

St. John's Parish

Hand in Hand

FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

YEAR A

7TH June 2026

St John's Church –
52 Waterloo Rd, Trafalgar

St Jarlath's Church –
cnr Campbell and Rollo Sts. Yarragon

PARISH PRIEST:
Fr. Bernard Buckley VG Phone: 5633 1166

PARISH SECRETARY: Mrs. Julianne Keily.
Parish e-mail: trafalgar@cdsale.org.au

OUR SCHOOLS:
St Joseph's Primary School
58 Waterloo Rd. Phone 5633 1151
Mrs Trish Mulqueen – Principal

Marist Sion College
165 Burke St. Warragul. Phone: 5623 5944
Ms Lisa Harkin - Principal

WEEKEND MASS TIMES:

- St John's: Saturday: Vigil Mass – 6pm
- St Jarlath's: Sunday: 10:00am

THIS WEEK'S LITURGY TIME:

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| Monday | 8.6: | | |
| Tuesday | 9.6: | - 10:00am | St John's |
| Wednesday | 10.6: | - 10:00am | St John's |
| Thursday | 11.7: | - 10.00am | St John's |
| Friday | 12.6: | Feast of the Sacred Heart | |
| | | - 10:00am | St John's |

RECONCILIATION: The sacrament of Reconciliation can be celebrated at St John's on Saturday from 10:00am, or any time by arrangement with Father.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY: 'We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we gather, the Gunnai Kurnai people. We pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country; and we commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.'

OUR PARISH CODE OF CONDUCT: Central to the mission of St. John's Parish, Trafalgar, and St. Jarlath's community, Yarragon is an unequivocal commitment to fostering the dignity, self-esteem and integrity of all children, young people and adults at risk and providing them with a safe, supportive and enriching environment to develop spiritually, physically, intellectually, emotionally and socially.



POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR JUNE: For the values of sports: Let us pray that sports be an instrument of peace, encounter and dialogue among cultures and nations, and that they promote values such as respect, solidarity, and personal growth.

THE CONFITEOR: I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, Through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; (*All strike their breast 3 times*) therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

GLORIA: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

THE APOSTLES' CREED: I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL:

CELEBRANT: Dear friends, wonderfully blest with the bread and cup of life, we pray for all who hunger and thirst for a new world.

READER: We pray for Pope Leo, that his pastoral visit to Spain this week will call forth the gifts of the Spirit in a new generation of believers everywhere. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the church, that every celebration of the Eucharist will deepen the communion of the faithful with each other and with Christ. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for volunteers in community food banks, that their willing service will give heart to the hungry who seek their help. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all who suffer from despair and consider taking their own lives, that they will seek timely help and find fresh hope in life. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for our parish community, that we will honour the Sacred Heart of Jesus this week with generous care for the poor. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for those who have died recently, and those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time, that they will take their place with all the saints at the table of eternal life. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

CELEBRANT: Faithful God, as you fed your people with manna in the desert, so your Son feeds us with his Body and Blood. Help us bring all people to the table of life. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

A REFLECTION: "People today are crying out for recognition. They want to be noticed, not in a showy way, or because they have money or status, but just because they are human beings. Each of us is on a journey. We seek to encounter others who have the same needs as ourselves. The greatest need of all is the need to be loved. But we pass each other by without noticing, without the slightest sign of recognition. As Christians we are united by a bond so close that St. Paul calls the Christian community 'the Body of Christ.' It's always time to notice one another. Every person is a sister or brother in Jesus. So everyone must be recognised. Everybody must be given some sign of friendship, be it only a smile or a nod of the head". Catherine De Hueck Doherty

FELLOWSHIP AND FRIENDSHIP: You are warmly invited to attend an inter-church morning tea this Friday. We will gather with other members of our local community to enjoy a 'cuppa and chat' in St John's Parish Centre. We are planning to hold this morning tea on the second Friday of each month from 10.30am. All are welcome.

FIRST COMMUNION IN 2026: St Joseph's school has the dates set, in Term 3, for First Communion preparation and celebration this year:

A Parent Information meeting: Tuesday, 14/7 at 7pm at St Joseph's, Warragul, Marian Room.

A Commitment Mass: Saturday, 18th of July at 6pm St John's, Trafalgar, for candidates.

A Teaching Mass: Saturday, 8/8 at 6pm at St John's Trafalgar.

A Parent Child Workshop: Tuesday 11/8 (TBC) at 7pm at St Joseph's, Warragul, Marian Room.

Reconciliation Service: Wednesday 26/8 at 12:30pm at St John's Church. Saturday 29/8 at 6pm St John's Church.

Post Communion: A Mass or celebration Tuesday 1/9 at 11am at St Joseph's School.

These dates and times might be fine-tuned a little along the way.

We publish them here so that any family with a child ready to prepare for the sacrament, who is outside our school scene, can make contact with the parish, in good time, to plan on joining in.

WE REMEMBER: We pray for those who have died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time including: Bob Johnson, Robert Blight, Paolo Manuele, Marg Prior, Enid Telford. *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. Let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.* Amen.

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK: We pray the Lord's healing touch upon Randy Jansz, Patrick Featonby, Jean Huffer, Elly Van Den Broek, Connor O'Sullivan, Shirley Deane, Peg O'Rourke, Shirley Devlin, Ann Ford, Lesli Perera, Kellie Monson, Brian O'Connell, Fr Michael Willemsen, Fr Peter Slater.

God of all consolation, you sent your Son to heal the world. Graciously listen to our prayers of faith for the sick: send the power of your Holy Spirit, the Consoler, upon all who call on the Lord's healing touch. (Rite of Anointing of the Sick)

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL NEWS: At St Joseph's, we continue to nurture a strong and connected community. Recently, we have been hosting *Parent Network Gatherings (PNGs)* to encourage parents to build relationships with one another and to support them in the important and sometimes challenging role of parenting. We know that when parents are connected, a positive and supportive school culture flourishes.

We are also proud to celebrate some wonderful student achievements. In the Lions Club Public Speaking Competition, our two school winners went on to compete at the local level, where Will Finken (Gr 3/4) and Kaleb Jamieson (Gr 5/6) both won their respective sections. We congratulate them on this outstanding success as they move on to the next stage.

In sport, our St Joseph's Netball team recently won the School Sport Victoria interschool competition and will now progress to the District level—an excellent achievement. Our soccer team also represented the school with enthusiasm and teamwork, enjoying a great day of competition.

We congratulate all of our students for their efforts and the positive way they represent our school community.

Trish Mulqueen, Principal.

THE EUCHARIST IN SCRIPTURE: The gospel of John does not include any account of Jesus taking bread and wine and urging the disciples to 'do this in memory of me'. The three synoptic gospels, however, all feature these actions and words, as does Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, which predates all of the gospels. Rather than using these words of institution, the gospel of John includes an entire chapter much earlier in the gospel in which Jesus theologises about the image of himself as the Bread of Life. It is this discourse, more than the Last Supper accounts, that provides much of the theological understanding of Eucharist.

LIVING THE GOSPEL: Meals are very important events. Not only do we physically need food and drink to keep ourselves alive, but we use meals to mark occasions and celebrate events: birthdays; weddings; dates; achievements; disappointments; reunions. There is a sacredness about gathering with friends and family and sharing a meal together. Stories are told; memories shared; the food is appreciated and more often than not there's a drink to accompany the meal. Treating such occasions with gratitude – as blessed moments of grace – is living out the Eucharistic reality of welcoming Jesus into our lives and seeking to be more like him.

THE REAL PRESENCE: In the gospel passage, Jesus speaks a number of times about his followers eating his flesh and drinking his blood; 'For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.' In the Eucharist, we celebrate the 'real presence' of Jesus, understanding that bread and wine is changed into the body and blood of Christ. This change does not occur in a physical, observable way. The Church teaches that the 'substance' of bread and wine (what makes them bread and wine in essence) is changed but not the physical attributes. This is known as 'transubstantiation' – change of substance.

SPEAKING OF GOD: I said to the almond tree, 'Friend, speak to me of God,' and the almond tree blossomed. *Nikos Kazantzakis*

MAGNIFICA HUMANITAS: Pope Leo's new encyclical on artificial intelligence, underlines the need to safeguard human dignity as it is "threatened by new forms of dehumanisation".

In *Magnifica Humanitas*, the first two words of the document are from the Latin meaning "Magnificent Humanity", the Pope calls on Christians not to be "passive spectators" or "mere commentators on what is crumbling," but to take a proactive role in building the future by cultivating community and in-person relationships, educating young people to love wisdom, spending time with the poor and the lonely, being a voice for justice, defending objective truth and treating the digital world as "a new continent to be evangelised". We'll hope to show a short video soon to introduce the new encyclical.

MAGNIFICA HUMANITAS PRAYER

Lord, we thank you for the "magnificent humanity"
you have given us.
Give us eyes to see, in this time of great machines,
the splendor of the face of your Son
who became flesh.
Teach us not to fear the construction site of history,
but to inhabit it with the wisdom of those
who build communion.
Dispel from us the pride of Babel
and help us always seek what unites us.
Transform our hands into instruments of justice,
so that our earth may become a common home
where love, truth, and peace can meet.
Amen.

FOR LAY LEADERS OF THE LITURGY: The Pastoral Life and Mission Team of the Diocese of Sale is offering training workshops in the regions for parishioners to lead services of the Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion. These gatherings are important when a priest is unavailable on a Sunday or weekdays, or the parish doesn't have a resident priest, an increasing occurrence in parishes these days.

The next workshop dates and locations are as follows: on Tuesday, June 16th at St Michael's, Berwick; on Saturday, June 27th at Our Lady Help of Christians, Narre Warren; and on Saturday, July 11th at St Joseph's, Warragul.

Each workshop will begin at 10.00 am and conclude about 3.00 pm. Morning and afternoon tea and lunch, will be provided, In our parish already we have gifted leaders of the liturgy when the PP is absent. It would be great if our parish had a representative or two at one of these formation sessions.

EUCHARIST28 UPDATE – HEARTS SET ABLAZE: The International Eucharistic Congress in Sydney in 2028 ('Eucharist28') will be a global gathering of the Church centred on the Eucharist, the source and summit of our Christian lives, culminating in a Papal Mass with Pope Leo XIV. It will be a festival of faith, rich with worship, prayer, testimonies, art, music – a truly 'once in a lifetime' experience, and a transformative moment for our nation. At the very first Pentecost, the apostles were transformed as the fire of the Holy Spirit was poured out for them, empowering them to go out to evangelise the world. "And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they partook of food with glad and generous hearts, praising God." – (Acts: 2:46-47). The early Church was Eucharistic. They gathered together in community and shared in the breaking of the bread. It was through believing in and sharing in Christ's body and blood that the Holy Spirit set their hearts ablaze, strengthening them to spread the Good News without fear.

As we move forward from our celebration of Pentecost last month, our parishes and communities can imitate the early Church by devoting ourselves to the Eucharist and allowing the Holy Spirit to work within us – in our ministries, our youth groups, and our personal prayer. This national journey to Eucharist28 is an invitation for all of us to be set on fire by the Holy Spirit and share in the breaking of the bread. The journey begins now, in our own hearts, in our own parishes.

For more information and regular updates, please register on the website: eucharist28.org

THE FEAST OF THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST: Today the Church celebrates the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, or Corpus Christi, the Latin name by which it is still known to many.

The texts talk strongly of eating and drinking as the central actions of our participation in Christ's paschal mystery. Yet many Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion attest to the surprisingly high percentage of people who bypass the chalice at Mass and do not drink the Precious Blood.

During the early centuries, everybody received communion under both kinds: this was the way Christ instituted the Eucharist. For various unfortunate reasons, the practice grew during the middle ages of lay people not receiving the cup. Eventually it became law in the west that only the priest should receive the cup.

Among the reasons for restricting communion from the cup was what could be called 'sacramental minimalism'; the bread alone was sufficient because in the bread we receive the living Christ.

Although the Church teaches that Christ is truly present in either the consecrated bread or the wine, it also teaches that Holy Communion has a fuller form as a sign when it takes place under both kinds. For in this form the sign of the Eucharistic banquet is more clearly evident and clearer expression is given to the divine will by which the new and eternal Covenant is ratified in the Blood of the Lord, as also the connection between the Eucharistic banquet and the eschatological banquet in the Kingdom of the Father. (General Instruction of the Roman Missal #281)

When we take the cup, we take up the cross. Jesus asked James and John, "Can you drink the cup that I am going to drink?" It is also the cup of thanksgiving: "The cup of salvation I will raise as I call on God's name".

Drinking from a common cup signifies our life together in Christ and our commitment both to God and to one another, our commitment to being a community of justice, peace and love. This commitment is ratified in blood; not by our being sprinkled on the outside like the Hebrews were at Sinai, but on the inside as we drink from the cup of Christ's blood.

How then can we pass by the cup of the covenant and ignore Christ's invitation to "Take this, all of you, and drink from it, for this is the chalice of my Blood"?

FINANCE REPORT: Last weekend: Planned Giving: \$330.00; House Collection: \$465.15. If there's anyone who'd like to join the planned giving program, either through taking a set of planned giving envelopes or automatic credit card giving or direct debit, please take an enrolment card from the back of the churches, or contact Julianne at the parish office.

TRINITY FAMILIES APPEAL: The Trinity Families Appeal supports our Diocese's own charitable trust— dedicated to addressing the needs of families in Greater Gippsland. Thanks to all who contributed generously to last week's special collection. A total of \$701.70 will be forwarded to Trinity Families.

ST JOHN'S CHURCH: June Roster:
Cleaning: Geoff and Elly; Altar Linen: Ann
Special thanks from of us all to those who care so generously for our beautiful churches and properties.

LITURGY ROSTER:

GREETER - COMMENTATOR:

| | | | | |
|------|---|--------|---|-----------|
| 7.6 | T | Glenys | Y | Bryan |
| 14.6 | T | Yvonne | Y | Elisabeth |
| 21.6 | T | Jean | Y | Maree |

MINISTERS OF THE WORD:

| | | | | |
|------|---|--------|---|---------|
| 7.6 | T | Elio | Y | Cynthia |
| 14.6 | T | Gail | Y | Mick |
| 21.6 | T | Judith | Y | Bryan |

MINISTERS OF THE WORD: Anyone else happy to be on the roster, share the load? Let us know. There's room! We would be so happy to hear from you, and hear you proclaim God's word for us all at our parish Masses!!

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: *The Lord fed his people with the finest wheat and honey; their hunger was satisfied.*

FIRST READING: (Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14-16)

Moses said to the people: 'Remember how the Lord your God led you for forty years in the wilderness, to humble you, to test you and know your inmost heart – whether you would keep his commandments or not. He humbled you, he made you feel hunger, he fed you with manna which neither you nor your fathers had known, to make you understand that man does not live on bread alone but that man lives on everything that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

Do not then forget the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery: who guided you through this vast and dreadful wilderness, a land of fiery serpents, scorpions, thirst; who in this waterless place brought you water from the hardest rock; who in this wilderness fed you with manna that your fathers had not known.'

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (Ps 147)

Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!
Zion, praise your God!

He has strengthened the bars of your gates,
he has blessed the children within you.

He established peace on your borders,
he feeds you with finest wheat.

He sends out his word to the earth
and swiftly runs his command.

He makes his word known to Jacob,
to Israel his laws and decrees.
He has not dealt thus with other nations;
he has not taught them his decrees.

Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

SECOND READING: (1 Corinthians 10:16-17)

The blessing-cup that we bless is a communion with the blood of Christ, and the bread that we break is a communion with the body of Christ. The fact that there is only one loaf means that, though there are many of us, we form a single body because we all have a share in this one loaf.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL:

(John 6:51-58)

Jesus said to the Jews:

'I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.'

Then the Jews started arguing with one another: 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' they said. Jesus replied:

'I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you. Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him.

As I, who am sent by the living Father, myself draw life from the Father, so whoever eats me will draw life from me. This is the bread come down from heaven; not like the bread our ancestors ate: they are dead, but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.'

The Gospel of the Lord

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION:

Save us, Saviour of the world,
for by your cross and resurrection
you have set us free.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: *Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood will live in me and I in him, says the Lord.*

