



# Lakeside Bulletin

**The weekly Bulletin of the Catholic Parishes of  
Boolaroo, Warners Bay and Booragul**

Our Lady Help of Christians - 84 Main Road, Speers Point  
St Mary's - 2 Bayview Street, Warners Bay  
St Michael the Archangel - 46 Ranclaud Street, Booragul



**We acknowledge the Awabakal people - the traditional custodians of this place**

**SUNDAY, 28 December 2025**

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Year A**

## PARISH TEAM

### Emergencies

PH: 0493 969 362

### Parish Priest

**Fr Darryl Mackie**

darryl.mackie@mn.catholic.org.au  
0409611 949

### Assistant Priests

**Fr Paul Kamau CSSp**

paul.kamau@mn.catholic.org.au

**Fr Peter Njau CSSp**

peter.njau@mn.catholic.org.au

**Fr John Purnell**

john.purnell@mn.catholic.org.au

## PARISH ADMINISTRATION

7 Milson Street, Charlestown  
Phone: 4943 4153

**Maryanne Barry**

**Vimal Valiyaveetil**

**Bridget Voigt**

**Rosanna Suckling**

### Email:

stmarythecross@mn.catholic.org.au

### Office Hours:

Mon - Fri 9:00am - 3:00pm

### Website:

[www.boolarocatholicchurch.com](http://www.boolarocatholicchurch.com)

## WEEKEND MASS TIMES:

Our Lady Help, Boolaroo - Sat 5:30pm  
St Mary's, Warners Bay - Sun 9:00am  
St Mary's, Warners Bay - Sun 6:00pm

## WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:

St Michael's, Booragul - Tue 9.00am  
Our Lady Help, Boolaroo - Wed 9:00am  
St Mary's, Warners Bay - Thu 9:30am

## RECONCILIATION

5:00-5:15pm Saturday

Our Lady Help of Christians Church

## BAPTISMS & SACRAMENTS

Booking/Enrolment via Parish Website  
Baptisms celebrated most Sundays.

## MARRIAGE

Celebrated by arrangement with at least  
3 months notice.

Contact the Parish Office

## RITE OF CHRISTIAN

## INITIATION OF ADULTS

(RCIA) Parish Office 4943 4153



Dear Parish Family,

*May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and the fullness of his message live within you!*

Just a few days before Christmas my family welcomed its newest member. Houston Robert is my grandnephew. I am now a gruncle (grand uncle) for the third time. I have to say at Christmas it was nice to hear the cries of a newborn child. Having celebrated Christmas only a few days ago, it was good to see so many families gathering for our Masses, and especially those with their children, small and grownup. The feast of the Holy Family is celebrated this weekend to remind us that this truly is a season for families. A time to get together, to celebrate our human story now made holy in the Christ child.

Our readings give us insight into the scriptural understanding of family with the Gospel offering an insight on the early life of the Holy Family. God's son entering the human story as a helpless child, cared for by a loving family. Joseph and Mary are protectors of their child and become refugees having to escape the persecution of King Herod when he orders the death of children. Just like Joseph of the Old Testament who went to Egypt to be saved, so do Mary and Joseph flee their homeland to protection. Like some people who leave their homelands for a better life. Then after Herod's death they return to the safety of Nazareth. Joseph and Mary perhaps highlight to us the role of parenthood: trust in God's guidance as they care for their child and I'm sure the later lessons learning of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patients, forgiveness, respect and service.

It's fair to say that families come in all shapes and sizes these days. When I was growing up most families consisted of mum and dad and 2.5 children. Well, that was the census average. Sometimes we grow up in families we are born into; and sometimes there are families we chose from close friends who support, love and help us to belong. Family is a place where we should find love, forgiveness, respect and mutuality. A number of years ago a food company did a survey of children – they asked the question – what's the favourite thing about being part of a family? Surprisingly the result was sitting around the table eating dinner where we could tell stories about our day and hear from and about each other. As we approach the beginning of the New Year, I hope in these days of Christmas you have or had an opportunity to sit around the table and share your stories. And it's never too late to reach out to someone who was missing at the table.

Speaking of New Years, as of January 1, 2026, Bishop Michael has promulgated that the Parishes of Boolaroo, Booragul, Morisset and Toronto will be known as the Lakeside Pastoral Region. Why the term Lakeside? Just like Jesus we minister by the lake in the ministries of healing, teaching and preaching the good news. What does this mean? Firstly, the canonical status of the parishes does not change. Parishes will continue with their own autonomy, finances etc. What it will allow for, is to assist the four parishes in working more closely together like a regional Finance and Pastoral Council and sharing some teams like baptism, sacramental, bereavement teams so we can all help each other. Bishop Michael's final words -"I wish you and your parishioners well in your mutual cooperation into the future."

Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year of 2026!

**Fr Darryl Mackie**

Parish Priest

## **PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

### **Recently Deceased:**

**Anniversaries:** Patsy McEwen

**We remember and pray for those who are ill at home and in hospital at this time, may they know the healing presence of Christ:** Jo Turner, Robyn Williams, Helen Sligar, Terry Clancy, Leslie Henry, Andrew Regan, Eileen Brooks, Vince Abdilla, Paul Tobin, Margaret Ryan, Mark Saesar, John Osborne, Yvonne Selby, Andrew Garvie, Ariane Hampton, Bernadette Gill, Patricia Neilson, Peter O'Neil, Eoin O'Connor, Brian Coogans, Pat Casey, Ann Moore, Rianna MacKaway, Joan Bain, Eva Newton, Billy Eckersley, Andrew Carr, Lewis Carr, Leah Scott, Darren Heaton, Glenda Noble, Keely Heaton, Marie Ryan, Graham Taylor, Nancy Tooney, Joy Dixon, Pat, Enid, Rebecca, Riley, Dot, Suzan Aslin and Adrian Van Bellan.

**Please contact the office once a person is well again.**

## **Sunday 28 December 2025 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Year A**

### **First Reading (Sirach 3: 2-6. 12-14)**

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

The Lord honours the father in his children, and upholds the rights of a mother over her sons. Whoever respects his father is atoning for his sins, he who honours his mother is like someone amassing a fortune. Whoever respects his father will be happy with children of his own, he shall be heard on the day when he prays. Long life comes to him who honours his father, he who sets his mother at ease is showing obedience to the Lord. My son, support your father in his old age, do not grieve him during his life. Even if his mind should fail, show him sympathy, do not despise him in your health and strength; for kindness to a father shall not be forgotten but will serve as reparation for your sins.

### **The word of the Lord.**

### **Responsorial Psalm (Ps 127: 1-5. R. see v.1)**

**(R.) Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.**

1. O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways! By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be happy and prosper. **(R.)**

2. Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive, around your table. **(R.)**

3. Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord. May the Lord bless you from Zion all the days of your life! **(R.)**

### **Second Reading (Colossians 3: 12-21)**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful.

Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each

other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Wives, give way to your husbands, as you should in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and treat them with gentleness. Children, be obedient to your parents always, because that is what will please the Lord. Parents, never drive your children to resentment or you will make them feel frustrated.

### **The word of the Lord.**

### **Gospel Acclamation (Colossians 3: 15. 16)**

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and the fullness of his message live within you. Alleluia!

### **Gospel (Matthew 2: 13-15. 19-23)**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

After the wise men had left, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother with you, and escape into Egypt, and stay there until I tell you, because Herod intends to search for the child and do away with him.' So Joseph got up and, taking the child and his mother with him, left that night for Egypt, where he stayed until Herod was dead. This was to fulfil what the Lord had spoken through the prophet: I called my son out of Egypt. After Herod's death, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother with you and go back to the land of Israel, for those who wanted to kill the child are dead.' So Joseph got up and, taking the child and his mother with him, went back to the land of Israel. But when he learnt that Archelaus had succeeded his father Herod as ruler of Judaea he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he left for the region of Galilee. There he settled in a town called Nazareth. In this way the words spoken through the prophets were to be fulfilled: He will be called a Nazarene.

### **The Gospel of the Lord.**

Get up, take the child and his mother with you, and escape into Egypt, and stay there until I tell you.  
Matthew 2:13



**Universal Prayer  
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and  
Joseph Year A  
Sunday, 28 December 2025**

**Presider:** Dear friends, through the Holy Family of Nazareth, let us bring our prayers before the Lord.

**Reader:** That our Holy Father Pope Leo may be filled with grace and holiness as he exercises care over the entire Christian family.

*(pause)* In your kindness:

**All:Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That government leaders will recognise the sanctity of families and serve them with peace, justice and harmony.

*(pause)* In your kindness:

**All:Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That those from broken families will find a reconciling and forgiving home with God's people.

*(pause)* In your kindness:

**All:Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That as a family of the Church, our community will bestow grace and peace to all of God's children.

*(pause)* In your kindness:

**All:Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That the sick will be filled with the consolation of God's abundant love, especially those listed in our parish bulletin.

*(pause)* In your kindness:

**All:Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That those who have died will be gathered into eternal life in God's heavenly home especially Patsy McEwen whose anniversary occurs during this time.

*(pause)* In your kindness:

**All:Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Presider:** Loving Father, you have created the human family as an image of your love for us. Hear our prayers and give us the grace to love one another as we follow in the ways of your Son. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All:Amen.**

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Come to Me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. - Mt 11:28

Come and join us for prayer, reflection, and adoration.

When: Thursdays, 6:30pm

Where: St Michael the Archangel, Booragul



**Mass Collection - Thank you**

**First Collection supports our priests:**

BSB: 066 739

Account Number: 100014920

Account Name: CBA

Reference: Your Surname.

**Second Collection supports our parish:**

**Boolaroo**

BSB:066 739

Account Number: 100014918

Account Name: CBA

Reference: Your Surname.

**JEWISH COMMUNITY  
IN OUR PRAYERS**

The tragic and targeted attack on the Jewish community at Bondi Beach, as they gathered to begin their celebrations of the religious festival of Hanukkah, has shocked and saddened us all. Such hatred and violence have no place in our community.

We stand in solidarity and support for all in the Jewish community. I call for all to pray for our Jewish brothers and sisters, for those killed, those injured and all those impacted by these traumatic events.

I give deep thanks to the brave first responders and our emergency services.

While we as Christians were lighting candles on our Advent wreaths and celebrating Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday, the Jewish community were lighting candles to begin their celebration of Hanukkah, an occasion that should have been a joyful gathering.

As we reflect at this time – a time when in the Christian community we are preparing to celebrate Jesus' birth, a birth into a Jewish family – I am reminded this was God's choice for his Son and God does not do things without good reason.

Together, we must live in mutual respect.

I know our leaders and governments will do all in their power at this difficult time to ensure that all Australians, and particularly Jewish Australians, can go about their daily lives without fear.

*Let us pray together for peace: O God, creator of the world, who first revealed your love and salvation for humankind in and through the Jewish community, and who have revealed that peacemakers are to be called your children, grant we pray, that we may work without ceasing to establish that justice which alone ensures true and lasting peace. Amen.*

With every blessing.

Bishop Michael Kennedy





## PLACES TO CALL IF YOU NEED HELP



### LIFELINE

13 11 14

### 1800 RESPECT

1800 737 732

### MINDSPOT

1800 61 44 34

### NATIONAL DEBT HELPLINE

1800 007 007

### BEYOND BLUE

1300 22 4636

### HEADSPACE

1800 650 890

### KIDS HELPLINE

1800 55 1800

### NATIONAL CORONAVIRUS HELPLINE

1800 020 080

## BAPTISMS

This weekend we will witness the baptisms of

**Goldie Pearl Lynch, Chilli Rose Lynch,  
Freya Bates, Posie Bates and  
Hayes Kenny Buck**

May the gift of baptism they receive  
strengthen them for their journey of life and  
faith they will share with us.

Please remember the Lynch, Bates and Buck  
families in your prayers.

## PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

ST MARY OF THE CROSS PARISH HUB OFFICE  
WILL BE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS FROM  
25 DECEMBER 2025 TIL  
5 JANUARY 2026.  
YOU WOULD STILL BE ABLE  
TO CONTACT US VIA EMAIL.

**WE WISH YOU ALL A VERY  
HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND  
PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.**

## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

### St Mary's Primary School K-6

2 Bayview Street, Warners Bay

Ph: 02 4948 8770

E:admin@warnersbay.catholic.edu.au

W:www.warnersbay.catholic.edu.au/

**Principal:** Liz Starling

### St Paul's Catholic College 7-12

70 Primrose Street, Booragul

P: 02 4958 6711

E:admin@booragul.catholic.edu.au

W: www.booragul.catholic.edu.au

**Principal:** Nick Wickham

### St Mary's Catholic College 7-12

47-49 Pacific Highway, Gateshead

P: 02 4944 4800

E:admin@gatesheadsm.catholic.edu.au

W: www.gatesheadsm.catholic.edu.au

**Principal:** Brett Donohoe

## PARISH GROUPS

### Real Women

Sue Campbell 0417 091 255

### Ladies Day

June Fava 4946 8415

Gwen Tompsett 4956 9596

### Finance Committee

TBA,

Meeting Room, Warners Bay

### Parish Council Meeting

TBA

### Promotion of Safeguarding

Contact Maryanne, Joy, Peta or Nathan

Via the office

### Baptism Team

Meetings 1st Tuesday monthly,  
7.00 pm, Meeting Room Warners Bay

### St Vincent de Paul Warners Bay

Meetings Wednesdays fortnightly,

Meeting Room, Warners Bay

### Membership enquiries to:

Peter Deed 0419 106 519

### St Vincent de Paul Booragul

Meetings 4th Thursday monthly,  
1pm, Meeting Room, Booragul Hall

### All new members welcome

Steve Barnett 0409 917 995

## CATHOLIC CARE

Phone: 02 4979 1120 in Newcastle

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