



27 Sept 2026

To Know, love and serve Jesus  
by sharing our gifts through our baptismal mission

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**AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC  
MIGRANT & REFUGEE OFFICE**

## **World Day of Migrants and Refugees: A Jubilee of Welcome, Justice and Hope**

Every year, the *World Day of Migrants and Refugees* invites us to pause and remember the journeys of countless women, men, and children who leave behind their homes in search of safety, dignity, and opportunity. This year, as we mark the *Jubilee of Migrants*, the Church calls us not only to remember their struggles but to celebrate their resilience, their gifts, and their profound role in shaping our shared humanity.

The *Jubilee of Migrants* reminds us that migration is not just a social or political issue – it is a deeply spiritual one. As the document affirms, the Church herself is a pilgrim, a community always on the move, journeying together. People who are migrants embody this truth in a tangible way: they are living witnesses of human vulnerability and hope, carrying with them the possibility of new life, renewal, and communion.

Pope Francis has reminded us in his message for the 108<sup>th</sup> World Day of Migrants and Refugees that history reveals a clear truth: “the contribution of migrants and refugees has been fundamental to the social and economic growth of our societies. Their work, their youth, their enthusiasm and their willingness to sacrifice enrich the communities that receive them”. Their stories are not marginal – they are central to who we are as a Christian community.

But celebration must go hand in hand with justice. The *Jubilee of Migrants* is not only a time of gratitude but also of reckoning. People who are migrants continue to face exclusion, exploitation, discrimination and violence. Their voices are too often silenced, their humanity overlooked. To be faithful to the Gospel is to recognise in the face of every migrant the face of Christ – *‘the foreigner who knocks at our door’* – and to respond with solidarity, protection, and love.

This Jubilee calls us to move beyond tolerance into communion. It is not enough to “allow” migrants space. We should embrace their stories, languages and tradition so they can enrich the fabric of our Church and our wider communities. We must remember that ethnic and cultural diversity is not temporary or peripheral – it is structural, integral and holy.

On this *World Day of Migrants and Refugees*, let us commit ourselves anew to a path of justice and peace. May we see people who are migrants not as strangers, but as brothers and sisters who carry within them the promise of a more just and united world. Let us also remember that the *Jubilee of Migrants* is, ultimately, a jubilee of humanity. It is an invitation to recognise that our shared journey is richer, more faithful, and more just when no one is left behind.

Catholic.au – Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office

### **Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Entrance Antiphon**

All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

**First Reading** from the prophet Ezekiel 18:25-28

**Responsorial Psalm**  
Ps 24:4-9. R. v.6

**Response:**  
Remember your mercies,  
O Lord.

**Second Reading** from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians 2:1-11

**Gospel Acclamation**  
**Alleluia , Alleluia!**  
My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. **Alleluia!**

**Holy Gospel** according to Matthew 21:28-32

**Communion Antiphon**  
Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low.

## Mass and Devotions

### Sunday Mass

**Saturday Vigil:** 6pm

**Sunday:** 9.30am & 5pm

**Samoan Mass:** 1st Sunday of each month at 12 noon

**Children's Mass:** 5th Sunday of the month at 9.30am

### Weekday Mass

9am each day except Thursday;

Thursday at 7.30pm

Healing Mass on the 1st Saturday of each month at 9am.

### Reconciliation

every Saturday at 11am

### Devotions & Prayer groups

**Eucharistic Adoration** of 1st Sunday of each month at 6.15 pm

**Adoration with the Rosary:** Saturday at 9.30am

**Alliance of the 2 hearts Mass & devotion:** 1st Friday of each month at 7.30pm

**Divine Mercy Devotion:** 3rd Sunday of each month at 3pm

**Faith Circles:** every Monday at 2pm & 7pm via zoom

Tuesday at 7.30p in meeting room

### Holy Family Fellowship:

every 4th Saturday at 7pm.

**Book Club:** meets on the 3rd Wednesday at 10am.

**Friendship Group:** meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month.

### Bible Study & Reflection

**Group:** meets Monday at 10am.

### Children's Ministry

**Gathering** will meet on the 4th Sunday from 3– 5 pm

### Ascent Youth Ministry:

meets on the 2nd & 4th Friday from 6.30pm.

### Legion of Mary

every Saturday at 12.30pm

**Grief Support Group** meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month

## Parish Notices

**Bishop's Annual Appeal 2026** The Bishop's Annual Appeal special collection is taking place in our parish this weekend.

Your support helps provide for the retirement and health of our clergy and the sound and holistic formation of our seminarians. Please consider making a tax-deductible gift today. Donate: [dow.org.au/giving](http://dow.org.au/giving); Phone: (02) 4222 2400.

**Fr Shane will be taking some well deserved leave from 8 October.** He will be away from the Parish for 3 months. In his absence Fr Sunny will take over his duties as Parish Administrator.

**Our Major Cash Raffle** Books of tickets are available to take home and sell. The tickets cost \$5 each and a book of 10 tickets will cost \$50. The raffle draw will take place at our thanks giving Mass on 26 November.

**Readers meeting on Tuesday evening at 7pm via zoom.**

**The Property Committee** will be meeting on Wednesday evening at 7.30pm. Come along and help plan the maintenance and improvements to our Parish church, hall & grounds.

**Samoan Mass will be held next Sunday at midday**

**Friendship Group** will be held on Tuesday 6 October at 9.30am after morning Mass. Please bring a plate.

**Eucharistic Adoration will be held next Sunday at 6.15pm following the 5pm Mass. Eucharist28 Update – Walking with Christ**

The International Eucharistic Congress in Sydney in 2028 ('Eucharist28') will be a global gathering of the Church centred on the Eucharist, the source and summit of our Christian lives. It will be a celebration of faith, rich with worship, prayer, testimonies, art, music, culminating in a Papal Mass with Pope Leo XIV. It will be an important moment of Eucharistic renewal for the Church in Australia and beyond. The journey to Eucharist28 has begun!

Our lives this side of heaven are a continuous journey of walking with Christ. We are called to walk alongside Him during our trials and our triumphs. In Micah 6:8, scripture tells us, And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."

This journey of walking with Christ is interior, but it can also be expressed physically. We can become pilgrims by walking and prayerfully moving with Him, including through processions.

In 2028, the global church that gathers in Sydney for Eucharist28 will have an opportunity to be pilgrims by participating in the Eucharistic Procession. This journey through the streets of Sydney will be a witness to our nation and our world, as tens of thousands of pilgrims walk alongside Jesus Christ, truly present in the Eucharist.

In the years leading up to this moment and beyond, the prayer of Eucharist28 is that across Australia, Eucharistic renewal will continue to flourish, and Eucharistic processions and pilgrimages will become a commonplace way for all to walk with Christ in their lives.

**FAITH & FRIES – CAMPBELLTOWN Wednesday 14 October** 4:30pm–6:30pm, Grill'd Macarthur Square, 200 Gilchrist Street Dr. Calling all high school students! Faith & Fries is a relaxed afternoon bringing together teenagers from across the Diocese of Wollongong for good food, new friendships and honest conversations about faith and life. Grab dinner at Grill'd, hear a real life faith story and join a live panel, the topic for the night is Dating; Relationships. Whether you're involved in your faith, just curious or somewhere in between,

you're welcome! Free to attend, with a special \$15 burger and chips deal available to purchase. Register by 5 October to go into the draw for our giveaway! (More details via the CYMDOW instagram) Bring your mates, youth group or others from your school. Register: [dow.sh/fries](https://dow.sh/fries)

**Vocaris Youth October 2026** Do you have a high school-aged young person who you would love to see grow in their faith, discover the beauty of the Catholic faith and make like-minded friends? Then they won't want to miss VOCARIS Youth - a free, fun and faith-filled day for students in Years 7-12 on Saturday, 31 October, 10:00am-3:00pm at Wilton Community Centre, featuring a Cookie Station, Sausage Sizzle Lunch and Ice Cream Topping Bar! For more information or to register, visit <https://dow.sh/VocarisYouth>

**St Francis of Assisi Jubilee – Three Presentations – October 2026** As part of the Jubilee Year of St Francis of Assisi, the Parish of St Michael, Thirroul, is hosting three presentations exploring the life, spirituality and legacy of Saint Francis on October 8, 15 & 22, 7.30pm-9pm. Presented Franciscan Friars – Andrew Granc OFM, Paul Rout OFM and Ken Cafe OFM – the evenings will offer an opportunity to reflect more deeply on the Franciscan tradition and its relevance for our lives today. The presentations will be held live at St Michael's Parish Hall, Thirroul, but you can also participate via Zoom. For full details, including presentation topics, dates and Zoom information, please go [dow.sh/sfjform](https://dow.sh/sfjform).

**Compass Catholic Family Camping Weekend** Registrations are now open for our next Weekend planned for Friday 16–Sunday 18 October. Join with families from across the Diocese for a relaxed weekend of family fun, faith and food! For more information and to register go to: [dow.sh/familycamping26](https://dow.sh/familycamping26)

**BEACHHOUSE – A Post-School Getaway for Year 12 Graduates** Finishing Year 12 can bring big changes. BEACHHOUSE is a relaxed three- day beach house experience helping school leavers build faith, friendship and community as they begin life beyond school. ☐☐ Jesuit Villa House, Gerroa; ☐☐ 16–18 February 2027; ☐☐ \$275 (includes accommodation & meals); ☐☐ Year 12 graduates; ⚠ Only 20 places available A chance to slow down, connect with other young Catholics and start the next chapter well. More details & registration: [dow.sh/beachhouse](https://dow.sh/beachhouse)

## Prayer intentions

### **For the sick and homebound:**

Pat Cullen, Myka Mangos, Kevin Cloran, Karen Browne, Reg Gardner, Barry Atkins, Carol & Gabriel Gonzales, Amelia Jimenez, Susan Mella, Sean Finnerty, Rose Levoune, Doris Wahhib, John Kajdrys, Pat Stewart, Allan Marquinez, Vladdy Mher Peralta, Mercy Espiritu, Stephen & Kathleen Mitrovics, Jadwiga Doomalewska, Bill Scibberas, Bernie Briscoe

*May they experience the saving power of the risen Lord amidst their pain & affliction.*

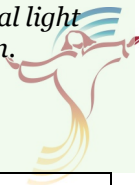
### **For our recently departed**

Liliana Jaroveski, Fr Rick McCann, Vlado Leko,

### **Anniversaries that occur at this time**

Joseph Farrell, Christian Boudan, Gladys Bergicourt

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon them.*



## Our Rosters

| 4 October 2026       | Saturday 6pm                    | Sunday 9.30am                 | Sunday 5pm       |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Welcomers</b>     | Glen, Arlene, Berna             | Martin, Violeti, Paul         | Terry, Maree     |
| <b>Altar Servers</b> | Ryan, Amana, Elijah, Eliana     | Vu                            | Michael, Nathan  |
| <b>Readers</b>       | Richard, Tracey                 | Gabriel, Laura                | Mark, Madonna    |
| <b>Refreshments</b>  | Josephine, Glenda, Margaret McD | Sarah, Tereza, John           | Beatrix, Madonna |
| <b>Altar Linen</b>   | Sr Jill                         | <b>CLOTW:</b> School holidays |                  |
| <b>Flowers</b>       | Lorraine, Effie                 | <b>Church Vacuuming</b>       | Marites, Sarah   |
| <b>Counters</b>      | Richard, Margaret McD           | <b>Church Foyer</b>           | Estela, Clara    |
| <b>Choirs</b>        | C/o Nick, Amanda                | C/o Maria                     | C/o Grace        |



### **Contact Us**

Parish Priest:  
Fr Shane Kelleher OCD

Deacon:  
Rev Stuart Lake

Parish Associate:  
Sr "Jill" Girlie Sudario, CM

### **Office Hours**

Tuesday-Friday: 9.30am-12.30pm

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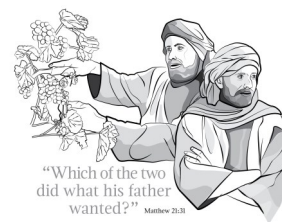
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Website: [varroville.dow.org.au](https://varroville.dow.org.au)

## The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 21:28-32

*He went out moved by regret. The tax collectors and prostitutes will precede you into the kingdom of God.*

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir," but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'



The Gospel of the Lord.

### REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

This week's gospel passage is one of many within Matthew's gospel that show Jesus at odds with the religious authorities of his day. The picture of the religious leaders that comes through Matthew's gospel is one of hypocrisy. Jesus is frequently portrayed as criticising the leaders for holding too strongly to the letter of the law and ignoring the spirit of the law and the call to compassion. This week's passage has Jesus seeking the opinion of the chief priests and elders on a hypothetical situation (a common style of debating a point of law in the Jewish tradition). He describes two sons, each asked by their father to go and work in the family vineyard. The first says 'No' but later does his father's bidding. The second says 'Yes' but doesn't follow through on his commitment.

Jesus is criticising the religious leaders of his time who, with their words, said 'Yes' to God but by their actions said 'No'. He most certainly would have upset the leaders by telling them that tax collectors and prostitutes would enter the kingdom of God before them. Whilst these tax collectors and prostitutes were regarded by the religious authorities as 'sinners' beyond redemption, Jesus holds them up in the image of the first son of the story. Although they may have said 'No' to God through their poor choices, ultimately they are saying 'Yes' to God in their acceptance of Jesus and the message of the kingdom of God. On the other hand, the leaders have said 'Yes' to God publicly through abiding by all the religious laws and maintaining a 'religious profile' but in their hearts and actions they have not truly said 'Yes!'

Living the Gospel – Saying 'Yes!'

In many ways, it is easy to say 'Yes' and not really mean it. Some people do it all the time in their lives. They say 'Yes' when they have no intention at all of following through on their commitment. It's easy to say 'Yes' and not mean it when it comes to faith as well. It's pretty easy to turn up at Church on a Sunday and be seen to be doing the 'right' thing. But if our faith doesn't change the way we live, then maybe we're really saying 'No' to God.



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