

WELCOME TO THE PARISHES OF

TATURA

Fr Michael Morley – Parish Priest

KYABRAM

St Patrick's Tongala and St Sebastian's Merrigum

Sacred Heart – Tatura
 Telephone Tatura – 03 – 5824 1049
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<https://www.facebook.com/sacredheartparishtatura>



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.*

Readings - Year A
Matthew
 Weekday Year 1

St Augustine's – Kyabram
 Telephone Kyabram – 03 – 5852 1026
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 Email kyabram@cdos.org.au
 Website www.staugsparishky.org.au
Presbytery – 63 Church Street
PO Box 341 KYABRAM 3620



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

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);
 Veronica Fox;
 Liz Withall; Brendon Lane(Chair);
 Mary Zobec*

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.

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.



THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD - 25th December 2016

Christmas? God's gift to us!

Someone recently asked me what Christmas meant to us in our parish?

When I think of what we do in both parishes of Tatura and Kyabram in the lead up to Christmas my first thought was 'giving'.

We have collections for St Vincent de Paul and their Christmas Hampers Appeal. This year the parish generously gave to allow St Vincent de Paul to buy gift vouchers for families.

This helps us to keep Christmas in perspective. Because what is Christmas?if not Christ coming to us in the innocence and frailty of a child. He gave up the power of God to become one like us and then to sacrifice his life to save each and everyone of us. Not bad examples of giving?

Everything we are, everything we do, everything we have is ours to share and give away.

Christ's presence in our world is to start us on this journey. If we don't, then, we only become very self-centred and selfish human beings.

This can also be a very subtle way to erode away for us the comments of; Christmas being too commercialised; we may offend some people and their religious beliefs; secularisation of Christmas; even the Christmas tree! But as Christians we can use this to our own advantage to do things for the right reason!

The Christmas tree is a beautiful symbol of giving to another with love as its basis. We can take the comments on board and be sensitive, where necessary, but don't be distracted.

We need to remain focussed on what we believe is the true meaning of Christmas. It is up to us to keep Christ in Christmas and we will achieve this just by being Christian. No point worrying or being distracted with people taking Christ out of Christmas if we are not concerned about keeping Christ in the word Christian and being a true Christian ourselves! cont page 3

Caritas News

The latest edition is in the Narthex.



Those who have died recently	Tatura:	
	Kyabram:	
Those whose Anniversary occurs	Tatura:	Vincenzo Salsone
	Kyabram:	
Our sick and their carers	Tatura:	Kevin Wood, Dennis Smith
	Kyabram:	Carmel McCarthy, Bill Nicholson, Kaydn Mitchell, Bailey Guinan, Gisela Crook, Julie Shaw, Jim O'Donovan, Jessica Vile, Lyn Carey, Anthony Lingard

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

Date	Commentator	Reader	Gospel Procession	Presentation of the Gifts	Special Ministers	Counters
Sat Dec 31 st 6pm	Denise Woodman	Gwen Ranson	Marg Corrigan	Phyllis Newman Pauline Moroney	D Bourke A Ciavarella P Baldwin	Bill Woods
Sun Jan 1 st 8am	Betty Curtis	Debbie Worm	Fiona Cowan	Hutchison family	S Cowan L Cowan R Kelly	

MASSSES FOR THE COMING WEEK:

DAY	DATE	TATURA	KYABRAM
Monday	26 Dec	No Mass	No Mass
Tuesday	27 Dec	No Mass	No Mass
Wednesday	28 Dec	No Mass	No Mass
Thursday	29 Dec	No Mass	No Mass
Friday	30 Dec	No Mass	No Mass
Saturday	31 Dec	6pm Mass	No Mass
Sunday	1 Jan	8am Mass	10am Mass
Saturday	31 Dec	No Reconciliation	
ROSARY	15 Minutes Before weekday Mass		

DECEMBER / JANUARY DIARY DATES

Mon	26 Dec	No Mass
Tues	27 Dec	
Wed	28 Dec	
Thurs	29 Dec	
Fri	30 Dec	
Sat	31 Dec	6pm Mass
Sun	1 Jan	8am Mass
Mon	2 Jan	
Tues	3 Jan	
Wed	4 Jan	
Thurs	5 Jan	
Fri	6 Jan	
Sat	7 Jan	No Mass
Sun	8 Jan	10am Mass

PASTORAL CARE

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

You don't need candlelight and fireside glow to make Christmas happen. Trees, ornaments, gifts, and all of it are splendid embellishments. Not necessary, but so very nice. It's Him. He's finding more and more opened inns these days. It's priceless to discover the pleasure of His company ... May your home know something of all this glory during these days.

Jack Hayford

CHOOSE BETTER SAFER CARE NOT EUTHANASIA

The Legal and Social Issues Committee report presented 29 recommendations for the improvement of palliative care and 19 recommendations for improving advanced care plans and directives. Their evidence and suggestions advanced our knowledge and furthered the discussion of care in the dying phase of our lives.

Copies of the statement from Episcopal Vicar for Life, Marriage and Family, Very Rev Tony Kerin EV PP are available for you at the back of the church.

CHURCH SERVICE – 21 YEARS INTERNATIONAL DAIRY WEEK

In 2017 International Dairy Week will celebrate its 21st birthday.

Mark Conner, Senior Pastor at City Life Church in Melbourne will be the key speaker.

All parishioners are invited to attend this non-denominational church service. Light refreshments will be served afterwards.

Date: 15th January 2017

Time: 9.30am – 10.30am

All welcome

Christmas? God's gift to us! cont from page 1

We need to be true to who we are and who we follow.

There is no point being distracted or us 'talking' about someone if we are not being honest and living out the word Christian ourselves. If we can achieve this then maybe the Christmas dissenters will realise that their case for removing Christmas is to no avail when Christ is all around them every day not just one day in the year.

Christmas for us is a time to return and reflect on what has given us our joy and meaning in life. Christmas is when it all started, a time to again see why it is about giving. I have nothing that is not for the benefit of others. What I receive back is what gives me life and my meaning for living.

If we can achieve this throughout the year the giving at Christmas will come much easier and I don't just mean presents, they will tell their story of love, but maybe its going out to the 'black sheep' in our families, friends we haven't seen for a long time, maybe it is being reunited with our church community?

Jesus is the Christmas story but it is up to us to tell it by our own lives and example.

1. The Christmas story speaks to the child in each one of us, calling us back to childhood dreams and joys.
2. The Christmas story speaks to our youth and encourages us not to forget the wonder to be found in simple things.
3. The Christmas story speaks to all adults encouraging us to once again soften our hearts which may have become hardened by the material world.
4. The Christmas story speaks to the elderly, the sick, the lonely and those of us who are grieving, reminding us that our frailty and pain is wrapped in the love of our God. It is therefore fitting that we pray that Jesus, the Child of Peace, brings peace, peace to our hearts, peace to our families and peace to our world.

He was humble enough to become one of us. Surely we can be humble enough to share/give what he gave us – our gifts of talents to others who most need them. This is being fully human this is what gives us life.

Happy Christmas! Fr Michael Morley

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL NEWS

To meet the needs of all who responded to the Mass times survey for when Fr Michael only has the Tatura parish, from the 18th of January there will be two Masses over the weekend.

Saturday night Mass will be at 6:00pm.

Sunday Mass will be at 9:30am each week.

Weekday Masses will be at 9:15am.

We thank all parishioners who responded to the survey.

The PPC are seeking a new logo and motto for the parish to go on letterheads and official parish correspondence, website etc. Suggestions or designs for the logo incorporating Sacred Heart Parish can be emailed to the parish office (Tatura@cdos.org.au) or sent to Debbie Worm for the February meeting (ldworm@bigpond.net.au)

The meeting night for the PPC will be on the 2nd Wednesday of each month (except January).

FAREWELL FROM KYABRAM PARISH FOR FR MICHAEL MORLEY

We will farewell and thank Fr Michael on Sunday 15th January for his dedication and commitment to our parish over the past 11 years. It has truly been a blessing to have Fr Michael as our parish priest. Fr Michael has celebrated many wonderful occasions with us, and comforted many in their times of need. His commitment to the parish and school communities has been exemplary.

Please join in this special day as we farewell Fr Michael.

FAREWELL MASS FOR FR MICHAEL

Brendon Lane PPC Chairperson and Mary Zobec, along with a small group, are organising a send off for Fr Michael.

This will be held on **Sunday, 15th January 2017** at the 10.00am Mass, followed by morning tea in the gathering space of the church.





Readings for
night Masses:

Isaiah 9:2-7
Titus 2:11-14
Luke 2:1-14



Readings for
day Masses

Isaiah 62:11-12
Titus 3:4-7
6
Luke 2:15-20

Isaiah 52:7-10
Hebrews 1:1-

John 1:1-18



Liturgical Jottings

The Christmas Octave

From Christmas Day until 1 January, the Solemnity of the Mother of God, is the Octave (eight days) of Christmas. Every day within the octave is treated the same as the original feast of the Nativity of our Lord. For most people, the significance of events like Easter and Christmas cannot be absorbed in one day. It's like trying to comprehend the grandeur of Uluru in a brief visit. It's not possible. We have to return. So it is with the



Nativity of the Lord Jesus. We need more time to comprehend the virgin birth and God coming down to earth as one like us.

© Diocese of Sandhurst 2016

Looking at the Feast of Christmas

Today the Christmas celebration gains a new depth of theological meaning. At midnight, the birth in history was proclaimed. At dawn, the initiative of God's gift was declared and the community's joyful gratitude was announced. In this third celebration, the identity of Christ and the new way of life that he brings is announced.

If our eyes are open and alert, we can see that God has won a victory for us, one that is tangible and realised in our midst. It is an overwhelming victory, one that permanently conquers the enemy. This victory has a profound impact on every place, every time and every people. The birth of the infant, the king in David's line, promises salvation to all who long for it. This salvation is a new vision of wisdom, one that has been realised in Christ, God's agent of grace in the world. It is a new world, one of inclusivity and of righteous honour. It is a new age, one that is ushered in by the child who is leading a victory procession.

Ultimately, only eyes of faith allow us to see the fullness of God's revelation. The glory of the infant king is the very presence of God made flesh. Jesus is the eternal incarnate Word who has pitched his tent among us. Ours is not a distant God; the incarnate wisdom of God is among us, and we are called to a change of heart that will allow us to see this wonder. © Dianne Bergant CSS

The Christmas Crib (Nativity Scene)

St Francis of Assisi is credited with setting up the first nativity scene and thus establishing a tradition that is carried on today in homes, churches and public spaces in Christian communities everywhere. In 1223, in the town of Greccio he created a life size tableau of the nativity scene to heighten the awareness of the feast of the birth of Christ. It included statues of the holy family and a live ox and donkey. The inclusion of the livestock has no scriptural support and it is to Francis that we owe the array of sheep, oxen and donkeys that have become standard inclusions in our nativity scenes.

A Christmas Prayer

Father of light, a child is born for us and a son is given to us. Your eternal Word leapt down from heaven in the silent watches of the night, and now we are filled with wonder at the nearness of our God. Open our hearts to receive his life and increase our vision, that our lives may be filled with his glory and his peace. Amen.

On The Lighter Side

Q: What do snowmen eat for breakfast? A: Snowflakes.

Q: Name the child's favourite Christmas king? A: A stocking.

Q: What do call Santa when he stops moving? A: Santa Pause!



Happiness keeps you sweet. Trials keep you strong. Sorrows keep you human.
Failures keep you humble, and God keeps you going.