



CONTACT THE OFFICE

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 9.00am to 4.00pm, Monday to Friday
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www.facebook.com/southwestcoastparish

PARISH PERSONNEL

Moderator	Fr John Fitzgerald
Assistant Priest	Fr Bill Lowry
Assistant Priest	Fr Abraham Thomas
Business Manager	Tony Herbert
Accounts Manager	Louise Dryburgh
Maintenance	Pat Negri
Admin Team	Karen Johnson Virginia Martin Trisha McGinness

SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

St John's Dennington	Ben van de Camp
St Patrick's Koroit	Nick Murrell
St Patrick's Port Fairy	Olga Lyons
St Joseph's W'bool	Matthew O'Brien
St Pius X W'bool West	Stacey Atkins (Interim)
OLHC W'bool East	Stephen Madden

WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH

Star of the Sea Parish adheres to the Child Safe Standards of Victoria. Our policies are on display in each Church, and website.
 Parish Safeguarding Officers:

Infant Jesus, Koroit	Nick Murrell
St Patrick's, Port Fairy	Peter Sanderson
St Joseph's, W'bool	Anne Maree Mugavin
St Pius X, W'bool West	Karen Johnson
OLHC, W'bool East	Dion Bartlett

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We recognise the traditional custodians of parish lands. We acknowledge their ancestors with respect and we are committed to working for justice and reconciliation.

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
 20th & 21st January 2024

St Paul issues a challenge to the Christian community in Corinth in this week's Second Reading. At the centre of this, though, is an encouragement to us to free our minds and hearts from reliance on the things of this world, and to place our hope in the reign of God. The Gospel speaks of the opening of the hearts and minds of the first apostles as they leave behind everything they know in order to follow Jesus.

From time to time we shall highlight some of our major Feasts

St Paul's Conversion: Feast Day 25th January

Does it surprise you that a person who once wanted to put Christians to death became one of the Church's greatest saints? That person is Saint Paul (Saul).

Saul began to hear about a prophet named Jesus who claimed to be the Messiah. People said this man had risen from the dead and that he had worked miracles as a sign that he had been sent by God. Saul began to persecute Jesus' followers. He demanded that they give up their new faith. But no matter what he did, more and more people became followers of Jesus. They even began to call themselves Christians!

Saul was travelling to Damascus, where belief in Jesus had begun to grow. As he neared the city with his companions, we read in scripture, how he was struck by a light so bright that it blinded him. He heard a voice saying "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" Saul asked "Who are you, sir?" The voice replied "I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting. Go into the city and you will be told what to do."

Saul's friends took him to a house in the city. After three days, one of Jesus' disciples came to visit him. The man said that Jesus wanted Saul to believe in him and to be baptized. He laid his hands on Saul and baptized him. Saul was filled with the Holy Spirit and regained his sight.

He began to teach about Jesus, telling everyone that Jesus was the Son of God and that they, too, should believe in him. People began to call him 'Paul' as a sign of the new life he had received from Christ.

Recent Deaths: Michael Egan, Kevin Goodger and David Owen
Anniversaries: Peter McLean, Brian Gunnulson.

Christmas Day Lunch

Christmas is a time of joy and celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ and our gathering on Christmas Day in St Joseph's Hall was in keeping with the spirit of Christmas. A large group of people of different ages came together to celebrate Christmas Day with a tasty meal, music and entertainment in a welcoming and joyful atmosphere. Thank you to the many generous volunteers, without your help it wouldn't be possible.

Feast Day of St. Brigid of Kildare at St. Brigid's Crossley

On Thursday the 1st of February at 5:30pm the Friends of St. Brigid's will be celebrating a Thanksgiving mass in honour of the many dedicated volunteers who help in support of the great local events at St. Brigid's and the upkeep of the hall and church.

Everyone is welcome to join in and celebrate the heritage and legacy of this cultural icon, through the mass (with live music) and the subsequent dinner. Please bring a plate if are able for the jubilant celebrations to be had after the mass.

DOBCEL: Fr John is in Ballarat on Tue and Wed for a DOBCEL meeting

Stewardship - Planned Giving Program:

Thank you to parishioners who commit to this Program. It enables Star of the Sea Parish to be of service to our faith community and beyond. New sets of envelopes are available this weekend. If your details have changed or you have a query please let us know by contacting the Parish Office.

As we commence another year, this may be an opportunity to invite those not involved in the Program to consider joining. You may be new to the Parish or you may be a parent of a student at one of the schools in the parish. You can join the Program through the envelope system or by direct debit or credit card. If you need further information please contact the Parish Office (5562 2231)

Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program – Online Study

The Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation (VLCFF) is a growing initiative to offer adult religious education and faith formation anytime and anywhere, online. This low-cost (\$50usd) online study and formation for employed or volunteer lay workers in parishes is available through our partner, Dayton University. The first Cycle for 2024 begins January 15. There are 41 subjects to choose from – find one that interests you! Registrations are open now. Scan the QR code for more information or email djurdja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au or ph. 5337 7121.

St Pius X: Thank you to the morning tea and all other volunteers for your help over the past year. New volunteers are most welcome. Contact the Office or Annette 0458 622 529

OLHC: Holy Hour 10:00am every Monday

Infant Jesus: 'Mothers who Pray for their Children' resumes on Fridays at 10:45am in the Church Hall. All most welcome

St Patrick's: The Piety Shop calendars, cards and religious items for sale. Enquiries Marita 0402 431 053

Baptisms: We welcome into our community this weekend; Brianna Royo and Hunter Owen.

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday Vigil
 6:00pm OLHC, Warrnambool East

Sunday Morning
 8:30am St Joseph's, Warrnambool
 9:00am Infant Jesus, Koroit
 9:00am OLHC, Warrnambool East
 10:00am St Pius X, Warrnambool West
 10:30am St Joseph's, Warrnambool
 10:30am St Patrick's, Port Fairy
 11:00am St Anne's, Purnim*
 *Eucharist 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month;
 Assembly of the Word with Communion 1st & 3rd

Sunday Evening
 6:00pm St Joseph's, Warrnambool

RECONCILIATION


St Patrick's	After 10:00am Tuesday Mass
OLHC	After 10:00am Thursday Mass
St Joseph's	After 10:00am Friday Mass
Infant Jesus	After 10:00am Friday Mass
St Pius X	After 10:00am Saturday Mass

WEEKDAY MASSES

NB: MASS OF THE DAY IS REPLACED WHEN A FUNERAL IS HELD AT THAT CHURCH.

Tuesday	10:00am St Pius X 10:00am St Patricks
Wednesday	10:00am St Joseph's
Thursday	10:00am Our Lady Help of Christians 1:00pm St Joseph's (David Owen RIP)
Friday	10:00am St Joseph's 10:00am Infant Jesus
Saturday	10.00am St Pius X

The Pope's intention for January
For the gift of diversity:
 Let us pray that the Spirit helps us recognise the gifts of different charisms within the Christian community and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

Baptisms: An information session takes place at 7pm on the second Tuesday of every month in the Gathering Space at St Joseph's. 
Next session: Tuesday, 13th February
 Please phone the Parish Office to book in.