

WELCOME TO THE PARISHES OF

TATURAKYABRAM

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), Anna Ciavarella, John Ford, Anne Hutchison (Sec) Marli Kelly, Trish Miller, Teresa Muto, Ged Pollard, Connie Serra, Trish Warnett, Lou Worm.



Readings - Year A

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.**

4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT

22nd DECEMBER 2013



**May the peace and blessings
 of Christmas be yours;
 And may the coming year
 be filled with happiness.**

Don't forget Caritas this Christmas. You can make a donation by calling 1800 024 413 visit www.caritas.org.au

CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE

2013

Tatura – Sacred Heart Church

Carols – Christmas Eve 5.30pm
 Mass – Christmas Eve (Family Mass) 6.00pm
 Mass – Christmas Day 10.00am

Kyabram – St Augustine's Church

Mass – Christmas Eve 7.30pm
 (Outdoor Family Mass- bring chairs)
 Mass – Christmas Day 8.00am



"Fourth Sunday in Advent"

Reader: On this fourth Sunday of Advent we remember Joseph, worn-out traveller and worried husband, doing what was necessary for the sake of his family, the burden of poverty stifling his hope in the promise of God. There was no room for him, yet he knows to whom he belongs.

Today we give thanks for the Josephs among us, migrating far from home when there is no choice, fiercely devoted to the ones they love, unwavering in their belief that there is room for all in the family of God.

Today we light the fourth candle as a symbol of Joseph, who knocks at the door, ready to take his place among royalty.

All: Come Lord Jesus strengthen our faith.

Of all the gifts we may give or receive, it is important to remember that the greatest gifts in our lives are people.

We don't throw our Christmas presents in the bin because we don't like the wrapping in which they came.

We often, however, judge and reject people by the colour of their skin, how they dress, their age, or some other external dimension. May you be a great source of love and blessings in the lives of others today.

[Jack Mc Ardle ssc.]

CWL

Subscriptions are now due for CWL 2014. You can pay them in the Narthex before and after Mass today

We pray for



Those who have died recently	Jim Atkins; Elizabeth (Bette) Corbo 1 month
Those whose Anniversary occurs	James Kerlin; John Heathman; Ted Tomazin; Fr Jim Bolton OSA; Thomas Morley; Giuseppina Quattrocchi; Margaret (Peg) O'Neill
Our sick and their carers	Lawrie Dwyer; Barry Butler; Mons. Jeffries; Nell Noonan; Margaret Woodland; Mons John White *** Frank Pemberton; John Hosking; 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: 23 – 29 December				
DAY	DATE	TATURA	KYABRAM	
Monday	23	No Mass	No Mass	
Tuesday	24	Christmas Eve 6.00pm	Christmas Eve 7.30pm	
Wednesday	25	Christmas Day 10.00am	Christmas Day 8.00am	
Thursday	26	No Mass	No Mass	
Friday	27	No Mass	No Mass	
Saturday	28	6.00pm	No Mass	
Sunday	29	8.00am	10.00am	
ROSARY		Tues 9.00am Wed 9.00am Fri 9.00am		
RECONCILIATION				

MASS	COMMENTATOR	READER	GOSPEL PROCESSION	PRESENTATION OF GIFTS	SPECIAL MINISTERS	COUNTERS
Sat 6pm 28 Dec 6.00pm						
Sun 8.00am 29 Dec 8.00am						

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

"The Lord's are the earth and its fullness; the world and those who dwell in it. For he founded it upon the sea and established it upon the rivers." Psalm 24:1-2

How can we take credit for the good things in our lives when Psalm 24 reminds us that God created absolutely everything and everyone on the earth? Surely we all have an obligation to return a portion of our good fortune to the Lord, for without Him nothing would be possible.

BISHOP LES' CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Bishop Les' Christmas message to the Diocese was recently filmed in St Kilian's church. It is available for viewing on the opening page of the Diocesan website www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au. Monsignor Marriott's Christmas message can also be viewed on the website, click on the Cathedral tab. Please take the time to view these messages from our Bishop and Monsignor.

DIARY DATES

Mon	23	
Tues	24	Carols 5.30pm Mass 6.00pm
Wed	25	Mass 10.00am
Thurs	26	
Frid	27	
Sat	28	
Sun	29	Mass 6.00pm
Mon	30	Mass 8.00am
Tues	31	

JANUARY 2014

Wed	1	New Year's Day
Thurs	2	
Frid	3	
Sat	4	Baptism - Kate Marie McCarthy
Sun	5	

PASTORAL CARE

- Trish Miller 5824 1841
- Anne Hutchison 5824 3460

DEAR God

Remind me that
the greatest gifts
are wrapped in
people
not paper

Amen





An angel of the Lord appeared in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife." Matt 1:20

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Marriage Encounter (ME) in Feb 2014 will be celebrating **40 years** of running weekends in Australia. We want to hear from couples and priests who may have been involved with ME in the past and who would like to gather and share memories, celebrate what has been and hear about ME today and our vision for the future. We are having a special celebration on Saturday February 22nd. So we ask you all to start spreading the word.

Please ask people to contact Helen & Leo Wursthorn or call (03) 9874 6979 or helenandleow@gmail.com for more information.

'God is always faithful to his promises, but he often surprises us in the way he fulfills them. The child that was born in Bethlehem did indeed bring liberation, but not only for the people of that time and place - he was to be the Savior of all people throughout the world and throughout history. Out of love for us he took upon himself our human condition, our fragility, our vulnerability, and he opened up for us the path that leads to the fullness of life, to a share in the life of God himself.

'As we ponder this great mystery in our hearts this Christmas, let us give thanks to God for his goodness to us, and let us joyfully proclaim to those around us the good news that God offers us freedom from whatever weighs us down: he gives us hope, he brings us life.'

- Benedict XVI, December 24, 2010

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Special thanks to all parishioners who attended Dhurringile Prison last Saturday to give out presents. We truly appreciate the giving of your time to this worthy cause. Also, thanks to all who took envelopes from the Christmas tree and purchased presents for children from families more needy than ours.

Bryan Miller *President*

God With Us.....

"Ask for a sign from the Lord, your God;" (Is. 7:11)

Our lives are full of signs – signs of beginnings. When the swallow returns, summer is close at hand. A first cry means the baby is born. To build peace after years of struggle, Nelson Mandela extends a hand to his jailers. A candle is lit in the darkness. Pope Francis kneels and washes the feet of a Muslim girl. Witnessing the presence of the sacred, we sign the cross.

God promised that a child will be born whose life shows how 'God is with us.' Who would have thought a son of God would be conceived by an unwed mother, be homeless at birth, a refugee for years, tortured and crucified as a criminal, only to return to his friends after the resurrection gifting them with the Holy Spirit? There is much more to reality than what we expect.

Pope Francis warns us not to close our doors to sinners and imbibe our own righteousness. In his recent letter, the first major document of his papacy, he writes, "I prefer a Church which is bruised, hurting and dirty because it has been out on the streets, rather than a Church which is unhealthy from being confined and from clinging to its own security." God's kingdom is not a fortress. When we move outside the walls, when we find our place with the poor, with the child, with the single parent, with the homeless, with the refugee, with the gang member, with those in prison, with our enemies, then we are the signs that God is with us. When we are willing to open ourselves to the unexpected something new happens in us: "God is with us."

STRONGER RALLIES & RETREAT FOR 2014

"Then you will know the truth,
and the truth will set you free."
JOHN 8:32 (NIV)

2014 RALLIES

Friday 7 March – Wodonga

Friday 9 May – Echuca

Friday 8 August – Mooroopna

Friday 17 October – Yarrawonga

2014 RETREAT

Friday – Sunday

5 – 7 December

stronger.org.au

Quote

It's Christmas.....

'It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you... yes, it is Christmas every time you smile at your brother and offer him your hand.'

- Mother Teresa



*Readings for
this week:*

Isaiah 7:10-14
Romans 1:1-7
Matthew 1:18-24



*Readings for
next Sunday:*

Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6,12-14
Colossians 3:12-21
Matthew 2:13-15,19-23



Annunciation to Joseph
(Matthew 1:20-21)

Quotable Quote

Cyber Psalm 23rd

The Lord is my programmer,
I shall not crash.
He installed His software on the
hard disk of my heart.
All His commands are user friendly.
His directory guides me to the right
choices for His name's sake.
Even though I scroll through the
problems of life,
I will fear no bugs,
for He is my back-up.
His password protects me.
He prepares a menu before me in
the presence of my enemies.
His help is only a keystroke away.
Surely goodness and mercy will
follow me all the days of my life
and my file will be merged
with His and saved forever.

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Looking at the Readings

Two themes of this Sunday's readings are the action of God in the world and Jesus' descent through the lineage of King David. That was an impressive family tree (See Matthew Chapter 1). Joseph, a descendent of David, having taken Mary home as his wife, undisputedly becomes Jesus' legal father and has the responsibility of naming him. Joseph's dream establishes him (and Jesus) in a context of extreme honour – God has spoken to Joseph. His reputation is enhanced, and therefore the members of his family also enjoy particular esteem. Matthew is not concerned with historical detail, but with Joseph's righteousness. He is not writing a newspaper report, but is reminding us that Jesus' family had a particular nobility, not of wealth, but of worthiness in the sight of God and of the community.

The prophet Isaiah reminds the "House of David" – the Jewish people – that God is interested in their well-being, and will send them a child, "God-is-with-us". The language of prophecy is symbolic, and sometimes our literal 21st century minds want to know why Jesus wasn't called "Emmanuel", since that is what the prophecy says he would be called. If poetry, which we may have encountered reluctantly at school, seemed incomprehensible or illogical – and that would have been in English, if you are a native speaker of English - prophetic writings from an ancient civilisation can hardly be expected to make immediate and logical sense to us. We do need to trust the scholars who have collectively spent centuries trying to give us the best sense of it. The point is not the actual name, but the benevolent action of God amongst people.

St Paul in his letter to the Romans takes up this aspect of God's action through Jesus. Jesus is Son of God, the Christ, the one who was promised, the one in whom the spirit of holiness lived, who experienced resurrection from the dead; they, the people of God in Rome and called to be saints are God's beloved.

So are we.

Advent Wreath: Four Candles

The fourth candle is lit on this day along with the first three. It is the Angels' candle, reminding us of the heavenly hosts that proclaimed Christ's arrival with "Behold, I bring unto you good tidings of great joy!"



DIOCESE CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Mass times for every parish in the Diocese can be found on the diocesan website www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au. The usual Sunday Mass times are also available. This is be a great way to check times if you are travelling over the holiday period.

Faith makes all things possible,
Hope makes all things work,
Love makes all things beautiful,
May you have all the three for
this Christmas.
MERRY CHRISTMAS!