



CORIO LARA

CATHOLIC PARISH

24/01/2026 | 50TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR | 24/01/2027

Divine Mercy Sunday (A) 12 April 2026

Jesus to St Faustina

1109- "I want to grant a complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My mercy."

429 - "You will prepare the world for My final coming."

848 - "(My daughter) Speak to the world about My mercy; let all mankind recognize My unfathomable mercy. It is a sign for the end times; after it will come the day of justice. While there is still time, let them have recourse to the fount of My mercy; let them profit from the Blood and Water which gushed forth for them."

723- "The greater the sinner, the greater the right he has to My mercy. My mercy is confirmed in every work of My hands. He who trusts in my mercy will not perish, for all his affairs are Mine, and his enemies will be shattered at the base of My footstool".

1397- "The loss of each soul plunges Me into mortal sadness. You always console Me when you pray for sinners. The prayer most pleasing to Me is prayer for the conversion of sinners. Know, My daughter, that this prayer is always heard and answered."

1507- "All grace flows from mercy, and the last hour abounds with mercy for us. Let no one doubt concerning the goodness of God; even if a person's sins were as dark as night, God's mercy is stronger than our misery. One thing alone is necessary; that the sinner set ajar the door of his heart, be it ever so little, to let in a ray of God's merciful grace, and then God will do the rest."

1602- "Daughter, when you go to confession, to this fountain of My mercy, the Blood and Water which came forth from My Heart always flows down upon your soul and ennobles it. Every time you go to confession, immerse yourself entirely in My mercy, with great trust, so that I may pour the bounty of My grace upon your soul. When you approach the confessional, know this, that I Myself am waiting there for you. I am only hidden by the priest, but I Myself act in your soul. Here the misery of the soul meets the God of mercy. Tell souls that from this fount of mercy souls draw graces solely with the vessel of trust. If their trust is great, there is no limit to My generosity. The torrents of grace inundate humble souls. The proud remain always in poverty and misery, because My grace turns away from them to humble souls."

300- "Oh how much I am hurt by a soul's distrust! Such a soul professes that I am Holy and Just, but does not believe that I am Mercy and does not trust in My Goodness. Even the devils believe in My Justice, but do not glorify My Goodness. My Heart rejoices in this title of Mercy."

327- "I am offering people a vessel with which they are to keep coming for graces to the fountain of mercy. That vessel is this image with the signature: *Jesus, I trust in You*".

St Maria Faustina Kowalska, Diary of St Faustina: Divine Mercy in My Soul. Divine Mercy Publications, 1987 (English edition).

CHURCHES

St Francis Xavier Church, Corio
St Anthony of Padua Church, Lara

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Marcus Goulding

PERMANENT DEACON

Rev. Logona Tui'i

WEBSITE

coriolaracatholicparish.com.au

PARISH OFFICE

Jasna Brdar | *Parish Secretary*
Tues - Fri | 10am - 3pm
143 Bacchus Marsh Rd, Corio 3214
T. 03 4212 0791
E. corio@cam.org.au

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Sat. 5pm (Vigil) | *Corio*
Sun. 9am | *Lara*
11am | *Corio*

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Tue. 5.30pm | *Corio*
Wed. 9.15am | *Lara*
Th. 9.15am | *Corio*
Fri. 9.15am | *Lara*
Sat. 9.15am | *Corio*

CONFESSIONS

Tue. 5.00pm-5.25pm | *Corio*
6.00pm-7.00pm | *Corio*
Sat. 8.45am-9.10am | *Corio*
4.30pm-4.55pm | *Corio*
Sun. 8.30am-8.55am | *Lara*

THE ROSARY

Weekdays 25 mins prior to Mass
Sunday 8.30am (Lara)
10.30am (Corio)

HOLY HOUR

Tue. 6.00pm - 7.00pm | *Corio*

LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA

Wed. 6.00pm | *Corio*

PRESBYTERY GIVING (1st Collection)

St Francis Xavier Presbytery Account
BSB 083 347 | ACC 674 963 655

CHURCH GIVING (2nd Collection)

St Francis Xavier Church Account
BSB 083 347 | ACC 543 292 126

Letter #1 from Fr Marcus regarding parish growth

Sunday 12th April 2026

Dear parishioners of St Francis Xavier Corio and St Anthony of Padua Lara,

Our parish is facing a good problem! We are growing! Over the last few years, our Sunday Mass attendance has been steadily increasing, and our attendance is expected to continue growing for many years to come.

There are two main reasons our parish is growing.

The first reason for our growth is spiritual: we are attracting people to Jesus. Through our witness, Catholics are returning to the sacraments and the practice of their faith. Other Catholics are choosing to make our parish their spiritual home due to the reverence of our worship, the trustworthiness of our teaching, and the warmth of our fellowship. Non-Catholics are also choosing to enter the Catholic Church here.

The second reason for our growth is demographic. Lots of young families and new Australians are settling in Corio and Lara. New housing is still being constructed in Lara. Moreover, over the next couple of decades, Geelong Council and the Victorian State Government intend to develop Lovely Banks into a new suburb of 50,000 people (17,500 residences). This development will occur entirely within the boundaries of the parish and will double the number of people living in the parish.

Growth is often accompanied by growing pains. Currently, growing pains are being felt most acutely at the 11am Sunday Mass at Corio. St Francis Xavier church can seat 250 people, yet we regularly have 300-350 people attending the 11am Sunday Mass.

Careful planning is needed to help cater for this growth and to mitigate the 'growing pains' that will inevitably arise. Over the last few months, I have begun to reflect on, and understand, this growth with the Parish Mission Team and the Archdiocese. Last month, I met with the Vicar General, Fr Tony Kerin, to discuss these matters. Long term solutions to growth are beginning to be considered. You will be consulted on these matters in due course.

This letter is a first step in bringing you, the parishioners, into the loop regarding the current and future growth projected within our parish. A second letter on these matters will follow next weekend.

Sincerely,

Fr Marcus Goulding, Parish Priest

THIS WEEK 11th & 12th April 2026		NEXT WEEK 18th & 19th April 2026	
5.00pm Corio	Welcome Reader VOLUNTEER Reno Demicoli	5.00pm Corio	Welcome Reader VOLUNTEER Frank Moloney
9.00am Lara	Rosary Welcome Reader Georgio Romagnoli Jen Elisa Ballesteros	9.00am Lara	Rosary Welcome Reader Bernie Hyland Angelica Jones Rochelle Martis
11.00am Corio	Rosary Welcome Reader EMHC Tony & Trudie Maricar Joe Brdar Tony & Trudie	11.00am Corio	Rosary Welcome Reader EMHC LOM/Augustino Dalya & Yara Gudrun Philipp Mercy Leszyk Vicky Neri

Oremus pro invicem

The sick	The faithful departed	Seminarians
Julie Horkings	Margaret Boccalatte	Rev. Rhys Lowther
Michael Fromholz	Mary Formosa	
Pedro Pegan		



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Divine Mercy Sunday (A)

First Reading | Acts 2:42-47

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers. The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone. The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed. They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

Responsorial Psalm | Psalm 117(118):2-4,13-15,22-24

R. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love is everlasting.

Let the sons of Israel say:

'His love has no end.'

Let the sons of Aaron say:

'His love has no end.'

Let those who fear the Lord say:

'His love has no end.' **R.**

I was thrust down, thrust down and falling,
but the Lord was my helper.

The Lord is my strength and my song;
he was my saviour.

There are shouts of joy and victory
in the tents of the just. **R.**

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.

This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.

This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad. **R.**

Second Reading | 1 Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of

great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

Gospel Acclamation | John 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia! You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy are those who have not seen me, but still believe! Alleluia!

Gospel | John 20:19-31

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.' After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.' Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.



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Divine Mercy Chaplet | Franciscan Friars of the Renewal

Consider praying the Chaplet of Divine Mercy in a new way with the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal. This video on Formed includes breathtaking footage of Catholics across the world performing works of mercy and asking God to have mercy on us.

For free access to our parish subscription to FORMED,
visit coriolaracatholicparish.com.au/formed.

Parish Noticeboard

WE PRAY FOR THE CHILDREN RECEIVING THE LIFE OF GOD IN THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM THIS MONTH: Archer, Raymond, Hudson, Olivia.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY 12th APRIL AT ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH, CORIO. 2.00pm Holy Hour with Chaplet. 3.00pm Mass. 4.00pm Veneration of Relic of St Faustina. Confessions available from 2.00pm-4.30pm. Afternoon tea to follow.

FR MARCUS ON STUDY LEAVE FROM 13/4–17/4. During this week, Fr Marcus will be in Sydney. There will be no weekday Masses/Holy Hour/Confessions from Tues 13/4 to Fri 17/4.

NEWS & EVENTS

PROJECT COMPASSION. Please return donation boxes and envelopes to the sacristies at both Churches. Thank you to parishioners who have done so already.

ALPHA—DISCOVER MEANING & FAITH TOGETHER. Alpha is a warm, friendly way to explore life, purpose and the Christian faith. If you are thinking about God for the first time or would like to reconnect with God and the Church, Alpha is perfect for you. Our next Alpha Experience commences on Friday 1st May. For more information and to register, visit www.corioaracatholicparish.com.au/alpha. Flyers in the foyers.

MENALIVE WEEKEND. Hosted by Meredith Parish on 2nd & 3rd May, open to all men in the Geelong region. Refer to posters & flyers for more information, or contact Danny Colla mob 0493 229 944.

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD DONATIONS. Non-perishable food items for St Vincent De Paul, e.g. pasta, pasta sauce, are gratefully appreciated. Please place in the boxes in both Church foyers.

KIDS, YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

LITTLE DISCIPLES PARISH PLAYGROUP. 2nd & 4th Sundays following 9am Sunday Mass at St Anthony's church. Contact Angelica 0422 585 223 or Dee 0430 302 969.

CHILDREN'S CATECHESIS. Supporting the faith formation of primary-school-aged children. Fridays at 4pm in the St Francis Xavier Church Foyer during school term.

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP: 'HEARTS FOR CHRIST'. Ages 18-30. 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of each month from 7pm to 8.30pm in St Francis Xavier church foyer. Next meeting Tuesday 14th April.

FORMATION

FORMED SUBSCRIPTION. Discover amazing Catholic media content and learn about your faith with FORMED. Access our free parish subscription at

FELLOWSHIP

CHURCH CAFÉ. First and third Sundays after 9am Mass at Lara. Every Sunday after 11am Mass at Corio.

PARISH BBQ. Second Sunday of each month following 11am Mass at Corio. Next BBQ Sunday 12th April. Thank you to all our generous sponsors.

SATURDAY SUPPER. Third Saturday of each month following the 5pm Vigil Mass at Corio. Next supper Saturday 18th April. Bring a plate to share.
