



Sacred
Heart
Parish
TATURA

Sacred Heart Parish Tatura

Parish Priest: Fr Uday Kumar Marneni ALCP/OSS

Third Sunday of Ordinary Time

25 January 2026



Readings for
this week:

Isaiah 8:23-9:3
1 Corinthians 1:10-13,17
Matthew 4:12-23



Readings for
next Sunday:

Zephaniah 2:3, 3:12-13
1 Corinthians 1:26-31
Matthew 5:1-12



Liturgical Jottings

Matthew's Gospel

During the Season of Ordinary Time cycle A Gospel of St Matthew is proclaimed on every Sunday. From this Sunday we hear of the beginning of Jesus' ministry in Galilee and on the last Sunday of the Year the end of his ministry in Jerusalem. The passages are from Chapters 4 to 24.

Earlier chapters tell of the Nativity of the Lord that are read during Advent-Christmas-Epiphany Season and the latter chapters on his death and resurrection that are read during the Passion-Easter Season.

Only five chapters are missing from this semi-continuous reading of the first Gospel. We hear these missing episodes mainly in cycle C from the Gospel according to Luke.

Matthew's Gospel is written for a Christian Jewish community with many Old Testament quotes from prophets and allusions about Adam, Abraham Moses, David and the Law. Jesus is depicted as the new Moses presenting the new Law.

Looking at the Readings

Beginning his ministry, Jesus took over from where John the Baptist left off by preaching: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand." We hear these words **repent** and **Kingdom of God** many times in Matthew's Gospel. There is a sense of urgency: **close at hand**, the four Apostles left their nets and boats and **immediately** followed him' Also, Jesus emphasises the movement from darkness to light, evil to goodness that is part of the first reading from the Prophet Isaiah: "The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light ..." and quoted by Matthew in the gospel today.

Jesus words and actions are **generously generalised** by Matthew: it is not just a few who are healed or a few who hear the word but **all** who were sick, the crowds, **all** kinds of diseases, **all** of Galilee and finally at his Ascension: "go out to **all** the nations". What was the mission of Jesus then became the mission of the Apostles and eventually becomes the mission of the whole church. This is expressed succinctly in the following prayer.

Prayer for the Week

God of salvation,
the splendour of your glory
dispels the darkness of earth,
for in Christ we behold the nearness of your kingdom.
Now make us quick to follow where he beckons,
eager to embrace the tasks of the gospel.

Quote from Pope Leo XIV

"Our world, wounded by war, violence and injustice, needs to hear the Gospel message of God's love and to experience the reconciling power of Christ's grace," CNS 22 May 2025

Day of Prayer: Australia Day 26 January

The Prayers and Readings carry many intentions for the land, the people old and new, the nation, for peace and justice, shelter and safety and blessing. Symbols of Australia may decorate the church: native plants, local artwork and aboriginal artefacts, southern cross, native animals, national flags and music.

On the Lighter Side

Why is dark spelt with a K and not a C?

Because you cannot see in the dark!

After God created 24 hours of alternating darkness and light, one of the angels asked him, "what are you going to do now?"

God said, "I think I'm going to call it a day."

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 Please email or contact the office to add names to the prayer list	For those who have died and those who are grieving	
	For those whose anniversary occurs at this time	Jack Woodman, Nella Gallo, Carmine Nigro, Maria Corbo
	Our sick and their carers	Harney McKinnon, Raffaella Prinzi

ROSTERS FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

Saturday 31st January 6:00pm

Commentator: Anne Hutchison
 Reader: Denice Bourke
 Gospel Procession: Debbie Turvey
 Gifts: Jan & Barry Lowe
 Eucharistic Minister: Not required
 Screen Operator: Carol Coulson
 Music Operator: Trish Warnett

Sunday 1st February 10:30am

Commentator: Gem Reyes
 Reader: Dean Filgate
 Gospel Procession: Sheila Gregg
 Gifts: A Basile & L Mercuri
 Eucharistic Minister: Anna Ciavarella
 Screen Operator: Debbie Worm
 Music Operator: Trish Warnett
 Money Counters: L & D Worm

Sunday 8th February 10:30am

Commentator: Mary Gale
 Reader: Domelina Phelan
 Gospel Procession: Doreen Corrigan
 Gifts: Jan & Barry Lowe
 Eucharistic Minister: Leo McGrath
 Screen Operator: Debbie Worm
 Music Operator: Trish Warnett
 Money Counters: D & 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 28th January

Weekday Masses

Wednesday 28th January 9:15am
 Friday 30th January 9:15am

Weekend Mass

Saturday 31st January 6:00pm
 Sunday 1st February 10:30am

Liturgy & Weekday Masses

Wednesday 4th February 9:15am (Liturgy)
 Friday 6th February 9:15am (Liturgy)

Weekend Mass

Sunday 8th February 10:30am (Fr Grace)

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

Ladies Cuppa & Chat

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



The next one will be Wednesday 4th February.

Plate Collection and Envelope



Thank You

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

May God bless you always.

Last week: \$ 735.00

There will be a bucket collection next Sunday for Fr Uday for his trip to India

GLUTEN FREE HOSTS: Please note that gluten free hosts are available to parishioners who are gluten intolerant. Please see the Trish or Fr Uday. For further queries contact the parish office.

NAMES ON PRAYER LIST: Please contact the office or by email to add names on the prayer list.

THE NEXT PARISH SHARED LUNCH: this Sunday following Mass at 10:30am

BAPTISM PREPARATION INFORMATION SESSION: Wednesday 4th March at 7:00pm

He walked along from there and saw two other brothers, James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They were in a boat, with their father Zebedee, mending their nets. He called them, and immediately they left their boat and their father and followed him.

Matthew 4:21-22

Fr. Uday will be attending the Provincial Chapter of India Province for two weeks and will then take 2 weeks holidays from **February 2nd to March 5th 2026**.

There will be no Saturday Masses during this time (14th & 28th February).

Fr Michael Grace will be celebrating the Sunday Masses at 10:30am during this time.

Weekday Masses will be replaced by Liturgies on Wednesdays and Fridays (with the exception of Ash Wednesday on 18th February – this will be celebrated by Fr. Des Welladsen).

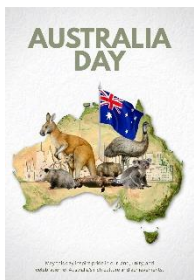
There will be no Anointing Masses or Reconciliation during February & March while Fr Uday is away.

Each Friday during Lent there will be the Stations of the Cross following Mass (or Liturgy while Fr Uday is away) at 9:15am.

Next PPC meeting: Wednesday 11th February at 6:30pm in the Presbytery.

CARITAS – JUSTICE MEETING

Goulburn Valley Deanery Wednesday 4th Feb at Shepparton 5.00 pm in St Brendan's Meeting Room, behind church, Knight St Shepparton Cuppa at 5.00pm Meeting begins 5.15pm & concludes by 7.00pm. If you would like to attend or help represent the parish please let Trish know.



God bless Australia,
We give thanks for this ancient and beautiful land,
A land of despair and hope,
A land of wealth and abundant harvests,
A land of fire, drought and flood.
We pray that your Spirit may continue to move in this land
and bring forgiveness, reconciliation, and an end to all injustice;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Walking in the Light

The 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A reminds us that God brings light into darkness. We hear the words of Isaiah about a people who once lived in gloom but now see light. This reading shows us that God does not leave us alone. He is near, even in hard times.

In the Gospel, Jesus begins preaching and calling his first followers. He brings light to Galilee, a place people often forgot. He tells them to turn their lives around and follow him. His message is simple but clear: the kingdom of heaven is close.

Saint Paul also speaks to the early Church. He tells them to stop fighting and focus on Jesus. It is a good reminder for us today. We belong to Christ, not to any group or leader.

The 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A helps us see how Jesus brings hope, healing, and peace. He calls each of us to follow him and live in his light. It encourages people to listen to Jesus and respond to His call. He invites everyone to follow Him, no matter their background or abilities. He also calls people to work together in faith, not letting differences cause division.

As we reflect on these readings, we can ask ourselves how we can bring light, follow Jesus, and build unity in our own lives.

Lord, You are the light that leads us out of darkness. Help us to trust You when life is difficult. Give us the courage to follow You, even when we feel unworthy. Teach us to work together and build unity in our communities. Guide us each day as we walk in faith. Amen.

CHILD SAFE PARISH

We are a Child Safe Parish, we have a zero tolerance for child abuse and aim to provide a safe, supportive and welcoming environment to all visiting children, young persons and vulnerable adults. If you are concerned for any form of abuse that is immediate you should call 000; a significant risk or harm, whether or not you have formed this belief on reasonable grounds, you should immediately raise your concerns with our Parish Child safety officer Debbie Turvey on 0407 804 317.

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 – 25th January 2026

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

Discover Catholic Podcasts and events happening across Australia – retreats, pilgrimages, workshops and more.

Visit www.CathEvents.org.au to find opportunities to grow in faith and community. Event organisers can also list their events for free, helping more people connect and participate.

Feast of the Presentation: The Macgill family invite you to our home to celebrate the Feast of the Presentation, pray for our priests, seminarians and vocations. We will also have the "Blessing of the Candles"

Feast of the Presentation

Venue: 70 Tank Corner East Road
Date: Tuesday 3rd of February
Time: 7.00 pm Rosary
7.30 pm Mass

Bring your candles for the "Blessing of the Candles"

Please bring a plate to share, and a chair. Tea and coffee provided

All welcome

The latest Along the Track can be found on our website under the heading of **Sharings / Along the Track**

Diocese Website: <https://www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au>

Diocese Facebook Page: Catholic Diocese of Sandhurst

SANDHURST Social Justice

Diocesan Director Fr Ron Hayes
Diocesan Coordinator Kerry Stone
Caritas / Justice Office,
PO Box 130 Numurkah 3636,
Phone: 0408 579 904
caritasjustice@sandhurst.catholic.org.au



SJ MEETING AGENDA

Priests/Parish Reps – Jan/Feb 2026 – Wangaratta Bendigo Shepparton

5.00 pm **Cuppa** – collect PC materials
5.15 pm **Acknowledgement, Welcome & Prayer**

CARITAS AUSTRALIA www.caritas.org.au

- Project Compassion – workshop materials
- Public Launch Bendigo
- Emergency Appeals – Ukraine, Gaza, Sudan, Philippines/Vietnam + Christmas Appeal
- Global Gift review
- Advocacy

ACRC OFFICE FOR LITURGY, ECOLOGY & PEACE www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au

- Current SJ Statement:
- Signs of Hope on the Edge – Serving Homeless People with & Mental Ill-Health
- SJ Sunday 30th Aug: Release of 2026/27 Statement – topic tba
- Online info: Latest News/Calendar/Podcasts

LAUDATO SI' ACTION - CATHOLIC EARTHCARE Plenary Decree 8 www.caritas.org.au/catholic-earthcare

- Laudato Si' Action Platform – Sandhurst Commitment
- Laudato Si' Week - 17 May to 24 May *Hope Into Action* - Liturgy Resources will be sent
- World Day of Prayer for Creation 1st September begins Season of Creation to 4th October
- Sandhurst Season of Creation Mass in the Forest, Huntly on Tuesday 1st September; Wodonga possibility – to be discussed

ABORIGINAL RECOGNITION & RECONCILIATION National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council NATSICC www.natsicc.org.au Plenary Decree 1

- Acknowledgement on Parish Bulletins; Message Stick; Acknowledgement Plaques NATSICC
- Australia Day Statement & Discussion Guide
- National Sorry Day Tuesday 26th May begins Reconciliation Week: *Bridging Now to Next*.
- Aboriginal Sunday 5th July NAIDOC Week begins: Liturgy Notes will be sent

ASYLUM SEEKERS & REFUGEES Australian Catholic Migrant & Refugee Office <http://acmro.catholic.org.au>

- Seasonal Workers – our responsibility?
- CAPSA (Cath Alliance) <https://capsa.org.au> BSAP (Brig) www.bsap.org.au ARC www.refugeecouncil.org.au
- <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2024/10/24/new-funding-promises-brief-note-and-brief-processing-for-people-seeking-asylum/>
- Palm Sunday 29th March – Bendigo Walk – more info to follow
- Refugee Week Sunday 14 June to Saturday 20 June with the Theme: *A Million Stories*
- Migrant & Refugee Sunday 27th Sept: Liturgy Notes will be sent

HUMAN TRAFFICKING & SLAVERY

- Anti-trafficking awareness/advocacy – ACRATH www.acrath.org.au Slavery-free chocolate – New Poster <https://acrath.org.au/take-action/chocolate/> Choc scorecard www.chocolatescorecard.com

Looking back 2025 /forward 2026 comments/questions...

6.45 pm **Meeting Concludes** - Peruse & Collect Extra Materials

CARITAS / JUSTICE REPRESENTATIVE FOR TATURA

Would you like to be one of Sacred Heart Parish Tatura's Caritas / Justice Representatives?

Tasks would include helping to prepare displays, promotion of materials, work with your liturgists & preparers of bulletins, show films & powerpoints, photocopy materials, prepare handouts, identify ways of raising the profile of Campaigns and various Justice Issues...? If you are interested please let Trish Warnett know.

There is a once a year meeting for the **GOULBURN VALLEY Deanery**
Wednesday 4th Feb at Shepparton
5.00 pm in the St Brendan's Meeting Room, behind the church, Knight St Shepparton Cuppa at 5.00pm Meeting begins 5.15pm & concludes by 7.00pm.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

He went to Capernaum, that the prophecy of Isaiah be fulfilled.

Hearing that John had been arrested Jesus went back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled:

Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali! / Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan, / Galilee of the nations! / The people that lived in darkness / has seen a great light; / on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death / a light has dawned.

From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'

As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee he saw two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew; they were making a cast in the lake with their net, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.' And they left their nets at once and followed him.

Going on from there he saw another pair of brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they were in their boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. At once, leaving the boat and their father, they followed him.

He went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

Shorter form: 4: 12-17

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Breaking Open the Word

REPENT

Last Sunday's Gospel from John, though critically important for our spiritual reflection, seemed unusual in this year of Matthew. So, today, we return to Matthew. In the past two Sundays, John the Baptist has been central in the Gospel selections. Today he is no longer with us, having been arrested. Our focus is squarely now on Jesus. He moves from his hometown of Nazareth to Capernaum. Both towns are on the fringe. The first, Nazareth, is the symbolic place of exile in Matthew. When Mary, Joseph and Jesus returned from Egypt they could not go back to their hometown of Bethlehem because of the vengeful ruling presence of Herod's son Archelaus. They go to live in Galilee, to Nazareth. They, like the Israelites several centuries earlier, are in exile. It is from here that the rest of Matthew unfolds.

Jesus next moves to Capernaum located geographically close to pagan and Gentile territories. It is a fishing village and a taxation collection centre at the crossroads of two major E-W and N-S highways. It is here that Jesus proclaims the great clarion cry in the Gospel: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand' (4:17). This cry 'to repent' (Greek *metanoia*) is an urge to have an openness of heart. It comes with a conviction that God is already present and active in the world ('the kingdom of heaven is close at hand').

Finally, after Jesus calls four fishermen to be his first disciples, our Gospel proclamation ends with a note about Jesus' teaching and healing ministry. The first-called disciples will model for Matthew's audience how to be repentant and live out the conviction of God's presence in their lives and world.

Fr Michael Trainor

THE SAVING WORD

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

25 JANUARY 2026

FIRST READING

Isa 8:23–9:3

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

In the Galilean country, the people have seen a great light.

In days past the Lord humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in days to come he will confer glory on the Way of the Sea on the far side of Jordan, province of the nations.

The people that walked in darkness
has seen a great light;
on those who live in a land of deep shadow
a light has shone.

You have made their gladness greater,
you have made their joy increase;
they rejoice in your presence
as men rejoice at harvest time,
as men are happy when they are dividing
the spoils.

For the yoke that was weighing on him,
the bar across his shoulders,
the rod of his oppressor,
these you break as on the day of Midian.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 26:1, 4, 13–14. R.v.1

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

1. The Lord is my light and my salvation; /
whom shall I fear? / The Lord is the
stronghold of my life; / before whom shall I
shrink? **R.**

2. There is one thing I ask of the Lord, /
for this I long, / to live in the house of the
Lord, / all the days of my life, / to savour
the sweetness of the Lord, / to behold his
temple. **R.**

3. I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness /
in the land of the living. / Hope in him, hold
firm and take heart. / Hope in the Lord! **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Cor 1:10–13, 17

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

I appeal to you, my brothers and sisters, make up the differences between you.

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, to make up the differences between you, and instead of disagreeing among yourselves, to be united again in your belief and practice. From what Chloe's people have been telling me, my dear brothers, it is clear that there are serious differences among you. What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am for Apollos', 'I am for Cephas', 'I am for Christ'. Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul?

For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good News, and not to preach that in the terms of philosophy in which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be expressed.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia! / Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom, / and healed all who were sick. / Alleluia!