

WELCOME TO THE PARISHES OF

TATURA

Fr Michael Morley – Parish Priest

KYABRAM

St Patrick's Tongala and St Sebastian's Merrigum

Sacred Heart – Tatura

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Presbytery – 65 Hogan Street

PO Box 110 TATURA 3616

Judith Steele – Secretary

Marli Kelly – Administration

Parish Pastoral Council

Fr Michael, Anna Ciavarella,

Trish Miller(Chair), Trish Warnett,

Debbie Worm, Denise Woodman, Coral Reilly.

As Christ's disciples our mission is:

**to be inspired by Christ*

**to actively live out Christ's message and the Gospel values by respecting, celebrating and honouring our Catholic traditions*

**to provide welcome and sanctuary for all*

**to foster a sense of social justice and to protect, nurture and support our Catholic community and the wider community by respecting life, self, others and the environment.*



Readings - Year C
Year of Mercy



St Augustine's – Kyabram

Telephone Kyabram – 03 – 5852 1026

Fax Kyabram – 03 – 5853 1114

Email kyabram@cdos.org.au

Website www.staugparishky.org.au

Presbytery – 63 Church Street

PO Box 341 KYABRAM 3620



<https://www.facebook.com/staugparishky>

Alma Limbrick-Pastoral Associate; Leanne Beck- Secretary
Colleen Catanese – Clerical; Ruth McGowan- Clerical

Parish Pastoral Council

Fr. Michael; Alma Limbrick; Luci Quinn;

Katrina Johnson; Joe Chant (Deputy Chair);

Nick Ciavarella; Helen Delahenty (Sec);

Joan Dickman; Brendon Lane(Chair);

Pauline Shortis; Liz Withall

**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

20 December 2015

YEAR OF MERCY

Just over a week ago, Pope Francis opened the 'Door' to the Year of Mercy. A Jubilee Year is a special year called by the church to receive blessings, pardon and forgiveness of sins. Jubilee Years were introduced some 700 years ago, but there have only been 26 jubilee years and only three have been extraordinary and this is one. So Pope Francis intends to make this something very special.

What is the significance of the 'Door'? The idea is taken from St John's Gospel 10:9 -

*I am the gate, says the Lord,
Whoever enters through me, will be saved;
he will enter and go out and find pasture.*

The Theme is "Be merciful like the Father."

- Fr Michael

CHRISTMAS 2015 MASS TIMETABLE



Tatura – Sacred Heart Church

Mass: Christmas Eve (Family Mass) – 6.00pm

Mass: Christmas Day – 10.00am

Saturday 26th Dec Boxing Day – **NO MASS**

Sunday 27th Dec Tatura **9.00am**

Kyabram – St Augustine's Church

Mass – Christmas Eve – **7.30pm**
(Outdoor Family Mass – BYO chair, no rugs)

Mass – Christmas Day – **8.00am**

Saturday 26th Dec Boxing Day – **NO MASS**

Sunday 27th December Kyabram **10.30am**

St Brendan's

24th December - 7.30pm

Midnight Mass Carols – 11.30am

Congratulations Laurie

We say a huge congratulations to Laurie Noonan for celebrating 70 years with the fire brigade. Some of you may have seen the news item on Channel 9 about this magnificent achievement. Well done Laurie on this special accolade.





Those who have died recently	Tatura:	Rod Kilmartin
	Kyabram:	Fr Pat Bourke OSA, Fr Pat Fahey OSA, Tom Bourke, Pat Ryan, Max McLay, Fr Don O'Neill, Cletus Gilmour
Those whose Anniversary occurs	Tatura:	Vincenzo Salsone, Judy Maher, Robert Borrelli, Lucia Villani, John Heathman
	Kyabram:	Giuseppina Quattrocchi, Ted Tomazin, Fr Jim Bolton OSA, Thomas Morley, Margaret (Peg) O'Neill, Dick McGowan, Simone D'Aloia, Rufina D'Aloia
Our sick and their carers	Tatura:	Anne Heathman, Denis Smith, Margaret Woodland; Naomi Moon, Lisa Clark, Fr. Chris Reay, Fr. John Ryan
	Kyabram:	Bob Taylor, Jennifer Baker, Natasha Smith, Andrea Cocks, Jim O'Donovan, Eileen O'Donovan, Saxon Doidge, Clare Powles, Kelley Toohill

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

MASS	COMMENTATOR	READER	GOSPEL PROCESSION	PRESENTATION OF GIFTS	SPECIAL MINISTERS	COUNTERS
Christmas Eve 6pm	Special roster					Trish Warnett
Christmas Day 10am						

MASSES FOR THE COMING WEEK:

DAY	DATE	TATURA	KYABRAM
Monday	21 Dec	No Mass	No Mass
Tuesday	22 Dec	LWWC	No Mass
Wednesday	23 Dec	9.15am Mass	No Mass
Thursday	24 Dec	Christmas Eve 6pm Mass	Christmas Eve Mass 7.30pm
Friday	25 Dec	10am Mass	8am Mass
Saturday	26 Dec	No Mass	No Mass
Sunday	27 Dec	9am Mass	10.30am Mass
ROSARY	15 mins before weekday Mass		
RECONCILIATION		11.30am Sat	

Save the date:

April 17th 2016
50th Anniversary of the transfer of the school to the present site.

In 1966 a new school was built opposite the convent and the staff, students and parents walked across the road with all their belongings and equipment.

DECEMBER DIARY DATES

Mon	21 Dec	
Tues	22 Dec	
Wed	23 Dec	
Thurs	24 Dec	Vigil Mass Tatura 6pm Vigil Mass Kyabram 7.30pm
Fri	25 Dec	Kyabram Mass 8am Tatura Mass 10am
Sat	26 Dec	No Mass
Sun	27 Dec	9am Mass Tatura, 10.30am Mass Kyabram
Mon	28 Dec	
Tues	29 Dec	
Wed	30 Dec	
Thurs	31 Dec	

PASTORAL CARE

- Trish Miller 5824 1841; Marli Kelly 0457 772 869
- Anne Hutchison 5824 3460 Debbie Worm 5824 1841

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

With the school year now finished for both students and teachers, we wish all teachers, staff, students and families a safe and enjoyable break over the Christmas school holidays.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Office hours will be limited over the Christmas / New Year Holiday period. If you have any bulletin notices or anniversary names please contact us in advance, where possible. Thanks everyone.

Tatura Football Netball Club Free Christmas Day Lunch

When: Christmas Day December 25th 2015

Where: The Ballantyne Centre, Hastie Street, Tatura

Time: 11am to 2pm

RSVP: Please reply for catering purposes by the 21st December 2015 to Steve on 0412 477 586

Highlights of the Year

We have quietly achieved a lot during 2015, practically, financially and pastorally. Pastoral achievement is challenging to us as individuals and communities. The sick and the older members of our parish deserve our special love, gratitude, and care. I especially want to recognise those parishioners who attend our weekday Masses and pray for our parish.

- *We celebrated my 40 years in the priesthood earlier this year. It was a beautiful and moving celebration providing me with wonderful memories.*
- *I have spent 12 years in Tatura – the longest I have spent in any parish!*
- With Bishop Leslie in August we celebrated First Eucharist/Confirmations
- Many of our children made their First Reconciliation
- Celebrated beautiful Sunday Children's Liturgies
- Sent anniversary cards to all the children who have been baptised in this parish over the past 4 years.
- Celebrated Mass (or Liturgy of the Word with Communion) every Friday at Dhurringile Prison
- Had pastoral involvement each week through our Chaplains at Dhurringile Prison
- Brought prisoners to Mass by bus at least once a month
- Celebrated many baptisms, weddings and the lives of some of our parishioners at funerals
- Held a school/parish fete which raised a record \$20,000 (approx.)
- Combined with St Augustine's for the Bunnings BBQ and raised \$1,195
- Maintained our Parish Planned Giving pledges to carry us over the next two years! Well done everyone.
- Installed a new heating/cooling system in the Church
- Completed upgrade to our Parish/Diocese computer system and participated in a significant IT survey for the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne.
- The CWL continued to cater for our funerals and other functions
- Continued with "cuppa after Mass" on Children's Mass Sundays and enjoyed fabulous homemade spreads and Italian coffee!!
- St Vincent de Paul assisted approximately 900 people during the year. A wonderful effort by a very few members.
- Raised approx. \$90,000 at the "Vinnies" shop
- Mini-Vinnies raised approximately \$1,000 by holding sausage sizzles after Mass and at the Parish Picnic, having a pie drive, holding a "milo" morning and many other activities. Well done to the children.
- Provided many families going through stressful times with illness etc. with pastoral care meals/packs.

Like everyone else I have likes and dislikes and suffer the same human frailties as you all, but I am blessed to have my imperfections overlooked and that the parish "gets on with things". The various committees, groups and the school all combine to keep this parish community ticking over well.

Mutual understanding and acceptance are essential for the wellbeing of our community. Entering into dialogue with one another to discover what is good for the individual, the community, and our work for the God's Kingdom is vital. We are supported in our differing views by prayer and love for one another. In this Year of Mercy we need to look to a renewed heart for prayer, service and evangelisation. We look to our future of faith with great hope. Supporting each other we will take Christ deeper into our hearts and homes, mindful of the tender words of our loving Pope Francis as he calls parishes to be mission-oriented 'environments of living communion and participation.'

Fr. Michael

Reflection from Pope Francis

"God goes beyond justice with his mercy and forgiveness. Yet this does not mean that justice should be devalued or rendered superfluous. On the contrary: anyone who makes a mistake must pay the price. However, this is just the beginning of conversation, not its end, because one begins to feel the tenderness and mercy of God. God does not deny justice. He rather envelopes it with an even greater event in which we experience love as the foundation of true justice".



Readings for
this week:

Micah 5:1-4
Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-44



Readings for
next Sunday

1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28
1 John 3:1-2, 21-24
Luke 2:41-52



Liturgical Jottings

The Prayer after Communion today, the very last prayer we say together for Advent, asks simply that we may press forward eagerly to a worthy celebration of the mystery of the Nativity of Jesus. Yet the word mystery suggests that we are asking to be open to the depth of God's love. Let us be open to that love especially as it is manifested in the love of the two women, Mary and Elizabeth, as they await the birth of each of their children.

Quote of the Week

Joy is the most infallible sign of God's presence.

French philosopher Leon Bloy.

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Focus on the Readings

Luke's brief account of the meeting of Mary with her cousin Elizabeth calls attention to key dimensions in the Christmas story. Immediately Mary greeted Elizabeth two things happened. First Elizabeth felt the child in her womb leap for joy. Then she was filled with the Holy Spirit. As a result she expressed her delight at being honoured by a visit "from the mother of my Lord". Then she praised Mary highly by saying, "Blessed is she who believed that the promise made to her would be fulfilled."

Many aspects of this meeting touch our lives today. First Mary made the long journey to help her much older cousin during her pregnancy which had come late in her life. As Christmas approaches we too are reminded to be prepared to put ourselves out to help family and friends. These gestures open our lives to the gifts of the Holy Spirit and raise our awareness of the Father's love working in and through us. It awakened in Elizabeth's life the understanding that she was honoured by a visit from one who had responded lovingly to the great favour God had asked of her.

We are assured in the scriptures that God's love permeates our lives and our world. This does not mean there will be no difficulties or tragedies in our lives and our world. Rather it means that the coming of God's Son into our lives and our world is the source of joy that is the most infallible sign of God's loving presence. Consequently it is important that we wish each other a happy Christmas because God is the sources of our happiness and his love for us is manifested lovingly in the birth of the child Jesus.

A Further Thought

Luke quotes Mary saying, "The Lord has done marvels for me. Holy is his name." Those words evoke the name of another Mary, Mary MacKillop, Like Mary of Nazareth Mary dedicated her life to the will of God which she perceived as opening the lives of young Australians to the presence of God in their lives and in their country. Once people referred to Australia as the Land of the Holy Spirit. Mary's life and work is a wonderful example of the Spirit's ongoing work amongst us.

On a lighter note

Proper Christmas Jollity, NSW 1844. Before Christmas, in our drives near the town, we met people carrying beautiful native shrubs (the Christmas bush) to decorate the houses. Sometimes we would see carts heaped with green sprays and garlands, led by a man with proper Christmas jollity.

Louise Meredith.



God is preparing you for greater things.