



# Bombala-Delegate Catholic Parish



## PARISH BULLETIN: Fifth Sunday of Lent, Year A, 22 March 2026



### PARISH VISION STATEMENT 2004



“Created by God, Loved by Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit ... We come together inspired by our patrons, St Mary the Virgin and St Joseph, her husband, to worship, study and serve.”

St Mary's Bombala  
St Joseph's Delegate  
St Peter's Corrowong

### PARISH CONTACTS

**PARISH PRIEST**  
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**ASSISTANT PRIEST**  
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**ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL**  
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**School Principal**  
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**PARISH COUNCIL**  
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Please assist the team by having items in by Wednesday pm.



A journey with  
**SAINT MARY**  
of the Cross  
**MACKILLOP**



### PRAYER INTENTIONS

#### POPES INTENTION MARCH

**For disarmament and peace**



Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

**We pray** for spiritual directors, counsellors and therapists, that their wisdom and skill will open pathways to fuller life for all who seek their help.

**We pray** for universal access to fresh water. May today's World Water Day reinforce efforts to manage water resources well and promote water justice for all.

**We pray** for rural dioceses and country parishes, including our own, that they may be strengthened by the Holy Spirit, finding creative ways to build a vibrant community and proclaim the Gospel with renewed faith and hope.



**We pray** for those who are sick in our family & community, may they be able to see Christ's presence in their most difficult moments:

Adam Crotty, John Elliott, Christine Cowell  
Lorna Thornton, Clive Cottrell  
Joyce Crotty, John Liston  
Roma Brownlie, Jenny Chaplin  
Peter & Joyce Reed, Glad Hurley  
Jim Parkes, Marilyn Holdsworth, Jen Farrell  
Patricia Guthrie, Mary Anne Dillon  
Terry Perkins, Kath Farrell, Val Perkins  
Kim Peisley, Heather Whitby  
Peter Hopkins, Marlene Kennedy



### PARISH CALENDAR

**MON** *Saint Turibius of Mogrovejo*  
**WED** **Mass Bombala 12.30pm**  
*Annunciation of the Lord*  
**THU** **Ecumenical Lenten Prog Delegate 2pm**  
  
**SAT** **LW&HC Delegate 5pm**  
**SUN** **LW&HC Bombala 9am**



### REMEMBERING THEIR FAITH AND LOVE

#### Recently Deceased

Doug Peadon

#### March Anniversaries

June Beileiter, Keith Brownlie  
Lorna Callaway  
Archbishop Francis Carroll  
Patricia Casey, Una Collins  
John Coman, Olga Cotton  
Edna Cottrell, Murray Garnock  
Terrence Ingram, John Jones  
Ruth McKay, Neville Murphy  
George Reed, Enid Stewart  
Thelma Stewart, Andre Teschke  
Rita Thornton, Lawrence Tighe  
Don Tindale, Betty Twigg  
Myra Walker

**“We have loved them in Life:  
Let us not forget them in death.”**



“Prayer is in very truth miraculously powerful  
– we must be faithful in employing it.”

Mother Mary Aikenhead



He is a just and merciful God, you may be sure that the trial is sent in love.  
(6.8.1895)

Let us at any cost be faithful. (26.3.1873)

God's love for us is best shown in times of aridity. (25.3.1870)

*Mary MacKillop returns from New Zealand, 1895.*



## Fifth Sunday of Lent (Theme: New Life and Renewal)

Lord Jesus, you called Lazarus from the tomb and brought life where there was death. In this Lenten season, renew our hearts and strengthen our faith. Help us to let go of what holds us back, and to trust in your promise of new life. Guide us to live with hope, courage and love each day.

**AMEN**



### FINDING GOD IN OUR WORLD

**We pray for open eyes and willing hearts during this Lenten journey.**

May we notice God in the quiet moments, in the people we meet, and in the opportunities to do good. May our words be gentle, our actions thoughtful, and our lives a reflection of His love and compassion.

**Daily Prayer Intention - We pray** Caritas Australia responding to humanitarian crises around the world. May our generous giving to Project Compassion supply them with resources for emergency relief.

**Weekly Prayer Intention - We pray** for composers, musicians and song leaders whose gifts help us sing our faith. May their ministry unite us in heartfelt prayer.

## Prayer of the Faithful



**Response: (R)**  
**Lord, hear our prayer**

**CELEBRANT/LEADER:** Dear friends, in company with Martha we hear Jesus's name himself our resurrection and life. Taking his word to heart, we pray for the whole world to be raised to new life.

**READER: For** an end to tyranny in every land of violent oppression. May all peoples on earth be blessed with peace and the freedom to flourish. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**

**For** those hardest-hit by the war-fuelled economic turmoil afflicting the world. May the leaders of nations join forces to protect the powerless. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**

**For** the world-wide people of God. May they demonstrate to their neighbours the life-giving power of the Spirit of Christ. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**

**For** ourselves. May this week's solemn feast of the Annunciation (25 March) encourage us, like Mary, to say yes to all that God is asking of us this Lent. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**

**For** the sick among our parish community and for all who have sought our prayers, may they find strength comfort, and healing. For those who have recently passed from this life and those whose anniversaries we commemorate at this time. May they be lifted to the glory of the Risen Lord and rest in eternal peace. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**

**For** Our Lady's intercession for all our needs and especially for the people in war torn places. We pray **Hail Mary...**

**CELEBRANT/LEADER** Living and life-giving God, you sent your Son to call us out of the darkness of death into the light of life. Help us hear and heed his call. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **AMEN**



**Caritas**  
AUSTRALIA

**PROJECT**  
**COMPASSION**

**FIFTH SUNDAY of LENT – 22 March**  
**AHMAD from GAZA**

When war intensified in Gaza in late 2023, Ahmad, a Caritas Jerusalem employee in their Media and Communications team, was forced to flee his home in northern Gaza. Like thousands of families, his family carried almost nothing as they sought safety in Khan Younis. Two months later, disaster struck again when the house where they were sheltering was bombed at night. Ahmad was buried under rubble, his eardrum ruptured. His brother survived with devastating injuries, including the loss of a leg. For two months Ahmad stayed with his brother in an overwhelmed hospital with few doctors and scarce supplies. His family was displaced several more times, sometimes living in tents, sometimes in borrowed homes, often leaving behind the few belongings they had managed to gather. Despite personal suffering, Ahmad continued his role with Caritas Jerusalem, helping to support families in need. "Thank God we work at Caritas, allowing us to serve people in the most challenging conditions despite the lack of medicine," he explains. "I hope this ordeal ends so we can go back to rebuild Gaza, our children's future, our country, and our organisation." Ahmad's story is a reminder that Caritas' mission of accompaniment is lived not only through its programs, but through the courage and resilience of its frontline staff. Together, we can Unite Against Poverty this Lent by donating to Project Compassion, helping people in Gaza and other vulnerable regions to rebuild their lives with dignity and hope.



Rows of tents provide temporary shelter for families in Gaza who have been forced to flee their homes.

Photo: Caritas Jerusalem.



**SERVICES**

**HOLY THURSDAY: Mass Delegate 5pm Bombala 6.30pm**  
**GOOD FRIDAY: Stations of the Cross (Leader)**  
**Bombala 9.30am Delegate 12noon**  
**HOLY SATURDAY: Mass Bombala 5pm LW&HC Delegate 5pm**

## HYMNS - ONE LICENSE 3642645A

### 1. Strong and Constant *Fr Frank Andersen MSC*

1. I will be Your God who walks with you!  
You will be always in my hand!  
Take your heart and give it all to me!  
Strong and constant is my love! Strong and constant is my love!

2. Should you wander far away from me  
I will search for you in every land!  
Should you call then you will truly know  
Strong and constant is my love! Strong and constant is my love!

3. When you know sorrow within your life  
I will come I will embrace your heart!  
Through your pain you will discover Me!  
Strong and constant is my love! Strong and constant is my love!

### 2. Here I Am Lord *John Michael Talbot*

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry  
All who dwell in dark and sin, My hand will save  
I have made the stars of night  
I will make their darkness bright  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send? **R**

**Refrain: Here I am, Lord, Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard You calling in the night  
I will go, Lord, If You lead me,  
I will hold Your people in my heart**

2. I, the Lord of wind and flame,  
I will tend the poor and lame  
I will set a feast for them, My hand will save  
Finest bread I will provide, 'Til their hearts be satisfied  
I will give my life to them, Whom shall I send? **R**



## Message from Our Lady Queen Of Peace of Medjugorje

Peace to all!

Annual Apparition Message to Mirjana, as translated and provided by the Information Centre in Medjugorje.

### March 18, 2026 Annual Message to Mirjana

"Dear children, never forget how great the love of God is. Through that love I am with you.

Do not forget how great is His mercy. Through that mercy I am showing you the way to true happiness and perfect peace. That is the way to my Son. Therefore, my children, with complete trust, abandon yourselves to my Son and do not be afraid. Do not be afraid of the future because it belongs entirely to the will of my Son. Therefore, my children, renounce everything that distances you from my Son: false happiness, false hope, false splendour.

Trust my Son. Tell Him about your pains, sufferings, desires and hopes.

You will feel His love and His blessing.

Thank you!"

(With ecclesiastical approval)



### NEWS FROM ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL

### JOEY'S LONG WALK FOR WATER

In 2026, St Joseph's are taking part in Caritas Australia's Project Compassion, an initiative that empowers vulnerable communities to lift themselves out of poverty.

Our challenge is to host our own Big Water Walk around our local river track. We will get to see what it feels like to have to walk for water, something we all have such easy access to in Australia. We would love all our family and friends to join us on Thursday 2nd of April for our Big Water Walk. Further details will be posted on Compass closer to the event. Your donation today can help provide essential resources and opportunities to people in need, empowering them to build better futures. We have set up a school fundraising page, please share with your family and friends and let's see if we can raise our target of \$1000.



# Bombala-Delegate Catholic Parish



## Fifth Sunday of Lent Year, A

### First Reading Ez 37:12-14

*I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live.*

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 Rom 8:8-11

*If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he will give life to your own mortal bodies.*

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 Jn 11:25. 26

*Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!  
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!*

### Gospel Jn 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33-45 or longer form Jn 11:1-45

*I am the resurrection and the life.*

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.



### Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

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*.

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