

Catholic Parishes of Warragul & Drouin/Neerim South

St Ita's Church,
50 Victoria st,
Drouin



St Joseph's Church, 17 Queen St, Warragul



St Ignatius Church,
79 Main Neerim Road,
Neerim South

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Brendan Hogan
Brendan.Hogan@cdsale.org.au
PH: 5623 1642

ASSISTANT PRIEST:

Fr Aneesh George IVDei

PARISH DEACON: Dcn Mark Kelly
Mark.kelly@cdsale.org.au

Parish Office: 19 Connor St, Warragul

PO Box 275 Warragul 3820

PH: 5623 1642

<https://warraguldrouincatholic.au>

WEB: warragul@cdsale.org.au

Open hours:

Tues, Wed & Fri 9am-3pm

Thurs 9am—9.30am and 12.30—3pm

Parish Staff

Parish Secretary:

Melissa Vaca

Assistant Secretary:

Margie Schellekens

Pastoral, Catechist &

R.C.I.A. Co-ordinator:

Joan Robertson 5623 1642

Warragul.rcia@cdsale.org.au

Sacrament Co-ordinator:

Liz Schellekens 5623 1642

Warragul.sacraments@cdsale.org.au

Safeguarding Officer:

Jessica Nelson 56231642

Warragul.Sgo@cdsale.org.au

Mission Outreach Evangelisation Officer:

Roslyn Joyner 5623 1642

evangelisation@warraguldrouincatholic.au

Music Co-ordinator:

Richard Wans 5623 1642

Altar Server Coordinator:

Chris Bogart 5623 1642

Schools

Marist-Sion College: 5623 5944

Principal: Ms. Lisa Harkin

St. Joseph's Primary School: 5623 2943

Principal: Ms Rachael Williams

St. Ita's Primary School: 5623 7222

Principal: Mr. Andrew Osler

St. Angela's Primary School: 5622 9800

Principal: Mr Stephen Pitt

St Oscar Romero Primary School:

Principal: Mr Derek Bruitzman

Sunday 11TH October, 2026 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Weekday Mass Times (12 - 16 Oct)

Monday:	St Joseph's Church	9.30am
Tuesday:	Abbey Gardens Nursing Home	11.00am
	St Ita's Church	5.30pm
Wednesday:	St Joseph's Church	9.30am
Thursday:	St Ita's Church	9.30am
Friday:	St Joseph's Church	9.30am

Weekend Mass Times (17 - 18 Oct)

Saturday:	St Ignatius Church, Neerim Sth	5.00pm
	St Joseph's Church	6.15pm
Sunday:	St Joseph's Church	9.00am
	St Ita's Church	11.00am

Exposition of the Blessed Eucharist

St Joseph's: Morning prayer /adoration,
6.30am - 7.30am weekdays (during term)

St Ita's: Tuesday ~ 9:30am-10:30 am

St Joseph's: Saturday ~10am, followed
by rosary & Benediction.

Reconciliation/Confession

St Ita's: Sat ~ 9:30am-10:00am

St Joseph's: Wed~ 9:15am - 9.30am

St Joseph's: Sat~ 10:30am - 11am

PASTORAL ENQUIRIES

Baptisms: Celebrated on Sundays by prior arrangement including participation at an information meeting for parents.

Marriages: By prior arrangement, six months' notice requested.

CatholicCare : Services include counselling Individual, Family & Natural Family Planning Counselling. Ph: 1800 522 076

St. Vincent de Paul Conference Helpline:

Warragul Ph: 0499 201 517

Drouin Ph: 5625 4715

Safeguarding: Our parish is committed to providing a safe and supporting environment for all people with special concern for children, young people and adults at risk.

SACRAMENTS

Rite of Welcome: This weekend we welcome **Eddie Phelan, Emma Walker and Darcy Walker** and their families who begin their journey towards baptism.

Baptisms: This weekend we welcome **Murphy Fries, Robyn & Murphy Deane, Darcy & Emma Walker and Eddie Phelan** into our parish family.

Acknowledgment of Country.

*We acknowledge the Kurnai People as the traditional Custodians of this land and the contribution of their Elders, past, present and emerging.
We commit to walking side by side as we face the future together.*



Warragul & Drouin Catholic Parishes Vision:

A welcoming and inclusive community strengthens us! Eucharist and faith unite us! Courageous action moves us!

Parish Pastoral Council Members:

**Gary Blackwood (Chairperson), Fiona Macrae (Secretary) Chris Harkin (Deputy Chairperson)
Clyde Netto, Gerard Ward, Alicia Phillips, John Rowe & Dee Jackson, plus Ex-officio.**

Strategic goals for 2026-2028

- 1. Strengthening unity across the 3 communities.**
- 2. Developing lay leadership and formation opportunities for parishioners.**
- 3. Expanding mission and outreach beyond parish walls.**

No Sourpusses here!

Jesus' parables are meant to be confronting! This Sunday's parable (*Matt 22:1-14*) tells of a king's wedding invitation, spurned by invitees who have better things to do and a later ring-in who seems to be there only for the food. A new lot of guests are invited and the recalcitrants come to a grizzly end.

Jesus has our attention! So, what is his parable telling twenty first century Christians?

Jesus is totally dedicated to 'the reign of God,' which he declares is already here among us, a transformation of the whole of life and of society, liberating people from whatever dehumanizes them or causes them suffering. Immersed in this "reign of God", our joy will radiate from us. Removed from it, we are in danger of being what Pope Francis called "sourpusses", "prophets of doom who are always forecasting disaster, as though the end of the world were at hand." (*Evangelii Gaudium 84/85*).

"The reign of God" is not for the faint-hearted or indifferent, nor encountered through formulas or regulations, but through wondrously cherishing and generously responding to God's action in our lives. If not joyful, then are we really engaged with Jesus' mission?

Particularly outsiders - the poor, the downtrodden, the marginalised, hear in this parable that the "reign of God" is not the preserve of an inner clique of religious and traditional leaders, but for all. We need to ensure that we are not indifferent or malicious like the first group of invitees in the parable, or negative "sourpusses" about our world. And what of the attendee who sneaks in but has no desire to respond to the wishes of the king? Another "sourpuss". Not good!

We are called to be a leaven in our world, working joyfully, lovingly and constructively within the world as we find it; celebrating the numerous signs of God's reign in the people and events around us.

Deacon Mark Kelly

MORNING PRAYER & ADORATION

Please note that the morning prayer and adoration will not be held on Monday, 12th October 2026.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

Please note these dates:

Monday 12th Oct, Tuesday 13th Oct,
Wednesday 14th Oct, Monday 19th Oct
and Tuesday 20th Oct.

SOCIAL CUPPA AFTER 6.15pm, 9am, 11am Masses this weekend:

Please bring a plate of food to share with others. Hosted by Finance and Young adult groups.

What's happening in our Parish Communities

Meet'n Greet- Wednesday **1pm till 3pm** in the Marian Room at St Joseph's Church. Those with transport difficulties call Chris: 0419 772668 Or Fran : 0439 864 175. **This week Chicken & salad Luncheon for \$5.00**

RCIA- 7.30pm Wednesday (not during school holidays) Marian Room Enq Joan, Parish Office: 56231642

Prayers to St Joseph, Group- Warragul after 9.30am Mass at St Joseph's Church.

ALPHA- warraguldrouinalpha@gmail.com

Baw Baw Catholic Mens Group- (BBCMG) bbcmg@warraguldrouincatholic.au

Knights of the Southern Cross- After 9.30am Mass, Marian Room. **(1st Monday of the Month)** Lawrie McNamara 0403 218 935

Mums & Bubs Play & Pray - (1st Thursday) 9.30-11.30am Marian Room.

Rosary & Litany- 5pm Sunday in St Joseph's Meeting room Warragul (all welcome).

SVDP Warragul - 10.00am & 7pm, St Joseph's Meeting Room. **(2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month)**

SVDP Drouin - 10.00am St Ita's Meeting Room **(Thursday fortnightly).**

Bereavement Ministry Team Meeting - (2nd Tuesday of the month), every 2nd Month.

Young Adults Group - warragul.youngadult@cdsale.org.au

Social Committee Group - Every 2nd Friday of the month.

Contemplative Prayer- Contact Parish Office.

Catechist training - Sacrament preparation for Catholic children in non-Catholic schools. contact Parish Office.

Childrens Liturgy- 3rd & 4th Sunday of the month.

Home Visitation & Communion at Home- Please call Parish Office. PH: 5623 1642

Passionist Family Group - meet socially once a month. Contact Joe Brady 0417863839

St Joseph's Pastoral Care Group - 2nd Thursday of the month 10.30am Marian Room. Enq Maureen 0488172111

CONTRIBUTIONS

St. Joseph's (2 weeks)

Church (1st Collection) Cash	\$993.30
Planned Giving Envelopes	\$905.00
Presbytery (2nd Collection)	\$1,121.12
EFT for September	\$7,673.00

St. Ita's & St. Ignatius (2 weeks)

Church (1st Collection) Cash	\$569.70
Planned Giving Envelopes	\$550.00
Presbytery (2nd Collection)	\$894.23
EFT for September	\$5,977.00

Thank You for your generous contributions

First Collection (Planned Giving)

Church Accounts

St Joseph's: 083879 489045334

St Ita's: 083879 568166097

Second Collection (support our Priests)

St Joseph's & St Ita's Presbytery acc:

083879 941199437

St Joseph's Building Works Account:

083879 971765356

Please Pray for the following in Our Mass intentions



Saturday 6.15pm: Tony Nido (Conversion & Reparation)

Sunday 9.00am: Peter Arthur (Conversion & Reparation)

Monday 9.30am: Bill McMahon (DA)

Tuesday 5.30pm: Mary Mooney (DA)

Recent Deaths (RD): Lorenzo Modaffari & Lynette Blackwood.

Anniversaries (DA): Norm Blackwood, Ken Taylor, Graham Mitchell, James Hogan, Rose McMahon, Betty Gough and Terry Charles.

Please note: The Australian Bishops Conference has recommended that a minimal stipend for each individual Mass intention be set at \$10 per Mass



**October is the month
of The Holy Rosary**

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

MEN" ~ YOU ARE INVITED TO A RETREAT

Men's Retreat, 7th & 8th November 2026. Men Alive and the BBCMG will run a men's retreat over 2 days at Marist Sion Secondary College. It is an opportunity for men to explore what makes them feel fully alive. The experience of the weekend is powerful and dynamic, and has inspired and encouraged men with a new sense of purpose and mission.

During the retreat men will have an opportunity to hear from experienced lay men from Men Alive, break out small group discussions and opportunities for reconciliation and mass. Lunch, dinner and snacks will be provided over both days. Bookings can be made using the QR code. Please contact Ben at 0459123422 or Dale at 0404814045 for any questions.



REMEMBRANCE MASS

Next weekend at all three Church centres, a Remembrance book will be displayed and available for all parishioners to enter the names of deceased relatives and friends.

This year the Remembrance Mass will be held on **Thursday, 5th November at 7pm St. Ita's Drouin**. This is an invitation to friends, family, and parishioners who have suffered pain, illness, bereavement or any loss to be part of this special Mass of comfort and healing. The Mass will be followed by supper in the foyer of St. Ita's. All are welcome.

COLUMBAN CALENDARS

Columban calendars are available now at St. Joseph's Piety Stall. At \$11.00 each, they will make great Christmas presents.

MOVIE NIGHT

You're invited to A MOVIE- 'SENSE and SENSIBILITY'. Tuesday, 20th October at 6:30pm. Tickets \$20 (includes movie, supper & door prizes) available @ Parish Office. DIRECT DEBT BSB : 083879 971765356. Reference YOUR NAME & MOVIE. (Money for St Joseph's building works).

BAPTISM PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN:

Have you ever thought about Baptism for your school aged child?

An invitation is extended to parents who desire Catholic Baptism for children of school age to attend our Older Baptism Program. The program consists of two parent/child workshops, to be held on Tuesday 13th October, and Tuesday 20th October in the Marian Room in Warragul (enter car park from Bowen Street). Each session will begin with an afternoon tea at 3.45. Please note, that for children to be baptised into the Catholic faith, at least one parent needs to be a baptised Catholic.

For more information, please contact Ros at evangelisation@warraguldrouincatholic.au or phone 5623 164



SHINE A LIGHT: "Enlighten the light of our hearts"

This week's theme, "Enlighten the Light of Our Hearts," connects with the Parable of the Wedding Banquet. The gospel reminds us that everyone is called to the feast—to be welcomed with honour, dignity, and genuine kindness. When we allow God's light to enlighten our hearts, we are moved to recognise the value of every person and ensure that each home and gathering within our community is a place where all feel safe, cherished, and supported.



"Enlighten the eyes of our heart". Ephesians 1:18

One of the central themes of this parable is that God freely invites humanity to his eternal banquet. There are those who willingly accept the invitation, reject the invitation or are indifferent, consumed with the busyness and demands of their own lives. By accepting God's invitation, we are called to transform our lives, to "enlighten the eyes of our heart" by seeing as Christ sees. In a sense, Christ is the "wedding garment". St Paul refers to this as "putting on Christ" (Romans 13:14).

"Enlighten the eyes of our heart" can therefore become a prayer: Lord, help us to see what we have become accustomed to not seeing, to that which blinds us from seeing with the eyes and heart of Christ.

It is often very challenging to look beyond what is visible and to see people and situations as Christ sees them. In the context of domestic violence, this means having the courage to recognise what may be hidden behind closed doors: fear, control, intimidation, humiliation and abuse. As a community we are called to respond with courage and compassion that respects the inherent dignity of the person. In his Encyclical Letter "Magnifica Humanitas" Pope Leo reminds us that "Human dignity does not depend on a person's abilities, wealth or position in life, nor on the right or wrong choices made; instead, it is a gift that transcends each person, endowed by God as an expression of his unfailing love. #50" *Reflection by RoseMarie Black*

This Week's Readings:

28th Sunday in Ordinary time. Yr A
Is 25:6-10 Ps 22: Phil 4:12-14, 19-20
Mt 22:1-14



Next Week's Readings:

29th Sunday in Ordinary time. Yr A
Is 45:1,4-6 Ps 95:1, 3-5, 7-10 Thes 1:1-5
Mt 22:15-21

RESOURCES FOR MASS READINGS: There are many websites where the daily Mass readings can be found for free.

Some examples of these are <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/word-of-the-day.html> and

<https://melbournecatholic.org/connect/daily-mass-readings>. The readings for every Sunday of the year can be found at

<https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/lindfield-killara/sacraments/scripture-readings-for-sundays>.

Sunday Mass missals may be purchased through the piety stalls of the churches. There are also many phone apps, including free ones with the daily Mass readings eg Universalis, Ascension and iMissal.



CATHOLIC MISSION: The annual Catholic Mission Appeal Special Collection next weekend at all Masses.

For Yamikani*, getting to school means walking long distances in pain, often without enough food or strength to make the journey. For many families in vulnerable and remote areas like rural Malawi, education has become an impossible choice. But there is hope. Led by Fr Matthew Semba, a new primary school is being built, offering children a safe place to learn, grow, and look ahead with renewed possibility. This World Mission Month, you are invited to share in this mission, standing with families as they rebuild their lives and create a brighter future for their children.

*Name changed for privacy

Live Your Best Life in Love.

Strong marriages don't happen by chance. A Marriage Encounter weekend is a gift for every married couple and priest
Time-out to focus on your most precious relationships. You will come away feeling more deeply connected and with tools to keep it alive. No group sharing is required. The weekend is based on Catholic values and couples of all faiths are very welcome. Please check our website for details to book your special weekend:

Our last weekend for 2026: November 6-8th

St Paul's Retreat Centre, Wantirna South. Starts Friday evening at 7pm and finishes Sunday afternoon around 4:30pm.

Info/Bookings: Please phone Mercy & James 0409 183 676 or Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au Website: wwme.org.au

