

ST. MARY'S YARRAM & ST. JOSEPH'S FOSTER

(Including St. Gerard Woodside, St. Agnes Toora and Immaculate Conception Fish Creek)

St. Joseph's Mission Statement: We strive to:
Be an active, open, Christ centred community, building bridges towards the kingdom.

St Mary's Vision Statement:
Our parish is a faith community that aims to make Jesus known and loved by living the Gospel message of acceptance, welcome and service to all members of the community.



St Mary's Mission Statement: We strive to:
Continue to be an active, prayerful, and sacramental faith community.
Grow in faithfulness to our Catholic tradition by full participation in Eucharistic celebrations sacraments and prayer. Respect and value all creation. Use our time, talents, and treasures to provide quality human, financial and facility resources to sustain and serve our parish's faith community and the wider community.

Statement of Commitment to the safety of children and vulnerable adults:

Central to the mission of St Mary's and St. Joseph's Parishes is an unequivocal commitment to fostering the dignity, self-esteem and integrity of children, young people and vulnerable adults and providing them with a safe, supportive and enriching environment to develop spiritually, physically, intellectually, emotionally and socially.

Parish Information

Parish Priest:
Fr. Confidence Masvosva
Confidence.masvosva@cdsale.org.au

Priests' Residence:
5 Buckley Street, Yarram.
Parish Office: 5182 5028
PO Box 59 Yarram, 3971
Email: yarram@cdsale.org.au

St Mary's **Facebook Link:** - <https://fb.me/StMarysYarram>
St Joseph's **Facebook Link:** - <https://fb.me/StJosephsFoster>

Parish Secretary
Diana Cannizzo
Bookkeeper
Janette Sampson
Bulletin Notices: By Thursday
yarram@cdsale.org.au

Office Hours:
Thursday 9.30am - 3.00pm
Friday 9.30am - 3.00pm

Safeguarding Officers
Yarram- Jennifer Heeraman-
Nieuwenhuizen
Foster- Gregory Gibson
Maintenance Personnel
Yarram - Eugene Benc
Foster - Julia Aldons

Sick Calls or Communion to the Sick: 5182 5028 or
Leave a message, with your name and contact number as well as details of the person who is ill.

Baptisms:
At least 4 weeks notice please.
Weddings:
At least 6 months notice please.

St. Mary's Primary School:Principal:
Mrs Maria Moore 5182 5659



**1ST DECEMBER 2024 - YEAR C
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



HAPPY NEW CHURCH YEAR DEAR PARISHIONERS!

Advent begins with the First Sunday of Advent, at the end of November or the beginning of December. This is the beginning of the church year. There are always four Sundays of Advent, before Christmas, whether Christmas day falls on a weekday or a Sunday. The word 'advent' means 'coming'. During this time, we look forward to our Lord's coming as a human baby at Bethlehem and to his final coming as king at the end of time. We also remember his continual coming to his people in his word and sacraments. Advent is therefore a time of waiting, preparing, and hoping. This involves both repentance and joyful anticipation.

Jesus encourages his disciples to "stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." This call to courage and resilience captures the essence of Advent it is a time not of idle waiting, but of intentional, hope-filled preparation. Advent is far more than a countdown to Christmas. While we anticipate celebrating Christ's birth, the season also reminds us to look forward with expectation and urgency to his promised return. It is easy to fall into a passive waiting, treating Advent as a nostalgic ritual or a season to be endured until we can finally celebrate. But Advent is about being ready not just for a single day but for the transformation of our hearts and lives.

As we journey through Advent, may we resist the temptation to "pointlessly wait." Instead, let us embrace the spirit of anticipation, allowing it to renew our commitment to God's work in our lives and the world. **Fr Confidence**

Weekday Mass Times - from Mon 2nd Dec.

Monday:	No Mass	
Tuesday:	NO MASS	
Wednesday:	Foster	11.00am
(2nd Wed. of month @ PROMCARE)		11.00am
Thursday:	NO MASS	
Friday:	Yarram	10.00am
SUNDAY MASS TIMES		
Saturday:	Toora: (Vigil)	4.30pm
	Fish Creek: (Vigil)	6.00pm
Sunday	Foster:	9.00am
	Yarram:	11.00am



DECEMBER, MONTH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL - YARRAM

Fr. Confidence Masvosva, Anne-Marie Robb (Chairperson) Maria Moore (Principal, Deputy Chairperson) Leonore Giliberto (Secretary), Sue Benc, Jennifer Heeraman-Nieuwenhuizen, Prisca Gabiana

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL - FOSTER

Fr. Confidence Masvosva, Ben Worsteling (Chairperson), Sandra Stefani (Deputy Chairperson), Julia Aldons (Secretary), Leanne Denbrosk, John Denbrosk (Youth Representative), Mary Gobel (Youth Representative), Duilio Stefani, Wilemena Low

PRAYER LIST FOR THE SICK YARRAM

Sick: Mary Willis, Therese Morris, Pauline Kimber, Loretta Clark, Zena Purtic, Chanel Bassett, and all those we keep in our hearts. That they will be sustained by the care of our community.

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries: Maureen Carroll, Cecily & Jack Griffiths, Johanna Reeves, David Marshall, Clarrie Little, David McAninly, Bernie Norling, Peter Carr, Nancy Brinker, Sr Martha Jensem
May they rest in peace.

PRAYER LIST FOR THE SICK FOSTER

Sick: Greg Gibson, Kath Hurst, Margaret Bertram, Monica Midwinter, Mary Mason, Mary Slater, John Box, Dawn and Ashton Farrell, Colin Smith, Tracy van Kuyk and all those we keep in our hearts. That they will be sustained by the care of our community.

Recently Deceased: Jim Vuillermin -

Rosary: Tues. 3rd December, 7.30pm at Fish Creek

Funeral Mass: Wed. 4th December, 1.00pm at Fish Creek

Anniversaries: Daniel McGlead, Attilio Romano Stefani, Llyn Sullivan
May they rest in peace.



DIOCESAN CONSULTATION PHASE 2 COMPLETED

Phase 2 of the 2024 Diocesan Consultation has been completed. We sincerely thank every one who chose to contribute to the consultation meetings or submitted their responses online. A significant number of suggestions have been submitted to the question of, **“What pastoral priorities and actions the Holy Spirit is calling us as individuals and parish communities to focus on during the next five years to give renewed life and purpose to our shared mission?”** The feedback is presently being compiled into a report that will be published in December.

Our attention is now focussed on the Diocesan Assembly that is being held at Marist-Sion College, Warragul, on the 14th and 15th of February 2025. At this assembly, some 232 delegates from parishes, schools, Diocesan bodies and organisations, and other Churches, will aim, (a) to acknowledge and affirm the strengths and best practices of our Diocese that we wish to continue to build on; (b) to identify the significant challenges we face in our Diocese as missionary disciples of Jesus Christ, and, (c) to gain a clear picture of which pastoral goals and actions need to be given priority over the next five years, for our Diocese to develop towards becoming more Christ-centred, synodal and missionary. Please join with the people of the Diocese in praying that the Holy Spirit will guide the planning and outcomes of this important event.



Christmas Gifts from Palms!

Are you looking to give something really special this year? Something that makes a tangible difference? Palms has the shop for you!

Whether it be a GIFT directly supporting our overseas development program, or some unique Timorese GIFTS for your loved one's home, you'll find that perfect GIFT here!

palms.org.au/donate/palms-gift-shop

Happy shopping! And yes, your purchase assists the amazing communities overseas

INTERNATIONAL DAY of PEOPLE with DISABILITY (IDPwD) 3December 2024:

The day is held annually on the 3rd of December all over the world. It celebrates and raises awareness of people with disability. The goal is to achieve inclusion of people with disability in all aspects of community life.

What Does Catholic Social Teaching say about Disability?

1. It is not so much the impairment but the ignorance, intolerance, injustice, and exclusion that undermines the dignity and humanity of disabled people.
2. People with a disability are not just the object of care but the agents of their own life.
3. They need to be heard. We must recognize the vast diversity of the disabled experience.
4. Inclusion requires that people with disability have an equal opportunity to be recognized, accepted and make their own contribution to the common good.

For more information visit: catholic.au/s/article/International-Day-of-People-with-Disability



*Thank you to those making donations
God bless your generosity*

17.11.24 Planned Giving - \$439.20 Presbytery Collection - \$280.20

Foster Church Account

NAB—BSB 083-879

Account No—527413354

Foster Presbytery Account

NAB—BSB 083-879

Account No—296638619



*Thank you to those making donations
God bless your generosity*

24.11.24 Planned Giving - \$381.10 Presbytery Collection - \$158.20

Yarram Church Account

NAB—BSB 083-879

Account No—527668496

Yarram Presbytery Account

NAB—BSB 083-879

Account No—157911099



Information about the Parish of Yarram and Foster
can be obtained from the Catholic Diocese of Sale website at www.cdsale.org.au

ARE YOU NEW TO OUR PARISH: Would you like information about the Parish and our programs or know someone else who does? Please see our Priest today or fill in a Welcome Card which is available at the Church entrances.

COMMUNION TO THE SICK: Any parishioners who cannot attend Mass due to illness or frailty and would like to receive Communion, and a visit from Fr Confidence are asked to contact the Parish office on 5182 5028.

PRAYING FOR THE SICK: If you have a loved one who would like to be included in the prayers for the sick, please let the office know for inclusion in the bulletin. Please also advise the office if you want a name removed.

YARRAM PARISH DIARY - NOVEMBER

CHRSMTC. PRAYER GRP: 1st & 3rd Tuesday of Month - 9.30am
MORNING TEA AFTER MASS: 8th December, Filipino Ladies.

FOSTER PARISH DIARY - NOVEMBER

FINANCE MEETING: Wednesday 4th December - 11.30am
FOSTER ROSARY: Every Monday, 8.30am *followed by Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion*
FOSTER ROSARY: Every Wednesday before 11am Mass

PRAYER GROUP, FISH CREEK: Every Wednesday, 10.30am, in Church. Prayers for the sick and dying, followed by Mass or Liturgy at 11.00am.

PRAYER FOR OUR PARISH

Heavenly Father,
we place our trust in your loving hands!
We put our Parish under the
guidance of the Holy Spirit.
Bless each one of us with the grace to be
listening and accepting people.
May we work together in joyful hope,
and faithfully give witness
to your presence with us.

St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop Pray for us.
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Pray for us.
Amen

ST JOSEPH'S FOSTER, ADVENT DEVOTIONS

Beginning **Wednesday 4th December**
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at **10.00am**,
followed by Mass at 11.00am.

**YARRAM COMBINED CHURCHES
CHRISTMAS HAMPER APPEAL**

This year we are asking for donations of money to go towards the **CHRISTMAS HAMPER APPEAL**
This appeal helps needy families within our community, especially at this busy time of the year.

We will take up a third collection this Sunday for donations. God bless you for your generosity.

YARRAM / FOSTER CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

CHRISTMAS VIGIL - 24 December

TOORA 6.30pm

CHRISTMAS DAY - 25 December

FOSTER 9.00am
FISH CREEK 10.30am
YARRAM 10.00am



“You Are Not Forgotten”: Catholic Bodies Call for Solidarity with Lebanon:

The Bishops Commission for Social Justice, Mission and Service, together with Catholic Religious Australia, has issued a joint media release addressing the urgent humanitarian crisis in Lebanon. For more information visit: <https://www.cdsale.org.au/news>

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER

For Pilgrims of Hope “so that this Jubilee strengthens us in faith, helps us recognize Christ risen in our lives, and transforms us into pilgrims of Christian hope.”

PARISH ROSTER—YARRAM

1st December

Commentator S Telling
Reader J Papworth
Offertory Giliberto family
Special Minister M Harkin
Counting J Papworth, P McAninly

8th December

Commentator L Giliberto
Reader R Irving
Offertory Telling family
Special Minister J Purgar
Counting M & S Telling

PARISH ROSTER—FOSTER

1st December

Counting Carmel & Tricia
Commentator T Richards
Reader B Howard
Special Minister L Denbroke
Cleaners

8th December

Counting Des & Leon
Commentator M Gobel
Reader T Harrington
Special Minister M Gobel
Cleaners D & S Conroy

FISH CREEK

30th November - 6.00pm MASS

Reader Bianca Stefani

7th December - 6.00pm MASS

Reader Nadia Stefani

TOORA

30th November - 4.30pm MASS

(on rotation) J Moysey & W Lowe

7th December - 4.30pm MASS

(on rotation) J Moysey & W Lowe

First Reading

Jeremiah 33:14-16

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah:

‘In those days and at that time,
I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David,
who shall practise honesty and integrity in the
land.

In those days Judah shall be saved
and Israel shall dwell in confidence.
And this is the name the city will be called:
The Lord-our-integrity.’

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 24:4-5. 8-9. 10. 14. R. v.1

(R.) To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. (R.)
2. The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor. (R.)
3. His ways are faithfulness and love
for those who keep his covenant and will.
The Lord’s friendship is for those who revere him;
to them he reveals his covenant. (R.)

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 3:12 – 4:2

A reading from first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.

Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you

in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Psalm 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 21:25-28. 34-36

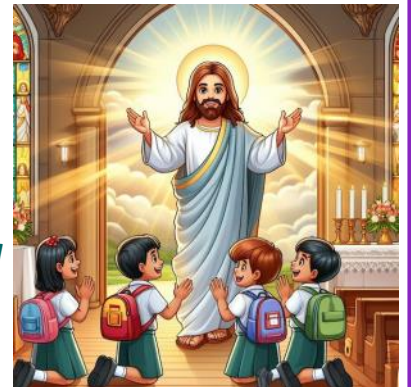
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.

‘Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.’

The Gospel of the Lord

*God bless the
St. Mary’s
Primary School
students in
Yarram, past and
present.*



Next Weeks Readings - 8th Dec SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading	Baruch 5:1-9
Responsorial Psalm	125
Second Reading	Phil 1:4-6, 8-11
Gospel Acclamation	(Lk 3:4, 6)
Gospel	Lk 3:1-6