



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, 7 December 2025

Second Sunday of Advent 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.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,

Prepare a way for the Lord.....

In the second week of Advent, we light candle number two – the Peace Candle sometimes also called the Prophet Candle! The prophets throughout the ages spoke of the coming of the messiah, of one born a king in the line of David. Isaiah in the first reading foretold a time of peace was coming. What did this mean for the people of Isaiah's time who were living more than 600 years before the birth of Jesus. All they had known was war. They had been taken from their country in captivity. They had felt God had been silent, but Isaiah speaks of someone from the *stock of Jesse*. Who was Jesse? Jesse was the father of King David. There was a sense with the coming of the messiah, a return to the natural or let's say peaceful order of things...*the wolf lives with the lamb...*

One of the most haunting songs in the musical, Jesus Christ Superstar is John the Baptist singing *...Prepare ye the way of the Lord...* (you're probably singing it in your head right now!) It's haunting because it's the call to a change of heart, he knew who was about to come next. The central figure of Advent is John the Baptist. His address is c/o the wilderness...why there? That is the traditional place associated with growth of Israel's religions. It was in the desert that the people of Israel first met God and it's in the desert they could hear God closely. So, it's appropriate that the last great prophet who links both the Old and the New Testament comes from the wilderness. John begins his ministry by baptising, and his message is clear *...prepare a way for the Lord, make his path straight*. What is it that we may need to make straight be it at work, at school, at home or with my family?

As we draw closer to Christmas, we are called to a change of heart. We are all aware of areas in our life that might need to be challenged, that might need to be changed. Advent is the time of change; may we be found at Christmas time to not be like the Inn that had no room left.

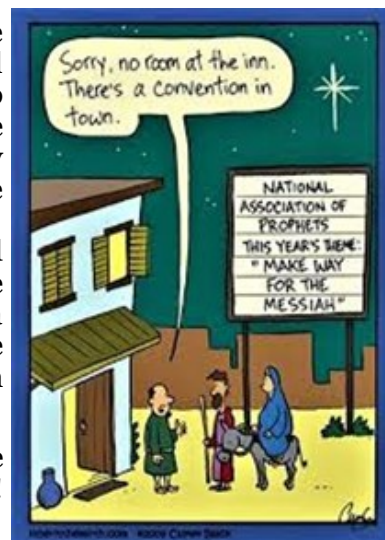
As we light the second candle this weekend of our Advent wreaths...we light the candle of peace! Peace is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at the light of the candle, we celebrate the peace we find in Jesus Christ.

Welcome back Fr Paul, it's good to have you home again, well rested and recreated! You were missed by us all.

As for me, I'm hoping to return next weekend 13/14th December after the surgery all went well. I am recovering slowly with a long list from the doctor of don't do's and that means long walks, stairs or driving. And yes, I am trying to be a good patient. Anyway, thanks for all the prayers and good wishes they are much appreciated and I will be back in action again soon.

Happy Advent everyone!

Fr Darryl Mackie
Parish Priest



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries:

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, Greham Taylor, Nancy Tooney, Joy Dixon, Pat, Enid, Rebecca, Riley, Dot and Adrian Van Bellan.

Please contact the office once a person is well again.

Sunday 07 December 2025 Second Sunday of Advent Year A

First Reading (Isaiah 11: 1-10)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse, a scion thrusts from his roots: on him the spirit of the Lord rests, a spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit of counsel and power, a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. (The fear of the Lord is his breath.) He does not judge by appearances, he gives no verdict on hearsay, but judges the wretched with integrity, and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land. His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless, his sentences bring death to the wicked.

Integrity is the loincloth round his waist, faithfulness the belt about his hips.

The wolf lives with the lamb, the panther lies down with the kid, calf and lion cub feed together with a little boy to lead them. The cow and the bear make friends, their young lie down together. The lion eats straw like the ox. The infant plays over the cobra's hole; into the viper's lair the young child puts his hand. They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy mountain, for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters swell the sea.

That day, the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples. It will be sought out by the nations and its home will be glorious.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 71: 1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17)

(R.) Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

1. O God, give your judgement to the king, to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgement. **(R.)**

2. In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails. He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to the earth's bounds. **(R.)**

3. For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless. He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor. **(R.)**

4. May his name be blessed for ever and endure like the sun. Every tribe shall be blessed in him, all nations bless his name. **(R.)**

Second Reading (Romans 15: 4-9)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the

examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing your name.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation (Luke 3: 4.6)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel (Matthew 3: 1-12)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said: A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Universal Prayer
Second Sunday of Advent Year A
Sunday, 7 December 2025**

Presider: Dear friends, with repentance in our hearts, let us bring our prayers before the Lord.

Reader: That the Holy Church will be a sign of justice and peace in the world today.

(pause) In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all living in sin and darkness will repent and be shown mercy.

(pause) In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That ministers of the Church will be renewed in their dedication of service to the people of God.

(pause) In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That like John the Baptist, our parish community will share God's message of repentance and salvation with people in our lives.

(pause) In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those who are sick will find fullness of peace in Christ, especially those in our parish bulletin.

(pause) In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those who have died will see the salvation of God.

(pause) In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Presider: Loving God, through Christ we are given the hope of Salvation. Hear our prayers, and help us in our prayer and penance as we wait to welcome Christ the Saviour. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

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Readers Roster

	6 Dec - 7 Dec	13 Dec - 14 Dec
Sat 5:30pm	Paula Graham Jane Bennett Marie Osborne	Joan Wilson Maggie Hughes Sallyanne Stanbridge
Sun 9:00am	Chloe Parker Colin Cowan Gerard Mowbray	Kim Smith Ray O'Donoghue Ryan Gato
Sun 6:00pm	Lois Wilson Melissa Wood Helen Beath	Jo Turner Ian Ross-Gowan Ursula Kelly

LAKESIDE

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES 2025

Christmas Eve	5:30pm	St Mary's Warners Bay
Christmas Eve	6:00pm	St Joseph's Toronto
Christmas Eve	6:00pm	Morisset Showground
Christmas Eve	7:00pm	Our Lady Help Boolaroo
Christmas Day	8:00am	St Michael's Booragul
Christmas Day	9:00am	St Mary's Warners Bay
Christmas Day	9:00am	St Joseph's Toronto
Christmas Day	9:30am	St John Vianney Morisset

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.*



Join Us for a Night of Joy & Music!



FAMILY Christmas CAROL NIGHT

"With John Collins"

**St Mary's Hall Warners Bay
13 December 2025 from 6:30pm**

Bring your own takeaway Meals and Drinks.

Tables and Chairs will be set up.

Tea and Coffee will be supplied.

Please add your name to the list at the entry to the church

Everyone Welcome

Cost is Donation

Contact Sue or Marie if you have any questions

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

The appeal in the parish this year will be held on the 6th and 7th of December. The focus for this appeal is to help those in our local community who are trapped in long term disadvantage from ongoing costs, the housing crisis and food insecurity by providing immediate intervention and safe housing along with food, clothing and medical aid.

Thank you for your ongoing support towards our most vulnerable.

Envelopes will be available on the pews or at the back of the church.

Donations are tax deductible.

**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



Volunteers for Masses

We are looking for Readers and Eucharist Ministers for each of our Christmas and weekend masses until 12 January 2025.

If you would like to be added as a new reader, please contact the office by 5 January 2026.

Our formal reading roster will be emailed out and will begin from 18 January 2026.

If you could contact the office via email or phone if you are able to help in any way.

Volunteers Needed!



BAPTISMS

This weekend we will witness the baptisms of
**Camille Jude Toms, Vincent Joseph Toms,
Lana Jane Pinto, Addison Rose Pinto,
Mackenzie Cassandra Shultz and Seaton
Adam Shultz**

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

Please remember the Toms, Pinto and Shultz families in your prayers.

Christmas Tree Gifting

With Advent commencing this Sunday the Christmas tree will be up in the St Mary's Church this weekend and at Our Lady Help of Christians the following Saturday. There will be tags on the trees for people who would like to help with a present for the children of the families we help with Christmas Hampers. Your support is appreciated. Present buying for teenagers is always tricky, so a gift card is also acceptable.

Note that the presents need to be returned by Sunday December 14th as the hampers will be prepared in the following week with the end of the school year later that week.

A big thank you to St Paul's and St Mary's schools for their support of the Hampers with the goods donated from each School. This generosity is what enables us to bring a bit of cheer to those families in need.



PLACES TO CALL IF YOU NEED HELP



LIFELINE 13 11 14	BEYOND BLUE 1300 22 4636
1800 RESPECT 1800 737 732	HEADSPACE 1800 650 890
MINDSPOT 1800 61 44 34	KIDS HELPLINE 1800 55 1800
NATIONAL DEBT HELPLINE 1800 007 007	NATIONAL CORONAVIRUS HELPLINE 1800 020 080

2026 Columban Calendars and Christmas Cards

There are Calendars and Christmas cards for sale at each church this weekend.

Cost is \$10 for a calendar or a pack of cards. Supply is limited to what is on display at the back of each church.

Catholic Care Donated Grocery Collection

Catholic Care will collect the dry goods donated at the St Marys Church next week so this weekend is last opportunity to donate before the goods are collected. Just leave any dry goods near the blue collection bin at the back of the Church.



Pilgrimage
of the
MIGRANT
Jubilee
Cross

DIOCESE OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE
19-21 DECEMBER 2025

Scan for more
details!



Mission &
Evangelisation





LATEST NEWS FROM OUR SAFEGUARDING PROMOTERS 7 DECEMBER 2025

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

Safeguarding children during Christmas is crucial due to increased risks of abuse, neglect, and emotional distress, necessitating vigilance and support from adults. Increased risks include:

- 1. Domestic Abuse:** The festive period often sees a rise in domestic violence, with children trapped in unsafe environments. Schools, which typically provide a support network, are closed, leaving vulnerable children without access to trusted adults.
- 2. Financial Strain:** The pressure to provide a "perfect" Christmas can lead to financial difficulties, exacerbating family tensions and increasing the risk of neglect or abuse. Families may struggle with the costs of gifts and celebrations, leading to stress and conflict.
- 3. Isolation and Loneliness:** With schools closed, children may lose contact with their support networks, leading to feelings of isolation. This can be particularly harmful for those already experiencing neglect or abuse, as they may feel trapped and unable to seek help.
- 4. Increased Supervision Needs:** Children may be left unsupervised for extended periods, especially if adults are preoccupied with holiday preparations or socialising. This lack of supervision can expose them to various risks, including accidents and online dangers.
- 5. Proactive safeguarding** of children can help ensure that the holiday season is a time of joy and safety rather than distress and danger.



(CNS photo/Vatican Media)

Pope Leo's Prayer Intention for December 2025

**For Christians
in areas of conflict**
Let us pray that Christians
living in areas of war or
conflict, especially in the
Middle East, might be seeds of
peace, reconciliation,
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 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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