

# Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year C

Sunday, 23rd February 2025

## Entrance Antiphon Psalm 12:6

O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.  
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.  
I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

## First Reading 1 Samuel 26:2. 7-9. 12-13. 22-23

**A reading from the first book of Samuel**

*The Lord has put you in my power, but I will not raise my hand against you.*

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph.

So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him.

Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice. David answered Abishai, Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them.

David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

**The Word of the Lord**

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 102:1-4. 8. 10. 12-13. R. v.8

**(R.)** The Lord is kind and merciful.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord,  
all my being, bless his holy name.  
My soul, give thanks to the Lord  
and never forget all his blessings. **(R.)**
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt,  
who heals every one of your ills,  
who redeems your life from the grave,  
who crowns you with love and compassion. **(R.)**
3. The Lord is compassion and love,  
slow to anger and rich in mercy.  
He does not treat us according to our sins  
nor repay us according to our faults. **(R.)**
4. As far as the east is from the west  
so far does he remove our sins.  
As a father has compassion on his sons,  
the Lord has pity on those who fear him. **(R.)**

## Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:45-49

**A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians**

*Just as we have carried the earthly image, we must carry the heavenly image.*

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

**The Word of the Lord**

## Gospel Acclamation John 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment;  
love one another as I have loved you.  
Alleluia!

## Gospel

Luke 6:27-38

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke**

*Be merciful as your Father is merciful.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

**The Gospel of the Lord**

## Communion Antiphon Psalm 9:2-3

I will recount all your wonders,  
I will rejoice in you and be glad,  
and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.

# St. Laurence O'Toole, Leongatha and St. Joseph's, Korumburra

**St Laurence O'Toole Leongatha**

**St Kevin's Meeniyán**

**St Joseph's Mirboo North**

**St Andrew's Tarwin Lower**

**Parish Safeguard Officer: Sam Wright**

Parish Priest: Fr Stanly Devasia  
 Parish Secretary: Ann Hemming  
 37 Ogilvy St. (PO Box 166) Leongatha 3953  
 Telephone: 5662 2020  
 Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs 8.30-4.30  
 Closed All Day Wednesday & Friday  
 Email: [leongatha@cdsale.org.au](mailto:leongatha@cdsale.org.au)  
 After Hours Emergency Phone 5662 4053

**St Joseph's Korumburra**

**St Vincent's Loch**

PO Box 90 Korumburra 3950

Telephone: 5662 2020

email: [leongatha@cdsale.org.au](mailto:leongatha@cdsale.org.au)

**Parish Safeguard Officer: Anne Speekman**



## WEEKEND MASSES

**Leongatha**  
 Saturday 5.30pm  
 Sunday 11.00am

**Korumburra**  
 Sunday 9.30am

**Tarwin Lower**  
 Mass— Mass on Saturday before 3rd Sunday at 4.00pm  
 Liturgy with H/C Saturday 5.30pm before 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th Sunday

**Mirboo Nth**  
 Mass— Mass 1st Sunday at 4.00pm  
 Liturgy with H/C 9.30 Sunday 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th

**Meeniyán**  
 Mass— Mass Saturday before 2nd & 4th Sunday at 4.00pm  
 Liturgy with H/C 9.30am on 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday's

## PLEASE PRAY FOR

**Recently Deceased:** St Julie Ogbole, Dr David Lunn  
**Anniversaries:** Thomas Kanayammackal, Maria Pappalardo  
 The deceased Clergy of the Diocese of Sale  
 Eternal rest grant unto them , O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace."

## PARISH ROSTERS

**LEONGATHA:**

	<b>1st Mar</b>	<b>2nd Mar</b>
Flowers:		
Cleaning:	M&L Dempsey	
Greeting:	M Murphy	S Cannata
Reader:	A Hemming	D Knez
Special Minister:	B Mathew	G Bolge
Cuppa after Mass:	M & B Thomas	Kiki & Hyacinth

**KORUMBURRA:**

09/03	Cleaning:	A&L D'Souza
02/03	Greeter:	M Jackson

## March

Reader:	F Fowles
Commentator	D Brookes
Special Minister	M Ludenia
Laundry:	M Trewin
Flowers:	No Flowers

## Weekday Mass or Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion Times

### KORUMBURRA

<b>Wednesday</b>	Mass	9.30am
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### LEONGATHA

<b>Tuesday</b>	Mass	5.00pm
<b>Thursday</b>	Mass	9.30am
<b>Friday</b>	Parish/Class Mass	9.30am

## The Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary

**St. Laurence O'Toole Church Leongatha**  
**Saturday:** Before 5.30 pm Mass—5.00pm  
**Sunday:** Before 11am Mass—10.30am

## RECONCILIATION TIMES

**Leongatha:** Friday after 9.30am Mass & before 5.30pm  
 Mass on Saturday .  
**Korumburra:** Sun before 9.30am Mass

*We are a child safe parish. Any children, young persons and adults at risk have a right to feel safe and be safe. If you are concerned about any form of abuse, or believe that someone is at significant risk, you should immediately raise your concerns with one of our Parish Child Safety Officers. They can be contacted through the Parish Office. Telephone 03 56 622 020*

## The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,  
may the faith you have given us  
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,  
and the flame of charity enkindled  
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,  
reawaken in us the blessed hope  
for the coming of your Kingdom.



May your grace transform us  
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of  
the Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within both humanity  
and the whole cosmos  
in the sure expectation  
of a new heaven and a new earth,  
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,  
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee  
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,  
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.  
May that same grace spread  
the joy and peace of our Redeemer  
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,  
be glory and praise for ever.

**Amen**

## Vocation Prayer

*HEAVENLY FATHER, Lord of the harvest, we earnestly ask you to bless our diocese and the Church with many priests, deacons and religious who will love you fervently, and gladly and courageously live their lives in service to your Son's Church under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.*

*Bless our families and parishes that we may be given the grace and strength to live our baptismal vocation to be holy, as You are. Bless us that we will respond to your invitation to be living witnesses and disciples of hope as we discern our life in your son, Jesus Christ.*

*Bless young men and women to respond openly and generously to your invitation to become ministers of your Word and Sacraments, or to serve You faithfully in the covenant of Marriage, or the dignity of single life.*

*Mary, Mother of the Church, the model of every vocation, help us to say "yes" to the Lord who calls us to cooperate in the divine plan of salvation.*

**AMEN**

### OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD

#### St Laurence's Parish:

Stewardship envelope:	\$551.00
Stewardship cash (1st offering)	\$370.25
Presbytery (2nd offering)	\$456.00

#### St Joseph's Parish

Stewardship envelope:	\$120.00
Stewardship cash (1st offering)	\$186.00
Presbytery (2nd offering)	\$395.60

*Thank you for your contributions, they are greatly appreciated.*

## REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

### Learning the Language of Heaven

Jesus challenges us to unlearn the language of the world and to learn a language which is counter-cultural, paradoxical, perplexing, such as: 'Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you' etc, etc. Are such attitudes and actions possible?

Our Lord is the best model. Jesus *is* the Word of God in human history. Jesus *is* the language of Heaven spoken in a human life. We have to read the Gospels and then imitate His dialect. Otherwise we might merely mutter to ourselves which would end up being eternally Hellish.

When we become aware of our language malpractice, i.e., sinning, and if we become *really* tongue-tied, i.e., seriously sinning, we can come to the Sacrament of Confession and emerge articulate and conversant with Christ again. We can talk with Our Lord again. We are singing the same tune.

Then at the moment of death we can gracefully pass over to our intended destiny which is not incommunicado, but communicado, holy communicado, holy conversation with God and with every creature.

We might pause for a moment and resolve to practise the language of Heaven and to 'walk the talk' every day.

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### Newcomers or Update Details

Welcome and thanks for worshipping with us at Korumburra and Leongatha Parishes.

If you are new to the Parish or have changed your details or need Thanksgiving Envelopes, please complete your details and drop the form on a Collection plate or drop off to the Parish Office.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

New Parishioner  Change of Address or Phone #

Thanksgiving: Envelopes  or Electronically

# Parish/Diocese News

**The World Day of Prayer**—The Leongatha 2025 World Day of Prayer services will be at the Salvation Army, at 2 Long Street Leongatha, on Friday 7 March at 10.30am and 7.30pm. All congregation members are invited to attend and to bring friends and neighbours. Children are welcome. Each service lasts about 50 minutes and is followed by refreshments.

**Ecumenical Pleasant Sunday Afternoon** 23 Feb 2025 BBQ Lunch at 1pm followed by outdoor Concert @ 2pm. Scots Pioneer Church 1191 Mardan Rd, Mardan. Contact Sam Nicita 0447 205 434

**Lenten Booklets** with daily reflections starting on Ash Wednesday (March 5<sup>th</sup>) are available for \$10 from the Piety Stall in Leongatha. Also included are in depth reflections for the Sunday Gospels of Lent by Fr John Corrigan, with Spiritual Direction by Mother Hilda Scott and weekly Art Reflections by MSGR Graham Schmitzer. Great way to prepare yourself for celebrating Easter.

## LEONGATHA PARISH:

**Gospel Reflection Group** meets on Mondays during the school term from 1.30-3pm in the Parish Centre. This is a small friendly group that reads the coming Sunday's Gospel then discusses and relates it to their everyday life, finishing with a cuppa. Everyone is most welcome.

**Wednesday Adoration and Prayer:** we invite you to come and join our Hour of Prayer on Wednesdays 11 to 12 noon in St Laurence's church. We will say the Rosary and sing hymns but there will be lots of time for quiet personal prayer where you can just sit with the Lord or read the Scripture, etc.

**St Laurence's Mothers' Prayer Group** - prayer group for those wanting to pray for their children, grandchildren or nieces and nephews etc. To be held after 9.30 Mass on the second Friday of the month in the Parish Centre. You are most welcome to join this group united in prayer to save our children.

**Josephite Companions meeting** will be held in the Parish Centre on Friday 28th February 2025 after the 9.30am Mass

**God's Ecumenical Men Servants** will meet on Wed 5th March 7.30pm at St. Laurence's. Speaker—Neil Warren on the The Great Bike Ride!

## KORUMBURRA PARISH:

**Cuppa** after Mass on the First Sunday the Month

## SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

### Compassion

*The compassion of God is a very strong theme that runs through the Gospel of Luke. Throughout the gospel, the compassion and mercy of God is emphasised and a defining feature of the gospel is the number of healings and parables that relate to people who were regarded as the outcasts of society. In this gospel, Jesus is the embodiment of God's compassion. Jesus wants all people to experience first hand the abundant love God holds for them. Today's gospel passage is a reminder that when we experience God's compassion we are also called to show it to others.*



Be compassionate  
as your Father is  
compassionate.  
Do not judge, and  
you will not be  
judged yourselves.

Luke 6:27