

Lakeside Pastoral Region Bulletin

The Catholic Parishes of Booragul Warners Bay, Toronto and Morisset

St Michael the Archangel - 46 Ranclaud Street, Booragul

St Mary's - 2 Bayview Street, Warners Bay

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, 26 JULY 2026

SEVENTEENTH 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

Fr Patrick Swaray 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.boolaroocatholicchurch.com

torontoparish.org

www.vianneymorisset.org

BAPTISMS & SACRAMENTS

Booking via Parish Website

Baptisms celebrated most Sundays.

UPCOMING MASS TIMES:

Sat 25 July

Mass	5:00pm	Cooranbong
Mass	5:30pm	Booragul

Sun 26 July

Mass	8:30am	Toronto
Mass	9:00am	Warners Bay
Mass	10:00am	Morisset
Mass	6:00pm	Warners Bay

Tue 28 July

Mass	9:30am	Morisset
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Wed 29 Jul

Mass	9:00am	Booragul
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Thu 30 Jul

Mass	9:30am	Warners Bay
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Fri 31 Jul

Mass	9:30am	Toronto
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Dear Parish Family,

"Again the Kingdom of Heaven may be like...."

Over the past three weeks, we have listened to a series of parables that reveal Jesus' teaching about the Kingdom of God. We heard the parable of the Sower, calling us to have open and generous hearts so that we may receive God's word and allow it to shape the way we care for one another. We then reflected on the parable of the weeds among the wheat, reminding us that we live in a world marked by uncertainty, struggle and imperfection, yet we are still called to make a difference through the way we live. Today we come to the final two parables: the hidden treasure and the pearl of great price. These simple yet powerful stories teach us about the Kingdom of God, about who God is, and about who we are called to become. They present us with images of searching, discovering, sacrificing and ultimately finding what is of greatest value.

Here's a question - If God were to say to you, "Ask for anything, and I will give it to you," what would you ask for? A happy family? Good health? Financial security? Happiness? Success? In our first reading, King Solomon was given exactly that opportunity. Feeling young and inadequate for the enormous responsibility of leading God's people, he did not ask for wealth, power or a long life; instead, he asked for wisdom. Solomon desired a heart attuned to God, one that could discern what was right and make decisions for the good of others. Wisdom helps us recognise what truly matters. It also helps us to distinguish what will come and what will go...between what simply attracts us and what genuinely fulfils us. That wisdom leads us directly into today's Gospel.

The first image is that of the hidden treasure. In Jesus' time, it was not unusual for people to bury their valuables to protect them from heavy Roman taxes, war or theft - "rather like hiding money under the mattress". If the owner died, the treasure might remain hidden for years until someone discovered it unexpectedly. The treasure represents the Kingdom of God. It is not something we earn; it is pure gift. God freely offers it to us. Yet we need the wisdom to recognise the gift when it is placed before us and the courage to respond wholeheartedly.

The second image is the pearl. In the ancient world, pearls were often considered even more valuable than gold. Before snorkels etc, pearl divers risked their lives descending into deep waters in search of them. When the merchant finds the one pearl, they gladly sell everything else to possess it. There is another way of seeing this parable. God is like the merchant searching for the precious pearl. That pearl is each one of us. God searches tirelessly for us because we are infinitely precious in his eyes. Even when we might feel lost, forgotten or unworthy, God never gives up seeking us. His love is determined, faithful and unconditional. If that is how God values us, then we are called to value one another in the same way.

So, the question to reflect upon this week is this: What do I treasure most in my life? May we have the wisdom of Solomon to recognise the treasure God places before us, the courage of the merchant to give ourselves wholeheartedly to what truly matters, and hearts that reflect God's own love by sharing that treasure generously with others.

Last Monday evening, several parishioners from the Lakeside Region, Sugarloaf Parish and from across the Diocese, gathered to consider the next step in the implementation of the 'Final Document' for a Synodal Church, entrusted to the Church by Pope Francis, and spurred on by Pope Leo. Being a synodal church, means journeying, listening and discerning together. It emphasises a participatory Church where all the baptised laity, religious and clergy, collaboratively seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit to carry out the Church's mission. This process is being implemented throughout the universal church over the next three years and will help lead and guide us as a diocese to our own Diocesan Synod in the next few years.

Stay well and warm

Fr Darryl Mackie

Parish Priest

**Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year A
Sunday 26 Jul 2026**

First Reading (1 Kings 3:5-7-12)

A reading from the first book of the Kings

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

Responsorial Psalm

(Ps 118:57. 72. 76-77. 127-130. R. v.97)

(R.) Lord, I love your commands.

1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord,
is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more to me
than silver and gold. **(R.)**
2. Let your love be ready to console me
by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come to me and I shall live
for your law is my delight. **(R.)**
3. That is why I love your commands
more than finest gold.
That is why I rule my life by your precepts:
I hate false ways. **(R.)**
4. Your will is wonderful indeed;
therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light
and teaches the simple. **(R.)**

**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



Second Reading (Romans 8:28-30)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

Gospel Acclamation (See Matthew 11:25)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

Gospel (Matthew 13:44-52)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

Anointing Mass

Thursday 20th August 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.*



(CNS photo/Vatican Media)

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

For Respect For Human Life

Let us pray for the respect and protection of
human life in all its stages,
recognizing it as a gift from God.

St Mary's 2026 MUSICAL!

The Sound of US

WEDNESDAY 19TH AUGUST 2026

- ★ MATINEE PERFORMANCE – 11AM
- ★ EVENING PERFORMANCE – 6PM

TICKETS: \$35

COME ALONG FOR:

- ★ AMAZING SONGS!
- ★ LOTS OF LAUGHS!
- ★ AWESOME DANCING!
- ★ FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS AND OUR SCHOOL!

WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU THERE!

AT THE CIVIC THEATRE NEWCASTLE

DECORATE YOUR SPACE

NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK
6-12 SEPTEMBER 2026



WIN!
SPECIAL PRIZES
TO BE WON!

NAPCAN

Catholic Schools

Office of Safeguarding

St Nicholas

Catholic Diocese

Catholic Care Social Services



REAL
women

placing value on
womanhood

Placing Value on Womanhood

The next REAL WOMEN CAFE NIGHT

Monday, 10 August 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 11 July 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

Parish Hub Notice

Over the next two weeks, due to reduced staffing (annual leave) in the Parish Hub, responses to phone calls, enquiries, and emails may take longer than usual. We appreciate your patience and understanding during this time.

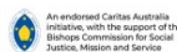
August Events in the Diocesan Resource Centre

Formation Films, Saturday 1 August from 11am. Screening the movie, *The Public*: A David vs Goliath situation in a United States public library that asks us to examine our ethics and morals in the space of social justice issues.

Register here: [Formation Films: "THE PUBLIC" - Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle](#)

Book & Craft Group, Saturday 15 August from 11am. Join in for a relaxed morning of good books, good company and good conversation!

Learn more: [Book & Craft Group - Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle](#)



SEASON OF CREATION GATHERING 2026

Listen • Reflect • Act

Event Details

3-4 September 2026

- Online
10 – 4:30 pm (AEST)
- Registration:
\$20 per person / \$100 per parish



www.caritas.org.au/soc-gathering



Nourishment Day 2026: Refreshing the Hearts of Parish Musicians

Saturday 8 August, 10am-3pm, Sacred Heart Cathedral

Choir members, cantors, instrumentalists, coordinators, this one's for you. Step away from the weekly routine, renew your spirit, and connect with fellow musicians from across the Diocese as we explore music's vital role in the Church's prayer and mission. "Sing to the Lord a new song." Psalm 96



RSVP at: [Nourishment Day - Refreshing the Hearts of Parish Musicians - Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle](#)

Called to Know More



**Wednesday 26 August, 12pm – 1pm,
Diocesan Resource Centre**

Join us for *Morality 101: The Joy of Christian Living in a Morally Crazy World* with Fr Anthony Coloma, exploring moral choices through "encounter" with Jesus via Scripture, Eucharist, and prayer. Discover how hardship shapes faith, and God's welcoming love for those who have drifted. Come listen, share, and enjoy hospitality afterward! All welcome. Learn More: [Morality 101: The Joy of Christian Living in a Morally Crazy World. - Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle](#)

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's readings give us an opportunity to reflect on what really matters to us in life.

Jesus was appealing for a change of mind and heart, a change of allegiance. He said to transfer your allegiance from one or other of the present kingdoms to the kingdom of God. Jesus told his disciples, although they lived in the world, they were not to subscribe to the values of the world.

World Day for Grandparents and The Elderly

This Sunday we celebrate the Sixth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. In Pope Leo's message he reminds us that "through the prophet Isaiah, the Lord promises that he will never forget any of us. He assures us that he has engraved our faces on the palms of his hands (cf. Is 49:16) and that his love is greater than a mother's love for her child (cf. Is 49:15)."

Baptism Preparation Program

For parents who are seeking "A New Life in Christ" through Baptism for their children, the first step is completing our parish's baptism preparation program. Please complete the Baptism Enrolment Form using the button at: <https://www.vianneymorisset.org/baptism> or contacting the Parish Office on 4973 6859



With A Light Heart

Dave obtained a copy of an exam that his girlfriend Mabel had completed. One examiner gave her zero, but another examiner gave Mabel a score of 100. Decide for yourself what Mabel deserved.

- Q1 In which battle did Napoleon die?
"His Last Battle."
- Q2. Where was the Declaration of Independence signed?
"At the bottom of the page."
- Q3. The River Ravi flows in which state?
"It flows in liquid state."
- Q4 How can a man go eight days without sleeping?
"No problem, he sleeps at night."

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:

Maree Scully, David Ford, Michelle Weickhorst, Annette Boyd, Irene Purcell, Dianne Whitten, Jackie Purnell, Miriam English, June Gillett, Zayne Peterson, Mary Maloney, Nancy Overton, Ross Dickson, Mary Monaghan, Clare Wallington, Donna Hazzard, Pam Mullaly, and Tintumol Thomas.

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: Sr Julie Rees RSM

Remembrance: John Tome, Peter Tome.

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 20th August—6.00pm

St Michael's Booragul

Pastoral Council Meeting

Monday 03 August 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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