

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, 26TH APRIL 2026

FOURTH 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

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 25 April

Mass	9:00am	Warners Bay
Liturgy	9:30am	Morisset
Mass	5:30pm	Boolaroo
Mass	5:00pm	Cooranbong

Sun 26 April

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

Tue 28 April

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

Wed 29 April

Mass	9:00am	Boolaroo
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Thu 30 April

Mass	9:30am	Warners Bay
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Fri 01 May

Mass	9:30am	Toronto
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Dear Parish Family,

I am the gate of the sheepfold...

As my birthday approaches each year, I often find myself growing a little nostalgic. Around this same time, the Church celebrates Good Shepherd Sunday, and I have always been drawn to the Gospel image of the Good Shepherd. It is an image that reminds me deeply of my own grandfather.

Growing up, my mum would share stories of her father, who worked as a drover. His life was spent moving sheep and cattle vast distances - from Victoria to the Queensland border and often beyond. It was hard, lonely work that demanded endurance, courage, and real dedication. The harsh conditions took their toll, and he did not live a long life; I was still very young when he died. Yet the image of him has always stayed with me - a man committed to the care entrusted to him.



The Gospel image of Jesus as the gatekeeper is a beautiful and powerful one. In those times, a sheepfold was typically an enclosure made of stone or mud brick, open to the sky but high enough to keep the sheep from getting out and safe. At night, the sheep were gathered into this fold, where they could be protected from wild animals and thieves. There was only one entrance - the gate.

As the sheep entered, the shepherd would stand at that gate, calling and inspecting each one. Any that were injured or scratched would be tended to; their wounds would be anointed with oil, and the thirsty would be given water. Once all were accounted for and safely inside, the shepherd would often lie down across the entrance itself. In this way, he quite literally became the gate - placing his own life between the flock and any danger.

When Jesus speaks of himself as the gate of the sheepfold, his listeners would have understood this analogy. For a shepherd to take the place of the gate was an act of real courage and complete commitment - not only to his own sheep, but to all within the fold. It is an image of self-giving love and faithful protection.

This same courage and commitment are at the heart of vocation. Whether we are called to priesthood, religious life, marriage, or the single life, each of us is invited through our baptism to follow the Good Shepherd. Like the shepherd - and like those who have quietly lived lives of dedication before us - we are called to care, to serve, and to remain faithful in the responsibilities entrusted to us.

This week, the priests of the Lakeside Pastoral Region, together with the priests of the Cathedral, will begin assisting with weekend Masses in the parish of Mt Sugarloaf. Lakeside will also support weekday Masses, along with sick calls and funerals. I offer my sincere thanks to Fr's Peter, Paul, and John for their generous willingness to serve in this extended ministry.

Finally, this weekend, we also pause to honour the men and women who have served, and continue to serve, our nation in the ANZAC spirit. Places like Gallipoli and Anzac Cove have become part of our national story, shaping our identity and deepening our sense of who we are as Australians. We remember with gratitude those who gave so much in the service of peace. In a world that continues to experience unrest, particularly in the Middle East, we are reminded again of the importance of that sacrifice. May we never take peace for granted, and may we continue to pray for it - earnestly and unceasingly - in our world today.

Have a good week everyone...Happy Easter!

Fr Darryl Mackie
Parish Priest

Fourth Sunday of Easter Year A Sunday 26 Apr 2026

First Reading

(Acts of the Apostles 2:14. 36-41)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.'

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 22:1-6. R. v.1)

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. **(R.)**

2. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. **(R.)**

3. You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**

4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. **(R.)**

Second Reading (1 Peter 2:20-25)

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty.

This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in

his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Gospel Acclamation (John 10:14)

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.
Alleluia!

Gospel (John 10:1-10)

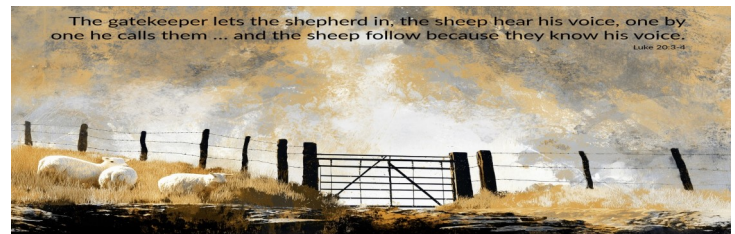
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold. All others who have come are thieves and brigands; but the sheep took no notice of them. I am the gate. Anyone who enters through me will be safe: he will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.'



The gatekeeper lets the shepherd in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls them ... and the sheep follow because they know his voice. Luke 20:14



(CNS photo/Vatican Media)

Pope Leo's Prayer Intention for April 2026

For priests in crisis

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

Diocesan Cursillo 3-day Course

Do you wonder how to be more fully alive?

If so, then you may like to consider attending our Cursillo 3-day course. The annual Diocese of Maitland- Newcastle 2025 Cursillo 3 days will be held from 11-14th June at Rathmines with the theme "Joy of the Lord is my strength". Cursillo is a short course which will enrich your faith for the rest of your life. It is Christ-centred, based on gospel values and will be asking each participant "How can I BE Christian in my many everyday environments?"

Learn More: **Diocesan Cursillo 3-Day Course - Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle**

If you are interested in joining the Cursillo Movement, enrolling for the Cursillo 3 days, or just wishing to learn more about Cursillo, please feel free to contact either of the following:

DAVID McGOVERN:

0493 394 323 or via email: livedogster@gmail.com

JOANNE STANDING:

0401 438 967 or via Email: joannestanding@gmail.com



Ordination of Mr Christopher Voigt

The Most Reverend Michael Kennedy and the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle cordially invites

The People of the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle to the Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate of Mr Christopher Voigt

by

Most Reverend Michael Kennedy on Saturday, 23 May 2026 at 10am

in Sacred Heart Cathedral, 841 Hunter St, Newcastle West

All are Welcome



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

Behold Your Mother: Explaining and Defending the 4 Marian Dogmas

Nationally known speaker Simon Carrington, from Fire Up Ministries, will lead us in looking at:

Mary, Mother Of God, The Immaculate Conception Of The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mary's Perpetual Virginity, Mary's Bodily Assumption.

Sessions will be at MacKillop Parish on Fridays commencing with Holy Rosary at 6:30pm and the Talk at 7:00pm: 8 May, 15 May, 22 May, 29 May

Each session is self-contained, so you can attend any number of sessions.

While not compulsory, a donation of \$20 per talk would be appreciated to help cover the donation to the presenter and refreshments.

Register at:

<https://fireup.kartra.com/page/MarianNewcastle>

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.



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.

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





ANZAC DAY

This Saturday 25th April is Anzac Day.

An Anzac Day Liturgy will be held in the Morisset Church at 9.30am.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old. Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning We will remember them.

Lest we forget!"

National Mass Count

The Catholic Church in Australia is gearing up for a nationwide measure of Mass attendance.

In May, the *Australian Catholic Bishops Conference* will conduct the 6th National Count of Attendance.

This year marks 25 years of collecting valuable insights into long-term trends within the Catholic Church.

Special Cuppa- Birthday Party

This Sunday after the 9.30am Mass, everyone is invited to the Callinan Centre for a 'Special Cuppa' and 7th birthday party for David Bijou.

Easy Access Ramp

Parishioners with mobility issues, are encouraged to use the 'easy access' ramp when entering or leaving the Morisset Church.

With a Light Heart

A businessman ordered flowers to be sent to the opening of his friend's new branch office. When the businessman got there, he was shocked to see the flowers with the inscription. "Rest In Peace." He was so outraged that he stopped at the florist to complain.

"It could be worse," the florist said, "Just think: Today someone was buried beneath a floral arrangement with the inscription. 'Congratulations on Your New Location!'"

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: Jason Wison, 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 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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