

# 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, 1 February 2026**

**4th Sunday in Ordinary Time 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**

paul.kamau@mn.catholic.org.au

**Fr Peter Njau CSSp**

peter.njau@mn.catholic.org.au

**Fr John Purnell**

john.purnell@mn.catholic.org.au

### PARISH ADMINISTRATION

7 Milson Street, Charlestown

Phone: 4943 4153

60 Yambo Street, Morisset

Phone: 4973 6859

**Maryanne Barry**

**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 (Changes are coming)

#### Website:

[www.boolarocatholicchurch.com](http://www.boolarocatholicchurch.com)

[torontoparish.org](http://torontoparish.org)

[www.vianeymorisset.org](http://www.vianeymorisset.org)

### UPCOMING WORSHIP TIMES:

Sat 31 Jan 5:00pm Cooranbong  
5:30pm Boolaroo

Sun 1 Feb 9:00am Warners Bay  
9:00am Toronto  
9:30am Morisset  
6:00pm Warners Bay

Tue 3 Feb 9:00am Booragul  
9:30am Morisset

Wed 4 Feb 9:00am Boolaroo

Thu 5 Feb 9:30am Warners Bay

Fri 6 Feb 9:30am Toronto

### BAPTISMS & SACRAMENTS

Booking via Parish Website  
Baptisms celebrated most Sundays.

Dear Parish Family,

*He went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people....*

The setting for the Sermon on the Mount follows on from the end of last Sunday's Gospel. Jesus addresses his disciples in the presence of the sick, those suffering from various diseases and pain. With so many gathered around him, Jesus begins to teach the Christian community how it should be shaped and how its life should be characterised. Moses gave the Jewish people the Torah—the first five books of our Old Testament. The Torah shaped the lives of the people in how to live rightly with God and with one another, but it was dominated by rules and regulations, some of which proved difficult for many to follow. As I mentioned last week, the Gospel of Matthew is written to show that Jesus is the new Moses—not to dismiss what Moses taught, but to fulfil it.

The Beatitudes may be the most familiar words of Jesus, and yet they are also among the most challenging. They begin with the word “happy” or “blessed”—the same word in Greek. There are nine Beatitudes, but the first is the most important, as all the others will flow from it: “Blessed are the poor in spirit.” This speaks of our approach to God. Those who are poor in spirit are the poor and the powerless—those who acknowledge they need God and place their total trust in God. The next three Beatitudes unfold what this first one looks like in practice: those who mourn, the gentle, and those who hunger and thirst for what is right. Those who mourn are those who love, and loving often comes with sacrifice. The gentle are those who choose kindness, refusing to walk over others. Those who hunger and thirst for what is right are people of standards and values, prepared to live up to them.

The following three Beatitudes show us how we are called to relate to others: to be merciful, pure in heart, and peacemakers. We are called to show mercy, as we ourselves hope to receive mercy. To be pure in heart is to live single-heartedly—where what we say and what we do are aligned. And we are to be peacemakers: welcoming the stranger, fostering understanding, and working for a more just society. The final two Beatitudes remind us that if we live the way Jesus teaches, we will be counter-cultural, and we may meet opposition along the way. Blessed are those who are persecuted in the cause of right... blessed are you when people abuse you and speak all kinds of calumny on my account. This was the experience of Jesus. It was the experience of the early Church as it proclaimed the Good News. And it is often our experience today, as we are challenged by a society that questions what we believe and how we choose to live.

The Beatitudes are not just ideals to admire. They are a portrait of Jesus himself. And they are an invitation. The Beatitudes do not promise an easy life—but they do promise a blessed, a truly happy one. And so, we return to that first Beatitude: “Blessed are the poor in spirit.” What do I need to let go of, to find the true happiness that Jesus promises?

Our Diocese has had a long tradition of priests coming from overseas for whom we are deeply grateful. Many of us have fond memories—and stories—of our Irish priests. Our communities are blessed to have so many parishioners involved working together with the ministry of Fathers Peter, Paul and John. Over the next year or so, with pending retirements and the need to cover sickness and annual leave, the facts are we may be reduced to two priests. How will this affect us? Mass attendance is strong across the parishes and increasing, and some of our communities are growing rapidly. At present, we have six weekend Masses, which can be easily managed with two priests—but not in our current situation. Over the coming weeks, let's pray and discern our Mass times: what best serves the communities, and what ensures there is sufficient time for priests to travel safely between our Mass centres. Stay tuned!

Have a great week everyone!

**Fr Darryl Mackie**

Parish Priest

**Sunday 1 February 2026**  
**4th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A**

**First Reading (Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13)**

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

Seek the Lord all you, the humble of the earth, who obey his commands. Seek integrity, seek humility: you may perhaps find shelter on the day of the anger of the Lord. In your midst I will leave a humble and lowly people, and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge in the name of the Lord. They will do no wrong, will tell no lies; and the perjured tongue will no longer be found in their mouths. But they will be able to graze and rest with no one to disturb them.

**Responsorial Psalm (Ps 145:7-10. R. Mt 5:3)**

**(R.)** Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith forever, who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **(R.)**

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down, the Lord, who protects the stranger and upholds the widow and orphan. **(R.)**

3. It is the Lord who loves the just but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age. **(R.)**

**Second Reading (1 Corinthians 1: 26-31)**

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

Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen those who are nothing at all to show up those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation (Matthew 5:12)**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Rejoice and be glad;  
Your reward will be great in heaven.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel (Matthew 5:1-12)**

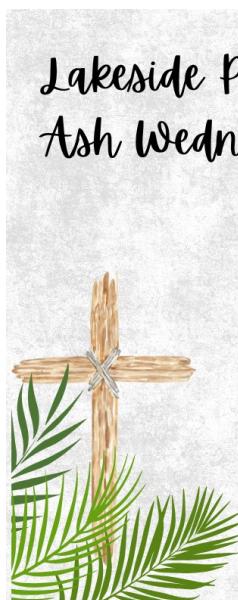
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

‘How happy are the poor in spirit: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage. Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted. Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied. Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them. Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God. Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God. Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.’

**Lakeside Pastoral Region**  
**Ash Wednesday Masses**



**Warners Bay**  
**9.30am**  
**Morisset**  
**9.30am and 6.30pm**  
**Toronto**  
**9.30am and 6.30pm**  
**Boolaroo**  
**6.30pm**

**Pope Leo's Prayer Intention for February 2026**

**For Children with Incurable Diseases**

Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.





## LATEST NEWS FROM OUR SAFEGUARDING PROMOTERS 1 February 2026

The Promoters of Safeguarding continue to endorse a culture of safeguarding within the Parish.

The following **safeguarding tips make day-to-day living more manageable** when living with an illness or someone elderly.

- *Leave your most used items out or store them at waist level* rather than putting them away.
- *Prioritise the most important activities* – be prepared to let some things go.
- *Use a bathrobe to dry rather than towel-drying* – let dishes air dry on the kitchen counter.
- *Seek/accept help from others* to allow you to stay independent for longer.
- *Take advantage of community service* such as adult care day programs, meal programs, homecare support, respite care for yourself and a loved one.
- *Use your pharmacy for the preparation and home delivery* of blister pack medication.
- *Use a walking frame/walking stick* to minimise chances of slips and falls.
- *Ask your doctor about aged care services* to which you may be entitled – including laundry, garden maintenance, home modifications, podiatry, physio, meals, wound care, medication management, bathing, grooming, opportunities to enable community participation.
- *You may also be entitled to a parking sticker* permitting access to spots reserved for those with limited mobility.
- *Groceries can be home delivered*, or learn how to use 'click and collect' grocery services.
- *Ensure a healthy, balanced diet.*

**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



### BLESSINGS FOR MARRIED COUPLES

Couples whose marriages were celebrated at Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Boolaroo are invited to attend the Mass on 14 February at 5:30pm and receive a blessing.

## Word of God Sunday

February 1 2026

This Sunday in Australia we celebrate the Sunday of the Word of God. Pope Francis instituted it seven years ago to promote throughout the Church knowledge of Sacred Scripture and greater attention to the Word of God in the Liturgy and in the life of communities.

Let us pray for the wisdom to discern the various ways in which **God's Word** applies to our lives.



**REAL**  
women

placing value on  
womanhood

Placing Value on Womanhood

### "Real Women" is back for 2026 The next REAL WOMEN CAFE NIGHT

Monday, 23 March 2026

7.30 pm – 9.15 pm

St Mary's Catholic Church Hall

Booking will open at St Mary's Hall, Warners Bay  
on Saturday 28 February 2026 10am to 12pm

Donation of \$15 per person

If you would like to do a direct deposit  
please contact Sue or Marie.

Bookings may also be made by phone  
Phone: Sue – 0417 091 255 or  
Marie – 0429 191 245

### Palm Leaves Needed

It would be greatly appreciated if anyone in our parishes have any spare palm leaves please bring them in for our parishes to use.

### Rite of Election 2026

The Rite of Election on Sunday 22 February 2026 is an opportunity to welcome all catechumens who will be baptised in their parishes at the Easter Vigil. A catechumen is an unbaptised person whose search for meaning has brought them to the Catholic Church. Please join in witness and prayerful support of those who choose to be Catholic. 1.30pm Sacred Heart Cathedral Newcastle West, followed by afternoon tea. RSVP for catering to [mission@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:mission@mn.catholic.org.au).

Come and support the catechumens and candidates from our Lakeside communities.

## ROSTERED MINISTRIES-FEBRUARY

Formation and training will commence this week, for those who have indicated their willingness to continue in their ministry of church life, in 2026.

Formation and training is for everyone, 'first timers' as well as 'old timers.' It is important that everyone receives the formation.

**1-Proclaimers-Friday February 6<sup>th</sup>- 10.30am & 7pm.**

**2-Eucharistic Ministers-Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February- 10.30am & 7pm.**

**3-Altar Servers- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February-10.30am & 7pm.**

**4-Welcoming-Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February-10.30am & 7pm.**

**5-Children's Liturgy. - To be advised when date is confirmed with Dio. Ministry Office.**

**6-Audio Visual & Offertory Gifts. -Date To be confirmed.**

A 'carry over' roster for February will operate before the new roster commences.

## WHY FORMATION?

### Proclaimers

When the bishops gathered at the Second Vatican Council in 1965, they decreed: The treasures of the Bible are to be opened more lavishly, so that richer fare may be provided for the faithful at the table of God's word. The Word of God is part of every liturgical celebration.

Proclaimers of the Word give human voice to the word of God in the assembly at Mass. When the Scriptures are read aloud during Mass, it is God Himself who speaks to His people. The one who proclaims has the special role of helping the congregation hear and receive God's Word with reverence.

Effective proclamation involves more than reading—it requires regular spiritual and practical preparation. The proclaimers ensure that the readings are not only heard clearly but understood and embraced by the community. In this way, the Word of God can take root and bring transformation to all who listen.

If you attend the morning session, you are not expected to attend the evening session. & "Vice versa".

## DIARY DATES

# Wednesday February 4- RCIA meeting 7pm Callinan Centre Morisset.

# Thursday- February 5-Baptism Preparation Program- 7pm Callinan Centre Morisset.

# Wednesday- February 18-Ash Wednesday-Mass 9.30am.& 6.30pm Morisset.

# First Sunday of Lent. - 22 February- Rite of Election. 1.30 pm - Sacred Heart Cathedral 841 Hunter St, Newcastle West

# Friday- 6 March- World Day of Prayer 10am SDA Cooranbong.

# Tuesday- 17 March-St Patrick's Day-Anointing Mass- 9.30am Morisset

## RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Humans are seekers of purpose and meaning. This search brings many to faith, to Christianity and to the Catholic Church.

On Sunday 22 January at the Sacred Heart Cathedral, our parish catechumens will be presented to Bishop Michael at the Rite of Election. If you wish to attend the Cathedral, please see Uta for catering purposes. So far 20 people have indicated that they will be attending this event.

## LENTEN GROUPS

Lent is a significant period in our Catholic Liturgical Calendar, serving as a 40-day season of spiritual preparation for Easter. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February. To help us with the ordering of material, could you indicate you're interest in a Lenten Group, on the sheet outside the church door.

## WITH A LIGHT HEART

A priest always used the phrase, "It might be worse," when some calamity would come his way. One day a friend said to him, "I've something to tell you, and you won't be able to use your favourite phrase".

"I dreamt last night that I died and went to hell." "It might be worse," said the priest. "Man alive, how could it be worse?" "It might be true, said the priest."

**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:**

Donald, Xi, Susie, Vladimir, Charles Jackie Purnell, Miriam English, Jennene Mallett, June Gillett, Bill Fenton, Jayden Sanders, Zayne Peterson, Mary Maloney, Maureen Luxford, Steve McKay, Nancy Overton, Ross Dickson, Mary Monaghan, Clare Wallington, Donna Hazzard, Pam Mullaly, Tintumol Thomas, 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.**

## 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

TBA,

### Parish Council Meeting

TBA

### 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