

KERANG, COHUNA AND PYRAMID HILL Catholic Parishes



VISION-MISSION:

A welcoming faith-filled Community, guided by the Holy Spirit strengthened through the celebration of the Holy Mass, developing our strong and caring foundation.



PRAYER FOR PARISH RENEWAL

Heavenly Father,
we gather as a parish community,
seeking renewal and transformation.
Guide us with
your wisdom and grace,
as we journey together in faith.

Renew our hearts, fill us with love,
compassion, and hope.
Inspire us to be instruments
of your peace, and lights
that shine in the darkness.

Grant us the wisdom and
discernment,
as we walk this path of renewal.
Bless each parishioner
with a willing spirit,
to serve and build
a vibrant parish family.

May our parish
be a place of love and unity,
Where your presence is felt,
and your Word is lived.
We ask this, through Christ
our Lord. Amen.

Holy Mary, Mother of God –
pray for us
St. Joseph, pray for us.
St. Patrick, pray for us.
St. Mary Mackillop,
pray for us.

This prayer is officially approved by
Most Rev. Shane Mackinlay, DD,
Bishop of the Diocese of Sandhurst



"Be quiet!
Come out of him!"

Mark 1:25

JESUS, THE PROPHET POWERFUL IN WORDS AND DEEDS

Jesus proclaimed the Gospel of God with unique power and urgency. His words touched the hearts of his audience and changed their lives. His deeds matched his words. The power of Jesus' words and deeds has not abated after two thousand years. It is perfectly effective today, in the era of information technology and space exploration. Jesus' words can still set our hearts on fire. His actions in the sacraments can still set us free from the slavery of Satan and make the Kingdom of God present in the lives of individuals and society. So can His word! Happy are those who listen to God's word and let the power of His grace bear fruit in their lives!

Fr. Dean Bongat

Parish Priest
0401 337 433
deanklayford@gmail.com

CHILD SAFETY OFFICERS

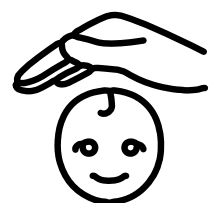
Kerang: Kyra Laughlin
Cohuna: Peter Doyle
Pyramid Hill: Anne Grogan

PARISH OFFICE WEDNESDAY

(9.00am - 5.00pm)
92 Nolan St. Kerang, VIC 3579
(03) 5452 1041
stpatkerebigpond.com
kerangecdos.org.au
www.kerangcatholicparishes.com

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

We are a child safe parish. Any children young persons and vulnerable adults have a right to feel safe and be safe. If you are concerned about any form of abuse, or believe that someone is at significant risk, you should immediately raise your concerns with our Parish Child Safety Officers at (03) 54521041



AS YOU TAKE YOUR NEXT STEP, REMEMBER OUR PAST AND PRESENT ANCESTORS

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy*I will put my words into the prophet's mouth, and he will tell them all I command.*

Moses said to the people: 'Your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. "Do not let me hear again" you said "the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die"; and the Lord said to me, "All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die."'

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 94:1-2. 6-9. R. v.9

**(R.) If today, you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts.**

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. (R.)

2. Come in, let us kneel and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. (R.)

3. O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.' (R.)

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 7:32-35

**A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the
Corinthians***The unmarried woman dedicates herself to the things of the
Lord, that she might be holy.*

I would like to see you free from all worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world's affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world's affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

A people in darkness have seen a great light:
a radiant dawn shines on those lost in death.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mark 1:21-28

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark*This is a new kind of teaching that speaks with authority.*

Jesus and his followers went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the Sabbath came Jesus went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.

In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit, and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

The Gospel of the Lord.

© The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.
The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

HE SAID WHAT?

In an age when most people were illiterate, Jesus appears to have been quite well educated. Some suggest that he may have spoken three or four different languages. He obviously spoke everyday Aramaic, as it was spoken in that region. Jesus also appears to have been taught Hebrew, the language of religious texts and religious practice. Greek, the language of trade in marketplaces, was a language that Jesus probably used when helping Joseph sell his carpentry products at stalls and markets. Finally, Jesus probably picked up a reasonable amount of Latin, the language of the Roman occupiers – he was able to hold a conversation with Pontius Pilate.

SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

THE MESSIANIC SECRET

A feature of the Gospel of Mark is an element of secrecy and confusion that surrounds Jesus' identity. He silences demons who would announce his identity and warns those he heals to be quiet about what has occurred. There is a real lack of understanding displayed by the disciples about who Jesus is. At one point, Jesus asks the disciples, 'who do you think I am?' They identify him as the Messiah but immediately demonstrate that they don't really understand what that means. The theme that runs through the gospel is a developing understanding of what it means that Jesus is the Messiah.

GOSPEL FOCUS

EXORCISMS

This week's gospel features an exorcism by Jesus – driving an unclean spirit out of a possessed man. Some people read these acts of exorcism as being literally true. Others are keen to demonstrate that these 'possessions' described in the gospels are able to be explained by various manifestations of mental illness. The thrashing fits described in the gospels have been likened to epileptic seizures, and episodes of paranoia and schizophrenia might explain the first century understanding of possession. Rather than trying to justify or explain away these events, we must seek to understand the gospel writer's purpose in including such episodes.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE



Why was Jesus such an authoritative teacher?
Because even the punctuation in His lessons couldn't question His authority!



GOSPEL REFLECTION

Greg Sunter

Although this week's gospel is a relatively short passage, there's a lot going on within it. Firstly, we are presented with Jesus going to the synagogue in Capernaum and teaching there. This immediately indicates that Jesus must have been quite well educated – he was obviously able to read from the Torah in Hebrew and then teach about it with an impressive level of authority. In fact at the end of the passage, the people seem more impressed with his teaching than with the act of casting out the unclean spirit! Secondly, in the interaction with the unclean spirit, it knows Jesus and identifies him as the 'Holy One of God'. Jesus sharply tells the spirit to 'Be quiet!' Jesus almost appears to want to silence the spirit before it says any more about who he really is. This is a feature of the gospel of Mark in which the identity of Jesus as the Messiah is kept under wraps but breaks out in unlikely places – known as the Messianic secret.

Whenever an exorcism miracle occurs in the gospels the emphasis is on the reaction to the miracle much more than the action itself. Here, the casting out of the unclean spirit appears to confirm for the people the authority that they sensed in the teaching of Jesus. Liberating the possessed man from the unclean spirit is an illustration of the way in which the people themselves were liberated by Jesus' teaching. It is the message, the teaching, of Jesus that frees people. It is in this way that his understanding of Messiah is revealed. Jesus wants people to come to that knowledge through understanding his message, rather than being impressed by miraculous actions.

QUESTIONS FOR ADOLESCENTS

- Q. Why might the people of the synagogue have been so impressed with the authority of Jesus?
- Q. What is meant by teaching with authority?
- Q. Why is the unclean spirit able to recognise Jesus as the 'Holy One of God'?
- Q. Why might Jesus have been attempting to keep his identity as the Messiah hidden?
- Q. How can the message of Jesus 'free' people today?

QUESTIONS FOR ADULTS

- Q. How might the scribe who normally taught in the synagogue have reacted to Jesus' actions?
- Q. What does the gospel writer seek to bring into focus by using the exorcism event?
- Q. Why might Jesus' teaching have been so remarkable to the people?
- Q. Who are some of the 'teachers' of authority today?
- Q. In what area of life today do we most need the 'freeing' message of Jesus?

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH - KERANG

90 Nolan Street, Kerang, Victoria, 3579

ROSTERS

This WEEK 28th January 2024

Welcomers: **A & K Jenkins**
Comm/POF: **C Scriven**
Reader: **A Baulch**
Gifts: **L Morrow & G Prendergast**
Ministers: **T Greenwood & K Laughlin**
Sick/Elderly: **A Kelly & H Olcorn (NH)**
Power Point: **M Lewis**
Musician: **Alicia, Hank, Tony & Men's Choir**

Next WEEK 4th February 2024

Welcomers: **J Roberts & M Mowat**
Comm/POF: **K Schlitz**
Reader: **L Wilson**
Gifts: **L Bland**
Ministers: **A Makeham A Kelly**
Sick/Elderly: **E Bortolotto & K Laughlin (NH)**
Power Point: **K Laughlin**
Musician: **Alicia, Hank, Tony & Ladies Choir**

Mowers for February: **Paul, Frank, Denber**
Counters for Feb.: **A & T Bortolotto**

PRAYER FOR THE SICK

- **Bernadette is in remission but still needs lots of Prayers.**
- Lui Basile
- Elderly and Residents of Northaven Community Aged Care, Glenarm Nursing Home and Kerang Community Hospital patients.

DEATH ANNIVERSARY

Michael Cummins, Ken Freeman, Noreen Collins, Carolyn Rankins, Clemente Bonnici, Thora McAlister, Margaret Scriven, Beryl McLeish, Fr Matthew O'Hagan, Doug Harry.

MASS SCHEDULES THIS WEEK

28 Jan-3 Feb 2024

* SUNDAY *	* Mass *	* 10.30am *
* MONDAY *	* Funeral Mass *	* 10.30am *
* WEDNESDAY *	* Mass *	* 09.15am *
* FRIDAY *	* Confession *	* 09.00am *
* FRIDAY *	* Mass *	* 09.35am *

MASS SCHEDULE NEXT WEEK

* SUNDAY *	* 4 Feb 2024 *	* 10.30am *
------------	----------------	-------------

Sinulog in Kerang
"Please bring a plate to share"



KERANG BANK DETAILS
BSB: 083 543
Acc. Number: 457 423 724
Please let Marianne know if you are changing to Direct Deposits ie. How much and how often so we can then allocate you anew number.

RECENTLY DECEASED

WE JOYFULLY WELCOME THE NEW MEMBER(S) INTO THE BODY OF CHRIST!

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENT

Sinulog is a vibrant and culturally significant festival celebrated in Cebu City, Philippines, typically in January. It commemorates the Filipino people's conversion to Christianity and honors the Santo Niño, the child Jesus. The festival features a grand parade filled with colorful costumes, traditional dances, and rhythmic drumming. Participants and spectators alike joyously shout "Pit Señor!" while dancing to express their devotion and gratitude. Sinulog is not only a religious event but also a lively and communal celebration of Filipino culture and faith.



Bishop Shane during the SINULOG 2024 in Cebu City, Philippines

Welcome home Fr Dean.

ST. MARY'S PARISH - COHUNA

93-95 King George Street, Cohuna, Victoria, 3568

ROSTERS

This WEEK 28th January 2024

Comm/POF	Gabriel Dayag
Reader	Bernadette Carter
Gifts	Danny Hanlon
Euch Minister:	Marg Learmonth
Altar Clean Up	Betty McLoughlan

MASS SCHEDULES THIS WEEK

28 Jan-3 Feb 2024

* SUNDAY * * Mass * * 8.30am *

MASS SCHEDULE NEXT WEEK

* SUNDAY * * 4 Feb 2024 * * 08.30am *

Next WEEK 4th February 2024

Comm/POF	Marg Main
Reader	Helen Keely
Gifts	Liz Keely
Euch Minister:	Bernadette Carter
Altar Clean Up	Liz Keely



please SCAN this to fill out the FORM

RECENTLY DECEASED

PRAYER FOR THE SICK

- Elderly and Residents of Cohuna Nursing Home and Retirement Village and patients in Cohuna Hospital

DEATH ANNIVERSARY

- If you wish for a loved one to be prayed for please let me know and I can start a diary with all the names in it. Just need Month, Date and Name.



COHUNA BANK DETAILS

BSB: 083 543

Acc. Number: 4574 0718 5

Please let Kylie or Marianne know if you are changing to Direct Deposits ie. How much and how often so we can then allocate you anew number.

WE JOYFULLY WELCOME THE NEW MEMBER(S) INTO THE BODY OF CHRIST!

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENT

- Every 1st SUNDAY of the Month** - all are welcome for a CUPPA after the Mass.
- If you wish to give your **Planned Giving by Direct Deposit** please see Kylie Doyle or ring Marianne (on Wednesday at (03) 54521041) to set up.

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH - PYRAMID HILL

5 Victoria Street, Pyramid Hill, Victoria, 3575

ROSTERS

This WEEK 27th January 2024

Comm/POF	Deane Reyes
Reader	Kate Wood
Gifts	Cain Family
Euch Minister:	Colleen Hampson

MASS SCHEDULES THIS WEEK

27 Jan-2 Feb 2024

* SATURDAY * * Mass * * 06.30pm *

MASS SCHEDULE NEXT WEEK

* SATURDAY * * Mass * * 06.30pm *

Next WEEK 3rd February 2024

Comm/POF	Imelda Ross
Reader	MaryAnne Domingo
Gifts	Domingo Family
Euch Minister	Carmen Cauchi



please SCAN this to fill out the FORM

PYRAMID HILL BANK DETAILS

BSB: 083-693
Acc. Number: 51-598-4571

Please let Rachel or Marianne know if you are changing to Direct Deposits ie. How much and how often so we can then allocate you anew number.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Geoffrey Chappell

DEATH ANNIVERSARY

Maureen Fitzpatrick, Terrence Byrne, Jack Ervin, Frankie Lowe, Jim Watson.

PRAYER FOR THE SICK

- Margaret, Phil and all the sick members of the community

WE JOYFULLY WELCOME THE NEW MEMBER(S) INTO THE BODY OF CHRIST!

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENT

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MARIAN FESTIVAL RAFFLE WINNERS
1st Prize - Fr. Gerald B. from Maidstone (\$1,500.00)
2nd Prize - Isabela A. from Colac (\$1,000.00)
3rd Prize - Vaughn H. from Pyramid Hill (\$500.00)

- If you wish to give your **Planned Giving by Direct Deposit** please see Rachel Cain or ring Marianne (on Wednesday at (03) 54521041) to set up.
- Please check to see if you are one of the readers or Gifts presenter at Mass. If you cant attend try and find a replacement as it is very hard to fill spots on the night. Thank you.**



ST. JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL - KERANG

Principal: Mr. Chris Mitchell
ph: (03) 5452 1426

St Joseph's School is open to all who seek a Catholic Education for their children and who are willing to support the values and purposes of Catholic Education.

The school conducts events such as 'Come & See St Joseph's' in Term 2 and 'Flying into Foundation' in Term 3 each year and families are always welcome to book a school tour with the principal at anytime.

Enrolment enquiries are welcome and interested families are asked to contact the school office on (03)54521426 or admin@sjkerang.catholic.edu.au



DURING THE BOOK PARADE

PREP ENROLMENTS
NOW OPEN

ST. MARY'S COHUNA
Principal: Mr. Jarrod Mullavey Phone: (03) 5456 2062

ST. MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL-COHUNA

Principal: Mr. Jarrod Mullavey
ph: (03) 5456 2062

At St. Patrick's, we love being part of the Pyramid Hill Parish and wider community. We provide a contemporary curriculum that develops the intellect, imagination, spirituality, social skills, wellbeing and physical growth of each learner, in the context of the Catholic faith tradition. Our school is currently taking enrolments and enquiries from interested families are welcome at any time. Please contact the school via email at principal@sppyramidhill.catholic.edu.au or by phone on 54557220 to arrange a visit or a brochure.



ST. PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL-PYRAMID HILL

Principal: Mr. John O'Connor
ph: (03) 5455 7220



Jesus teaches with authority



4th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

Jesus showed that he is the one to be listened to. What are some things people would have heard Jesus say?



Jesus taught with great authority and people listened to him. We too are more likely to listen to someone who really believes in what they say. Draw a picture of someone who you listen to.

Help spread the good news by connecting all the faces. Only use straight lines - including diagonal lines - but do not pass through crossed boxes. Complete the sentence below by adding each letter that your line passes through.

START

😊		😊		K	X	
	X	P	X			X
		😊		O	😊	
Z		S		X		N
	X	X	X			X
S		😊	E	W	😊	
				X		
X	S		G	X	X	
	U	😊		😊		T
					X	
M		X	X	R	X	
X	A		E			X
	X	😊	X	😊	X	
W	U		X			R
😊	X	😊		F		😊
			X		X	
X		L		X		
X	A		😊		N	X

FINISH

People were amazed at his
_____ teaching.