



Sacred
Heart
Parish
TATURA

Sacred Heart Parish Tatura

Parish Priest: Fr Uday Kumar Marneni ALCP/OSS

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Sunday 14 September 2025



Readings
for
this week: Number 21:4-9
Philippians 2:6-11
John 3:13-17



Readings
for
next Sunday: Amos 8:4-7
1 Timothy 2:1-8
Luke 16:1-13



Liturgical Jottings

Liturgy and Justice II

Liturgy and justice are interconnected aspects of faith, with the former being the public worship of God and the latter being the pursuit of fairness and righteousness in human relationships. Many believe that a truly reverent liturgy should inspire and be informed by a commitment to social justice, while also recognizing that justice-oriented actions should be rooted in a deep understanding of God's call to love and mercy.

Since Pope Leo XIII's encyclical *Rerum Novarum* and Pope John XXIII's *Pacem in Terris* the Church has brought social justice and faith together. The liturgical movement at the same time has recognised that prayer and the liturgy are at the foundation of the Catholic social mission. The Word of God celebrated, reflected upon and prayed about inspire Catholics to walk in the footsteps of Jesus.

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Looking at the Readings

The first reading from the **Book of Numbers** reveals God's ready willingness to forgive and to heal the Israelites by transforming an image of the cause of their suffering and death into the source of healing for them. To look upon the bronze image of the serpent "lifted up" on a pole they were healed.

In today's gospel, In the Gospel of John, the term "lifted up" has a double meaning. First it refers to Jesus being "lifted up" on the cross, lifted up in the cruel and shameful death resulting from the sinful actions and ways of his people. But it also refers to Jesus being "lifted up" in the glory of his resurrection and ascension to God. That "lifting up," he promises Nicodemus and us, will be given to everyone who believes in him. The passage closes with a clear statement meant to relieve any fears or anxiety we might have because of our sins: God sent his Son into the world that through him the world might be saved."

In the passage from Paul's Letter to the Philippians Belief in Christ means embracing that life of self-emptying service for the forgiveness and healing of the sins of our time and our people.

The Gospel passage closes with a clear statement meant to relieve any fears or anxiety we might have because of our sins: "For God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him." *From Peace with Creation by James E Hug SJ.*

Pope Leo on Creation

With infinite love, God has created all things and given them life. That is why Saint Francis of Assisi could call every creature his brother, his sister and his mother. Only a contemplative gaze can change our relationship with creation and bring us out of the ecological crisis brought on by the breakdown of our relationship with God, with our neighbours and with the earth that is the effect of sin (cf. *Laudato Si'*, 66). *Homily Pope Leo XIV, on 9 July 2025*

Prayer for the Day

Lord, holy Father, you placed the salvation of the human race on the wood of the Cross, so that, where death arose, life might again spring forth and the evil one, who conquered on a tree, might likewise on a tree be conquered, Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

On the Lighter Side

Q. Why did St Patrick drive the snakes out of Ireland?

A. It was too far to walk or swim!

Q. What do you call a snake who works for the government?

A. A Civil Serpent!





Please email or
contact the Parish
Office to add
names to our
prayer list

**For those who have
died and those who
are grieving**

Pietro Gugliotti, Doris Licciardo, Fr Alex Lim

**For those whose
anniversary occurs at
this time**

Josie Gervasi, Terry White

**Our sick and their
carers**

ROSTERS FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

Saturday 20th September 5:00pm

Commentator: Anne Hutchison
Reader: Rita Fairchild
Gospel Procession: Connie Serra
Gifts: S Gregg & D Hamilton
Eucharistic Minister: Not required
Screen Operator: Carol Coulston
Music Operator: Trish Warnett

Sunday 21st September 10:30am

Commentator: Domelina Phelan
Reader: Teresa Cook
Gospel Procession: Steve De Lai
Gifts: A Basile & L Mercuri
Eucharistic Minister: Connie Serra
Screen Operator: Debbie Worm
Music Operator: Trish Warnett
Money Counters: Steve & Simone De Lai

Sunday 28th September 10:30am

Commentator: Debbie Worm
Reader: John Keane
Gospel Procession: Doreen Corrigan
Gifts: L Mercuri & A Basile
Eucharistic Minister: Connie Serra
Screen Operator: Lou Worm
Music Operator: Trish Warnett
Money Counters: E Worm & L Worm

Saturday Mass times for 1st & 3rd Sunday of the Month

6:00pm (Oct – Mar) 5:00pm (Apr-Sep)

We thank all of our volunteers for their
assistance during Mass.

Two Week Mass Timetable Week Commencing 17th September

Weekday Masses

Wednesday 17th September 9:15am
Funeral at 11am
Friday 19th September 9:15am

Weekend Masses

Saturday 20th September 5:00pm
Sunday 21st September 10:30am

Weekday Masses

Wednesday 24th September 9:15am
Friday 26th September 9:15am

Weekend Mass

Sunday 28th September 10:30am

Monthly events

Anointing Mass every 1st Wednesday Mass at 9:15am
Italian Rosary every 2nd Friday at 2pm in the Church
*Reconciliation every 1st Saturday of the month (30
minutes before Mass)*

Saturday evening Masses: 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month
4th Sunday of the month: Shared lunch in St Mary's Hall

The next shared lunch will be on Sunday 28th
September. All welcome.

**We hope Fr Uday enjoyed his trip home to India to
visit family and friends.**

Ladies Cuppa & Chat

1st Wednesday of each
month at 2pm in St
Mary's Hall. All welcome.

The next one will be next Wednesday
1st October



Plate Collection and Envelope

Thank you so much for your generosity and support of
the parish.

May God bless you always.

Last week: \$590.00



Thank You

SANDPIPER e-News



Official news
from the
Diocese of Sandhurst
straight to your inbox.



www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au/news-a-events3/sandpiper-e-news

Everything is a reminder of the Cross. We ourselves are made in the shape of a cross.

St. John Vianney

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross remembers the Cross of Jesus. It has been celebrated by the Church for centuries. The feast began in the 4th century, when the True Cross was found by St. Helena, the mother of Emperor Constantine. Tradition says she found the Cross in Jerusalem, where Jesus was crucified. This discovery made a deep impression on Christians and led to honoring the Cross in a special way.

The feast celebrates the Cross because it is the symbol of our faith. The Cross shows us how much Jesus loves us. He died on the Cross to save us from our sins. In Christian tradition, the Cross is a sign of hope, even though it was an instrument of death. It reminds us that Jesus turned suffering and death into victory and life.

PRIESTS RETIREMENT FOUNDATION APPEAL for retired Priests of Sandhurst. We have 12 retired Priests. Fundraising assists the provision of housing, annual recurrent and everyday expenses. The Foundation relies on the generosity of the priests and people of the Diocese.

A special collection will be taken next weekend of 20th/21st of September and is the major fundraiser of the year. This day is an opportunity to thank God for their ministry and dedication, and to pray for our priests, active and retired. Donations over \$2 are tax-deductible.

You are invited!

St Mel's Majellan Club – Celebrating 60 Years of Togetherness

In 2025, we mark a remarkable milestone – 60 years of friendship, faith, and community at St Mel's Majellan Club.

We warmly invite all past and present members to join us in celebrating this special occasion at our St Gerard Majellan Feast Day Mass.

Date: Thursday, 16th October 2025

Time: 11:00 AM

Location: St Mel's Church, 18–22 Hamilton Street

Mass will be followed by a celebratory lunch at the GV Hotel at your own cost.

Please register your attendance before October 2nd by contacting:

Lorraine Corish – 0412 848 548, Maree McKenna – 0409 956 464

We look forward to reconnecting and celebrating with you!

Orders for **God's Word** 2026 (\$20), **Daily Mass Books & Columban Calendars** are being taken.

Please add your name to the list in the Narthex.

Prices for the Daily Mass Books and Columban calendars are to be confirmed. Orders are needed by Sunday 5th October

RCIA INQUIRY EVENINGS IN KYABRAM... Inquiry evenings for the RCIA program will begin on Monday 6th October at 5.30pm in the presbytery. The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process of Christian formation by which those who are seeking full communion with the Church. It can also be helpful who anyone who wants refresh their understanding of the Catholic faith. For inquiries please contact Annette Ryan 0408 502 858 or Mary Zobec 0427190282.

The Gospel of John: Lifted for Our Salvation

The Gospel of John focuses on Jesus as the one sent from the Father to bring eternal life. This passage links Jesus to the bronze serpent, showing that salvation comes through belief in him. Faith is a major theme in John, where signs point to who Jesus is, and believing leads to life.

God's love is the heart of this message. Jesus was sent not to condemn but to save. On the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, we look at Christ lifted up, just as Israel looked at the serpent. His cross is the sign of God's love, calling us to trust and receive life.

When we face difficulties, we can look to the Cross and remember that we are never alone. By carrying our crosses with trust in God, we follow Jesus and find strength in Him.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY

We turn our hearts and minds to the people of the Yorta Yorta nation, who have occupied this country for thousands of years. We pay respect to their elders past, present and emerging, and commit to walking alongside First Nation Australians in truth, justice and reconciliation.

Sacred Heart Parish, Tatura

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Website: <http://www.sacredheartparishtatura.com.au>

Facebook: Sacred Heart Catholic Parish Tatura

DIOCESE NEWS – 14/9/25

Catholic Earthcare was excited to release our new video, ***Catholic Earthcare celebrates 10 years of Laudato Si'***. Marking the 10th anniversary of this landmark encyclical, the film showcases and celebrates how Catholic communities across Australia (including yourselves!) are living out ecological conversion and action.

Watch here <https://vimeo.com/1112169729?share=copy>

National Pilgrimage and Reflection Days of Hope

Jubilee Year of Hope Series

17 Sept, 19 November:

All are welcome to join for a series of Wednesdays dedicated to prayer, reflection and faith enrichment, inspired by the 2025 Year of Hope, accompanied by Sr Virginia Bourke, rsj, held at Mary MacKillop Place. For more information or questions: ministries@mmp.org.au

An opportunity for your consideration...

The **Catholic Women's Network** is hosting the Anointed Women's Conference in Sydney on Saturday September 27, featuring keynote speaker Sr Miriam James Heidland SOLT.

The event is a time to gather with other women of faith and be reminded that you were created with purpose, chosen by God, and anointed by the Holy Spirit to live fully and freely in your vocation.

Through worship, fellowship, and inspiring talks, you'll have space to reflect, be renewed in prayer, and hear messages that speak to the heart of womanhood in today's world.

Find out more and register at <https://catholicwomensnetwork.org/conference/>

Youth Podcast: Catch The Flame

Sandhurst Youth Ministry has just launched its first episode of a new podcast for young people to explore faith, share real stories, and journey together in discovering what it means to follow Jesus today.

Come as you are — this is your space!

Now streaming on Spotify and Apple Podcast: Catch the Flame: A Sandhurst Catholic Youth Podcast

Like and Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: Sandhurst Youth Ministry Email: sandhurstyouthministry@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

7-13
SEPTEMBER
2025
**NATIONAL CHILD
PROTECTION
WEEK**

SAFEGUARDING
CHILDREN & THE
VULNERABLE
WITHIN OUR
COMMUNITY

'EVERY
CONVERSATION
MATTERS:
SHIFTING
CONVERSATION
TO ACTION'

MARONITESAFEGUARDING.ORG.AU



Archbishop Shane Mackinlay has been welcomed by the people of Brisbane at the installation Mass at St Stephen's Cathedral today. He becomes the eighth leader of Brisbane archdiocese. In his homily, Archbishop Mackinlay spoke about how many modern Australians were "feeling more anxious and less hopeful" about the future.

He said there had been a recent study that "found that only 19 per cent of Australians feel hopeful about the next few years compared with 24 per cent... only 12 months earlier".

He said the study also identified the three factors most likely to improve a person's sense of hope were religious faith, connection to others and being involved in shared action.

Archbishop Mackinlay said these three factors mirrored the "three-fold relationship that we enter at baptism" – being united to Christ in faith, connected to others through communion, and commissioned for shared action in the world.

FULL STORY: <https://catholicleader.com.au/.../new-brisbane.../>

Sandhurst Pilgrimage to Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) Melbourne 2025: REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN!!

The Diocese of Sandhurst is taking 200 young pilgrims to the Australian Catholic Youth Festival — a vibrant journey of faith, music, prayer and encounter. The pilgrimage is a partnership between Catholic Education Sandhurst, parishes and schools, offering young people a chance to grow in faith and community, to be formed, inspired, and sent. Support is available to make the journey possible — but the call is for commitment, curiosity, and courage. Talk to your parish and say 'yes' to be part of something that will shape the Church and your place in it.

When: 29 November - 3 December

Travel: Return Coaches departing from Shepparton, Wangaratta & Bendigo, with 4 nights' accommodation at Queens College

Cost: \$1450 package expense, with large upfront subsidies available to eligible year 10 & 11 students, and parishioners aged 18-25



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More info on subsidy packages, event scheduling and how to register found at www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au





Catholic Diocese of Sandhurst

DIOCESAN FORMATION GATHERING Building Communities of Belonging

Keynote Presentation by Dr Paul Sharkey:

The Place of Community and Belonging in a Catholic Parish

Part 1:

Why is it important in the context of the mission of the parish/Church in today's culture?

Part 2:

What can a parish do to grow the sense of belonging amongst its parishioners?

The day offers **insights** and **tools** to help parishes grow a deeper sense of welcome and connection.

SIX PRACTICAL WORKSHOPS TO CHOOSE FROM!

Opportunities to share ideas and experiences through:

- Round Robin dialogues between parishes
- Parish group discussions
- Plenary conversations with shared reflections.

Life giving and Empowering Formation

Saturday
11 October
2025
9.00 am - 4.00 pm
Notre Dame College
Shepparton

Register Now!

Registrations close
30 September 2025

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1394762>

WORKSHOPS

DIOCESAN FORMATION GATHERING

Geoff Gowdie

Building Communities of Belonging – learning from what others have discovered.

What are the insights from other parishes who are intentionally well into this journey?

Claire Spinelli and Team

A Community of belonging for Young People

What sort of parish culture is invitational, welcoming and inclusive of young people?

Christine Sebire

A community of belonging for Children and Families

What sort of parish culture is invitational, welcoming and inclusive for children and families?

Dr Paul Sharkey and Kim Butler

Parish-School Partnership in building communities of belonging

The critical role of parish and school working together to build connection, welcome, trust and belonging with families/children/ young people.

Fr Junray Rayna

Building communities of belonging – local strategies in practice

Examples of practices that are in use in our Diocese.

Dr Chris Cotter and Team

Welcome, hospitality and belonging in Scripture

The essential and foundational role of welcome, hospitality and belonging in the biblical narrative.



Catholic Diocese of Sandhurst

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,
because by your cross you have redeemed
the world.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 3: 13-17

A reading from the holy Gospel according
to John.

The Son of Man must be lifted up.

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

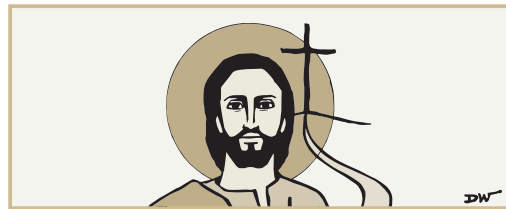
‘No one has gone up to heaven
except the one who came down from heaven,
the Son of Man who is in heaven;
and the Son of Man must be lifted up
as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert,
so that everyone who believes may have
eternal life in him.

Yes, God loved the world so much
that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may
not be lost

but may have eternal life.

For God sent his Son into the world
not to condemn the world,
but so that through him the world might be
saved.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.



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Breaking Open the Word

LIFTED UP

Today's Feast moves us away from our usual
journey through Luke's Gospel. Instead,
our focus is with John's Gospel. We are
in a different world. John 3 concerns the
engagement which Jesus has with Nicodemus,
a Jewish leader and, as we learn at the
Gospel's end, a potential disciple. In this
chapter, the evangelist seeks to reflect upon
Jesus' origins. John affirms that Jesus, God's
Word and source of Wisdom, is from God.
He 'came down from Heaven'. Jesus is God's
exalted heavenly and human presence. He will
be 'lifted up', that is, in John's story of Jesus'
passion and death, he will be 'lifted up' on the
cross and will be 'lifted up' in exaltation by
the Father in resurrection. Jesus' death is also
his exaltation.

In today's Gospel, the evangelist draws on the
imagery of the fashioned bronze serpent that
Moses 'lifts up', that we hear today in the first
reading from the *Book of Numbers*. The serpent
figure rescues the suffering Israelites. For
John, this, too, is Jesus' quest: to rescue and
bring eternal life to suffering humanity. John's
passage exudes hope and divine communion
with humanity and creation. God loves the
'cosmos' so much that God's very being and
expression in the Word, Jesus, suffers for it.
This word, 'cosmos', comprises the whole of
creation, including humanity.

Palpable optimism permeates this Gospel
passage. For John, God wants nothing or
anyone to be 'lost'. All are found in the Word
enfleshed in Jesus. God's community with
creation and humanity is sealed and eternal.
This is such a rich Gospel for today's Feast.
Every line deserves meditation.

Fr Michael Trainor

THE SAVING WORD

THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS / C

14 SEPTEMBER 2025

FIRST READING

Num 21: 4-9

A reading from the book of Numbers.

*When those that were afflicted looked upon it, they
were healed.*

On the way through the wilderness, the
Israelites lost patience. They spoke against
God and against Moses, 'Why did you bring
us out of Egypt to die in this wilderness? For
there is neither bread nor water here: we are
sick of this unsatisfying food.'

At this God sent fiery serpents among the
people; their bite brought death to many in
Israel. The people came and said to Moses, 'We
have sinned by speaking against the Lord and
against you. Intercede for us with the Lord to
save us from these serpents.' Moses interceded
for the people, and the Lord answered him,
'Make a fiery serpent and put it on a standard.
If anyone is bitten and looks at it, he shall
live.' So Moses fashioned a bronze serpent
which he put on a standard, and if anyone was
bitten by a serpent, he looked at the bronze
serpent and lived.

■ The word of the Lord.

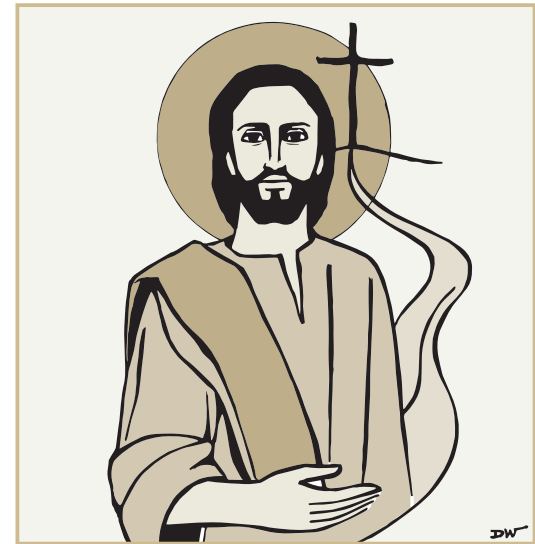
RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 77: 1-2, 34-38. R. v. 7
R. Do not forget the works of the Lord!

1. Give heed, my people, to my teaching; /
turn your ear to the words of my mouth /
I will open my mouth in a parable / and reveal
hidden lessons of the past. **R.**

2. When he slew them then they would seek
him, / return and seek him in earnest. / They
would remember that God was their rock, /
God the Most High their redeemer. **R.**

3. But the words they spoke were mere
flattery; / they lied to him with their lips. / For
their hearts were not truly with him; / they
were not faithful to his covenant. **R.**

4. Yet he who is full of compassion / forgave
their sin and spared them. / So often he held
back his anger / when he might have stirred up
his rage. **R.**



SECOND READING

Phil 2: 6-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Philippians.

He humbled himself, therefore God has exalted him.

The state of Jesus Christ was divine,
yet he did not cling
to his equality with God
but emptied himself
to assume the condition of a slave,
and became as men are;
and being as all men are,
he was humbler yet,
even to accepting death,
death on a cross.
But God raised him high
and gave him the name
which is above all other names
so that all beings
in the heavens, on earth and in the
underworld,
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus
and that every tongue should acclaim
Jesus Christ as Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

■ The word of the Lord.