



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.

As you take your next step, remember our past and present ancestors.

Fr Arun Korlakanti SHS.
Parish Administrator
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St Patrick's Kerang
90 Nolan St., Kerang
St Mary's Cohuna
King George St., Cohuna
St Patrick's Pyramid Hill
5 Victoria St., Pyramid Hill
St Joseph's Serpentine
19 Chapel St., Serpentine

Parish Office
92 Nolan Street, Kerang, VIC 3579

Office Hours
Tuesday 9:00am to 5:00pm
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Parish Email:
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Parish Website:
www.kerangcatholicparishes.com

Parish Secretaries

Kerang: Marianne Kelly
Gerardine Prendergast
Cohuna: Kylie Doyle
Pyramid Hill: Rachel Cain

Parish Council Chairperson:

Kerang: Kyra Laughlin
Cohuna: Peter Doyle
Pyramid Hill: Carmen Cauchi

Kerang Finance Chairperson:

Combined Parish Pastoral Associate:
Gerardine Prendergast

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Year A 27th & 28th December 2025

Looking at the Readings.

The book of Ecclesiasticus (better entitled Sirach in the new Lectionary) is a collection of wise sayings inspired by the Law of God. The Law originally was given as a gift and observed to set people free from slavery and establish a new relationship with God. The first reading from this book concerns the right relationships between parents and children. The family values expressed are very human and very divine: honour, respect, obedience, kindness and forgiveness.

Matthew writes his gospel for a Christian community with very Judaic roots: Christ is seen as the new Moses. Jesus' life is threatened by King Herold and Moses' life was threatened by Pharaoh. Moses led his people out of Egypt, Matthew quotes the Prophet Hosea "I called my son out of Egypt." (11:1). There are many other parallels, but this passage is chosen for the Feast of the Holy Family to show that Joseph's dreams, responses, insights, decisions and protection he provides to and for Mary and Jesus are the dreams, responses, insights, decisions and protection we ought to develop in our families today.

The new Lectionary only gives the shorter form of the second reading from Saint Paul's letter to the Colossians. He expounds family values of compassion, generosity, humility, gentleness, patience, forgiveness, love, peace and giving thanks to God. Peace in our hearts is re-emphasised in the Gospel Acclamation.



We have a "Children's Corner" set up at the back of the Church. There are colouring pages and crayons/pencils that can be used at the little table or taken back to where their parents are seated.



SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND VUNERABLE 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 (03) 5452 1041.

The Parish News

Baptism Registration Form. For all Parishes.

Please SCAN this form to complete Baptism Registration



A Woman's Christmas.....

We cook and we polish, we rub and we scrub.
We bustle and sigh all day but when we're most weary and ready to drop and feel that this Christmas activity must stop let our thoughts drift to the long, long ago, and think of a woman with a journey to go - a woman, weary, her time drawing nigh, with none of the luxuries our money can buy. No car to convey her - a donkey astride - a patient man plodding along be her side. Her shelter? "Well - anything - Yes, a stable will do"

It would never do for me, or for you. But, that stable held glory second to none, when Mary held Jesus, her newborn son. The angles, the shepherds, the wise men drew near but she didn't gasp "Oh the work isn't done" she only thought of her newborn son. And she shard him with us, the best gift of all. While we fuss about things like a spot on the wall.

Mary would say, with a sad little smile - "Couldn't you pause, and rejoice for a while?"



Pope Leo XIV on The Family

I encourage you [parents] to be examples of integrity to your children, acting as you want them to act, educating them in freedom through obedience, always seeing the good in them and finding ways to nurture it. And you, dear children, show gratitude to your parents. To say, 'thank you' each day for the gift of life and for all that comes with it is the first way to honour your father and your mother. 1 June 2025 Jubilee of Families, Children, Grandparents and the Elderly

Liturgical Jottings

The Collect Prayer given below, an alternative in the ICEL Missal of 1997, reflects on the trials and pains of the Holy Family as they must escape from Herold. It unites their trials and pains with all families that also suffer anxieties and threats.

Loving God, guardian of our homes, when you entrusted your Son to the care of Mary and Joseph, you did not spare them the pains that touch the life of every family. Teach us to rely on your word, that in our trials as in our joys we may be clothed in gentleness and patience and united in love.

Make us ever-thankful for the blessings you give us through Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, in the splendour of eternal light, God for ever and ever. Amen.

Quote of the Week

The new Son of Man has been made in the likeness of the old in us while continuing to be consubstantial with the God the Father. ... We could not profit from the victory of the triumphant Christ if that victory had been won in a nature not ours. *Pope Leo 1, Letter 31*

Prayer for Today

May the peace of Christ reign in our hearts, and the fullness of Christ's message live within us.

Cf Gospel Acclamation Col 3:15a,16a

The Lighter Side



"Having one child makes you a parent.
Having two kids makes you a referee."

—David Frost

Marriages are made in heaven.
But so again, are thunder and lightning.

—Clint Eastwood.

Rosters and Events

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| <p>6.30pm PYRAMID HILL Next Week 27th Dec. 2025 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Year A</p> <p>Commentator/POF: Volunteer Please Reader: Vincent Bartels Gifts: Mateo Family Eucharistic Minister: Carmen Cauchi</p> | <p>6.30pm PYRAMID HILL Next Week 3rd Jan. 2026 The Epiphany of the Lord, Year A</p> <p>Commentator/POF: MaryAnne Domingo Reader: Anne Grogan Gifts: S & S Magno Eucharistic Minister: Colleen Hampson</p> |
| <p>8.30am COHUNA Next Week 28th Dec. 2025 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Year A</p> <p>Commentator/POF: Shannie Webb Reader: Marita Hancock Gifts: Irene Trezise Eucharistic Minister: Marg Learmonth Altar Clean Up: Helen Keely</p> | <p>8.30am COHUNA Next Week 4th Jan. 2026 The Epiphany of the Lord, Year A</p> <p>Commentator/POF: Marita Hancock Reader: Helen Keely Gifts: Liz Keely Eucharistic Minister: Betty McLoughlan Altar Clean Up: Liz Keely</p> |
| <p>10.30am KERANG Next Week 28th Dec. 2025 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Year A</p> <p>Commentator/POF: L Bland & M Lewis Reader: G Prendergast Gifts: C Flynn Eucharistic Minister: T & G Kennedy Sick & Housebound: M Kelly & P Hirst Power Point: C Scriven & G Prendergast (NH) Musicians: L Bland Setting up the Altar: Mike, Tony and Maureen Mowers: December: Ellen Counters: December: D Reyes</p> | <p>10.30am KERANG Next Week 4th Jan. 2026 The Epiphany of the Lord, Year A</p> <p>Commentator/POF: M Dagge & G Mannix Reader: C Scriven Gifts: W Hall Eucharistic Minister: C Fagg & F Kelly Sick & Housebound: W Hall & D Greenwood Power Point: A Makeham & K Laughlin (NH) Musicians: G Prendergast Setting up the Altar: Mike, Tony Ladies Group Mowers: January: Denise Counters: January: Paul Laughlin Counters: January: A & T Bortolotto</p> |
| <p>With St Patrick, St Mary & St Joseph, let us be a spiritual support to each other in prayer for the:</p> <p>Sick: Lui Basile, Faye B., Hank Clare & Magie. Margaret, Phil S., Terry W., P. Preston and all our elderly and residents of our Nursing Homes, Retirement Villages and those in Hospital.</p> <p>Recently Deceased:</p> <p>Death Anniversaries.</p> <p>Kerang: Bishop Joe Grech, Jean Greenwood, Mary Treacy, Jim Hall, Angela Suter, George Dario, Keith Hall, Stephen Hallinan.</p> <p>Pyramid Hill: Eugene Ryan, Kenneth Findlay, James Canfield, Herbert James, Edward Phillips, Jessie Ervin, Patricia Stewart.</p> <p>Cohuna: Dave Byrne, Dorothy Phyland,</p> | |

Week Day Masses:

Friday 26th December: **NO Mass Kerang**
No weekday Mass till the week of the 5th of January

Weekend Masses for the 3rd & 4th January 2026

Saturday 3rd January: **6.30pm Mass in Pyramid Hill**
Sunday 4th January: **8.30am Mass in Cohuna 10.30 Mass in Kerang**

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Please approach Fr Arun before or after Mass.

PARISH SCHOOLS

St Joseph's Primary, Kerang
Principal: Mr Justin Colville
Ph: (03) 5452 1426
admin@sjkerang.catholic.edu.au

St. Mary's Primary, Cohuna
Principal: Mrs Lauren Gould
Ph: (03) 5456 2062
principal@smcohuna.catholic.edu.au

First Reading*Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14***A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus**

The Lord honours the father in his children, and upholds the rights of a mother over her sons.

Whoever respects his father is atoning for his sins, he who honours his mother is like someone amassing a fortune.

Whoever respects his father will be happy with children of his own, he shall be heard on the day when he prays.

Long life comes to him who honours his father, he who sets his mother at ease is showing obedience to the Lord.

My son, support your father in his old age, do not grieve him during his life.

Even if his mind should fail, show him sympathy, do not despise him in your health and strength; for kindness to a father shall not be forgotten but will serve as reparation for your sins.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm*Ps 127:1-5.*

(R.) Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

1. O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!

By the labour of your hands you shall eat.

You will be happy and prosper. **(R.)**

2. Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive, around your table. **(R.)**

3. Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord.

May the Lord bless you from Zion all the days of your life! **(R.)**

Second Reading*Colossians 3:12-21***A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians**

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful.

Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Wives, give way to your husbands, as you should in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and treat them with gentleness. Children, be obedient to your parents always, because that is what will please the Lord. Parents, never drive your children to resentment or you will make them feel frustrated.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation*Colossians 3:15.*

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and the fullness of his message live within you.

Alleluia!

Gospel*Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23***A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

After the wise men had left, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother with you, and escape into Egypt, and stay there until I tell you, because Herod intends to search for the child and do away with him.' So Joseph got up and, taking the child and his mother with him, left that night for Egypt, where he stayed until Herod was dead. This was to fulfil what the Lord had spoken through the prophet: I called my son out of Egypt.

After Herod's death, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother with you and go back to the land of Israel, for those who wanted to kill the child are dead.'

So Joseph got up and, taking the child and his mother with him, went back to the land of Israel. But when he learnt that Archelaus had succeeded his father Herod as ruler of Judaea he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he left for the region of Galilee. There he settled in a town called Nazareth. In this way the words spoken through the prophets were to be fulfilled: He will be called a Nazarene.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.