



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 worshiper 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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St Patrick's Parish Cooma

St Columbkille's Parish Jindabyne



Third Sunday of Lent, Year A

8 MARCH 2026

### 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 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?'

### 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:



# St Patrick's Parish Cooma

# St Columbkille's Parish Jindabyne



Third Sunday of Lent, Year A

8 March 2026

### PARISH CONTACTS

#### PARISH PRIEST

Father Mark Croker  
0428 190 759  
02 6452 2062

Assistant Priest: Fr Daniel will be permanent our Parish prior to Easter 2026

#### Sacramental Program

Father Mark Croker  
0428 190 759

#### PARISH WEBSITE

[www.cg.org.au/cooma](http://www.cg.org.au/cooma)

#### Parish Secretary

Mrs Sharon Nesbitt  
02 6452 2062

Mon, Wed & Thu

9am -1pm & 2pm - 4.30pm

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

#### ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL

02 6452 1721

#### School Principal

Dr Mangan

School Website:

[www.stpatscooma.nsw.edu.au](http://www.stpatscooma.nsw.edu.au)

#### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Darren 0429 904 291

#### WEEKEND MASS & LW&HC TIMES

##### Adaminaby

No Mass until further notice

##### Berridale

2nd & 4th Sunday

Vigil Mass Saturday 3.30pm

All other Sundays

LW&HC 10am Sunday

##### Cooma

Mass Sunday 10am

Mass Tue, Thu & Fri 10am

Except 3rd Friday of month

Mass Yallambee Lodge 9.30am

Mass Hudson House Respect 11am

##### Jindabyne

Vigil Mass Saturday 5pm

Except 5th Sunday

LW&HC 5pm Saturday

##### Nimmitabel

1st Sunday

Vigil Mass Saturday 3pm

All other Sundays

LW&HC at 5pm Saturday

##### Numeralla

2nd Sunday LW&HC 5pm

4th Sunday Mass 5pm



### 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.



#### READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

##### The Fourth Sunday of Lent-Year A

First Reading: 1 Sm 16:1, 6-7, 10-13

Second Reading: Eph 5: 8-14

Gospel: John 9: 1-41



# LENT

### PARISH CALENDAR

#### Week- 9 March 2026

MON -  
TUE 10am Mass

WED Bombala Parish 12.30pm  
THU 10am Mass  
FRI 10am Mass  
6pm Stations of the Cross

3rd Sunday of the Month  
4th SUNDAY of LENT

SAT 3pm Delegate Mass  
5pm Jindabyne Mass  
5pm Bombala Mass

SUN 10am Cooma Mass



#### FRIDAY

Stations of the Cross  
6pm Fridays during Lent

### REMEMBERING THEIR FAITH AND LOVE

#### We pray for those who have recently departed this life;

Tom Fitzgerald, Bruno Nosek,  
Peter Upton, Magid Sukkar,  
Luigi Giuliani

#### Anniversaries & Intentions

for those anniversaries remembered at this time, may they be welcomed into the glory of the Risen Lord and rest in eternal peace. We pray to the Lord.

Mark Jaajaa, Gordon Hain,  
Yarra Gregor.

"We have loved them in Life:  
Let us not forget them in death."



For the sick within our families, friends and parish community and all who have asked for our prayers, may they be granted strength, comfort and healing. We pray to the Lord.

Fr Mark's Jokes:

As an elderly woman was making her way to church, she was accosted by would-be robbers. As they confronted her, she worried; she had a considerable donation with her for the church. Normally, she might've just given them whatever they asked for and left, but she was determined to make sure that this money went where it belonged. Bravely, in a shaky voice, she cried out, "Stop! Acts 2:38!" To her surprise, the would-be robbers quickly fled. Quite shaken up, she reported the incident to the police, who later caught the robbers. When asked by the police why they had changed their minds and left her alone, they answered, "Well, she said she had an axe and two .38s."

Thank you to all volunteers who continue the support of our parish community, if you would like to receive or haven't received a printed copy of your Roster please let me know at the Parish office, kind regards Sharon

### Prayer of the Faithful

Response: (R)  
Lord, hear our prayer



PRIEST: Let us bring to our God the needs of all people for the living water promised by Jesus in today's Gospel.

#### COMMENTATOR:

For all those who thirst for knowledge and understanding, that they always be open to the perennial power of God's Word.

Let us pray to the Lord

for the thirst for peace and reconciliation in our world, that we all recognise our capacity to meet other's needs.

Let us pray to the Lord

For vulnerable communities who thirst for justice and security, that our support for Project Compassion will be a sign to them of the love of God for all people.

Let us pray to the Lord.

For the gift of good soaking rain we give thanks, and we continue to pray those areas still starving for water may soon be blessed with good rains.

We pray to the Lord.

For our sisters and brothers who rest in the peace of their Lord, especially for whom our prayers have been requested.

Let us pray to the Lord

For peace wherever there is conflict, especially in Ukraine and the latest outbreak in Iran, we pray with Mary.....

#### PRIEST:

Heavenly Father, we bring these and all our prayers, through Christ our Lord. Amen

### Easter Mass Services on The Monaro

#### 2nd Rite of Reconciliation - to prepare for Easter

Cooma - Tue 31 March 2026 at 7pm  
No confession before Mass on Easter Sunday  
Jindabyne offered after Vigil Mass -  
28 March 2026

Bombala offered after Mass

#### Holy Thursday

Cooma 6pm

Delegate 5pm Bombala 6.30 pm

#### GOOD FRIDAY

Cooma Stations of the Cross 10am

Berridale Stations of the Cross 10am (leader)

Bombala Stations of the Cross 9.30am (Leader)

Cooma 3pm Passion

Jindabyne 3pm Passion

Delegate 5pm Easter Service (Leader)

#### HOLY SATURDAY

Cooma 6pm

Bombala 5pm

Delegate 5pm (LWHC with Leader)

#### EASTER SUNDAY

Adaminaby 8am

Cooma 10am Berridale 10am (Liturgy)

Jindabyne 10am



Third Sunday of Lent  
7-8 March 2026

Monoranjon lives in a village in Bangladesh close to the sea, where floods and storms often damage his crops and his home. With support from Project Compassion, he learnt climate-resilient farming techniques and new ways to diversify his income, helping his family survive and build a safer, more sustainable future.

