to the authorities. The governor tried to release him, but the crowd chose crucifixion. He was left to suffer and die, and his body was placed in a borrowed tomb of a rich friend. Then came rumours - whispers from some of the women that the tomb was empty. But in their grief, this must have seemed too much to believe. So, they left. Emmaus became their escape - not because it offered anything special, but because it was away from Jerusalem, away from shattered hopes and painful memories. It was distance they were seeking, if not healing.

It is precisely there - in disappointment and disillusionment - that Jesus comes to them. He joins them as a stranger. He shows interest in their lives, asking what they are discussing. And they speak. They pour out their hearts.

Why do they not recognise him? Perhaps because grief has clouded their vision.

Then Jesus begins to speak. For them, the cross had been the end - the collapse of everything they had hoped for. But he reveals how the Scriptures had always pointed toward this moment. The cross was not a failure, but the very means through which new life would come. What seemed like an ending was, in fact, a beginning. He helps them make sense of their story by revealing the meaning of his own. Yet it is not until the breaking of the bread - an act of simple hospitality - that their eyes are opened. In that moment, they recognise him: risen, present, alive among them.

You can see why this is one of my favourite Gospel stories. The Emmaus story gives us a model for our own lives. Equipped with God's Word (Scriptures), we are called to walk alongside those who are disillusioned, lost, and hurting - fellow travellers on the journey. And in our hospitality, especially in the Eucharist, we offer the presence of the risen Lord.

So the question remains: how well do we recognise Jesus in others—especially in the strangers we meet?

This Sunday and next, we return to the review of Mass times. I invite you to read my further notes on the Lakeside Region page. With changes in our neighbouring parish of Mt Sugarloaf, we will be asked to offer assistance through to the end of the year.

Have a good week everyone....Happy Easter!

Fr Darryl Mackie

Parish Priest

Third Sunday of Easter Year A
Sunday 19 Apr 2026

First Reading (Acts of the Apostles 2:14, 22-33)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

On the day of Pentecost, Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'Men of Israel, listen to what I am going to say: Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through him when he was among you, as you all know. This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified by men outside the Law. You killed him, but God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power since, as David says of him:

I saw the Lord before me always, for with him at my right hand nothing can shake me. So my heart was glad and my tongue cried out with joy: my body, too, will rest in the hope that you will not abandon my soul to Hades nor allow your holy one to experience corruption. You have made known the way of life to me, you will fill me with gladness through your presence.

'Brothers, no one can deny that the patriarch David himself is dead and buried: his tomb is still with us. But since he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn him an oath to make one of his descendants succeed him on the throne, what he foresaw and spoke about was the resurrection of the Christ: he is the one who was not abandoned to Hades, and whose body did not experience corruption. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are witnesses to that. Now raised to the heights by God's right hand, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit.'

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 15:1-2. 5. 7-11. R. v.11)

(R.) Lord, you will show us the path of life.

1. Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you. say to the Lord: 'You are my God. O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup; it is you yourself who are my prize.' **(R.)**

2. I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel, who even at night directs my heart. I keep the Lord ever in my sight: since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. **(R.)**

3. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad; even my body shall rest in safety. For you will not leave my soul among the dead, nor let your beloved know decay. **(R.)**

4. You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, at your right hand happiness for ever. **(R.)**

Second Reading (1 Peter 1:17-21)

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

If you are acknowledging as your Father one who has no favourites and judges everyone according to what he has done, you must be scrupulously careful as long as you are living away from your home. Remember, the ransom that was paid to free you from the useless way of life your ancestors handed down was not paid in anything corruptible, neither in silver nor gold, but in the precious blood of a lamb without spot or stain, namely Christ; who, though known since before the world was made, has been

revealed only in our time, the end of the ages, for your sake. Through him you now have faith in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory for that very reason – so that you would have faith and hope in God.

Gospel Acclamation (See Luke 24:32)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us:
make our hearts burn with love when you speak.
Alleluia!

Gospel (Luke 24:13-35)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.' 'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.

You are invited ...

The Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea and the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle invite you to a

Handover Ritual
of the
Singleton Mercy Convent

10am Wednesday, 22 April
Singleton Convent
30 Queen Street, Singleton

Join us for this joyous occasion as we celebrate the gifting of a legacy of mercy and hospitality.



You are warmly invited to celebrate the retirement of Elizabeth (Liz) Doyle.

In celebration of Liz's extraordinary 33 years of faithful service to the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle, supporting four bishops and the life of our Diocesan community with dedication, professionalism and grace.

Friday 1 May 2026 - 9:30am Mass
Sacred Heart Cathedral
841 Hunter Street, Newcastle West.

Mass will be followed by a celebration in the Southern Cross Hall and Morning Tea.

RSVP by 24 April at:



Liz Doyle
F A R E W E L L



2026
National Count of Attendance
YOU ARE COUNTED ON

This May, the Australian Catholic Church participates in the National Count of Attendance.

Every Parish, every Mass, every body.

Help us accurately plan for the future.

Anointing Mass

Thursday 21st May 2026 at 11am
St Joseph's Church
140 Wangi Rd Toronto

An anointing with the "Oil of the Sick" for those who are sick, frail, elderly or in need of healing.

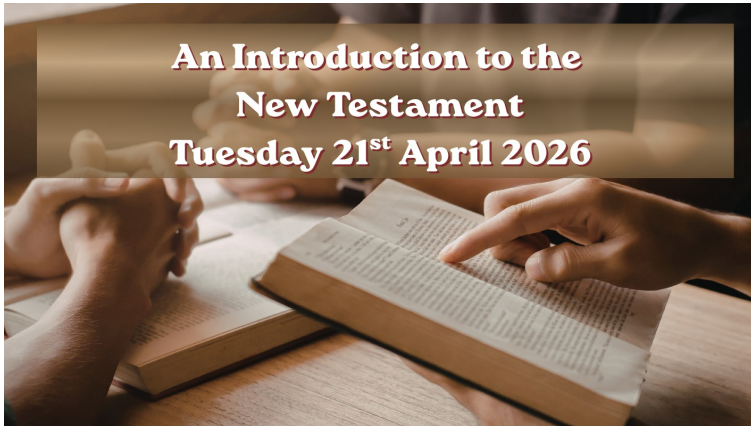


Sacrament Information Evening

We are inviting families to an information evening to begin the next part of the sacramental journey

Tuesday 28th April 2026 - 6:00pm
St Mary's Church Warners Bay
Wednesday 29th April 2026 - 6:00pm
St John Vianney Church Morisset
Thursday 30th April 2026 - 6:00pm
St Joseph's Church Toronto

An Introduction to the New Testament Tuesday 21st April 2026



Now that Lent is over would you like to continue with learning more about the New Testament?

Gerard Mowbray who is a well experienced teacher and lecturer in scripture, as well as a parishioner of the Lakeside Pastoral Region" community is offering the following:

"An Introduction to the New Testament"
With particular focus on the development and understanding of the New Testament and Jesus in the four gospels.

Tuesday 21st April 2026
Morning Session: 10.00 to 11.30am Evening Session 6.00 to 7.30pm
St Michael's Parish Hall, Ranclaud Street Booragul

For printing purposes etc please register with the QR code or at <https://forms.office.com/r/pPk1N6JCzj>



LAKESIDE PASTORAL REGION lakesideregion@mn.catholic.org.au

Come to Me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. - Mt 11:28

Come and join us for prayer, reflection, and adoration.

When: Thursdays, 6:30pm
Where: St Michael the Archangel, Booragul



Dear Parish family,

The bishop announced last weekend that the Vocationalist Fathers (three priests) who have been administering the Parishes of Sugarloaf and Wallsend-Shortland will conclude their ministry in our Diocese this coming weekend (18th/19th April).

Fr Matthew Muller (Sugarloaf Parish) and Fr Paul Chackanikunnel (Wallsend-Shortland) have been appointed as Administrators in the interim. Bishop Michael has also requested Lakeside Pastoral Region to assist in the pastoral care of Sugarloaf, with Masses and sick calls etc.

In light of this, we need to continue our discernment regarding weekend Mass times.

After reviewing the previous survey results and considering the pastoral needs of our communities – such as congregation size, sacramental activity, number of baptisms etc ...the following Masses I propose should remain the same:

Saturday Vigil	5pm Cooranbong
Saturday Vigil	5.30pm Boolaroo / Booragul (from May 23rd)
Sunday	9.00am Warners Bay
	6.00pm Warners Bay

I now invite your feedback on the following options:

Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4
Toronto 9:00am	Toronto 8:00am	Toronto 8:30am	Morrisset 8:00am
Morrisset 10.30am	Morrisset 9:30am	Morrisset 10:00am	Toronto 9:30am

As you consider these options, please keep in mind what best supports:

The safety and wellbeing of the priests (particularly travel between locations), and The pastoral need of our wider regional community.

In consultation with the bishop, and given the current number of priests available, Sunday Celebrations in Anticipation of the Eucharist (in the absence of a priest) are not being considered at this time.

While we may not arrive at a perfect solution, I am hopeful that together we can discern an arrangement that serves our community well.

This weekend, I will be celebrating Mass at Morrisset and the following Sunday at Toronto, I welcome the opportunity to discuss this with you in person. I then hope to take this feedback to the next Pastoral Council meeting.

In the meantime, please feel free to share your feedback via this form.

Thanks for your prayerful consideration.

Fr Darryl

When submitting your response, I ask that you kindly include your Name, your Mass Centre, and your usual Mass time. Please tick only one (1) option for Sunday Masses at Morisset and Toronto. In fairness to all, we ask that each person submit only one (1) vote.

Name: _____

Mass Centre

You attend: _____

Current Mass Time

You attend: _____

Please tick one (1) box to choose your preferred option of Sunday Masses at Morisset and Toronto.

Option 1

Toronto 9:00am

Morisset 10:30am

Option 2

Toronto 8:00am

Morisset 9:30am

Option 3

Toronto 8:30am

Morisset 10:00am

Option 4

Morisset 8:00am

Toronto 9:30am

Comments or Suggestions: _____

If you would prefer to submit your response online you can do so by using this link: [Further Discernment of Mass Times Online Form](#) or by going to <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/UV4FAdh43R>

Welcome

Welcome to all the visitors to our Parish of St John Vianney during the Easter season. The Parish of St John Vianney Morisset, was officially formed in 1947, however our Mass centre of St Patrick and St Brigid at Cooranbong, dates to the 1860's.

Vinnies Commissioning

Members of Vinnies conference in Morisset will be formally commissioned during 9.30am Mass at Morisset on Sunday April 26th. These members work in the Hub in Yambo Street giving a "hand up" to those in need of things like food, medicines, support to find counselling etc. Vinnies Membership is a way to make a difference in our local community – it gives you a chance to be hands on in the stewardship of the Society.

An invitation is extended to all former members of Vinnies and members of SJV Mini Vinnies to attend this Mass.

We thank the members of SJV parish for your financial and prayer support. If you feel called to be part of this mission, please have a chat to one of our members after Mass.

Project Compassion

Please remember to return your Project Compassion Boxes and Envelopes and place them in the tub at the back of the church. This weekend.

Monthly Cuppa

This Sunday after the 9.30am Mass, everyone is invited to the Callinan Centre for a 'Cuppa and Chat'

ANZAC DAY

On Saturday 25th April, as a nation we stop to commemorate Anzac Day. We pay grateful respects to those who sacrificed their own lives for our country, and ultimately for the sake of a better world. We remember the pain of those who grieved, their deaths, and whose lives were changed forever by their wounding.

With a Light Heart

One evening a father was listening to his son saying his prayers. The little boy started by saying "Dear Harold". At this his dad interrupted saying "Wait a minute, why are you calling God 'Harold'?" The child looked up and said "Well Dad, that's what they call him in church. You know the prayer we say - "Our Father who art in Heaven, Harold be thy name!"

NEW LIFE IN CHRIST



This weekend Anastasia Balaz and Dominic Balaz will receive a New Life in Christ through the gift of baptism may they bear witness to the joy of the Gospel and live their lives as children of God with us. Please remember the Balaz family in your prayers.

Please pray for all those who are sick: in hospital or at home, especially those living with a life threatening disease, may they know the healing presence of Christ:

Irene Purcell, Carole Groenwoud, Dianne Whitten, Phillip Fenech, Daniel Oman, Jackie Purnell, Miriam English, Jennene Mallett, June Gillett, Bill Fenton, Zayne Peterson, Mary Maloney, Steve McKay, Nancy Overton, Ross Dickson, Mary Monaghan, Clare Wallington, Donna Hazzard, Pam Mullaly, Tintumol Thomas, and Peter Martyn.

Please contact the office once a person is well again

Please pray for those who have been called to eternal life may they always be in our prayers.

Recently Deceased: Theresa Campbell.

Remembrance: Michael Ige, Anthonia Ige.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

St Mary's Primary School K-6

2 Bayview Street, Warners Bay

Ph: 02 4948 8770

E:admin@warnersbay.catholic.edu.au

W:www.warnersbay.catholic.edu.au/

Principal: Liz Starling

St Joseph's Primary School K-6

140 Wangi Road, Kilaben Bay

P: 02 4959 1355

E:admin@kilabenbay.catholic.edu.au

W: www.kilabenbay.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Nikki Norley

St John Vianney Primary School K-6

60-66 Yambo Street, Morisset

P: 02 4973 4073

E:admin@morisset.catholic.edu.au

W: www.morisset.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mark Konik

St Paul's Catholic College 7-12

70 Primrose Street, Booragul

P: 02 4958 6711

E:admin@booragul.catholic.edu.au

W: www.booragul.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Nick Wickham

PARISH GROUPS

Finance Committee

Thursday 16 April 2026 - 6:00pm

St Michael's Booragul

Pastoral Council Meeting

Monday 27 April 2026 - 6:30pm

St Michael's Booragul

Promotion of Safeguarding

Please contact the office

Mass Collection - Thank you

First Collection supports our priests:

BSB: 066 739

Account Number: 100004062

Account Name: Morisset Parish

Presbytery

Reference: *Your Surname.*

Second Collection supports our parish:

BSB:066 739

Account Number: 100004064

Account Name: Morisset Parish Church

Reference: PG# + *Surname or Surname*

Donations to support our parish can also be made via the EFTPOS machines



**St John
Vianney**
Parish Morisset

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