



St Mary's Bungendore  
St Bede's Braidwood  
St Joseph's Gundaroo  
St Peter & Paul's Hoskinstown  
St Joseph's Tarago

<http://cg.org.au/bungendore/Home.aspx>

Fr. Sijo Jose, Parish Priest



## Sunday 8th March 2026, Third Sunday of Lent Year A

### BUNGENDORE PARISH TEAM

Fr Sijo Jose: 0470 110 189 email: [sijo.jose@cg.org.au](mailto:sijo.jose@cg.org.au)

Baptisms: Baptisms will be on Saturday's at 11:00am

Please email the parish office to arrange a baptism.

Weddings: Please contact Parish office; at least six months notice required.

Phone: 02 6238 1247

Email: [bungendore@cg.org.au](mailto:bungendore@cg.org.au)

Website: <http://cg.org.au/bungendore/Home.aspx>

Secretary: Bernadette Coman

Office hours: Thursday 9:30-4:00, Friday 9:30-1:30.

Please email your enquiries.

### BUNGENDORE, BRAIDWOOD and REGION MASS TIMES

Bungendore: Sunday 8:30am; Weekday Mass: Wednesday and Friday 9:00am

Sacrament of Reconciliation: After Wednesday or Friday Mass

Braidwood: Thursday 10:15am and Saturday 6:00pm

Gundaroo: 2nd & 4th Sunday of each month at 10:30am; Baptisms will be conducted during Mass

Hoskinstown: 1st Sunday of each month at 10:30am

### REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

All people thirst for meaning, but of what does that meaning consist? The people in the desert thirsted for water, but they misunderstood their thirst. The woman of Samaria thirsted. Her conversation with Jesus showed that she thirsted for understanding and insight as well as water. For what do we thirst in this world of such great excess and unmeasured need? Life has not become simpler with all of our advances. We still thirst for more – for the newest, the fastest and the best. How much is enough, and when do we cross the line into 'too much'?

The gospel readings for the scrutiny Sundays very clearly lay out the choices that are placed before the catechumens and the rest of the believing community as well. This Sunday it is between water that quenches thirst and water that does not. Jesus identifies himself as the source of water that guarantees eternal life. He places before the Samaritan woman a choice that requires a step of profound faith. She knows the thirst-quenching quality of the water from Jacob's well, but she is not acquainted with the water promised by this stranger who is also an enemy of her people. The choice is not an obvious one. A similar choice is placed before us. We know the demands of our culture and the circumstances of our lives. Are we able to acknowledge the sins of which we are guilty, recognise the grace that is being offered to us, and make the right choice?

Dianne Bergant CSA

Please pray for: Robert & Rhoda Murdock, Frank Shugg, Erwin Feeken, Sheather family, Diana Robertson, Luke Alam, Bob Angel, Peter Gagliardi, Stewart Briggs, Annie Nikolaou, Ed Cory, Cassandra Mallia, Bob Yates, Ann Reardon, Mary Coombe, Wayne Smith, Rene Mallia, Ken & Cathy Vine, Elizabeth Van Gessel, Barb Rayner, Fr Mick Burke, Adrian van Prooyen, Carol-Jayne McManus, Mary & Peter McCullagh, Peter Hugonnet & Terry Reardon, Fr Michael Mullens

Anniversaries: Phil Sheather, Pam Sutor

Deaths: Brian Daniel

If you would like to add or remove a name please email Bernadette at [bungendore@cg.org.au](mailto:bungendore@cg.org.au)



The Parish of St Mary's, Bungendore acknowledges the Ngunnawal and Ngambri people, the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for many thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

**Entrance Antiphon**

My eyes are always on the Lord,  
for he rescues my feet from the snare.  
Turn to me and have mercy on me,  
for I am alone and poor.

or

**Cf Psalm 24:15-16**

even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

**Cf Ezekiel 36:23-26**

When I prove my holiness among you,  
I will gather you from all the foreign lands;  
and I will pour clean water upon you  
and cleanse you from all your impurities,  
and I will give you a new spirit, says the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation**

**See John 4:42. 15**

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!  
Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world;  
give me living water, that I may never thirst again.  
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

**First Reading**

**Exodus 17:3-7**

*A reading from the book of Exodus*

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?' Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' The Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

**Gospel**

**John 4:5-15. 19-26. 39-42**

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to John*

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied:

'If you only knew what God is offering  
and who it is that is saying to you:

Give me a drink,  
you would have been the one to ask,  
and he would have given you living water.'

'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?'

Jesus replied:

'Whoever drinks this water  
will get thirsty again:  
but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give  
will never be thirsty again:  
the water that I shall give  
will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.'

'Sir,' said the woman, 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water. I see you are a prophet, sir. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said:

'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming  
when you will worship the Father  
neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.  
You worship what you do not know;  
we worship what we do know;  
for salvation comes from the Jews.

But the hour will come – in fact it is here already –  
when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth:

that is the kind of worshipper  
the Father wants.

God is spirit,  
and those who worship  
must worship in spirit and truth.'

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 94:1-2. 6-9. R. v.8**

**(R.)** If today you hear his voice,  
harden not your hearts.

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;  
hail the rock who saves us.

Let us come before him, giving thanks,  
with songs let us hail the Lord. **(R.)**

2. Come in; let us bow and bend low;  
let us kneel before the God who made us  
for he is our God and we  
the people who belong to his pasture,  
the flock that is led by his hand. **(R.)**

3. O that today you would listen to his voice!  
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,  
as on that day at Massah in the desert  
when your fathers put me to the test;  
when they tried me, though they saw my work.' **(R.)**

**Second Reading**

**Romans 5:1-2. 5-8**

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans*

Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die

The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.' Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony, so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'

#### **Communion Antiphon**

**John 4:13-14**

For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord, the water I shall give will become in him a spring welling up to eternal life.

or

**Cf Psalm 83: 4-5**

The sparrow finds a home,  
and the swallow a nest for her young:  
by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.  
Blessed are they who dwell in your house,  
for ever singing your praise.

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## **PARISH NEWS**

### **The Sacrament of Reconciliation - March 2026**

The sacrament of Reconciliation is offered to children in Year 3 and above and preparation will begin on Sunday, March 1st with a commitment ceremony during Mass. Following Mass, a 45 minute instruction program will begin, with further sessions on March 15th and 22nd with the sacrament conferred on Sunday March 29th. Please contact the Parish Office for more information and enrolment details.

We are also looking for volunteers to assist with the St Mary's sacramental program throughout the year.

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### **Fri 17-Sun 19 April |Cursillo Weekend St Clement's Retreat Centre, Galong**

Contact [michaelderaadt@gmail.com](mailto:michaelderaadt@gmail.com)  
Info and registration:

<https://tinyurl.com/cursillo2026> or scan the QR code



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### **St Vincent de Paul Society Needs You**

The local conference of St Vincent de Paul is looking to recruit new members to help in our work of serving the needy in our area. We would particularly encourage people who share the aims of the Society and are available Mon-Fri 3-6pm. There are not too many visits per month but it would mean we are could share the visits. For further information please contact Conference President: Julie-Ann 0413 049 819.

Thank you.

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### **Positions Vacant: Parish Officer Narooma-Cobargo**

#### **Essential Requirements:**

- > Experience with database packages & Microsoft Suite
  - > Strong communication and liaison skills
  - > Strong organisational skills
  - > Ability to work on your own, as part of a team, and take direction
  - > Understand and administer areas of church and regulatory compliance (e.g. parish sacrament registers, Working With Children Check, WHS, child protection, copyright)
  - > Recent experience in an office environment
  - > Understanding and respect for the Catholic Church and its teaching
- For more information and a copy of the Duty Statement please email Leanne Boyd, Parish Support Manager ([leanne.boyd@cg.org.au](mailto:leanne.boyd@cg.org.au)). Applications addressing the Selection Criteria and current CV to be sent to Fr George Azhakath, Parish Priest [George.azhakath@cg.org.au](mailto:George.azhakath@cg.org.au) by Friday 20 March 2026.

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### **Caritas Australia appeals for support for vulnerable communities across Africa**

Across Africa, millions of people are trapped in a desperate struggle for survival. Conflict, violence, hunger, and displacement are tearing communities apart. In places like the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan and across the Horn of Africa, the situation is critical.

In response, Caritas Australia is assisting partners across the region to provide vital aid including emergency shelter, food and nutrition care, and access to clean water. Your support is urgently needed. Please donate to Caritas Australia's Africa Crisis Appeal. You can donate online [www.caritas.org.au/africa](http://www.caritas.org.au/africa), or phone 1800 024 413.

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*Congratulations and welcome to our faith community*

*Orson Jules Talloen baptised on 7th March 2026*

*and*

*Alexander Briggs and Finnian Briggs baptised*

*on 8th March 2026 at St Joseph's, Gundaroo*

*Please keep Orson, Alexander and Finnian and their families in your prayers.*

#### LITURGICAL ROSTER

Sunday 8th March 2026 8:30 am

R1; R2: Sarah Dunkerley; Stephen Dunkerley

Minister of the Altar: Thomas Konarski

Offertory:

Sunday 15th March 2026 8:30 am

R1; R2: Louella Reeves; Luke Reeves

Minister of the Altar: David Bishop

Offertory: Jenny Amey; Helen Jewell

#### BUNGENDORE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Catherine Mueller (Chair)

Helen Jewell

David Bishop

Jenny Amey

Chris Murdock

#### BUNGENDORE PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Michele Murdock (Chair)

Greg Darmody

Richard Konarski

Ian Cusack

Stephen Dunkerley

#### Church Cleaning

March: Penny Ford; Helen Jewell

April: Sarah Darmody; Christine Allard

Thank you!



9:00am Mass Wednesday & Friday

@ St Mary's - followed by Rosary.

Join us on Wednesday, after Mass at  
The Gathering for a cuppa.



#### Plaques for Memorial Wall

We are taking orders for plaques for the memorial wall. Please contact the office for more details. The format shown here will be the one used.



The Parish of St Mary's, Bungendore and the Archdiocese of Canberra-Goulburn are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and people at risk in our community. We endeavour to create safe spaces where we can have meaningful conversations with children and adults at risk about their safety. If you wish to discuss something with our Safeguarding Representative please talk to Sarah Dunkerley or confidentially email: [bungendore.safeguarding@cg.org.au](mailto:bungendore.safeguarding@cg.org.au) You may also wish to contact Maria Hicks (Manager) Institute for Professional Standards & Safeguarding 6239 9806 / [ipss@cg.org.au](mailto:ipss@cg.org.au)