



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 - 9.00am-3.00pm.

For Emergencies: St. Mary's Cathedral, Sale, Phone 5144 4100

Diocesan website: <https://www.cdsale.org.au/maffra>



EASTER SUNDAY - YEAR A, 12th April, 2020

PARISH PRIEST:

Fr. Siju Xavier

Email: Siju.Xavier@cdsale.org.au

PRIEST EMIRITUS:

Fr. Frank Young

PARISH SECRETARY:

Willie Schoenmaekers

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: 5.00pm

Thursday: -9.30am

Friday: 10.00am

2nd Friday Stretton Park 10.00am

Saturday: 9.30am

RECONCILIATION:

MAFFRA

Saturday: After Mass 10.00am

HEYFIELD:

Saturday: Before Mass 5.20pm

OR any other time by request

EXPOSITION: Maffra

Wednesday: After 5.00pm Mass

BAPTISMS:

During or After the Vigil / Sunday Mass

MARRIAGE:

At least six months' notice requested.

PARISH SCHOOLS

ST. MICHAEL'S HEYFIELD

Principal: Jenny Miller

Davis St. Heyfield - 3858

Phone: 5148 2514

ST. MARY'S MAFFRA

Principal: Jason Slattery

4-12 Duke St. Maffra - 3860

Phone: 5147 1334

Catholic Care: 1800 522 076

Safe Steps: 1800 015 188

Facebook: facebook/dioceseofsale

EASTER MESSAGE FROM FR. SIJU

“Greetings!”, “do not be afraid!” were the words with which Jesus greeted his disciples after his Resurrection. At this Easter in 2020, let us not be afraid of what is happening around the world, rather be greeted by our Risen Lord.

We are now so used to the term “**flatten the curve**”! I wish to briefly reflect on this term at this Easter. I wish you and your family a Very Happy Easter. May the Risen Lord give you peace and fullness of life.

Undoubtedly, we all are undergoing a very strange time during Covid-19. Our life has changed significantly. Our faith life has temporarily taken a different course. Under these circumstances, we all can rely on a single person who conquered death and promised to take us with him: Jesus the Risen Lord. The Gospel tells us, “There is no need for you to be afraid.” Again, these are his words: “The heaven and the earth will pass away but my words shall not pass away” [Matthew 24:35]. Jesus’s words are life-giving and full of promises.

We have been reading in the newspapers, listening from the Prime Minister, Premier, Health Ministers and advisors, etc., the term, “flatten the curve” They advise us to do and adhere to certain restrictions and regulations placed on us by those in power over us. They do it for our own wellbeing, our security, and for our good health. We stay at home, work from home, sacrifice attending our children’s wedding as well as funerals of those very dear to us. When we complied with these restrictions, our country has indeed seen a great flattening of the curve.

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MEETINGS AND EVENTS:-

PROJECT COMPASSION

At this time of the Corona virus restrictions we are unable to bring to church the boxes or envelopes you are requested to donate via either online or phone. Details below.

Caritas Australia would like to **THANK YOU** for supporting Project Compassion 2020. If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please visit www.caritas.org.au to make your donation online. Through your generosity you will be empowering the world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and share their strengths with their communities to lift themselves out of poverty. www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion #projectcompassion 1800 024 413

VINNIES – MAFFRA – COVID - 19

In response to Covid – 19, [Maffra Vinnies is continuing its welfare work, but has for now suspended its Monthly Sales and has closed receiving ALL donations of Clothes, toys, furniture etc.](#) Thank you for your understanding.

Care for the Sick: If you know of anyone who is unable to get to Mass and would like the Eucharist brought to them, please advise us on 5147 1921.

We pray for ALL who suffer (at present) in body, mind or spirit:

Gerald Zed Hurley, Belinda Weatherley, Archie Schacht, Coral Justice, Julie Frew, Peter Smyth, Fr. Brian O'Connor, John Phelan, Lyn McLindin, Ann Martin, Lorraine Weatherley, Evelyn Bourke, Gerry Gray, Lee Allman, Father Frank, Maree Welsh, and all those who seek our prayers.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DEAD:-

Anniversaries:

Therese Hunter, Peter Duggan, Jack Allman, Catherine McMahon, Bruno Furjan, Monica Justice, Myrtle Morgan, Karl Wozniak, Maria Topilnicki, Josephine Colman, Rose Gotts, Edward Allman, Walburga Paszkowski, Maria Nicolaci, Tom Gannon, Kevin O'Neil, Kevin Coleman, James (Jim) Beha Frs Terry Hammond, Michael Nelan, Wilfred Pooley, Daniel Horan, Harry Verbruggen

INTO THE DEEP: LENTEN REFLECTIONS

<https://melbournecatholic.org.au/News/into-the-deep-lenten-reflections-1>

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

PRESBYTERY: \$ N/A
ST. MARY'S PG: \$ N/A
ST. MICHAEL'S PG: \$ N/A

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS

ST. MARY'S: Terry Donahoe
ST. MICHAEL'S: Ed O'Brien

❖ What Should I do if I Can't go to Mass?

Catholics are encouraged to make a 'spiritual communion'. St. John Paul II writes that "it is good to *cultivate in our hearts a constant desire for the sacrament of the Eucharist*. This was the origin of the practice of 'spiritual communion', which has happily been established in the Church for centuries and recommended by saints who were masters of the spiritual life. Saint Teresa of Jesus wrote: 'When you do not receive communion and you do not attend Mass, you can make a spiritual communion, which is a most beneficial practice; by it the love of God will be greatly impressed on you.'" (*Ecclesia Eucharistia*, no. 34).

❖ How Do I Make a Spiritual Communion?

Below are recommendations for how to make a 'spiritual communion' when unable to participate in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. The recommendations can be adapted based upon personal and family needs.

Gather with others in your household and begin a time of prayer with the sign of the cross.

Take time to read and reflect upon the readings from Sunday Mass. You can find the readings at usccb.org and a Sunday Gospel reflection on our [YouTube channel](#). Additionally, a weekly televised Sunday Mass is available to watch at adw.org/tvmass.

Share prayer intentions quietly or aloud.

Pray the Lord's Prayer.

Pray one of the following prayers of spiritual communion (see below).

Close with the sign of the cross

EASTER LIVE STREAMING MASS LIST

The list of live streamed Services and Mass occurring across the Diocese during Holy Week, which includes the Cathedral and five other locations, is now on the Diocesan website and can be found at: www.cdsale.org.au/holyweeklive

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL, SALE

Holy Thursday: Mass of the Lord's Supper 6pm,

Good Friday: The Lord's Passion 3pm,

Easter Vigil: 6pm, and

Easter Sunday: Mass 9.30am

Via YouTube

ST MICHAEL'S, BERWICK

Holy Thursday: Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm.

Good Friday: The Lord's Passion 3pm,

Easter Vigil: Mass 7pm, Easter

Easter Sunday: Mass 8am.

Via Facebook

ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE, CLYDE NORTH

Holy Thursday: Mass of the Lord's Supper

7.30pm, Followed by Holy Hour

(Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament).

Good Friday: Stations of the Cross 10am,

The Lord's Passion 3pm,

Easter Vigil: Mass 7pm,

Easter Sunday: Mass 9am.

Via Facebook

ST AGATHA'S, CRANBOURNE

Holy Thursday: Mass of the Lord's Supper

7.30pm, Adoration of the Blessed

Sacrament will take place for one hour

after Mass

Good Friday: Stations of the Cross 10.30am,

The Lord's Passion 3pm

Easter Vigil: 7pm.

Easter Sunday: Mass 9am and 6pm.

Via YouTube

ST PATRICK'S, PAKENHAM

Holy Thursday : Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm

Good Friday: Stations of the Cross 10am,

The Lord's Passion 3pm

Easter Vigil: 7pm,

Easter Sunday: Mass 9am.

Via YouTube

OLHC, NARRE WARREN

Holy Thursday: Mass of the Lord's Supper 7.30pm,

Good Friday: Stations of The Cross 10am,

The Lord's Passion 3pm,

Easter Vigil: Mass 7.30pm

Easter Sunday: Mass 9.30am.

Via YouTube

TV Broadcasts

Seven Network will stream The Lord's Passion **at 3pm** on Good

Friday and Easter Sunday Mass from

10.30am across the country on

Channel 7 and on Prime 7 in regional areas, and live-streamed on 7plus

Mass for You at home on free- to- air Television, 6am Easter Sunday

morning on WINTV Gippsland, Channel 10 and 10HD.

First Reading: Acts 10:34. 37-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

Responsorial Psalm:

**(R.) This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad.**

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.

Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.' **(R.)**

2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.

I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds. **(R.)**

3. The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.

This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes. **(R.)**

Second Reading: Col 3:1-4

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians
Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

Sequence

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise.

The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb;
and Christ, the undefiled,
hath sinners to his Father reconciled.

Death with life contended: combat strangely ended!

Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign.

Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way.

The tomb the Living did enclose;

I saw Christ's glory as he rose!

The angels there attesting;

shroud with grave-clothes resting.

Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you
into Galilee.

That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know.

Victorious king, thy mercy show!

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;
let us feast with joy in the Lord.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Mt 28:1-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
After the Sabbath, and towards dawn on the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala and the other Mary went to visit the sepulchre. And all at once there was a violent earthquake, for the angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled away the stone and sat on it. His face was like lightning, his robe white as snow. The guards were so shaken, so frightened of him, that they were like dead men. But the angel spoke; and he said to the women, 'There is no need for you to be afraid. I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said he would. Come and see the place where he lay, then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has risen from the dead and now he is going before you to Galilee; it is there you will see him." Now I have told you.' Filled with awe and great joy the women came quickly away from the tomb and ran to tell the disciples.

And there, coming to meet them, was Jesus. 'Greetings,' he said. And the women came up to him and, falling down before him, clasped his feet. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers that they must leave for Galilee; they will see me there.'

NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS

First Reading.: Acts 2:42-47

Second Reading.: 1 Pt 1:3-9

Gospel Reading: Jn 20:19-31

This analogy of 'flatten the curve' can be applied to our own life too. We live in a society which is filled with greed – which we witnessed in the bulk buying of things from super market in recent times. Our society has become so self-centred – thus unwilling to share our good with others. It has become so worldly – that we forget about our origin and end. Our origin and end is in God.

I read a wonderful story of a rich business man. He had a wish and thought to himself. Would I have to leave behind all my riches which I worked hard to earn? Can I take with me at least one percent of what I possess when I die? When I die, would someone help me to take some of my possessions with me?

One day, he shared his wish to his soul friend who was renowned for his wisdom and logical thinking. The friend advised his rich business friend, saying. When you travel to the USA from your country, which currency do you carry with you? The rich man immediately replied: our currency has no value in the USA, so I change our currency into 'US dollars'. What about when you go to England? Without any hesitation he replied, when I go to England, I would take with me 'Pounds'.

Then his wise friend said to his rich friend: when you reach heaven after your death, the currency that is valid in heaven are the good works you do while you live here on earth.

The wisdom of his soul friend made the rich man reflect on his life thus far, and began to do charitable works by sharing his wealth. Thus, he began to accumulate that currency which, he now ascertained himself, will be valid to ensure his entry into heaven. Thus, this rich business man flattened the curve of his pride and self-confidence by sharing his wealth and undertaking charitable works. As a result, he ensured his passport to heaven.

Dear friends, no matter how rich or poor, how informed or uninformed, how capable or incapable, how strong or weak, no matter where we live on earth, one day we all must die. There is no one to accompany us when we die. It is impossible to take some material things with us after our death. We come into this world alone and empty handed; and we return from this world alone. However, if we have done good works, they accompany us. The good works we do to help others – in between our birth and death – would be the only possessions we would be taking with us after our death.

This year's Easter comes to remind us to flatten the curve of our pride, greed, self-interests, thus ensuring our passport to heaven.

Dear friends, I wish you once again a Very Happy and Joyful celebration of Easter. I pray that you all stay safe and I look forward to reuniting with you all in our celebrations of the Eucharist sooner.

Easter blessings,
Fr. Siju Xavier,
Parish Priest.

Pope Francis on facing challenges of the coronavirus pandemic

In an interview with the Italian daily newspaper, "La Repubblica", Pope Francis says he is praying for an end to the coronavirus pandemic, and asks everyone to be close to those who have lost loved ones.

"I asked the Lord to stop the epidemic: 'Lord, stop it with your hand'. That is what I prayed for". Pope Francis revealed the content of his prayer in an interview with Italian journalist, Paolo Rodari, published in Wednesday's edition of "La Repubblica" newspaper. Pope Francis made this prayer when he visited the Roman churches of Saints Mary Major and Marcello on the Via del Corso last Sunday.

In the interview, Pope Francis offers advice about how to face the daily challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic: "We need to rediscover the concreteness of small things, the small acts of kindness shown to those who are close to us, family, friends. We need to realize that our treasure lies in small things. There are tiny gestures that sometimes get lost in the routine of everyday life, gestures of tenderness, affection, compassion, that are nevertheless decisive, important", he says. The Pope gives the examples of sharing "a hot plate of food, a caress, a hug, a phone call... These are familiar, attentive gestures regarding everyday details that make life meaningful, and create communion and communication amongst us".

Pope Francis observes that many times communication is only "virtual". "Instead we should discover a new closeness", he says. "Real relationships made of attentiveness and patience". The Pope describes how some families eat together at home in silence – not because they are listening to one another, but because "the parents are watching television while they eat, and their children are on their mobile phones". Pope Francis describes this kind of family as "monks isolated from one another". There is no communication here, he says. "Instead, listening to one another is important because we understand one another's needs, struggles, desires". "There is a language made of concrete gestures that must be safeguarded", continues the Pope. The suffering people are enduring at this time should make us open to this language.

In the interview, Pope Francis expresses his appreciation for healthcare personnel and volunteers. He thanks those who dedicate themselves to helping others in this way, and describes them as "an example" of the concreteness of small acts of kindness. The Pope invites "everyone to be close to those who have lost loved ones, to try to accompany them in every way possible". We must all be dedicated to consoling others, he adds. Pope Francis mentions that he was particularly struck by an article he read recently. In it, the author indicates how "our behaviour always affects others' lives". The example cited was that of how not paying our taxes, leads to lack of healthcare services.

Finally, Pope Francis invites everyone to hope — even those who do not believe. "We are all children of God, and He watches over us", says the Pope. "Even those who have not yet met God, those who do not have the gift of faith, can find their way through the good things that they believe in. They can find strength in their love for their children, their family, their brothers and sisters. Someone might say: 'I cannot pray because I do not believe'. But at the same time", concludes Pope Francis, "we can believe in the love of the people we have around us, and there we can find hope". **By Vatican News**

Pope Francis' Prayer to Mary during Coronavirus Pandemic

O Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm.

You, Salvation of Your People, know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.

(Adapted from [Vatican News](#).)

Willie and Fr. Siju

Wish you all a
Holy

May you and
this difficult time
be blessed by our



Happy and
Easter.

your family at
be greeted and
Risen Lord.

Pray at Home

From midday on March 23, 2020, all public Masses and liturgical gatherings have been suspended across Australia, with limited exceptions in some jurisdictions for weddings and funerals. You can consult advice from each jurisdiction on [our dedicated coronavirus page](#).

The Bishops Conference is supporting the prayer life of Catholics who are unable to attend Mass. Dioceses and other Catholic organisations are also providing material and access to livestreaming of Masses.

Catholics are encouraged to utilise the resources below to support your prayer life and especially to allow you to continue to keep Sunday as a day when prayer is prominent. Many Catholic organisations have been supportive in their provision of access to material that is sometimes only available via subscription. The Conference thanks St Pauls Publications in particular for allowing the reproduction of its Scripture reflections.

- [Masses Online](#)
- [Sunday Readings and Liturgical Resources](#)
- [Holy Week Resources](#)
- [Prayers and Scripture](#)

MASSES ONLINE

- [Daily Mass on Demand -- CathNews YouTube Channel](#)
- [Daily Mass -- Archdiocese of Melbourne](#)
- [Mass for You at Home \(Channel 10 -- aired 6am each Sunday\)](#)
- [Masses on Demand and live webcasts -- St Stephen's Cathedral, Brisbane](#)
- [Sunday Mass -- Archdiocese of Adelaide](#)
- [Sunday Mass livestream -- Archdiocese of Perth](#)
- [Daily Mass -- Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn](#)
- [Mass on Demand -- Diocese of Armidale](#)
- [Daily Mass -- Diocese of Darwin](#)
- [Sunday Mass -- Diocese of Lismore](#)
- [Daily Mass -- Diocese of Port Pirie](#)
- [Daily and Sunday Masses -- Diocese of Rockhampton](#)
- [Sunday Mass -- Diocese of Sandhurst](#)
- [Sunday Mass -- Diocese of Toowoomba](#)
- [Sunday Mass -- Diocese of Townsville](#)
- [Sunday Mass and Evening Prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament -- Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes](#)

SUNDAY READINGS AND LITURGICAL RESOURCES

- [Liturgy of the Word and prayers for Palm Sunday -- April 5, 2020](#)

- [Holy Week at Home -- Palm Sunday \(Liturgy Brisbane\)](#)
- [Daily Liturgy of the Hours and Masses, live and recorded -- Diocese of Cairns](#)
- [Corona of Thorns podcast -- Daily Liturgy of the Word, Homily and Spiritual Communion | Brooklyn Park/Richmond Parish, SA](#)

HOLY WEEK RESOURCES

- [Liturgy Brisbane](#)
 - [Holy Week at Home -- The End of Lent](#)
 - [Holy Week at Home -- Holy Thursday](#)
 - [Holy Week at Home -- Good Friday](#)
 - [Holy Week at Home -- Easter Sunday](#)
- [Diocese of Sale](#)
 - [Holy Week and Triduum Resources](#)

PRAYERS AND SCRIPTURE

- [Readings of the day -- Universalis.Com](#)
- [Prayers for Time of Pandemic](#)
- [Prayer resources for the coronavirus pandemic -- Archdiocese of Sydney](#)
- [Prayer from Apostolic Nuncio in Australia, Archbishop Adolfo Tito Yllana](#)
- [Now what? Online Mass and other resources -- Archdiocese of Melbourne](#)
- [Spiritual Communion service -- Diocese of Bathurst](#)
- [Resources during suspension of public liturgies -- Diocese of Sale](#)
- [Sign up to receive daily Gospel reflections -- Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn](#)
- [A four-part webcast series: How to Pray the Rosary -- Fr Paul Nulley](#)
- [Pray.Com.Au -- Madonna Magazine/Australian Jesuits](#)

From catholic.org.au/prayathome