

MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH CATHOLIC PARISH

MARY IMMACULATE CHURCH

2-6 Waverley Ave, Ivanhoe



ST BERNADETTE'S CHURCH

89 Bond St, Ivanhoe

PARISH OFFICE & MOTHER OF GOD CHAPEL

2-6 Waverley Ave, Ivanhoe

Entry is on Upper Heidelberg Rd

Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9am to 3pm

Phone: 9926 2310

Mail: PO Box 319, Ivanhoe 3079

Email: Ivanhoe@cam.org.au

Website: www.melbcatholic.org/ivanhoe

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Fr Thanh Tran Thanh.Tran@cam.org.au

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Rosa Botoulas 9926 2310 Ivanhoe@cam.org.au

PARISH CO-ORDINATOR

Eugene Ballao 0407 869 582

Eugene.Ballao@cam.org.au

PARISH CATECHIST

Ivanhoe@cam.org.au

CATHOLIC CARE COUNSELLOR

Mary Brown mary.brown@catholiccarevic.org.au

KOREAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Fr. Joseph Youn 9440 9515 ksj.youn@cam.org.au

BOOKINGS Visit, phone or email the Parish Office for use of our parish facilities, sacramental enrolments or appointments for Marriage etc.

MARY IMMACULATE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal: Geraldine Crowe 9497 1827

9 Rockbeare Grove, Ivanhoe 3079

ST BERNADETTE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal: Vivienne Armarego 9499 3914

53 Stanley St, Ivanhoe 3079

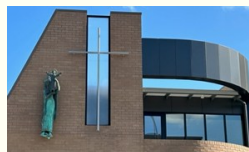
PARISH VISION STATEMENT

Inspired by Mary, Our Mother, we strive to be a Christ-centered community, welcoming, growing in faith, and engaging with purpose.

We respect the Wurundjeri people, traditional custodians of the land upon which our parish resides, and commit ourselves to reconciliation and justice for all in our community and nation.



We are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults. If you wish to report any safeguarding issue contact the Chair of our Safeguarding Committee, Lucy Dal Pozzo, via the Parish Office.



SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Saturday 5.30pm Mary Immaculate

Sunday 8.30am St. Bernadette's

10.00am Mary Immaculate

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

At Mary Immaculate weekday Masses are in the Chapel (except when there is a school Mass and on some feast days). Please enter the chapel via the Parish Office on Upper Heidelberg Rd.

Tuesday 9.15am Mary Immaculate

Wednesday 9.15am Mary Immaculate

Thursday 9.15am Mary Immaculate

Friday 9.15am St. Bernadette's

Saturday 9.15am Mary Immaculate

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Every Saturday at Mary Immaculate

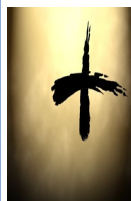
9.45am in the MOG Chapel (after 9.15am Mass)

EXPOSITION & BENEDICTION

1st Friday each month Following 9.15am Mass at St. Bernadette's



ASH WEDNESDAY - 18 FEBRUARY



9.15am Mass at Mary Immaculate Church with school students

12noon Mass at St. Bernadette's Church with school students

7.00pm Mass at Mary Immaculate Church

OUR LENTEN PROGRAM

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



- EACH FRIDAY IN LENT

9.45am St. Bernadette's after 9.15am Mass

7.00pm Alternates between

Mary Immaculate Church - February 20, March 6, 20

St. George's Anglican Church - February 27, March 13, 27

LENTEN DISCUSSION GROUPS



LENTEN Share together and discuss the Sunday Lenten Readings. There will be evening and morning groups.

Both groups will meet in the Meeting Room.

Tuesdays at 7.30pm starting 17 February

Thursdays after the 9.15am Mass starting 20 February

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Each Saturday following the 9.15am Mass at

Mary Immaculate (MOG Chapel)

Reconciliation of 2nd Rite (Date to be confirmed)

at Mary Immaculate Church

Holy Thursday 2nd April following the 7.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper at MI Church

PARISH WEEKLY CALENDAR

Saturday 14 February (Saints Cyril & Methodius)

9.00am Morning Prayer 'Lauds' (MOG Chapel)
 9.15am Mass at Mary Immaculate (MOG Chapel)
 5.30pm Vigil Mass at Mary Immaculate Church

Sunday 15 February (Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time)

8.30am Mass at St. Bernadette's Church
 10am Mass at Mary Immaculate Church

Monday 16 February (Feria - Lunar New Year's Eve)

1.30pm U3A Class (Gathering Space)
 7.00pm Vietnamese Mass at Mary Immaculate Church followed by supper

Tuesday 17 February (Feria)

9.15am Communion Service at MI (MOG Chapel)
 4.15pm Mediation Group (Meeting Room)
 7.30pm Lenten Discussion Group (Mtg Room)

ASH WEDNESDAY 18 February

9.15am Mass at MI Church with school students
 12noon Mass at St Bernadette's Church with students
 7.00pm Mass at Mary Immaculate Church

Thursday 19 February (Lenten Feria)

9.15am Mass at Mary Immaculate (MOG Chapel)
 9.45am Lenten Discussion Group (Meeting Room)
 6.00pm Zumba Fitness Class (Gathering Space)

Friday 20 February (Lenten Feria)

9.15am Mass at St Bernadette Church followed by Stations of the Cross
 1.30pm U3A Class (Gathering Space)
 7.00pm Stations of the Cross at MI Church

Saturday 21 February (Lenten Feria)

9.00am Morning Prayer 'Lauds' (MOG Chapel)
 9.15am Mass at Mary Immaculate (MOG Chapel)
 5.30pm Vigil Mass at Mary Immaculate Church followed by shared dinner & fellowship

Sunday 22 February (First Sunday of Lent)

8.30am Mass at St. Bernadette's Church
 10am Mass at Mary Immaculate Church

LOOKING FORWARD

Wednesday 25 February

7.30pm Finance Committee Meeting (Mtg Room)

Friday 6 March

2.00pm World Day of Prayer at St James' Anglican Church



Join us for Tea & Coffee
 after the 10am Sunday Mass
 & the 9.15am Masses on
 Tuesdays & Saturdays

MASS ROSTERS	THIS WEEKEND 14/15 February	NEXT WEEKEND 21/22 February
5.30pm Mary Immaculate Sacristan Welcomer 1 Welcomer 2 Reader Lector Special Minister 1 Multimedia	E. Ballao A. Rizzo M. Harty T. Barker L. Kempen T. Gleeson E. Vandenhoven	C. Bryce T. Bui M. Gratton M. Harty S. Bui-Rahme A. Rizzo G. Shamieh
8.30am St. Bernadette's Welcomer Reader / Lector Special Minister	D. Landsberg D. Landsberg T. Nibali	J. Gray J. Gray D. Landsberg
10.00am Mary Immaculate Hospitality Sacristan Welcomer 1 Welcomer 2 Reader Lector Special Minister 1 Special Minister 2 Special Minister 3 Multimedia Children's Liturgy Leader Children's Liturgy Assistant Counters	Team 4 P. Verrocchi B. Connor L Dal Pozzo N. Merlin G. Williams D. Jones A. Rizzo G. Crawford K. Ziino S. Meehan N. Kajkic Group One	Team 5 B. Janus S. McInerney L. Michael P. Boutsakis T. Barker T. De Luise P. Boutsakis T. Gleeson N. Merlin R. Sylvester Naomi V Group Two

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

SICK: Kerry Freney, Julia Foster, Paul Flanagan, Christine Lane, Shaun Armstrong, Catherine Williams, Tony De Cruz, Albert Leung, Valerie Glenn, Janet Jelleff, Anica Dragovic, Christine Exton, Branka, Fr Reece Beltrame

*Names on sick list remain for 9 weeks (a Novena)
 unless otherwise advised via email.*

RECENTLY DECEASED: Pietro Iannelli

RIP ANNIVERSARIES: Antonio Iannelli, Mario Renzella, Berardino Renzella, Maria Gugliotti, Gabriel Antolos, Stefan Dabrowski, Merle Howe, Noel Purcell, Suzanne Wall, Frank Jowett, Angela Nervo, David Lund, Miriam Starkey, Mary Ellen McNamara, Mario De Luise, Riva Street, Anne Margaret Talbot, Remo Bui, Stan Hilder, Joan Pidutti

NAMES OF THE SICK & THE DEAD for inclusion in newsletter must be sent to the parish office by Thursday 10am.

JAGAJAGA 2026 COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER AWARDS A parishioner has nominated our **Parish Earthcare Group** and **Parish Co-Ordinator** for the Jagajaga Community Volunteer Awards. Awards are given to dedicated and commitment to creating a positive impact that has not gone unnoticed. To be held on Saturday 28th March 2026 @ 10am to 2pm at Viewbank College Performing Arts Centre 1 Warren Road Viewbank.

LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH THANKSGIVING COLLECTION \$2,198

PRESBYTERY COLLECTION \$1,280

WAYS TO SUPPORT YOUR PARISH

i. WEEKLY OFFERING ENVELOPES (contact Parish Office)

ii. EFTPOS FACILITY with your Credit/Debit Card Just Tap and Go!

Terminal located at the entrance to the Church in the Narthex

iii. WEBSITE: DONATE with your Credit/Debit Card

iv. USE THIS QR CODE



2026 Lenten Pastoral Letter

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

This Wednesday we cross the threshold into the sacred season of Lent - forty days given to us for renewal, reconciliation, and grace. The words of Saint Paul resound again: "Be reconciled to God" (2 Cor 5:20). Lent calls us to the heart of discipleship - to allow our lives to be re-centred in Jesus Christ, who draws all things to the Father.

Our parish also stands at a moment of hope and new beginning. Over recent months, our Pastoral Council has prayerfully discerned a renewed vision statement to guide our journey forward: *"Inspired by Mary, our Mother, we strive to be a Christ-centred community — welcoming, growing in faith, and engaging with purpose."*

These words express both who we are and who we long to become. Mary, the first disciple, shows us that spiritual renewal begins in the humility of her "yes." Her faith anchors our hope that Christ is continually being formed in us and among us.

To give life to this vision, we have named four mission goals that shape our path as disciples of Christ:

- Christ at the centre: Let us rediscover Jesus — not as an idea, but as the living presence of God who meets us in Word, Sacraments, the Church, and others.
- Growth in faith: Let us nurture the Spirit's work through prayer, the Eucharist, and acts of service. Perhaps this Lent you might join one of our parish's ministry groups, attend weekday Mass, or make space each day for God in prayer.
- A welcoming heart: Let us recognise Christ in every person, especially the stranger, the weary, and those on the margins of our society.
- Mission and stewardship: Let our faith bear fruit in mercy, care for creation, and generosity — that others may encounter the compassion of God through our witness.

Lent invites us to build our lives again upon what endures: communion with God in Christ and communion with one another. Though our parish community has known seasons of change, the Spirit continues to breathe new life among us. Let us trust that God is shaping us into a people who live the joy of the Gospel with conviction and grace.

As we journey through these forty days, may prayer deepen our longing for God, fasting open our hearts to freedom, and almsgiving extend the breadth of our love. May Christ renew not only our hearts but the very life of our parish, so that together we may witness to the hope of Easter — the triumph of life over death, love over hatred, and unity over division.

With every blessing for a grace filled Lent,

In Christ, Fr Thanh

Lent: Fasting for the Sake of the Earth and Our Neighbours

Lent invites us to slow down and return to what really matters. It is a season of reflection, generosity, and renewal. Food is a powerful place to begin. A "**carbon fast**" might mean eating less meat, reducing food waste, or choosing seasonal produce. Others are trying a **plant-based diet**, even for a few meals a week, as a way of caring for the earth and our own wellbeing.

Lenten fasting is not only about giving things up, but about making space—for God, for gratitude, and for compassion.

Reflection

What food choices help me feel more connected to God, creation, and others?

Where might I be invited this Lent to consume less and care more?



Prayer

*Loving God,
In this season of Lent,
teach us to walk gently on the earth.
As we fast and reflect, open our eyes
to the gifts we often take for granted,
and to the needs of our neighbours near and far.
May our daily choices reflect your justice,
generosity, and hope, and may our lives bear
witness to your love for all creation.*



PROJECT COMPASSION

Project Compassion Sunday
14–15 of February 2026



This Lent, we are called to *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion.

Your generosity this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need.



World Day of Prayer 2026 - Nigeria *"I will give you rest: Come"*

Friday 6 March at 2.00pm

followed by afternoon tea

Venue: St James' Anglican Church,
252 Upper Heidelberg Road, Ivanhoe

PARISH GROUPS

ANointing MASS & SHARED LUNCHEON Wednesday 4th March 12noon Mary Immaculate Church

CHILDREN'S LITURGY Every Sunday (*except during school holidays*) in conjunction with 10am Mass at MI Church

GOSPEL DISCUSSION GROUP & COFFEE Every Tuesday 7.30pm and Thursday after the 9.15am Mass
in the Parish Centre Meeting Room

LIVING WELL WITH LOSS - Bereavement Ministry Once a month at 5pm Friday, next 27th February in GS

MEDITATION GROUP Every Tuesday at 4.15pm in Parish Centre Meeting Room

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP GROUP Once a month at 7.00pm Friday, next 6th March in Gathering Space.

PARISH EARTHCARE GROUP Once a month at 2pm Thursday, next 19th March in the Parish Centre Mtg Room

TODAY'S READINGS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

(When there is no Entrance Hymn)

Be my protector, O God,
a mighty stronghold to save me.
For you are my rock, my stronghold!
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of
your name.

1ST READING

Sirach 15:15-20

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

If you wish, you can keep the commandments,
to behave faithfully is within your power.
He has set fire and water before you;
put out your hand to whichever you prefer.
Man has life and death before him;
whichever a man likes better will be given him.
For vast is the wisdom of the Lord;
he is almighty and all-seeing.
His eyes are on those who fear him,
he notes every action of man.
He never commanded anyone to be godless,
he has given no one permission to sin.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R/ Happy are they who follow
the law of the Lord!**

They are happy whose life is blameless, who follow God's law!
They are happy those who do his will,
seeking him with all their hearts. **R/**

You have laid down your precepts to be obeyed with care. May my footsteps be firm to obey your statutes. **R/**

Bless your servant and I shall live and obey your word. Open my eyes that I may consider the wonders of your law. **R/**

Teach me the demands of your statutes and I will keep them to the end. Train me to observe your law, to keep it with my heart. **R/**

2ND READING 1 Corinthians 2:6-10

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him.

These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.
Alleluia!



THE GOSPEL

Matthew 5:20-22. 27-28. 33-34. 37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

✠ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to his disciples: I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that

of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

(When there is no Communion Hymn)

They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

PRAYER FOR OUR PARISH

Father, pour out your Spirit upon the people of this parish, so that inspired by your word, nourished at your altar, and graced by your empowering love, our lives may be devoted to the service of our brothers and sisters, and the building up of your Kingdom. May our parish community, under the Patronage of Mary, Mother of the Church, truly be for this place and time the body of Christ your Son, through whom we make this prayer. Amen.

*Mary, Mother of the Church:
Pray for us*

Our readings are from the Jerusalem Bible © 1966 Darton, Longman & Todd Ltd. & Doubleday & Com. Inc. Used by permission.

Next Week: First Sunday of lent

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

2nd Reading: Romans 5:12-19

Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11