



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

0407 393 875

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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
Ph: (03) 5452 1041

Parish Email:

stpatker@bigpond.com or
kerang@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

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

3rd Sunday of Advent, Year A

13th & 14th December 2025

Looking at the Readings.

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice." Phil 4:4 from the Entrance Antiphon expresses the nature of this Sunday, Gaudete Sunday and with the Scripture readings give a softness to the Season of Advent and causes for joy and giving praise to God. The Prophet Isaiah foretells of deserts and wastelands blooming and all creation being renewed and peoples healed, freed and rejoicing. St James encourages patience and right relationships with one another. Jesus gives great witness and praise to John the Baptist and assures the people that his message fulfils the former prophecies.

There is a sense of urgency expressed in the Response to the Psalm: "Lord, come and save us." And his coming is imminent as expressed in the second half of the entrance antiphon: "Indeed, the Lord is near!" Phil 4:5. The Collect for the morning Mass on 24 December is most emphatic: "Come quickly, we pray, Lord Jesus, and do not delay, that those who trust in your compassion may find solace and relief in your coming."



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 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 (03) 5452 1041.

The Parish News

St Mary's Cohuna

We will have a cuppa after 8.30am Mass on 21st December. Come join us and share in a little bit of Christmas cheer. Ladies bring a plate to share please.



Kerang

End Of School Mass and Graduation

Tuesday 16th December 6.00pm in the Church
All Welcome

Followed by a shared BBQ meal at the School.



Columbian Calander's for 2026 are available for \$10 each, and Christmas cards, packet of 8 for \$3.00 are also available from the piety stall.

Thank you Carmel Flynn.



Mass Times for Christmas Eve, 24th December

5.00pm Mass in Kerang

6.30pm Mass in Cohuna

8.45pm Mass in Pyramid Hill

Christmas Day, 25th December

8.30am Cohuna 10.30am Kerang



At Mass on the 14th December John will give a presentation on the Finances of the Kerang Parish.

Pyramid Hill are holding Novena Mass's again this year.

December 15th and Dec. 16th will be 5.30pm at the Church

Dec. 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd will be 6.00pm at the Church and Christmas Eve will be at 8.45pm.

The Lighter Side

What is Australia's most popular carol? "How To Make Gravy" by Paul Kelly released 4/11/1996 by White Label Records.

The Ordo IV

Pastoral notes for Christmas 2

The Solemn Blessing for the Nativity of the Lord may be used during the Christmas Season (Roman Missal page 710). The Nativity of the Lord has its own Octave. This includes feasts that were celebrated in the most ancient liturgical calendars and which have been associated with Christmas through tradition. These feasts include the Holy Family of Jesus Mary and Joseph (the Sunday within the Octave of Christmas, or 30 December on years where there is no Sunday in the Octave), St Stephen (26 December), St John (27 December), Holy Innocents (28 December). The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord is the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God (1 January). During the Octave of Christmas, Memorials are celebrated only as optional Memorials.

Ordo 2026 p21

Prayer for the Day

Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
Rejoicing in faith and hope
your Church hastens on its pilgrim way
to greet the advent of Christ the Lord;
until, in the fullness of your kingdom,
we may enter with him into the eternal wedding feast.
Through Christ the whole creation gives you glory. Amen

Quote for the Week

Advent is patience: it's how God has made us a people of promise, in a world of impatience.

Stanley Hauerwas

Message from Pope Leo XIV

Jesus' words, in a prophetic way, attest to the fact that the disasters and sorrows of history will come to an end. At the same time, the joy of those who recognise him as Saviour, is destined to last forever. "By your endurance you will gain your souls" (Lk 21:19): this promise of the Lord gives us the strength to resist the threatening events of history and every offence. We do not remain powerless in the face of suffering, because he himself gives us "words and a wisdom" always to do the good with a fervent heart.
ANGELUS, St Peter's Square, 16 November 2025

Sandpiper e-News

The final e-News for 2025 will go out on 8:30 am Friday 12th December. It will also be available on our website here: <https://mailchi.mp/sandhurst/113>. Stay tuned for Fr Brian's Christmas Message!

The Lighter Side

After reading the account of John the Baptist at the meal table, the dad asked his son: "What did John eat?"
His son replied: "Golden syrup and crickets!"
Very Australian!

Rosters and Events		
6.30pm PYRAMID HILL This Week 13th Dec. 2025 3rd Sunday of Advent, Year A		6.30pm PYRAMID HILL Next Week 20th Dec. 2025 4th Sunday of Advent, Year A
Commentator/POF: Richard Fernandez Reader: Kate Wood Gifts: Domingo Family Eucharistic Minister: Colleen Hampson		Commentator/POF: Ayeshia Domingo Reader: Mary Anne Domingo Gifts: Cenas Family Eucharistic Minister: Marianne Kelly
10.30am COHUNA This Week 14th Dec. 2025 3rd Sunday of Advent, Year A		8.30am COHUNA Next Week 21st Dec. 2025 4th Sunday of Advent, Year A
Commentator/POF: Betty McLoughlan Reader: Peter Doyle Gifts: Liz Keely Eucharistic Minister: Peter Doyle Altar Clean Up: Mary Wight		Commentator/POF: Anne-Marie Link Reader: Marg Main Gifts: Brian Di Silva Eucharistic Minister: Bernadette Carter Altar Clean Up: Marg Main
9.00am KERANG This Week 14th Dec. 2025 3rd Sunday of Advent, Year A		10.30am KERANG Next Week 21st Dec. 2025 4th Sunday of Advent, Year A
Welcomers: E Bortolotto & F Roney Commentator/POF: A Kelly Reader: K Laughlin Gifts: L Morrow & G Prendergast Eucharistic Minister: A Bortolotto & R Kelly Sick & Housebound: L Bland & K Laughlin (NH) Power Point: M Lewis Musicians: Alicia, Tony Val & Marie Setting up the Altar: Tops Mowers: December: D Reyes Counters: December: P & K Laughlin		Welcomers: L Wilson & C Scriven Commentator/POF: M Dagge Reader: T Greenwood Gifts: L Bland & J Tuohey Eucharistic Minister: G Prendergast & M Lewis Sick & Housebound: L Wilson & H Olcorn (NH) Power Point: R Kelly Musicians: Alicia, Tony Men's Group Setting up the Altar: Anne Mowers: December: D Reyes Counters: December: P & K Laughlin
With St Patrick, St Mary & St Joseph, let us be a spiritual support to each other in prayer for the: 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. Recently Deceased: Death Anniversaries. Kerang: Michael Cummins, Keith O'Connor, Elaine James, Sr Anne Ryan, Kath Franke, Jim Roberts, Peter Murray, Joan Reeves, Bridget Cummins, Harold Stacey, Kaye O'Halloran, Beryl Oliver. Pyramid Hill: Philip Malone, David Taggart, Sr Veronica Ryan, Fr Ray Owens.. Cohuna: Jim Roberts		
Week Day Masses: Tuesday 16th December: 6.00pm St Joseph's End of Year Mass 15th to the 23rd December: 6.00pm Mass Pyramid Hill Thursday 18th December: 9.00am Mass Cohuna Friday 19th December: 9.15am Mass Kerang Weekend Masses for the 20th & 21st December Saturday 20th December: 6.30pm Mass in Pyramid Hill Sunday 21st December: 8.30am Mass in Cohuna 10.30 Mass in Kerang Christmas Eve, 24th December 5.00pm Mass in Kerang 6.30pm Cohuna 8.45pm Pyramid Hill Christmas Day, 25th December 8.30am Cohuna 10.30am 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

Isaiah 35:1-6, 10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult, let the wasteland rejoice and bloom, let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil, let it rejoice and sing for joy.

The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it, the splendour of Carmel and Sharon; they shall see the glory of the Lord, the splendour of our God.

Strengthen all weary hands, steady all trembling knees and say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid.

'Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy, for those the Lord has ransomed shall return.

They will come to Zion shouting for joy, everlasting joy on their faces; joy and gladness will go with them and sorrow and lament be ended.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 145:6-10.

(R.) Lord, come and save us.

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **(R.)**

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bowed down,
the Lord, who protects the stranger
and upholds the widow and orphan. **(R.)**

3. It is the Lord who loves the just
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age. **(R.)**

**Next week: 4th Sunday of Advent Year A
20th & 21st December 2025**

1st Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14

Responsorial Psalm: 23:1-6

2nd Reading: Romans 1:1-7

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24

Second Reading

James 5:7-10

A reading from the letter of St James

Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring rains! You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Isaiah 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 11:2-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'

As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

