



Wodonga Catholic Parish

Including Bethanga, Dederang, Mt Beauty, Tangambalanga, Tallangatta & Corryong Communities



September 20th -2020 - The 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

~ YEAR A ~

WODONGA PARISH CENTRE

283 Beechworth Road
Wodonga Vic 3690:
Phone: 02 6024 3366
E-mail Address:
wodonga@sandhurst.catholic.org.au
wodongacatholicparish.com.au

OFFICE HOURS

9:30 am - 4:00 pm
Monday to Friday

PRESBYTERY

55 High Street Wodonga Vic

PARISH PRIEST

Father Junjun Amaya
0459-356-917

ASSISTANT PRIEST

Father Shibu
Pezhumthottathil
0432 591 551

PASTORAL ASSISTANT

Sister Eileen Reardon
0458 327 554 (Mt Beauty)

WEEKEND MASSES

WODONGA

Sacred Heart Church

Saturday 5:00 pm.

Sunday 8:30 am 11:00 am

4th Sunday of each month

Youth Mass 5:00 pm

TANGAMBALANGA

Our Lady Help of Christians

2nd & 4th Sunday 10:30 am

BETHANGA

St Francis No Masses

DEDERANG

St Joseph's NO MASSES

MT BEAUTY

St Joseph's NO MASSES

WEEKDAY MASS:

NO MASSES

Sacred Heart Church

Mass: Tuesday to Friday

9:15 am

RECONCILIATION:

Sacred Heart Church

9:00am-9:30am Saturdays only.



Pope Francis:

Today we hear the voice of creation admonishing us to return to our rightful place in the natural created order – to remember that we are part of this interconnected web of life, not its masters. [#SeasonOfCreation](#)



Season of Creation week 3

GREETING: The Readings invite us to remember that God is near and like the generous landowner who gives equally to all his workers. We ask forgiveness for taking for granted the gift of country and the people surrounding us.

REFLECTION: St Hildegard of Bingen wrote of the Earth as Mother '... it forms not only the basic raw material for humankind but also the substance of God's Son.' She formed the nuns in her monastery in the middle ages to celebrate a verdant God in poetry and song, and to use herbs for healing the sick. *Pope Francis Laudato Si' 218.*

Looking at the Readings:

Here is a parable that both Business Owners and Trade Union Officials have difficulties with because of the wage settlements. But the parable is addressing greater issues and has deeper implications.

Firstly there is a sense of justice and care for the poor. The labourers employed at the eleventh hour still need to feed their families. One denarius would supply a frugal sustenance for the daily needs of a family.

Secondly the parable speaks of God's generosity that cannot be measured in our economic terms or social structures, imperfect as they are. God's generosity embraces and responds to all our frailties and needs. But we are often unable to grasp this.

Thirdly, the first reading is a wise and most appropriate prequel to today's Gospel: Isaiah present God's words: "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks. Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts." We rejoice in God's ways

Just for Giggles

A Priest, a Monk and a Rabbit walk into a bar.

The Rabbit looks around and says,

"I think I am a spelling mistake!"



.....We Pray.....

Lord, may your love and light shine in and through me today
in a way that no mask can hide.

May my eyes dance with laughter and joy,
replacing my hidden smile.

May my actions of care and concern
speak louder than my muffled voice ever could.

And may the generosity of my heart
radiate out through who I am
and how I respond to the world around me,
so that others may not see my mask
but your image shining out,
moving in and through me today.

Amen.

Written on the first day masks became compulsory in Metropolitan Melbourne, by a teacher on bud supervision, who noticed how much is lost from our encounters when faces are hidden.



.....Celebration of Our Lady of Mercy.....



You are Invited

The Sisters of Mercy invite you to Celebrate with them on September 24th at 10am(AEST) the Feast of Our Lady of Mercy.

We will celebrate the day with a special prayer and ritual prepared by Mary Wickham.

We encourage you, your family friends and colleagues to join us via zoom for our Mercy Day Liturgy.

The meeting details are as follows: *copy and paste.*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82202867944?pwd=UmkzYmFob0FpT2dYVVVITDh0OWdXdz09>

Meeting ID: 8222 0286 7944

Passcode: 848785

A Snippet of Our Parish History with the Sisters of Mercy:

The 1892 arrival from Albury of the four Mercy Sisters who were to found a Convent of their Order in Wodonga was the outcome of the failure of Rev. Dean Tierney of Beechworth to obtain satisfaction of his continued requests for members of the Mercy Order in Victoria.

For ten years before that date Catholic Education in Wodonga had been the responsibility of two lay teachers, Miss Fegan and Miss O'Leary in a wooden skillion built onto the back of St Augustine's Church.

Wodonga was still part of the Parish of Chiltern, which had been formed from the Parish of Beechworth in 1876, the same year that Wodonga became a Shire in its own right.

During this period Fr Charles Van der Heyden, the builder of St. Augustine's Church, and then Fr James Carolan, were the Parish Priests who administered Wodonga's affairs from Chiltern.

It was Fr. Carolan who fell out with Miss O'Leary over various matters, and who then found it advisable and necessary to establish a Convent in Wodonga – an option readily endorsed by the Bishop of Sandhurst, the Rev. Martin Crane.

Receiving no help from the Victorian Mercy Nuns, Bishop Crane approached Bishop Lanigan of Goulburn, who had no scruples about directing Mother Ignatius of Albury Convent, established in 1868, to supply Nuns to found a sister establishment in Wodonga.

The decision was mad toward the end of 1891, and on 24th December of that year, the Wodonga and Towong Sentinel carried the story that:

"Immediately after the holidays the R.C. school will be carried on by two Nuns and a lay teacher, who will reside in Hume street in the house recently erected by Mr. P. O'Connor."

Thus it was on the 6th February 1892, three Mercy Nuns and a postulant under the care of Mother M. Aloysius Tierney (1864 – 1948) arrived in Wodonga.

Today in our parish we have one Sister of Mercy - Sister Eileen Reardon RSM.

Eileen originally arrived in Wodonga in the mid 70's, teaching at St Augustine's School, then returned to our parish 2006 to the position of Family Support for Frayne College, Baranduda and Pastoral Associate to the Valley. Eileen is still very active and connected to our Parish community.

If you have any knowledge of our parish history, we would love to hear form you.

Please contact Sonni at the Parish Centre via email sonni63wcp@gmail.com

Priests Retirement Foundation – Appeal 2020

The Annual Appeal of the Priests Retirement Foundation will be held on Sunday 20 September 2020, an opportunity for the faithful people of the Diocese to consider a donation. Currently we have 14 retired priests in the Diocese and we thank you for your support in recent years where many substantial donations and legacies have enabled the foundation to build. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible and receipts available on request. Wishing you all continued health and safety and know you are in our prayers. ***Chair: Mons Frank Marriott***

To make a donation:

By cheque with your full name and address post to:

Priests Retirement Foundation
C/- St Therese's Parish
25 Albion Street
Kennington VIC 3550

By direct bank transfer to the account below:

Account Name: Priests Retirement Foundation of the Diocese of Sandhurst

BSB: 083-543

Account No: 13-833-7378

Reference: PRF and your surname

Then please email afewings@sandhurst.catholic.org.au with details of your transfer.

Thank you

Dementia Awareness Week. 21-27 September, 2020.

Anyone can develop dementia. Dementia doesn't discriminate, but we can change how we respond to and behave around people living with dementia. Misconceptions and judgements about the capacity of a person living with dementia lead to condescending behaviours and cause significant discrimination.

Almost half a million Australians are affected by dementia and that will increase rapidly in the next twenty years. People living with dementia can continue to live active and full lives many years after diagnosis. It is our role as a parish community to support our fellow parishioners to live well for as long as possible.



It's time to get social!



Find us on Facebook -

<https://www.facebook.com/wodongacatholicparish/>

Morning Mass, Tuesdays to Friday—Weekend Mass, Holy Hour - Evening Prayer, Holy Rosary and Benediction will be live streamed at Wodonga Catholic Parish Facebook Page.

For more query ring myself Ph: 0459356917 or the Parish Centre:
Ph: 60243366 Fr Junjun Amaya



Gospel: Matthew



First Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,
call to him while he is still near.
Let the wicked man abandon his way,
the evil man his thoughts.
Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him,
to our God who is rich in forgiving;
for my thoughts are not your thoughts,
my ways not your ways - it is the Lord who speaks.
Yes, the heavens are as high above earth
as my ways are above your ways,
my thoughts above your thoughts.

Second Reading: Philippians 1:20-24,27

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results - I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake. Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

Jesus said to his disciples:

'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

Readings this week

Isaiah 55:6-9
Philippians 1:20-24,27
Matthew 20:1-16

Readings next week:

Ezekiel 18:25-28
Philippians 2:1-11
Matthew 21:28-32

Responsorial Psalm:

The Lord is near to all who call him.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia! Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son. Alleluia!

Prayer of the Faithful:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Recent Deaths: Paul Mahony, Sister Kate Finn RSM, Aileen Mackay

Anniversaries: Monica Maher

Sick Zak Oliver, Kath Twycross, Salome Ramirez, Ric Glavocih, Mary Shaddock, Ricky Ellul, John Radcliffe, parishioners who are ill, their families & Carers

ENGAGING YOUR CATHOLIC FAITH

From 14th September – 31 October 2020.

Catholic Theological College (Melbourne) is offering a rich array of short courses via Zoom, with highly qualified presenters (**including our own Dr Jake Mudge**).

Courses are 90 minutes or 2 hours duration, \$20 each.

To choose your course(s) and register go to:

www.ctc.edu.au

An Invitation for the people of Sandhurst During the Season of Creation 2020

This online gathering will offer a reflection on the new Sandhurst 'Care for Creation' Statement and slide show followed by time for discussion sharing insights and possibilities.

Two zoom opportunities:

Friday 18 September 2020 10.30 – 11.30 am Tuesday 22 September 2020 7.00 – 8.00 pm

To receive zoom link email:

adultfaith@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

OR caritasjustice@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

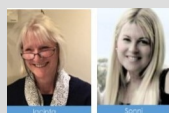
Catholic EarthCare

Catholic EarthCare invites YOU on a journey through the Season of Creation by joining in for a special virtual Convocation **via Zoom** – a significant church event with a wide audience in mind and an amazing range of speakers. You can register for all sessions or just what appeals to you.

The program includes 'Formation' sessions looking at the theological and moral imperative to care for our common home; 'Foundation' sessions exploring the financial, economic, political and social spheres in which influence our common home; 'Action' sessions exploring the transformative ways in which we can realise the need to care for creation.

It's a unique opportunity to inform and inspire yourself about **'care for creation' from a Catholic perspective**. To view the program and register

www.catholicearthcare.org.au/2020-convocation.



A Safe Parish Is a Shared Responsibility:

Wodonga Catholic Parish Safety Officers. Our Parish safety officers are Jacinta Bartlett Ph: 0418470532 and Sonia La Motte-Schubert Ph: 60243366 Towards Healing help line 1800 816 030 (free call)

Lifeline is a non-profit Organisation FREE 24-hour: Crisis Support Phone: 13 11 14

Catholic College Year 12 PARISHIONER PRAYERS

As you would be aware this year has thrown many challenges at us all and especially to our Year 12 students.

We are hoping that you might take up an invitation from us to send a message or motivating words to the student you are praying for in order to help them through the coming weeks.

If you e-mail your message to

chris.telford@ccw.vic.edu.au or daniel.sobolewski@ccw.vic.edu.au

we will forward them on to the student you are praying for.

Thanks again for your participation in this Parish initiative. Our students do appreciate that someone is thinking about and praying for them.

I wish you all well and look forward to the time when we can once again gather as a community.

May we continue to embrace "Life in Jesus" through this difficult time for us.

Confirmation & First Eucharist 2020



We would like to inform our Wodonga Catholic Parish and the families of those young people intending to celebrate their Confirmation and First Eucharist in 2020, that it has been decided to suspend the program for 2020 due to the ongoing COVID-19 restrictions.

With the Premier's announcement on Sunday where he laid out his Roadmap for Regional Victoria in regard to COVID-19, it became clear that it is not feasible to celebrate these Sacraments this year. Hopefully, we will be able to celebrate these Sacraments along with Reconciliation in 2021. In addition, all those eligible for these Sacraments in 2021 will have the opportunity to prepare and celebrate these Sacraments. Early in 2021 we will publicize the programme and dates for these Sacraments. Thank you for your understanding.



Fr. Junjun and the Sacramental Team

Catholic Calendar

September 21st: Feast of St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist.— *Liturgical colour-RED.*

At the time that Jesus summoned him to follow Him, Matthew was a publican, that is, a tax-collector for the Romans. His profession was hateful to the Jews because it reminded them of their subjection; the publican, also, was regarded by the pharisees as the typical sinner. St. Matthew is known to us principally as an Evangelist. He was the first to put down in writing our Lord's teaching and the account of His life. His Gospel was written in Aramaic, the language that our Lord Himself spoke.

September 23rd: Memorial of St. Padre Pio.— *Liturgical colour-RED.*

Padre Pio was born in 1887 in the small Italian village of Pietrelcina. He joined the Capuchin Friars at the age of sixteen and was ordained a priest seven years later. For fifty years at the monastery of San Giovanni Rotondo he was a much sought after spiritual advisor, confessor, and intercessor whose life was devoted to the Eucharist and prayer. Yet despite such notoriety, he would often say, "I only want to be a poor friar who prays." According to the 1962 Missal of St. John XXIII the Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite, today is the feast of St. Linus, the immediate successor of St. Peter in the government of the Church. He is mentioned after the apostles in the Roman Canon of the Mass (Eucharistic Prayer I). It is also the feast of St. Thecla, a virgin of Asia Minor in the early days of the Church. Her cultus, which is very ancient, goes back to the second century. She is considered the first woman martyr.

~ catholicculture.org.

Coming up is **REFUGEE & MIGRANT SUNDAY on 27th September** designated by our Bishops as a time to focus on the issues of migration and seeking refuge.