

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 -

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



22ND DECEMBER 2024 - YEAR C
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Dear Parishioners

As the feast of Christmas approaches, the readings for the final Sunday of Advent take us closer to the expectations of the greatest gift of all, Jesus Christ. There is a shift that allows us greater insight into the sense that Christ comes not from the great but from the lowly, that God chooses differently to human society. With this is the understanding that Christ, the mighty ruler, brings peace and does not rule by might. This is strengthened with the narrative of the Visitation, where the two kinswomen Elizabeth and Mary, meet and exchange greetings and recognitions. Interestingly, this is the story of two strong women, each pivotal to salvation, carrying faith in strength and hope. They will be the teachers of Jesus and John, and they are our teachers. In celebrating Christmas, strive to focus your attention on Jesus, rather than the consumerism and commercialism of this time of year. Take time in prayer to give thanks for the blessings you have been given, especially the gift of salvation.

I joyfully share the news of Parish Mass time changes. Monday and Tuesday there will be no Mass, Wednesday Mass will be in Foster Church or Prom Care at 11:00am, an additional weekday Mass will be in Fish Creek twice a month, First Wednesday and Third Wednesday of the month at 9:30am. Thursday Yarram 11:00am, Friday Yarram 10:00am. Sunday Mass Times will be: Yarram 9:00am and Foster 11:00am. These changes will take effect from January 2025. Changes and adjustments will be communicated.

Fr Confidence

Weekday Mass Times - from Mon 23rd Dec.

Monday: No Mass
Tuesday: Christmas Vigil - see page 3
Wednesday: Christmas Day - see page 3
Thursday: No Mass
Friday: No Mass

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Saturday: Toora: **Liturgy (Vigil)** 4.30pm
Fish Creek: **Liturgy (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), 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: Quentin Jeffs, Sam Puccio, Arthur Davis, Michael Miller, Harriet Egan, Martha Barry, Ann Gilliland, Vern Phelan, John O'Connor, Terrance Crane, Josie Forlano, Ray Cocksedge, Ralph Brown, Auriel Griffiths, Matthew Phelan

May they rest in peace.

PRAYER LIST FOR THE SICK FOSTER

Sick: Baby Dominic Monahan, 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:

Anniversaries: Ivy Vuillermin, Aloysius & Lillian Knez, John Mastwyk, Tony Vuillermin, Francis Moore, Andy Heyden, Joan Heyden, Sheila Aldons, Netta Mackin, Lorraine Brennan-Tiziani, John Benton

May they rest in peace.



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.

VANUATU EARTHQUAKE APPEAL

Vanuatu has experienced two earthquakes within 24 hours impacting over 116,000 people and causing significant damage to buildings and infrastructure. The main hospital in Port Vila has sustained extensive damage and is overwhelmed by the mass casualties.

There are hundreds of people who have been injured or trapped under rubble and at least 14 people deceased with the death toll expected to continue to rise. People remain fearful of further disaster such as earthquakes, storm damage, flooding, and tsunamis.

This appeal will provide support to our on the ground partners who are ready to respond to the humanitarian requirements by providing emergency shelter, food and other essentials, psychosocial support, and recovery efforts.

Please **Donate today:**

<http://www.caritas.org.au/vanuatu>



PILGRIMS OF HOPE

In 2025 Pope Francis has proclaimed a Year of Jubilee. The theme is 'Pilgrims of Hope'. Join us as we celebrate the opening of this year-long journey of hope and faith at St Mary's Cathedral, Sale on 1st Jan 2025. The Mass, celebrated by Bishop Greg Bennet, will begin at 11.00am and all are welcome. Following the Mass, light refreshments will be available. There will be an opportunity for you to pray and reflect on the diocesan themes for the year as well as considering how you can be a pilgrim of hope in 2025.



FOR PILGRIMS OF HOPE

"Let us pray that this Jubilee strengthen us in our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in the midst of our lives, transforming us into pilgrims of Christian hope."
- Pope Francis -



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

8.12.24 Planned Giving - \$606.35 Presbytery Collection - \$184.00

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*

15.12.24 Planned Giving - \$732.90 Presbytery Collection - \$166.60

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 - DECEMBER

CHRSMTC. PRAYER GRP: will resume next February
MORNING TEA AFTER MASS: Will recommence in February

FOSTER PARISH DIARY - DECEMBER

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.

CHRISTMAS WORKING BEES

Thank you to all the generous volunteers who came to clean up St Mary's Church on Monday and St Joseph's Church on Tuesday and Thursday. God bless you all.

Please note:

NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS
Will be celebrated in the Cathedral at 11.00am



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

(pre-ceded by Carols at 9.30am)

Opening Celebration
 to Launch
Pilgrims of Hope

+

St Mary's Cathedral
 47-57 Foster Street, Sale

WEDNESDAY 1ST JANUARY 2025
 11AM - MASS
 CELEBRANT: BISHOP GREG BENNETT
 FOLLOWED BY LIGHT REFRESHMENTS

PARISH ROSTER—YARRAM

22nd December

Commentator M Telling
Reader A M Robb
Offertory J & B Kemp
Special Minister S Telling
Counting M Harkin, Volunteer

29th December

Commentator R Irving
Reader J Allgood
Offertory Sampson family
Special Minister L Giliberto
Counting P McAninly, J Papworth

PARISH ROSTER—FOSTER

22nd December

Counting Ben
Commentator B Howard
Reader M Gobel
Special Minister L Denbrok
Cleaners Volunteers

29th December

Counting Carmel & Tricia
Commentator M Emanuel
Reader C Van Kuyk
Special Minister B Worsteling
Cleaners

FISH CREEK

21st December - 6.00pm MASS
 Reader Sandra Stefani

28th December - 6.00pm LITURGY
 Leader Mary Scott
 Reader Bianca Stefani

TOORA

21st December - 4.30pm MASS
 (on rotation) J Moysey & W Lowe

28th December - 4.30pm LITURGY
 (on rotation) J Moysey & W Lowe

First Reading

Micah 5:1-4

A reading from the prophet Micah

The Lord says this:

You, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
the least of the clans of Judah,
out of you will be born for me
the one who is to rule over Israel;
his origin goes back to the distant past,
to the days of old.

The Lord is therefore going to abandon them
till the time when she who is to give birth gives
birth.

Then the remnant of his brothers will come back
to the sons of Israel.

He will stand and feed his flock
with the power of the Lord,
with the majesty of the name of his God.

They will live secure, for from then on he will
extend his power
to the ends of the land.
He himself will be peace.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19. R. v.4

(R.) Lord, make us turn to you;
let us see your face and we shall be saved.

- O Shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help. **(R.)**
- God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. **(R.)**
- May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Hebrews 10:5-10

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world:

You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation,
prepared a body for me.
You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices
for sin;
then I said,
just as I was commanded in the scroll of the
book,
'God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.'

Notice that he says first: You did not want what the
Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the

sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the
sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them;
and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey
your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it
with the second. And this will was for us to be made
holy by the offering of his body made once and for all
by Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord:
may his will for me be done.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 1:39-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to
a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into
Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as
soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child
leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the
Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all
women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the
fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a
visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment
your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb
leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that
the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

The Gospel of the Lord



Next Weeks Readings - 29th Dec
**The HOLY FAMILY of JESUS, MARY
and JOSEPH**

<i>First Reading</i>	<i>1 Sam 1:20-22, 24-28</i>
<i>Responsorial Psalm</i>	<i>83:2-3, 5-6, 9-10</i>
<i>Second Reading</i>	<i>1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24</i>
<i>Gospel Acclamation</i>	<i>(Cf Acts 16:14)</i>
<i>Gospel</i>	<i>Lk 2:41-52</i>