

MORWELL & LUMEN CHRISTI CATHOLIC PARISHES

Morwell Catholic Parish Vision Statement

"A welcoming, caring and inclusive community, witnessing to Christ, supporting each other, sharing our faith with all, and affirming the dignity of human life".

Sacred Heart - Morwell
St Vincent de Paul - Morwell East



Lumen Christi Parish Vision Statement

"To reflect the light of Christ to all peoples".

Lumen Christi - Churchill
St Francis de Sales - Boolarra
Our Lady of Good Counsel - Yinnar

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. James Fernandez
PRESBYTERY: 5133 8132

SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS
LC: Russell Cheffers - 0402356315
MCP: Michael Edgar- 0407505016

PARISH OFFICE : 5134 2849

Address: 4 Wilson Street, Morwell

OFFICE HOURS

Thursday's: 9am-4pm & **Friday's:** 10am-1pm
MCP Email: mwellcathpar@netspace.net.au
LC Email: Secretary.Churchill@cdsale.org.au

PARISH SECRETARY
MCP: Marie D'alia - 0419899091

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH - 29TH DECEMBER, 2024



SUNDAY REFLECTION

Forget the tinselly sentimentality of most depictions of the Holy Family. This Gospel is real life. Anyone who has temporarily lost their child in a crowd knows the stabbing pain of uncertainty and fear. Even more real, and occurring more often, is the adolescent impatience of Jesus: 'Did you not know I must be about my Father's business?' Every parent, bewildered and saddened by the growing up and the growing distance of a son or daughter, knows what Mary and Joseph must have felt. By the time Mary and Joseph found Jesus, he had found the words to express his unique identity. In this little scene so full of pathos and heartbreak, we hear the first words of Jesus in the Gospels: 'Did you not know I must be about *my* Father's business?' What was his 'Father's business' which was so engaging for Jesus? To draw every human being into the same family relationship as He enjoys. But did you note that it is our privilege to celebrate this realisation as a community? Only Jesus can say 'My Father'. We say 'Our Father'. We enter into the grace of intimate relationship with God, not as an atomised individual, but as a person within a society of baptised Christians - the Church. We could take a moment to pray for the integrity which will enable us to express this sense

of identity in the unfolding of our lives. We can pray also for those saddened or bewildered by our following of the One who taught us to pray 'Our Father'. © Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com



JUBILEE YEAR 2025: A YEAR - LONG JOURNEY OF HOPE AND FAITH

Pope Francis has called for a special Jubilee Year to be celebrated in 2025. In the Catholic Church, a Jubilee or Holy Year is a special year of forgiveness and reconciliation, in which people are invited to come back into right relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation. The theme is **Pilgrims of Hope**. We are invited to rediscover a spirituality of God's creation in which we understand ourselves as 'pilgrims on the earth' rather than 'masters of the world'. This Jubilee Year begins on Christmas Eve 2024 and concludes on 6 January 2026. The opening of the Jubilee Year will be celebrated

in our diocese with **Mass at St Mary's Cathedral, Sale at 11am on January 1st 2025**, to which all are invited. (Excerpts from Bishop Greg's Letter)

MASS TIMINGS

WEEKDAYS MASSES THIS WEEK

Tue - 9.15am - Sacred Heart

Wed - 10am - Sacred Heart Jan 1st
Mary, the Holy Mother of God - Solemnity

Thu - 5pm - Lumen Christi

First Fri - 9.15am - Sacred Heart
NO First Saturday Mass Adoration & Reconciliation

NEXT WEEKEND MASSES

The Epiphany of the Lord

Sat - 5pm - St Vincent's

Sun - 9am Lumen Christi

Sun - 10.30am - Sacred Heart

FOR ANY EMERGENCIES or BOOKINGS PLEASE CALL : 51342849 OR mwellcathpar@netspace.net.au

Entrance Antiphon: Lk2:16

The shepherds went in haste,
and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

First Reading: 1 Sm 1:20-22.24-28

A reading from the first book of Samuel

Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son, and called him Samuel 'since' she said 'I asked the Lord for him.' When a year had gone by, the husband Elkanah went up again with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the Lord and to fulfil his vow. Hannah, however, did not go up, having said to her husband, 'Not before the child is weaned. Then I will bring him and present him before the Lord and he shall stay there for ever.' When she had weaned him, she took him up with her together with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the temple of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was with them. They slaughtered the bull, and the child's mother came to Eli. She said, 'If you please, my lord. As you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you, praying to the Lord. This is the child I prayed for, and the Lord granted me what I asked him. Now I make him over to the Lord for the whole of his life. He is made over to the Lord.' There she left him, for the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 83:2-3.5-6.9-10.R.v.5
**How happy they who dwell in your house,
O Lord**

How lovely is your dwelling place,
Lord, God of hosts.
My soul is longing and yearning,
is yearning for the courts of the Lord.
My heart and my soul ring out their joy
to God, the living God. (R.)

They are happy, who dwell in your house,
for ever singing your praise.
They are happy, whose strength is in you;
they walk with ever growing strength. (R.)

O Lord, God of hosts, hear my prayer,
gave ear, O God of Jacob.
Turn your eyes, O God, our shield,
look on the face of your anointed. (R.)

Second Reading: 1 Jn 3:1-2,21-24

A reading from the first letter of St John

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed, all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to.

Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

Gospel Acclamation Acts 16:14
Alleluia, alleluia!

Open our heart, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Lk 2:41-52

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Every year the parents of Jesus used to go to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up for the feast as usual. When they were on their way home after the feast, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without his parents knowing it. They assumed he was with the caravan, and it was only after a day's journey that they went to look for him among their relations and acquaintances. When they failed to find him they went back to Jerusalem looking for him everywhere.

Three days later, they found him in the Temple, sitting among the doctors, listening to them, and asking them questions; and all those who heard him were astounded at his intelligence and his replies. They were overcome when they saw him, and his mother said to him, 'My child, why have you done this to us? See how worried your father and I have been, looking for you.' 'Why were you looking for me?' he replied. 'Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?' But they did not understand what he meant. He then went down with them and came to Nazareth and lived under their authority. His mother stored up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and men.



† **RECENTLY DECEASED:** Domenico Messere,
June Watson

† **MASS INTENTIONS:** Felicetta & Vincenzo
Licciardi, Frank, Betty & Geoff Evans, Divina Grigo-
letto

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

We pray for Pat Van der Zalm, Roman Bracz-
kowski, Bonnie Harris, Julia Peterson, Dominic
Manzo, Reji Roy, Fr. Andrew Wise, Andrzej Ar-
mata, Leanne Embleton, and Christopher
Garnham.