



# PARISHES IN PARTNERSHIP

**St. Mary's Maffra [Newry & Dargo]**

**St. Michael's Heyfield-Cowwarr**

Phone: 03 5147 1921 email: [Maffra@cdsale.org.au](mailto:Maffra@cdsale.org.au)

Office Hours: Tues, Wed, Thurs - 9.00am-3.00pm.

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

Diocesan/parish website: <https://www.cdsale.org.au/maffra> [heyfield]



\*\*\*\*\*

**15<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A, 12<sup>TH</sup> July, 2020**

## PARISH PRIEST:

Fr. Siju Xavier

Email: [Siju.Xavier@cdsale.org.au](mailto:Siju.Xavier@cdsale.org.au)

## PRIEST EMIRITUS:

Fr. Frank Young

## PARISH SECRETARY:

Willie Schoenmaekers

\*\*\*\*\*

## WEEKEND MASSES: Heyfield

Saturday Vigil: -6.00pm

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Cowwarr: 11.00am

## WEEKEND MASSES: Maffra

Sunday: 9.00am

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday - Newry: 11.00am

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday - Dargo: 12.00pm

## WEEKDAY MASSES

### HEYFIELD

Tuesday: -9.30am

### MAFFRA

Wednesday: 5.00pm

Thursday: -9.30am

Friday: 10.00am

2<sup>nd</sup> 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](https://www.facebook.com/dioceseofsale)

Day	Church	Time
Tuesday	St. Michael's, Heyfield	9:30am
Wednesday	St. Mary's, Maffra	9:30am
Thursday	St. Mary's, Maffra	9:30am
Friday	St. Mary's, Maffra	9:30am
Saturday	St. Michael's, Heyfield	6:00pm
Sunday	St. Mary's Maffra	9:00am
Sunday	St. Ita's, Newry or St. Brigid's Cowwarr	11:00am
Sunday	St. Mary's, Maffra	4:30pm

Please continue bookings for **Weekend Masses**

Between 10:00am to 12:00pm on Tuesdays,

Wednesdays AND FRIDAYS 0490 384 454

Please do not leave any Messages on this number for the voicemail is **NOT** set up on this number. Thank you.

## COVID-19 Restrictions updates for Parishes

Dear Fathers, Deacons, Rev Sisters, Parish Staff, Parishioners,

I wish to advise that based on the advice of the Chief Health Officer, Stage 3 "Stay at Home" restrictions will be reinstated across metropolitan Melbourne from **11:59pm on Wednesday 8 July**. These Restrictions apply to our parishes within the **Casey and Cardinia** Local Government areas.

The restrictions for **City of Casey and Cardinia Shire** are as follows:

- If you live in these areas, parishioners cannot attend a religious service. Online streaming of a service is allowed and restricted to the priest and those necessary for the ceremony (e.g. deacon, server, reader)
- Weddings can have a maximum of five people (the couple, two witnesses and the celebrant).
- Funerals will be restricted to 10 mourners plus the people required to conduct the funeral.

Contd... on page 4

## MEETINGS AND EVENTS:-

### ROSTERS – FLOWERS

**Sunday 12th July:**

Rosemary Wirken, and

Mary McLaverty

### **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.

### **BULLETIN ON THE WEB**

You can now download our parish bulletins from the website

**[cdsale.org.au/maffra](https://ncpr.catholic.org.au/2016-Parish-Social-Profiles/15-Sale/Maffra.pdf)  
[cdsale.org.au/heyfield](https://ncpr.catholic.org.au/2016-Parish-Social-Profiles/15-Sale/Heyfield%20-%20Cowan.pdf)**

**OUR PARISH SOCIAL PROFILE BASED ON THE 2016 AUSTRALIAN CENSUS IS AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE:**

<https://ncpr.catholic.org.au/2016-Parish-Social-Profiles/15-Sale/Maffra.pdf>

<https://ncpr.catholic.org.au/2016-Parish-Social-Profiles/15-Sale/Heyfield%20-%20Cowan.pdf>

**or**

<https://ncpr.catholic.org.au/>

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DEAD:-

### Recently Deceased:

**Margot Donahue (9/07/2020)**

### Anniversaries:

Robert (Bob) Keady, John Foley, Stefan Szajnoga, Rene Kennedy, Jeanette Whelan, Clare Sanderson, Michael O'Connor, Peter Dwyer, Elma Caffrey, Margaret Daly (Maggie), Enid Young, Timothy O'Dwyer, Janine Karys.

Frs. John Allen, Michael McAlroy

### **"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."**

### **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.***

[Adapted from Moe parish]

### **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](https://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](https://adw.org/tvmass).

Share prayer intentions quietly or aloud.

Pray the Lord's Prayer.

Pray one of the following prayers of spiritual communion [see above left]

Close with the sign of the cross

## Entrance Antiphon:

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face;  
I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

## First Reading: Is 55:10-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

## Responsorial Psalm

**(R.) The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.**

1. You care for the earth, give it water, you fill it with riches. Your river in heaven brims over to provide its grain. **(R.)**

2. And thus you provide for the earth; you drench its furrows, you level it, soften it with showers, you bless its growth. **(R.)**

3. You crown the year with your goodness. Abundance flows in your steps, in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. **(R.)**

4. The hills are girded with joy, the meadows covered with flocks, the valleys are decked with wheat. They shout for joy, yes, they sing. **(R.)**

## Second Reading: Rom 8:18-23

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

## Gospel Acclamation:

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;  
all who come to him will live for ever.

**Alleluia!**

## Gospel: Mt 13:1-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew  
Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

Then the disciples went up to him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because' he replied 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled:

You will listen and listen again, but not understand,  
see and see again, but not perceive.

For the heart of this nation has grown coarse,  
their ears are dull of hearing,  
and they have shut their eyes,

for fear they should see with their eyes,

hear with their ears,

understand with their heart,

and be converted

and be healed by me.

'But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it.

'You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.'

## Communion Antiphon:

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest  
for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my  
King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in  
your house, for ever singing your praise.



### NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS

First Reading: Wis 12:13.16-19

Second Reading: Rom 8:26-27

Gospel: Mt 13:24-43

## REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

Today we hear how the Spirit of God dwells in all of us, helping us in our weakness. The first disciples had Jesus to explain the parables; we have the Spirit to enlighten us. It is the Spirit who helps us to interpret the teaching of Jesus and to be receptive to the challenges that they pose.

The presence of sinners in the kingdom of God is often a stumbling block to good people. There will be a time for separation and judgment, but the time is not now. This means that the righteous will have to live with the sinner and, even more challengingly, show them the same kind of concern that they show to others. The presence of sinners does not necessarily erode the quality of the kingdom. Rather, it provides disciples an opportunity to rise to the occasion of generosity and forgiveness.

There are two images of judgment in the readings. The one in the gospel is terrifying and decisive. The wicked are bound together into bundles and readied for burning. We must remember that this is a parable. In the first reading and in the psalm response the justice of God is said to be lenient, clement and kind. The power of God is demonstrated not in retribution but in mercy. God is said to be 'merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in kindness and fidelity', and repentance is a very real possibility. This is the image that gives us hope.

## DAILY MEDITATION: JEREMIAH 20:10-13

My persecutors will stumble, they will not triumph.  
(Jeremiah 20:11)

Jeremiah was not having a good week. He had been arrested, beaten, and thrown into prison. Then, having been released, he pronounces an oracle of destruction against Jerusalem and offers a bitter prayer accusing the Lord of "seducing" him into this dangerous ministry (Jeremiah 20:7). And he prays for the chance to see his enemies' downfall—and to savor it (20:12)!

Today's reading is not what Jesus had in mind when he said, "Love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you" (Matthew 5:44). We have only to think of Jesus' words of forgiveness on the cross to see how he really wants his people to respond to persecution and enmity.

It's comforting to know that even a great prophet like Jeremiah had bad days. It gives us some perspective on our own lives. Who among us hasn't

wished vengeance on someone who has hurt us? We know we shouldn't, we know it's wrong, but sometimes we find it very hard to resist the pull toward resentment and revenge.

The truth is, change takes time, and we have to keep working at it. We have to keep checking our thoughts, examining our motives, and holding our tongues until we develop the virtues that mirror Jesus' perfect, unconditional love. We also have to keep pressing in to stay close to the Lord so that his love continues to shape our hearts.

But remember this: you are not alone! You are part of a Church filled with saints, both famous and obscure, who show that change is possible. You also have friends you can turn to for support when you need it. And most important—and most reassuring—you have the Holy Spirit, who is always ready to remind you of Jesus' love and to give you his grace and encouragement.

Jeremiah had far more good days than bad days because he never gave up. Neither should we.

*[Taken from WAU website.]*

## COVID-19 Restrictions. Contd....

For all our other parishes within [Baw Baw Shire, Wellington Shire, Bass Coast Council, East Gippsland Shire, South Gippsland Shire and Latrobe City](#), at present your restrictions remain as follows:

- Places of worship can open for private worship or small religious ceremonies (Mass) for up to 20 people in each separate area
- Up to 20 people, in addition to the celebrant and couple getting married, can attend a wedding. If a wedding is held in a private residence, it will be limited to the members of the household, five attendees, plus the celebrant.
- Up to 50 people can attend a funeral in addition to the celebrant and other funeral staff. If a funeral is held in a private residence, it will be limited to the members of the household, five attendees plus the celebrant and other funeral staff. Staff are encouraged to continue working from home. Please maintain a high level of cleaning and sanitising.

As always we urge parishes to use common sense when carrying out activities. If you are unwell, you should stay at home. If you have symptoms of Coronavirus (COVID-19), however mild, you should get tested. It's up to all of us to make this work.

Fr. Denis O'Bryan,  
Delegate of the Diocesan Administrator