



St Mary of the Cross Catholic Parish

EMBODYING CHRIST'S LOVE

Parish Priest: Fr Michael Kong
Deacon: George Piech-Meat

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time 18 October 2026

Readings for Year A Isaiah 45: 1, 4-6 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-5 Matthew 22: 15-21

*"Give back to Caesar what
belongs to Caesar"*

People who focus on money and power rarely regard anything else as important. Jesus reminds his hearers and us that money has a function in the world. He wasn't seeking to pit himself against the might of the Roman Empire.

Yet, giving 'to God what belongs to God' is much broader. What does that mean? In an echo of Deuteronomy, Jesus says, 'you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength' (Mark 12:30). This sets the bar high. Thus the person of faith needs to have a daily focus. Clearly, the groundwork is laid through prayer and contemplation. This groundwork helps us to appreciate and preserve all of God's creation.

So what belongs to God? In short, all that I am and everything that he has created. Kind of puts money in its place.

Patrick Jurd
Parishioner



News and Announcements



World Mission Sunday 18 October 2026

Pope Leo XIV shares a special message for World Mission Sunday 2026, marking 100 years since Pope Pius XI established this global celebration of mission in 1926.

Reflecting on this year's theme, 'One in Christ, united in mission', the Holy Father recalls his own experience of World Mission Sunday as a child in the United States and how the prayers and generosity of the faithful later supported his missionary ministry in Peru.

Pope Leo invites the whole Church to renew its shared commitment to mission: "Let us all commit to contributing to the great mission of evangelisation, which is always a work of love, according to our own vocation and the gifts we have received."

Catholic Mission is the Australian agency of the Pontifical Mission Societies, supporting the missionary work of the Church in Australia and around the world.

To make a donation go to [World Mission Sunday donation](#)

Pray for Pope Leo XIV

The Pope recently underwent surgery for lung cancer at Gemelli Hospital and is expected to stay there for a week. There has been a great outpouring of love from around the world.

We pray for his swift recovery and that he may be able to return to his duties in good health. May the Holy Spirit watch over the Holy Father at this time.



Children's Liturgy (Kidz Zone) this weekend

Calling all children 4 - 12 years old. Join our Kidz Zone leaders at our 6pm, 9.30am and 11am masses. Activities based on the Gospel reading of the day help our children to explore and begin their relationship with Jesus. If you would like to join the team, please contact Sangeetha on 0426 023 057



Baptisms this weekend

We welcome into our Parish family **Lachlan Peter, Weston John and Luka Adam**

God has you in his hands on this special day. With every step you take, he guides you on your way.

NEXT WEEKEND

We welcome our Primary School children from Years 1&2 to St Brigid's at 11am and Year 2 to St Louis for their Family Masses at 6pm and 9.30am.

Enjoy the music, participation and joy of the children.

Please welcome them to our parish mass and stay and have a chat and a cuppa.

Welcome to the children receiving their First Holy Communion

Our First Communicants, along with their families and leaders will be attending our 9.30am mass at St Louis on 25th October to receive their First Holy Communion.

Congratulations to the children on their special day.

We pray that their journey may continue as they grow in their relationship with Jesus.

Please welcome the children and their families and stay and have a chat and a cuppa.

Aid to the Church in Need - ACN

Looking for flexible work and a chance to support persecuted Christians?

ACN Australia is seeking a Diocesan Outreach Assistant to give short presentations at weekend Masses across the Archdiocese of Melbourne. This part-time role involves sharing stories of the suffering Church and helping build prayerful support within parish communities.

If you are comfortable speaking in front of others and have a heart for this mission, we would love to hear from you. For details: www.aidtochurch.org/work

News and Announcements

Month of the Rosary



October is dedicated in the Catholic Church as the Month of the Most Holy Rosary, with October 7 celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary earlier in the week. Pope Leo has urged Catholics worldwide to pray the daily Rosary throughout October, to seek the Virgin Mary's intercession for an end to global conflicts and for world peace. Pope Leo emphasised that the millions of "Hail Marys" offered globally must be accompanied by good deeds, love, and daily acts of reconciliation.

Parish Pilgrimage at 9am on Saturday 31st October

Join us as we culminate the Month of the Rosary with a peaceful morning at **Our Lady of La Vang Shrine, 225 Hutton Road, Keysborough VIC 3225.**

We will begin with the Rosary followed by Holy Mass, celebrated by Fr. Michael. Please feel free to bring a small plate to share for morning tea after mass. We look forward to praying, meditating and growing together with each of you.

Please register using the QR code or sign up on the sheets at the welcome Desk and let us know if you need help with transport. For more information call 0456 000 317



Weekday Masses This Week

Due to Fr Michael's absence, weekday Masses from Tuesday 20th to Friday 23rd October (this week) will all be replaced by Holy Communion services. Thank you for your understanding. The weekend Masses will continue as usual with visiting priests.

Knights of the Southern Cross – Melbourne Cup Fundraiser

The Knights of the Southern Cross are raising funds for the Year 6 Graduation Awards, supporting students from our parish primary schools as they continue their Catholic education in secondary school.

Melbourne Cup raffle tickets will be available after Masses until 1st November, at \$2 per ticket. Your generous support is greatly appreciated and will help provide these awards to our students.

Mass Intentions in Rome

In the first week of November, Fr Michael will be visiting Rome to attend an AI Forum. During his visit, he will offer a Mass at the Basilica of St Mary Major for your special prayer intentions. If you have a prayer intention you would like Fr Michael to offer, please write it down and hand it to sacristans at either church.

All intentions will be collected and taken to Rome when Fr Michael departs on 1st November. Thank you, and please keep Fr Michael in your prayers during his time away.

Refugee family looking for work

Do you have any work for a local refugee family living in Bonbeach and being supported by BASP. The husband and wife are career professionals but are unable to practice in this country. They will take any kind of work to support their family - cleaning, gardening, maintenance etc. Please contact John Meyer if you can help 0418 597 750.



Slaves and Kings: The Story of St Anthony Mary Claret

Following the life of St Anthony Mary Claret - Archbishop, writer, publisher, social reformer and confessor to the Queen of Spain, and founder of the Missionary Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Go to: <https://formed.org/signup> type in St Mary of the Cross Mordialloc and Aspendale, and enter your name and email address, for free access to this and much more great content.

NEXT WEEK'S SERVE MINISTERS ROSTER - 29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 17/18 OCTOBER 26

24/25 Oct 26	30th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) Exodus 22:20-26 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10 Matthew 22:34-40 CUPPA						
	Reader	Commentator	Special Minister	Special Minister	Special Minister	Welcomer	Welcomer
6pm (A)	Year 2 Reader	Year 2 Reader	Marg De Vries	Bernie Stuart	Sonia Williams	Gail Hamilton	Danny Carey
8.00am (M)	Tony Aloysious	Angela Mayo	Stephen Pooley	Carole Guthrie	Jack Meyer	Joey Virginie	Joan Healy
9.30am (A)	Year 2 Reader	Year 2 Reader	Martin Newington	Maureen Wraight	Mary Nayna	Lex Miller	Rosemary Miller
11.00am (M)	Year 1/2 Reader	Year 1/2 Reader	Peter Wain	Christine D'Cruze	Philippa Pecora	Vanessa Fernandes	Patricia Chaves
Counters	Group 1	Gary & Joanne Partleton	Ron Soares				

Recently deceased: Grace Campbell, Patricia Moulton

Anniversaries: Joseph Fernandez, Estakee Baretto, Raymond Cruickshank, Jose Luis Assiego, Scott Close, Robert Bruce, Josip Bubica, Bob Wilson, Marie O'Dea, Stanley (Stan) Kelti, Marie Bateman, Enrique Madrid Flores, Mary Laws, John O'Sullivan, Clifford Jambu, Denise Wilson, Maureen Jackson, Bill O'Brien, Ivan Baptist, Bill Fergus, John Lazaro, Simon Au, Rosie Mendonça, Catherine Sterling, Ron Hinksman, Jacob Jayabalan, Linda Peralta, Vincenzo Renzella, Fr Tony Guelen, John Ryan, Norah Beer, Dominic Fernandes, Grace Fernandes, Severino Lacson, Joe Pecora, George Kampf, Elsie Eddington, Wendy Murren, Lynette Gedling, Julie Van de Garde, Norina Castenetto, Babuji P.Y, Molly McKeon, Frances Kelson

Praying for healing and the sick: Maureen McKeown, Jan Mitula, Steve Osboldstone, Maree Wiltshire, Sammy Dahalid, Kathie Martin, Mim Rodolico, Michael Albert, Fr Terry Keane, Luis, Julie Griffiths, Rita Popley, Steve Govac, Chris Wardle, Deborah Joseph, Chris Doran, Ruben David, Vasilos Garavelis, Sophia Bicos, Mary Agiropoulos, Prunella Julien, Maree Wesols, Peter Waltho, Jeffrey Sellar, Noleen Dunn, Brilliant boys, John Catalano, Damian Haggerty, Alasdair Hughes, Andrea Williams.

Growing in community & belonging at St Mary of the Cross



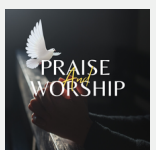
Children's Liturgy

5 - 12-year-olds.
4th weekend of the month. 6pm, 9:30am and 11am



Prayer Ministry

Intercessory prayer.
Last weekend of the month - all masses.



Praise & Worship

3rd Friday of month
7.30 - 8.30pm.
Alternates between each church.

Contact us

Parish Office: 03 9580 7981
OPEN Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday's 9am to 4.30pm
Parish Coordinator: Ann Fitzgerald
mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au

Pastoral care

If you would like a pastoral visit, we have volunteers available to drop by for a chat or to organise some help if required. Please contact the office at
mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au

Baptism Coordinator

Debbie Poynton 0403 471 931

Our Parish acknowledges that we gather, pray and live on the land of the Bunurong People of the Kulin nation, and pay our respects to Elders, past, present and emerging. We recognise their continued connection to Country, and we thank them for their role in caring for, and maintaining Country and waterways, over thousands of generations.

WEEKEND MASSES

St Louis' Saturday 6pm
St Brigid's Sunday 8am
St Louis' Sunday 9.30am
St Brigid's Sunday 11am

Our 6pm Saturday Vigil & 8am Sunday Masses are live streamed and can be accessed at:
[catholicmassstmaryofthecross](http://catholicmassstmaryofthecross.com.au)

WEEKDAY MASSES

St Louis' Mon 9.15am Communion Service
St Louis' Tue 9.15am
St Brigid's Wed 10am
St Louis' Thur 9.15am
St Brigid's Fri 11.30am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AND HOLY ROSARY

St Brigid's every Fri 10.30am
St Louis' 1st Sat of the month 4.30pm

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

St Louis' Monday's 7.30 - 8.30pm

RECONCILIATION

St Brigid's Fri after 11.30am Mass
St Louis' Sat 5.30pm before 6pm Mass

Our Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and human dignity of children, young people & adults at risk in our community.

CHILD SAFEGUARDING TEAM:

Fr Michael Kong 9580 7981
Deacon George 9580 7981
Trish 0421 604 849
Joe 0407 354 568
Helen 0498 178 899
Robyn 0412 814 592