



St Mary of the Cross Catholic Parish

EMBODYING CHRIST'S LOVE

Parish Priest: Fr Michael Kong

Deacon: George Piech-Meat

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ 7 June 2026

Readings for Year A Deuteronomy 8: 2-3, 14-16 1 Corinthians 10: 16-17 John 6: 51-58

*"I am the living bread
from Heaven"*

This weekend we are invited to celebrate the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. In my Sunday Missal it is listed as Corpus Christi Sunday. It is a very significant feast. In some respects it takes us back to Holy Thursday, where Jesus celebrated the Last Supper with his disciples. It is good that we can now celebrate this important sacrament before we move into the season of Ordinary time.

The readings today bring together the essential elements of this feast. The first reading from Deuteronomy recalls how God brought Moses and the Israelites out of slavery and led them through the desert, providing manna and water. The Eucharist is the new manna, given through Jesus, who promises that he will be with us always as the source of life. Saint Paul in his letter to the Corinthians, (and to us), explains that sharing in the body and blood of Christ unites us to Christ and to the whole Christian community, making us one body.

The Gospel from John, gives us the full meaning of the Eucharist. The body and blood of the Lord are always the body "given up" for us and the cup "poured out" for us. The Eucharist always proclaims the outpouring of Christ's sacrificial love of the world.

We can rejoice in the words of Jesus that we proclaimed as we welcomed the Gospel. "I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord. Whoever eats this bread will live forever". Alleluia, Alleluia.

Michael Barker
Parishioner



News and Announcements

Annual Winter Appeal for people experiencing homelessness



We have started our annual winter appeal for people experiencing homelessness and at risk in our community. Please leave your donations of warm scarves, beanies, socks, gloves and blankets in the boxes provided in the foyers. These donations are so appreciated and needed by the charities that receive them.

Save the Date

Aspendale's St Vincent de Paul Conference invites you to:

Let's Do Winter Lunch

on **Thursday 18th June, 12pm-2pm, in St Louis' Church Foyer.**

Enjoy a special Warm Winter Lunch with a fun game of Bingo and Spot Prizes. All welcome.

Cost is a donation to St Vincent de Paul's Assist a Student Program. Please sign up on the sheet on the Welcome Desk.

Please note

There will be no Adoration Service on **Monday 8 June** due to the King's birthday holiday.

Year 5 Family Masses at St Louis

Please welcome our Year 5 children to our masses at St Louis next weekend. Join them for a cuppa and a chat after mass.

Scripture and Friendship Group Tuesday 9 June

Our Parish Scripture & Friendship group is on this coming **Tuesday 9 June at Ann's home, 47 Gothic Road Aspendale.** We begin at 10am and will finish at about 11am for a cuppa.

This group is open for anyone - we discuss the coming Sunday's Gospel, sharing our thoughts, questions or just listening. A great way to meet people in our Parish.

For any queries contact Ann on 0425 712 741 or Carmel 0425773608.



JAG Meeting Wednesday 10 June via Zoom

Our JAG vision is to follow Jesus' example to hear and respond to issues of social justice including family violence, human trafficking, refugees and asylum seekers, people experiencing homelessness, First

Nations people and the protection of the environment. If you have an interest in these areas, please do join to our monthly meeting, which we will conduct online via Zoom this month and next. It will begin from **7.30pm on Wednesday 10 June** and the zoom link is here:

JAG ZOOM

ANCHORED Webinar for parents. Thursday 11 June. 7:00pm to 8:00pm

In today's rapidly changing digital and highly sexualised culture, this webinar, presented by Paul Nannes, Founding Director of RealTalk, is offered especially for parents of young people who are navigating the many influences and pressures that shape their sense of identity and relationships. With warmth and wisdom, Paul will share practical tools and insights to support parents in accompanying their teenagers towards a healthy and life-giving understanding of consent, respect and relationships, grounded in the beauty of the Catholic vision. Please use the link below to register for the webinar.

Anchored Webinar



Building the Synodal Way Together

Preparations for a Synod to be held in the Archdiocese of Melbourne in 2026 are now underway. A synodal gathering is focused on pastoral renewal and can result in decrees or pastoral plans that guide the diocese in its planning.

In our parish we will pray together the Synod Prayer that the Holy Spirit will guide conversations and action.

Synodality requires humility

Walking together means recognising that no one has all the answers. Synodality invites humility - from leaders and from communities - so that the Spirit can guide us beyond our limitations.

Is Synodality slow?

Synodality may seem slower than top-down decisions-making, but it often leads to deeper more lasting renewal. What is discerned together is more likely to be embraced together.

Synodality and joy

When people are invited to participate meaningfully, joy increases. A synodal Church is not weighed down by bureaucracy but energised by shared mission.

If you would like to become involved in the preparation toward the Melbourne Synod please email:
Synod2026@cam.org.au

News and Announcements

Aid to Church in Need

Did You Know? One in Seven Christians Worldwide Experiences Persecution

An estimated one in seven Christians worldwide experiences persecution or discrimination because of their faith. In countries including Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Pakistan and China, Christians can face imprisonment, violence, or pressure to abandon their faith simply because they follow Christ. Yet despite persecution, countless Christians continue to gather for Mass and practise their faith with remarkable courage - even when doing so may place their freedom or lives at risk. These Christians are not strangers to us. They are our brothers and sisters in Christ, and we are called to stand with them in prayer and solidarity. Through Aid to the Church in Need (ACN), discover their stories and be inspired by the courage of Mathieu and Pauline, catechists from Burkina Faso who were kidnapped for their faith.



Read their remarkable story by scanning the QR code, or go to aidtochurch.org/bulletin

Can you help victims of church-related abuse?

For 14 years, the Lifeboat Geelong Foundation has been assisting victims of church-related sexual abuse from all over Australia with generous donations of motor vehicles of varied value (from \$500 to \$20,000 - from deceased estates or no longer required). They can be directly gifted to a victim/survivor in need, or sold to generate funds required to assist victims in a multitude of ways (counselling, rent, utilities and other domestic and personal necessities).

Since the "Lifeboat Car Project" began in 2020, one single dedicated volunteer has overseen the process, which includes working with the donor to organise a Roadworthy etc. Can you help with this? Are you reasonably familiar with car transfer regulations to assist donors of vehicles (and potential buyers) to negotiate the formal processes. If you or someone you know could help (maximum involvement with four cars per year), please contact Fr. Kevin Dillon (0421 777 360 or frkdillon@outlook.com.au) for more information.

CALLED & GIFTED DISCERNMENT PROCESS



CATHERINE OF SIENA
INSTITUTE
EQUIPPING PARISHES TO FORM LAY APOSTLES

Please pray for our Called and Gifted Program and Participants

This weekend (Friday & Saturday), 20 parishioners have hosted leaders from the Melbourne Archdiocese and participated in the inaugural Called and Gifted Workshop in Melbourne. We will have brochures available to explain this process to our parish.

Prayer is a very important part of this journey (both personal and especially communal support). We thank you for your prayerful support and ask for your continued prayers over the next couple of months, as these parishioners continue to discern their charisms (spiritual gifts),

through which God intends His love to reach others.

A second workshop will be made available later in 2026 for all interested parishioners.

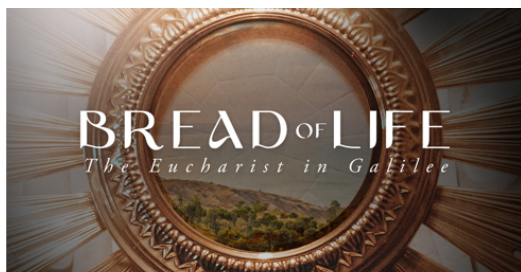
We invite you to please pray for the ongoing success of this important and enriching initiative, which will assist us in our Parish Mission to Love God, Love Others and Make Disciples.

PROCLAIM 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the gospel to all creation.' Mk 16:15 Friday 26 and Saturday 27 June 2026 Catholic Leadership Centre, East Melbourne



This is an invitation for our leaders and parishioners to join world-renowned Catholic author on discipleship, **Sherry Weddell** at this Archdiocese event. Sherry is co-founder and Executive Director of the Catherine of Siena Institute, author of the **Called & Gifted** charism discernment process and global best-seller book **Forming Intentional Disciples**. The Friday session is for clergy and

Parish leaders, but the Saturday session is open to all Parishioners. Go here for more details [Proclaim26](#)
Please let Fr Michael or the office know if you would like to attend.



FORMED - Bread of Life - The Eucharist in Galilee

Christ's teaching about the Eucharist is the crescendo of Jesus' entire ministry: all his work in Galilee prepared for and pointed to the Eucharist.

Go to: <https://formed.org/signup> type in St Mary of the Cross Mordialloc and Aspendale, and enter your name and email address, for free access to this and much more great content.

NEXT WEEK'S SERVE MINISTERS ROSTER - 11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 14TH JUNE 2026

13/14 June 2026	11 th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) Exodus 19: 2-6 Romans 5: 6-11 Matthew 9: 36, 10: 8 CUPPA W'END						
	Reader	Commentator	Special Minister	Special Minister	Special Minister	Welcomer	Welcomer
6pm (A)	Year 5 Reader	Year 5 Reader	Marg De Vries	Bernie Stuart	Gail McGillivray	Danny Carey	John Bainbridge
8.00am (M)	Chris McAleer	Krystyna Wrzesinski	Carole Guthrie	Joan Healy	Marlene Tangso	Odette Budge	Josie Johnson
9.30am (A)	Year 5 Reader	Year 5 Reader	Ann Furlong	Maureen Wraight	Felice Cortese	Joe Corda	Lex Miller
11.00am (M)	Jennifer Rodrigues	Adam Whatmore	Gail Bell	Peter Wain	Philippa Pecora	Volunteer	Volunteer
Counters	Group 2	Helen & Kelvin Rocks	Mary Nayna				

Recently deceased:

Anniversaries: Maria Rodolico, Sheila Bailey, Deborah Williams, Patricia Miller, William Magee, Joyce Sims, John Furlong, Michael Kelly, Mariamma Aloysious Thomas, Daniel J Farren, Zita O'Kane, John Elliot, Tracy Ann Heenan, Celine Pearl Waters, Pearly Waters, Bob Saunders, William Francis Coghlan, Anne Scanlan, Ronnie Jackson, Mario Deluca, Margaret McHaffie, Theodore Lazaro, Marie Purcell, Thomas Tong, John Laughlin, Mary Norman, Pauline Jones, Bernard Noonan, Ken Atherton, Elizabeth Zerdoner, Pat Dundon, Natalie Cass, Ivy Pearl, Vita (Maria) Rapisarda, Shirley Earp, James (Jim) O'Meara, Mario Facin, Debbie Dawkins, Brian Sayers, Gary Wilde, Dorothy McClure, Marciano Perseveranda (Jnr), Alfredo Rodrigues Da Sliva Marques, Alfredo Marques, Vilanilathu Thankamma, John W Le Clercq, Erwin Karl Wursthorn, Rita Thomazios.

Praying for healing and the sick: Angela Meo, Fr Terry Keane, Luis, Marisa, Edith Vinton, Julie Griffiths, Steve Govac, Chris Wardle, Deborah Joseph, Chris Doran, Ruben David, Vasilos Garavelis, Mary Agiropoulos, Rita Popley, Prunella Julien, Sophia Bicos, Maree Wesols, Peter Waltho, Jeffrey Sellar, Noleen Dunn, John Catalano, Damian Haggerty, Alasdair Hughes, Harry Donohue, Andrea Williams, Brilliant boys.

WEEKEND MASSES

St Louis' Saturday 6pm
St Brigid's Sunday 8am
St Louis' Sunday 9.30am
St Brigid's Sunday 11am
Our 6pm Saturday Vigil & 8am Sunday Masses are live streamed and can be accessed at:
catholicmassstmaryofthecross

WEEKDAY MASSES

St Louis' Mon 9.15am Communion Service,
St Louis' Tues 9.15am,
St Brigid's Wed 10am,
St Louis' Thurs 9.15am,
St Brigid's Fri 11.30am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AND HOLY ROSARY

St Brigid's every Fri 10.30am
St Louis' 1st Sat of the month 4.30pm

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

St Louis' Monday's 7.30 - 8.30pm

RECONCILIATION

St Brigid's Fri after 11.30am Mass
St Louis' Sat 5.30pm before 6pm Mass

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Fr Michael, Trish Angliss, Berna Wake, John Field

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

CHILD SAFEGUARDING TEAM:

Fr Michael Kong 9580 7981
Trish 0421 604 849
Joe 0407 354 568
Helen 0498 178 899
Anthony 0407 505 341
Robyn 0412 814 592
Denise 0412 926 752

Growing in community & belonging at St Mary of the Cross



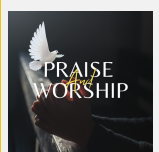
Children's Liturgy

5 - 12-year-olds.
4th weekend of the month. 6pm, 9:30am and 11am



Prayer Ministry

Intercessory prayer.
Last weekend of the month - all masses.



Praise & Worship

3rd Friday of month
7.30 - 8.30pm.
Alternates between each church.

Contact us

Parish Office: 03 9580 7981
OPEN Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday's 9am to 4.30pm
Parish Coordinator: Ann Fitzgerald
mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au
Parish House: 03 9412 8432

Pastoral care

If you would like a pastoral visit, Helen is available to drop by for a chat or to organise some help if required.
Please contact the office at
mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au

Baptism Coordinator

Debbie Poynton 0403 471 931

Our Parish acknowledges that we gather, pray and live on the land of the Bunurong People of the Kulin nation, and pay our respects to Elders, past, present and emerging. We recognise their continued connection to Country, and we thank them for their role in caring for, and maintaining Country and waterways, over thousands of generations.