CORIO LARA
CATHOLIC PARISH
24/01/2026 | 50TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR | 24/01/2027

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

8th November 2026

Thoughts on Death

Very soon your life here will end; consider, then, what may be in store for you elsewhere. Today we live; tomorrow we die and are quickly forgotten. Oh, the dullness and hardness of a heart which looks only to the present instead of preparing for that which is to come! Therefore, in every deed and every thought, act as though you were to die this very day. If you had a good conscience you would not fear death very much. It is better to avoid sin than to fear death. If you are not prepared today, how will you be prepared tomorrow? Tomorrow is an uncertain day; how do you know you will have a tomorrow?

What good is it to live a long life when we amend that life so little? Many count up the years they have spent in religion but find their lives made little holier. If it is so terrifying to die, it is nevertheless possible that to live longer is more dangerous. Blessed is he who keeps the moment of death ever before his eyes and prepares for it every day. If you have ever seen a man die, remember that you, too, must go the same way. In the morning consider that you may not live till evening, and when evening comes do not dare to promise yourself the dawn. Be always ready, therefore, and so live that death will never take you unprepared. You can do many good works when in good health; what can you do when you are ill? Few are made better by sickness. Likewise they who undertake many pilgrimages seldom become holy. Do not put your trust in friends and relatives, and do not put off the care of your soul till later, for men will forget you more quickly than you think. How sad that you do not spend the time in which you might purchase everlasting life in a better way. The time will come when you will want just one day, just one hour in which to make amends, and do you know whether you will obtain it?

Try to live now in such a manner that at the moment of death you may be glad rather than fearful. Learn to die to the world now, that then you may begin to live with Christ. Chastise your body in penance now, that then you may have the confidence born of certainty. Ah, foolish man, why do you plan to live long when you are not sure of living even a day? How many have been deceived and suddenly snatched away! How often have you heard of persons being killed by drownings, by fatal falls from high places, at play, in fires, in pestilence, or at the hands of robbers! Death is the end of everyone and the life of man quickly passes away like a shadow. Who will remember you when you are dead? Who will pray for you? Do now, beloved, what you can, because you do not know when you will die, nor what your fate will be after death. Gather the riches of immortality while you have time. Think of nothing but your salvation. Care only for the things of God. Keep yourself as a stranger here on earth, a pilgrim whom its affairs do not concern at all. Keep your heart free and raise it up to God, for you have not here a lasting home. To Him direct your daily prayers, your sighs and tears, that your soul may merit after death to pass in happiness to the Lord.

By Thomas A Kempis, The Imitation of Christ (edited).

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
Tues – Fri | 10am – 3pm
143 Bacchus Marsh Rd, Corio 3214
T. 03 4212 0791
E. corio@cam.org.au

SUNDAY MASS TIMES
Saturday	5.00pm (Vigil) | *Corio*
Sunday	9.00am | *Lara*
	11.00am | *Corio*

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES
Tuesday	5.30pm | *Corio*
Wednesday	9.15am | *Lara*
Thursday	9.15am | *Corio*
Friday	5.30pm | *Lara*
Saturday	9.15am | *Corio*

CONFESSIONS
Tuesday	5.00pm - 5.20pm | *Corio*
	6.00pm - 7.00pm | *Corio*
Friday	5.00pm - 5.20pm | *Lara*
1st Friday	6.00pm - 7.00pm | *Lara*
Saturday	8.45am - 9.10am | *Corio*
	4.30pm - 4.55pm | *Corio*
Sunday	8.30am - 8.55am | *Lara*

THE ROSARY
Tues-Sat	25 mins prior to Mass
Sunday	8.30am | *Lara*
	10.30am | *Corio*

HOLY HOUR
Tuesday	6.00pm - 7.00pm | *Corio*
1st Friday	6.00pm - 7.00pm | *Lara*

MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA
Wednesday	5.00pm | *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

Let us pray

MELBOURNE SEMINARIANS

Deacon Rhys Lowther
Nicolas Calandra

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Don Gray
Fr Brendan Lane

THE CHILDREN TO BE BAPTISED IN NOVEMBER

Rylan, Aiden, Poppy, Cia Erin, Viggo, Honey, Sailor, Lucy

CDF

Save for a Greater Reward

Help fund projects across Catholic organisations, including parishes, hospital wings and classrooms, with a CDF Community Fund savings account.

With competitive interest rates, it's a greater reward than money alone.

www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au

Liturgy Roster

THIS WEEKEND | 7/8 November 2026

5.00pm	Welcome	George Underwood
	Reader	Reno Demicoli
9.00am	Welcome	Jen
	Rosary	Giorgio Romagnoli
	Reader	Val Brennan
11.00am	Welcome	Lara & Maricar
	Rosary	Tony & Trudy
	Reader	Lara Mesoga

NEXT WEEKEND | 14/15 November 2026

5.00pm	Welcome	George Underwood
	Reader	Becky Watson
9.00am	Welcome	Angelica Jones
	Rosary	Rob & Lynne Almano
	Reader	Angela Pearson
11.00am	Welcome	Aleena & Luka
	Rosary	L.O.M. & Augustino
	Reader	Joe Brdar

NOVEMBER HOMILY SERIES: PREPARING FOR DEATH AS A CATHOLIC

November begins with All Souls' Day and is a time of special prayer for our deceased relatives and friends. It is a good time to deepen our understanding of how we, as Catholics, approach death. Over the weekends in November, Fr Marcus will preach a series of homilies:

1/11 - Homily 1: "How Catholics prepare for death"
8/11 - Homily 2: "The Catholic Funeral Explained"
15/11 - *Fr Rhys First Mass weekend*
22/11 - Homily 3: "Caring for Body & Soul after Death"



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The Afterlife | Eternal Rest | Episode 2

What happens after the moment of our death? Once the soul has been separated from the body, then what? What is heaven, hell, and purgatory? This session looks at the truth about what awaits the human person on the other side of death.

To access our parish subscription to FORMED, visit www.coriolaracatholicparish.com.au

Parish Noticeboard

COLLECTION FOR DEACON RHYS LOWTHER THIS WEEKEND. We will take up a collection at all Mases on 7th & 8th November for soon-to-be Fr Rhys Lowther. The collection will contribute to a parish gift for Fr Rhys.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE 10/11. Please note, the Parish Office will be closed on Tuesday 10th November.

HOLY HOUR FOR DEACON RHYS. Please join us at St Francis Xavier at 6.00pm on Tuesday 10th November for a Holy Hour to pray for Deacon Rhys Lowther as he prepares for his ordination to the priesthood.

FUNERAL OF DON GRAY 12/11. Don passed away following a stroke on Thursday 29th October. Don has made a wonderful contribution to the life of our parish, initially at St Anthony's and more recently at St Francis Xavier. In recent years, he was a regular attendee at the 11am Sunday Mass. Don is survived by his wife Lois, whom we hold in our prayers. The Requiem Mass for Don's eternal repose will be offered at St Anthony's at 1.30pm on Thursday 12th November. The rosary will be prayed at 1.00pm.

CANCELLATION OF BUS TO DEACON RHYS' ORDINATION. Due to insufficient bookings we are unable to proceed with the planned bus booking. Refunds will be processed next week.

DEACON RHYS LOWTHER ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD
10.00am | Saturday, 14th November 2026 at St Patrick's Cathedral, East Melbourne

DEACON RHYS LOWTHER FIRST MASS SUNDAY 15th NOVEMBER 2026
1.00pm | Mass | St Anthony's, Lara 2.30pm | Lunch | MacKillop Hall, Lara

SIGN UP: WE NEED YOUR HELP WITH LUNCH AFTER DEACON RHYS' FIRST MASS. A celebratory lunch will be held in MacKillop Hall after Deacon Rhys' first Mass at St Anthony's on 15/11. We need people to help set up, serve food, and pack up. If you can help, please put your name on the sign-up sheets in the church foyers.

VISITING PRIEST AT 11AM MASS ON 15/11. Please note that the 11am Mass on Sunday 15th November will be offered by Fr Anthony Beltrame so that Fr Marcus can help with preparations for Deacon Rhys' First Mass. Fr Anthony is a young priest from Adelaide. Please make him welcome.

ST FRANCIS XAVIER PRIMARY SCHOOL 50TH JUBILEE CELEBRATION. All present and past students and their families are invited to join the celebration from 10.00am to 2.00pm on Saturday 14th November. See flyers for more information.

GEELONG CATHOLIC PROFESSIONALS LUNCH 19/11. The Geelong Catholic Professionals Lunch is a new networking initiative of the Archdiocese. The inaugural lunch will be held from 12pm-2pm at GMHBA Stadium on Thursday 11th November 2026. The guest speaker at the lunch will be Dr Ed Simonds, the director of Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools. The lunch promises to be a wonderful opportunity to meet and support other Catholic professionals. To join our parish table for $50 a seat, please contact Fr Marcus at marcus.goulding@cam.org.au.

NEW PROJECTOR INSTALLED AT ST ANTHONY'S. A new projector has been installed at St Anthony's. The permanent projector screen has been removed. Hymn texts will be projected directly onto the wall, as at St Francis Xavier.

NOVEMBER MASS OFFERINGS FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED. During November, we pray for the eternal repose of our deceased relatives and friends. The greatest prayer we can offer for the dead is the Mass. When we make a donation to have a Mass offered for our deceased loved-ones, the merits of our sacrifice are joined to the merits of Christ's sacrifice and applied to the souls of the dead, assisting their purification in purgatory. To have Mass offered for your deceased relatives, complete a Yellow Mass Offering envelope from the church foyers, enclose a donation, and give it to Fr Marcus or the Parish Office.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR. Rehearsals are held at 9.45am on the first Sunday of each month in the Fr Ron Lowe Room. Next children's choir: Sunday 8th November. To register your child or for more information, please contact Lani on 0404 690 773 or Nina on 0431 003 280.

Children & Youth

PARISH PLAYGROUP
2nd & 4th Sundays after the 9am Mass
Contact Angelica 0422 585 223
or Dee 0430 302 969

CHILDREN'S CATECHESIS
Primary-school aged children
Fridays at 4pm during school term
in St Francis Xavier foyer

YOUNG ADULTS
Ages 18-30
2nd & 4th Tuesdays of each month
Meet in St Francis Xavier foyer

Fellowship

PARISH BBQ
2nd Sunday after the 11am Mass

CHURCH CAFE
1st & 3rd Sundays after the 9am Mass
Every Sunday after the 11am Mass

SATURDAY SUPPER
3rd Saturday after the 5pm Mass

Readings

Entrance Antiphon | *Cf. Ps 87: 3*

Let my prayer come into your presence. Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

First Reading | *Wisdom 6:12-16*

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim. By those who love her she is readily seen, and found by those who look for her. Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she makes herself known to them. Watch for her early and you will have no trouble; you will find her sitting at your gates. Even to think about her is understanding fully grown; be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you. She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her and graciously shows herself to them as they go, in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

Responsorial Psalm | *Psalm 62(63):2-8*

R. *My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.*

O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water. ***R.***

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. ***R.***

So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. ***R.***

On my bed I remember you.
On you I muse through the night
for you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. ***R.***

Second Reading | *1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them; to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

Gospel Acclamation | *Matthew 24:42,44*

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful and ready:
you know not when the Son of Man is coming.

Alleluia.

Gospel | *Matthew 25:1-13*

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'

Communion Antiphon | *Cf. Ps 22: 1-2*

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose, near restful waters he leads me.

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