

St Mary's Parish

We proudly acknowledge the Boonwurrung People of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land.

A community where we bring together our gifts and talents

24th August, 2025



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Parish Priest

(Fr.) Greg Trythall

0400 524 363

Email:

greg.trythall@cam.org.au

Parish Office Staff

Pastoral Associate & Parish Secretary

Monique Julian

9397 6066

Tuesday 9:00am – 4.00pm

Thursday 9:00am – 4.00pm

Friday 9:00am – 2.00pm
0450 789 951

Wednesday Parish Secretary

Kylie Skinner

9:30am–1:30pm

Safeguarding Officer

Frank Schobben

0427 416 184

St. Mary's School

Principal Anthony Hockey

Normal Mass Times

Consult bulletin inside for any changes.

Saturday at 6:00pm

Sunday at 8:30am and 10:30am

Tuesday to Friday 9:15am

Reconciliation

Saturday 10:00am

Silent Adoration in Church

2:30pm – 3:30pm

Wednesday

Baptism Preparation Night

Third Thursday monthly

7.00pm at Parish Centre.

Baptism must be booked

prior to attending

Preparation Night.

Baptisms 12:30pm Sunday

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—YEAR C

FIRST READING:

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah. 66:18-21

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Go out to all the world and tell the good news.

SECOND READING:

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews. 12:5-7,11-13

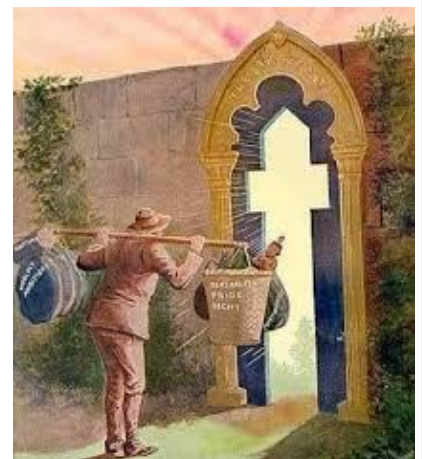
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord;
no one comes to the Father, except through me.

GOSPEL: LUKE 13:22-30

He passed through towns and villages, teaching as he went and making his way to Jerusalem. Someone asked him, “Lord, will only a few people be saved?” He answered them, “Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough. After the master of the house has arisen and locked the door, then will you stand outside knocking and saying, ‘Lord, open the door for us.’ He will say to you in reply, ‘I do not know where you are from.’ And you will say, ‘We ate and drank in your company and you taught in our streets.’ Then he will say to you, ‘I do not know where you are from.

Depart from me, all you evildoers!’ And there will be wailing and grinding of teeth when you see Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God and yourselves cast out. And people will come from the east and the west and from the north and the south and will recline at table in the kingdom of God. For behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.”



Tuesday 26th August	9.15am Mass at St Mary's Church. 7pm – 8pm Continuation of Rite of Christian Initiation at presbytery. Topic 'The Church's Year'.
Wednesday 27th August	9.15am Mass at St Mary's Church. 2:30pm – 3:30pm Silent Hour of Adoration in Church. 7.00pm Parish Finance Team meeting at presbytery.
Thursday 28th August	9.15am Mass at St Mary's Church.
Friday 29th August	9.15am Mass at St Mary's Church.

Dear Parishioners,

The experience of people living with the challenges of homelessness and mental ill-health has been high-lighted in the Australian Catholic Bishops Conferences 2025 Social Justice Statement for the last Sunday in August. Each year since 1940, the Conference has released a statement for reflection and discussion ahead of **Social Justice Sunday (August 31st)** on a key issue in Australian society. This year's statement is **'Signs of Hope on the Edge: Serving Homeless People with Mental Ill-Health'**.

The above helps us to understand more what the Catholic Church and its followers need to bring to seriously follow Jesus command 'to love one another'.

When four of our Parish Council went to the Italian Social Club in St Albans this week, we were there with many parishes from the West to hear from Joshua Lourensz who is executive director of Catholic Social Services Victoria. Catholic Social Services Vic is the peak body of 40 different Catholic agencies helping the needy in various ways. These 40 agencies are in 150 locations and have simply thousands of paid employees in our State helping in various needs. The Catholic Church is equally the biggest employee of people in Australia with the Woolworths Group – but they are mainly centred on selling food, goods or merchandise!!,

Joshua Lourensz stated rather than the word 'charity' they in their agencies stress more the word 'justice'. Justice is sort of what people deserve whereas 'charity' in a sense goes beyond that! Former Pope Benedict stated that both are inseparable and that charity completes justice. Pope Francis took another slightly different angle in that the needy are the 'suffering Christ' and we as Catholics are called to see Christ in them and gain a mysterious wisdom from those encounters.

When we deal with the 'Good Samaritan;' scenario we are being asked by Christ 'who is my neighbour'? Joshua made the point that where there is service there is my neighbour and through it we create a new neighbour!

On last week's gathering of parishes of the Western suburbs mainly we were being led to the topic of Service within the context of what a Vibrant Parish in the Archdiocese should stand for. Yes, all the following are important: Worship, Evangelisation, and Fellowship but Service is a nonnegotiable – not that the others can be placed second. Part of our service in our parish is through Crisp, Way of the West, Mary Care and St Vincent de Paul, Nursing Homes including the elderly. On last week we were called to open our minds to greater horizons within the sphere of 'service' within our parishes. Accordingly, there was a panel of three parishes informing us of the good things they were doing in service to others. One in line with the Social Justice Sunday Statement ideal next week was the work being done by Clifton Hill Parish (near North Fitzroy) where it was discovered that one in 10 people there suffer with housing stress. Accordingly, there is a big number of homeless in the area or semi homeless/couch surfing etc. A Catholic Samoan family with cooking skills offered to the Clifton Hill Parish a service on the Church grounds. Now I gather from what they say they with parishioner volunteers serve 300 free meals a day to those suffering mainly homelessness or poverty. The reps on the panel stressed that they give and offer dignity to every person who comes seeking their help. Two other parishes Greensborough and Belmont gave very different but equally important work of theirs in service to their Parish and Community: one was meeting the need of 'Mental Health' in their area and the other was offering concrete help with 'Women undergoing Stress'.

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

- A. **FIRST READING: (from Prophet Isaiah)** The author describes a panoramic vision of Jews making their way back from the ends of the earth to worship in the restored city of Jerusalem. They bring with them people from the non-Jewish world to do homage to the one God.
- B. **SECOND READING: (Hebrews)** This is a continuation of last Sunday's reading. Discipline is a necessary part of education and training. As a father shows his concern for his son by training him in discipline, so God trains his children through suffering.

- C. GOSPEL:** (Luke) Jesus refuses to get into the numbers game, or to speculate about matters that are best left to the wisdom and mercy of God. The main thing is: the kingdom is present and the door open. But the door is not so wide that people can saunter casually in at their own convenience; it is a narrow opening through which they must thrust themselves with determination. Besides, the door will not be open indefinitely.

WAY OF THE WEST:

We have now **finished this weekend our annual "Way of the West" campaign** - so far, the equal of all other years with approx 3,000 goods given by you for distribution to the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre in Footscray and the Brigidine Asylum Seeker Pilot Project. Thanks to all parishioners and school parents.

ARCHBISHOP CAMPAIGN:

Throughout the whole Melbourne Archdiocese this weekend there will be a fundraiser collection. Although a key focus for the Archbishop's Campaign is supporting the formation of new priests and caring for our retired priests, much of the money is also needed to support other key ministries of the Church. Accordingly, this weekend parishioners will be asked to offer a gift to this year's Archbishop Campaign. Parishioners across the Archdiocese will be asked to make a recurring monthly contribution, although one-off donations are gratefully accepted.

Tax-deductible gifts will go to the Archbishop's Charitable Fund which supports:

- Priests Retirement Foundation.
- John Pierce Centre for the hearing impaired
- Melbourne Overseas Mission (our archdiocese has always allowed a few priests to help for a few years in Papua New Guinea and Peru)
- Other deductible gift recipient entities such as Catholic community agencies and community service organisations

Non-deductible gifts will go to the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne Religious Projects Fund which supports:

- Seminary education.
- The archbishop's evangelisation initiatives, such as Australian Catholic Youth Festival (late November)

By inviting our parishioners to help raise funds to support the important works of the Church in Melbourne you are playing a pivotal role in our future. The Archbishop's Campaign reduces the number of separate special Sunday plate collections in parishes each years.

Yours 'in Christ'

Fr Greg Trythall – greg.trythall@cam.org.au -0400 524 363

SAFEGUARDING - 'Volunteer Overview' & 'Activity Statement'

The 'Volunteer Overview' and 'Activity Statement' have now been emailed to all parish volunteers, requesting the signed **Volunteer Description Acknowledgment** (page 3) be returned to the parish office ASAP. Copies are also available in the church next to the parish bulletins on the rear table for volunteers to sign and place in the returns basket. Thank you for your cooperation.

JUBILEE PRAYER:

*Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us
In your son, Jesus, our brother,
And the flame of charity enkindled
In our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
Reawaken in us the blessed hope
For the coming of your Kingdom.
May the grace of the Jubilee
Reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
A Yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer
Throughout the earth.
To you our God, eternally blessed.
Be glory and praise for ever.*



Rosters for this Week 23rd & 24th August 2025

Counting Team 4	Leanne Spiteri, Greg Morgan, Herb Zimmer, Steven Sagona, Eugene Yii
Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Beata Sicat 8.30am Evol Farrelly, Volunteer Needed 10.30am Maria Laudato
Mass Readers	6.00pm Daniel Corcoran 8.30am Jan Maine 10.30am Mareena Peter
Welcomers	6.00pm Maylene Clayton 8.30am Mary Frisby 10.30am Volunteer Needed

Rosters for next Week 30th and 31st of August 2025

Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Mary Soppitt 8.30am Stephen Littleton, Ivonne Cram 10.30am Maria Laudato, Eugene Yii
Mass Readers	6.00pm Frank Schobben 8.30am Anthony Verhoef 10.30am Eilin Taylor
Welcomers	6.00pm Volunteer Needed 8.30am Teofila Hunt 10.30am Mariza O'Keefe

IN OUR PRAYERS

We pray for Finn Pennisi, Dominic Piccolo, Yeme Reddy, Sarah Rodgers, Assunta Delgrosso, Charlie Galea

RECENTLY DECEASED & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for Giovanni Meilak and Bishop Peter Elliott who died recently and for Anne Ward, Barbara Poliness, Maureen Fitzgerald (Ward), Ray Horsburgh, Olga Cutajar, Angelo Di Battista, Betty Donald, Clare Twomey, Vincent Boseley, Pauline Conway, Pina Laudato, Kathleen Featherston, Lawrence Galea, William Dillon, Caterina Politi, Maria Pos, Nicholas Kurkowski Senior, Mr & Mrs Lomakin, Ronald Purcell, Maureen Haughey, Shirley Dervan, Kevin Doohan, Anna Dubiel, Martino Doria, Lucia Caputo, Mick Spiller, George Francis, Rene Norton, Betty O'Rourke, Myra Matthews, Anne Kenny, Jo Schobben, Lloyd Molineux, Patrick O'Brien, Peter Warr, George Cassar, Edward Armstrong, Stasha Bajsuk, Beryl Saidy, Pasqualina Fabbro, Peter Spurling, Rose Achkar, Giuseppe Sokolic, Mamie Fitzpatrick, Allan Sargeant, Constantino Sammut, Jacob Van Lilth, Jason Medicott, Paolo Pecora, Angelina and Natalino Meilak, Joan Spiteri, Michael Meilak, Carmela Sammut, Nunzio Ficarra, Blondina and Lawrence Sammut, Maria Cassar, Arnold Cabansag, Lucia D'elia and Michael Paicquadio; whose anniversaries are at this time.

