

Lakeside Pastoral Region Bulletin

The Catholic Parishes of Boolaroo, Booragul, Toronto and Morisset

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

St Joseph's - 140 Wangi Road, Toronto

Sts Patrick & Brigid - 6 Martinsville Road, Cooranbong

St John Vianney - 60 Yambo Street, Morisset

We acknowledge the Awabakal & Darkinjung people - the traditional custodians of this place

SUNDAY, 15 February 2026

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

PARISH TEAM

Emergencies

PH: 0493 969 362

Parish Priest

Fr Darryl Mackie PP, EV

darryl.mackie@mn.catholic.org.au

PH: 0409 611 949

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

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Phone: 4973 6859

Maryanne Barry

Rosanna Suckling

Email:

lakesideregion@mn.catholic.org.au

Office Hours:

Parish Hub Office:

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

Morisset Office: Mon - Fri

9:00am - 2:00pm (Changes are coming)

Website:

www.boolarocatholicchurch.com

torontoparish.org

www.vianneymorisset.org

UPCOMING WORSHIP TIMES:

| | | |
|------------|--------|-------------|
| Sat 14 Feb | 5:00pm | Cooranbong |
| | 5:30pm | Boolaroo |
| Sun 15 Feb | 9:00am | Warners Bay |
| | 9:00am | Toronto |
| | 9:30am | Morisset |
| | 6:00pm | Warners Bay |
| Tue 17 Feb | 9:00am | Booragul |
| | 9:30am | Morisset |
| Wed 18 Feb | 9:30am | Warners Bay |
| Ash | 9:30am | Morisset |
| Wednesday | 9:30am | Toronto |
| | 6:30pm | Boolaroo |
| | 6:30pm | Morisset |
| | 6:30pm | Toronto |
| Thu 19 Feb | 9:30am | Warners Bay |
| Fri 20 Feb | 9:30am | Toronto |

BAPTISMS & SACRAMENTS

Booking via Parish Website

Baptisms celebrated most Sundays.

Dear Parish Family,

"What's love got to do, got to do with it..."

This weekend, we celebrate love in our parishes. On Saturday, we celebrate the feast of St Valentine, a third-century Roman saint and martyr who is recognised as the patron saint of lovers, young people, and happy marriages. Legend tells us that Valentine was a priest who secretly married couples in defiance of Emperor Claudius II, who believed that single soldiers fought better than married ones. Valentine was eventually discovered, imprisoned, and martyred on 14 February around the year 270. While in prison, it is said that he restored the sight of the jailer's blind daughter and sent her a note signed, *"From your Valentine."* Through the intercession of St Valentine, let us ask God's blessing upon all couples and young people among us—and thank them for teaching us what love looks like in everyday life.

Talking about love, our readings continue Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, those Beatitude values we are called to live as his disciples. Matthew, writing for a very mixed community of Jewish and Gentile converts, was trying to hold these groups together. Jewish converts were deeply rooted in the Law of Moses, while Gentile converts brought their own traditions. There was strong criticism from Jewish leaders who feared that Jesus' teaching might undermine their faith. Moses had made concessions because the people were difficult. Jesus, however, demands something deeper: a willing heart and a ready spirit. He challenges us to look beneath the surface of the Law and to examine what lies behind actions such as murder, adultery, and the taking of oaths.

With murder, Jesus goes one step further. It is not only the act itself that matters, but what leads to it—anger. Growing up, my parents used to say, *"You never hate anyone; it's a dangerous word."* Perhaps this is exactly what Jesus meant. When Jesus speaks about adultery, he invites us to reflect on how we relate to others. We live in a culture of "I want it now," but not everything belongs to us, and not every desire should be acted upon. Finally, with oaths, Jesus reminds us that disciples are called to be honest and trustworthy in all our dealings. Our word should be enough. We are called to choose the right path—to be a community that truly lives the Beatitudes:

Blessed are the peacemakers.

Blessed are the pure in heart.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for what is right. Theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

This week it was announced that Pope Leo XIV will come to Sydney in 2028 to preside over the International Eucharistic Congress. The Congress will run over a week, beginning with an opening Mass and Eucharistic procession, and concluding with a final Mass celebrated by the Pope. Over the next two years, preparations for Eucharist 28 will take place. The first step begins on Sunday, 1st March, Bishop Michael has asked all parishes to hold Eucharistic Adoration at the conclusion of our Sunday Masses as we begin our preparation. During this time of prayer, we are invited to pray for a renewal of faith and for the success of Eucharist 28. In our parishes, adoration will take place at the end of each of the morning Masses. More details will follow.

Finally, this week we begin the season of Lent with the celebration of Ash Wednesday and yes it's early this year. Lent is a forty-day journey leading us to Easter—a time of renewal through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, a time to look at ourselves, care for ourselves and our relationship with God.

Happy Lent everyone!

Fr Darryl Mackie

Parish Priest

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
Sunday 15 Feb 2026

First Reading (Sirach 15:15-20)

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

If you wish, you can keep the commandments, to behave faithfully is within your power. He has set fire and water before you; put out your hand to whichever you prefer. Man has life and death before him; whichever a man likes better will be given him. For vast is the wisdom of the Lord; he is almighty and all-seeing.

His eyes are on those who fear him, he notes every action of man. He never commanded anyone to be godless, he has given no one permission to sin.

Responsorial Psalm

(Ps 118:1-2. 4-5. 17-18. 33-34. R. v.1)

(R.) Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

1. They are happy whose life is blameless, who follow God's law! They are happy those who do his will, seeking him with all their hearts. **(R.)**

2. You have laid down your precepts to be obeyed with care. May my footsteps be firm to obey your statutes. **(R.)**

3. Bless your servant and I shall live and obey your word. Open my eyes that I may consider the wonders of your law. **(R.)**

4. Teach me the demands of your statutes and I will keep them to the end. Train me to observe your law, to keep it with my heart. **(R.)**

Second Reading (1 Corinthians 2:6-10)

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

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him.

These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

Gospel Acclamation (See Matthew 11:25)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

Gospel (Matthew 5:20-22. 27-28. 33-34. 37)

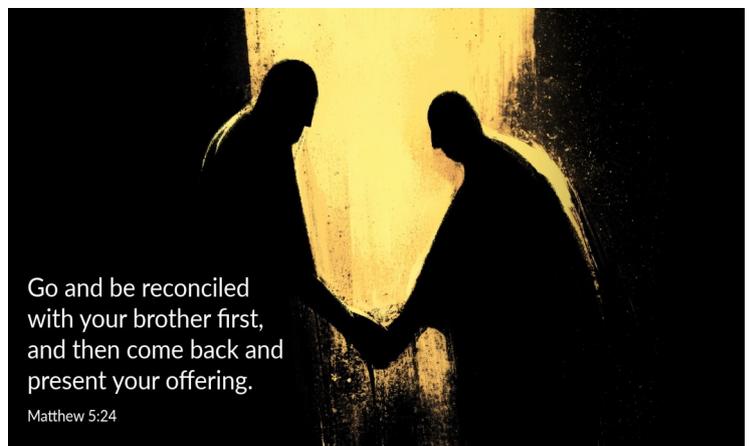
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'



Go and be reconciled
with your brother first,
and then come back and
present your offering.

Matthew 5:24



LATEST NEWS FROM OUR SAFEGUARDING PROMOTERS 15 February 2026

The Promoters of Safeguarding continue to endorse a culture of safeguarding within the Parish.

Safeguarding includes protecting an older person's human rights while respecting their autonomy; however, elder abuse in Australia is a growing social issue that affects seniors across all communities. It refers to any act or failure to act that causes harm or distress to an older person, often occurring in relationships where trust is expected. Abuse can take many forms, including financial exploitation, psychological or emotional abuse, physical harm, sexual abuse, and neglect.

Financial abuse is the most commonly reported type in Australia, frequently involving the misuse of money, coercion, or pressure to change wills or access assets. Many cases are carried out by family members or caregivers, which makes abuse difficult to detect and report. Older people may feel ashamed, fear retaliation, or worry about damaging family relationships, leading to significant underreporting.

Australia has responded through initiatives such as the **National Plan to Respond to the Abuse of Older Australians** (<https://eaaa.org.au/>), elder abuse helplines, and advocacy services; however, challenges remain due to an ageing population and increased dependence on others for care.

Preventing elder abuse requires community awareness, legal protections, and support services that empower older people. Respect, dignity, and safety are essential to ensure older Australians can age free from abuse.



Project Compassion Sunday 14–15 of February 2026

This Lent, we are called to *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion.

Your generosity this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need.



Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

Or online at: www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate
Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent.*

Lakeside Pastoral Region Ash Wednesday Masses

Warners Bay 9.30am
Morisset 9.30am and 6.30pm
Toronto 9.30am and 6.30pm
Boolaroo 6.30pm



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



Anointing Mass

St Joseph's Church Toronto
140 Wangi Road, Toronto
Thursday 26 February 2026
11:00 am



An anointing with the 'Oil of the Sick' for the sick, frail, elderly or anyone in need of healing

You are invited to stay for some light refreshments after this special Mass.

CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

In 2026, Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Boolaroo Parish will celebrate 100 years serving the areas of Boolaroo-Warners Bay.

You are warmly invited to join us in a special celebration of faith, history, and community as we mark three significant milestones in the life of our parish:

- The Centenary of the Parish of Our Lady Help of Christians, Boolaroo
- Fifty Years since the opening of our St Mary's Church and School, Warners Bay
- The Closure of Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Boolaroo

This significant occasion will begin with a Celebration of the Eucharist with Bishop Michael, Bishop of Maitland – Newcastle, followed by a shared dinner as we gather in thanksgiving, remembrance, and hope.

Mass:
Saturday 14th March 2026, 5.30pm
Our Lady Help of Christians, Boolaroo

Followed by dinner at 7.00pm. Cost: \$25.00
St Mary's Church Hall, Warners Bay

This celebration will honour the generations who have shaped our parish, give thanks for the life and witness of our St Mary's site at Warners Bay over the past fifty years, and prayerfully acknowledge the closure of Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Boolaroo, with gratitude for its lasting legacy.

Parishioners past and present, along with family and friends, are warmly invited to attend.

We look forward to celebrating this meaningful milestone together.

On behalf of Fr Darryl Mackie
Parish Priest and the Centenary Organising Committee

Please register if you are able to attend by Sunday 1st March 2026 by visiting our QR Code.
For more information please visiting our QR Code.



mn.catholic.org.au

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Recently Deceased: Sr Rae Brooker rsm

Anniversaries: Wayne Landers, Mary Patricia Doran

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: Ali Ford, Steven, Jo Turner, Robyn Williams, Helen Sligar, Terry Clancy, Leslie Henry, Andrew Regan, Eileen Brooks, Vince Abdilla, J, 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, Michael, Patrick Grew, John, Adrian Van Bellan, Franis Parons, Kurt Heaton

Please contact the office once a person is well again.

Rosters

| | Reading | Welcoming | Communion |
|-----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|---|
| Saturday 14 February 5:30pm | Pat Davey Tim Carroll Therese Toshack | June Fava Maggie Hughes | Jane Bennett Marie Osbourne Sallyanne Stanbridge |
| Sunday 15 February 9:00am | Ray O'Donoghue Ryan Gato Brad Fuller | Kath Casey Carol Geyl | Penny Banister Sr Kim Barnes Stephen Bartlett Shirleen Singh |
| Sunday 15 February 6:00pm | Kim Smith Suzanne Kay Catrina Zuhair | Sue Campbell Lois Wilson | Sue Campbell Shirley Ross Gowan Steve Barnett |

Vinnies Warners Bay, Boolaroo and Booragul

Our Christmas appeal raised \$3793.50 for Vinnies in Warners Bay, Boolaroo and Booragul. Many thanks for your generosity. Many gifts were also received and we especially appreciated the work of Mini Vinnies and the staff and students at St Mary's School. Thank you everyone!

BAPTISMS

This weekend we will witness the baptisms of

**Heidi Jay Hartman
Charles Louis McLean
Zavier John McLean**

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

Please remember the Hartman and McLean families in your prayers.



Pope Leo's Prayer Intention for February 2026

For Children with Incurable Diseases

Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

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 Joseph's Primary School K-6

140 Wangi Road, Kilaben Bay

P: 02 4959 1355

E: admin@kilabenbay.catholic.edu.au

W: www.kilabenbay.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Nikki Norley

St John Vianney Primary School K-6

60-66 Yambo Street, Morisset

P: 02 4973 4073

E: admin@morisset.catholic.edu.au

W: www.morisset.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mark Konik

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

PARISH GROUPS

Finance Committee

Thursday 19 February 2026 - 6:00pm

St Michael's Booragul

Pastoral Council Meeting

Monday 23 February 2026 - 6:30pm

St Michael's Booragul

Promotion of Safeguarding

Please contact the office

Mass Collection - Thank you

First Collection supports our priests:

BSB: 066 739

Account Number: 100014920

Account Name: CBA

Reference: *Your Surname.*

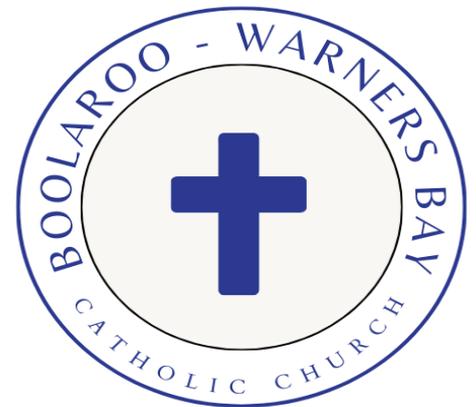
Second Collection supports our parish:

BSB: 066 739

Account Number: 100014918

Account Name: CBA

Reference: *Your Surname.*



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