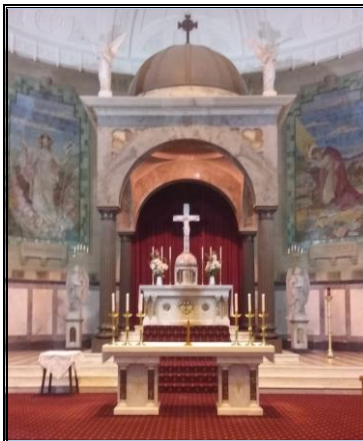




PARISH OF ASCOT VALE

ST MARY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

ST MARY'S CHURCH, 123 ST LEONARDS ROAD, ASCOT VALE
ST MARGARET'S CHURCH, BARB STREET, MARIBYRNONG

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Desmond J Moloney
Assistant Priest / Lithuanian Chaplain: Rev Fr Joseph Deveikis
Presbytery / Parish Office: 123 St Leonards Rd, Ascot Vale (Postal: PO Box 468 Ascot Vale 3032)
Telephone: 9370 6688
Website: www.melbcatholic.org/ascotvale
Email: ascotvale@cam.org.au
Office Hours: Tue – Thu 9.30am – 3.00pm *Secretary: Carmen D’Rosario*
Principal, St Mary’s School: Mr Denis Johnstone T: 9370 1194
Principal, St Margaret’s School: Mr John Rudd T: 9318 1339

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil:

6.00pm St Mary’s

Sunday:

8.30am St Margaret’s

10.30am St Mary’s

6.00pm St Mary’s (Spanish)

Weekday Mass Times

Mon 10.00am St Mary’s

Tue 9.00am St Mary’s

Wed 9.00am St Mary’s

7.00pm St Mary’s

Thu 9.00am St Mary’s

Fri 9.15am St Mary’s

Sat 9.30am St Mary’s

Reconciliation

(Confession)

Saturday

10.00–10.30am St Mary’s

5.30–5.45pm St Mary’s

Eucharistic Adoration

Tue 9.30–10.30am St Mary’s

Sat 10.00–11.00am St Mary’s

Baptisms at St Mary’s

Baptisms are celebrated on the
2nd & 4th Sundays of each
month at 12:00 noon.

Baptism Information Sessions
are held in St Mary’s Church
at 7:30 pm on the first Thursday
of each month. Parents desiring
the baptism of their child must
attend one of these sessions.

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time – 3 August 2025

Sacraments of Initiation – Sunday 3rd August

Today, Samuel Doan is Baptised, Confirmed and celebrates his First Holy Communion within the 10.30am Mass. We join together in witness, prayer and support for Samuel as he becomes a member with us in the holy Catholic Church.

Requirements of Parishes (Archdiocese of Melbourne)

Working with Children Check (WWCC): a valid WWCC is a requirement for all parish volunteers in St. Mary’s Parish, ensuring it is noted that St. Mary’s is referenced as, at least, one place where you undertake voluntary work.

This means all ...

Readers

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

Ministers of Communion to the Sick

Musicians and Choir Members

and all other volunteers

need to have a WWCC---if you are unsure, please contact the Parish Office.

service.vic.gov.au/services/working-with-children

Registered teachers are exempt from requiring a WWCC but are required to notify WWCC if they engage in child-related work other than their teaching. Notify WWCC of your child-related work at the Parish by going online as above. If your WWCC type is as “Employee”, please go online and link St. Mary’s Ascot Vale as “Volunteer”.

Child Safeguarding Training: this Training is another requirement to be renewed every three years. All volunteers need to undertake Safeguarding Training. You may undertake this training online – click the button below. The Parish will also be running some in-person sessions in the near future--- please keep an eye on our Sunday Bulletin for details.

<https://safeguarding.melbournecatholic.org/s/login/?ec=302&startURL=%2Fs%2F>

The ***Code of Conduct Declaration:*** the signing of this Declaration is also a requirement to be renewed every three years. Thanks to all those who have already signed the Code of Conduct Declaration. Please note the date when it was signed. The upcoming in-person training sessions may be a needed opportunity to renew this commitment.

Fr Desmond J Moloney

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – 9/10 Aug 2025

Parish Counters: V Colicchia; J Dawson

Ministers of the Word			Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	
Time	St Mary's	St Margaret's	St Mary's	St Margaret's
6.00 pm	R Boyer		P Stanley	
8.30 am		Family Mass		J Gilmartin
10.30 am	R Wiatrowski		R Rotunno	

Hymns:

Entrance: CWBII 594

Offertory: CWBII 593

Communion: CWBII 595

Reflection: CWBII 597

Recessional: CWBII 647

Recently Deceased:

Maria Tuyet Nhu; Terry McDermott; Craig Reed

Anniversaries:

Maria Huong Vu; Maria Quynh Nhu; Paul Van Dinh Phu; Maria Nguyen Thi Huong Lan; Antonio Scolaro; Patrick & Jacqueline Ryan; Charles Zammit; Catherine McNally

Feast Days:

4 Aug: St John Vianney

6 Aug: The Transfiguration of the Lord

8 Aug: St Mary of the Cross

Readings Next Week: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

Wis 18:6-9; Heb 11:1-2, 8-19; Lk 12:32-48

Please Note while Fr. Joseph is away

There will be **no 10.00am Mass** on Monday 4th August 2025.

National Vocations Awareness Week

Vocations come from families, communities and parishes. Strong families and communities are the place where vocations are first nurtured. In this National Vocations Awareness Week, let us pray for all families in our parish, and for those preparing for marriage. Let us also pray that our parish community may always be welcoming and encouraging of vocations to marriage, priesthood and consecrated life.

Friday 15th August – Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Holy Day of Obligation

Friday 9:15am, St Mary's (School Mass – all welcome)

Friday 12:15pm, St Margaret's (School Mass – all welcome)

Friday 7:00pm, St Mary's (with Chorus Ecclesiae)

The Archbishop's Campaign – August 2025

Last year in August 2024, the Archbishop's Campaign was launched in Parishes. The response from our faithful was overwhelmingly positive. We significantly boosted the collection values for our key beneficiaries. The campaign invites recurring donations which are instrumental in establishing long-term support for the works of the Church in Melbourne. This year, the Archbishop again invites you to help with the Archbishop's Campaign. The generosity of our parishes will fund vital ministries and key projects of the Church in Melbourne.

Legion of Mary

For member enquiries and home visitations please contact: 0435 095 998.

St Vincent de Paul Helpline: 1800 305 330, Monday – Friday, 10am – 3pm.

Reflection for Vocation Awareness Week

Our late Pope Francis has now passed into his heavenly home, and he showed himself a good and faithful servant until the very end. He has left us with many treasures, including his words and examples of faith, hope and love. Pope Francis set us off on this Jubilee Year of Hope, which inspires us to be pilgrims together, trusting and living out God's promises in the line of Abraham, Sarah and all our ancestors in faith.

Before he died, Pope Francis wrote his last message for the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, choosing the theme 'Pilgrims of Hope: the Gift of Life'. He invites us to return the love with which God loved us first, by making our lives a gift of love and service. Although young people may "feel dismayed as they look to the future", they are not abandoned by the Holy Spirit or by the Church.

Many people have "experienced their vocation as a path towards true happiness through friendship with the risen Lord". We are all called to listen with our hearts and to accompany others through their vocational journeys. This witness is a "true joy" and, as missionary disciples, we are salt, light and leaven in the world.

So what riches are we storing up on earth? What inheritance are we leaving behind us? What will our loved ones share rather than contest? In this pilgrimage Year of Hope, may we store up a legacy worth more than all the gold in the world. May our lives, like Pope Francis, pass on the faith, hope and love of Jesus Christ.

An Excerpt from a Message of His Holiness Pope Leo XIV

Pope Leo says many young people are "longing for authentic relationships and guides in life," and that the soaring numbers "who choose cohabitation instead of Christian marriage in reality need someone to show them [a better option] in a concrete and clear way."

Perhaps many young people today who choose cohabitation instead of Christian marriage in reality need someone to show them in a concrete and clear way, especially by the example of their lives, what the gift of sacramental grace is and what strength derives from it. Someone to help them understand "the beauty and grandeur of the vocation to love and the service of life" that God gives to married couples (SAINT JOHN PAUL II, *Familiaris Consortio*, 1).

Similarly, many parents, in raising their children in the faith, feel the need for communities that can support them in creating the right conditions for their children to encounter Jesus, "places where the communion of love, which finds its ultimate source in God, takes place" (FRANCIS, *General Audience*, 9 September 2015).

Faith is primarily a response to God's love, and the greatest mistake we can make as Christians is, in the words of Saint Augustine, "to claim that Christ's grace consists in his example and not in the gift of his person" (*Contra Iulianum opus imperfectum*, II, 146). How often, even in the not too distant past, have we forgotten this truth and presented Christian life mostly as a set of rules to be kept, replacing the marvelous experience of encountering Jesus – God who gives himself to us – with a moralistic, burdensome and unappealing religion that, in some ways, is impossible to live in concrete daily life.

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

FIRST READING

Eccl 1:2, 2:21-23

Vanity of vanities, the Preacher says. Vanity of vanities. All is vanity!

For so it is that a man who has laboured wisely, skilfully and successfully must leave what is his own to someone who has not toiled for it at all. This, too, is vanity and great injustice; for what does he gain for all the toil and strain that he has undergone under the sun? What of all his laborious days, his cares of office, his restless nights? This, too, is vanity.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 89

R. In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

You turn men back into dust
and say: 'Go back, sons of men.'
To your eyes a thousand years
are like yesterday, come and gone,
no more than a watch in the night. (R.)

You sweep men away like a dream,
like grass which springs up in the morning.
In the morning it springs up and flowers:
by evening it withers and fades. (R.)

Make us know the shortness of our life
that we may gain wisdom of heart.
Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever?
Show pity to your servants. (R.)

In the morning, fill us with your love;
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.
Let the favour of the Lord be upon us:
give success to the work of our hands. (R.)

SECOND READING

Col 3:1-5, 9-11

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

That is why you must kill everything in you that belongs only to earthly life: fornication, impurity, guilty passion, evil desires and especially greed, which is the same thing as worshipping a

false god; and never tell each other lies. You have stripped off your old behaviour with your old self, and you have put on a new self which will progress towards true knowledge the more it is renewed in the image of its creator; and in that image there is no room for distinction between Greek and Jew, between the circumcised or the uncircumcised, or between barbarian and Scythian, slave and free man. There is only Christ: he is everything and he is in everything.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs! Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lk 12:13-21

A man in the crowd said to Jesus, 'Master, tell my brother to give me a share of our inheritance.' 'My friend,' he replied, 'who appointed me your judge, or the arbitrator of your claims?' Then he said to them, 'Watch, and be on your guard against avarice of any kind, for a man's life is not made secure by what he owns, even when he has more than he needs.'

Then he told them a parable: 'There was once a rich man who, having had a good harvest from his land, thought to himself, "What am I to do? I have not enough room to store my crops." Then he said, "This is what I will do: I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and store all my grain and my goods in them, and I will say to my soul: My soul, you have plenty of good things laid by for many years to come; take things easy, eat, drink, have a good time." But God said to him, "Fool! This very night the demand will be made for your soul; and this hoard of yours, whose will it be then?" So it is when a man stores up treasure for himself in place of making himself rich in the sight of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

