



# 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 - 10am-4.00pm.

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

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



**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent – Year A – 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2023.**

**PARISH PRIEST:**

Fr. Edwin Ogbuka  
Email: [edwinogbuka@gmail.com](mailto:edwinogbuka@gmail.com)  
0469 733 929

**PARISH SECRETARY:**

Willie Schoenmaekers  
Email: [marymaf@aussiebb.com.au](mailto:marymaf@aussiebb.com.au)  
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**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.Noon

**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 –** Tuesday,  
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: Jenny Miller  
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)



## Fourth Sunday of Lent 18 & 19 March



walk short distances with the aid of a walking stick.

Thu lives in Vietnam. When Thu was 12 years old, he stepped on an unexploded land mine and lost his leg.

Living with a disability in rural Vietnam presented many challenges for Thu, who worked mainly as a rice farmer. Thu also took on the role of caring for his wife, Linh, after she suffered a stroke.

Determined to turn their lives around, Thu and Linh joined the Empowerment of People with Disabilities program, run by Caritas Australia's local partner in Vietnam, the Centre for Sustainable Rural Development (SRD).

For Thu, the greatest impact the program has had is enabling the change in Linh's physical and mental wellbeing. With the support of a physiotherapist, Linh can now

**Please donate to Project Compassion 2023.**



Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations.**

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes/envelopes available from your parish, by visiting [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion), or by calling 1800 024 413.

Photo: Phan Tan Lam/Caritas Australia

**2<sup>ND</sup> RITE OF CONFESSION**

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March incorporated with 5pm Mass and Adoration @ St. Mary's Catholic Church Maffra. **(Please Note that there will be NO 9.30am Mass this day only)**

**Visiting the sick or house bound:** If you are able to help with this ministry, please contact the parish office, 51471921. We would love to hear from you and will help you prepare for the task.

**Thank you to Frances Dwyer (senior), Margaret Gray and Joan**

**Gannon:** We thank these wonderful women for their multiple decade service to the cleaning and flowers at St Ita's Newry. We would love to hear from anyone who would like to take up a month to do the flowers and basic clean at St. Ita's Newry. If you would like to help please call Christa 51451415 or the office 51471921

## MEETINGS AND EVENTS:-

**Parish Dinner Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2023**, at the Sporting Club Maffra 6pm. **RSVP a Must, please ring 0411436227 for bookings.**

### All Welcome!

The parish dinner is a monthly dinner who meet for fellowship as a parish community, they meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of every month. RSVP is essential.

## FOLLOWING THE FOOTPRINTS OF JESUS

Fr. Joseph Abutu, Parish Priest from St Agatha's Parish Cranbourne, will be leading a 14-day pilgrimage to the Holy land from 30th April to 13th May 2023. This pilgrimage organised by Magi Pilgrimages will feature Jordan, the Dead Sea, Petra, Mt Nebo, Nazareth, the Sea of Galilee, Bethlehem, Mt Tabor, Jericho, and Jerusalem.

This Pilgrimage costs inclusive flights, accommodation in 4-star hotels, and meals. Mass will be celebrated daily at various holy sites. More than 85% of the intended Pilgrims have made their deposits. However, if you wish to join the group, please make your reservation by 20th March 2023. You can contact the parish office on 5996 1985.

**Stations of the Cross during Lent**  
**Heyfield** Tuesdays after 9.30am  
Mass

**Maffra** Fridays = 3pm

**Newry** Fridays = 10.30am

**Maffra Parish Choir:** If you love to sing, we'd love to hear you at Maffra Mass. It has been requested that we try to set up an informal choir. If you would like to be a part of this, you can sit on the organ side about 7 pews down. If you have questions, call the parish office.

## Rosters

There is a new roster out for St Mary's Maffra at the back of the Church which commences on the 16<sup>th</sup> April. Please take one as you leave today and put it on your fridge. Thank you.

**There is a sheet at the back of St Mary's Maffra Church for those who are interested in helping out over the Easter period. Please write your name if you can help us out.**

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DEAD:-

### Anniversaries:

Fay Scheffer, Mary Allman, Margaret Gannon, Mary (Molly) and Cyril Hurley, Annie Bradbury, Geoffrey McMahon, Frederick Abikhair, Serafina Lewandowski, Elizabeth (Betty) Kelly, Ron McLaverty, Bill Janos.

Frs John Forster, Alexis Dunlop, Andrew Ryan, Mgr Joseph (Joe) Daly.

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:

Linda Allman, Xavier Mills, Kevin Bennett, Marge Canny, Coral Justice, Julie Frew, Peter Smyth, Fr. Brian O'Connor, John Phelan, Lyn McLindin, Ann Martin, Gerry Gray, 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:** Terry Donahoe  
**ST. MICHAEL'S:** Ed O'Brien

### WEEKLY COLLECTION

PRESBYTERY: \$ 651  
ST. MARY'S PG: \$ 140  
ST. MICHAEL'S PG: \$ 275  
DD & CC FOR LAST 4 MONTHS  
DD & CC FOR MAFFRA \$ 14594  
DD & CC FOR HEYFIELD \$ 5560

## REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

Humans see and judge by appearances, but God looks into the heart, and there finds the real person. God's standards are not superficial, as are so many of the standards of the world. It is not age, beauty or physical strength that is important; it is not social position or religious role that is preferred. God chooses whom God chooses. God saw in David, the insignificant shepherd, the potential for being the chief shepherd of his people. The man who was born blind became the one through whom others would see the mighty works of God. Yet, neither young David nor the man in the gospel made the initial step; each simply responded with openness to God's choice of him.

By what criteria do we judge others? Do we consider some people too insignificant for greatness? Are we overly concerned with status? Do we categorise people according to the disease or physical limitation that they must endure? Do we sometimes blame them for their disability? Do our eyes perceive life in accord with the standards of a materialistic, body-orientated, pleasure-seeking society? Or do we look into the other's heart, as God does?

As with the other scrutiny Sundays, catechumens and long-standing members alike are exhorted to make a choice. Jesus is the one who gives sight to blind eyes and religious insight to those open to receive it. However, there is a price to pay. Will it be the standards of the world, or the power of God in Jesus Christ?



### MAFFRA PARISH LITURGICAL ROSTER (MARCH)

LITURGY:	Sun: 26 <sup>th</sup>	Office
READER:	Sun. 26 <sup>th</sup>	Pat Fogarty
COMMENTATOR:	Sun. 26 <sup>th</sup>	Pat Gray
EXTRA ORDINARY MINISTER	Sun. 26 <sup>th</sup>	Trevor Fogarty
COMPUTER:	Sun. 26 <sup>th</sup>	Mary Fjellner
COLLECTORS:	Sun. 26 <sup>th</sup>	Kevin Kierce and Dick Moulton.
ALTAR SERVERS:	Sun. 26 <sup>th</sup>	N/A
FLORISTS:	Sun. 26 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No Flowers During Lent</b>
SACRISTANS:	Sun. 26 <sup>th</sup>	Pauline Phelan & Sylvia Neaves
HOLY VESSELS:	<b>Month Of MARCH</b>	Frances Dwyer

### HEYFIELD PARISH LITURGICAL ROSTER (MARCH]

READER:	Sat. 25 <sup>th</sup>	Philip Taylor
FLORISTS:	Sat 25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No Flowers During Lent</b>
ALTAR LINEN –	<b>MONTH OF MARCH</b>	Carmel Pittari

### ST ITA'S NEWRY (MARCH)

READER	Sun. 26 <sup>th</sup>	N/A
CHURCH CLEANING	<b>MONTH OF MARCH</b>	Raelene Hanratty

### 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**

**MIRBOO NORTH: ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH 2ND**

**SUNDAY OF THE MONTH: 4.00PM**

**4TH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH: 4.00PM**

**CONFESSION: BEFORE EACH MASS**

**ANY ENQUIRES PLEASE CONTACT:**

**FR KEN CLARK EV**

**GIPPSLAND ORDINARIATE**

**13 CHURCH STREET**

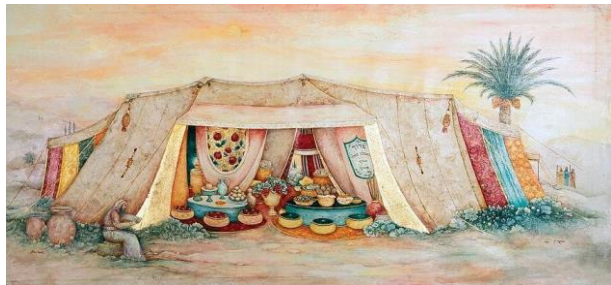
**COWWARR, VIC 3857**

**TEL: 0403383873**

**BLOG:**

**[HTTPS://GIPPSLANDORDINARIATE.WORDPRESS.COM](https://gippslandordinariate.wordpress.com)**

### **Enlarging the Tent**



“Enlarge the place of your tent, and let the curtains of your habitations be stretched out; Do not hold back; Lengthen your cords and strengthen your stakes. For you will spread abroad to the right and to the left, and your offspring will possess the nations and will people the desolate cities.” Is 54:2

### **The Best Vision is Insight**

The man who was born blind was thrilled with the healing he experienced from his chance encounter with the man who cured him. He rejoiced in the gift but did not know the giver. Yet he did have the courage to stand up for the one who healed him as the religious authorities tried to debunk the miracle. He even tweaks them by asking whether they might want to meet him. Even his parents get brought into the interrogation by the authorities. In the end, Jesus seeks out the man and identifies himself as the one who healed him, so the man received more than physical sight, but insight into the person of Jesus. Faith at Marquette, Marquette.edu

### **ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:**

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

### **FIRST READING 1 Sm 16:1. 6-7. 10-13**

**In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel.**

The Lord said to Samuel, ‘Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.’ When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, ‘Surely the Lord’s anointed one stands there before him,’ but the Lord said to Samuel, ‘Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.’ Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, ‘The Lord has not chosen these.’ He then asked Jesse, ‘Are these all the sons you have?’ He answered, ‘There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.’ Then Samuel said to Jesse, ‘Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.’ Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, ‘Come, anoint him, for this is the one.’ At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

**(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

1. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. **(R.)**

2. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. **(R.)**

3. You have prepared a banquet for me In the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**

4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. **(R.)**

## SECOND READING: Eph 5:8-14

**Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.**

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said: Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!**

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

**Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!**

## GOSPEL Jn 9:1-41

**The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.**

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, for him to have been born blind?' 'Neither he nor his parents sinned,' Jesus answered, 'he was born blind so that the works of God might be displayed in him. 'As long as the day lasts I must carry out the work of the one who sent me; the night will soon be here when no one can work. As long as I am in the world I am the light of the world.'

Having said this, he spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.' So they said to him, 'Then how do your eyes come to be open?' 'The man called Jesus' he answered 'made a paste, daubed my eyes with it and said to me, "Go and wash at Siloam"; so I went, and when I washed I could see.' They asked, 'Where is he?' 'I don't know' he answered.

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a Sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.'

Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

However, the Jews would not believe that the man had been blind and had gained his sight, without first sending for his parents and asking them, 'Is this man really your son who you say was born blind? If so, how is it that he is now able to see?' His parents answered, 'We know he is our son and we know he was born blind, but we don't know how it is that he can see now, or who opened his eyes. He is old enough: let him speak for himself.' His parents spoke like this out of fear of the Jews, who had already agreed to expel from the synagogue anyone who should acknowledge Jesus as the Christ. This was why his parents said, 'He is old enough; ask him.'

So the Jews again sent for the man and said to him, 'Give glory to God! For our part, we know that this man is a sinner.' The man answered, 'I don't know if he is a sinner; I only know that I was blind and now I can see.' They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' He replied, 'I have told you once and you wouldn't listen. Why do you want to hear it all again? Do you want to become his disciples too?' At this they hurled abuse at him: 'You can be his disciple,' they said 'we are disciples of Moses: we know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this man, we don't know where he comes from.' The man replied, 'Now here is an astonishing thing! He has opened my eyes, and you don't know where he comes from! We know that God doesn't listen to sinners, but God does listen to men who are devout and do his will. Ever since the world began it is unheard of for anyone to open the eyes of a man who was born blind; if this man were not from God, he couldn't do a thing.' 'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him. Jesus said: 'It is for judgement that I have come into this world, so that those without sight may see and those with sight turn blind.' Hearing this, some Pharisees who were present said to him, 'We are not blind, surely?' Jesus replied: 'Blind? If you were, you would not be guilty, but since you say, "We see", your guilt remains.'

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed, I saw and I believed in God.



## NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS:

First Reading: Ez 37:12-14

Second Reading: Rom 8:8-11

Gospel: Jn 11:1-45