PARISHES IN PARTNERSHIP – MAFFRA/ COWWARR-HEYFIELD
St. Mary’s (Maffra); St. Ita’s (Newry); St. Joseph’s (Dargo)
St. Michael’s (Heyfield); St. Brigid’s (Cowwarr);
Administrator: Father Darren Howie
Email: marymaf@aussiebb.com.au
Phone Maffra 5147 1921 - Fax 5147 1476
For Emergencies: St. Mary’s Cathedral, Sale, Phone 51444100

1st Sunday of Advent: Year C – 29th November, 2015

Our Sunday Liturgy:
Introduction:
Jesus reminds us that one day He will return in glory to judge the living and the dead.

Entrance Antiphon (or Hymn):
To You, I lift up my soul, O my God. In You, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in You be put to shame.

1st Reading:
A reading from the prophet Jeremiah: 33: 14-16
I will cause a good seed to spring forth from David.

Responsorial Psalm:
To You, O Lord, I lift my soul.

2nd Reading:
A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians: 3: 12-4: 2.
When Christ comes may He strengthen your hearts in holiness.

Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, Alleluia! Lord, show us Your mercy and love, and grant us Your salvation. Alleluia!

Gospel:
Your redemption is near at hand.

Mystery of Faith:
We proclaim Your Death, O Lord, and profess Your Resurrection until You come again.

Communion Antiphon:
The Lord will bestow His bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

Message to take home:
Prayer lifts our hearts and minds to God. Farmers know that the best seed in the world is wasted if it is sown into a field with no preparation and fertilizer. Jesus says come to me all you who are burdened and weary. It is important that we approach God with childlike trust. We may even feel like hypocrites coming to God when we are feeling terribly tempted, angry and selfish, at times when we may be struggling with the Church’s teaching and may wonder if God even cares. They are no reasons not to pray! We approach God where we are at in our lives not where we think we should be. If someone goes to a doctor and tells them they have a sore foot because they are too embarrassed to tell them their real problem, which is not going to solve anything. They should be aware that for doctors there is nothing new under the sun. In a similar way when we approach God in the silence of our hearts we tell Him how it is, what our concerns are, what is troubling us. If we stop, think and pray we will realize that God reached out to people in all manner of circumstances and lifted them up, for example the woman caught in adultery. It is only God who can make us whole. St. Therese of Lisieux used the analogy of how when doctors operate on someone they put them to sleep. In a similar way we may feel at prayer that we are not doing anything, we may feel empty but in making that effort we are opening our hearts to God so that He, the divine physician, through the Holy Spirit can work on them in ways we cannot even begin to comprehend. How many times has a priest, religious, lay person gone into a chapel before the Blessed Sacrament feeling discouraged, empty and dry and yet when they leave some time later feel completely different? They have done absolutely nothing to change their situation but God has quietly worked away in their hearts and lifted them up.
WEEKEND MASSES:

MAFFRA:                Sunday  9.00am
HEYFIELD:              Saturday  6.00pm
COWWARR: (1st & 3rd)   Sunday  11.00am
NEWRY: (2nd & 4th)     Sunday  11.00am
DARGO: (5th)           Sunday  12 noon

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Maffra:
**MONDAYS: availability will be announced at Masses the Sunday prior.**
1st Dec: Tues    11am     Requiem Mass for Mons. Caffrey
2nd Dec: Wed     5.00pm   followed by ½ hour Adoration & Reconciliation
3rd Dec: Thur.   9.30am
4th Dec: Fri.    10.15am   1st Friday of the month - (Healing and Anointing)
5th Dec: Sat.    9.30am   followed by ½ Reconciliation

Heyfield:
1st Dec: Tues.   9.30am    NO MASS

RECONCILIATION:
Maffra: Saturday – For Half Hour after 9.30am Mass
(And any other time by request).
Heyfield: 5.20pm-5.45pm prior to Saturday evening Mass

RECITATION OF HOLY ROSARY:
Maffra: Before Masses in May and October
Heyfield: Tuesdays at 9.15am (Except on 2nd Tuesday - at Laurina Lodge 10am)
Newry: Thursday at 7.30pm
Cowwarr: Wednesday at 9.45am

COWWARR: 1st Friday of the month – night

HOLY ROSARY: Before Saturday Masses at Heyfield
Maffra: 1st Thursday – 9am before Mass (for Mothers and unborn babies)
Newry:  Every Thursday – 7.30pm (No Rosary during January)

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED: Recently Deceased: Monsignor Bill Caffrey
Anniversaries: Clive & Isobel Major, Maria Banasik, Mrs Sheila McCarthy, Frank Lenz, Stanislaw Bogusz, Gladys Lannigan, Noni Price, Jessica Hanratty (Child), Reg Murphy, Murray Johnson, Kathleen Johnston, Nancy Powell, Frs. Charles Keller, James Hayes, Dave Cagney.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Pat McMahon, Leo Dwyer, Mons Bill Caffrey, Evelyn Bourke, Chas Bagguley, Geraldine, Monika Dyblik, Ann Martin, Fr. Bernie O’Brien, Rosa Pappas, Lee Allman, Gerry Gray, Judith Shaw, Tao Pham, Father Frank, Helen Garrigan, Maree Welsh, Laura Mowat, Xavier Mills, Helen Bokulic, and all those who seek our prayers.

JOSEPHITE CALENDARS AND CHRISTMAS CARDS: Available at Maffra Piety Stall.

ADVENT GROUPS: anyone wishing to host or participate in an Advent group is invited to place their details on the sheet at the back of the church (Maffra) or to contact the office to express interest (Heyfield/Cowwarr). We have reflection resources available which will link in well with the Year of Mercy.

PERSONAL ADVENT REFLECTIONS: The reflection booklets for Advent can be used in a group or individually. Anyone wishing to take a booklet is welcomed to do so. Booklets will be available at the Piety stall for $3.00 each. Heyfield/Cowwarr Parishioners are welcomed to contact the Office 51 47 1921.

MASS AND ANOINTING FOR THE ELDERLY, HOUSEBOUND AND SICK PARISHIONERS OF THE WHOLE PARISHES: Sat – 5th Dec. St Mary’s Hall at 2pm. Please invite all known parishioners in the area and please bring a plate to share. If assistance is needed please call the office. 51 47 1921.

ST MARY’S SCHOOL: Graduation Mass at 6pm on Thursday 10th December and End of Year Mass at 11.45am Tuesday 15th.
MAFFRA:

LITURGY: Sun: 6th Dec Pauline Hall Yr C 2nd Advent
COUNTING TEAM: Sun. (tonight) 29th Gary Shingles & Rosemary Wirken
LECTOR: Sun. 6th Dec Jane Coleman
COMMENTATOR: Sun 6th Dec Sylvia Neaves
COMPUTER OPERATOR: Sun 6th Dec Kevin Christensen (Please be here to set up by 8.30)
OFFERTORY: Sun 6th Dec Kevin Kierce & Margaret Donahoe
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS: Sun. 6th Dec Jenny Gane, Trevor Fogarty +1
COLLECTORS: Sun 6th Dec Jean Greenslade, Peter Smyth + helpers
COMMUNION TO THE SICK: Sun. 6th Dec Marianne Bagguley
VISITING TEAM: Sun. 6th Dec Jean Greenslade & Pat Fogarty
FLOWERS: Sun. 6th Dec Rosemary Wirken & Mary McLaverty
SACRISTY: Sun. 6th Dec Anne & Aileen

HEYFIELD:

COMMUNION TO THE SICK: Sat. 5th Dec George Bogusz
READER: Sat. 5th Dec Damien Forrester
OFFERTORY PROCESSION: Sat. 5th Dec Anne Kurec & Helper
FLOWERS: Sat. 5th Dec Christine Donohue
LINEN: Month of Dec Sheila McInnes

COWWARR:

READER: Sun. 6th Dec Edward O’Brien
CLEANING: Month Of Dec Judy Cooney

PLANNED GIVING: Maffra: Envelopes $ 902 Presbytery $ 378
Heyfield: Envelopes $ 287 Presbytery $ 199

PLEASE NOTE: Our email address: marymac@aussiebb.com.au

MASS TO CELEBRATE THE YEAR OF CONSECRATED LIFE
Parishioners are invited to attend a Mass to be celebrated by Bishop O’Regan on 2nd December at 11am at St Michael’s Catholic Church, Traralgon. This occasion is to acknowledge and celebrate the contribution Religious Orders have made to the Diocese of Sale over many years.

CENACLE PRAYER GROUP CHANGES: Cenacles for the 10th December will be held at the Chapel in Maffra Motor Inn, 184 Johnson Street, Maffra till the end of the year. New Members Welcome

CATHOLIC WOMEN’S LEAGUE (Maffra) will enjoy their annual pre-Christmas Lunch at the Macalister Hotel on Tuesday, 8th Dec. from 12 noon. Anyone is welcome to join in – ordering from the board. A short monthly meeting will follow at approx. 1.30p.m. Members reminded that subscriptions are due!

2ND RITE OF RECONCILIATION: Thursday 17th December at 7pm with Father Howie and Father Ken.

CHRISTMAS EVE CHOIR PRACTISE: MAFFRA: Wednesday 9th & 16th December at 7.30pm. at St Mary’s Maffra.

CHRISTMAS EVE MUSIC PRACTISE HEYFIELD: All musicians & singers invited to attend a practise at St Michael’s Church Heyfield at 7pm. Thursday 3rd December.

PARISH CHILDREN’S MASS & FAMILY PICNIC: 13th Dec. Newry 11am. Please bring a picnic lunch to share & bathers for the children if hot….a wading pool will be provided.

END OF YEAR MASS ST MICHAEL’S PRIMARY SCHOOL HEYFIELD:
Tuesday 15th December 6pm End of School Year & Graduation Mass St Michael’s Church Heyfield. All parishioners and families are welcome to attend. PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WILL BE NO 9.30am MASS THAT MORNING. (ie, the 6pm Mass replaces the 9.30am Mass for that day only)

MAFFRA PARISH TEA: will be on Monday 7th December, 6pm at the Macalister Hotel. Why not come along for a Christmas get together.
DIARY

Wed 2nd Dec – Mass to Celebrate The Year of Consecrated Life – 11am – Traralgon
Sat 5th Dec – Vinnies Monster Sale – Jack Kelly Store - 9am – 10.30am
Sat 5th Dec – Mass for Sick, Elderly and Housebound Parishioners, 2pm – St Mary’s Hall
Mon 7th Dec – Parish Tea – Macalister Hotel – 6pm. All Welcome!
Tues 8th Dec – CWL Luncheon – Macalister Hotel – 12noon
Thur 10th Dec – Cenacle Prayer Group – 10.30am
Sun 13th Dec – Parish Children’s Mass & Family Picnic – 11am
Wed 16th Dec – Carols in the Morning – St Andrew’s Uniting Church – 10am
Sat 19th Dec – Newry Christmas Nativity Play – 7pm for 7.30pm start.

ORDINARIATE SERVICES:
Mass: Sunday: Heyfield: 10am
Mass & Adoration: Wednesday: Cowwarr: 10am
Evensong & Benediction: 4th Sunday of the month: Heyfield: 4pm
Mass: 2nd Saturday of the Month - 11am Mirboo North Catholic Church

This week on The Journey we start with a Gospel reflection for the 2nd week of Advent by Fr Stephen Varney; Sr Hilda Scott OSB reminds us of the importance of keeping in touch with God; Sam Clear reminds us that Unity requires God’s love in action and Byron and Francene Pirola talk about the benefits of applying a date claimer to our marriages. Go to www.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au where you can listen anytime and subscribe to weekly shows by email.

NEWRY NATIVITY PLAY: Practices will be held in the Clyne barn from 7th November at 4.30pm – 5.30pm. The play will be held at the Clyne farm Newry on Saturday 19th December. Commencing at 7.30pm. All Prep and Primary children are welcome to attend. Enquiries Christine Clyne 5145 1414, Christa Dwyer 5145 1415.

CAROLS IN THE MORNING: You are invited to join the Uniting Churches for a Morning Tea followed by Carol Service. Wednesday 16th December at 10am. St Andrew’s Uniting Church, Maffra. The Maffra Primary Shool Violin Ensemble and Choir will be providing items. Everyone will have the chance to celebrate the coming of Christmas singing carols old and new. Enquiries: Rev Sandra Houghton – 0428649243. Please let them know if you are bringing a group or if you require assistance. They have been promised that the road works will not interfere.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL: Our St.Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal will take a different tack this year. A giving tree will be placed at the back of the church during December and it will have cards with suggested gifts that parishioners may wish to purchase for distribution to the needy on it. Our intention is to collect and distribute the gifts during the week prior to Christmas.

ACTION FOR LIFE

Worried by a present or past pregnancy? We may be able to help with referrals.

Please contact Elaine on 5144 2762
Action for Life

CatholicCare
Gippsland
52-54 MacArthur St, Sale, 3850
Phone: (03) 5144 4868
info@ccaregipps.org.au
Monday & Tuesday 9 – 5 pm
Wednesday 9 – 12 pm

SYNOD OF BISHOPS on the Family