



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-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A – 27th 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](https://www.facebook.com/dioceseofsale)

The Commemorative Mass for the Celebration of St Mary's Maffra Presbytery 110th year Anniversary will be held on Thursday the 1st October 2026 with Bishop Greg celebrating Mass at 3pm. At the end of Mass there will be afternoon tea served in the Presbytery with telling of stories by our elderly parishioners. There will also be a display of some items from our earliest priests and photos. Please bring a plate to share. All welcome.

DIOCESAN WOMEN'S EVENT

You are cordially invited to join the women of the diocese for a dinner and talk by Dr Kim Daniels celebrating the strength, resilience and expanding horizons of women in the life and mission of the Catholic Church

**NAVIGATING THE UNSEEN
WOMEN LEADING WITH
RESILIENCE**

**7:00 pm Oct 14th
St. Patrick's Parish Hall,
Pakenham**

Kim Daniels directs the Initiative on Catholic Social Thought and Public Life at Georgetown University, where she is an adjunct theology professor & Mission Advisory Board member. She served on the Vatican Dicastery for Communication (2016-2020) and as a Synod on Synodality expert leading digital mission study. An advisor to Catholic leaders—including the USCCB—on religious liberty, immigration, and human dignity, Kim holds degrees from Princeton University and the University of Chicago Law School.

DR. KIM DANIELS

To register, scan QR code or visit
trybooking.com/DOZKU

COST: \$30/ person
Tickets Essential
Register by October 4th

Dinner and soft drinks provided

Diocesan Women's Event: Navigating the Unseen – Women Leading with Resilience

Women from across the diocese are invited to gather for an evening dinner and talk celebrating the strength, resilience, and expanding horizons of women in the mission of the Catholic Church.

Guest speaker Dr. Kim Daniels—Director of the Initiative on Catholic Social Thought and Public Life at Georgetown University and member of the Vatican Dicastery for Communication—will share insights on leadership, faith, and renewal.

Date: Wednesday, October 14th

Time: 7:00 PM

Venue: St. Patrick's Parish Hall, Pakenham

Cost: \$30 per person (includes dinner & soft drinks)

RSVP: Bookings are essential by October 4th. Secure your tickets online at trybooking.com/DOZKU or scan the QR code on the promotional flyers in the church foyer.

Morning tea after Mass on Sunday the 4th of October to celebrate 800th anniversary of St Francis Assisi completing his earthly mission. Volunteers to help set up and pack up please let Steve McNulty know after mass this week. Please bring a plate to share, if you can - homemade biscuits cut in the shape of animals are especially welcome. In view of this celebration Father will also be blessing your pets after this Mass marking the celebration of St Francis of Assisi.

**Season of Creation
Schools Art Competition**

Theme: Living Water

Entries close 18 September 2026

www.caritas.org.au/art-comp

Living Water
Season of Creation 2026

Catholic Earthcare
CARITAS AUSTRALIA

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 (+\$122.10) = \$1912.30

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

March for the Babies 2026 – Melbourne

Join the annual peaceful walk through Melbourne to mark the 18th anniversary and advocate for the unborn.

Date: Saturday, 10 October 2026

Time: Meet at 1:00 PM

Location: Treasury Gardens (Corner of Spring St & Wellington Parade, Melbourne)

Dress Code: Wear pink and/or blue

Signs will be provided on the day. To ensure a peaceful, family-friendly environment with police presence, please leave loudspeakers, horns, and noisemakers at home.

Attendance is free, but pre-registration is required for individuals, families, and groups. Reserve tickets at trybooking.com/events/landing/1626138 or find more details at marchforthebabies.com.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DEAD:- Anniversaries:

Gertrude Hawes, Jack Egan, Bryan Rodaughan, Krystyna Zmijewski, John Phelan, Nicholas Gray (baby), Michael Coleman, Robert (Dick) Moulton, Peter Wilson, John Lowery, Pat O'Meara, Bill Dwyer, Bob Russell, Benjamin (Ben) Darby, Bill Allman, Belinda Heywood, Cecily Allman, Michael Pismucans, Frank Mount, William McKeown, Monica McKenna, Gladys Rodaughan, Jean Ayton, Brendan Laws, Michael Carter, John Karys, Margaret Reynolds.
Frs. John Dunlea OMI, David Verlin

We pray for ALL who suffer (at present) in body, mind or spirit: A.J. Smith, John Slattery, Fr Michael Willemsen, 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 2 WEEKS

PRESBYTERY:	\$ 1519
ST. MARY'S PG:	\$ 1420
ST. MICHAEL'S PG:	\$ 390

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES/ ADORATION/RECONCILIATION/ ROSARY

Monday 28th Sept: **No Mass.** Maffra. No Adoration. (St. Wenceslaus)
Tuesday 29th Sept: Heyfield **9.30am Mass.** / **Maffra Rosary 2pm.** (Sts. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, Archangels)
Wed.: 30th Sept: Maffra, **9.30am Mass Rosary/ Adoration after Mass.** (St. Jerome)
Thursday 1st Oct: Maffra-Rosary 8.20am **3pm Mass.** (St Thérèse of Lisieux) **(No 9.30am Mass)**
Friday 2nd Oct: Maffra - Rosary 8.20am. **11am Stretton Park Mass.** (The Guardian Angels)
Sat. 3rd Oct: Maffra Rosary 8.20am. **No Mass 9.30am**

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 OCTOBER 2026

READER:	SUN: 4 TH	SYLVIA NEAVES
COMMENTATOR:	SUN: 4 TH	MARGARET SLATTERY
EXTRA ORDINARY MINISTER:	SUN: 4 TH	TRISH VARDY
COLLECTORS:	SUN: 4 TH	ROY SHELTON & SOMEONE
COMPUTER:	SUN: 4 TH	MARY HARTWIG
FLOWERS:	SUN: 4 TH	BARBARA GORDYN & MARIAN SEARLE
SACRISTY:	SUN: 4 TH	DEAN BROWN
HOLY VESSELS:	MONTH OF OCTOBER	DONNA SEBASTIAN

HEYFIELD PARISH LITURGICAL ROSTER OCTOBER VIGIL

READER:	SAT: 3 RD	LEANDA HELMKE NO MASS
FLOWERS:	SAT: 3 RD	PITTARI FAMILY

ST BRIGID'S COWWARR ROSTER OCTOBER

READER:	SUN: 4 TH	N/A
CLEANER:	SUN: 4 TH	MEGAN STEWART

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.

The Ritual and The Reason: Exploring The Parts of The Mass

Every ritual in the Mass has a purpose. Join us to explore what we do and why we do it—from the Sign of the Cross to the Final Blessing—so we can listen, respond, and be transformed by God's presence.

Choose a Session:

Narre Warren (Our Lady Help Of Christians): Saturday, 10th Oct 2026 | 10:00am – 3:00pm

Traralgon (St Michael's): Saturday, 17th Oct 2026 | 10:00am – 3:00pm

Register Today:

Online: cdsale.org.au/events

Phone: 61 3 5614 5163

Email: newsonline@sale.catholic.org.au

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 18:25-28

The sinner who decides to turn against sinfulness deserves to live.

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

(R.) Remember your mercies, O Lord.

1. Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your paths. Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour. **(R.)**

2. Remember your mercy, Lord, and the love you have shown from of old. Do not remember the sins of my youth. In your love remember me, because of your goodness, O Lord. **(R.)**

3. The Lord is good and upright. He shows the path to those who stray, he guides the humble in the right path; he teaches his way to the poor. **(R.)**

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:1-11

In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus: His state was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:28-32

He went out moved by regret. The tax collectors and prostitutes will precede you into the kingdom of God.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the

same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir," but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low.

NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS: SUNDAY MASS

First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7

Second Reading: Philippians 4:6-9

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43

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.

Beyond the Wedding Threshold: A Survey for Catholics in the First Decade of Marriage

The Australian Catholic Bishops are funding a study into the experience of married Catholics.

The results will help inform the development of pastoral responses and resources.

If you married in the last 10 years and at least one spouse is Catholic, they'd love to hear from you.

Can you provide valuable insights to their work by completing this short survey about your marriage?

<https://thepmrc.org/survey>

All your answers are anonymous and confidential, and you can contact the researchers directly if you have any questions.