

ST. MARY'S YARRAM & ST. JOSEPH'S FOSTER

(Including St. Gerard Woodside, St. Agnes Toora and Immaculate Conception Fish Creek)

St. Joseph's Mission Statement: We strive to:
Be an active, open, Christ centred community, building bridges towards the kingdom.

St Mary's Vision Statement:

Our parish is a faith community that aims to make Jesus known and loved by living the Gospel message of acceptance, welcome and service to all members of the community.



St Mary's Mission Statement: We strive to:

Continue to be an active, prayerful, and sacramental faith community.

Grow in faithfulness to our Catholic tradition by full participation in Eucharistic celebrations sacraments and prayer. Respect and value all creation. Use our time, talents, and treasures to provide quality human, financial and facility resources to sustain and serve our parish's faith community and the wider community.

Statement of Commitment to the safety of children and vulnerable adults:

Central to the mission of St Mary's and St. Joseph's Parishes is an unequivocal commitment to fostering the dignity, self-esteem and integrity of children, young people and vulnerable adults and providing them with a safe, supportive and enriching environment to develop spiritually, physically, intellectually, emotionally and socially.

Parish Information

Parish Priest:

Fr. Darren Howie

Priests' Residence:

5 Buckley Street, Yarram.

Parish Office: 5182 5028

PO Box 59 Yarram, 3971

Email: yarram@cdsale.org.au

St Mary's **Facebook Link:** -

<https://fb.me/StMarysYarram>

St Joseph's **Facebook Link:** -

<https://fb.me/StJosephsFoster>

Parish Secretary

Bookkeeper

Janette Sampson

Bulletin Notices: By Thursday

yarram@cdsale.org.au

Office Hours:

To Be Advised

Safeguarding Officers

Yarram-

Foster- Richard Denbrok

Maintenance Personnel

Yarram - Eugen Benc:

51891203

Foster -

Sick Calls or Communion to the Sick:

5182 5028 or
Leave a message, with your name and contact number as well as details of the person who is ill. (for clarity please repeat message).

Baptisms:

At least 4 weeks notice please.

Weddings:

At least 6 months notice please.

St. Mary's Primary School:

Principal:

Mrs Maria Moore 5182 5659



30TH AUGUST 2026

TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A



SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY by Dianne Bergant CSA

Jesus predicts his fate and then discusses the need for the disciples to bear their own suffering. Too often the opposition of Jewish leaders has led Christians to hold an attitude of anti-Judaism. Instead we should recognise that Jesus was rejected for religious as well as for political reasons. The unrest that he caused was a political threat to Rome, and his bold claims greatly troubled the religious leaders. Peter objects to Jesus' words and Jesus accuses him of acting as an obstacle (skándalon) to the unfolding of God's will. Turning to the other disciples, Jesus insists that those who selfishly save themselves from the cross really lose in the arena of eschatological judgment, while those who unselfishly offer themselves are saved from this judgment.

MASS TIMES August 31st - 6th September

Yarram

Tuesday 11:00 am

Thursday 11:00 am

Friday - 10:00 am

SUNDAY — 11:00 am September 6th

Foster

Wednesday 11.00 am

SUNDAY- 9:00am September 6th

Blessing of Homes.

If any parishioner would like their home blessed

Fr Darren can be contacted via the presbytery number or by email:

frdhowie@outlook.com



Celebrate the Eighth Centenary of St Francis of Assisi with Bishop Greg Bennet on the Diocese of Sale Pilgrimage, October 2-3. Journey across Bairnsdale, Benambra, and Omeo for Transitus, Morning Prayer, a solemn Jubilee Mass, pet blessings, fellowship lunch, and concluding prayers. All parishioners are welcome. Visit cdsale.org.au/year-of-saint-francis-of-assisi

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL - YARRAM

Fr. Darren Howie, Anne-Marie Robb (Chairperson) Maria Moore (Principal, Deputy Chairperson) Sue Benc, Jennifer Heeraman-Nieuwenhuizen, Prisca Gabiana

PRAYER LIST FOR THE SICK YARRAM

Sick Parishioners: John O'Callaghan, Loretta Clark, Kimberley McKenzie and all those we keep in our hearts.

Anniversaries: Norma Carstensen, Peter Harkin, Rocco Maruzza, Dorothy Clark, Mary Bowden, Bern Papworth, Robert O'Callaghan, Errald Haywood, Ian Winslow, Jack O'Neil, Evelyn Nash, Eva Maria Dippolito, Sadie Garland, Ada O'Neil & Wilhemena Woodgate. **May they rest in peace.**

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL - FOSTER

Fr. Darren Howie, Sandra Stefani (Deputy Chairperson), Leanne Denbrok, John Denbrok (Youth Representative), Wilemina Low, Mandy Emanuel, Duilio Stefani, Terry Harrington

PRAYER LIST FOR THE SICK FOSTER

Sick Parishioners: Agnes Berden, Roz Bryan, Ken Vagg, Maria Pangrazzi, Frank Stefani, Kath Hurst, and all those we keep in our hearts.

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries: Dorrie Vuillermine, Jack Doran, Claire Tormey & Frank Berden. **May they rest in peace**

Prayer to St Joseph

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.

Obtain for us grace, mercy,
and courage,
and defend us from every evil.
Amen.



READINGS FOR 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First reading—Ezekiel 33:7-9

Responsorial Psalm—Ps 94:1-2.6-9. R. v.8

Second Reading—Romans 13:8-10

Gospel Acclamation— 2 Corinthians 5:19

Gospel—Matthew 18:15-20

Celebrate St Mary's Parish Feast Day The Nativity of Mary with Us

Our parish community is warmly invited to join the students and staff of **St Mary's Primary School** as we celebrate the **Nativity of Mary**.

Following the **10.00 am Mass**, please come to the school to share in a simple activity with our students, followed by a delicious morning tea. This is a wonderful opportunity for our school and parish to come together in faith, friendship and celebration.

Date: Tuesday 08/09/2026

Time: Following the 10.00 am Mass

Venue: St Mary's Primary School

We look forward to sharing this special celebration with you!

Date Claimer

Sunday November 15th 2026

**On this day we will be celebrating the
175th Anniversary of the first Mass celebrated in
Gippsland at Tarraville in 1851.**

**Could anyone who has historical information about
this event please contact Sue Benc on
M. 0428 891 203 OR email: suebenc57@gmail.com**



*Thank you to those making donations
God bless your generosity*

16/08/26 Planned Giving - \$1085.10 Presbytery Collection - \$236.25

Foster Church Account

NAB—BSB 083-879

Account No—527413354

Foster Presbytery Account

NAB—BSB 083-879

Account No—296638619

*Thank you to those making donations
God bless your generosity*



23/08/26 Planned Giving \$530.50 Presbytery Collection \$266.05

Yarram Church Account

NAB—BSB 083-879

Account No—527668496

Yarram Presbytery Account

NAB—BSB 083-879

Account No—157911099



Information about the Parish of Yarram and Foster
can be obtained from the Catholic Diocese of Sale website at www.cdsale.org.au

ARE YOU NEW TO OUR PARISH: Would you like information about the Parish and our programs or know someone else who does? Please see our Priest today or fill in a Welcome Card which is available at the Church entrances.

COMMUNION TO THE SICK: Any parishioners who cannot attend Mass due to illness or frailty and would like to receive Communion and a visit from Fr Darren are asked to contact the Parish office on 5182 5028 and leave a detailed message of person's name and contact details. (For clarity please repeat message.)

PRAYING FOR THE SICK: If you have a loved one who would like to be included in the prayers for the sick, please let the office know for inclusion in the bulletin. Please also advise the office if you want a name removed.

YARRAM PARISH DIARY

MORNING TEA AFTER MASS: 20th September – *Finance Committee*

EXPOSITION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT: Every Thursday before 11.00am Mass

CHURCH WORKING BEE:

4th Sunday of every month (at 1.30pm.)

FOSTER PARISH DIARY

FOSTER: Every Monday, 8.30am Rosary followed by Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion @ 9.00AM

FOSTER: Every Wednesday 10.30AM Rosary

PRAYER GROUP, FISH CREEK: Every Wednesday, 10.30am, in Church. Prayers for the sick and dying, followed by Mass or Liturgy at 11.00am.

Planned Giving Statements for 2025 –2026 have been mailed this week. Please email the office, Yarram@cdsale.org.au, if you need to make changes or have any questions.

We thank you for your ongoing support to our planned giving campaign across both Yarram and Foster Parishes.

Social Justice Statement: In the lead-up to Social Justice Sunday, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has released its latest Social Justice Statement, Living the Gospel in Times of Social Division. Full Statement :<https://tinyurl.com/yc3m9d2v>

PRAYER FOR OUR PARISH

Heavenly Father,
we place our trust in your loving hands!
We put our Parish under the
guidance of the Holy Spirit.
Bless each one of us with the grace to be
listening and accepting people.
May we work together in joyful hope,
and faithfully give witness
to your presence with us.
St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop Pray for us.
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Pray for us.
Amen

**FATHER'S DAY APPEAL FOR THE PRIESTS' WELFARE
FOUNDATION OF THE DIOCESE OF SALE**

This fund supports the priests and deacons of our Diocese in times of sickness or retirement. At present the Foundation is supporting nine priests and three deacons and their wives in retirement and is responsible for the other clergy (including priests from overseas) and deacons' wives in time of sickness. The budgeted expenditure of the Foundation for the next year will be over \$200,000. This includes wages for Kelly, our clergy care nurse (two days per week).

Online donations can now be made at <https://www.cdsale.org.au/priestswelfarefoundation> and the foundation is most appreciative of your support and any donation you can afford. All donations of \$2.00 and over are tax deductible and a receipt for tax deduction purposes will be automatically sent, if an email address is provided. Donations may also be made through your local Parish.

**POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER 2026:
FOR MUTUAL COEXISTENCE.**

“that inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.”

PARISH ROSTER—YARRAM

30th August

Commentator M Smith
Reader E Benc
Special Minister S Telling
Counting J Papworth, P McAninly

6th September

Commentator Susie Telling
Reader Leonore Giliberto
Special Minister Kathy Foat
Counting Michael & Susie Telling

PARISH ROSTER—FOSTER

30th August

Commentator Richard
Reader Maree
Special Minister Fieke

6th September

Commentator Mandy
Reader Des
Special Minister Fieke

FISH CREEK

29th August 6.00 pm MASS
Reader Mary Scott

5th September 6.00pm MASS
Reader Sandra

TOORA

30th August 4.30pm MASS
(on rotation) J Moysey & W Lowe

5th September 4:30 pm MASS
(on rotation) J Moysey & W Lowe

First Reading

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah
 You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced;
 you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.
 I am a daily laughing-stock,
 everybody's butt.
 Each time I speak the word, I have to howl
 and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!'
 The word of the Lord has meant for me
 insult, derision, all day long.
 I used to say, I will not think about him,
 I will not speak in his name any more.
 Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart,
 imprisoned in my bones.
 The effort to restrain it wearied me,
 I could not bear it.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;
 for you my soul is thirsting.
 My body pines for you
 like a dry, weary land without water. (R.)
2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
 to see your strength and your glory.
 For your love is better than life,
 my lips will speak your praise. (R.)
3. So I will bless you all my life,
 in your name I will lift up my hands.
 My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
 my mouth shall praise you with joy. (R.)
4. For you have been my help;
 in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
 My soul clings to you;
 your right hand holds me fast. (R.)

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans
 Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
 May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
 enlighten the eyes of our heart,
 that we might see how great is the hope
 to which we are called.
 Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to **Jerusalem** and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.' Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

