



Sacred
Heart
Parish
TATURA

Sacred Heart Parish Tatura

Parish Priest: Fr Uday Kumar Marneni ALCP/OSS

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 February 2026



Readings
for this
Sunday

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



Readings for
next week:

Isaiah 58:7-10
1 Corinthians 2:1-5
Matthew 5:13-16



Liturgical Jottings Gospel Sequence

The Gospels from the fourth Sunday to the ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time form a sequence, or rather a great sequence. It contains the first and largest discourse of Jesus over three chapters. Also known as the Sermon on the Mount, it starts with the "Beatitudes", which is today's gospel. This passage serves as an introduction and a reference point to the rest of Christ's instruction to the disciples.

This great sequence starts with the words: "Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. ... This is what he taught them" (Matt 5:1-2) and concludes with "When Jesus finished these words, the crowds were astonished." (Matt 7:28-29). He taught them with mercy and compassion, firmness and authority and about faith and living the faith daily. Unfortunately, we will not hear the last three instalments of the 7th -9th Sundays due to Lent, Easter, Pentecost and Feast of the Trinity interrupting this sequence. But we can find them in our Sunday Missals and the Bible.

Focus on the Gospel

There was a humorous play on the Beatitudes: The disciples asked: "Did they have to remember them?" and "Is it going to be on the exam paper?" The short answer is that we do not have to remember them. But we have to live them! By living them, the Beatitudes become a way of life for us, they are part of our being and essential to our right relationships with God and one another.

The Book of the Prophet Zephaniah is only read twice on Sundays over the three year cycle. It contains three chapters, mainly on the denunciation of the sins of society and the consequences of their wrongdoing. But the sternness and severity is tempered in the last chapter, our reading today. It is instructive and uplifting. Zephaniah gives a spiritual connotation to poverty by aligning it with humility and integrity. No longer are riches seen as a blessing and poverty as a curse.

Certainly, Jesus turned such a concept upside-down by beginning the Sermon on the Mount with: "Blessed are the poor ...!" Imagine the shock of the crowds when they first heard this.

Zephaniah's Song of Joy.

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud!
Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem!
The Lord has repealed your sentence; driven your enemies away.
The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear. ... The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior.
He will exult with joy over you, he will renew you by his love;
he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.
Zeph 3:14-17. Third Sunday of Advent Year C

Pope Leo XIV on the Beatitudes

The Beatitudes bring with them a new interpretation of reality. They are both the path and the message of Jesus the Teacher. At first glance, it seems impossible to declare as blessed those who are poor, or those who hunger and thirst for justice, the persecuted or the peacemakers. Yet, that which seems inconceivable in the world's thinking is filled with meaning and light when brought into contact with the Kingdom of God.

Homily on All Saints Day, 1 Nov 2025.

On the Lighter Side:

In jest we hear of the eleventh commandment or the wise women from the East visiting Bethlehem. Now comes the ninth Beatitude: "Blessed are we who can laugh at ourselves; we shall never cease to be amused."



 Please email or contact the office to add names to the prayer list	For those who have died and those who are grieving	Beryl Mathieson, Raffaele (Ralph) Prinzi
	For those whose anniversary occurs at this time	Bob & Peter Warnett, Lucio Miranda, Maria Corbo
	Our sick and their carers	Harney McKinnon, Rita Fairchild

ROSTERS FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

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

Sunday 15th February 10:30am

Commentator: Theresa Cook
Reader: Rob Miller
Gospel Procession: Steve De Lai
Gifts: A Basile & L Mercuri
Eucharistic Minister: Anna Ciavarella
Screen Operator: Steve De Lai
Music Operator: Trish Warnett
Money Counters: S & S De Lai

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.

BAPTISM PREPARATION INFORMATION SESSION:

next Wednesday 4th March at 7:00pm

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.

Two Week Mass Timetable Week Commencing 28th January

Liturgy & Weekday Masses

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

Weekend Mass

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

Weekday Masses

Wednesday 11th February 9:15am (Liturgy)
Friday 13th February 9:15am (Liturgy)

Weekend Mass

Sunday 15th 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 so much for your generosity and support of the parish.

May God bless you always.

Last week: \$ 629.00

There will be a bucket collection at the conclusion of Mass for Fr Uday's trip to India.



The next Italian Rosary will be on Friday 13th February at 2pm in the church.

The next Shared Parish Lunch will be on Sunday 22nd February following 10:30am

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Matthew 5:1-3

There will be no Saturday Masses while Fr Uday is away. Fr Michael Grace will be celebrating the Sunday Masses at 10:30am in February and the first weekend in March.

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 next 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.

Safe Guarding - ATTENTION ALL PARISH VOLUNTEERS

We are continually updating and reviewing our volunteer requirements to comply with the Diocesan requirements.

All volunteers must sign our "Parish Code of Conduct".

I will be available in the narthex at the conclusion of Mass this weekend for you to please take a copy and sign.

If you haven't already filled out the "Volunteer Application Form" these will also be available for you to take, complete and return at next weekend's Mass.

I will be available to answer any questions or give assistance. Debbie Turvey

Lenten Group

We are planning to meet weekly to talk about the Sunday Mass Readings of Lent. We will meet at 7pm on Wednesdays. If you would like to come along on any/all of the weeks during Lent, you will be most welcome. Please add your name to the list in the Narthex. Denice Bourke

Blessings for the Lowly Ones

The 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A shows us how God sees things differently than we do. In each reading, we hear about people the world may overlook—those who are weak, poor, or humble. But God lifts them up. He sees their faith and their trust.

The Gospel reading gives us the Beatitudes. Jesus tells us who is truly blessed. It's not the rich or powerful. It's those who are gentle, those who show mercy, and those who suffer for doing what is right. These words are simple, but they show us how to live as followers of Christ.

Lord, help us to follow the path You have set before us. Teach us to trust in You, seek justice, and live humbly. Give us the strength to show mercy and work for peace. May we always remember that true happiness comes from walking in Your ways.

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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Email: tatura@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

Website:

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

Facebook: Sacred Heart Catholic Parish Tatura

DIOCESE NEWS – 1-2-2026



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 Rom Hayes
Diocesan Coordinator Kerry Stone
Caritas / Justice Office,
PO Box 130 Numurkah 3636,
Phone: 0408 579 984
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 JUSTICE, 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 EARTH CARE 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 <https://acmro.catholic.org.au>

- Seasonal Workers – our responsibility?
- CAPSA (Cath Alliance) <https://capa.org.au> BSAP (Briq) www.bsap.org.au ARC www.refugeecouncil.org.au
- <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2025/02/26/creating-justice-charts-empowering-the-people-seeking-justice/>
- 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.

Happy are the poor in spirit.

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

‘How happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle:

they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn:

they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:

they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful:

they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart:

they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers:

they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:

theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.’

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word

TRUE BLESSEDNESS

What is discipleship about? This becomes the focus of Matthew's Gospel over the next few Sundays as we turn to Jesus' first major moment of teaching, what we know as the 'Sermon on the Mount'. Jesus, like Moses in the Old Testament, gathers with his disciples on a mountain. They surround him and listen to his teaching. He teaches them about blessedness in eight 'Beatitudes'. Each Beatitude begins with 'Blessed are those...' and then names those who are blessed by God.

Some translations unhelpfully have 'Happy are those...' There is a theological distinction between being 'blessed' and 'happy'. Being happy relies on one's self-referential internal disposition. The focus of 'blessedness' is different. It is God. The Greek (*makrios*) is about God's action to those who are without status ('poor in spirit'), know their own humble status ('gentle'), seek comfort amidst life's sadness ('mourn'), are passionate for justice ('hunger and thirst for what is right'), show compassion to others ('merciful'), are thoughtfully genuine and authentic ('pure of heart'), seek to bring about peace where there is division ('peacemakers') and who suffer for their conviction to act justly with integrity ('persecuted in the cause of right').

Those named as blessed have an ultimate openness to God in all life's experiences. God will respond to them, will bless them and will allow the Kingdom (rather 'Kin-dom') to be revealed in them. The Beatitudes are framed with the promise, 'the kin-dom of God is theirs'. A final Beatitude is tacked on to the original eight. It acknowledges the suffering and persecution now experienced by Matthew's community. A lingering contemplation of any of these Beatitudes can remind us how much we are blessed by God now.

Fr Michael Trainor

THE SAVING WORD

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

1 FEBRUARY 2026

FIRST READING

Zeph 2: 3; 3: 12-13

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

In your midst I will leave a humble and a lowly people.

Seek the Lord

all you, the humble of the earth,
who obey his commands.

Seek integrity, seek humility:

you may perhaps find shelter
on the day of the anger of the Lord.

In your midst I will leave
a humble and lowly people,

and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge
in the name of the Lord.

They will do no wrong,

will tell no lies;

and the perjured tongue will no longer
be found in their mouths.

But they will be able to graze and rest
with no one to disturb them.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 145: 7-10

R. Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs! (or Alleluia!)

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, /
who is just to those who are oppressed. / It is
he who gives bread to the hungry, / the Lord,
who sets prisoners free. **R.**

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, /
who raises up those who are bowed down, /
the Lord, who protects the stranger / and
upholds the widow and orphan. **R.**

3. It is the Lord who loves the just / but
thwarts the path of the wicked. / The Lord
will reign for ever, / Zion's God, from age to
age. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Cor 1: 26-31

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

God has chosen what is weak by human reckoning.

Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen – those who are nothing at all to show up those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 5: 12

Alleluia, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad:

your reward will be great in heaven.
Alleluia!