



Bombala-Delegate Catholic Parish



PARISH BULLETIN: Third Sunday of Lent, Year A, 8 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

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Please assist the team by having items in by Wednesday pm.



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 godparents and catechists who support those preparing to enter the Church. May their example of faith, patience and love inspire and strengthen those they accompany.

We pray for the women of every land, especially those cruelly deprived of their voice and rights. May today's International Women's Day help sustain their hope for justice.

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 Francis of Rome*
TUE
WED **Mass Bombala 12.30pm**
THU **Ecumenical Lenten Prog Delegate 2pm**
FRI
SAT **Mass Delegate 3pm**
Afternoon Tea to follow in St Joseph's School Centre
Mass Bombala 5pm



REMEMBERING THEIR FAITH AND LOVE

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.”**



“Never reach out your hand unless you're willing to extend an arm.”

Pope Paul VI



A journey with
SAINT MARY
of the Cross
MACKILLOP



Let us do the will of God, the beautiful, wise will of God. (5.3.1870)
In every difficulty apply to St Joseph with confidence
and you will never be disappointed. (9.3.1906)
Let us do the will of God, the beautiful, wise will of God. (5.3.1870)
Mary MacKillop returns to Rome, 1874.



Third Sunday of Lent (Theme: Living Water)

Lord Jesus, you met the Samaritan woman at the well and offered her living water that truly satisfies. In this Lenten season, draw us to you. Quench our thirst for meaning, mercy and hope. Help us turn from sin and become faithful witnesses to your love. May our hearts be renewed and our lives bear fruit that lasts.

AMEN



FINDING GOD IN OUR WORLD

We pray for open hearts during this Lenten season.

May we recognise Christ in the poor, the weary and the overlooked, and respond with compassion, generosity and love.

Daily Prayer Intention - We pray new generation of world leaders. May the Spirit of God raise up men and women who have the power to bring wars to an end and keep the planet safe and healthy.

Weekly Prayer Intention - We pray for Caritas Bangladesh. May its work of strengthening climate resilience among vulnerable farmers be sustained by our generous support for Project Compassion.



Prayer of the Faithful

Response: (R)
Lord, hear our prayer



CELEBRANT/LEADER: Dear friends, those who drink from the wellspring of the Spirit are assured of eternal life. Led by the Spirit, let us pray in faith for the salvation of the world.

READER: For Pope Leo and all preachers, teachers and catechists. Like Jesus with the Samaritan woman, may they lead many people to the gift of faith. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**

For those who in these changing times have lost their way in life. May they be blessed with wise and patient companions to guide them home to their hearts. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**

For our parish community. May we encourage one another to fast from all thoughts, desires and actions that are harmful to our health and wellbeing. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**

For artists of every kind. May their creative gifts give us insight into the joys, sorrows and glory of the human condition and the wonder of creation. 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 Ever-patient God, you quench our thirst for living water on our pilgrim way through life. Deepen our desire to share the good news of your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **AMEN**



Caritas
AUSTRALIA

PROJECT
COMPASSION

THIRD SUNDAY of LENT – 8 March
MONORANJON from BANGLADESH

Monoranjon, 47, lives in a coastal village in southwest Bangladesh, one of the regions most affected by climate change. He and his family face extreme heat, cyclones, water scarcity, and rising salinity that is destroying crops and livelihoods. As a farmer and father of two, Monoranjon struggled to provide for his family and keep his daughter and son in school. "In this dry season no seedlings come out from seeds. Due to heat of the sun and lack of water, plants are dying," Monoranjon said. Thanks to support from Caritas Australia and its partner Caritas Bangladesh, Monoranjon joined the Community Managed Sustainable Livelihoods and Resilience Program. He learned climate-resilient farming techniques, including organic vegetable cultivation, livestock vaccination, crab fattening, and salt-tolerant crop production. His income has improved, allowing him to send his children to school and access better nutrition. Monoranjon now teaches others in his village, inspiring change and resilience across the community. "Doing this I maintain my livelihood, but we must work extremely hard. Seeing me, many people started. This is how they grow vegetables," Monoranjon said. Monoranjon also works with his community to plant mangrove seedlings on the mudflat coastlines across the delta they live on, to prevent further erosion and flooding of their lands. Despite these improvements, the region remains at grave risk. With the looming threat of increased strength and frequency of cyclones, rapid sea level rise, dangerously hot temperatures and drought, more people like Monoranjon desperately need an increase in support, so they can continue to provide a future of education for their children, and a way out of poverty.



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. Come to the Water *Fr Frank Andersen MSC*

**Refrain: Come to the water! You who are thirsty!
Though you have nothing, I bid you come!
And be filled with the goodness I have to offer!
Come! Listen! Live.**

1. Why spend your money on what cannot fill
The emptiness deep in your heart?
Listen to My word and you will enjoy
Goodness and peace in your heart! **R**
2. Just as the heavens are high above earth;
My ways and thoughts beyond you!
Call me your Father and know I am near!
I will be Father to you! **R**

2. I am the Bread of Life *Suzanne Toolan rsm*

1. I am the Bread of Life
He who comes to me shall not hunger;
he who believes in me shall not thirst.
No one can come to me unless the Father draw him. **R**

**Refrain: And I will raise him up,
and I will raise him up,
and I will raise him up on the last day.**

2. The bread that I will give
is my flesh for the life of the world,
and he who eats of this bread,
he shall live for ever, he shall live for ever. **R**



Message from Our Lady Queen Of Peace of Medjugorje

The February 25, 2026, Message from Our Lady, Queen of Peace!

Dear children, In this time of grace, anew, I am calling you to offer your lives to God that He may lead you towards the resurrection through your personal conversion. Little children, God is near to you and heeds your prayers, but you are lulled to sleep, and that is why He sent me to you to awaken you, and that you may shine holiness like a spring flower.

Thank you for having responded to my call.

(With ecclesiastical approval)



A bartender notices that every evening, without fail, one of his patron's orders three beers. After several weeks of noticing this pattern, the bartender asks the man why he always orders three beers. The man says, "I have two brothers who have moved away to different countries. We promised each other that we would always order an extra two beers whenever we drank as a way of keeping up the family bond." Several weeks later, noticing that the man only ordered two beers, the bartender said, "Please accept my condolences on the death of one of your brothers. You know, the two beers and all..." The man replied, "You'll be happy to hear that my two brothers are alive and well... It's just that I, myself, have decided to give up drinking for Lent."



NEWS FROM ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL

Students at St Joseph's Primary School, Bombala are preparing to speak with an astronaut aboard the International Space Station next week through the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program.

Principal Susan Tighe organised the contact after the school's whole-school focus on space during 2025. Astronaut Jack Hathaway (KJ5NIV) will speak directly with the students during the scheduled contact. Sixteen students were selected to ask questions after winning a school competition for the most interesting astronaut questions. The ISS orbits Earth every 90 minutes and will only be in communication range for about 10 minutes. The link-up will begin at 7.20pm, with the school turning the event into a family evening. Students will connect through a telebridge system linking the school to an ARISS amateur radio ground station. The evening will also include stargazing using the school's new telescope, funded by a Snowy Hydro grant.



Bombala-Delegate Catholic Parish



Third Sunday of Lent, Year A

First Reading Ex 17:3-7

Give us water to drink.

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 rock, 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?'

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 Rom 5:1-2, 5-8

The love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.

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 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.

Gospel Acclamation See Jn 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!

Gospel shorter form

Jn 4:5-15, 19-26, 39-42

The water that I shall give will turn into a spring of eternal life.

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.'

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.'



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?

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