



THE TIDINGS

SERVING THE AREAS OF MELTON, MELTON WEST, AINTREE, BONNIE BROOK,
GRANGEFIELDS, HARKNESS, KURUNJANG, PLUMPTON, ROCKBANK & TOOLERN VALE



The Catholic
Parish of Melton
is committed
to the safety,
wellbeing and
dignity of all
children and
vulnerable
adults

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT — Year C | 15 December 2024

CLERGY

Parish Priest: REV. FR ALEX CLEMENTE

Assistant Priest: REV. FR WILFORD URMAZA

Parish Deacon: REV. DCN CHRIS CREO

Email: Cristopher.Creo@cam.org.au

PRESBYTERY & OFFICE

10 Unitt Street, MELTON, VIC 3337

Postal Address: PO Box 96, MELTON, VIC 3337

Phone: 03 9743 6515

Email: melton@cam.org.au

Website: melbcatholic.org/melton

Facebook: facebook.com/catholicparishmelton

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9.00am–3.00pm

(The parish office is CLOSED on weekends and public holidays)

STAFF & SAFEGUARDING COORDINATOR

Parish Secretary: LIZ COUSTLEY (temporary)

Finance Manager: LORRAINE STAFFORD (Mon & Tues)

Email: Finance.Melton@cam.org.au

Safeguarding Coordinator: LIZ COUSTLEY

Mobile: 0490 885 515 | **Email:** cso.melton@gmail.com

MASS CENTRES & MASS TIMES

St Catherine of Siena Church, Melton West

108 Bulmans Road, Melton West, VIC 3337

- Saturday 6pm (Vigil Mass)
- Sunday 9am, 11am & 5pm
- Wednesday Mass 9.15 am Whole School Mass

St Dominic's Church, Melton

Church St, Melton, VIC 3337

- Thursday & Friday Mass will resume January 2&3

CONFESSION

St Catherine of Siena Church

Saturday: 5.45 pm | Sunday: 4.45pm

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT & ROSARY

St Dominic's Church

- Thursday following the 9.15am Mass

SCHOOLS IN OUR PARISH

ST DOMINIC'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Address: Church Street, Melton, VIC 3337

+61 3 9743 6225 | enquiries@sdmelton.catholic.edu.au

ST CATHERINE OF SIENA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Address: 108 Bulmans Road, Melton West, VIC 3337

+61 3 9743 2166 | info@scmeltonwest.catholic.edu.au

ST FRANCIS CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Melton West Campus (Year 7-12): 109-141 Bulmans Rd,
Melton West

Cobblebank Campus (Year 7-8): Bridge Rd, Cobblebank
+61 3 8099 6000 | info@sfcc.vic.edu.au

A change of heart



The baptism that John preached and practised was a baptism of repentance. What he called on people to do was to recognise the areas of their lives that were unbalancing their relationship with God.

There was a strong recognition that unless they were in right relationship with one another they could not be in right relationship with God.

In recognising the need for change in their lives, John challenged them to also make a change of heart: to approach their lives differently. This is why they were questioning him about practical ways of living out their new commitment.



ADVENT RECONCILIATION

Friday, December 20
7pm- 8pm
at St Catherine of Siena
Church

New Year's Day Mass (Jan 1, 2025)



*Mary, Solemnity of Mary,
the Holy Mother of God*

11 am

at St Catherine of Siena Church

ST CATHERINE OF SIENA WEDNESDAY MORNING MASS

Whole School Mass: Wednesday, 18th 9.15 am.

Masses will then conclude at St Catherine's Church and will
resume in February, 2025.

ST DOMINIC'S CHURCH WEEKDAY MASSES

Masses have been cancelled at St Dominic's Church on Thursday
and Friday for the next two weeks.

Masses will resume on January 2 & 3, 2025.

The Melton Parish Office will close from Monday,
Dec 23, 2024 - Monday, Jan 6, 2025. We will
reopen on Tuesday, January 7, 2025.

Reflection by Fr Wilford

A Call to Respond with Urgency (3rd Sunday of Advent)

In Luke 3:10-18, we encounter John the Baptist in the wilderness, preaching a powerful message of repentance, righteousness, and justice. His query, "What then shall we do?" is echoed by tax collectors and soldiers, and it speaks to a profound, universal desire for change. The crowds are drawn to him, hungry for spiritual regeneration and longing for the Messiah. Simply recognizing the need for change is insufficient; the crowds are demanding guidance and concrete examples of how to live out the repentance that John is advocating.

John's response is unambiguous: repentance entails a drastic reorientation of one's behavior in addition to a change of heart. He is calling people to live a life of selflessness and charity when he advises them to give up their food and clothing to those in need. Repentance is tangible. It implies that we can no longer live only for ourselves, accumulating possessions while others lack them. In order to repent, we must put aside our comforts and consider the plight of others, particularly during periods of societal injustice and inequality.

This challenge is very relevant to our own lives. It's very simple to overlook the more pressing needs around us in favor of concentrating on our own problems or goals. In addition to taking care of our spiritual well-being, the gospel encourages us to allow our faith to permeate every aspect of our everyday life. Whether or not our hearts are genuinely changed is demonstrated by our desires, our time, and even how we treat the underprivileged.

The temptation to exploit others is something we all face, though in different ways. We might not be soldiers or tax collectors, but we may find ourselves in situations where we could take advantage of others. John's words remind us that the Kingdom of God operates on a completely different set of values - values of justice, integrity, and accountability.

It's interesting to note that John's message is both positive and challenging. The good news is that we can feel Jesus' power in our lives now, without waiting for His second coming. As John promised, the Holy Spirit is now at our disposal to enable us to live moral lives and effect the transformation that God wants to see in the world.



Third Advent Candle: Joy

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Cry out with joy and gladness:
for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia!

Today's Readings: Zephaniah 3:14-18 Philippians 4:4-7 Isaiah 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

Next Week's Readings: Micah 5:1-4 Hebrews 10:5-10 Luke 1:38

Prayer Requests

Death Anniversaries:

Fr John Williams, Trixie Rayner, Peter Donnelly, Attilio De Nardin, Julie Anne Smith, Antonius Bambang, Karina Benjamin, Nesta Muthukrishna, Ramon & Elma Villarente, Kathleen Hishon, Joseph Vella, Mark Clarke, Joseph Caffrey, John Ciantar, Teopisto Saldana, Margaret McGuire, Conor Stewart, John Baldacchino, Terry Treadwell, Charles Vella, Thomas Hanrahan, Fr Bill Donegan (2010), Pat Hoctor, Pina Realì, Carmen Cortis, Wayne Mattocks, George Coburn, Julius Motha, Felomina Aguires, Fiore Antoniani, Doreen Swainston, Anka Klasic, Lydia Certeza

Someone is coming,
someone who is more
powerful than I am,
and I am not fit to undo
the strap of his sandals.

Luke 3:16



"every day somewhere in the
world the nativity scene is alive."



Parish Calendar

December 2024

16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		9.15am Mass at St Catherine of Siena Church	9.15am Mass at St Dominic's Church	9.15am Mass at St Dominic's Church	6pm Vigil Mass	4th Sunday of Advent 9am, 11am & 5pm Sunday Masses
Simbang Gabi 8pm @ St Catherine of Siena, Melton West						
Simbang Gabi 5am @ St Anthony of Padua, Melton South						
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
		CHRISTMAS DAY	ST STEPHEN	ST JOHN THE APOSTLE	THE HOLY INNOCENTS	THE HOLY FAMILY
Simbang Gabi 8pm @ St Catherine of Siena	Please see notice of Christmas Mass Times in the Tidings		BOXING DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY	9.15am Mass at St Dominic's Church	6pm Vigil Mass	9am, 11am & 5pm Sunday Masses
Simbang Gabi 5am @	St Anthony of Padua					



CHRISTMAS 2024 MASS TIMES

ST CATHERINE OF SIENA CHURCH, MELTON WEST

15th-23rd Dec	Christmas Novena Masses	8pm
24th Dec	Christmas Vigil Family Mass	6pm
	Christmas Vigil Mass	8pm
	Midnight Mass	10pm
25th Dec	Christmas Day Mass	11am
	Christmas Day Swahili Mass	1pm

CHRISTMAS CAROLS WILL BEGIN 30 MINUTES BEFORE
CHRISTMAS VIGIL AND CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES.

Baptisms 2025

Baptism information for 2025, dates and application form are now available on our parish website:
www.melbcatholic.org/melton
or in hard copy in the Gathering Area of the church.



PLEASE RING THE MASS MANAGER IF UNABLE TO ATTEND:

6 pm	Tania Walters	0492 952 478
9 am	Theo Franken	0411 040 897
11am	Bruna Tomassi	9743 0341
5 pm	Josephine Krajina	0407 042 133

The Partnered Parishes of
Melton & Melton South
invites you to join
the Simbang Gabi

St. Catherine of Siena Church
108 Bulmans Road, Melton West, Vic 3337
December 15-23 at 8pm

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Parish
67-75 Exford Road, Melton South, Vic 3338
December 16-24 at 5am

Christmas Carols before mass, food and drinks to follow

3 rd Sunday of Advent		Saturday & Sunday December 14&15, 2024		
MINISTERS OF:	6 PM	9 AM	11 AM	5 PM
Welcome	Kate Mulholland	Karl Metha	Liz Coustley	Josephine Krajina
The Word	Maria Prasetyono	Theo Franken	Lea Jacuta	Frank Unferdorben
Responder	Tetchie Hadfield	Jennifer Peters	Cira Cleary	Ismael Sosa-Sanchez
Presentation of Gifts	Robert Obtinalla	Faith Tuputala	Chelsea Amato	Josephine Krajina
Holy Communion	Sally Grero	Vickie Cassar	Liz Coustley	Lesley Sosa-Ritchie
PowerPoint Operator	Tania Walters	Sanyata Creo	Choir	Nina Ahmet
Gift Shop	Margaret Richards	Maureen Mohr	Lea Jacuta	Frank Unferdorben
Choir	Divine Mercy	Samoan Choir	St Anuarite Choir	Tongan Choir
Counters	Karl Metha, Anne Stokie, Maureen Mohr			
4 th Sunday of Advent		Saturday & Sunday December 21&22, 2024		
MINISTERS OF:	6 PM	9 AM	11 AM	5 PM
Welcomer	Kate Mulholland	Anne Stokie	Chelsea Amato	Frank Unferdorben
The Word	Tania Walters	Vickie Cassar	Cira Cleary	Lesley Sosa-Ritchie
Responder	Tania Walters	Theo Franken	Liz Coustley	Josephine Krajina
Presentation of Gifts	Leny Obtinalla	Karl Metha	Chelsea Amato	Elainne de los Santos
Holy Communion	Kate Mulholland	Theo Franken	Liz Coustley	Josephine Krajina
PowerPoint Operator	James Taniman	Faith Tuputala	Lea Jacuta	Nina Ahmet
Gift Shop	Margaret Richards	Graham Dempsey	Lea Jacuta	Josephine Krajina
Choir	Divine Mercy	Veneration Choir	Veritas Choir	Filipino Choir
Counters	Elizabeth Marshall, Jennifer Peters			



First Aid & Defibrillator is located in the Lay-Sacristy.

THE SACRAMENTS OF PENANCE, EUCARIST & CONFIRMATION 2025

An invitation is extended to join our partnered parishes of Melton and Melton South, after hours Sacrament Program called:

St Luke's Sacramental Program

for young people who do not attend a Catholic Primary School, or attend a Catholic Secondary School and are baptised, but *have not* received one or more of the above Sacraments.

We begin with an Information Night on Thursday, January 30, 2025 at 7pm sharp in St Dominic's Parish Hall - entry via the gate on Smith St, Melton.

Information and the application form for these programs is available online on our Parish website: www.melbcatholic.org/melton or in hard copy from the Gathering Area of St Catherine of Siena church.

Please complete the application form and either:

- Email it to the parish office at: melton@cam.org.au,
- Drop it off personally at the office between 9am and 3pm, or
- Place it into the return box in the Gathering Area of the church.

The Sacrament of Penance program begins on Thursday February 6, 2025.

*Growing Together
In Faith*

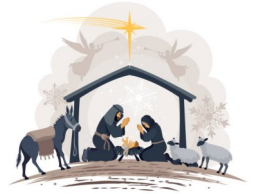


Christmas Gifts and Cards in the Piety Stall

A variety of **Christmas gifts** are on display, and available for purchase, in the Piety Stall.

St Vincent de Paul **Christmas Cards** are now available - \$4

2025 Columban Calendar available for \$11



"No, we did not book online."

DIRECT DEBIT STATEMENTS AND PARISH OFFERTORY GIVING ENVELOPES

These are available for collection in the Gathering Area of the church.

Parish Offertory Giving

If you would like to make either a one-off donation or to set up recurring donations to the parish, please scan the QR code or head to our website:



[TINYURL.COM/GIVEMELTON](https://tinyurl.com/GiveMelton)

You may also like to use the Smart Terminal at the welcome desk to contribute to the

NEW TO OUR PARISH?

Welcome!

Please collect a Welcome Pack from the Gathering Area of the church. Once census form is completed, place it in the white return box in the Gathering Area.

MISSED OUT ON THE TIDINGS?

Back issues of The Tidings are available on our parish website: www.melbcatholic.org/melton

CLICK TO VIEW
PREVIOUS BULLETINS



Would you like to receive

The Tidings before the weekend?



Head to our website to subscribe to The Tidings or simply scan the QR code to enter your email to receive a digital copy. You will then receive a verification link via email to confirm your subscription.

HOME VISITATION & BLESSING REQUESTS

For Home Visitation & Blessing requests, please speak to one of our priests after Mass or fill out the online request form:

[TINYURL.COM/HBLESSING](https://tinyurl.com/HBlessing)

SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.

In the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne, the safety and wellbeing of all persons is of highest priority.

PARISH BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Announcements & Notices: Please submit your announcement or notices no later than 5pm every Wednesday. Bulletin notices are normally retained in *The Tidings* for two weekends. Notices and announcements submitted after the deadline will be considered for publication on the following weekend.



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