



Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe 23rd November 2025

The call to 'Encounter Jesus' is both an invitation and a mission.

We are an open, welcoming community that seeks to share the life and love of Jesus with every person we encounter.

As a community, we strive to create those spaces where anyone can freely encounter the person of Jesus.

We are further challenged to encounter Jesus in each other, in the world and in the life of the Church.

St Joseph's Catholic Church

📍 140 Wangi Rd, Toronto 2283

☎ 4943 4153

✉ stmarythecross@mn.catholic.org.au

🌐 www.torontoparish.org

Weekend Mass Times: Sunday 9am

Reconciliation:

Before Mass on Sundays

This Week at St Joseph's

Sun 23rd: Mass - Toronto 9:00am
Tue 25th: Mass - Booragul 9:00am
 Mass - Morisset 9:30am
Wed 26th: Mass - Boolaroo 9:00am
Thu 27th: Mass - W/Bay 9:30am
Fri 28th: Mass - Toronto 9:30am
Sun 30th: Mass - Toronto 9:00am

The Church will be open from
8:30am to 4:00pm daily.

Parish Office Hours

St Mary of the Cross Parish Hub

Phone: 02 4943 4153

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9am to 3pm.

7 Milson Street, Charlestown.

Emergency after hours:

0493 969 362

Parish Priest:

Fr Darryl Mackie

Assistant Priests:

Fr Paul Kamau CSSp

Fr Peter Njau CSSp

Fr John Purnell

Parish Administration:

Maryanne Barry

Vimal Valiyaveetil

Bridget Voigt



We acknowledge the Awabakal
people as traditional custodians
of this place.

Dear Parish Family,

...may your kingdom come...

The feast of Christ the King marks the end of the liturgical year and the year long journey through the Gospel of Luke. Did you know that the Feast of Christ the King wasn't instituted into the Church until 1925 by Pope Pius XI. Why then? From history at school we learnt that there used to be many large empires and monarchies. Over time there were the rise and falls of royal households such as Germany and Russia which led to the First World War. After the war, with rising secularism and atheism happening, Pope Pius' intention was to counteract these by declaring the majesty and the power of Jesus Christ, King and ruler of the World.

Now when we think of Kings/Queens all sorts of images come to mind. For most of us it's the English royal family to which we belong to in this Commonwealth. The same family that hasn't always had the best history or been the best examples. During my recent visit to London, I got to visit Buckingham Palace ... wow it is very grand! Did you know it has 775 bedrooms? It was very hard to not comment that it would make a great hostel, especially given the King and Queen are not living in it and there were so many people living on the streets with London's housing crisis. If it was only that easy. Ok! There's some Scottish rebellion in me. But is this the image of kingship that our readings portray.

In our first reading, David had come a long way from tending sheep and playing on the harp. Having killed the giant Goliath and proved himself in battle, it became difficult for the current King Saul to not be nervous at his success and popularity. When Saul dies, David is declared King of the south but as we hear in the readings today, with an agreement with those in the north, David is finally declared the King of all of Israel. He united the kingdoms. From here with the promise of the messiah coming from the House of David, they would believe he will be like this kingship powerful and strong.

When Luke tells the story of Jesus, he presents Jesus with a particular kind of people and their history. He is born into a tradition; he is born into the House of David. His kingdom is different; it is the one that looks out for people who are ignored in every other kingdom – the poor and the broken and the wounded. It is fitting that in our Gospel, Jesus ends up between two criminals, between the kind of people he reached out to in his ministry to tell the good news that they were welcome into the kingdom. Even in his agony, he still had time for others. The liturgical year comes to completion in the last words of the Gospel. "Today you will be with me in paradise". Words that we long to hear of a king we celebrate and whose values we are called to live. May your kingdom come.

This week is the end of the month of November. The month of remembrance. Next Saturday at 5.30pm, as part of the centenary celebrations, there will be a special Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians, Boolaroo. It will be a time to pause and remember, all who have been part of the parish and especially those who were buried from Our Lady Help of Christians Church. All are welcome to join.

Have a good week everyone.

Fr Darryl Mackie
Parish Priest

First Reading

2 Samuel 5:1-3

A reading from the second book of Samuel

They anointed David king of Israel.

All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron. 'Look' they said 'we are your own flesh and blood. In days past when Saul was our king, it was you who led Israel in all their exploits; and the Lord said to you, "You are the man who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you shall be the leader of Israel." So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a pact with them at Hebron in the presence of the Lord, and they anointed David king of Israel.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 121:1-5. R. see v.2

(R.) Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

1. I rejoiced when I heard them say:
'Let us go to God's house.'
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem. (R.)
2. Jerusalem is built as a city
strongly compact.
It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord. (R.)
3. For Israel's law it is,
there to praise the Lord's name.
There were set the thrones of judgement
of the house of David. (R.)

Second Reading

Colossians 1:12-20

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

He has taken us into the kingdom of his beloved Son.

We give thanks to the Father who has made it possible for you to join the saints and with them to inherit the light.

Because that is what he has done: he has taken us out of the power of darkness and created a place for us in the kingdom of the Son that he loves, and in him, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins.

He is the image of the unseen God
and the first-born of all creation,
for in him were created
all things in heaven and on earth:
everything visible and everything invisible,
Thrones, Dominations, Sovereignities, Powers –
all things were created through him and for him.
Before anything was created, he existed,
and he holds all things in unity.
Now the Church is his body,
he is its head.

As he is the Beginning,
he was first to be born from the dead,
so that he should be first in every way;
because God wanted all perfection
to be found in him
and all things to be reconciled through him and for
him,
everything in heaven and everything on earth,
when he made peace
by his death on the cross.

Gospel Acclamation

Mark 11:9. 10

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom of David
our Father;
blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 23:35-43

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Lord remember me when you come into your kingdom.

The people stayed there before the cross watching Jesus. As for the leaders, they jeered at him. 'He saved others,' they said, 'let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.' The soldiers mocked him too, and when they approached to offer him vinegar they said, 'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.' Above him there was an inscription: 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals hanging there abused him. 'Are you not the Christ?' he said. 'Save yourself and us as well.' But the other spoke up and rebuked him. 'Have you no fear of God at all?' he said. 'You got the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus,' he said, 'remember me when you come into your kingdom.' 'Indeed, I promise you,' he replied, 'today you will be with me in paradise.'



Universal Prayer

Presider: Dear friends, through our Lord Jesus Christ, let us bring our prayers before God.

Reader: For the Church; that we may grow in God's service through unceasing prayer and faith. Lord hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray that those in positions of authority or governance will reflect the service of Christ in all decisions they make.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray that young people will come to recognise God's presence in those they meet - the poor, the marginalised, the lonely. Lord hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray that our parish community will resonate Christ's love to those they meet.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray that the sick will find relief from pain and sorrow. Lord hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray that those who have died will dwell in the grace of God's gentle presence.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We offer up the prayers of this faith community: May we be comforted by the knowledge that our petitions are always heard by God. Lord hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Presider: Lord God, you gave us your only Son as King of the Universe. Hear our prayers, and help us to trust in you with faith that we too will join Christ in your heavenly paradise. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

WE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY:

Sick List: James Bennett, Silvi Bennett, Dakai Smith, Scott Massey, Peter Corcoran, Maya Kelly, Paul Whitelaw, Simon Morrice, Victor Andres Guerrero Luhing, Margaret Sheridan, Judy Blissett, Judy Fisher, Jenny Moles, Sarah Hill, Brian Coogans, Graham Sneesvy, Judith Kilburn, Kath Brooks, Brett Sulman, Peter Mason, Amanda Sevil, Ella Hammond, Barrie Jenkins, Michael Burke, Gerry Owen, and Monica LoCascio.

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries: Richard Porteous

If you would like a loved one remembered in the Anniversaries, please let the Parish Office know by Thursday morning.

Living Prayer

This month we take the time to remember those who have died, those people we have loved and who have loved us. May their souls rest in peace in the presence of our loving God.

We pray that we remain steadfast in faith during times of hardship and trust in God's ultimate presence and protection during times of turmoil.

We pray to our God of love and compassion for forgiveness of sins, peace in our hearts and healing in our lives.

We pray that, through the sacrament of the Eucharist, Christ nourishes our spiritual hunger and thirst and heals our brokenness.

We pray that, despite all the noise in our lives, we manage to find a place of stillness and quiet where we can hear God's voice with clarity in a gentle whisper.

Blessed Mary of the Rosary pray for all the Holy Souls.

Mass Collection

Purple Collection supports our Clergy:

BSB: 066 739

Account Number: 100003439

Account Name: CBA

Reference: *Your Surname.*

Green Collection supports our parish:

BSB: 066 739

Account Number: 100003443

Account Name: CBA

Reference: *Your Surname.*

Donations to support our parish can also be made via the eftpos machine at the back of the church.

LAKE SIDE

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES 2026

Christmas Eve	5:30pm	St Mary's Warners Bay
Christmas Eve	6:00pm	St Joseph's Toronto
Christmas Eve	6:00pm	Morisset Showground
Christmas Eve	7:00pm	Our Lady Help Boolaroo
Christmas Day	8:00am	St Michael's Booragul
Christmas Day	9:00am	St Mary's Warners Bay
Christmas Day	9:00am	St Joseph's Toronto
Christmas Day	9:30am	St John Vianney Morisset

**Come to Me, all who are
weary and burdened, and I will
give you rest. – Mt 11:28**

**Come and join us for prayer,
reflection, and adoration.**

When: Thursdays, 6:30pm

Where: St Michael the Archangel, Booragul



Lakeside Parishes Advent Reflection & Reconciliation



3rd December - Morisset
10th December - Toronto
17th December - Warners Bay
All commence at 7pm

Peace Joy
Hope Love

LATEST NEWS FROM OUR SAFEGUARDING PROMOTERS 23 November 2025

The Promoters of Safeguarding continue to endorse a culture of safeguarding within the Parish.

As we are about to enter Advent, it is timely to provide you with the activities of the Safeguarding promoters in 2025. We are pleased to inform you that we are now the Lakeside Safeguarding promoters, which represents Warners Bay, Boolaroo, Booragul, Morisset and we are looking for a member from Toronto. We meet in person twice a year and are active in the Diocesan Safeguarding Network.

All Lakeside Promoters are required to sign a confidentiality agreement, which means any matter that comes to our attention stays private except when required by law to report e.g. a child at risk. This commitment protects vulnerable adults in our community. If there is a report of a vulnerable adult, we gain consent to document the issue, further protecting the individual.

We have developed a process for the management of reports concerning a vulnerable adult. This process ensures that all matters are managed in an orderly manner. We have been lobbying for an automatic defibrillator for the Warners Bay, Boolaroo and Booragul churches and a portable device (similar to that at Morisset) will be purchased in the new year.

In the new year we will be producing podcasts/ short clips on the need for, and common legal issues related to wills, power of attorney, guardianship that **all** adults need to consider. This concept has arisen from issues that came to our attention this year. We will ask your assistance by writing your questions on sheets that will be in the foyers of each church in the **new year**. An announcement after Mass will be made when the sheets are available. The final product will be available on our parish website.

May God fill your life with love, joy, and peace this Christmas and throughout the New Year.

CatholicCare Christmas Hamper Drive

CatholicCare are once again hoping to distribute Christmas hampers to those in need this year. You can help by donating any of the items listed below:

- Christmas pudding/fruit cake
- Long life custard
- Fruit mince pies
- Shortbread / other sweet biscuits
- Chips, popcorn, savoury biscuits
- Chocolates, lollies, sweet treats
- Bon bons
- Candy canes

Please place donations in the basket at the rear of the church.

St Joseph's Name Badges

For those wanting a new St Joseph's name badge, names will be collected and another batch printed soon. Please add your name to the list on the table at the back of the church by Sunday 14 December.

Money (\$12) will be collected when the badges are issued.



St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

The St Vincent de Paul is currently conducting its 2025 Christmas Appeal.

During the year, the poor boxes at the back of the church collected \$2050.

This week there are Vinnies Christmas appeal envelopes on the seats and donations in these can be placed in the collection bags at Mass.

ST MARY OF THE CROSS
PARISH HUB

OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY - FRIDAY

9:00am - 3:00pm

7 Milson Street,
Charlestown

BANK TRANSFER

*Some banks are now checking payee details
with BSB and account number*

*You may receive an error message from your bank
saying the payee doesn't match*

*Because all our accounts are held with the CCF,
you may receive this error message.*

If you are unsure please call the parish office.



St Joseph's 2026 Lottery

Our St Joseph's Lottery 2026 is now on sale. Thank you to everyone who has supported the Lottery in 2025

The Lottery 2026 funds (after prize distribution) will go towards updating the AV system in the church.

The Lottery will run from January to December 2026. The cost is a single payment of \$120. (\$10 per month)

The draw will take place on the first Sunday (or as near as possible) every calendar month and winners will be notified. The results of the draw will be published in the Parish Bulletin. The prize money will depend on the number of tickets sold we are aiming to sell 60 -100. You can buy as many tickets as you like – with Christmas fast approaching it is a great gift idea.

Tickets on sale before mass until Sunday 21st December.

We very much appreciate your support.

With thanks

Parish Finance Council