



# St Paul Apostle Catholic Community

## One Family

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<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/endeavourhills>



### First Sunday of LENT Year A, 21-22 February, 2026

#### FOR THE INFORMATION OF PARISHIONERS

#### LENT 2026

The Lenten season has a twofold character:

- 1) it recalls baptism or prepares for it;
- 2) it stresses a penitential spirit.

By these means especially, Lent readies the faithful for celebrating the paschal mystery after a period of closer attention to the Word of God, and more ardent prayer. In the liturgy itself and in the liturgy-centred instructions, these baptismal and penitential themes should be more pronounced. Hence:

- a/ Wider use is to be made of baptismal features proper to the Lenten liturgy.
- b/ The same approach holds for the penitential elements.

During Lent, penance should not be only internal and individual but also external and social. In any event, let the paschal fast be kept sacred. It should be observed everywhere on Good Friday and, where possible prolonged throughout Holy Saturday, so that the joys of the Sunday of the resurrection may be visited on uplifted and responsive spirits.

*(Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, Vatican II)*

#### Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of Fasting and Abstinence from meat.

On all other Fridays, except solemnities, the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled by performing any one of the following:

- (a) **Prayer** - for example, Mass attendance; family prayer; a visit to a church or chapel; reading the Bible; making the Stations of the Cross; praying the Rosary; or in other ways.
- (b) **Self-Denial** - for example, not eating meat; not eating sweets or dessert; giving up entertainment to spend time with the family; limiting food and drink so as to give to the poor of one's own country or elsewhere; or in other ways. Project Compassion is a major means of expressing our self-denial in Australia.

(c) **Helping Others** - for example, special attention to someone who is poor, sick, elderly, lonely or over-burdened; or in other ways.

- All who have completed their eighteenth year and have not yet begun their sixtieth year are bound to fast. All who have completed their fourteenth year are bound to abstain (Canon 1252).

- The Season of Lent is a time of penance. During this season the faithful are exhorted to devote themselves in a special manner to prayer, to engage in works of piety and charity, and to deny themselves.

- Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This precept must be fulfilled between Ash Wednesday 18 February and Trinity Sunday, 31 May 2026 unless for a good reason it is fulfilled at another time during the year.

- The wonderful gift of the Lord's merciful love is offered in a special way in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Lent is a most appropriate time to receive this Sacrament.

All the faithful who have reached the age of discretion are bound faithfully to confess their grave sins at least once a year.

**HOLY WEEK** - The 2026 Ordo contains instructions for the Rites of Holy Week.

**FUNERALS** - On Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday all Masses for the Dead, including Funeral Masses, are forbidden. Funerals on these days are celebrated with the Liturgy of the Word and without the Eucharistic Sacrifice.

**WEDDINGS** - Weddings should be discouraged during the Easter Triduum: Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday. Should a couple be particularly insistent on a wedding for one of these days, then please indicate that no decorations (including flowers), no music nor Nuptial Mass will be permitted.

Very Reverend Anthony Kerin JCL VG  
(VICAR GENERAL)

#### Masses

**Monday**  
9am

**Tuesday**  
9am Mass

**Wednesday**  
7pm Mass

**Thursday**  
9am Mass

**Friday**  
9am Mass

**Saturday**  
6pm Mass

**Sunday**  
9am, 11am, 6pm

**Reconciliation  
Saturdays**  
10am—10.30am

**Parish Priest:**  
Fr Brendan Connell CP

**Assistant Parish Priest**  
Fr. Tuan Paul Anh-Do CP

**Parish Staff:**  
Gillian Velupillay (Bursar)  
Didi Karkas (Secretary)  
Valerie Ferreira  
(Safeguarding & Visitation)

**St Paul Apostle North  
Primary School**  
Ph. 9700 6068  
Principal  
Cathy Mason

**St Paul Apostle South  
Primary School**  
Ph. 9700 3663  
Principal  
Mr Paul Gleeson

**St John's  
Regional College**  
Ph. 9791 3366  
Principal  
Mr Tim Hogan

**Readings for NEXT WEEK**  
**Second Sunday of LENT Year A, 2026**

**First Reading**

**Genesis 12:1-4a**

A reading from the book of Genesis

The Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." So Abram went, as the Lord had told him  
The word of the Lord

death and brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel.  
The word of the Lord

**Gospel acclamation**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,  
king of endless glory!  
From the bright cloud the Father's voice is heard  
This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to Him  
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,  
king of endless glory!

**Psalms**

The word of the Lord is upright,  
and all his work is done in faithfulness.  
He loves righteousness and justice;  
the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord.

Truly the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him,  
on those who hope in his steadfast love,  
to deliver their soul from death,  
and to keep them alive in famine.

Our soul waits for the Lord;  
he is our help and shield.  
Let your steadfast love, O Lord,  
be upon us, even as we hope in you

**Gospel**

**Matthew 17:1-9**

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!"

When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

This is the Gospel, the Good News of the Lord

**Second Reading**

**2 Timothy 1:8b-10**

A reading from the first Letter of  
Saint Paul to Timothy

Brothers and sisters: Join with me in suffering for the Gospel, relying on the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace.

This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Saviour Christ Jesus, who abolished

**Reflection**

"Like the disciples on the mountain, what 'masks' or worldly anxieties do I need to let go of this Lent so I can truly listen to Jesus and be transformed?"

"Am I willing to leave my comfort zone—like Abraham—to follow where God is calling me this week?"

We are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.

St Paul Apostle safeguarding policies can be found on our website at

<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/endeavourhills> or in hardcopy in the Sacristy





### LENTEN REFLECTION BOOKLET

If you are looking for a reflection booklet during this Lenten season, they are available at our piety stall. Price is \$7 each copy.

### THANKSGIVING ENVELOPE

As many have reminded us that your thanksgiving envelopes are about to run out. The good news is that the **NEW SETS are ready to be picked up from the Gathering space in the Church.**

They are arranged in alphabetical order of the STREET NAME (not your name)

If you encounter any difficulties in finding them, please do not hesitate to approach a member of the parish team.

If you are not in this program yet, but wish to take part, please contact the parish office and we can give you all the necessary information



### STATION OF THE CROSS

During Lent, we have Station of the Cross on FRIDAY EVENINGS at 7pm in the Church. We will be lead by the Passionist Companion group. All are welcome to join us



### 2026 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN

Our program has started with the First Family night for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We thanks all parents who have attended the session. Please note that the registration for both Sacrament of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion are now closed.

The children in the Reconciliation program will now continue their journey with their classes at school (for those attending parish schools) or at After School Religious Education classes at parish office for those attending non parish schools).

Please remember the last Family Night for this program will be on Tuesday 10 March at 7pm

Please also remember that if your child is in grade 6 and wishes to take part in the **2026 Sacrament of Confirmation.** You must hand in the registration form **BY THURSDAY, 1<sup>st</sup> APRIL 2026.** Even though the program will not commence until term three, we need to finalise the numbers by the 1<sup>st</sup> of April.

Also note that your child must have received both the sacrament of Reconciliation and the sacrament of First Communion in order to join the Sacrament of Confirmation program.

**ASRE (After School Religious Education)** is a program which is designed to assist our children who are baptised as Catholic, however attend NON Catholic schools. if you wish to register your child who is baptised Catholic and is at the age for receiving any of the Sacraments, they are required to attend ASRE classes.

### GARDENING—WORKING BEE

You may notice that at this stage the Church garden is a little bit overgrown. We are planning to tidy it up on SATURDAY, 28 FEBRUARY from 8.30-11am. We are asking for your help to cover the whole ground so that we can clean it all up. You don't have to stay for the whole 2.5 Hrs, but every extra hand will make it easier to finish the work faster.

Looking forward to see you then (Please come with your garden tools)



### CATHOLIC DEVELOPMENT FUND (CDF)

Is a financial Institution which assists to fund projects across Catholic organisations, including parishes (one of them being our parish), hospital wings and classrooms, with a CDF Community Fund saving account. Please visit the CDF website at [www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au](http://www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au) to learn more. CDF will visit our parish on SUNDAY, 15th March, 2026 after all Masses, during our regular cuppa time

#### **Readings:**

#### **First Sunday of LENT Year A**

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7

Romans 5:12-19

Matthew 4:1-11

[www.universalis.com](http://www.universalis.com)

#### **Second Sunday of LENT Year A**

Genesis 12:1-4a

2 Timothy 1:8b-10

Matthew 17:1-9

[www.universalis.com](http://www.universalis.com)

#### **This weekend we pray for:**

#### ***Those who are sick***

Maryse Ferdinands, John Kelly, Doug McGuinness, Anne McCallister, Giuseppina Materia, Neville Akom, Terry Gough, Tyronne Waller, Cecile Potier, Fr. Michael Willemsen, Sebastian Nowakowski, Maria Terezia Szabo, Mavis David, James Mendis, Oliver Mendis, Hector de Santos, Teariki Sword, Rui Manuel Campos, Ruby Reid, Danny Sugunasekera, Dorothy Locke, Piper Anne Spriggs, Grace Sprigg, Ronella Tyrell **and All those in aged care or homebound with chronic health issues**

#### ***Those who have died***

Betty Scanlan, Monica Mary Sleeman, Robert Stellato, Mareka (Mareta) Dunlop, Jacinta Martyn, Kamal Markos, Fr. Paul Mercieca CP, Salvino Mifsud, Adrian Dal Lago, Cheryl Anthony, Olivia D'Silva, Jose Pinto, Etalvina Pinto, Hernan Ugarte, Horst Von B, **and all who are named in our church memorial book**

#### ***May they rest in peace***

**St Paul Apostle Parish Endeavour Hills**  
**MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST 2026**

|                              | <b>Saturday—6pm</b>                                   | <b>Sunday 9am</b>                                                                           | <b>Sunday 11am</b>                                                                                  | <b>Sunday 6pm</b>                                        |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday</b> | Riona Alveyn<br>Lionel Alveyn<br>Lien Phan            | Mary Moore<br>Nila Fernando<br>Rosa Mitchell<br>Rohan Wickramasinghe<br>Jennifer Cunningham | Vianney Clark<br>Antionette Gargano<br>Stephen Herbert<br>Binitha Mathew<br>Patricia D'Souza        | Anne Kankanige<br>Peng Chee<br>Vonny Lai                 |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday</b> | Gertrude Akom<br>Mima Arena<br>Carmeline Don Paul     | Sig Romano<br>Anabela Costa<br>Aloma Pereira<br>David Goh<br>Rinku Arora                    | Dominique Maclou<br>Sai Dlinger<br>Naomi Falo<br>Stephen Nasalio<br>Santhanamary                    | Jenny Catania<br>Brendan Keating<br>Lakni Weerasekera    |
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday</b> | Celine Quinless<br>Riona Alveyn<br>Lionel Alveyn      | Mary Moore<br>Nila Fernando<br>Rosa Mitchell<br>Jennifer Cunningham<br>Sig Romano           | Vianney Clark<br>Antionette Gargano<br>Binitha Mathew<br>Patricia De Souza<br>Marie Claire Maillard | Vonny Lai<br>Charlene Nheu<br>Marg Keating               |
| <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b> | Bernie Henstridge<br>Lien Phan<br>Celine Quinless     | Aloma Pereira<br>Michelle Boissezon<br>Rohan Wickramasinghe<br>David Goh<br>Daphne Goh      | Naomi Falo<br>Dominique Maclou<br>Lauren Rafferty<br>Stephen Herbert<br>Santhanamary                | Brendan Keating<br>Swineetha Disanayake<br>Jenny Catania |
| <b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b> | Bernie Henstridge<br>Carmeline Don Paul<br>Mima Arena | Sig Romano<br>Anabela Costa<br>Nila Fernando<br>Rinku Arora<br>Daphne Goh                   | Binitha Mathew<br>Stephen Herbert<br>Vianney Clark<br>Patricia De Souza<br>Marie Claire Maillard    | Marg Keating<br>Peng Chee<br>Jenny Catania               |

**St Paul Apostle Parish Endeavour Hills**  
**MINISTERS OF WORD/ COMMENTATORS 2026**

|                              | <b>Saturday—6pm</b>          | <b>Sunday 9am</b>                    | <b>Sunday 11am</b>            | <b>Sunday 6pm</b>                  |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday</b> | Mary Pegram<br>Liz Spear     | Virendra Jayetileke<br>Janina Gorski | Anne Astin<br>Rinku Arora     | Stephen Nasalio<br>William Roncon  |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday</b> | Marg Daly<br>Liseby Lapierre | Grace Sudjono<br>Rosa Mitchell       | Mars Sota<br>Beth Sota        | Charlene Nheu<br>Mignonne Meerwald |
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday</b> | Liz Flood<br>Trevor Saldanha | Agnes Giam<br>William Round          | Alvita Dias<br>Rinku Arora    | Jeremy Ferrao<br>Reg Young         |
| <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b> | Mark Rolfe<br>Karen Rolfe    | Mary Moore<br>Jodicee Tenisio        | Mary Heaton<br>Anne Astin     | Marg Keating<br>William Roncon     |
| <b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b> | Marg Daly<br>Trevor Saldanha | Grace Sudjono<br>Jodicee Tenisio     | Mary Heaton<br>Jennifer Tanti | Lakni Weerasekera<br>Charlene Nheu |

Please note that the above rosters are subject to the completion  
of the required SAFEGUARDING documents and training

