THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT-YEAR C

WODONGA CATHOLIC PARISH CENTRE: 283 BEECHWORTH ROAD WODONGA VIC 3690: PHONE: 02 6024 3366 E: wodcath@bigpond.net.au

OFFICE HOURS 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM MONDAY TO FRIDAY

WODONGA CATHOLIC PARISH PRIESTS:

FR ANDREW FEWINGS, MODERATOR FR DENIB JOSETTE (DJ) SUGUITAN FR JOHN PAUL PASALA (PASTORAL LEADER OF TALLANGATTA & CORRYONG) PH: 6024 3366

MERCY PRESENCE SISTER EILEEN REARDON PH: 0458 327 554 (MT BEAUTY)

WEEKEND MASSES:

WODONGA

SACRED HEART CHURCH SATURDAY @ 5:00 PM. SUNDAY @ 8:30 AM & 10.30 AM

TANGAMBALANGA OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CHURCH

3RD SUNDAY @ 10.30 AM MASS

DEDERANG: ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH IST SUNDAY @ 10.30 AM MASS

MT BEAUTY: ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH IST & 3RD SUNDAY @ 8.30 AM 5TH SUNDAY - LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH COMMUNION

TALLANGATTA: ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH 2ND & 4TH SUNDAY - @ 11:00 AM

CORRYONG: SACRED HEART CHURCH 2ND & 4TH SUNDAY @ 8:30 AM

WALWA: CHRIST THE KING CHURCH 2ND & 4TH SATURDAY @ 4:00 PM

SANDY CREEK: ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH 5TH SUNDAY @ 8:30 AM

MITTA MITTA: ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH 5TH SUNDAY @ 11:00 AM

2ND & 4TH SATURDAYS: SYRO-MALABAR MASS 6:30PM

WEEKDAY MASS: SACRED HEART CHURCH, WODONGA TUESDAY TO FRIDAY @ 9:15 AM

ST AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH, WODONGA MONDAY & SATURDAY @ 9:15 AM

RECONCILIATION:

ST AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH, WODONGA SATURDAY @ 8:45 AM TO 9:10AM COUNTRY CHURCHES BEFORE MASSES



Acknowledgement of Country

Wodonga Catholic Parish, acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land where our churches, schools and buildings are located. We pay our respect to the Aboriginal people and elders past and present whose spirits dwell in this land. May the spirit of this ancient land be always with us

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Looking at the Readings

Following the third Sunday of Lent, the Gospel this week (The Prodigal Son) and next Sunday (The Adulterous Woman) focus on repentance and forgiveness. Theses two Gospel passages, in turn, emphasise the generosity of both the forgiving father and the forgiveness Jesus Christ extended to the woman. In both passages. Jesus identifies with tax collectors and sinners by having meals with them and talking to them. His accusers question him on his association with them or his response to their guilty situations. Jesus addresses both the parable and the confrontation to his accusers and their self-righteousness.

Today's parable is rich in meaning about ourselves. We can identify with the younger son, the older brother, the forgiving father and even the distressed farmer in that distant country. It is in them we may then judge ourselves: What are our obvious failings about treating parents and others, about greed and extravagance or our hidden self: resentment, jealousy, anger, refusal to forgive? Are we challenged by the generosity of the father, his patience and persistence in reaching out to his two sons and his gentleness in treating their failings?

The second reading also proclaims the reconciliation granted by God. But first God gave us his Son who, though sinless, identified with the sinner. Being in solidarity with sinful humanity, the sinner, though Christ Jesus, now comes into solidarity with God's righteousness.

The first reading from the Book of Joshua continues one of the Lenten themes: the recalling of salvation history. It also links the Passover, the manna in the desert and the Lord's last supper. God gave them bread to eat. Christ gives us his Body to feed us.

Lenten Quote from the Saints

"Without the burden of afflictions, it is impossible to reach the height of grace. The gift of grace increases as the struggle increases." St. Rose of Lima

An Act of Contrition

Father, I have sinned against you and I am not worthy to be called your son. Be merciful to me, a sinner. (Luke 15:18, 18:13) Order of Penance, Rite of Reconciliation I, © 1974 ICEL

INCORPORATING SACRED HEART, Wodonga, ST. AUGUSTINE'S, Wodonga, OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS, Tangambalanga, ST. JOSEPH'S Dederang, ST. JOSEPH'S Mt. Beauty & The Parishes of ST MICHAEL'S Tallangatta & SACRED HEART Corryong.



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Recent Deaths

Anniversaries:

Maureen Mannion, Margaret Quirk, Michael Fagan, Anton Kalcic, Muriel Ward, David Sinnott, Terrence Mahony

Those Who are Unwel: Pope Francis, Colin La Motte, Michael Rooney, David Evans, Barbara Smith, Karen Ward, Donald Ward, Ricky Ellul, John Hodson, Eloise Hill, Geoffrey Halford, Rosanna Jackson, Genevieve Govers, Linda Hall, Salome Ramirez, Kerstin Lancaster, Robert Anderson, John Artis, Mary Shaddock, parishioners who are ill, their families & carers.

Jeanette Mylon, Jill Hayes(Corryong), Paul Mylon.

Would you like your loved ones recent death, anniversary or ill health acknowledged in this bulletin for prayers to be offered? Please pass the information on to the Priest or email Sonni E: wodcath@bigpond.net.au. OR Ph: 0260243366. Due to privacy laws we are unable to place names in the bulletin unless requested by a relative.

Lenten Holy Hour

Exposition. Adoration. Vespers. Benediction

Thursday's of Lent @ 5pm 03 April, 10 April 2025 @ St Augustine's Church. 55 High Street Wodonga.

KSC-Knights of the Southern Cross

The local branch of the KSC meet on Tuesday **01 April** in the Parish Centre meeting room **@7pm**

CWL-Catholic Womens League

The local branch of the CWL meet on Wednesday **02 April** in the Parish Centre meeting room after the 9:15am Mass. Ph: *Marg Bates 0427273272*

Lenten Prayer Leaflets:

Please find copies of the 2025 Lenten Prayer Leaflets in the foyer of your church Or you may access the Leaflet on our website just hit the link: <u>https://wodongacatholicparish.com.au/wp-</u> <u>content/uploads/2025/03/4.-Week-Four-Lent-</u> <u>2025.pdf</u>

Eucharist at Home

Would you or someone you know like to receive Eucharist at home? Perhaps a visit from one of our priests would be appreciated? If that's the case, please reach out to our staff at the Parish Centre. They would be delighted to assist you in arranging this. Contact us at PH: 0260243366 or via email at wodcath@bigpond.net.au.

Scripture Group:

Do you wish to know more about Jesus, or maybe get closer to Him through Scripture and learn more during Lent 2025? If You answered YES? Then, maybe the WCP Parish Mark's Gospel Scripture Group, is for YOU! We meet each fortnight on Tuesday Evening in Parish Centre from 5.45pm to 7.15pm **Next meetings** 1 April, 15 April, 29 April.

I am a current member of group & I have been for 2 Years. If you would like to know more then please contact me *Clive Hayward 0408343527*

Stations of the Cross

All Parishioners are invited to attend Stations of the Cross each **Friday evening during Lent** 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm @ Sacred Heart Church, Wodonga.

Mass of Anointing

The Mass of Anointing will take place on **Thursday April 10** at Sacred Heart Church, Wodonga **1.30 pm**. Refreshments to follow. **All Welcome.** For further information contact *Des Lonergan Ph:0408575825.*

Did you know

You can request our Bulletin via email? You can also view the latest and previous Bulletins on FaceBook or our website.

Please go to our FaceBook page WCP FB Page or website.<u>www.wodongacatholicparish.com.au</u>

Planned Giving:

Planned Giving reports and new sets of envelopes are now available in the foyer of Sacred Heart Church, Wodonga. It has come to our attention some reports are incorrect, our apologies. Those affected are: Bank transfers, for December had not been recorded; Credit Card contributions for November, have been duplicated in the report. The Planned Giving Team.



A Safe Parish Is a Shared Responsibility

Our Parish Safety Officer is Sonia La Motte-Schubert If you have any concerns please phone 60243366 or E: wodcath@bigpond.net.au. Or refer to or Reporting Process Poster displayed in our church.

Towards Healing helpline Ph: 1800 816 030 (free call)

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

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Gospel Luke 15:1-3.11-3

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man,' they said, 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them:

'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father,

"Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me."

So the father divided the property between them.

A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger!

I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants."

So he left the place and went back to his father.

'While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity.

He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly.

Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.

I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants,

"Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate.

'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about, "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound."

He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends.

But, for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property - he and his women - you kill the calf we had been fattening."

> 'The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it was only right we should celebrate and rejoice,

because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found."

Readings this week: Joshua 5:9-12	Entrance Antiphon:	Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.
2 Corinthians 5:17-21 Luke 15:1-3.11-3	Responsorial Psalm:	Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.
Reading next week: Isaiah 43:16-21 Philippians 3:8-14 John 8:1-11	Gospel Acclamation:	Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ! I will rise and go to my Father and tell him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
	Prayers of the Faithful:	Lord, hear our prayer.





Wodonga 5th & 6th April

Sacred Heart Church Cleaning: Volunteers

Lectors/Altar Servers

5:00pm

Altar Server:VolunteerLector 1:Christian DinhLector 2:Stephen McKinley

8:30am

Altar Server: Lector 1: Lector 2: Volunteer Ross Black Marg Ware

10:30am

Sacred Heart Sacristy: Dot Larkin & Camel Gannon

Altar Server: Lector 1: Lector 2: Volunteer Josh Jaculbia Jenny Sinnott

10:30am: Bronwyn, Jacinta & Helen

Eucharistic Ministers

5:00pm: Meryl, Amilia & Juliana

8:30am: Nina, John & Marg H

Counters

This Week: TEAM 6:Marg Whitehead & John BarratNext Week: TEAM 7:Matt & Sally Ley, Peter Murray

<u>Mt Beauty - 6th April</u>

Lector:	Peter
Back Up:	Fran
Commentator:	Mary-Anne
PowerPoint:	Stuart

Welcome & Congratulations

We welcome and congratulate the children and their families as they celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend.

Baptism Preparation/information

Wodonga Catholic Parish will run the next Baptism Preparation/information evening is on Tuesday the **1st of April @ 7pm** in Sacred Heart Church, Wodonga. **Bookings are essential:**

Parents of children to be baptised are required to attend a Baptism Preparation Evening, as it is a pre-requisite in our Parish. Godparents and other family are also welcome. for more information or to register please contact: The Parish Centre:

PH: 6024 3366 E: wodcath@bigpond.net.au.

CCR Sandhurst.

Installation of Fr Arun Korlakanti as Spiritual Director of CCR Sandhurst by Bishop Shane McKinlay Sat 29 March Mass 11.30am proceeded by

praise and worship 11.15am @ St Brendan's, Knight St. Shepparton. **Followed by** lunch and talks by Fr Arun @ Mons Peter Jeffrey Centre **Lunch:** Please bring a plate to share **All welcome** Contact: Brigita 0412042196, Mary 0427190282 or Denise : 0407506813

Dederang - 6th April

First / Second Reading:	Alanna
Welcome/Psalm/PoF:	Sharon
PowerPoint:	Harrison

Liturgical Jottings - Lenten Prayer 4

For Strength

O God, you see that we have no strength in ourselves. Keep us both outwardly and inwardly. Defend us from all adversities which hurt the body, and cleanse us from all evil thoughts which afflict the mind; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Source: Gregorian Sacramentary, 8th Century, Collect Second Sunday in Lent

For a Clean Heart

Create a clean heart in me, O God:

a humble heart, a meek heart, a peaceful heart, a benevolent heart, a devout heart which does evil to no one, which does not repay evil for evil, but overcomes evil with good, which loves you above all things, always thinks about you, speaks about you, gives you thanks, delights in hymns and spiritual songs, and has its citizenship in heaven. Amen.

Source: Girolamo Savonarola

Sandpiper: Did you Know?

Did you know the Sandpiper, our Diocesan Newspaper, may be accessed online by clicking the Link on our website or Parish Facebook page? You may also request the link be sent to you via email along with your Parish News/Bulletin hut the kink to view the latest Sandpiper news <u>https://mailchi.mp/sandhurst/96</u>

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RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

During the RCIA process candidates are welcomed, enrolled and elected in various rites over several months. Before the sacraments of Chrisitan Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and First Eucharist) there are the Scrutiny Rites. While these rites were common in the third to sixth centuries of the Church, they are relatively new to us, and so not deeply embedded in our bones. The original purpose of the scrutinies was to examine the candidates as they leave behind a pagan life to take up a Christian way of life. In recent decades they serve "to uncover, then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the elect" and "to bring out, and then strengthen all that is upright, strong, and good" (RCIA, 141).

So, the importance of the scrutinies is that the catechumens complete their conversion and deepen their resolve to become disciples. The way is two-fold: prayer and action by the proclamation of the specified gospels and the prayer of exorcism, which is based upon those gospels. In a very real way, the readings "scrutinise" the elect. As the living word of God is proclaimed the word itself examines the hearts of the elect and confronts them about their resolve to overcome worldly thirsts, to see with the eyes of Christ, and to hold fast to the promise of eternal life.



Irene lives in a remote village in the Kongolo Region in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Life hasn't been easy for Irene. After losing her father in a war, Irene and her family were forced to flee their home. Life became even more challenging when her husband left, leaving Irene to raise her 2 children alone. Without finishing her education and with few job opportunities in her village, she struggled to provide even the basics for her family.

Things began to change when Irene joined the Youth Capacity Strengthening Program (YCSP), run by Caritas Kongolo with the support of Caritas Australia. Through the program, Irene learned sewing skills and was provided with a sewing machine and fabric. Irene also gained farming skills. Now, she grows enough food to feed her family and even shares her sewing knowledge by mentoring other women in her community.



"Before, women depended on men's income, but now, with our sewing skills, we can take care of ourselves," Irene said.

Your support of Project Compassion helps women like Irene to create brighter futures for themselves and their families.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes Or by scanning the QR code for your parish below Or online at: <u>caritas.org.au/project-compassion</u> Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Please use your parish QR code to make your donation to Project Compassion















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The Catholic Parishes of Wodonga, Tallangatta & Corryong

Holy Week & Easter Mass Times 2025

Palm Sunday: April 13:

Blessings of the palms at all Masses this weekend.

Chrism Mass: April 15

11:00 am Tuesday 15th Sacred Heart Cathedral

Bendigo

Reconciliation:

6:00 pm Wednesday: Sacred Heart Church.

Wodonga

Holy Thursday: April 17

6:30 pm until 7.00 pm	Reconciliation - Sacred Heart Church	Wodonga
7:00 pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper - Sacred Heart Church	Wodonga
6:00 pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper - Sacred Heart Church	Corryong
6:00 pm	Mass of the Lord's Super - St Michaels Church	Tallangatta
9:00 pm	Sacred Heart Church, Wodonga, will remain open until 9:00pm	

Good Friday April 18th

9:00 am 12:00 pm	Stations of the Cross - St Francis of Assisi Primary School Ecumenical Stations of the Cross - Followed by Reconciliation	Baranduda Dederang
3:00 pm	Liturgy – The Lord's Passion – Sacred Heart Church	Wodonga
3:00 pm	Liturgy – The Lord's Passion – St Michael's Church	Tallangatta
3:00 pm	Liturgy – The Lord's Passion – Sacred Heart Church	Corryong
3:00 pm	Liturgy – The Lord's Passion – St Joseph's Church	Mt Beauty
4:00 pm	Reconciliation - St Joseph's Church	Mt Beauty
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Reconciliation - Sacred Heart Church	Wodonga
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Reconciliation - Sacred Heart Church	Corryong

Holy Saturday Vigil April 19

9:00 - 10:00 am	Reconciliation - Sacred Heart Church	Wodonga
6:00 pm	Easter Vigil - Sacred Heart Church	Corryong
6:00 pm	Easter Vigil - St Michael's Church	Tallangatta
7:00 pm	Easter Vigil - Sacred Heart Church	Wodonga

Easter Sunday April 20th

6:30 am Sunrise Service	Ecumenical Service	Tawonga Gap
8:30 am & 10.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Wodonga
8:30 am	St Joseph's Church	Mt Beauty
9:00 am	Christ the King Church	Walwa
9:00 am	St Joseph's Church	Mitta Mitta
9:00 am	St Michael's Church	Tallangatta
10:30 am	St Joseph's Church	Dederang
11:00 am	St Michael's Church	Sandy Creek

Slavery Free Easter Chocolate

"Every person ought to have the awareness that purchasing is always a moral – and not simply an economic – act." — Pope Francis

Chocolate is a delicious treat and popular gift. Each year, Australians will spend millions of dollars buying hundreds of kilograms to enjoy over Easter season.

But as delicious and quintessential as it has become, much of it has been tainted with slavery.

Cocoa, a key ingredient of chocolate, is often harvested from the West African region and a lot of the harvesting is done by children who have been forced into labour.

Chocofate can come at the cost of a child's health, equation, of a child's health, equation, and sometimes even their freedom

Children Love Easter eggs. Except the ones who are forced to make them.



Look for Certification Logos when purchasing your slavery free chocolate this Easter. Scan the QR Code to learn more

