CORIO LARA
CATHOLIC PARISH

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

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
15th November 2026

The Priesthood: A Priceless Gift

The Catholic priesthood has its roots in the priesthood of the Old Covenant. The priest of the Old Covenant was a mediator between the people and God. The Levitical priesthood, however, was powerless to bring about salvation. It wasn't until the priesthood of Jesus Christ that ultimate sanctification was achieved. Jesus was both priest and victim. His unique sacrifice to the Father at Calvary was accomplished once for all, but is made present to us today in each Holy Mass. This same priestly function continues through the ministerial priesthood without diminishing the priesthood of Christ (*CCC* 1545). Instead, Christ uses this ministerial priesthood to build up His Church.

In his book *The Priest Is Not His Own*, Archbishop Fulton Sheen observed, "*Each time the priest speaks the words of consecration, he applies Calvary and its fruits to a particular place…and time…The priest takes the Cross of Calvary with Christ still hanging on it, and he plants it in New York, Paris, Cairo and Tokyo and in the poorest mission in the world.*" Sheen further states, "*We become significant to our fellow men not by being a 'regular guy', but by being 'another Christ'.*" The participation in the priesthood of the New Covenant also involves administering the other Sacraments instituted by Our Lord. Have you ever stopped to think where we would be without the priesthood? There would be no Eucharist, no forgiveness of sins in Confession or Anointing of the Sick. There would be no Confirmation, thus limiting the growth of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and also no bishops or pope to guide the Church. The priesthood allows Jesus to continue working in His Church, for when a priest administers any one of the Sacraments, it is actually Christ Who is performing the action (*CCC* 1120).

One aspect of the Roman Catholic priesthood that is misunderstood by many is the discipline of celibacy. Archbishop Fulton Sheen observed, "*Consecrated virginity is the highest form of sacral or sacrificial love; it seeks nothing for itself but seeks only the will of the beloved…God has allowed creatures to share in his creation…The ambassador of Christ (the priest) is called to another type of creativeness — he begets souls*." Looking at the priesthood purely in human terms means we will miss much of its meaning and importance. We will have difficulty understanding supernatural concepts such as celibacy and transubstantiation. We begin to look at the Sacrament of Confession as nothing more than a "counselling session", choosing instead to "confess our sins directly to God". It becomes too easy to concentrate on a priest's personality flaws or lack of "stage presence" and we begin to compare priests and choose our favourite. Looking at the priesthood in Divine terms helps to keep our focus on its true meaning and its importance in helping us to attain Eternal Life in Heaven. The next time you feel your priest's homily is too long or you're tired of him "asking for money", remember that, by virtue of his ordination, he is acting in the person of Our Lord. Looking at him in this way should make it easier to see not the imperfect human, but our ultimate High Priest — Jesus Christ.

By Gary Zimak https://bit.ly/4BLYR5i (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 19/11	NO MASS | *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

Fr Rhys Lowther
Fr Dominic Lawes
Deacon Nicolas Calandra

THE SICK

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Sean Brennan

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 | 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	VOLUTNEER
	Rosary	L.O.M. & Augustino
	Reader	VOLUNTEER

NEXT WEEKEND | 21/22 November 2026

5.00pm	Welcome	George Underwood
	Reader	Ken McCarthy
9.00am	Welcome	Dee & Zion
	Rosary	John Cook
	Reader	Jo-Anne Dean
11.00am	Welcome	Ivy & Tom
	Rosary	Luce Rasic
	Reader	Gudrun Philipp

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"



formed™
Forming Catholics for *Life*.

The Hour of Our Death | Eternal Rest | Episode 3

The Anointing of the Sick is one of the seven sacraments of the Church. This session, we discover the role of this sacramental anointing in the spiritual struggle during serious illness, the final stages of our temporal life, and the hour of our death.

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

Parish Noticeboard

GIFTS FOR FR RHYS LOWTHER, FR DOMINIC LAWES AND DEACON NICOLAS CALANDRA. Last Sunday we took up a collection to provide a parish gift for Fr Rhys. An incredible $2,500 was raised. We will add an extra $1,000 to this gift from our seminarian fund, bringing his total gift to $3,500. From the seminarian fund, we will also present a gift of $1,000 to Fr Dominic Lawes and $500 to Deacon Nicolas Calandra. Thank you for your generous support of our newly-ordained priests and deacons!

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

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.

CONGRATULATIONS TO IVY AND TOM O'MALLEY. We offer our warm congratulations to Ivy Parkinson and Tom O'Malley, parishioners at the 11am Sunday Mass, who were married by Fr Marcus at Sacred Heart College Chapel on Saturday 14th November.

MASS CANCELLATION 19/11. There will be no Mass on Thursday 19th November. Fr Marcus will be in Melbourne for Fr Brendan Lane's funeral and a university chaplaincy Mass.

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 19th 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.

ERROR REGARDING DATE OF DON GRAY'S FUNERAL. Last weekend, the bulletin incorrectly advertised the date of Don Gray's funeral as Thursday instead of Friday. This was due Tuckers booking the incorrect date with the Parish Office. Tuckers extend their apologies for the confusion.

REFUNDS FOR BUS TO FR LOWTHER'S ORDINATION. All bookings made via Trybooking have now been refunded. Refunds to those who paid by cash will be processed this week.

CORIO FENCING WORKS. From Wednesday 18/11 to Friday 20/11, new fencing will be installed around the main entrance of St Francis Xavier Church. The fencing will secure the boundary between the church and the school during school hours. Car gates will also be installed to enable continued access to the basketball courts for parking outside of school hours.

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 | *Jer 29: 11, 12, 14*

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

First Reading | *Proverbs 31:10-13,19-20,30-31*

A perfect wife – who can find her? She is far beyond the price of pearls. Her husband's heart has confidence in her, from her he will derive no little profit. Advantage and not hurt she brings him all the days of her life. She is always busy with wool and with flax, she does her work with eager hands. She sets her hands to the distaff, her fingers grasp the spindle. She holds out her hand to the poor, she opens her arms to the needy. Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty; the woman who is wise is the one to praise. Give her a share in what her hands have worked for, and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

Responsorial Psalm | *Psalm 127(128):1-5*

R. *Happy are those who fear the Lord.*

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.***

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

Indeed thus shall be blessed
the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion
all the days of your life!

Happy are those who fear the Lord. ***R.***

Second Reading | *1 Thessalonians 5:1-6*

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it.

But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

Gospel Acclamation | *John 15:4-5*

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;
my branches bear much fruit.

Alleluia!

Gospel | *Matthew 25:14-30*

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of Heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out.

'The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

'Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made."

'His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness."

'Next the man with the two talents came forward. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness."

'Last came forward the man who had the one talent. "Sir," said he "I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back." But his master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth."'

Communion Antiphon | *Ps 72: 28*

To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

Scripture readings from the Jerusalem Bible are published and copyright © 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Hodder & Stoughton and Doubleday, a division of Random House, Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. Text of the Psalms: Copyright © 1963, The Grail (England). Used with permission of A.P. Watt Ltd. All rights reserved. The English translation of the Psalm Responses from "Lectionary for Mass" © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation (ICEL). Excerpts from the English translation of "The Roman Missal" © 2010, ICEL. All rights reserved.