



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, 14 September 2025

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Feast

PARISH TEAM

Emergencies

PH: 0493 969 362

Parish Priest

Fr Darryl Mackie

darryl.mackie@mn.catholic.org.au

Assistant Priests

Fr Raphael Madukwe

raphael.madukwe@mn.catholic.org.au

Fr Paul Kamau CSSp

paul.kamau@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

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stmarythecross@mn.catholic.org.au

Office Hours:

Mon - Fri 9:00am - 4:00pm

Website:

www.boolaroocatholicchurch.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,

On the Cross of Christ Lies our Victory

The people of God as they embarked on their Liberation journey from Egypt to the Promised Land, were faced with challenges in the wilderness and lost patience with God and complained against Him and Moses. God sent snakes to bite them to death. Finding themselves in such a deadly situation, they accepted and acknowledged their wrongdoing and requested Moses to plead on their behalf. Moses pleaded and God gave instructions on what should be done for their safety. A bronze serpent was to be moulded and set up on a pole such that those bitten would look at the bronze serpent and be cured.

Moses lifted up the bronze serpent in the wilderness and those affected by the snake venom looked up at it and were healed. After so many years, in a clearer fashion, Christ in our time was lifted up and crucified on the cross, that all who believe in Him and follow His way might be liberated and saved. This was in line with what Christ said about Himself in today's gospel that, "as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life."

The cross was an object of mockery, in the time of Jesus. It was designated for those who committed heinous crimes and was chosen by Jesus to show the depth of His Love for us. Identifying with us and acknowledging our sinfulness before His Father, "He bore our sins in his body on the tree (cross), that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you (we) have been healed" (1Pet. 2:24). Primarily, it was not only our sins that took Him to the cross but His Love for us which surpasses everything.

The salvation offered to the Israelites in the wilderness through the bronze serpent was perfected in Christ as salvation offered to the entire children of God through the Cross. We are now liberated and are victorious through the Cross of Christ. Therefore, in celebrating the Feast of Exaltation of the Cross, "we are reminded that the cross was not the defeat of Jesus or the defeat of love, but rather the triumph of Jesus and of God's love for us." (MK)

Considering the 'cross' from this perspective, how do we go about the crosses that come our way in our lives. In the gospel of last Sunday, our Lord Jesus Christ told us, "Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple". How are you handling your own cross?

So, today September 14th the Church celebrates the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, also known as the Feast of the Triumph of the Cross. This feast commemorates the discovery of the True Cross in 326 by St Helena the mother of Emperor Constantine; initial exaltation of the cross for public veneration at the Church of Sepulchre in 335; and the recovery of the Cross from the Persians in 628 by Emperor Heraclius. In this celebration, we look at the true cross of Christ as the ultimate symbol of Christ's victory over death and a sign of healing, hope, and divine love for all humanity.

Again, in solidarity with the Church throughout Australia as it observes National Safeguarding Sunday, our diocese also marks the Perpetual Day of Remembrance, the day we remember with heavy hearts, the wounds inflicted to the body of Christ - the Church, and to some of her members - the abuse of children, young people, and vulnerable adults, by some ministers of the Church and her representatives. We keep praying for the victims.

Continued on next page.....



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries: Colleen Maree Corkery, Lorna Therese Thomson, Kevin Arthur Martin and Fr Brian 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, Dallas Green, Alan Watson, Margaret Ryan, Alison Kris, Mark Saesar, Stuart Shepherd, John Kenny, John Osborne, Yvonne Selby, Andrew Garvie, Ariane Hampton, Bernadette Gill, Patricia Neilson, Peter O'Neil, Eoin O'Connor, Jana Javorska, 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, Nancy Tooney, Leila Grew and Julie Doran.

Please contact the office once a person is well again.

Sunday 14 September 2025

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Feast

First Reading

(Numbers 21: 4-9)

A reading from the book of Numbers

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.

R sponsorial 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

(Philippians 2: 6-11)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Philippians

The state of Jesus 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.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Gospel

(John 3: 13-17)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

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.'

Continued from page 1.....

Together we are all on the path of healing and as today's liturgical celebration calls for the faithful to look upon the Cross and see there the revelation of divine love that embraces all humanity and offers new life wherever there is suffering and death, let us respond positively to Bishop Michael's calling, as he invites "those who have been hurt and are still hurting in any way because of abuse, either personally or because you are a member of the Body of Christ, to bring your hurt, your anger, your suffering, to the cross of Jesus Christ, look upon Christ there and know the love of God for you, know that he wants to set you free, know that he wants to and will lead us all from this wilderness." (MK)

Finally, as we humbly resolve to carry our crosses and follow Christ, we must make sure that we are not the cross others are carrying, that our attitudes are not the burdens others are suffering from, that our deliberate silence and omissions are not the pains others are going through. May we learn from the Cross of Christ, 'Love not hatred, Compassion not indifference, Forgiveness not vengeance' (Pope Francis).

Peace be with you.

Fr Raphael Madukwe

Parish Assistant Priest

Universal Prayer
The Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Feast
Sunday, 14 September 2025

Presider: Sisters and brothers, let us pray to the God of light and truth for our needs and those of the world.

Reader: For the gift of wisdom and humility.

(pause) God of mercy:

All: Hear our prayer.

Reader: For the gift of truth and integrity.

(pause) God of mercy:

All: Hear our prayer.

Reader: For the gift of love and compassion.

(pause) God of mercy:

All: Hear our prayer.

Reader: For the gift of courage and forgiveness.

(pause) God of mercy:

All: Hear our prayer.

Reader: For the gift of acceptance and freedom.

(pause) God of mercy:

All: Hear our prayer.

Reader: For those who have been affected by abuse.

(pause) God of mercy:

All: Hear our prayer.

Reader: For those who are sick.

(pause) God of mercy:

All: Hear our prayer.

Reader: For those who have died.

(pause) God of mercy:

All: Hear our prayer.

Presider: God of the living and the dead, in Jesus you raise us up to shine your light in the dark places of our world. Hear these prayers and help us to always remember how much we are loved. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

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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.*

Booragul

BSB: 066 739

Account Number: 100003440

Account Name: CBA

Reference: *Your Surname.*

Readers Roster

20 September - 21 September 2025

Sat 5:30pm	Paula Graham Jane Bennett Marie Osborne
Sun 9:00am	Penny Banister Camilla Palamo Sue Withers
Sun 6:00pm	Lois Wilson Melissa Wood Helen Beath

BAPTISMS

This weekend we will witness the baptisms of

Audrey Bobbi Payne
Luca Nicolas Shultz

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

Please remember the Payne and Shultz families
in your prayers.

THE PROMISE Advent & Christmas
Reflections 2025

Prepare your heart this Advent and Christmas with the much-loved Advent Program, filled with daily reflections, prayers, and insights from a wide range of contributors. Perfect for personal devotion or group study, this program from the Catholic Diocese of Wollongong is now available to purchase through the Parish Office. Please contact St Mary of the Cross Parish Hub if you would like to place order for a copy of the book by **Thursday, 18 September 2025.**



The Perpetual Day of Remembrance

Perpetual Day of Remembrance is an opportunity for our whole faith community to come together in prayer and remembrance—honouring survivors, acknowledging the wrongs of the past, and renewing our commitment to building a Church that is safe and life-giving for all.

Each year in September, our Diocese marks the Perpetual Day of Remembrance. This day stands as a solemn commitment to truth, healing, and accountability. It was established in Maitland-Newcastle as a local, enduring response to the failures of the Church to protect children and the ongoing pain of survivors.

Thank you for joining with us in prayer.

HOLY ADORATION

**Eucharistic Adoration will occur
on all Thursdays commencing from
Thursday, 7 August 2025.**

WHEN: All Thursdays, 6:30PM

WHERE: St Michael the Archangel, Booragul

New time and new location!

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



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

Dear Parish Family,

Before I left for holidays, I was given the details of all our nominees for the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)....
WOW! Thank you all for those accepting your nomination....and to those who nominated.

As per our Statutes, its time now to call an election which will be held on the weekend of the 27th/ 28th September 2025. How will the election work?

From next weekend (13th/14th September) those who were nominated will provide a short biography of themselves, together with a picture and an answer to the question – “How do you see yourself contributing to the Parish Pastoral Council?”

On voting day, a single ballot paper will be provided to you to number your preferences on who you would like to see as your representative on the PPC...you will then be asked to place it in the locked ballot box.

If you are in the parishes of Boolaroo and Booragul your nominees to vote for are:

Penny Bannister	Jo Turner
Joseph Beath	Peta Landers
Elaine Rooney	Ian Ross-Gowan

If you are in the parish of Morisset your nominees to vote for are:

Joe Lawandos	Uta France
Humphrey Karanja	Charlie Lawandos

If you are in the parish of Toronto your nominees to vote for are:

Bernard Leslie	John Owens
Louise Mahon	Patty Porteous
Margo Lowe	

When voting I invite you to consider the following:

PPC statute...

4.1 Every effort should be made to ensure the Pastoral Council is truly representative of the whole group of parishes, particularly in terms of localities, age, and gender.

Assembly points...

- ◇ Grow and develop ministry to our young people
- ◇ Faith formation
- ◇ Parish viability – not just financial but a community of disciples.

Thanks everyone and I will see you in a few weeks.

Fr Darryl
Parish Priest



What's happening in the Diocese and Surrounds



MELBOURNE CUP LUNCHEON

Tuesday 4th November 2025

Ticket Price: \$50.00 per person

Ticket Price includes:

Glass of bubbles or punch
2 course meal with nibbles
(Main and Dessert)

Can bring your own alcohol

Large screen to watch the race
Raffle, Fashion, Sweeps
and Lucky Door Prizes

Starting from 11.30am

St Mary's Church Hall Warners Bay

RSVP

SUE CAMPBELL - 0417 091 255
MARIE OSBORNE - 0429 191 245
JOAN WILSON - 0487 813 297
ROBYN SPINKS - 0412 234 435

Daily Mass Book 2026

If anyone would like to purchase the 2026 Daily Mass Book through the parish office.

Please contact the office via email or phone by
Sunday 28 September 2025.

2026 DAILY
MASS BOOK



2025 NATSICC Assembly

Join us for the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council's 2025 Assembly.

Join over 200 delegates from across Australia for the 2025 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council (NATSICC) Assembly. A powerful gathering of faith, culture, and community open to one and all to attend.

The Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle and the NSW Aboriginal and Islander Catholic Council proudly host this year's Assembly on the sacred lands of the Wonnarua people at Rydges Hunter Valley, from Monday, 29 September to Friday, 3 October 2025, with a dedicated Youth Day on Thursday 2 October.

Guided by the theme "*Pilgrims of Hope*", inspired by Pope Francis' Jubilee Year, the Assembly is a unique opportunity to:

- Hear from inspirational speakers
- Engage in interactive workshops and yarning circles
- Experience local culture with a day dedicated to three unique On Country immersions
- Deepen your connection to faith and community in a culturally rich setting

This is more than just a conference; it's a spiritual and cultural journey. Whether you're a regular delegate or a first-time attendee, the 2025 Assembly invites you to walk together in hope, healing, and unity.

Be part of this national moment. Be moved. Be inspired. Be a pilgrim of hope.

To register: <https://natsicc.org.au/2025-assembly.html>

5-day registration is \$425 (accommodation not included).



MN KIDS Holiday Program! Tuesday 7th October 2025





You are invited to our Maitland-Newcastle Diocese Kids Holiday Program on
Tuesday 7th October 2025 from 9.00am-3.00pm.
(Child minding available from 8.30am-4.00pm)

Program is open to **children aged 6-12 years** and will include team games, pilgrim challenges, craft, bible stories, music and delicious food!

Morning tea and lunch provided. Cost: \$10 per child

Join us at the Diocesan Resource Centre: Cnr Tudor & Parry St, Newcastle West

Registrations are essential and places are limited.

Register no later than **Monday 22nd September 2025**
Contact: Mary 0409 033 449 or Nicki 0417 773 444



To register, scan here



mn.catholic.org.au



LATEST NEWS FROM OUR

SAFEGUARDING PROMOTERS 14 SEPTEMBER 2025

The Promoters of Safeguarding continue to endorse a culture of safeguarding within the Parish. This week, your attention is drawn to '**Safe and Savvy: A Guide to Help Older People Avoid Abuse Scams and Fraud.**'

Elder financial abuse can take many forms and can include repeated or one-off actions, threats or even a lack of action. Here are the last 5 most common types of abuse.

1. **Theft** – While theft is a risk for all people, older people are particularly at risk, especially if they have care needs. Thieves can exploit an older person's specific physical or mental vulnerabilities.
2. **Inheritance impatience** – This occurs when adults feel entitled to an ageing relative's assets. This could cause them to try and take their assets from them. Examples include stealing money from parents' bank accounts, or transferring assets to another person.
3. **Guarantors gone wrong** – Often older parents will help their adult children purchase a home or start a business by being a guarantor to a loan. In some cases, this can create situations where the older parents might lose their home, despite there being no bad intent.
4. **Failure to provide promised care** – This occurs when an (often well-intentioned) arrangement for family members to provide care to older relatives in exchange for financial assistance breaks down, often because of a change in circumstance (e.g. employment) for the younger person.
5. **Emotional blackmail** – This can be one of the subtlest and least visible forms of abuse. Examples include an adult child refusing access to grandchildren, except in return for a loan; or an emotionally dependent adult child abusing their parents' concern by demanding money.

Financial abuse is often not technically illegal – Often elder financial abuse involves someone unethically exploiting power of attorney or other legal mechanisms that give them control over an older person's assets.

Financial abuse often causes psychological, not physical harm – Often elder financial abuse doesn't involve obvious physical threats or violence (although it sometimes does). Instead, the abuser inflicts profound emotional harm and psychological distress on the victim.



Join Bishop Michael Kennedy for
the Australian Catholic Youth Festival
30 November to 2 December

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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