



### **St. Augustine's Parish, Maryborough**

~inc. St. Kevin's, Barnett St. Avoca, St. Mary's, Hardy St. Dunolly,  
St. Patrick's, Pyrenees H'way & Evans St. Amphitheatre,  
St. Patrick's, Main St. Bealiba, St. Augustine's, Burke St, Maryborough~

**Parish Priest:** Fr. John Monaghan **Pastor Emeritus:** Fr. Pat Flanagan

**Parish Secretary and Child Safety Officer:** Jill Morse

**Parish Office:** 21 Burns St. Maryborough. **Open:** 9.00am–12.00 noon Wednesday and Friday

**Phone:** 0466 451 984. **Email:** maryborough@ballarat.catholic.org.au

**St Augustine's School:** 5460 4440 **Principal:** Mrs. Sonia Turner

## **25<sup>th</sup> December 2022 The Nativity of the Lord.**

Collections "Thank You" First Collection – \$870 *For Clergy support and Presbytery expenses.*  
Second Collection - Parish Planned Giving – \$975 *For Parish expenses and Church maintenance.*

**ST. KEVIN'S, AVOCA – 8.30am Mass 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month.**  
– **8.30am Assembly at Avoca on 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of each month.**

**ST. MARY'S, DUNOLLY – 8.30am Mass 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of each month.**  
– **8.30am Assembly at Dunolly on 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month.**

**ST. PATRICK'S, BEALIBA – 8.30am Mass on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month.**

**ST. AUGUSTINE'S, MARYBOROUGH – 6.00pm Saturday and 10.30am Sunday**

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> Dec – 10.00am Mass**

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> Dec – 10.00am Mass**

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> Dec – 10.00am Mass**

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> Dec – 11.00am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament**  
**– 12.00 Midday Mass**

	Readers	Psalm/Prayer	Gifts
Dec. 24	G. Hadwen	B. Crameri	B. Crameri
Dec. 25	T. Waterson	P. Egan	Lloyd Family
Dec. 31	D. Hamilton	G. Hadwen	B. Teggerth
Jan. 1 <sup>st</sup>	T. Jacka	M. Flowers	M. Flowers

**BISHOP PAUL'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL:** All loose money on the Second Collection will go to this appeal helping people in need throughout the year.

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS VISITING HAVILAH:** Due to COVID cases and restrictions, it is difficult to visit Havilah residents at this time. I recommend Communion visits be suspended till the New Year. Fr John

**BISHOP PAUL'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE:** Christmas is the feast of the birth of Christ, and the birth of Christ brought a special kindness into our world – the kindness of God. It was as though all the kindness of God was wrapped up and given to us as a present in the form of a little child – the child Jesus. We read in the Scriptures that, with the birth of Jesus, “the kindness and love of God our Saviour were revealed.” On the face of Jesus, we see the kindly face of God. In the compassion that Jesus showed all through His life, we see the compassion of God. Charles Dickens wrote a little book called “The Life of Our Lord” written especially for his own children, that he read to them every Christmas. This book begins with the words: “My dear children, I am very anxious that you should know something about the history of Jesus Christ. For everybody ought to know about Him. No one ever lived who was so good, so kind, so gentle, and so sorry for all people who did wrong, or were in any way ill or miserable, as He was.” Dickens highlights Christ’s love for all people, especially for the poor and those who were suffering. He writes about Jesus choosing followers from among the poor. “When Jesus had grown up He would choose some special followers to go about with Him. These are called the ‘disciples’. He chose them from among the poor. He did this so that the poor might know – always after that, in all years to come – that heaven was made for them as well as for the rich, and that God makes no difference between those who wear good clothes and those who go barefoot and in rags.” Dickens goes on to encourage his children to follow Jesus’ example and be kind to those in need. “Never forget this, when you are grown up. Never be proud or unkind to any poor man, woman, or child. Think how Jesus Christ went among them and taught them and thought them worthy of His care.” When Dickens spoke about Jesus, he said, “No one ever lived who was so good, so kind, so gentle, as He was.” As we celebrate Jesus’ birth, we rejoice in the goodness and kindness and gentleness He has shown. May we also learn from Him to be good and kind and gentle towards one another. In this spirit, I offer you my very best wishes for Christmas. Merry Christmas, one and all. God bless us, everyone. + Paul Bird CSsR

*Remembering those who have died:*

*We pray for those who died this week and those whose anniversaries are at this time: Agnes McKinley, Mary Schack, John Dunlop, John James Schmidt, Brian Dam, Noah Slater, Scott Lawrence, Frank Hoban, Alan Lawrence, Gladys Impey, Mary Minehan, Kathleen Dridan, Alice Schmidt, Ronald Morgan, Francis Ellis and Robert Laverick.*

**PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL      The Nativity of the Lord.**

Priest: On this night/day that a new and holy light shone upon the earth, we join our prayers with people across the world seeking a new and better life for all.

**Reader: We pray on this day of our salvation that the hearts of all people are warmed by Jesus' birth and every hand be compelled to make peace on earth.**

**(pause) Lord, hear us:      All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader: We pray that we find contentment not in the material things we receive but in the gift of loving and giving everywhere there is a need.**

**(pause) Lord, hear us:      All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader: We pray that indifferences that divide are resolved and overcome and that the wounds of injustice are healed through reconciliation and friendship.**

**(pause) Lord, hear us:      All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader: We pray that we walk tenderly as stewards upon the earth so that, while each of us are only here for a time, its beauty and abundance continue to inspire and provide for future generations.**

**(pause) Lord, hear us:      All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader: We pray for those who died recently and those whose anniversaries are at this time.**

**(pause) Lord, hear us:      All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Priest: We ask for Mary's intercession – "Hail Mary full of grace ...

Priest: Lord God, draw us ever closer to you on this glorious night/day and hear our prayers as we joyfully proclaim the glory of your infant Son to the ends of the earth.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. **All: Amen.**