



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/>



Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A – 13th September, 2026.

PARISH PRIEST:

Fr. Edwin Ogbuka

Email: edwinogbuka@gmail.com

0469 733 929

PARISH SECRETARY:

Willie Schoenmaekers

Email: Maffra@cdsale.org.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 : **12.00pm**

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 – 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: Shane Fyfe

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

FATHER'S DAY APPEAL FOR THE PRIESTS' WELFARE FOUNDATION OF THE DIOCESE OF SALE: THANK YOU for your generous contributions to the Priests' Welfare Foundation. The amount given was \$608.



NEPAL FLOODS

Caritas teams are on the ground assessing the scale of the disastrous Nepalese floods and how to respond. It is expected that the needs will most likely include: emergency shelter and

essential items, access to clean water and sanitation, access to food and immediate and long-term recovery. If you are able to support Caritas Australia's Nepal Floods Appeal, visit www.caritas.org.au/nepal.

Loving God,

Be close to all those caught in the devastation of the floods in Nepal and Tibet. Comfort those who have lost loved ones, strengthen those waiting anxiously for news, and guide rescuers and emergency workers as they search for survivors. Give courage to displaced families and compassion to communities offering shelter, food and care. May those who are missing be found, and may those who mourn know they are not alone. God of mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

Position Vacant - World Youth Day Project Officer

The Diocese of Sale Catholic Education Limited (DOSCEL) is seeking a World Youth Day Project Officer who will ensure the success of the pilgrimage from planning and preparation through to operation, debrief and evaluation, helping ensure the pilgrimage is purposeful, well governed, financially responsible, safe, inclusive and grounded in Catholic mission.

This role will work collaboratively with the DOSCEL Office and school leaders, Staff of Sion House and external stakeholders to support a pilgrimage experience aligned with the World Youth Day 2027 theme: "Take courage! I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). More information, visit

<https://www.doscel.catholic.edu.au/positions-vacant/>



School Art Competition 2026

Primary and secondary students are invited to take part in Catholic Earthcare's Annual Art Competition, exploring the theme of 'Living Water'.

Art supply vouchers will be awarded as prizes.

Bishop's Award (primary and secondary):

1st \$300 | 2nd \$200 | 3rd \$100

People's Choice Award: \$300 (primary and secondary)

For more information visit: <https://tinyurl.com/5bbjwamu>

MEETINGS AND EVENTS:-
 Parish Luncheon Monday 5th October, 2026, at the Sporting Club Maffra 12noon. RSVP a Must, please ring 51471867 or 0438471867 for bookings. All Welcome!
 The evening meals on Monday 5th October, 2026, 6pm at the Sporting Club Maffra. Contact details 0408057413. All welcome.
 The parish Luncheon and Dinner is a monthly event who meet for fellowship as a parish community, they meet on the 1st Monday of every month. RSVP is essential.

Parish Fund Raiser CAN COLLECTION FUNDRAISER:
 Thanks to all who are bringing cans and bottles for collection. Cans and bottles can be deposited in bins near St. Mary's toilets. Amount raised to date (+\$122.20) = \$1790.20

PIETY STALL
 For sale in our Piety Stall at St Mary's Church are rosary beads, medals, cards, key chains and Sacramental gifts.



Are you interested in flower arrangements we are seeking volunteers to join our wonderful ladies who are already doing a magnificent job of arranging flowers every week for the altar and the church. If you are interested in volunteering please give thought to this. You can contact Willie on 0429140362. Or email at Maffra@cdsale.org.au You will need a WWCC as part of the Child Safety Standards. This is for St Mary's Maffra and St Michael's Heyfield.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DEAD:-
Anniversaries:
 Cath Lanigan, Thomas (Max) McLaren, Ron Bates, Percy Lestrangle, Teresa (Joan) Johnston, Mary Booker, Maree Crowne (Taylor), Monica Le Grande, Maria Le Grande, Joan McCarthy, Bill Phelan, Gerald Coleman, Des Egan, Fred Munro, James Hall, Paul Brick Jr., Kathleen Fawaz, John (Jack) Telling, Gerald O'Dwyer, Elaine Brown.
 Frs. Thomas Hurley, John Howard, John Russell, Daniel (Tim) Hourigan.

We pray for ALL who suffer (at present) in body, mind or spirit: A.J. Smith, John Slattery, Fr Michael Willemssen, Christine Schoenmaekers, Gary Goddard, Pat Coloe, Dominic Simm, Margaret Trew, Linda Allman, Coral Justice, Peter Smyth, Fr. Brian O'Connor, Lyn McLindin, Ann Martin, 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: Steve McAnulty
 ST. MICHAEL'S: Ed O'Brien

We have gluten free host available for Holy Communion at all Masses, if you please let Father know that you are wanting a gluten free host before Mass.

WEEKLY COLLECTION
 PRESBYTERY: \$ 628
 ST. MARY'S PG: \$ 275
 ST. MICHAEL'S PG: \$ 200

THE ST MARY'S MAFFRA PRESBYTERY IS TURNING 116 YEARS ON THE 1ST OCTOBER, 2026. WE ARE INVITING THE BISHOP TO HELP CELEBRATE THIS OCCASION WITH MASS. MORE INFORMATION WILL BE IN THE BULLETIN NEXT WEEK.

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES/ ADORATION/RECONCILIATION/ ROSARY
 Monday 14th Sept: No Mass. Maffra. No Adoration. (The Exaltation of the Holy Cross)
 Tuesday 15th Sept: Heyfield 9.30am Mass. / Maffra Rosary 2pm. (Our Lady of Sorrows)
 Wed.: 16th Sept: Maffra, 9.30am Mass Rosary/ Adoration after Mass. (Sts. Cornelius and Cyprian)
 Thursday 17th Sept: Aug: Maffra- Rosary 8.20am 9.30am Mass. (St. Robert Bellarmine and St. Hildegard of Bingen)
 Friday 18th Sept: Maffra - Rosary 8.20am. 9.30am Mass.
 Sat. 19th Sept: Maffra Rosary 8.20am. Mass 9.30am (St. Januarius)

During winter Maffra week day Masses will be held in the Presbytery.

Each Sunday morning, prior to the 9am Sunday Mass at Maffra, a Parish Rosary is offered, starting 8.25am, to pray for Our Blessed Mother's intentions, thank her for her prayers and intercession and to pray for vocation to the priesthood and religious life in our Diocese and also pray for Parishioners intentions. During these often uncertain times and our daily challenges we are reassured that Our Blessed Mother will hear our prayers and present them to Her Son. Everyone is welcome.

Anointing Mass 1st Friday of each Month at Stretton Park please check on arrival where the Mass will be celebrated. Mass will start at 11am everyone is welcome. Please come and support our sick and elderly.

ECUMENICAL PRAYER SERVICES STRETTON PARK/MCDONALD WING: 1st week of the month please consider attending to support the elderly. For details, contact Trish 0428471621

COMBINED CHURCHES:
 Contact Mary Hartwig 0431408336

MenAlive – MENS FELLOWSHIP AND SCRIPTURE REFLECTION:

Do you have a notice for the bulletin? Let the office know by Wednesday the week prior. Maffra@cdsale.org.au, 51471921

MAFFRA PARISH LITURGICAL ROSTER SEPTEMBER 2026

READER:	SUN: 20 TH	MICHAEL DILLON
COMMENTATOR:	SUN: 20 TH	JULIA MOULTON
EXTRA ORDINARY MINISTER:	SUN: 20 TH	JULIA MOULTON
COLLECTORS:	SUN: 20 TH	KEVIN KIERCE & SOMEONE
COMPUTER:	SUN: 20 TH	NICK MUNRO
FLOWERS:	SUN: 20 TH	MARG DURRANT & GIL WALS
SACRISTY:	SUN: 20 TH	SYLVIA NEAVES & PAULINE PHELAN
HOLY VESSELS:	MONTH OF SEPTEMBER	FRANCIS DWYER OR MARIAN SEARLE

HEYFIELD PARISH LITURGICAL ROSTER SEPTEMBER VIGIL

READER:	SAT: 19 TH	JOE PITTARI
FLOWERS:	SAT: 19 TH	HEATHER HIGGINS

ST BRIGID'S COWWARR ROSTER SEPTEMBER

READER:	SUN: 20 TH	N/A
CLEANER:	SUN: 20 TH	N/A

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

CONFESSION: BEFORE EACH MASS

ANY ENQUIRIES 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)

12:00 PM – Jubilee Mass (St Francis of Assisi, Benambra)

Solemn Mass celebrated by Bishop Greg and the Clergy of the Diocese.

Blessing of Pets (St Francis of Assisi, Benambra) - All creatures great and small (restrained) are welcome to receive a special blessing following Mass!

Shared Lunch & Sausage Sizzle (Benambra Footyclub) - Fellowship and food for all! Please bring a plate to share.

3:00 PM – Conclusion (Immaculate Conception, Omeo)

Our pilgrimage draws to a close as we gather at Omeo Parish for final prayers and departure.

Location Information

St Mary's: Corner of Pyke St & Main St, Bairnsdale

St Francis of Assisi: MacFarlane Rd, Benambra

Immaculate Conception: 79 Day St, Omeo

All are warmly welcome to be part of this unforgettable diocesan pilgrimage.

For more information visit: cdsale.org.au/year-of-saint-francis-of-assisi.

Diocesan Pilgrimage:

Jubilee of St Francis of Assisi

Celebrating the Eighth Centenary of the Death of St Francis of Assisi

Bishop Greg Bennet invites all parishioners across the Diocese of Sale to join in a special pilgrimage celebrating the Franciscan Jubilee Year.

This sacred journey is not about physical distance, but a



journey of the heart. Together, we will travel to Benambra—nestled amidst the scenic Omeo High Plains—home to the only church in our diocese dedicated to St Francis of Assisi.

Schedule of Events

Friday, October 2nd

6:00 PM – Transitus (St Mary's, Bairnsdale)

A Transitus Service is a special prayer service celebrated on the vigil of the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi. The word transitus is Latin for “passing over” or “transition.” It commemorates St Francis’ passage from earthly life into eternal life with God.

Saturday, October 3rd

8:30 AM – Morning Prayer (St Mary's, Bairnsdale)

Please note that on this day that all parishioners from Heyfield and Maffra are encouraged to participate in this journey. Therefore there will be no 6pm Vigil Mass in Heyfield.

Migrant & Refugee Sunday 2026: “Even Just One of These Children”

“Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me” (Mt 18:5)

All parishioners, families, and friends are warmly invited to join together in celebrating Migrant & Refugee Sunday with a diocesan Mass.

Date: Sunday, 27 September 2026

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Venue: Our Lady Help of Christians, Narre Warren

Celebrant: Bishop Greg Bennet

Dress Code: Cultural attire is encouraged to celebrate the rich diversity of our community.

Fellowship: Please bring a plate of food to share after Mass.

Come along as we gather in faith, prayer, and hospitality to celebrate and support migrants and refugees across our communities. All are most welcome!

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

FIRST READING: Sirach 27:30 – 28:7

Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner. He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin. Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord? Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins? Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his sins? Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments. Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. **(R.)**

2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. **(R.)**

3. His wrath will come to an end; he will not be angry forever. He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults. **(R.)**

4. For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. **(R.)**

SECOND READING: Romans 14:7-9

Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Matthew 18:21-35

I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times seven.

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his

master's feet. "Give me time," he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me", he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said. "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS: SUNDAY MASS

First Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9

Second Reading: Philippians 1:20-24. 27

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

Pope's Prayer Intention for September 2026: For the Care of Water

Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

Pray with the Pope:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amén.

Lord of Life, You have given us the gift of water, source of fruitfulness, freshness, and hope. It quenches thirst, nourishes the earth, and heals wounds.

We thank You, because it is also a symbol of your grace and love that renews us through Baptism. Today we ask You to teach us to safeguard it with gratitude, justice, and responsibility.

Forgive us for turning it into a commodity, forgetting that it is a universal gift, a right without borders, meant for all your children. We see with pain so many brothers and sisters who lack clean water, who walk for miles to find it, who become ill due to its scarcity.

May your Spirit make us pilgrims of the essential, able to live with simplicity, denouncing waste and pollution, defending the right of every brother and sister to drink without fear and without inequality.

May our care for water be a sign of love for the Creator and a commitment to the lives of the poor, educating new generations to value and protect the Earth's resources. Amen.