

WELCOME TO THE PARISHES OF

TATURA

KYABRAM

Fr Michael Morley – Parish Priest

St Patrick's Tongala and St Sebastian's Merrigum

Sacred Heart – Tatura

Telephone Tatura – 03 – 5824 1049

Fax Tatura – 03 – 5824 2745

Email sacredhearttatura@bigpond.com

Web www.sacredheartparishtatura.com.au

Presbytery – 65 Hogan Street

PO Box 110 TATURA 3616

Judith Steele – Secretary

Parish Pastoral Council

Fr Michael, Joyce Caiafa (Secretary), Anna Ciavarella, John Ford, Anne Hutchison Marli Kelly, Trish Miller, Teresa Muto, Ged Pollard, Connie Serra, Trish Warnett, Lou Worm.



Readings - Year A
Weekdays – Cycle

St Augustine's – Kyabram

Telephone Kyabram – 03 – 5852 1026

Fax Kyabram – 03 – 5853 1114

Email staugsparishky@mcmedia.com.au

Website www.staugsparishky.org.au

Presbytery – 63 Church Street

PO Box 341 KYABRAM 3620

Alma Limbrick-Pastoral Associate; Leanne Beck- Secretary

Colleen Catanese – Clerical; Ruth McGowan- Clerical

Parish Pastoral Council

Fr Michael, Alma Limbrick,

Oronzo Farina, Anthony Chalkley,

Marie Curtis (Chairperson), Joe Chant (Deputy Chair),

Nick Ciavarella,, Helen Delahenty, Joan Dickman,

Angela Finn, Brendon Lane, Barry Pola, Pauline Shortis

**As we come to worship we remember the Bangerang & Yorta Yorta People, the original custodians of this land
We commit ourselves to actively working alongside Aboriginal people for reconciliation and justice.**

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

1ST DECEMBER 2013

CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE

2013



Tatura – Sacred Heart Church

Mass – Christmas Eve (Family Mass) – 6.00pm

Mass – Christmas Day – 10.00am

Kyabram – St Augustine's Church

Mass – Christmas Eve (Outdoor Family Mass) – 7.30pm

Mass – Christmas Day – 8.00am

Communal Reconciliation

Tatura – Reconciliation – Thursday, 19th December 2013 at 7.30pm

Kyabram – Reconciliation – Wednesday, 18th December 2013 at 7.30pm

ST VINCENT DE PAUL PRISON VISIT

On Saturday 14th December, members of SVDP will be taking a small gift pack to the inmates at Dhurringile Prison. As we do not have many members, and as prison numbers have grown, we need extra people to help distribute the gifts. Could you please be at St Vincent de Paul Centre by 9.30am. and will return by 11.30am. Please bring your driver's licence. If you would like to come and help, please give your **full** name, address and date of birth to Denise Woodman, Bryan Miller or Nan Lawlor after Mass this weekend. **Thank you**

GOD'S WORD

Copies of the beautiful "God's Word" book of daily reflections are available in the Narthex. \$15 per copy. Please see Denise Woodman.

SVDP. CHRISTMAS A SEASON FOR GIVING ...

St Vincent de Paul is once again, collecting toys for Christmas parcels prepared by Conference. Envelopes with ages and gender are available on the Christmas tree in the Sanctuary. Please take an envelope, buy a gift suitable for the age and gender of the child on the card, wrap your gift and leave it under the Christmas tree. Your assistance with purchasing toys for the children helps SVDP enormously

"PRESENCE FOR PRESENTS"

The Social Justice Group in Catholic Education Sandhurst has prepared a refreshing and renewing approach to Advent which is entitled 'Presence for Presents'.

The Social Justice Planning Team would like to suggest a program of action to put the emphasis on 'presence for others' this Advent. We take our lead from the Shepherds in Luke's gospel who had nothing to bring a newborn king except the greatest gift of all - their presence. The invitation then, in the parish and school community is to put a focus on "Presence for Presents" to prepare for the celebration of Christmas. One of our gifts this Advent will be 'presence'. Then we might make sure our gift giving points us in the direction of Bethlehem and so, with the guidance of a star, we may discover more deeply the Christ child at the centre of Christmas. You are invited to write down on the gift box tags how you can be more present to someone who means a lot to you and place it in the glass jar

TRUTH JUSTICE HEALING COUNCIL

Brochures are available in the Narthex explaining the Truth Justice Healing Council's responsibility in responding to the Royal Commission on Child Sexual Abuse on behalf of the Catholic Church.

BEHOLD – Advent reflection booklets available in the Narthex. \$2 each

We pray for



Those who have died recently	Domenico Quattrocchi; Gwen Dickman; Christopher Broom; Antionette Tedesco (1 month);
Those whose Anniversary occurs	Kevin Millar;
Our sick and their carers	Barry Butler; Mons. Jeffries; Nell Noonan; Margaret Woodland; Mons John White *** Tessa Stokes Glen Spicer; Carmel Rawlings; Gerard Berry

(Our practice is to leave the names on the sick list for a month. To extend the time, please contact the parish office.)

MASSES FOR THE COMING WEEK: 2 – 8 DECEMBER				PLEASE COLLECT:
DAY	DATE	TATURA	KYABRAM	
Monday	2	No Mass	No Mass	
Tuesday	3	Liturgy of the Word	No Mass	
Wednesday	4	Liturgy of the Word	No Mass	
Thursday	5	No Mass	No Mass	
Friday	6	Liturgy of the Word	No Mass	
Saturday	7	No Mass	6.30pm	
Sunday	8	10.00am	8.00am	
ROSARY		Tues 9.00am Wed 9:00am Fri 9:00am		
RECONCILIATION				

MASS	COMMENTATOR	READER	GOSPEL PROCESSION	PRESENTATION OF GIFTS	SPECIAL MINISTERS	COUNTERS
Sun Dec 8 th 10.00am	CHILDREN'S MASS				L Kerrins, S Nihill, L McGrath	L & D Worm

Majellan Christmas Cards, Columban Calendars and Josephite Calendars



Are available for sale in the Narthex. Calendars are \$8.00 each. Majellan cards \$6 for a pack of 10 SVDP Cards \$5 for 10 cards.

PARISH PRAYER

God our Father, bless our two Parishes so that we may love you more.
Help our parents to give good example to their children
and our youth to grow in strength as good Christians.
Encircle our families with your loving care.
To the sick grant health, to the aged bring serenity
and to those in sorrow, joy.
May each parishioner grow stronger in faith
and may our love for one another
become deeper in our daily living.
We make our prayer through Christ our Lord.
Amen

DECEMBER DIARY DATES

Mon	2	
Tues	3	Italian Rosary 2.00pm in the Parish Hall Finance C'tree Meeting 5.30pm Parish Hall
Wed	4	
Thurs	5	Professional Standards meeting, Melb – Fr Michael
Frid	6	Anthony Chalkley(Principal St Pat's Tongala) 'Send Off', Tongala Hotel Fr Michael
Sat	7	
Sun	8	Baptisms- Brendan Powles and Hunter Laidlaw
Mon	9	
Tues	10	
Wed	11	12 noon St Pat's school end of year Mass
Thurs	12	7.00pm Sacred Heart School end of year Mass
Frid	13	
Sat	14	
Sun	15	

PASTORAL CARE

- Trish Miller 5824 1841
- Anne Hutchison 5824 3460

STEWARDSHIP CORNER *"For you do not know on which day your Lord will come." Matthew 24:42*

Preparations for the Christmas season remind us how much we all want to be generous. We all want to give good gifts to one another. Yet, often when it comes to giving back to God our response is, "Not yet!" We put off sharing our time, talent and treasure for another day. We say we will give when we have more time or more money. Yet, none of us knows when God will come and ask for an accounting of how we used the gifts entrusted to our care. The start of Advent reminds us not to put off our stewardship. The Lord is coming!

LECTIO DIVINA - Copies of this booklet for Advent reflection are available at the back of the church for those who put their name down.

Alternatively, a downloadable PDF of the booklet is available on the Diocese of Broken Bay's website at www.dbb.org.au.

"Our One Great Act of Fidelity : Waiting for Christ in the Eucharist" by Ronald Rolheiser is a set of audio CDs (3 hours) which contain "an investigation into the ways that people secure their faith and belief and discover true intimacy with God and one another".

This CD and many like it are available to all in the Sandhurst Diocese through the Library Learning Centre which is based in Bendigo. Membership to this library is free. For more information:

Email : library@ceosand.catholic.edu.au
Phone : 03 54426108 Visit : 120 Hargreaves Street Bendigo.

ITALIAN ROSARY

Il Rosario sarà recitato ore 2pm Martedì 3 Dicembre nella Parish Hall. The Italian rosary will be recited in the Parish Hall on 3rd December at 2.00pm. Afternoon tea to follow. All welcome.

'THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL'

On Tuesday 26th November 2013, Pope Francis released his first apostolic exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium* - 'The Joy of the Gospel'. Reflections on this important document will be shared in Sandpiper during 2014. To read the full text online, download, or share with others; go to the Vatican website <http://vatican.va> and type 'Evangelii Gaudium'.

CONSULTATION ON THE FAMILY -

Pope Francis has invited parishioners from every diocese in the world, including the Diocese of Sandhurst to participate in a worldwide questionnaire on the many challenges facing the family today. It covers: faith in family life, marriage, divorce, annulment, same sex unions, natural family planning and the participation in sacraments as part of family life.

To participate read the document: "Pastoral challenges to the family in the context of evangelisation" and answer the questionnaire. There are 42 questions - only answer the questions that interest you.

You may fill in the questionnaire online: Visit <http://www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au/index.php/news-a-events3/news2> or

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BHLPQ7B>

copies of the questionnaire are available at the back of the church (with a copy of the document "Pastoral challenges to the family in the context of evangelisation" available on the noticeboard).

Completed hand written questionnaires should be returned to the Parish Office no later than Wed 4th December. Online responses are due by Friday 6th December 2013.

A time to focus.....

The season of Advent invites us to assess our relationship with God and especially with Jesus as we prepare for Christmas. The word *Advent* suggests awaiting something and when applied to Jesus refers equally to his coming as an infant born of Mary in Bethlehem; to his continued advent in our lives as we receive Jesus more deeply in our hearts; and finally, to the ultimate coming in glory as the 'Son of Man' at the end of the world. The Advent liturgies call us to consider all three of these 'comings' of Jesus: celebrating with joy his birth to Mary and Joseph; receiving him gladly present to us each moment of our lives; and awaiting his coming in glory as the triumphantly loving Brother and Lord of our lives. The readings in our liturgy today remind us that as we go about our daily activities that we need to be aware of God's goodness and love in the person of Jesus. Our daily life is a journey toward the fullness of Life to come.

Lord, give us the patience and strength to focus on you as we await the magnificence of your love deepening in our hearts. Keep us faithful to the season of Advent so that we can recognise the 'advents' that come to us as gifts from your hands. Help us to be aware of your goodness and the surprising ways that you come to us. Bless us during this time of Advent as we open ourselves to you anticipating your presence to us in Jesus our brother and Lord.

CARITAS AUSTRALIA GLOBAL GIFTS

Every year Australians spend billions of dollars on Christmas gifts yet so much of what we give and receive is wasted. Meanwhile around the world billions of people will struggle just to feed their families and access clean water this Christmas.

Global Gifts are a fantastic way to make giving meaningful and help vulnerable communities at the same time. Gifts include Clean Water, Food, Education, Healthcare, Sustainable Agriculture & Emergency Relief.

Purchase online at www.caritas.org.au/globalgifts or phone 1800 024 413.

THANK YOU FROM THE FMDMS

Thanks Is Really Too Little:

Sister Suzanne and Sister Lucy: thanked Bishop Les Tomlinson and Monsignor Marriott and concelebrating priests for the Mass on the 17th November. They also thanked all parishioners and friends who contributed to the reception in the hall, and the gifts which will be a constant reminder of Bendigo, and the goodness and kindness to them. They said it was humbling and an honour to be part of the beautiful Sacred Heart Cathedral and Diocese. They assured their friends of their continuing prayers for them and the Diocese.



Readings for
this week:

Isaiah 2:1-5
Romans 13:11-14a
Matthew 24:37-44



Readings for
next Sunday:

Isaiah 11:1-10
Romans 15:4-9
Matthew 3:1-12



Liturgical Jottings

When Christ left this earth, he did not abandon us. He remains with us in his Spirit, the Church, the sacraments, the Scriptures and each other. He lives in community with us and keeps his vision of life before us. When Christ comes again, his presence will no longer be hidden behind the signs and symbols of the liturgy or the words of the Scriptures. His presence among us will be revealed in all its fullness, a presence that will never end, a presence that will perfect and complete our community.

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On the Lighter Side



A man went out Christmas shopping, and his wife was home listening to the radio when she heard a traffic warning "A motorist is driving the wrong way down High St." She phoned to warn him. He replied: "You're telling me! There are dozens of them!"

Looking at the Readings

In contemporary society we tend to look ahead and plan against possible unfortunate events. That's why insurance companies do so well! In Jesus' day, people tended to think of one day at a time; perhaps they lived in the present moment because so much of what happened to them was totally out of their control. Thus, Jesus is being counter-cultural in asking people around him to think about the future. It is, however, merely common sense. Jesus reminds his listeners that a householder would remain on guard in case a burglar would come, and that people in Noah's time kept on with their normal lives, which turned out to be unhelpful, while Noah, who had listened to God, was building the ark. According to Jesus, our priority needs to be to be ready for his return. Even he didn't know when that would be, and twenty-one centuries later we are still waiting for the ushering-in of Isaiah's vision of universal peace. This is what people expect will be the aftermath of Jesus' return in glory.

St Paul certainly expected Jesus' return "soon". He encouraged everyone to live lives that Jesus would be proud of, so that we would be standing ready for him whenever it should happen.

The other aspect of Jesus' remarks about his return is that it will not necessarily be the same for everyone; some will be "taken" and others "left" - whatever that means. The message is clear though: it is up to each person to make the best preparation they can by living lives in accordance with the values of Jesus. There will come a time when it may be too late. The old dictum of living each day as if it were your last could well be sound advice.

Featured Feast of the Week of St Nicholas ~ 6 December

The true story of Santa Claus begins with Nicholas, who was born during the third century in the village of Patara, on the southern coast of modern Turkey. His wealthy parents, who raised him to be a devout Christian, died in an epidemic while Nicholas was still young. Obeying Jesus' words to "sell what you own and give the money to the poor," Nicholas used his whole inheritance to assist the needy, the sick, and the suffering. He dedicated his life to serving God and was made Bishop of Myra while still a young man. Bishop Nicholas became known throughout the land for his generosity to those in need, his love for children, and his concern for sailors and ships. He attended the Council of Nicea in 325. He died on 6 December 343 in Myra.

From Today's Readings

"You too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

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QUOTE:

'Every year we celebrate the holy season of Advent, O God. Every year we pray those beautiful prayers of longing and waiting, and sing those lovely songs of hope and promise.'

- Karl Rahner SJ

