



St Mary of the Cross Catholic Parish

Mordialloc and Aspendale | Bunurong Country

EMBODYING CHRIST'S LOVE TO LOVE GOD, LOVE OTHERS, MAKE DISCIPLES

Christmas Day - 25 December 2023

Christmas Day readings for Mass are from Year B: Isaiah 52:7-10, Hebrews 1:1-6, John 1:1-18

PARISH CHURCHES

St Brigid's,
520 Main St, Mordialloc
St Louis de Montfort's,
37 Dolphin St, Aspendale

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Andrew Jekot

ASSISTANT PRIEST

Fr Ignatius Tan

PARISH COORDINATOR

Ann Fitzgerald

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Fr Andrew, Fr Ignatius, Trish Angliss,
Berna Wake

BAPTISM COORDINATOR

Deb Poynton - 0403 471 931

PARISH HOUSE

03 9412 8432

PARISH OFFICE

03 9580 7981

Hours: Tue, Wed & Fri 9am - 4pm

PARISH SCHOOLS

St Brigid's, 9580 4518,

sbmord.catholic.edu.au

St Louis de Montfort's, 9580 5169,

stlouisaspendale.catholic.edu.au

EMAIL

mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au

WEBSITE

m.stmaryofthecross.com

LIVE-STREAMED MASS

m.stmaryofthecross.com/mass

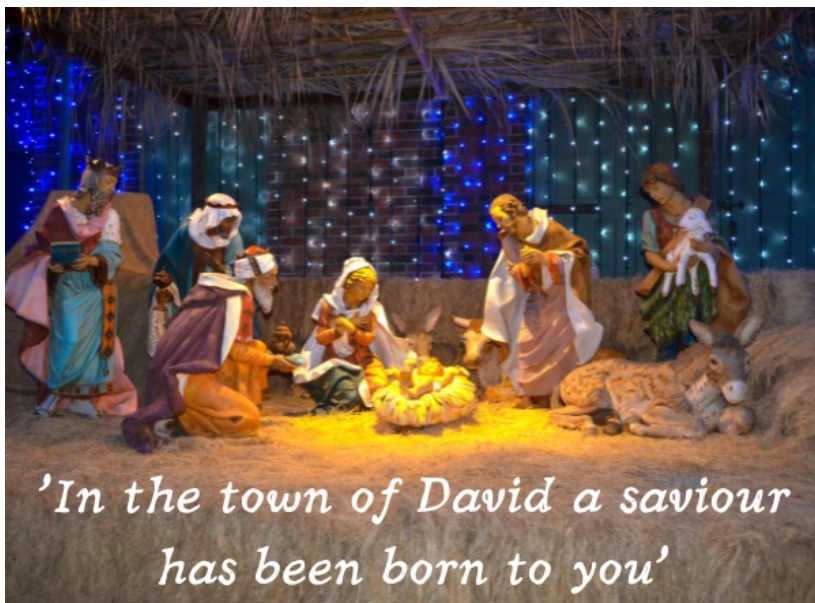
ONLINE BULLETIN

m.stmaryofthecross.com/news

Simply scan the QR code
with your mobile phone
and in a few easy steps
you can subscribe to
our parish bulletin.



GOSPEL REFLECTION



*'In the town of David a saviour
has been born to you'*

What does Christmas Day mean to me, our family and community? The four weeks of Advent period is preparing us to receive Jesus' coming. It is not just a celebration of a historical event of Christ that came more than two thousand years ago. It was a fulfilment of God's promise of a sign through prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 7: 14), who speaks of 'The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.' which means "God is with us." Joseph and Mary must travel all the way from Galilee to Bethlehem, because of the decree for a census given by Roman emperor, Caesar Augustus. Mary was pregnant with child, and it was time that she gave birth to a baby boy in Bethlehem, the city of king David.

In the dark night, God appears among us, our saviour Jesus Christ was born in a simple and humble manger. The wood that holds our God, who comes to be one of us, who learns everything from his parents and learns to be obedient to God to begin his mission for the sake of our salvation.

The birth of our saviour in a humble wooden manger, has brought him into a humble life as a carpenter. Jesus' life has been associated with wood. A wooden manger that received his birth; and he offered himself on a tree, by shedding his blood for all humanity.

Let us make room for Jesus in our hearts? Jesus asks us to love God and love our neighbours. Do we make room for others whom we can see and reach? Let us be more inclusive, like Jesus welcomes sinners. We welcome all who want to know Jesus. Let us be the hands, the legs, and the body of Jesus. Let others see Jesus in us. Let others experience the goodness of Jesus on us. Let us bring Jesus to people around us, especially those who have not known him.

By Fr Ignatius Tan

PARISH NEWS AND OTHER EVENTS

BLESSINGS MAGAZINE

The December edition of our Blessings magazine is now available in our church foyers and online at our parish website. Catch up on all the wonderful things that have been happening in our vibrant parish.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

There will be a **special collection at all our Christmas Masses** to support the work of our local St Vincent de Paul Conferences.

Anyone needing assistance in this difficult time can call:

1800 305 330

VINNIES CHRISTMAS HAMPERS



Message of thanks from Graham Harrison on behalf of St Vincent de Paul Conference, Mordialloc:

"The hampers were prepared from the very kind donations of our parishioners (who are always so generous) and the amazing contributions from Kilbreda and St Bedes Colleges and St Brigid's Primary. The support from these schools is truly amazing."

We distributed 42 Hampers of quality toys, games and groceries to families that included 31 children. (We also had a boys and girls bicycle). As well, some adults who are on their own and some unwell, who may not have received any other thoughts at Christmas time." Thanks also to the generosity of those who contributed items for the Vinnies Aspendale Conference for the distribution of hampers.

CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S GAZA CRISIS APPEAL



Caritas
AUSTRALIA

The sudden escalation of hostilities in Israel and Gaza since 7 October has seen unimaginable impacts, with the devastating human toll of over 20,000 deaths across Israel and Palestine. Over 19,600 Palestinians have been killed so far, more than 70% were children and women. Around 1.9 million people, almost 85% of the population, have been displaced in Gaza with immediate food, shelter, health, and psychosocial needs. Provide vital emergency support to the people of Gaza.. Your support is needed now. Please donate to Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal. You can donate online www.caritas.org.au/gaza or phone 1800 024 413.

PRAYER FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Lord Jesus Christ, the Holy Land is once again struck by violence, hatred, and death.

Lord, look with mercy upon the land that was your earthly home.

Receive the deceased into your presence. Comfort those who mourn, are wounded or forced to flee. Be close to all who are full of fear and despair.

You are our peace and light of the nations, put an end to the spiral of terror and suffering in the Holy Land and in the whole Middle East. Let peace and justice flourish at the holy sites. You are our refuge. Let the people be safe in your love. Have mercy on us and on our time. Amen

Please pick up a prayer card for peace in the middle east from the church foyers.



PARISH NEWS AND OTHER EVENTS

ADVENT APPEAL FOR UKRAINE

Thank you to those who have contributed to Archbishop Comensoli's Advent Appeal for Ukraine. Your generous support will benefit Mudra Sprava (Wise Action), a Patriarchal Charitable Foundation In Ukraine. The organisation has three focus areas: Evacuation of people from frontline territories; Food Packages for people in need; and Shelters for internally displaced persons. It is not too late to return your donation envelopes this week. Please place them in the collection baskets. Find out more at: www.catholic.au



ARCHBISHOP COMENSOLI'S 2023 CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

In his Christmas message for 2023, Archbishop Peter A Comensoli reflects on the beautiful words of the prophet Isaiah, who speaks of 'the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation'. [Archbishop's Christmas Message.](#)

MASS TIMES WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS

- ❖ Tue 26th Dec Mass is cancelled,
- ❖ Wed 27th Dec 10am Mass at St. Brigid's,
- ❖ Thu 28th Dec 9.15am Mass at St. Louis',
- ❖ Fri 29th Dec 11.30am Mass at St. Brigid's,
- ❖ Mon 1st Jan 2024 10am Mass at St. Brigid's,
- ❖ Tue 2nd Jan normal weekday Mass timetable resumes with 9.15am Mass at St Louis'



Please note the Parish Office will be closed over Christmas and reopen 30 January 2024. Urgent calls will still be attended to. Thank you for understanding!



*May the peace & blessings of Christmas be yours;
And may the coming year be filled with hope & happiness.
Happy Christmas*



FORMED

THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.

Christmas | Sacred Art

Join Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp as they look at the painting Adoration of the Shepherds by Gerard van Honthorst to celebrate the Nativity of our Lord. This famous painting reveals the Christ Child as the light that has come into the world and also depicts the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph, and the shepherds to be models of adoration to our humble Lord who came as a helpless baby.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Visit formed.org/signup and select our parish. Scan the QR code to download the FORMED app to your phone.



Jesus
Gift of love & hope for our world



**If you know of anyone who needs prayers
or a pastoral visit
please contact the Parish Office.**



RECENTLY DECEASED

Beverley Plant (Tim's wife), Pauline Swartz (Joe Parker's cousin), Graeme Donnellan (Chelsea), Sr. Joan Toole RSJ

ANNIVERSARIES

Guiseppe Taranto, Jim Kerlin, Des Lourey, John Ilott, Sr Mary Vera A.C., Aloysius Mendonça, Walter M Wesols, Sam Cassano, Joan Juliff, Pietro Gazzo, Theresa Morrison, Mario Nasello, Lance Riordan, Robert Martin, Muriel Cramer, Simone Ellul, Marino Nasello, Michael Melbourne, Max Stooke, Max Stooke, Luileen McGrath, Denis Raihely, Nancye Raihely, Peter Raihely, Kerry O'Keefe, Robert Lasrado, Angela Vuat, Elvina Braganza, Gaetano La Pira, Jean Barber, Llorenç Rovira-Durán, Colin Harding, Gus Roomer, Veronica Arthur, Thelma Bromley, Pasqualino Costanzo, Max D'Astoli, Jack Plant, Veronique Lynch, Olwen Griffith, Sebastiano Barbarino, Charles Connell, Vincenzo Colantone, Mario Costanzo, Dorothy de Monte, Marietta Tan Guek Eng, Alberta (Betty) Ryan, David Birch, Daniel Crowe, Audrey D'Cruz, George Kendrick, Mary O'Brien, Phyllis Dynes, Pietro Boccari, Matteo Buensalida, Giusepina Solito, Stefano Solito, Marie Woodhouse, Harry Lavery, Bill Sparey, Millie Register

HEALING PRAYERS ASKED FOR

Fernanda Barbarino, Peter Hopkins, Naldi Junaldi, Kath Kidd, Thomas Jacobs, Serge Nayna, Olive Rankin, Pam Ulbricks, Sally McGloin, Eugene Roberts, Peter Waltho, Rita Popley, Judy Callmac, Sophia Bicos, Ian Hughes, Gerard Augustine, Sr Anita Le Clercq, Christine Wagstaff, John Nicholson, Brenda Cortese, Philip Maynes, Graham Owen, Sam Finocchiario, Michael Bell, Julie Griffith, Serena Zienau, Josephine Wood, Nellie Julian, Michelle Ives, Minnie Joseph, Darren Rankin, Danielle Spencer, Paul Morillion, Fili Schumacker, Valerie O'Hara, Pam Lane

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday: 6pm Mass (St Louis')

Sunday: 8am Mass (St Brigid's)

Sunday: 9.30am Mass (St Louis')

Sunday: 11am Mass (St Brigid's)

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday: 9.15am Communion
Service (St Louis')

Tuesday: 9.15am Mass (St Louis')

Wednesday: 10am Mass (St Brigid's)

Thursday: 9.15am Mass (St Louis')

Friday: 11.30am Mass (St Brigid's)

RECONCILIATION

Friday - 12pm St Brigid's,

Saturday - 5.30pm St Louis'

KIDZ ZONE

4th Weekend of the month

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Friday: 10.30am at St Brigid's

PRAYER GROUP AND ADORATION

1st Saturday of the Month: 4.30pm to 5.30pm at St Louis'

PRAISE & WORSHIP NIGHT

3rd Friday of the Month: 7.30 to 8.30pm alternating church each month

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

All Parish volunteers require a current Working With Children Check and completion of the Safeguarding Essentials training.
Copies of the policy are available on our Parish Website and at our Parish Office. For any concerns please contact our Child Safeguarding Team:

Fr Andrew Jekot ... 03 9412 8432	Joe Corda ... 0407 354 568
Fr Ignatius Tan ... 03 9412 8432	Joanne Partleton ... 0413 133 184
Trish Angliss ... 0421 604 849	Robyn Worsnop ... 0412 814 592
Louise Breslin ... 0415 963 799	

NEXT WEEK'S SERVE MINISTERS' ROSTER

The Holy Family - Our readings are from Year B: Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3, Hebrews 11: 8,11-12,17-19, Luke 2: 22-40

30 - 31 Dec 2023	Reader	Commentator	Special Minister	Special Minister	Special Minister	Welcomer	Welcomer	Sacristan
6pm (A)	Pauline Parker	Carmel Grace	Sonia Williams	Michael Barker	Carmel Barker	Danny Carey	Bernie Stuart	Marie Medilcott
8.00am (M)	Graham Jones	Krystyna Wrzesinski	Carole Guthrie	John Guthrie	Chris McAleer	Paula Rodrigues	Wence Rodrigues	Vo Johnson
9.30am (A)	Elizabeth Newington	Niko Tovia	Maureen Wraight	Ann Furong	N/A	Joe Corda	Jon Searle	Susan Dornom
11:00am (M)	Glenice Laughlan	Mark Carrazzo	Helen Rocks	Philippa Pecora	N/A	Lucy Cameron	Vanessa Fernandes	Tung Phan
Counters	Aileen Dynes, Mary & Serge Nayna							

If you are unavailable on your rostered day please arrange a replacement and contact the Parish Office on 9580 7981 to inform us of the change.



**Our Parish acknowledges that we gather, pray and live on the land of the
Bunurong People of the Kulin Nation, and pay our respect to Elders,
past, present and emerging.**

