



St. Ignatius¹, Neerim South



St. Joseph's, Warragul



St Ita's, Drouin

Warragul and Drouin Catholic Parishes'

PARISH WEBSITE : <https://warraguldrouincatholic.au/>

Parish Priest

Father Brendan Hogan
Brendan.Hogan@cdsale.org.au

Presbytery:

3 Witton St
Warragul.
PO Box 275
Warragul 3820
ph: 5623-1642

Deacon

Deacon Mark Kelly 0427 748 646
Mark.Kelly@cdsale.org.au

Churches:

St. Joseph's: 17 Queen St
Warragul.

St Ita's: 50 Victoria St,
Drouin.

St. Ignatius: 79 Main Neerim Road,
Neerim South.

Parish Office:

19 Connor St, PO Box 275
Warragul. Warragul 3820
Warragul@cdsale.org.au PH: 5623-1642

Office open hours

Tues, Wed & Fri 9am-3pm
Thursday 9am-9.30am and 12.30-3pm

Parish Staff:

Parish Secretary/Assistant

Melissa Vaca Margie Schellekens

Pastoral, Catechist & R.C.I.A. Coordinator

Joan Robertson Ph: 5623-1642
Warragul.rcia@cdsale.org.au

Sacrament Coordinator

Liz Schellekens Ph: 5623-1642
Warragul.sacraments@cdsale.org.au

Safeguarding Officer

Jackie Charles Ph: 5623-1642
Warragul.Sgo@cdsale.org.au

Youth Coordinator

Contact Deacon Mark for further info.

Music Co-ordinator

Richard Wans Ph: 0419 155 004

Schools:

Marist-Sion College 5623-5944
Principal: Ms. Lisa Harkin

St. Joseph's Primary School 5623-2943
Principal: Mrs. Ros Joyner

St. Ita's Primary School 5623-7222
Principal: Mr. Andrew Osler

St. Angela's Primary School 5622-9800
Principal: Mr Stephen Pitt

Parish Pastoral Council

Members:

Gary Blackwood- Chairperson
Fiona Macrae-Secretary
Richard Wans-Deputy Chairperson
Marc Schellekens, Gerard Ward,
Chris Harkin, Alicia Phillips,
Belinda Pickthall, John Rowe &
Dee Jackson

EX OFFICE : PARISH PRIEST, DEACON MARK,
JOAN ROBERTSON AND PRINCIPALS ON ROTATION
FROM ST JOSEPH'S, ST ITA'S, ST ANGELA OF THE
CROSS AND MARIST SION.

Sept-Month of the Seven Sorrows of Our Lady

Sunday 14th September, 2025 Yr C

"The Exaltation Of The Cross"

Weekday Mass Times (15-19 Sept)

Monday: St Joseph's Church 9.30am

Wednesday: St Joseph's Church 9.30am

Thursday : St Ita's church 9.30am

Friday: No Mass
Our lady of La Salette

Weekend Mass Times (20-21 Sept)

Saturday: Neerim South 5.30pm

Saturday Warragul 7.00pm

Sunday: Warragul 9.00am
Drouin 10.30am



Crosses, Crosses!

Crosses, crosses everywhere – on churches/ hospitals/ on many flags (including our own), worn as jewellery by believers and plenty of non- believers as well. It is the overarching symbol of our faith; omnipresent - just there! Sadly, most people, even Christians, rarely pause to reflect on our symbol.

That is why this feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is so important, reminding us to pause and reflect on the enormity behind the symbol. The feast occurs on September 14th every year, but in 2025 the feast falls on a Sunday. It is of such importance that it trumps the regular ordinary time readings, and all the other mainstream Christian churches celebrate it too. Since 335 AD, this ancient feast has reached to the core of our Christianity, as a special day of venerating the Cross.

The reading from Numbers (Num 21:4-9) references Moses saving from death those bitten by a serpent. Jesus, well versed in his scriptures, uses this simile (John 3:13-17) to illustrate God's love for the world for which his Son is lifted up (on the Cross) to save believers. We are reassured by John 3:17 that God's plan is to save all the world.

At times we have sanitised the Cross, as too brutal to contemplate, but in the Catholic Church we prefer crucifixes (that is crosses with a representation of the body attached). Because, without the stark brutality, we may fail to engage with the reality of the Son's sacrifice for all of us.

Jesus was fully human and yet fully divine. Preaching and teaching the Good

News of God's absolute, infinite love for us all, he made choices which inexorably led to his crucifixion and death. Fully aware of this, he was humiliated, suffered, and died for each of us on that cross and, gloriously, he rose from death on the third day. The crucifix represents the crucifixion of Jesus Christ and the subsequent triumph and salvation He offers to all. Let us reflect on the Creator who loves us so much. *Deacon Mark Kelly*



SUNDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER- WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS & REFUGEES

The theme for this year "Migrants, Missionaries of Hope", which is aligned with the Jubilee of Migrants. A family Mass will be celebrated on Sunday Morning **28th September** at St Joseph's **Primary School Hall at 11am**. There will only be ONE Mass held on Sunday, the vigil Masses will still remain.

MUMS & BUBS PLAY & PRAY

First Thursday, every month 9.30am

Till 11.30am. Join us in the Marian room at St Joseph's Church if interested. Jess

CATHOLIC PARISHES OF WARRAGUL AND DROUIN OUR VISION - FORMING MISSIONARY COMMUNITIES

We are engaged together in the **mission** of Jesus today; as we seek to make God known and to love God and neighbour. Anything that helps people live in their full dignity and freedom, that serves the kingdom of God, is mission. We do this in **community** because we are more than individual believers and parishioners. We are one community made up of smaller communities: two parishes, three churches, our parish schools, ministry groups and families. We constantly need **formation** in our following of Jesus and we seek opportunities to grow in community for mission.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, who have walked upon and cared for it for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

Please be aware the below times for reconciliation may not occur in the next few weeks due to changes that occur with our priests on holidays and being unavailable. Thank you for your understanding.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED EUCHARIST

St Ita's -Tue 16 Sept: 9.30am –10.30am

St Joseph's -Sat 20 Sept 10am-
followed by rosary & Benediction

RECONCILIATION / CONFESSION

St Ita's - Sat 20 Sept-9.45 to 10.15am

St Joseph's- Sat 20 Sept 10.30-11am

St Joseph's-Wed 17 Sept 9.15- 9.30am

MEET'N GREET

Please be advised, that due to unforeseen circumstances, Meet'n Greet will NOT be operating for a short time. We will resume on 10th September and look forward to seeing you for our cuppa and chat. Fran

NEWCOMERS AFTERNOON TEA ADVANCED NOTICE

The Parishes hospitality group are planning an afternoon tea for new comers Sunday 26th October 2pm Marian Room. If you know of someone invite them and bring them along. More details will come in the next few weeks. Inquiries: Maureen Kittelty: 0488 172 111, Jenny Winterton: 0458 488 849, Joan Robertson at the Parish Office: 56231642

JOIN US FOR A CUPPA

There will be a cup of tea served after the 10.30 Mass at St Ita's TODAY 14th September. This will be hosted by Jenny Winterton. Parishioners are asked to bring a plate of morning tea.

TRIVIA NIGHT

We are planning to run a Trivia Night at St. Ita's to raise funds for the church air conditioner. If you are interested in helping to organise this event, there will be a meeting at St. Ita's Meeting Room on Tuesday 16th September at 7.30 pm. All are welcome. For further information please contact Barbara Durand.

MARIST-SION COLLEGE – COMMUNITY OPEN DAY

Sunday 26 October 2025 | 12:00pm – 4:00pm. Marist-Sion College warmly invites you to our Community Open Day as we celebrate 50 years of serving the Warragul community. Enjoy College tours, learning showcases, live

performances, sport, food and family fun. All are welcome — past and present families, staff and the wider community.

Register at www.mscw.vic.edu.au/event/community-open-day

Parishioner Looking for Short Term Accommodation.

We have a parishioner who is looking to rent short term accommodation available immediately and on a month-by-month basis. She is requiring either a house or unit in Warragul specifically.

If anyone can help, please call Joan at the parish office on 5623 1642.

Or email Warragul.rcia@cdsale.org.au

Catholic Young Adults Group

Catholic young adults (18-35 year olds) are invited to join us in Warragul for an afternoon of faith and friendship. We'll be having afternoon tea, playing boardgames, and praying together. Join us at 3:00 PM on Saturday, 20th September at St. Joseph's Church, Warragul. Bring along something to share for afternoon tea, your rosary beads and your favourite boardgame if you have one. We love meeting new people at our events and hope to see some new faces there!

ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

We have been engaging in inter religious dialogue at St Josephs. The Sikh Volunteers of Australia visited our school and shared their beliefs and practices of Sikhism and how they live these day to day. This group does an amazing job offering free food to the needy as well as travelling to communities who are suffering from the results of natural disasters and offering food to them. Our visitors extended their generosity to our students by offering a delicious pasta lunch. Our grade 6 students recently visited the Warragul Mosque where a member of their community welcomed us and shared the key beliefs and practices of the Islamic faith and how they celebrate. The students then had a tour of the Mosque before walking to St Joseph's Church where they had another tour and close up look.

Power outage

Saturday September 13th from **8am to 2pm at St Ita's church**. This should not affect reconciliations if occurring at that time.



SEPTEMBER JUBILEE CALENDER Month of Justice, Consolation and Catechists

A Day for Catechists and Sacrament Coordinators

Teaching as an Opportunity for Encounter

Catechists and Sacrament Coordinators are invited to a special day of formation focused on helping young people grow in their faith through curiosity, creativity, and connection. Two sessions available:

Tuesday 16 September

10:00 am – 2:30 pm

St Mary's Chapter House, 47 Foster St, Sale

Saturday 20 September

10:00 am – 2:30 pm

St Patrick's Parish Centre, 142 Princes Hwy, Pakenham

For more information and registration, visit: cdsale.org.au/events

DISCOVER PALMS –VOLUNTEERING

A number of overseas communities in Asia and the Pacific are seeking Australian Catholics for Global Mission. For those of the faithful who hear the call we are offering an opportunity to live and use your professional expertise to mentor others in an overseas community. Palms is holding a webinar on **Thursday 30 October 7pm – 8.30pm AEDT** for all those interested to know more of the mission life. Venue: Online- register at palms.org.au/events Date: Thursday 30 October 2025 Time: 7 pm – 8.30 pm AEDT (NSW/VIC/ACT/TAS) 02 9560 5333 Palms@palms.org.au



Prayers for the sick:

* Pamela Parkinson,
* Rachel Ruddell- prayer support for upcoming surgery, and spiritual needs.

* Continued prayers for Fr Michael Willemsen who is recovering from post medical/surgical episode.

Our Upcoming Parish Events

14th Sept	Cuppa after Mass at 10.30am Mass St Ita's Church
20th Sept	Catholic Young Adults Group, 3-6pm Sat, St Joseph's Marian Room
21st Sept	Children's Liturgy – St Ita's Children Liturgy at 10.30am Mass for Primary age All welcome to this session.
26th Oct	Marist Sion College Open Day 12 to 4pm

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY • 14 SEP 2025
WE ARE A SAFE, HOPE-FILLED AND WELCOMING CHURCH



Today we are gathered on **Safeguarding Sunday**, a day when we pause to focus on our responsibility to protect and care for those who are vulnerable.

In the Bible, we find a clear and strong message about justice, compassion, and speaking up for those who cannot speak for themselves. We are called to be a safe, welcoming and hope-filled church. In our everyday lives, let's be mindful of those around us who are vulnerable or marginalised. Who are the "silent" ones in our society, the ones without a voice? Today, God may be calling you to stand up for them. Whether it's through prayer, support, or direct action, we are invited to participate in God's work of justice.

PASTORAL SERVICES

- 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 supportive environment for all people with special concern for children, young people and adults at risk.

OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD

Thank you for your generous contributions.
Due to office closure this week we are unable to advertise last weeks collections .
Next week the Offerings will resume as normal

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL

Melbourne, Victoria
Sun 30th Nov till Tue 2nd Dec 2025
Those youth interested please contact
Parish office or Parish Priest, Fr Brendan.

For more info: acyf.org.au

MEETINGS

- Monday :** **St Ita's Rosary** 10.30am followed by Divine Mercy Chaplet
- Wednesday:** **Prayers to St Joseph, 10.00am** Warragul, after 9.30 Mass.
RCIA 7.30pm Marian Rm PH: Joan Robertson, Parish Office, 56231642
- Thursday:** **SVDP Drouin, 10.00am** St Ita's Meeting Room.
St Ita's Charismatic Prayer Group, Rosary at 7pm, St Ita's Church.
ALPHA, 6.30pm Marian Rm
- Friday:** **St Ita's Rosary** 7.00pm followed by Divine Mercy Chaplet.
- Sunday:** **Rosary & Litany** 5pm in St Joseph's Meeting room (all welcome)

Please pray for the following in our Parishes:

Mass Intentions



Saturday 5.30pm: Frank Schellekens (DA)
Saturday 7.00pm: Pauline Mary Sweeney (DA)
Sunday 10.30am: Benito Benny Russo (DA)
Monday 9.30am: Brian Rowe (DA)
Wednesday 9.30am: Ian LeNepvev (DA)

ANNIVERSARIES: Damian Maunder, John Saddington, Mary Frigo & Margaret Johnson

RECENTLY DECEASED: Norman Burke ,
Chris Holt, Fr Andrew Wise & Pam Parkinson

RITE OF WELCOME: :

This weekend we welcome Amelia Jennings, Bonnie Collins and Eden Amoako-Boateng and their families who begin their journey towards baptism.

(DA) = Death Anniversary

First Collection
(Planned Giving)
St Joseph's Church Account
083879 489045334
St Ita's Church Account
083879 568166097
Second Collection (to support our Priests)
083879 941199437
St Joseph's & St Ita's Presbytery account.
St Joseph's Building Works Account
083879 971765356

ROSTERS

St Joseph's 13 / 14 Sept

Readers

7pm A.Rankins 9am B.Clover

Minister

7pm M. Gleeson 9am M.Kittely & B.Clover

Offertory

7pm A&G.Rankins 9am M.Kittely& A.Hoffman

Greeters

7pm N.Azzapardie 9am (MR) A.Hoffman (FE) E.Romanin

St Joseph's 20 / 21 Sept

Readers

7pm G.Rabl 9am R&R.Tarraran

Minister

7pm Dc Mark 9am R.Tarraran

Offertory

7pm V&J.Rowe 9am Thompson Family

Greeters

7pm B.Rabl 9am (MR) P.Heffernan (FE) B.McIntosh

St. Ita's 14 / 21 Sept

Readers

14 Sept K&R.Coller 21 Sept C.Butterworth & Volunteer*

Minister

14 Sept G.Ward 21 Sept J.Durand & C.Atkins & Volunteer*

Communion to sick

14 Sept M.Collins 21 Sept B.Pickthall

Welcoming

14 Sept C.Butterworth 21 Sept I.McLean

Offertory

14 Sept J&K.Fahey 21 Sept Children Liturgy

Piety Stall

14 Sept S.Jordon & 21 Sept C&T.Hegarty

Cleaning

13 Sept I.McLean 20 Sept J.Bibby

Amberlee

24 Sept B.Durand & 1 Oct Mass, Fr & D.Stewart

Lyrebird

23 Sept J.Fitzgerald 7 Oct MASS & C. Atkins

* with current WWCC & signed COC please

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading *Numbers 21:4-9*

A reading from the book of Numbers

When those that were afflicted looked upon it, they were healed.

On the way through the wilderness, the Israelites lost patience. They spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt to die in this wilderness? For there is neither bread nor water here; we are sick of this unsatisfying food.'

At this God sent fiery serpents among the people; their bite brought death to many in Israel. The people came and said to Moses, 'We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you. Intercede for us with the Lord to save us from these serpents.' Moses interceded for the people, and the Lord answered him, 'Make a fiery serpent and put it on a standard. If anyone is bitten and looks at it, he shall live.' So Moses fashioned a bronze serpent which he put on a standard, and if anyone was bitten by a serpent, he looked at the bronze serpent and lived.

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 77:1-2. 34-38. R. v.7*

(R.) Do not forget the works of the Lord!

1. Give heed, my people, to my teaching;
turn your ear to the words of my mouth.
I will open my mouth in a parable
and reveal hidden lessons of the past. *(R.)*
2. When he slew them then they would seek him,
return and seek him in earnest.
They would remember that God was their rock,
God the Most High their redeemer. *(R.)*
3. But the words they spoke were mere flattery;
they lied to him with their lips.
For their hearts were not truly with him;
they were not faithful to his covenant. *(R.)*
4. Yet he who is full of compassion
forgave their sin and spared them.
So often he held back his anger
when he might have stirred up his rage. *(R.)*

Second Reading *Philippians 2:6-11*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

He humbled himself, therefore God had exalted him.

The state of Jesus 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!

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your cross you have redeemed the world. Alleluia!

Gospel *John 3:13-17*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

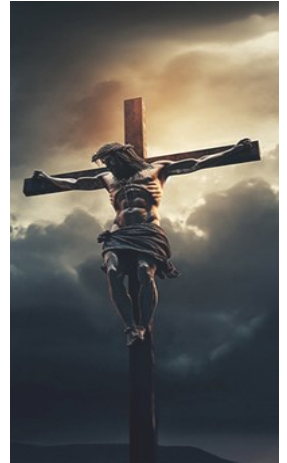
The Son of Man must be lifted up

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

"No one has gone up to heaven except the one who has come down from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life."

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.



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Prayer to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

O Mother of perpetual Help, with greatest confidence I present myself to you. I implore your help in the problems of my daily life.

Trials and sorrows often depress me; painful privations bring heartache into my life; often I meet the cross.

Have pity on me, compassionate Mother. Take care of my needs, free me from my sufferings or, if it be the will of God that I should suffer still longer, grant that I may endure all with love and patience.

Mother of Perpetual Help, I ask this in your love and power.

Amen