

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, 17th MAY 2026

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD 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

Email:

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.boolarocatholicchurch.com

torontoparish.org

www.vianneymorisset.org

BAPTISMS & SACRAMENTS

Booking via Parish Website

Baptisms celebrated most Sundays.

UPCOMING MASS TIMES:

Sat 16 May

Mass 5:30pm Boolaroo
5:00pm Cooranbong

Sun 17 May

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

Tue 19 May

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

Wed 20 May

Mass 9:00am Boolaroo

Thu 21 May

Communion Service 9:30am Warners Bay

Fri 22 May

Mass 9:30am Toronto

Dear Parish Family,

...make disciples of all the nations

I've shared this story with some of our communities that as a student in the seminary we were required to teach religion in a local state primary school. One day when I was teaching a class of year fours, I asked them to draw for me a picture of what the Ascension might look like. As you would guess some had Jesus on a cloud rising. One particular student had a different take.... he had Jesus blasting off on a rocket and on the side was written NASA. When I asked why a rocket, he replied.... Jesus had a long way to go.

The message of the Ascension is a powerful one. It situates Jesus, the incarnation of God, to a specific time and place in history. The short Gospel passage this week contains the final words of Jesus and is the commissioning not just of the disciples, but of the Church itself. Jesus ensured that his message and ministry would continue, especially through the coming of the Holy Spirit, which we celebrate next weekend. Although the Gospel passage is short, it is packed with meaning.

"Make disciples of all nations" - it breaks through all limitations of race or creed and is no longer just a privilege for the people of Israel. The Word, the good news is to be spread throughout the world, across every time and place.

"Baptise them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit" - no longer limited to males introduced through circumcision, but a new initiation rite where the fullness of life through Baptism is offered to all people — regardless of who you are - woman or man, servant or free....one in the Trinity.

"Teach them to observe the commandments" - Jesus' commands to love God and love neighbour now replace the sacred law of Israel. The new people of God will be formed by the teaching and actions of Jesus: to love even those we may not wish to associate with. Did you notice the order? You have to be baptised first in order to understand Jesus' teachings, that is be filled with the Spirit.

"And know that I am with you always" — a new era is to begin. The disciples must let go of the physical presence of their Lord so that Jesus may be present in a new way through the Spirit. And he will always have our back no matter what!

Over this coming week we farewell Our Lady Help of Christians Church at Boolaroo. The community has been part of Boolaroo since the late 1800s, and the current church has been a place of worship since 1961. Due to structural problems with the church building, it was decided over two years ago that the church would need to close. That time has now arrived. Over this coming week the final Masses will be celebrated, together with a Liturgy of Lament on Tuesday 19th at 6.00pm where we will share memories of the church. The Closure Liturgy will be held at 3pm next Saturday. All are welcome to join us as we hold our Boolaroo community in our prayers, keeping close to our hearts the words of the Gospel: "Know that I am with you always."

From next weekend (23rd/24th), a reminder that the Vigil Mass will be celebrated at St Michael the Archangel Church, Booragul at 5.30pm and Sunday Mass at Toronto will be at 8.30am and Morisset at 10.00am.

As we leave the Easter season and draw closer to the feast of Pentecost, may we recall through Baptism and Confirmation that we have received this Advocate — the Spirit who brought birth to the world, the birth of Jesus, and the birth of us as Church, as we pray: **Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.**

Fr Darryl Mackie

Parish Priest

The Ascension of the Lord A Sunday 17 May 2026

First Reading (Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 46:2-3. 6-9. R. v.6)

(R.) God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

1. All peoples, clap your hands, cry to God with shouts of joy! For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, great king over all the earth. **(R.)**
2. God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast. Sing praise for God, sing praise, sing praise to our king, sing praise. **(R.)**
3. God is king of all the earth. Sing praise with all your skill. God is king over the nations; God reigns on his holy throne. **(R.)**



Pope Leo's Prayer Intention for May 2026

That everyone might have food.
Let us pray that everyone,
from large producers to small consumers, be
committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure
that everyone has access to quality food.

Second Reading (Ephesians 1:17-23)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

Gospel Acclamation (Matthew 28:19. 20)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia!

Gospel (Matthew 28:16-20)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commandments I gave to you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

**60TH WORLD DAY OF
SOCIAL COMMUNICATIONS**

**"Preserving human voices
and faces"**

"Our faces and voices are unique, distinctive features of every person; they reveal a person's own unrepeatable identity and are the defining elements of every encounter with others."

LEO PP. XIV 24th Jan 2026

The Shroud of Turin Exhibition

Holy Shroud of Turin Exhibition coming to Toukley

When: 7th-14th of June

Where: St Mary's Parish Centre, 458 Main Rd Toukley.

The Holy Shroud of Turin Exhibition will be held at St Mary's Parish Centre, from 7-14 June. This is a rare opportunity to encounter a life-size replica of the Holy Shroud and explore the mystery and significance of one of the world's most studied relics.

The exhibition week includes special presentations such as *Decoding the Shroud* with Francine Pirola at 3pm on the 8th of June and *Devotion to the Shroud* with Charbel Raish at the St Joseph's Men's BBQ on Friday 12 June for men aged 18+.

Register for Francine's talk by going to : www.trybooking.com/DLPJA

Opening times occur after every mass throughout the week, including weekend and evening sessions, making it easy for parishioners and visitors to attend. The Holy Shroud

Exhibition is presented courtesy of Aid to the Church in Need.

Volunteer Week – “Your Year to Volunteer”

Volunteer Week begins **Monday 18 May**, and this year's theme – “**Your Year to Volunteer**” – is a beautiful reminder that every person has something life-giving to offer.

As a faith community, we especially hold in prayer those who give their time to serve as **Special Religious Education teachers** in our local public schools. Their presence brings hope, connection, and the light of Christ to children who may not encounter it anywhere else. This Volunteer Week, we gently and wholeheartedly invite you to consider whether **this might be your year** to step into this ministry.

Becoming an **SRE teacher** is an act of love – a simple “yes” that can shape a child's understanding of faith for years to come.

If you feel a nudge, a curiosity, or even the smallest spark, we would love to walk with you. Contact Nichola:

mission@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

SCAN QR CODE TO DONATE

ST MARY'S CHURCH WARNERS BAY

ALL WELCOME

Biggest Morning Tea

THURSDAY
4TH JUNE 2026
10:30AM – 12:30PM

CONTACT FOR MORE INFO
MARIE OSBORNE – 0429 191 245
SUE CAMPBELL – 0417 091 255

LAUDATO SI' WEEK 2026

May 17-24

Hope becomes real when it turns into action!!!

Laudato Si' Week 2026
Be part of the change

Catholic Diocese OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE

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 28th 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.



New Weekend Mass Times

From Next Weekend Pentecost (23–24 May), our parish community will gather for Weekend Masses at the following times and locations:

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm – Cooranbong

Sunday: 10:00am – Morisset

Multicultural Mass

When: Pentecost Sunday 10am 24th May Morisset.

We have people from many different cultures that worship with us. Through the celebration of this Multicultural Mass we hope to bring people together in faith and fellowship. No matter where we come from, we belong here, at Morisset Parish. We are companions on the journey. This will be brought to life through traditional dress, prayers and afterwards traditional food in the Callinan Centre.

Farewell Fr Peter

Fr Peter Njau CSSp will be leaving the Lakeside Pastoral Region effective 31st May and returning to his home country Tanzania, for a period of rest and recovery.

To help Fr Peter say farewell to our community, everyone is invited to the Callinan Centre after 9.30am Mass this Sunday, for a 'cuppa' cake, and chat.

This is the last Mass Fr Peter will celebrate in our parish.

Wraps With Love

Last Tuesday members of our parish knitting group delivered 18 handknitted rugs and 10 beanies to the Newcastle Mission to Seafarers.

The Seafarers that transport our goods often arrive in our ports facing isolation, financial stress & limited access to support.

Mission To Seafarers provides practical, emotional, & spiritual care to the Seafarers while they are in port. Thank you knitters.

Wordly Wisdom

Whoever said nothing was impossible never tried slamming a revolving door.

Whose idea was it to put an "s" in the word "lisp"?

Wise people think all they say; fools say all they think.

Worry is like a rocking chair; it keeps you busy but gets you nowhere.

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:

Annette Boyd, Irene Purcell, Carole Groenwoud, Dianne Whitten, 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 if there are any changes

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

Recently Deceased:

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 18 June 2026 - 6:00pm

St Michael's Booragul

Pastoral Council Meeting

Monday 22nd June 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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