



MURRAY BRIDGE, MURRAY MALLEE, MALLEE BORDER

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

Information on our parishes & our communities



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## OUR PARISH

Tuesday 9am to 3pm  
Thursday 9am to 12nn  
Friday 9am to 3pm  
**Office Ph: 8531 1699**

**Office Secretary:**  
Trudy Shirvington

**Clerical Assistant:**  
Fredelyn Ayunon

**Priest Moderator:**  
Fr Philip Marshall

**Pastoral Director:**  
Deacon Arturo  
Jimenea  
0413 800 249

**PPC Chair (MB):**  
Phil Nutt  
0417 885 539

**PFC Chair (MB):**  
Fred Toogood  
8531 1699

**St Joseph's School  
(MB) Principal:**  
Ros Oates  
8534 2000

**PPC Chair  
(Tailem Bend):**  
Peter Nearmy  
0407 710 907

**PFC Chair  
(Tailem Bend):**  
Victoria Gazzola  
0439 722 508

**Sacramental Team:**  
Catharina Slattery -  
0437 900 969  
Deb Holland -  
0438 310 636

**Child Protection  
Contact Person:**  
Beverly Villaver  
0413 095 958

2nd March 2025

## ON DEACONS AND THE DIACONATE

*The 2025 National Conference of the Catholic Deacons of Australia is currently being held over this weekend at Hahndorf South Australia. On this occasion, I thought it appropriate to share with you an excerpt from the homily delivered by Pope Francis on the occasion of the celebration (last Sunday) of the **Jubilee of Deacons** at the Vatican:*

“Let us reflect on three specific aspects of this fundamental dimension of the Christian life in general and your ministry in particular: *forgiveness, selfless service* and *communion*.”

First: *forgiveness*. The proclamation of forgiveness is an essential part of your ministry as deacons. Indeed, forgiveness is an indispensable element of every ecclesial vocation and a requirement of every human relationship. Jesus points to its necessity and importance when he says, “Love your enemies” (*Lk 6:27*). This is certainly true: if we are to grow together and to share in one another’s strengths and weaknesses, achievements and failures, we need to be able to forgive and to ask forgiveness, to rebuild relationships and even to choose not to withhold our love from those who hurt or betray us. ...

This brings us to the second point: *selfless service*. The Lord describes it in the Gospel in words that are simple and clear: “Do good and lend, expecting nothing in return” (*Lk 6:35*). A phrase that is brief, yet evokes the beauty of friendship. First, God’s friendship towards us, but also our own friendship. For you as deacons, selfless service is not a secondary aspect of your activity, but an essential dimension of your very being ...

Brother deacons, the “gratuitous” work you carry out as an expression of your consecration to the charity of Christ thus becomes your primary proclamation of God’s word, a source of confidence and joy for those who encounter you ... Through your cooperation and generosity, you will be a bridge linking the altar to the street and the Eucharist to people’s daily lives. Charity will be your most beautiful liturgy and the liturgy your humblest service.

Now, we come to the final point: *gratuity as a source of communion*. Giving and expecting nothing in return unites; it creates bonds because it expresses and nurtures a togetherness that has no other aim but the gift of self and the good of others. ... Those of you who are permanent deacons do so as husbands, fathers and grandparents who, by your service, choose to extend your families to include the needy in all the places where you live.

Dear deacons, your mission sets you apart from society only to be re-immersed in it in order to enable it to be an ever more open and welcoming place for everyone. It is one of the finest expressions of a synodal Church, one that “goes forth.” ...



**EIGHT SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YR C**

**First Reading Sirach 27:4-7**

**The test of a man is in his conversation**

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind,  
so too the defects of a man appear in his talk.  
The kiln tests the work of the potter,  
the test of a man is in his conversation.  
The orchard where a tree grows is judged on the quality  
of its fruit,  
similarly a man's words betray what he feels.  
Do not praise a man before he has spoken,  
since this is the test of men.

**Responsorial Psalm 91(92):2-3,13-16**

***Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.***

It is good to give thanks to the Lord,  
to make music to your name, O Most High,  
to proclaim your love in the morning  
and your truth in the watches of the night.

***Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.***

The just will flourish like the palm tree  
and grow like a Lebanon cedar.

***Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.***

Planted in the house of the Lord  
they will flourish in the courts of our God,  
still bearing fruit when they are old,  
still full of sap, still green,  
to proclaim that the Lord is just.  
In him, my rock, there is no wrong.

***Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.***

**Second Reading 1 Corinthians 15:54-58**

**Death is swallowed up in victory**

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: *Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting?* Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Shine on the world like bright stars;  
you are offering it the word of life.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel Luke 6:39-45**

**Can the blind lead the blind?**

Jesus told a parable to his disciples: 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye.

'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.'

## Bridge Family Group

Sunday 9th March we will be hosting the morning cuppa after 11am mass. Followed by our planning meeting for 2025. Please bring along a light shared lunch and your ideas to assist with the years events. Thank you Helena Williss.

## PREPARATION FOR THE SACRAMENTS OF CONFIRMATION & COMMUNION



Children who have been Baptised and celebrated Reconciliation are now ready to prepare to celebrate Confirmation and Communion. A Parent Meeting outlining the process and dates for this will be held on Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. If you are unable to attend this meeting please contact the Parish Office. Regards Catharina Slattery, Deb Holland & Deacon Arturo

## Laurels Lunch

Laurel Lunch next Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March at Murray Bridge Hotel 6<sup>th</sup> Street at 12 noon. Come and enjoy a good meal and sociable chat, anyone is welcome. Lyn



## Lenten Discussion Groups

Victoria Gazzola will be holding a Lenten Discussion group in Tailem Bend. For more information please call her on mb; 0439 722 508

## Parish Liturgy Meeting

Our first meeting for the year will be on Ash Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> March at 4.30pm. Please advise if you are unable to attend.

## Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday 2025 begins the Lenten Season. Lent is the time before Easter when Catholics prepare to commemorate Jesus's Resurrection through prayer, penance, and fasting. Mass will be at 6pm in MHRC. And 9.30am at the School.



## JUBILEE YEAR 2025



**World Day Of Prayer** - This year it is The Cook Islands. Friday 7th March at 10am hosted at MHRC. World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who come together for prayer and action for peace and justice. We are looking for a flag from the Cook Islands or any artifacts which we could use to decorate the church. If you are happy for us to use them, please leave items at the parish office. Thank you in anticipation. Catholic Women's League. Everyone is welcome to attend.



EMBRACE  
LIFE

## **ALL WELCOME! GENESIS PREGNANCY SUPPORT SERVICES**

'Loving the Least of These': Please come to the John and Mary Fennessey Rooms at Centacare, 45 Wakefield Street, Adelaide on Wednesday March 19 2025 at 6pm-7.30pm to hear about the work of GENESIS PREGNANCY SUPPORT SERVICES, from executive officer, Ms Juli Sharpe. Please see attached flyer. For more information: Please contact the office of Justice Healing and Inclusion at [jhi@adelaide.catholic.org.au](mailto:jhi@adelaide.catholic.org.au)



**Caritas**  
AUSTRALIA

The Catholic agency  
for international aid  
and development

**Project Compassion 2025 Sunday is THIS SUNDAY - March 2, 2025. Please take home an envelope and or a donation box. Project Compassion, Lets Unite against Poverty this Lent. Let's become a profound force for change. A force that partners with the world's most vulnerqable to stand against poverty. Together as a community through Project Compassion.**

MURRAY BRIDGE, MURRAY MALLEE, MALLEE BORDER			Weekly Giving	M/B	M/M
8 <sup>th</sup> March Saturday	Mannum (Vigil Mass) - Fr Richard	4pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Collection (for the Priests of the Archdiocese)	\$965.05	\$78.70
8 <sup>th</sup> March Saturday	Murray Bridge (Vigil Mass) - Fr Richard	6pm			
9 <sup>th</sup> March Sunday	Meningie (LWHC) - Deacon Arturo	9am	2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection - for the Parish (Loose Plate)	\$539.00	\$45.00
9 <sup>th</sup> March Sunday	Murray Bridge (Mass) - Fr John	11am			
9 <sup>th</sup> March Sunday	Tailem Bend (LWHC)	10am	2nd Collection - for the Parish (Planned Giving Envelopes)	\$839.00	\$65.00
Tuesday (LWHC)	Murray Bridge	9.30am			
Wednesday (LWHC)	Murray Bridge	9.30am	Baptisms/Funerals	\$	
Wednesday (LWHC)	Mannum	11am	Appeals	\$	
Friday (Adoration)	Murray Bridge	11am	<i>Thank You!</i>		
Friday (Mass)	Murray Bridge	12noon			

**Please pray for the sick:**

Eda Abbondandola, Luigino Antonello, Thomas Arnold, Marion Ayres, Lyn Ayunon, Greg Baily, Simon Boyce, Kathy Broster, Jim Byrne, Joan Carey, Alyn Catipay, Kathalia Celestine, Jackie Clarke, Peter Connolly, Pat Connolly, John Cooper, Cynthia Crosley, Kathleen Daniel, Eugenia Delena, Pat Duxbury, Shona Edwards, Kevin Glancy, Niall Glancy, Lottie Grabski, Alex Gregory, Angela Groves, Nilda Guadagnin, Cynthia Harbour, Duane Henness, Helen Hogan, Vin Hollis, Carol Hunt, Roger & Raylene Hurle, Maureen Johnson, Adriana Lai, Lorraine Ledgard, Anita Lindner, Ann Loughran, Ashley Mason, Sam May, Bernard McInerney, Lillian Nagy, Mick Nearmy, Virgie Nicholls, Arturo & Ronda Jean Nigro, Raelene O'Driscoll, Pat Pfeiffer, Maria & Vince Rocca, Liz Rossiter, Ron Scannell, Robin Scott, Yvonne Shillabeer, Charlotte Tottman, Isobel Turner, Abby Vivian, Bernadina Wassenner, Jan Winter, Nucileide Jesus Da Silva, Colleen Buchan, Janita Nearmy, Bill Allam

**Anniversaries:** Terry Critchley

**Deaths:** Peter O'Loughlin

**Lefevre Catholic Community -Adult Formation Sessions by Fr Kevin Horsell**

Organised by the Lefevre Catholic Community, our next Adult Formation sessions are Fr Kevin Horsell's *Passion according to Luke* on Sunday March 30 at 4pm and *Passion according to John* on Sunday April 6 at 4pm. This will be held in the Lefevre Meeting Rooms, 253 Military Road, Semaphore SA 5019 to encourage and deepen one's Lenten reflection. Please see the attached flyer or contact Bernadette Smith on 8449 6378 for further information.

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:**

**First Sunday of Lent:  
(9th March 2025) Yr C**

**1<sup>st</sup> Rdg:** Deuteronomy 26:4-10  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Rdg:** Romans 10:8-13  
**Gospel:** Luke 4:1-13

**Looking In Magazine**

Please have any stories, pictures, information, prayers, that you would like to have published in our Looking In Magazine, by Thursday 20th March. Email Jan Berger or the parish office your contributions.



Hapy Birthday Mr Peter Nearmy from Taillem Bend!! God Bless you

**Reminders**

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March - Ash  
Wednesday 6pm Mass in MHRC.

Ash Wed 5<sup>th</sup> March School Mass at 9.30am. At School

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March - 1st Sunday of LENT

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March - BFG hosting cuppa after mass.

Weds 12<sup>th</sup> March - Prayer Service (yr 1) in MHRC

Weds 19<sup>th</sup> March - Whole school mass 9.30am, at school.

Weds 25<sup>th</sup> March - Prayers service 10.30am (yr 2) in MHRC

**Next Week's Roster**

Church	Murray Bridge	Murray Bridge	Taillem Bend
Dates & Time	8 <sup>th</sup> March 6PM	9 <sup>th</sup> March 11AM	9 <sup>th</sup> March 9AM
Commentator	Mark & Wayne	Meradith O'Loughlin	Pat Duxbury
Lector 1	Michael Gates	Bev Villaver	Peter & Doris C
Lector 2	Mark Scott	Rodel Maranan	Vicki Stevens
P.O. Faithful	Erin Eckermann	Lynn Ayunon	Pat Duxbury
Euch. Ministers	Carol Giles	Deb Holland	Peter Nearmy
Welcoming 1	Jo Hancock	Di Howson	Peter Nearmy
Welcoming 2	Rosie Scott	Miriam Henry	Leader - Marie H
Offertory			Music - Edwin P
POF Writer	Sr. Michele Madigan		
Grounds Maintenance (MB)			