

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 - 0436 426 092

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>

Email: 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 18TH October, 2026 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Weekday Mass Times (19 - 23 Oct)

Monday:	St Joseph's Church	9.30am
Tuesday:	St Ita's Church	5.30pm
Wednesday:	St Joseph's Church	9.30am
	Fairview Nursing Home	11.00am
Thursday:	St Ita's Church	9.30am
	Warragul Community aged care	3.30pm
Friday:	Marist Sion Mass	8.10am
	St Joseph's Church	9.30am

Weekend Mass Times (24 - 25 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 **Honey McGarry, Kenzie and Lane Rooney** and their families who begin their journey towards baptism.

Baptisms: Next weekend we welcome **5 families** into our parish family. The next preparation meeting is the 12th Nov, 7pm in the Marian Room. Attendance to this meeting is by prebooking only.

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.**

Politics anyone?

Often, we hear it said that we shouldn't mix politics and religion. Usually it is said by people who don't like our Christian values, or by Christians who don't want the trouble of standing up for core Christian values. Pope Francis recently urged us all to, "engage in politics, which is simply what it means to take part constructively in the life of a nation or society." (The Shepherd, Sergio Rubin and Francesca Ambrogetti, Argentina 2023).

Sometimes this week's gospel about giving to Caesar that which is his and to God, that which is God's (Mt 22:15-21), is used to justify a view that we somehow inhabit two parallel universes. But that is the opposite of Jesus' message. Not his intention at all! Christianity is very much an earthy perspective on the world. After all, that is why Jesus became one of us, to meet us on the street where we live; to teach us to apply God's values to the real world.

Living those values is how we influence the world around us. Out of those values has arisen the usually tolerant, pluralist society we are blessed to live in. But it is wasted on us if we choose not to make waves, to simply blend with and go along with everything secular society promotes. That very tolerant pluralism enables us to confidently articulate our values; to evangelise; to proclaim to the secular world our Creator's overflowing love for all humanity. It is instructive in our reading from Isaiah (Is 45:1,4-6) that Cyrus, the non-believing Persian, is God's powerful instrument.

Should politics stay out of religion and religion out of politics? Not at all! Jesus message today is for the "state to allow God to be God, but especially" he "challenge(s) the Church to preach and live the Gospel of Jesus Christ, rather than the Gospel of political convenience." [Francis Maloney, This is the Gospel of the Lord, p187] *Deacon Mark Kelly*

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SIGNING UP FOR A FUN DAY? - "A FLOWER WORKSHOP"

Flower Bouquet Session Workshop: Join us for a delightful and creative afternoon where you'll learn how to craft your own beautiful jar bouquet using fresh, seasonal flowers. You'll receive expert guidance to design and assemble your very own bouquet in a jar, then take it home.

Date & Time: **Saturday 24 October 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm** Location: **Marian Room, St Josephs Church**

Cost: \$30 per person (all proceeds support our church) **Registration is essential by notifying the Parish Office by phone or email : warragul@cdsale.org.au or 5623 1642**

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. **Team Trivia and Games this week**

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 **(2nd & 4th Thursday of the month).**

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 (last week)

Church (1st Collection) Cash	\$344.55
Planned Giving Envelopes	\$904.00
Presbytery (2nd Collection)	\$504.75
EFT for September	\$7,673.00

St. Ita's & St. Ignatius (last week)

Church (1st Collection) Cash	\$446.20
Planned Giving Envelopes	\$314.00
Presbytery (2nd Collection)	\$670.05
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: Michelle Greco (Conversion & Reparation)

Monday 9.30am: Mrs Elizabeth Stadegaard (DA)

Wednesday 9.30am: Jan Gellie (RD)



Recent Deaths (RD): Mark Walkinshaw, Jan Gellie and Bruno Andrihgetto

Anniversaries (DA): Mary Allen, Lanwin Dsouza, Elizabeth Stadegaard, William Cavanagh, Michael Davine, Maureen Morrison, Mary Kilmartin, Lucinda Miller, Frank Summers, Joy Robinson, and John Cheer.

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

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 DEBIT BSB : 083879 971765356. Reference YOUR NAME & MOVIE. (Money for St Joseph's building works).

REMEMBRANCE MASS

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.

A MASS WITH FR ANTONY

Fr Antony Santhiyagu is coming to Warragul/Drouin with some elderly parishioners from our neighbouring parishes and will say a **Mass in Drouin at St Ita's church on Thursday 29th October at 11am.** All are welcome.

"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.



OUTDOOR ROSARY

In honour of Our Lady of Fatima, a Rosary will be held at 10am on Saturday 24/10/26 at St Joseph's Church Warragul grounds in front of Our Lady's Statue - All Welcome to attend. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction afterwards in the Church at 11:00am.

CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS GROUP (18-35 YR OLDS):

Our next meeting will be on Friday the 30th of October at 6pm at St. Joseph's Church Warragul in the Marian room. We will be watching a faith video, doing a paint by number and/or playing boardgames with cheese platters to graze on. A light pizza dinner will also be provided. Please bring your favourite cheese platter items.

Contact: warragul.youngadult@cdsale.org.au

SHINE A LIGHT: "Shine on the World Like Bright Stars"

There was a blind man who walked through the streets every night carrying a lamp in his hand. One evening, someone saw him and wondered, "Why does a blind man carry a lamp? Even if he cannot see its light." As the blind man was walking, another person, coming from the opposite direction, accidentally bumped into him. Angrily, the man said, "Why are you carrying a lamp? You are blind. The light is useless to you!" The blind man gently replied, "My friend, I know that I cannot see the light. But I carry this lamp so that others can see me and I will not become an obstacle to them."

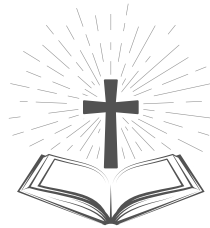
Dear friends, sometimes we carry the light not because we need it, but because someone else needs it. There are people around us who are walking through darkness, the darkness caused by loneliness, fear, abuse, violence, rejection, addiction, grief or hopelessness. That is what it means to "Shine on the World Like Bright Stars." We may not be able to remove all the darkness in the world. We may not be able to solve every problem. But Jesus tells us: "Let your light shine before others."

When we speak up against domestic violence, we become the bright stars. When we listen to someone who is suffering, we become the bright stars. When we stand beside a person who is frightened and say, "You are not alone," we become the bright stars. When we choose kindness instead of anger, forgiveness instead of revenge, respect instead of control, and love instead of violence, we will shine on the world like bright stars. And sometimes we may wonder, "Is my little light really making a difference?" Remember the blind man. He could not see his own light—but someone else needed it. Perhaps we cannot see the difference our kindness is making. Perhaps we cannot see the person we are encouraging. Perhaps we will never know whose life was changed because we chose to speak, listen, forgive, protect or love. But keep carrying the lamp. Keep shining. Because somewhere, someone is walking through darkness—and our light may be the very light they need to find their way home.

So today, let us make this our prayer and our mission: Shine on the world like bright stars. Shine in our homes. Shine in our families. Shine in our relationships. Shine wherever there is fear, pain, darkness and violence. May the light of Christ shine through our lives, so that no one around us needs to walk alone in the darkness. "Shine on the World Like Bright Stars." Not because our light is perfect, but because even the smallest light can defeat the darkness. Let our homes be places where no one is afraid. Let our relationships be places where no one is controlled or humiliated. Let our words heal rather than wound. And let the light of Christ shine through us. We may not realise how much light we carry. We may not see the difference we are making. But keep carrying the lamp. Keep shining. Because someone walking in darkness may be looking for our light. So, Shine on the World Like Bright Stars". *REFLECTION- By Fr Aneesh George IVDei*

This 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



Next Week's Readings:

30th Sunday in Ordinary time. Yr A
Ex 22: 20-26 Ps 17: 2-4, 47, 51.R.v2 Thes 1: 5-10
Mt 22: 34-40

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 will occur at all Masses this weekend. This week, you are invited to partner with Catholic Mission and the Church in Malawi as we support families rebuilding after devastating floods and help children access education close to home. Through projects like St Peter's Nyamikuta Primary School, the Church is creating a place where children can learn, be nourished, and grow with dignity, regardless of their background or beliefs. As we celebrate 100 years of World Mission Day, we are reminded by Pope Leo XIV that we are 'One in Christ, United in Mission'. Join with us in celebration and action by supporting this work with a compassionate gift. Use the provided appeal envelope, scan the QRcode, or visit catholicmission.org.au/united to make a difference today. *Name changed for privacy





hockingstuart
Warragul

Geoff Quirk
For all your Real Estate needs call
0418 515 949

66 Queen Street, Warragul | 03 5623 6062 | hockingstuart.com.au/warragul

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

Please note these dates:
Monday 19th Oct
and Tuesday 20th Oct.

