

Catholic Parishes of Yarrawonga & Cobram

Incorporating Sacred Heart (Yarrawonga), St Joseph's (Cobram), Our Lady of Good Counsel (Tungamah), St Mary's (Katamatite) & St Mary's (Burramine)

CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES- GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER (GIFT)



Parish Priest: Fr Junjun Amaya (0459-356-917)
Email: junix28@gmail.com
Parish Secretary: Amy O'Kane
Office Ph: (Ph: 03 5744 3030)
Email: yarrawonga@sandhurst.catholic.org.au
Facebook: Catholic Parishes of Cobram-Yarrawonga



SCHOOLS

Sacred Heart Primary, Yarrawonga

Principal: Jarrod Mullavey Ph: 035744 3339

Secondary: Sacred Heart College, Yarrawonga

Principal: Lew Nagle Ph: 035742 1300

St Joseph's Primary, Cobram

Principal: Sarah Iddles Ph: 0358721573

Sacred Heart, Yarrawonga
Cnr Murphy & Witt Streets
PO Box 36, Yarrawonga Vic 3730

St Joseph's Cobram
6-8 William Street
PO Box 424 Cobram, Vic 3644

Yarrawonga & Cobram Catholic Parishes are Child-Safe Organizations: We are committed to National Catholic Safeguarding Standards. With the Diocese of Sandhurst, we commit to provide "a safe and supportive environment for all persons, especially children, young people and adults at risk and has a zero tolerance of abuse."



*We acknowledge and pay respect to the First Nations people, past and present, the original and ongoing owners and custodians of this land.
We commit ourselves to actively work alongside indigenous people for reconciliation and justice.*

4th Sunday of Lent

Year C – 30th March 2025

Irene lives in a remote village in the Kongolo Region in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Life hasn't been easy for Irene. After losing her father in a war, Irene and her family were forced to flee their home. Life became even more challenging when her husband left, leaving Irene to raise her 2 children alone. Without finishing her education and with few job opportunities in her village, she struggled to provide even the basics for her family. Things began to change when Irene joined the Youth Capacity Strengthening Program (Y CSP), run by Caritas Kongolo with the support of Caritas Australia. Through the program, Irene learned sewing skills and was provided with a sewing machine and fabric. Irene also gained farming skills. Now, she grows enough food to feed her family and even shares her sewing knowledge by mentoring other women in her community.

"Before, women depended on men's income, but now, with our sewing skills, we can take care of ourselves," Irene said. Your support of Project Compassion helps women like Irene to create brighter futures for themselves and their families.



We thank the Sacred Heart Primary Yarrawonga: staff, students and parents for organizing the Mass at Sacred Heart, last Sunday. We truly appreciate your active participation in the Liturgy.

The fourth Sunday of Lent is called 'Laetare Sunday' (also 'Rose Sunday'). It is taken from the words "Laetare, Jerusalem," (Isaiah 66:10 & Psalm 121:1). Laetare (Latin word) means "rejoice." Today's Gospel describes the reason for our joy: our God is a loving, merciful and forgiving Father.



Yarrawonga

You can support CARITAS Project Compassion 2025 through the **donation boxes available at the Foyer, envelopes or ONLINE** by scanning the QR code here. Please note the parish QR Code where you belong.



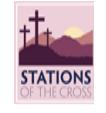
Cobram

Morning Tea to farewell our Parish Secretary

This **Friday, 4 April**, Amy O'Kane is concluding her role as the parish secretary of Yarrawonga and Cobram Catholic Parishes. Amy's dedication to the Church, commitment to her role, her commendable work ethic, knowledge, and her being an efficient office administrator, certainly made significant impacts in the Administration of our Parish. Certainly, I am very grateful to Amy for her work with us for a year. To express our gratitude and our best wishes to Amy, parishioners are invited to gather for a **morning tea with Amy (at the Church Narthex) after the 9:30 am Mass on Friday, 4 April**. All welcome. Fr Junjun

Stations of the Cross

Fridays in Lent



6:00 pm at

Sacred

Heart Church.

All welcome to pray with us.

Cobram: Mass of Anointing of the Sick & Elderly, Wed, 2nd

April, 1:30 pm. Afternoon tea follows. No 9:30 am Mass this day.

Parish Lenten Communal Reconciliation

Cobram (St Joseph's)- Wednesday, 9 April, 6:00 pm

Yarrawonga (Sacred Heart)- Thursday, 10 April, 6:00 pm

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NEW PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday, Thursday & Friday from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. For office inquiries outside these times, please leave a message on 03 5744 3030, text 0459356917 or email: yarrawonga@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

ROSTER FOR THIS WEEKEND 29/30 March 2025

YARRAWONGA

5:00 pm Saturday (Vigil) Mass

Commentator: Brian Keenan
Lector/Reader: Dean Carroll
Offertory Procession: Volunteers
Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion: Barb Osmotherly
Sacristan: Eileen Thorp
Overhead/Music: Noel Richmond

9:00 am Sunday Mass

Commentator: Janet Brennan
Lector/Reader: Bernadette McKenzie
Offertory Procession: Angela Clarke
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Michael Ross, Anne Gleeson
Sacristan: Trish Cummins
Overhead/Music: Dale Brooks,
Counting 1st April: James Cummins

COBRAM

6:30 pm Saturday (Vigil) Mass

Lector/Reader: Stephanie Arundel
Offertory Procession: A & N Trease
Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion: Gabriella Raco
Music/Sacristan: Veronica Perra/Gisella Bextream
Computer: Joan Moriarty

11:00 am Sunday Mass

Lector/Reader: Michelle Griffies
Offertory Procession: Mary Kennedy
Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion: Lou Janssens
Music/Sacristan: Veronica Perra
Computer: Carmel Natale
Counting: John & Joan Moriarty
Statue of Mary: Mrs Filomena Galati

ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND 5/6 April 2025

YARRAWONGA

5:00 pm Saturday (Vigil) Mass

Commentator: Barb Osmotherly
Lector/Reader: Mary Hockley
Offertory Procession: Volunteers
Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion: Christine Martin
Sacristan: Eileen Thorp
Overhead/Music: Noel Richmond

9:00 am Sunday Mass

Commentator: George Cousins
Lector/Reader: Sr Helen Glasheen
Offertory Procession: Holly Dowling
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Margaret Cousins, Trish Cummins
Sacristan: Liz Connell
Overhead/Music: Di Pendergast
Counting 8th April: Joe Cilia

Sacred Heart Parish, Yarrawonga Matters

Yarrawonga Aged Care Communion Services

Woodspoint: Mass & Anointing Tuesday, 1 April 10:00 am
Karana: Communion Liturgy Tuesday, 10:30 am

PARISH MINISTRIES MEETING

Parish Pastoral Care Group- 4th Tues each month 2 pm
March Pastoral Care Contact: Lynne Brear 0437 560 414
Parish Liturgy Group- Thursday, 3 April, 6:00 pm

Yarrawonga Parish Lenten Program

Thursdays in Lent (2 options) @ Church Narthex
10:00 am (With Sr Helen) & 5:15 pm (with Michael Ross)
 Lenten Program Guide available at the foyer. All Welcome!

Yarrawonga Inter-Church Lenten Opportunities:

Palm Cross Making: St Cuthbert's Anglican Courtyard,
10 am, Monday, 7th April 2025

For some years now, Sacred Heart Parish, Yarrawonga, St Cuthbert's Anglican, St. Andrew's Uniting Church & St. Andrews on the Lake, join together to make Palm Crosses for Palm Sunday. On Palm Sunday, we have a combined service at Kennedy Park, at 8:30 am, followed by each respective Church's Palm Sunday service. **For the making of the Palms (no experience required), please bring: A small pair of scissors, an old towel, a plastic bag, and a smile!** Please ring Anne on 0418 281 673 as we need numbers for morning tea.

COBRAM

6:30 pm Saturday (Vigil) Mass

Lector/Reader: Rob Morey
Offertory Procession: Cathy Steward
Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion: Pat Raco
Music/Sacristan: Veronica Perra/Gisella Bextream
Computer: Joan Moriarty

11:00 am Sunday Mass

Lector/Reader: Anne Betts
Offertory Procession: Margret Burns
Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion: Melina Coppola
Music/Sacristan: Veronica Perra
Computer: Carmel Natale
Counting: John & Joan Moriarty
Statue of Mary: Mrs Sandra Panuccio
Altar Society: Cynthia Vinecombe & Co
Ministers to the Sick: Pat Wast, Josie Violi, Carmal Natale, Fred Pinnuck

St Joseph's Parish, Cobram Matters

- **SUNDAY LUNCH:**

Sunday 30th March – Burke's Yarrawonga at 12:30pm

Sunday 6th April – Bottom Pub Cobram at 12:00noon

- **LENTEN PROGRAM-** Thursday 3rd April, at 1:30pm- Church Foyer.

- **ROSARY:** Tuesday 8th April at 2:00pm in the Church. All Welcome.

- **PASTORAL CARE MEETING- Thursday 3rd April, 3pm**

- **ITALIAN LADIES-** Monday 7th April BYO Lunch at Mivo Park 12.30pm, meeting to follow at 1.30pm

- **PASTORAL CARE GROUP (April contact)-** If you have or know of anyone with a particular need, e.g. visitation to the sick, death in the family, etc, please contact Vita Janssens on 0456 779 730

- **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** will be on **Wednesday 9th April**. If anyone has anything they want presented to council to please speak to one of the members. See list of Council members in foyer.

- **Save the dates COBRAM**

- **Ottrey Lodge (Anointing Mass)- Wed, 9 April (10:30 am).**

The 9:30 am Mass this day- cancelled.

- **Parish Lenten Communal Reconciliation Wed 9 April, 6:00 pm at Church.**

Sincere thanks to all volunteers in our parishes who keep our ministries going, our buildings, lawn & gardens well- maintained.

1st Reading:**A Reading from the book of Joshua**

The Lord said to Joshua,
'Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.'
The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept
the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month,
at evening in the plain of Jericho.

On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that
country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same
day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of
that country, the manna stopped falling.

And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year
onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

The word of the Lord **® Thanks be to God.**

Joshua 5:9-12**Responsorial Psalm****Ps 33:2-7. R. v.9****Response: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.**

I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. **®**

Glorify the Lord with me.

Together let us praise his name.

I sought the Lord and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free. **®**

Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.

This poor man called; the Lord heard him
and rescued him from all his distress. **®**

2nd Reading:**2 Corinthians 5:17-21****A Reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians**

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation;
the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here.
It is all God's work.

It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ
and gave us the work of handing on his reconciliation.
In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to
himself, not holding the people's faults against them, and he
has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled.

So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were
appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's
name is: be reconciled to God.

For our sake God made the sinless one into sin,
so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

The word of the Lord. **® Thanks be to God.**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Fifth Sunday of Lent Year C

First Reading: **Isaiah 43:16-21**

Psalm: **Ps 125. R. v.3**

Second Reading: **Philippians 3:8-14**

Gospel: **John 8:1-11**

Curious About Catholicism? Or Thinking about Coming Back to Church?: Whether you're seeking to learn more about the Catholic faith or considering returning to the Church, we invite you to join us at the Catholic Parish. We welcome you and love to accompany you in your journey to discover Jesus Christ or to rediscover the profound sense of home and belonging that our faith offers. **Come and see how the Church can be a place of peace and hope for you.** For inquiries, you may contact/refer to any of the members of the Parish RCIA team **Michael Ross, Barb Osmotherly, George Cousins, Libby Dowling, Christine Martin, Fr Junjun**

Luke 15:18**Gospel Acclamation**

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

I will rise and go to my Father and tell him:

Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Luke 15:1-3. 11-32**Gospel**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke
The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company
of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the
scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and
eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them:

'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father,
'Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to
me.' So the father divided the property between them.

A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had
and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a
life of debauchery.

'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe
famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself
out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to
feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with
the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything.
Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's
paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying
of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say:
Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer
deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid
servants." So he left the place and went back to his father.

'While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was
moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and
kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned
against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called
your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out
the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and
sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill
it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of
mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is
found." And they began to celebrate.

'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as
he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling
one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother
has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf
we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He
was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to
plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years
I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet
you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with
my friends. But for this son of yours, when he comes back after
swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the
calf we had been fattening."

'The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have
is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice,
because your brother here was dead and has come to life;
he was lost and is found."

The Gospel of the Lord.

® Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

**PARISH PRAYER:**

God our Father, bless our Parish of the Sacred Heart (St Joseph),

so that we may love you more. Help our parents to give good example to their children, and our youth to grow in strength as good Christians. Encircle our families with your loving care. To the sick grant health, to the aged bring serenity, and to those in sorrow, joy. May each parishioner grow stronger in faith and may our love for one another become deeper in our daily living. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

YARRAWONGA: We entrust to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, our relatives and friends who are sick:

Peter O'Dwyer, James Heath, Noela Corby, Ken Jones, Ron Foley, Vikki Bye, Peter O'Brien, Megan Burke, Brendan O'Connor, Jen Sagaidak, Lori Perry, Jim McKenna, Christine Titheridge

Recently Deceased: Rodney Ryan, Alfred Galea

Anniversaries of death occur around this time especially:

29th Eunice Williams, May Trewin

30th Sr M. Veronica Cox, John Maher, Anastasia Griffin, Frances Runnalls

31st Anne Parker, Frank Martin, John V Clarke, Agnes (Kay) Dewan

1st Sr M. Carmel Arund, Antoni Swierzbielek, Keith Jacobs, Jack O'Donoghue, Joan Lysaght

2nd Keith Doyle, Dorothea Philomena Jacobs, Jean Blick, Bernard Hemphill, Michael Groves

3rd Stan Box, Barbara Shea

4th Lynne Gibbons, Tony Murphy, Mary-Louise Lynch

COBRAM: With St Joseph, our Patron, we pray for our relatives and friends who are sick:

Teresa Dunn, Francine & Peter Mezenberg, Ashlin Grasso, Bill Carroll, Debbie Opray, Kerry Harrison, Laurie Vinecombe, Melinda England, Evie Emma Simmons, Adrian Bennett, Barry Bennett, Shane Carrick, Carmel Natale, Maddison Watt, Les Harris, Colleen Brooks, Carmel Clancy, Peter Petersen, Fr. Rob Niehus, Bruce Campbell, Frances Hale, Giulia Vitullo, David Cooper, Taylah Brooks, Erin Carlson-Higgins, Tyson King, Malcolm Caldwell, Narelle Brooks

Recently Deceased: Patricia Kennedy

Anniversaries of death occur around this time especially:

30th Emma Curthoys, Matthew John Brien

31st Paul & Concetta Papa, Raimonda Lapina, Estrelita Lapina

1st Ruby Peterkin, Kevin Moar, Des Houlihan

2nd Jean Monckton, Vincent Laffan

3rd Lilian Hyde, Bill Walsh, Robert Carroll

4th Giuseppina Natale, Marie Doyle, Philomena Marxsen, Alfonso Grillo

WEEKEND MASSES

Yarrawonga (Sacred Heart): Sat 5:00pm & Sun 9:00am

Cobram (St Joseph's): Sat 6:30pm & Sun 11:00am

Tungamah: 7:45 am 1st Sunday – 6th April

Katamatite: 7:45 am 5th Sunday – 29th June

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday 1 April, 10:00 am-Anointing Mass (Woodspoint)

Wednesday 2 April, 1:30 pm – Cobram (*Mass of Anointing*)

Thursday 3 April, 9: 30 am - Yarrawonga

Friday 4 April, 9:30am- Yarrawonga
11.30am Mass Cobram

BAPTISMS

1st & 3rd Sunday (1:00 pm) – Sacred Heart, Yarrawonga

2nd & 4th Sunday (12:15 pm)- St Joseph's, Cobram

Baptism Preparation: 6-7 pm (1st Tuesday of the month- Sacred Heart Church, Yarrawonga)

Next Preparation session: Tuesday 1st April

Contact: yarrawonga@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

RECONCILIATION TIMES

Yarrawonga: Saturday 9:00 am

Cobram: Friday, before 11:30 am Mass

WEDDINGS/ANOINTING/FUNERAL: Contact Fr Junjun-0459 356 917 or junix28@gmail.com

Holy Week & Easter Services 13-20 April, 2025 (Yarrawonga & Cobram Catholic Parishes)

Sacred Heart, Yarrawonga	St Joseph's, Cobram
12 April Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm Mass	12 April Saturday Vigil 6:30 pm Mass
13 April Palm Sunday 8:30 am (Ecumenical Blessing of Palms)	13 April Palm Sunday 11:00 am Mass
9:00 am Mass	Blessing of Palms
15 April Tuesday of Holy Week 11:00 am Chrism Mass	Sacred Heart Cathedral, Bendigo
16 April Wednesday of Holy Week 3:00 pm Confessions	16 April Wednesday of Holy Week 9:30 am Mass 10:00 am Confessions
17 April Thursday of Holy Week 8:30 am Morning Prayer/Office of Readings	17 April Thursday of Holy Week 6:00 pm: Mass of the Lord's Supper (Vigil until 9:00 pm)
6:00 pm: Mass of the Lord's Supper (Vigil until 9:00 pm)	Church
18 April Good Friday 9:00 am Stations of the Cross	18 April Good Friday 11:00 am Stations of the Cross
3:00 pm Passion of the Lord	Mivo Park, Cobram 3:00 pm Passion of the Lord
19 April Holy Saturday 8:30 am Morning Prayer/Office of Readings	19 April Holy Saturday 6:30 pm Easter Vigil
6:00 pm Easter Vigil	Church
20 April Easter Sunday 6:00 am Easter Sunrise Mass	20 April Easter Sunday 11:00 am Easter Sunday Mass
9:00 am Easter Sunday Mass	Church

Joke...Irishman in confession

An Irishman goes into the confessional box after years of being away from the Church.

As he was sitting on the chair inside, waiting for the priest, he noticed a fully equipped bar with Guinness on tap. And on the shelf on the wall is a dazzling array of the finest cigars and chocolates.

Then the priest comes in. The Irishman immediately said:

"Father, forgive me, for it's been a very long time since I've been to confession, but I must first admit that the confessional box is much more inviting than it used to be." The priest blurted, "Get out of there. You're on my side."

