



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 22nd March 2026, Fifth Sunday of Lent Year A

BUNGENDORE PARISH TEAM

Fr Sijo Jose: 0470 110 189 email: 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

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.

Please note: The office will be closed for four weeks, from Monday 4th May - Wednesday 3rd June 2026, as Bernadette will be on leave.

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 (There will be no Mass at Hoskinstown in April - Easter Sunday. The next Mass will be held on 3rd May 2026.)

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Rage against Death

This Gospel tells us that Our Lord was moved with compassion in an almost violent way, raging against the seeming finality of death. The raising of Lazarus was a demonstration of his power to rob death of its supposed supremacy.

But, Our Lord did not set Lazarus completely free! You may think that to be raised from the dead was not a bad start, but Lazarus was still shuffling: bound, constrained, constricted by the past. To those gathered around the tomb Jesus issued the command: 'Set him free, unbind him.' It was the collective effort of others which enabled Lazarus to walk as a liberated son of God.

You may find yourself commanded by the Lord to help unbind a person who has had a deadening experience which has drained them of life. We get the courage to respond because it is the command of the One who definitively conquered death.

We could pause for a moment to resolve to help liberate others already helped by the grace of Him whom we believe to be *the Resurrection and the Life*.

@Fr Michael Tate (mtate@bigpond.com)

Please pray for: Rose-Marie Johnson, 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, 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

Deaths: Fr Dermott Clinton (Wagga Wagga)

If you would like to add or remove a name please email Bernadette at 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

Give me justice, O God,
and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless.
From the deceitful and cunning rescue me,
for you, O God, are my strength.

Cf Psalm 42:1-2

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;
whoever believes in me will not die for ever.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

First Reading**Ezekiel 37:12-14***A reading from the prophet Ezekiel*

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

Responsorial Psalm**Ps 129. R. v.7**

(R.) With the Lord there is mercy
and fullness of redemption.

1. Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord,
Lord, hear my voice!

O let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleading. **(R.)**

2. If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,
Lord, who would survive?

But with you is found forgiveness:
for this we revere you. **(R.)**

3. My soul is waiting for the Lord,
I count on his word.

My soul is longing for the Lord
more than watchman for daybreak.
(Let the watchman count on daybreak
and Israel on the Lord.) **(R.)**

4. Because with the Lord there is mercy
and fullness of redemption,
Israel indeed he will redeem
from all its iniquity. **(R.)**

Second Reading**Romans 8:8-11***A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans*

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

Gospel Acclamation**See John 11:25. 26**

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel**John 11:3-7. 17. 20-27. 33-45***A reading from the holy Gospel according to John*

The sisters Martha and Mary sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.'

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said: 'I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' 'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.' Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said: 'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer.

I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.'

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.'

Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

Communion Antiphon**Cf John 11:26**

Everyone who lives and believes in me
will not die for ever, says the Lord.

PARISH NEWS

The Sacrament of Reconciliation - 29 March

Today we welcome Lucy, who has joined the group preparing for their First Reconciliation.

Please pray for the children as they prepare for this sacrament.

Save the Date! Palm Sunday Breakfast - 29 March

Have you recorded your name for breakfast?
You can use the sign-up sheet in the Church foyer or email the parish office (by 4pm Thursday March 26).

Volunteers for Easter Ceremonies

We are over halfway through Lent and it is time to organise our Easter celebrations. Please nominate yourself in anyway you can. Either contact the Parish Office or sign up in the Church. Volunteers are still needed.

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.

Garden Angels Calling—Urgent Help Required around Church Grounds

Work required:

- Whipper-snipping around carpark and Labyrinth
- Slashing the grass in the flood-zone and around sheds
- Mowing, weeding

A truck/trailer is needed to remove green waste.
If you can spare any amount of time to help maintain the church grounds, please contact Tess Montesin 0400 174 034. Thank you!

29 March | Palm Sunday Rally in Support of Refugees and Migrants | 1:00pm

In September last year, Archbishop Christopher called for Australians “to reject fear and stereotypes in the wake of nationwide anti-immigration protests, urging a spirit of hospitality and hope instead”.

This year’s Canberra Refugee Rally on Palm Sunday, which is under the theme, ‘Refugees and Migrants Welcome Here’ responds to the same issue. Join Vinnies to support Australia’s 53-year-old commitment to an immigration program, which does not discriminate on the basis of race.

Positions Vacant: Parish Officer - Gunning Parish / Narooma-Cobargo Parishes / West Wyalong Mission

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). Applications addressing the Selection Criteria and current CV to be sent to Parish Priests by Friday 27 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 supporting partners across the region to provide vital aid including emergency shelter, food and nutrition support, 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, scan the QR code or phone 1800 024 413.



Volunteer Scripture Teacher Needed – Bungendore Public School

St Mary’s and The Sisters of Charity are seeking a volunteer to teach Grade 1 Scripture at Bungendore Primary School on Tuesdays from 2:10pm -2.40pm. You’ll be using the *Christ Our Light and Life* program, which includes student books and a clear teaching manual to guide each lesson.

The current volunteer Mary-Anne Curran is happy to speak with anyone interested, phone 0450 917 865. A Working with Children Check is required - the parish office can assist you with this process, email bungendore@cg.org.au

Your time could light the way for the next generation.

PARISH NEWS (cont'd)

Launch of Institute for Synodal Evangelisation

On Thursday, 26 March, 2026 from 4pm - 5pm, the Archdiocese will officially launch the new Institute for Synodal Evangelisation, through a live-streamed, online-only event. Register your interest here:

bit.ly/institute-launch

The Institute for Synodal Evangelisation emerges from the fruits of our Archdiocesan Assembly and responds to the call for deeper faith formation, leadership development and parish-specific accompaniment. The Institute will further animate a vision of synodal evangelisation across our Archdiocese through a range of gatherings, courses and intensives designed to call, form and send a new generation of missionary disciples.

For further information, please email institute@cg.org.au

Easter Masses for the Bungendore/Braidwood Region:

Bungendore - St Mary's:

Palm Sunday (29 March) - 8:30am

Holy Thursday (2 April) - 6:00pm

Good Friday (3 April) - Stations of the Cross 10:00am
- Passion 3:00pm

Easter Sunday (5 April) - 8:30am

Gundaroo - St Joseph's:

Good Friday Liturgy (3 April) - 3:00pm

Easter Sunday (5 April) - 10:30am

Braidwood - St Bede's:

Palm Sunday Vigil (28 March) - 6:00pm

Holy Thursday Faith Celebration (2 April) - 6:00pm

Good Friday (3 April) - Stations of the Cross 10:00am
- Passion 3:00pm

Easter Sunday Vigil (4 April) - 5:00pm (please note time change)



LITURGICAL ROSTER

Sunday 22nd March 2026 8:30 am

R1; R2: David Bishop; Alison Bishop

Minister of the Altar; Chris Murdock

Offertory: Pauline Segeri

Sunday 29th March 2026 8:30 am

R1; R2: Catherine Mueller; Pauline Segeri

Minister of the Altar; Anna Melek

Offertory: Pauline Segeri & Julie-Ann Snudden

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

9:00am Mass Wednesday & Friday @ St Mary's -

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



Church Cleaning

March: Penny Ford; Helen Jewell

April: Sarah Darmody; Christine Allard

Thank you!



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 You may also wish to contact Maria Hicks (Manager) Institute for Professional Standards & Safeguarding 6239 9806 / ipss@cg.org.au