



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 - 10am-4.00pm.

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

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



5th Sunday of Lent – Year A – 26th March, 2023.

PARISH PRIEST:

Fr. Edwin Ogbuka
Email: edwinogbuka@gmail.com
0469 733 929

PARISH SECRETARY:

Willie Schoenmaekers
Email: marymaf@aussiebb.com.au

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.Noon

WEEKDAY MASSES HEYFIELD

Tuesday: 9.30am

MAFFRA

Tuesday Mass & Adoration 2.00pm
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 – 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)



Fifth Sunday of Lent 25 & 26 March



Project Compassion brings together Australian schools, parishes and supporters to raise funds for people in vulnerable communities across the world. This year, we introduced you to the story of four inspiring people whose lives have been transformed with your generous support: Laxmi, Tereesa, Priscilla and Thu. Today, they are creating a better world for their families, their communities and for all future generations.

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, or by calling 1800 024 413.

Photo: Richard Wainwright/Caritas Australia

2ND RITE OF CONFESSION

Wednesday 29th 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)**

PALM SUNDAY – 2nd April

6:00 pm Vigil Mass @ St. Michael's Heyfield – Sat 1st April

9:00 am Mass @ St. Mary's Maffra – 2nd April

11am Mass @ St Brigid's Cowwarr – 2nd April

HOLY THURSDAY – 6th April

7:30 pm @ St. Mary's Maffra Adoration until 9:30 pm

GOOD FRIDAY – 7th April

10.00am Stations of the Cross @ St Michael's Heyfield

10.00am Stations of the Cross @ St. Mary's Maffra

10:30am Stations of the Cross @ St. Ita's Newry

3 pm Good Friday Solemn Liturgy @ St. Mary's Catholic Church Maffra

EASTER VIGIL – 8th April

5.30pm Easter Mass @ St Michael's Heyfield

7:30 pm @ St. Mary's Catholic Church Maffra

EASTER SUNDAY – 9th April

9:00 am Mass @ St. Mary's Maffra

11am @ St Ita's Newry

From the Parish Pastoral Council, we wish to thank Luisa Pittari, Kevin Christensen, Michael Dillon, and George Bogusz for their years of support to the priests, parish and the pastoral councils, with each having recently tendered their resignations from the PPC.

Fr Edwin recently spoke about the need for the combined parishes to become a vibrant community. To help with this, we will be seeking people to join the respective pastoral committees.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS:-

Parish Dinner Monday 3rd 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 1st Monday of every month. RSVP is essential.

PALM SUNDAY CROSSES:

Volunteers are urgently needed for making Palm Crosses. If anyone is interested please come along to a session at St. John's, Maffra on Wednesday the 28th March at 2.30pm. Many hands make light work. Thank You

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 16th 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.

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.

School News

Heyfield St Michael's primary School

Tuesday 4th April

Whole School Mass 9:30am & afterwards Easter morning tea at the school.

Maffra St Mary's Primary School

An invitation to all family, friends and parishioners to come join St Mary's Maffra primary school for Stations of the Cross presentation by Grade 6's on Thursday 6th April @ 11:45am in the 5/6 Pod.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DEAD:-

Anniversaries:

Tom McCole, Laura Clark, Frank Sim, Nancy Kelly, Jonathon McKinndal, Jean Fogarty, Dolly Coleman, Lila Higgins, Blanche (Peg) Kelly, James (Jim) Caffrey, Monika Dyblik, Annie Payne, Michael Donahoe, James Gargan, William Dwyer, Patricia Slater, Hilda Davis.

Frs. William Regan, Gerard Toner, Dr. James McGillicuddy

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: \$ 682
ST. MARY'S PG: \$ 167
ST. MICHAEL'S PG: \$ 415

As of Tuesday 21st March at St Mary's Maffra, Father will be celebrating Mass & Adoration every Tuesday at 2pm.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

As a metaphor, death can stand for many things. The prophet Ezekiel witnessed the death of the nation. The gospel reports the death of Lazarus. Although Paul refers to the mortal character of our physical bodies, he is more concerned with spiritual life and death. Death attacks each one of us in all three of these ways. We are all mortal and subject to physical death; we are all sinners and must deal with the implications of spiritual death; we are all subject to the consequences of social sins such as terrorism, violence, group hatred, greed and ecological exploitation. The question before us is whether or not we are going to allow death to reign in our lives and in our communities.

All three readings for this Sunday, as well as the psalm response, point out our inability to raise ourselves out of the deaths that afflict us. In the passage from Ezekiel, it is God who promises to open the graves of the people; the people are helpless to do anything. The psalmist cries to God from out of the depths of pain and helplessness.

Acknowledging human propensity to sin, Paul credits the Spirit of God with transforming death into life. Finally, it is Jesus who calls Lazarus out of the grave and returns him to his life. We can see that God does not leave us to languish in our various deaths. Instead, God offers us new life out of the tombs. All of this is accomplished through the mercy and compassion of God.



MAFFRA PARISH LITURGICAL ROSTER (APRIL)

LITURGY:	Sun: 2 nd	Office
READER:	Sun. 2 nd	Pat Gray
COMMENTATOR:	Sun. 2 nd	Kevin Kierce
EXTRA ORDINARY MINISTER	Sun. 2 nd	Rosemary Wirken
COMPUTER:	Sun. 2 nd	Mary Fjellner
COLLECTORS:	Sun. 2 nd	Nick Munro and Dick Moulton.
ALTAR SERVERS:	Sun. 2 nd	N/A
FLORISTS:	Sun. 2 nd	To Be Arranged – Palm Sunday
SACRISTANS:	Sun. 2 nd	Marianne and Chas Bagguley
HOLY VESSELS:	Month Of APRIL	Donna Sebastian

HEYFIELD PARISH LITURGICAL ROSTER (APRIL]

READER:	Sat. 1 st	Carmel Pittari
FLORISTS:	Sat 1 st	No Flowers – Palm Sunday
ALTAR LINEN –	MONTH OF APRIL	Heather Higgins

ST BRIGID'S COWWARR (APRIL)

READER	Sun. 2 nd	N/A
CHURCH CLEANING	MONTH OF APRIL	Helen Palma & Josie Vitale

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

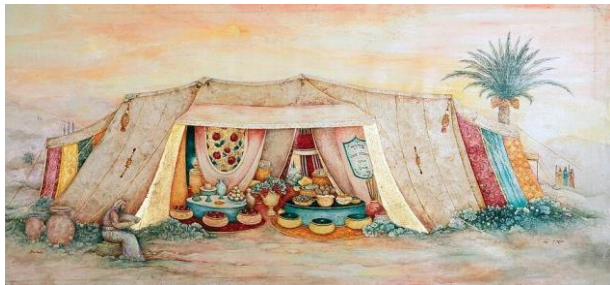
COWWARR, VIC 3857

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

Agents of Liberation

Jesus's followers unbind Lazarus and in so doing they ignore the old law, for they touch what is ritually unclean. By acting on Jesus's command, they accept the new law of the new covenant. They act as the agents of Lazarus's liberation from death and the imprisonment and darkness of the tomb. We, too, as followers of the risen Christ, must be agents of liberation. From experience we know that we do not have to be dead physically to be in need of being raised. We can be dead in the midst of life, hoping for a word of life and a community that will help put us together again.

Jesus's voice calls us away from making the tomb our natural home and challenges us to take responsibility for our brother or sister who, like Lazarus, is loved by Jesus. If we see someone buried alive, we are invited to do as Jesus and the community do: call them, help them go free. Our mission in these trying times is to unbind humanity from the captivity of death, to bring new life to those caught in the darkness of the tomb. To be a light that '... shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.'

Brian Purifeld, Thinking Faith, March 2020

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, or you, O God, are my strength.

FIRST READING Ez 37:12-14

I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live.

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

(R.) With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

1. Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord, Lord, hear my voice! O let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleading. **(R.)**

2. If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive? But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you. **(R.)**

3. My soul is waiting for the Lord, I count on his word. My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak. (Let the watchman count on daybreak and Israel on the Lord.) **(R.)**

4. Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption, Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity. **(R.)**

SECOND READING: Rom 8:8-11

If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he will give life to your own mortal bodies.

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will not die for ever.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL Jn 11:1-45

I am the resurrection and the life.

There was a man named Lazarus who lived in the village of Bethany with the two sisters, Mary and Martha, and he was ill. – It was the same Mary, the sister of the sick man Lazarus, who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair. The sisters sent this message to Jesus, ‘Lord, the man you love is ill.’ On receiving the message, Jesus said, ‘This sickness will end not in death but in God’s glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.’

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, ‘Let us go to Judaea.’ The disciples said, ‘Rabbi, it is not long since the Jews wanted to stone you; are you going back again?’ Jesus replied: ‘Are there not twelve hours in the day?

A man can walk in the daytime without stumbling because he has the light of this world to see by; but if he walks at night he stumbles, because there is no light to guide him.’

He said that and then added, ‘Our friend Lazarus is resting, I am going to wake him.’ The disciples said to him, ‘Lord, if he is able to rest he is sure to get better.’ The phrase Jesus used referred to the death of Lazarus, but they thought that by ‘rest’ he meant ‘sleep’, so Jesus put it plainly, ‘Lazarus is dead; and for your sake I am glad I was not there because now you will believe. But let us go to him.’ Then Thomas – known as the Twin – said to the other disciples, ‘Let us go too, and die with him.’

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. Bethany is only about two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to sympathise with them over their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him.

Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, ‘If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.’ ‘Your brother’ said Jesus to her ‘will rise again.’ Martha said, ‘I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.’ Jesus said: ‘I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?’

‘Yes, Lord,’ she said ‘I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.’

When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in a low voice, ‘The Master is here and wants to see you.’ Hearing this, Mary got up quickly and went to him. Jesus had not yet come into the village; he was still at the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who were in the house sympathising with Mary saw her get up so quickly and go out, they followed her, thinking that she was going to the tomb to weep there.

Mary went to Jesus, and as soon as she saw him she threw herself at his feet, saying, ‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.’ At the sight of her tears, and those of the Jews who followed her, Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, ‘Where have you put him?’ They said, ‘Lord, come and see.’ Jesus wept; and the Jews said, ‘See how much he loved him!’ But there were some who remarked, ‘He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man’s death?’ Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, ‘Take the stone away.’ Martha said to him, ‘Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.’ Jesus replied, ‘Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?’ So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said: ‘Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.’

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, ‘Lazarus, here! Come out!’ The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, ‘Unbind him, let him go free.’

Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Everyone who lives and believes in me will not die for ever, says the Lord.



NEXT WEEKEND’S READINGS:

First Reading: Is 50:4-7
Second Reading: Phil 2:6-11
Gospel: Mt 26:14 – 27:66