



PARISHES IN PARTNERSHIP

St. Mary's Maffra [Newry & Dargo]

St. Michael's Heyfield-Cowwarr

Phone: 03 5147 1921 email: Maffra@cdsale.org.au

Office Hours: Tues, Wed, Thurs - 10am-4.00pm.

For Emergencies: St. Mary's Cathedral, Sale, Phone 5144 4100

Diocesan website: <https://www.cdsale.org.au/>



Fourth Sunday of Advent – Year A – 18th December, 2022.

PARISH PRIEST:

Fr. Edwin Ogbuka
Email: edwinogbuka@gmail.com
0469 733 929

PARISH SECRETARY:

Willie Schoenmaekers
Email: marymaf@aussiebb.com.au

WEEKEND MASSES: Heyfield

Saturday Vigil: **6.00pm**
1st & 3rd Sunday Cowwarr: 11.00am

WEEKEND MASSES: Maffra

Sunday: 9.00am
2nd & 4th Sunday - Newry: 11.00am
5th Sunday – Dargo : 12.Noon

WEEKDAY MASSES HEYFIELD

Tuesday: 9.30am

MAFFRA

Wednesday to Saturday: 9.30am

RECONCILIATION:

MAFFRA

Any time by request

HEYFIELD:

Saturday: Before Mass 5.20pm

OR any other time by request

DAILY EXPOSITION: Maffra – Tuesday,

Thursday, Friday, Saturday – 8.20am – 9.20am followed by Mass

EXPOSITION AND RECONCILIATION: Maffra

Wednesday: After 9.30am Mass

BAPTISMS:

During or After the Vigil / Sunday Mass

MARRIAGE:

At least six months' notice requested.

PARISH SCHOOLS

ST. MICHAEL'S HEYFIELD

Principal: Jenny Miller
Davis St. Heyfield - 3858
Phone: 5148 2514

ST. MARY'S MAFFRA

Principal: Julian Blackford
4-12 Duke St. Maffra - 3860
Phone: 5147 1334

Catholic Care: 1800 522 076

Safe Steps: 1800 015 188

Facebook: [facebook/dioceseofsale](https://www.facebook.com/dioceseofsale)



World Youth Day- 2023

For more than 30years, World Youth Day has been an opportunity for the young people of the world to go on pilgrimage and discover how Jesus calls each of us to be his disciples. World Youth day 2023 will be held in Lisbon, Portugal in the month of August. The major events of World Youth Day

include Papal welcome, catechesis, youth festivals, as well as the final pilgrim walk and vigil with Pope Francis and millions of other young Catholics.

The Diocese of Sale is organising groups of young people between the ages of 16-35 and join with the archdiocese of Melbourne for pilgrimage. If you are interested, and know more about the pilgrimage, there will be an information night held at [St. Agatha's parish hall, Cranbourne \(129 Sladen Street\)](#) on **12th December at 7pm**. You can also contact Fr. Avinash George for information on avinash.george@cdsale.org.au or **03 59971510**.

RITE OF RECONCILIATION

During the Advent season the Rite of Reconciliation will be offered in addition to the usual Reconciliation times. This will be available on **Wednesday 21st December at 7pm at St Mary's Maffra.**

MASS TIMES FOR CHRISTMAS : 2022

Christmas Eve – Sat. 24th December:

Heyfield – (Carols @ 6pm) Mass @ 6.30pm

Maffra – (Carols @ 8.30pm) Mass @ 9pm

Christmas Day – Sun. 25th December:

Maffra Mass @ 9am Newry Mass @ 11am

Feast of the Holy Family – Fri. 30th December:

9.30am Mass at Maffra

NEW YEARS DAY MASS – Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of

God, Masses as normal.

Presbytery Collection (1st Collection):

For those who prefer cashless options we have now obtained a terminal at St Mary's Maffra so that it will be easier for you and also helps maintain the presbytery for Father's fuel, food, and personal items etc. As most of you are aware of the increase in prices, the presbytery account is also struggling with this inflation every little bit helps. God Bless you and thank you for your kind generosity - we are warmly grateful.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS:-

No Parish Dinner till Monday 6th February 2023, at the Sporting Club Maffra 6pm. **RSVP a Must, please ring 0411436227 for bookings.**

All Welcome!

The parish dinner is a monthly dinner who meet for fellowship as a parish community, they meet on the 1st Monday of every month. RSVP is essential.

Columban 2023 calendars are now available at the Piety Stall \$10, also available are packets of Christmas cards \$8

Choir Practise for Christmas Eve Maffra Mass at St. Mary's church. Wednesday 21st December 5pm



**ADVENT
APPEAL
FOR
UKRAINE**

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference is supporting a special Advent appeal for the people of Ukraine, following a request from Bishop Mykola Bychok CSsR, Eparch of Sts Peter and Paul for the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Australia. Collections in dioceses, eparchies and parishes on the Second and/or Third Sunday of Advent will support *Mudra Sprava* (Wise Action), a Patriarchal Charitable Foundation in Ukraine. The organisation has three focus areas: Evacuation of people from frontline territories; Food packages for people in need; Shelters for internally displaced persons. Find out more at: www.catholic.au

Events for 2023

A combined parish BBQ for both Maffra and Heyfield Parishes has been set for the Sunday 15th of January at St Mary's Hall Maffra.

Time 5:30pm for 6pm.

This will be a fully shared meal. A list of what to bring will be placed at the back of the Churches in the near future.

Please save the date in your calendar.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DEAD:-

Anniversaries:

Walter Killeen, Loretta Hutchins, Harry Davis, Ita Breheny, Vera Bowen, Patrick Johnston, Hilda Stoddard, David Conway, Margaret and John Egan, Clem Higgins, Chantelle Stoddart, Noel (Joe) Murphy, Craig McLindin, Arthur Wicks, Margaret Cullen, Ellen Bourke.

Frs. Patrick Kavanagh, John Gowen, James Duffy, Mgr Thomas Lynch

Care for the Sick: If you know of anyone who is unable to get to Mass and would like the Eucharist brought to them, please advise us on 5147 1921.

We pray for ALL who suffer (at present) in body, mind or spirit:

Kevin Bennett, Marge Canny, Archie Schacht, Coral Justice, Julie Frew, Peter Smyth, Fr. Brian O'Connor, John Phelan, Lyn McLindin, Ann Martin, Gerry Gray, and all those who seek our prayers.

WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH

Any children, young persons and vulnerable adults have a right to feel safe and be safe. If you are concerned about any form of abuse, or believe that someone is at significant risk, you should immediately raise your concerns with one of our Parish Safeguarding Officers. Contact Via the Parish Office: 03 5147 1921.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS
ST. MARY'S: Terry Donahoe
ST. MICHAEL'S: Ed O'Brien

WEEKLY COLLECTION

PRESBYTERY: \$ 742
ST. MARY'S PG: \$ 177
ST. MICHAEL'S PG: \$ 200

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

Despite all of the excitement associated with eschatological fulfilment, despite all of the assurance we have that it will be an experience of peace and abundant life, the mystery for which we long requires the risk of faith. Despite all of the times that we have celebrated the Nativity, we still do not have full comprehension and understanding. Still we are invited to enter deeply into the event that is before us. Will we step into a life of deeper faith and commitment, or will we merely participate in the external celebration of the feast? Only we can decide, and only we will really know the decision that we make.

The circumstances of our lives influence the way we live out our faith. As Christians, we are called to devote ourselves to the service of Christ. Our primary commitment must be to Christ and to the way of being human that he has shown us. We must be committed to what enriches life and not to what diminishes it. We must be committed to the good of people and not to the hoarding of things. We may not be official heralds of the gospel, but we proclaim our faith in the way we live our lives, in the kindness with which we treat others, in honesty of our business transactions. We proclaim the gospel when we stand for justice, when we forgive those who have offended us, when we show compassion to those who suffer. As we step into the eschatological age, we are called to recommit ourselves to genuine Christian living.



MAFFRA PARISH LITURGICAL ROSTER (DECEMBER)

| | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| LITURGY: | Sun. 25 th | Office |
| READER: | Sun. 25 th | Michael Dillon |
| COMMENTATOR: | Sun. 25 th | Julia Moulton |
| EXTRA ORDINARY MINISTER | Sun. 25 th | Michael Dillon |
| COMPUTER: | Sun. 25 th | Mary Fjellner |
| COLLECTORS: | Sun. 25 th | Roy Shelton and Dick Moulton. |
| ALTAR SERVERS: | Sun. 25 th | N/A |
| FLORISTS: | Sun. 25 th | To Be Arranged |
| SACRISTANS: | Sun. 25 th | Marianne and Chas Bagguley |
| HOLY VESSELS: | Month Of DECEMBER | Donna Sebastian |

HEYFIELD PARISH LITURGICAL ROSTER (DECEMBER]

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| READER: | Sat. 25 th | George Bogusz |
| FLORISTS: | Sat 25 th | Anne Kurec |
| ALTAR LINEN – | MONTH OF DECEMBER | Heather Higgins |

ST ITA'S NEWRY (DECEMBER)

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| READER | Sun. 25 th | N/A |
| CHURCH CLEANING | MONTH OF DECEMBER | Connie Dwyer |

PERSONAL ORDINARIATE MASSES

COWWARR: ST BRIGIDS'

MONDAY: 9.00AM

TUESDAY: 6.00PM

WEDNESDAY: 10.00AM

THURSDAY: 10.00AM

FRIDAY: 6.00PM

SATURDAY: 10.00AM

SUNDAY: 9.30AM

MIRBOO NORTH: ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

2ND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH: 4.00PM

4TH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH: 4.00PM

CONFESSION: BEFORE EACH MASS

ANY ENQUIRES PLEASE CONTACT:

FR KEN CLARK EV

GIPPSLAND ORDINARIATE

13 CHURCH STREET

COWWARR, VIC 3857

TEL: 0403383873

BLOG:

[HTTPS://GIPPSLANDORDINARIATE.WORDPRESS.COM](https://gippslandordinariate.wordpress.com)

Father will be on holidays from 29th

December till 10th February, 2023.

The office will be closed from 22nd

December till 17th January, 2023.

I will try to get some bulletins done before I

go, but they will only be 2 pages with

readings and front page information and

rosters.



Family Mass and Picnic:

Many of the parish children enjoyed the family Mass and picnic at Newry on December 4th. The highlight being a puppy who enjoyed participating! We hope to have more of these Masses next year.



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

FIRST READING Is 7:10-14

The virgin will conceive.

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No', Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.' Then Isaiah said: 'Listen now, House of David: are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men without trying the patience of my God, too? The Lord himself, therefore, will give you a sign. It is this: the maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call Immanuel, a name which means "God-is-with-us".'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

(R.) Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

1. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness, the world and all its peoples. It is he who set it on the seas; on the waters he made it firm. **(R.)**
2. Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord? Who shall stand in his holy place? The man with clean hands and pure heart, who desires not worthless things. **(R.)**
3. He shall receive blessings from the Lord and reward from the God who saves him. Such are the men who seek him, seek the face of the God of Jacob. **(R.)**

SECOND READING: Rom 1:1-7

Jesus Christ, a descendant of David, is the Son of God.

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures. This news is about the Son of God, who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

A virgin will give birth to a son; his name will be Emmanuel: God is with us.

.Alleluia, alleluia!

GOSPEL Mt 1:18-24

Jesus was born of Mary, the betrothed of Joseph, a

son of David.

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel



Advent Prayer

Loving God, accompany me on my journey

through Advent. As I move through my daily tasks and responsibilities, renew my hope in you, and in your will for my life. Help me to watch for your coming in unexpected ways, to hold fast to your word and to your promise, and to trust that you are leading me at every moment.

Grant my prayer through Jesus Christ, your Son and my Hope. Amen.

NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS:

First Reading: Is 52:7-10
Second Reading: Heb 1:1-6
Gospel: Jn 1:1-18