

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, 5th APRIL 2026

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

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

Fr Peter Njau CSSp

Fr John Purnell

PARISH ADMINISTRATION

7 Milson Street, Charlestown

60 Yambo Street, Morisset

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Maryanne Barry

Lisa Christoff

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

Website:

www.boolarocatholicchurch.com

torontoparish.org

www.vianneymorisset.org

BAPTISMS & SACRAMENTS

Booking via Parish Website

Baptisms celebrated most Sundays.

UPCOMING MASS TIMES:

Sat 04 April

Mass 6:30pm Boolaroo
Mass 6:30pm Warners Bay
Mass 6:30pm Toronto
Mass 6:30pm Morisset

Sun 05 April

Mass 8:00am Booragul
Mass 9:00am Warners Bay
Mass 9:00am Toronto
Mass 9:30am Morisset

Tue 07 April

Mass 9:00am Booragul
Mass 9:30am Morisset

Wed 08 April

Mass 9:00am Boolaroo

Thu 09 April

Mass 9:30am Warners Bay

Fri 10 April

Mass 9:30am Toronto

Dear Parish Family,

He is not here, he has risen!

Welcome to any visitors to our region who may be joining us over this Easter period!

The Easter Triduum - those three days of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday - really unfold as one great day. And if you think about it, it's not something we just hear... it's something we experience with all of our senses.

We smell the oils.

We take another's foot into our hands.

We taste bread and wine on our tongues - the Body and Blood of Christ.

We kiss the wood of the cross.

We feel the splash of water.

We gather around a fire in the darkness...

And in that darkness, we hear the words: *He is not here. He has risen.*

And something stirs in us. Hope. Joy. Light.

Because that proclamation - simple as it is - is the first announcement to the world of something that changes everything. Nothing is ever the same again.

Because *He is not here. He has risen.*

That one truth has shaped the world. It has inspired faith across generations. It has led people to give everything - even their lives. It has sent missionaries to the ends of the earth. It has built churches and cathedrals. But more importantly, it has changed hearts.

And it begins not out there somewhere - but here, in us.

On that first Easter morning, everything changed. As we say in our faith, life is changed, not ended. Which means our lives can't be understood only in ordinary, everyday terms. We are made for more. Easter tells us that even in the places that feel dark, or uncertain, or broken - life can break through in ways we don't expect. And as the baptised, that's the life we now share in. We carry this message: this is not the end of the story.

Even in the face of death - there is hope.

Even in what seems empty - there is new life.

Even in the ordinary - there is something abundant waiting to unfold.

We even see it in the small signs around us - the Easter egg, a symbol of new life; the joy and abundance that remind us that life is meant to be shared. And that's where it becomes real: in how we live, how we love, how we care for one another. Because the risen Christ is not just a message we repeat - his is a life we are called to live.

So, this Easter, we don't just say the words. We try to live them:

He is not here. He has risen.

And may that truth bring hope into whatever you are carrying... and joy into the way you share your life with others.

Happy Easter, everyone.

Fr Darryl Mackie
Parish Priest

Happy Easter Parish family....

Just a thought on what Easter means for me.....

Joy, is the word that captures Easter for me, a season of joy and light. Joy that Lent is over, the time fasting...*(gosh...that was hard!)*... has ended and He has risen. Light has conquered the dark. This truth is symbolised in the Easter vigil, with the whole church in darkness, waiting in expectation for the light, when we can again sing with joy, alleluia. **Joy** as we recall the great sacrifice of Christ and the price he paid to redeem us. **Joy** in heaps that one Sunday is not enough to give thanks to God, for 6 weeks it is to celebrate Easter. Joy that reminds us that our story like Christ's does not end at the cross, for if we have suffered with Christ we too shall overcome. As life tells us in so many ways, the experience of Jesus is ours also, and we have every reason to confidently come to him in any part of our life, be it filled with sorrow or joy. He has been there. The assurance is the source of our joy; patience may grow thin in the process, however, God isn't late, we're early. Like the apostles may Jesus' resurrection renew you that He is risen and contemplate with wonder this great gift that has made us children of God. Daily and often during the day, it helps to state our trust in God and pray for more. *We know you are with us, Lord, risen and living in your Body; help me not to be afraid or worried.*

Easter Blessings to you all

Fr. Paul Kamau

THE EASTER CELEBRATION IS HERE AGAIN

Easter is the joyful celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, who died on the Cross for the salvation of humanity. As John 3:16 reminds us, *"God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."*

Through the disobedience of Adam and Eve, humanity fell into sin and lost its way to God. But in Christ—Emmanuel—our hope was restored. During Lent, Jesus walks with us to Calvary, where He offers Himself as the Paschal Lamb for our sins. His words, *"It is finished,"* mark His victory over death.

Scripture tells us that at His death and resurrection, the earth shook (Matthew 27:51; 28:2). These earthquakes symbolize God's power breaking into human history—removing barriers between God and His people and overcoming death itself.

Easter reminds us that God continues to break the "tombstones" in our lives—fear, despair, and hopelessness—and brings us into new life.

"O happy fault... which gained for us so great a Redeemer!"

Dear beloved, the Lord is truly risen. Alleluia, alleluia.

Fr. Peter Njau

Love has the final word

Each year, Easter draws us back to the empty tomb. We come as we are, carrying the realities of our lives, the responsibilities we shoulder, the people we love and the concerns that weigh on us. In the quiet of that first Easter morning, we hear again the words that changed everything: He is not here. He has risen, just as he said.

The Resurrection of Jesus is not simply a beautiful conclusion to a tragic story. It marks the beginning of something entirely new, the quiet but decisive triumph of love over hatred and mercy over violence. Easter reminds us that neither death nor sin has the final word. God does.

In his first Papal Apostolic Exhortation, *Dilexi Te* ("I have loved you"), Pope Leo XIV reflects on the love of Christ shown most clearly in his closeness to the poor. The Holy Father reminds us that God's love is not distant or

theoretical. It is personal and tangible, expressed in a love that draws close to those who are wounded, excluded and forgotten.

At the heart of Easter is this love, a love that does not remain distant from suffering but steps into it and opens a way through to new life.

The Risen Christ still bears his wounds. When he appears to the disciples, he does not conceal the marks of crucifixion. Instead, those wounds become signs of glory. In a world that so often hides weakness, Easter reveals something very different: that love offered in sacrifice is never wasted, but holds the power to redeem.

For all of us who mark this season, Easter is not only a moment of celebration but an invitation to live differently. If we truly believe that Christ is risen, then that belief must shape the way we think, speak and act, forming us into people marked by resurrection hope.

That hope becomes visible in the way we stand beside those who are struggling and in the quiet faithfulness with which we carry one another's burdens. The Resurrection does not remove us from the realities of life; it sends us into them with restored courage.

In that same exhortation, Pope Leo speaks of the Church as a sign of Christ's tender love in the world. He reminds us that our credibility rests not in our words alone, but in the authenticity of our witness. When we serve quietly, forgive generously and remain faithful in difficult times, we become signs of the Risen Lord.

That witness does not come from our own strength. It is nourished each time we gather at the altar, where we encounter the Risen Lord and receive the grace to begin again.

For that reason, the announcement that Sydney will host the International Eucharistic Congress in 2028 is a moment of real encouragement for our Church. It invites us to renew our love for the Eucharist, not simply as a tradition we maintain, but as the living heart of our faith. In the breaking of the bread, the same Jesus who stepped out of the tomb meets us again and sends us back into the world with renewed hope.

That hope is not naive or detached from reality, and Easter does not remove the challenges we face. Our world still carries division and suffering, and many people shoulder burdens that are unseen by others. Yet the Resurrection assures us that darkness is never the final chapter, and that God continues to bring new life from places that once seemed closed.

As we celebrate Easter this year, perhaps the invitation is simply to trust that God is quietly at work in our lives, even when we cannot yet see the full picture.

In the end, this occasion reminds us that we are loved, and that love has the power to change us.

Wishing you and your loved ones every blessing this Easter.

Bishop Michael Kennedy



**Easter Sunday of the Resurrection
of the Lord Year A
Sunday 05 Apr 2026**

First Reading

(Acts of the Apostles 10:34. 37-43)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

Responsorial Psalm

(Ps 117:1-2. 16-17. 22-23. R. v.24)

**(R.) This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad.**

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end. Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.' **(R.)**
2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up. I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds. **(R.)**
3. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. **(R.)**

Second Reading

(Colossians 3:1-4)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in

God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

Sequence

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise. The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb; and Christ, the undefiled, hath sinners to his Father reconciled. Death with life contended: combat strangely ended! Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign. Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way. The tomb the Living did enclose; I saw Christ's glory as he rose! The angels there attesting; shroud with grave-clothes resting. Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee. That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know. Victorious king, thy mercy show!

Gospel Acclamation

(1 Corinthians 5:7-8)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;
let us feast with joy in the Lord.

Alleluia!

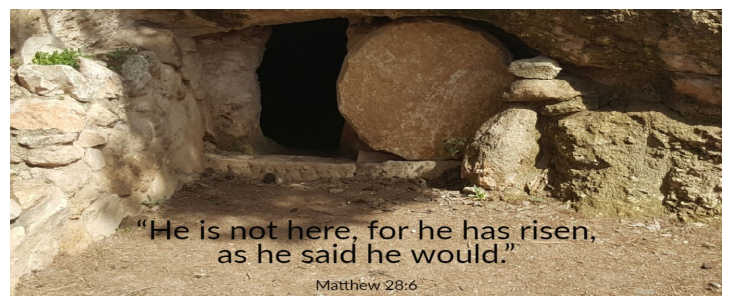
Gospel

(John 20:1-9)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.





Sacrament Information Evening

We are inviting families to an information evening to begin the next part of the sacramental journey

Tuesday 28th April 2026 - 6:00pm
St Mary's Church Warners Bay
Wednesday 29th April 2026 - 6:00pm
St John Vianney Church Morisset
Thursday 30th April 2026 - 6:00pm
St Joseph's Church Toronto



Called to
KNOW MORE

Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle Mission & Evangelisation

STORIES OF A CATHOLIC MILITARY CHAPLAIN



SPEAKER:
FR GREG BARKER

FRIDAY 24 APRIL
10:30AM – TALK, DISCUSSION & MORNING TEA

All are warmly invited to join as a community for Mass at 12pm.

DIOCESAN RESOURCE CENTRE

RSVP TO MN.SHOR.TN/CALLEDTO24APRIL

CELEBRATE • KNOW • BE

A PRAYER IN TIMES OF DISASTER



God with us in light and darkest days –

We pray for all impacted by earthquake, flood or other disaster: survivors, displaced people, loved ones, lost ones.

Where there's life, let there be rescue.

Where there's need, let there be care.

Where there's loss, let there be consolation.

We pray for all on the ground, responding with urgency: emergency workers, medics, people donating food and blood.

Where there's fear, let there be hope.

Where there's confusion, let there be clarity.

Where there's weariness, let there be rest.

As we pray for people directly affected, we pray also for ourselves: aware, far-off, watching on.

Where there's compassion, let there be action.

Where there's love, let there be solidarity.

Where there's concern, let there be generosity.

God with us in light and darkest days – hear our prayer.

Amen.

by Dr Rebekah Pryor/Caritas Australia, September 2023

Lebanon Emergency Relief Appeal

Over 780,000 people are displaced due to conflict. Your support can help provide essential support.

DONATE NOW
caritas.org.au/Lebanon



Photo: Caritas Lebanon



Come along to the launch of our new Diocesan Youth Ministry, ALIVE!

WHEN: Sunday 24 May 2026

TIME: 2:00pm – 5:00pm

WHERE: The Factory Theatre

Address: Trinity College – Park Avenue, Adamstown

All welcome!

Featuring:

- Dynamic & exciting program designed for young people
- Getting excited about upcoming events for young people in the Diocese
- Praise & worship with an acclaimed team of worship leaders ft. Louisa Daniels
- Opportunity for encounter, worship & being called on into faith
- Making friendships with other young people from far and wide!

Join the waitlist to be the first to receive registration details!

We can't wait to see you there!



Pope Leo's Prayer Intention for April 2026

For priests in crisis

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.



(CNS photo Vatican Media)

GOOD *Friday* COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY LAND



The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land will take place on Good Friday, April 3rd. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment and housing. Parishes, schools, orphanages and medical centres throughout the Holy Land also rely on assistance from this collection. It is used to maintain over 70 churches and shrines associated with the life of Jesus. Due to the COVID pandemic, the war in Gaza and now with the war in Iran, recent years have been and continue to be extremely difficult for the Church and people of the Holy Land with much reduced income due to fewer pilgrims and visitors. Last year, Australian Catholics donated \$1.7 million through the Good Friday Collection, a wonderful effort that went a long way to assist the Church of the Holy Land. But this year, the Holy Land continues facing an income shortfall in funds due to the ongoing effects of the Pandemic, the war in the Gaza and now the war with Iran, all of which discourage or totally prevent pilgrims coming to the Holy Land. And so, again we urge Catholics around the world to be generous as possible. Please remember the Christians of the Holy Land on Good Friday and please keep them in your prayers. Thank you.



Easter Sunday
4 – 5 April 2026

Happy Easter from all of us here at Caritas Australia!

Thank you for your continued support through Project Compassion. Your generosity is helping to empower the world's most vulnerable communities, enabling them to overcome challenges and lift themselves out of poverty. **There is still time to donate!**



UNITE  AGAINST POVERTY
this Lent

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.

Anointing Mass

Thursday 16th April at 9.30am

St Mary's Church 2 Bayview St

Warners Bay

An anointing with the "Oil of the Sick" for those who are sick, frail, elderly or in need of healing.



An Introduction to the New Testament Tuesday 21st April 2026



Now that Lent is over would you like to continue with learning more about the New Testament?

Gerard Mowbray who is a well experienced teacher and lecturer in scripture, as well as a parishioner of the Lakeside Pastoral Region" community is offering the following:

"An Introduction to the New Testament"

With particular focus on the development and understanding of the New Testament and Jesus in the four gospels.

Tuesday 21st April 2026

Morning Session: 10.00 to 11.30am Evening Session 6.00 to 7.30pm
St Michael's Parish Hall, Ranclaud Street Booragul

For printing purposes etc please register with the QR code
or at <https://forms.office.com/r/pPkIN6JCzj>



LAKESIDE PASTORAL REGION lakesideregion@mn.catholic.org.au



MEN'S Breakfast

Join us for a BBQ breakfast and a short presentation. Informal, social and occasionally entertaining, this day is all about connection.

Saturday, 18th April.
8am to 10am.

at the St Joseph's Community Centre
140 Wangi Rd, Toronto

Mark the date in your calendar for another opportunity to enjoy a feed and friendship.

RSVP: Phil Adams 0418 686 104 or Colin Gwynne 0409 047 644



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



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Recently Deceased: Janet McKinnon, Catherine Wilson

Anniversaries: Mitchell Powell

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, Ross Redgrove, Cathy Quinlan and Robyn

Please contact the office once a person is well again.

BAPTISMS



This weekend we will witness the baptism of

Thomas John Dugan

May the gift of baptism he will receive strengthen him for his journey of life and faith he will share with us.

Please remember the Dugan family in your prayers.



Thankyou

Thank you to everyone who has kindly donated non-perishable food items and bottle tops over time. We ask that you to refrain from bringing these items in as we are no longer collecting these donations.

Project Compassion

Please remember to return your Project Compassion Boxes and Envelopes and place them in the basket at the front of the church.

Called & Gifted Program 2026

After the success of the 2025 trial, we will again offer this life-changing discernment process, inviting you to discover your God-given charisms. Commencing in May, step forward in faith and help our parishes and schools thrive through use of your gifts. Those responsible for faith formation and religious education in our schools are strongly encouraged to consider participating.

Express your interest [here](#).

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 16 April 2026 - 6:00pm

St Michael's Booragul

Pastoral Council Meeting

Monday 27th April 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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