

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.

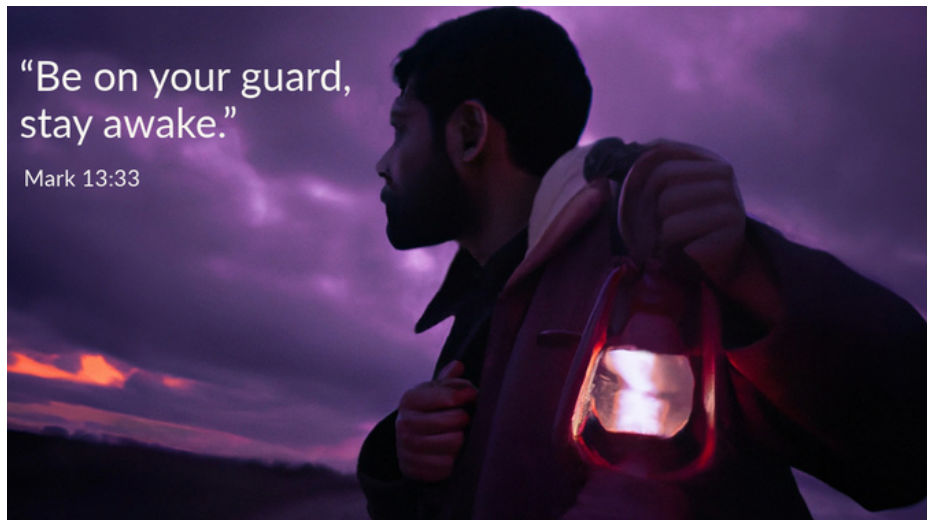
Holy Mary, Mother of God – pray for us

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 on your guard,
stay awake.”

Mark 13:33



REAPPROPRIATING HOPE

Today we begin a new liturgical year: the series of seasons and weeks during which we will reflect on and re-live the saving events of the life of our Lord Jesus Christ. This First Sunday of Advent reminds us not only of the need to be saved, but also of our duty to be always ready to welcome the Lord. He already came as a frail Child when he was born in Bethlehem. But we have to remember that he constantly comes to us as our Saviour and in our neighbour. He is about to come to us in this Eucharistic celebration in order to help us make sense of all that happens to us and around us. He is HOPE incarnate.

Fr. Dean Bongat

Parish Priest
0401 337 433
deanklayford@gmail.com

CHILD SAFETY OFFICERS

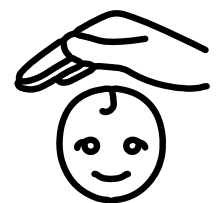
Kerang: Kyra Laughlin
Cohuna: Peter Doyle
Pyramid Hill: Anne Grogan

PARISH OFFICE (9.00am - 5.00pm)

92 Nolan St. Kerang, VIC 3579
(03) 5452 1041
stpatkere@bigpond.com
kerang@cdos.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*Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8***A reading from the prophet Isaiah***Oh that you would tear the heavens apart and come down.*

You, Lord, yourself are our Father,
 Our Redeemer is your ancient name.
 Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways
 and harden our hearts against fearing you?
 Return, for the sake of your servants,
 the tribes of your inheritance.
 Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come
 down- at your Presence the mountains would melt.
 No ear has heard,
 no eye has seen any god but you act like this
 for those who trust him.
 You guide those who act with integrity
 and keep your ways in mind.
 You were angry when we were sinners;
 we had long been rebels against you.
 We were all like men unclean,
 all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing.
 We have all withered like leaves
 and our sins blew us away like the wind. No one
 invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of
 you. For you hid your face from us and gave us up to
 the power of our sins. And yet, Lord, you are our
 Father; we the clay, you the potter, we are all the
 work of your hand.

*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.**

1. 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.)**
2. 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.)**
3. 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*1 Corinthians 15:20-26. 28***A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians***He will hand over the kingdom to God the Father, so that God may be all in all.*

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.
 I never stop thanking God for all the graces you
 have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that
 you have been enriched in so many ways, especially
 in your teachers and preachers; the witness to
 Christ has indeed been strong among you so that
 you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit
 while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be
 revealed; and he will keep you steady and without
 blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus
 Christ, because God by calling you has joined you
 to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

*The Word of the Lord.***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love,
 and grant us your salvation.
 Alleluia!

GOSPEL*Mark 13:33-37***A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew***Stay awake! You never know when the Lord will come.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake,
 because you never know when the time will come. It is like
 a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left
 his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has
 told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake,
 because you do not know when the master of the house is
 coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes
 unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say
 to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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 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.

LIVING THE GOSPEL

STAY AWAKE!

By the time the Church begins to celebrate Advent as a period of preparation towards Christmas, the stores have been filling with Christmas paraphernalia for weeks. It starts out small with a few decorations and wrapping paper and eventually takes over every retail outlet. In the midst of this excess of Christmas consumerism, it is often difficult to draw attention to the season of Advent and the need to prepare spiritually for the celebration of Christmas. It is important to stay awake, as we are cautioned in this week's gospel. Awake to what is happening around us in the world and awake to what is happening within us.

HAVE YOU THOUGHT?

BEGINNING ADVENT

The season of Advent begins this week and continues through the four Sundays of Advent and ends at Christmas Eve. The first week of Advent focuses on the return of the Lord and the following weeks focus more specifically on the anticipation of the birth of Jesus. Rather than simply commemorating an historical event, Advent is a time of preparing our hearts to 'receive' Jesus into the world each year. Advent is traditionally marked by the colour of violet – the same colour as used in Lent. In recent years, some parishes have moved to a more blue/mauve colour for Advent to try to distinguish it from the season of Lent.

GOSPEL FOCUS

THE DOORKEEPER

The image of the doorkeeper from this week's gospel is an interesting one. It is not unusual to hear references to people being 'gatekeepers' today in relation to projects or groups working together. The role of the gatekeeper, or the doorkeeper, is to maintain a watching brief – to be alert to dangers or distractions and to ensure that everyone who is important to the process is invited to participate. Today's gospel reminds us that as believers we are to be the doorkeepers, or gatekeepers, of the Kingdom, watching for dangers and welcoming in all those who wish to enter.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE



Why did the scarecrow become a lectionary expert on the first Sunday of Advent? Because he knew how to "stand watch" for the coming of the Lord! 🌿👮🤪

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Greg Sunter

Stay awake! With these words, Jesus cautions his disciples to be constantly vigilant and to be alert to the return of the Lord. It is a very fitting way to begin the season of Advent. Advent has traditionally been observed as a time of preparation and waiting. It culminates in the Christmas season and so the waiting and preparation is related to the celebration of the coming of Christ into the world.

Perhaps the time of preparation this Advent is also a call to stay awake and stay alert in faith. One of the great challenges to faith today is the complacency that has taken hold of many in our society. When life is comfortable, the perceived need for faith appears to diminish. Many young people in our society cannot see the value of religious belief or religious practice. In a world of instant communication and instant 'satisfaction', the reflective and slow work of faith can seem too much effort for some people. The gospel call to stay awake in preparation for the coming of the Lord is a call to continue the work of bringing about the Kingdom of God.

Over the last three weeks, the gospel passages from Matthew 25 were reminders about continuing to prepare for the coming of the Kingdom. This week, with the beginning of Advent, it is the gospel of Mark that also reminds us that we cannot take the Kingdom for granted and must remain vigilant in working to realise the Kingdom. This vigilance needs to be applied to nurturing our own faith life as well as making a difference in the lives of those around us and the needy in society. Rather than 'Stay awake!' maybe some of us need to be told, 'Wake up!' It is never too late to pay closer attention to faith and perhaps this Advent is an ideal time to do that.

QUESTIONS FOR ADOLESCENTS

- Q. In what ways does our society need a call to 'Stay awake'?
- Q. How is it possible to challenge attitudes of complacency in society?
- Q. How can you demonstrate that faith is an important aspect of life?
- Q. How do you nurture your spirituality and faith?

QUESTIONS FOR ADULTS

- Q. What does the call to 'Stay awake!' mean for your life?
- Q. What appear to be the things that challenge the importance of religious belief in society today?
- Q. How do you nurture your spirituality and faith?
- Q. During this time of Advent, how can you encourage others to properly prepare for Christmas?

Greg Sunter has worked in Catholic Education (Brisbane) for many years, most recently as a member of the Religious Education team and Mission and Formation team. He has extensive experience of praying with young people and forming others to lead prayer with young people. He is the author of books on adolescent faith, is a regular speaker at youth and evangelisation conferences, and is a retreat and reflection facilitator and presenter. His areas of interest include religious education, theology, scripture, spirituality, Catholic ethos, prayer, and ministry with young people.

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH - KERANG

90 Nolan Street, Kerang, Victoria, 3579

ROSTERS

This WEEK 3rd December 2023

Welcomers: **A & K Jenkins**
Comm/POF: **Marie Kelly**
Reader: **M Mowat**
Gifts: **D & T Greenwood**
Ministers: **A & R Kelly**
Sick/Elderly: **L Wilson & K Laughlin (NH)**
Power Point: **L Bland**

Next WEEK 10th December

Welcomers: **J Roberts & M Mowat**
Comm/POF: **L Bland**
Reader: **M Messer**
Gifts: **T & G Kennedy**
Ministers: **K Laughlin & M Lewis**
Sick/Elderly: **L Bland & H Olcorn (NH)**
Power Point: **G Prendergast**

Mowers for December: **Dennis, Ross & John Ginnivan**
Counters for Dec.: **P & K Laughlin**

PRAYER FOR THE SICK

- Bernadette please keep her in your prayers.
- Faye Burton needs all our prayers too.
- Elderly and Residents of Northaven Community Aged Care, Glenarm Nursing Home and Kerang Community Hospital patients.

DEATH ANNIVERSARY

Michael McCluskey,
Peter Westblade, Jack Robinson,
Charles McNally, Mark Davey,
Margaret Spiteri, Michael Dagge,
John Edwards.

MASS SCHEDULES THIS WEEK

3-9 December 2023 2023

* SUNDAY *	* Mass *	* 10.30am *
* TUESDAY *	* ALPHA *	* 06.00pm *
* WEDNESDAY *	* Mass *	* 09.15am *
* FRIDAY *	* Anointing Mass *	* 11.00am *

MASS SCHEDULE NEXT WEEK

* SUNDAY *	* 10 Dec 2023 *	* 09.00am *
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EVERY SECOND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH
Mass - 9.00am

EVERY FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH
Northaven Sacrament of Anointing - 09.30am

EVERY SECOND FRIDAY OF THE MONTH
Community Anointing Mass - 11.00am



please SCAN this to fill out the FORM

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 a new number.

RECENTLY DECEASED

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

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENT

KERANG, COHUNA & PYRAMID HILL CATHOLIC PARISHES

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULES

CHRISTMAS NOVENA MASSES

15 DECEMBER 2023	6.30PM	KERANG CHURCH
16 DECEMBER 2023	6.30PM	KERANG CHURCH
17 DECEMBER 2023	6.30PM	KERANG CHURCH
18 DECEMBER 2023	6.30PM	KERANG CHURCH
19 DECEMBER 2023	6.30PM	KERANG CHURCH
20 DECEMBER 2023	6.30PM	KERANG CHURCH
21 DECEMBER 2023	6.30PM	KERANG CHURCH
22 DECEMBER 2023	6.30PM	KERANG CHURCH
23 DECEMBER 2023	6.30PM	KERANG CHURCH

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

24 DECEMBER 2023	8.30AM	KERANG CHURCH
24 DECEMBER 2023	10.30AM	KERANG CHURCH

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

24 DECEMBER 2023	6.00PM	KERANG CHURCH
24 DECEMBER 2023	7.30PM	KERANG CHURCH
24 DECEMBER 2023	9.00PM	KERANG CHURCH

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS

25 DECEMBER 2023	10.30PM	KERANG CHURCH
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COMBINED PARISHES

Advent Recollection

Theme: **ADVENT AWAKENINGS: REFLECT, RENEW, REJOICE**

with **MR. ANTHONY HOLLIGAN**

12 DECEMBER 2023 | 5:00 P.M.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, COHUNA

Followed by **COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION | 6:30 P.M.**

Anticipating Emmanuel

- The annual **combined churches' Christmas carols** event will be held at **Atkinson Park from 5pm on Sunday, December 10.**
- Sunday 3rd December Christmas get together after Mass can people please bring a plate to share. A-M mains N-Z sweets.
- The Pyramid Hill Raffle draw has been rescheduled to December 23, 2023 during their PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY.
- We value your input! Please share your thoughts with us and help us understand the current state of our parish. Participate in our survey, which will run until 31st of December 2023. Your feedback is greatly appreciated. Thank you!
- New Roster for December is done. I need readers for Mass on Christmas Day, please let me know if you will be there.

Dear Parishioners, our church will be getting new carpet, and the installation is scheduled for the week beginning 15th of January 2024.

ST. MARY'S PARISH - COHUNA

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

ROSTERS

This WEEK 3rd December 2023

Comm/POF	Pam Carmody
Reader	Bernadette Carter
Gifts	Liz Keely
Euch Minister:	Peter Doyle
Altar Clean Up	Kylie Doyle

Next WEEK 9th December 2023

Comm/POF	Helen Keely
Reader	Betty McLoughlan
Gifts	Peter Doyle
Euch Minister:	Margaret Learmonth
Altar Clean Up	Helen Keely

MASS SCHEDULES THIS WEEK

3-9 December 2023

* SUNDAY *	* Mass *	* 08.30am *
* THURSDAY *	* Anointing Retirement Village *	* 09.30pm *

MASS SCHEDULE NEXT WEEK

* SATURDAY *	* 09 Dec 2023 *	* 04.45pm *
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Parish Feast Day Mass and 2nd Sunday of Advent

EVERY SECOND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

Mass - 10.30am

EVERY 2nd TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

Community Anointing Mass - 09.30am

EVERY 1st THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

Cohuna Retirement Village Service - 09.30am



please SCAN this to fill out the FORM



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.

RECENTLY DECEASED

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.

PRAYER FOR THE SICK

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

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

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENT

KERANG, COHUNA & PYRAMID HILL CATHOLIC PARISHES

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULES

CHRISTMAS NOVENA MASSES

15 DECEMBER 2023	6.30PM	KERANG CHURCH
16 DECEMBER 2023	6.30PM	KERANG CHURCH
17 DECEMBER 2023	6.30PM	KERANG CHURCH
18 DECEMBER 2023	6.30PM	COHUNA CHURCH
19 DECEMBER 2023	6.30PM	COHUNA CHURCH
20 DECEMBER 2023	6.30PM	COHUNA CHURCH
21 DECEMBER 2023	6.30PM	SERPENTINE CHURCH
22 DECEMBER 2023	6.30PM	PYRAMID HILL CHURCH
23 DECEMBER 2023	6.30PM	PYRAMID HILL CHURCH

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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24 DECEMBER 2023	10.30AM	KERANG CHURCH

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

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10.30PM
KERANG CHURCH

COMBINED PARISHES

Advent Recollection

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with **MR. ANTHONY HOLLIGAN**

12 DECEMBER 2023 | 5:00 P.M.
ST. MARY'S CHURCH, COHUNA

followed by
COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION | 6:30 P.M.

Anticipating Emmanuel

- 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.
- The Pyramid Hill Raffle draw has been rescheduled to December 23, 2023 during their PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY.
- We value your input! Please share your thoughts with us and help us understand the current state of our parish. Participate in our survey, which will run until 31st of December 2023. Your feedback is greatly appreciated. Thank you!
- Could you please let Bernadette know if you are not available over the Christmas period as she is compiling the new rosters.**

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH - PYRAMID HILL

5 Victoria Street, Pyramid Hill, Victoria, 3575

ROSTERS

This WEEK 2nd December 2023

Comm/POF **Mary Anne Domingo**
Reader **Marilyn Fernandez**
Gifts **Mateo FamilyS & S Magno**
Euch Minister: **Carmen Cauchi**

MASS SCHEDULES THIS WEEK

2-8 December 2023

* SATURDAY * * Mass * * 6.30pm *
* WEDNESDAY * * School Year End * * 5.30pm *
Mass

MASS SCHEDULE NEXT WEEK

* SATURDAY * * Mass * * 6.30pm *

Next WEEK 9th December 2023

Comm/POF **Jeff Pacala**
Reader **Ayeshia Domingo**
Gifts **Imelda Ross**
Euch Minister **M Kelly**

EVERY 1st FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

MASS - Serpentine Church @ 6.00pm
(All are welcome)



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

PRAYER FOR THE SICK

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

DEATH ANNIVERSARY

Margaret Dixon, Dorothy Guthrie,
Graham Mc Donald, Leo Cassidy,
Kathleen Mullane, Patrick Carroll,
Bernard Brasier, Noel Green, John Brasier.

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

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENT

KERANG, COHUNA & PYRAMID HILL
CATHOLIC PARISHES

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25 DECEMBER 2023
10.30PM
KERANG CHURCH

COMBINED PARISHES

Advent Recollection

Theme: **ADVENT AWAKENINGS:
REFLECT, RENEW, REJOICE**

with **MR. ANTHONY HOLLIGAN**

12 DECEMBER 2023 | 5:00 P.M.
ST. MARY'S CHURCH,
COHUNA

Followed by
COMMUNAL
RECONCILIATION | 6:30 P.M.

Anticipating Emmanuel

- Please help us sell our **RAFFLE TICKETS** for the construction of our new toilet.
- 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.
- PLAN-GIVING ENVELOPES** are now available. Please pick them up at the back
- The our Raffle draw has been rescheduled to December 23, 2023 during our PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY.**

We value your input! Please share your thoughts with us and help us understand the current state of our parish. Participate in our survey, which will run until 31st of December 2023. Your feedback is greatly appreciated. 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



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.



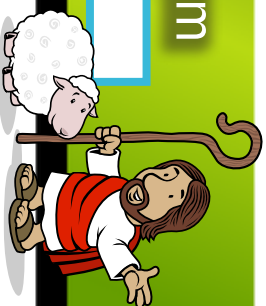
ST. PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL-PYRAMID HILL

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



Come and receive the kingdom that is prepared for you

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe – Year A



Jesus says when we do something good for others we also do it for him. Draw a picture of yourself performing an act of kindness.

Fill in the spaces using the words below

When I was hungry, you gave me something to _ _ _ _ .

When I was thirsty, you gave me something to _ _ _ _ _ .

When I was a stranger, you

_ _ _ _ _ me.

When I was naked, you gave me

_ _ _ _ _ to wear.

When I was sick, you took

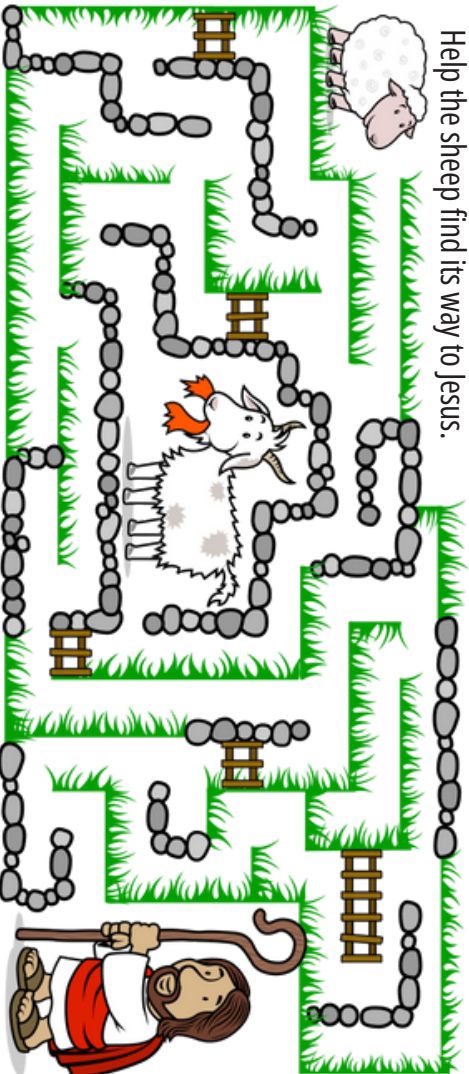
_ _ _ _ _ of me.

When I was in gaol, you

_ _ _ _ _ me.

welcomed drink care
eat clothes visited

Help the sheep find its way to Jesus.



KERANG, COHUNA & PYRAMID HILL
CATHOLIC PARISHES



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULES

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CHRISTMAS DAY MASS

25 DECEMBER 2023
10.30PM
KERANG CHURCH