



St Mary of the Cross Catholic Parish

EMBODYING CHRIST'S LOVE

PARISH VISION STATEMENT: *We are a faith community who gather to praise and worship God. We express Christ's presence among us by reaching out to those in need with Christ's message of love and forgiveness and the promise of justice and hope for all.*

3rd Sunday of Advent Year C – Sunday 12 December 2021

Our readings are: **Zephaniah 3:14-18, Philippians 4:4-7, Luke 3:10-18**

PARISH CHURCHES:

St Brigid's,
520 Main St, Mordialloc

& St Louis de Montfort's,
37 Dolphin St, Aspendale

PARISH PRIEST:

Fr Andrew Jekot

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM:

**Berna Wake, Trish Angliss &
Kristian Tangso**

PARISH CO-ORDINATOR:

Ann Fitzgerald
Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday

BAPTISM CO-ORDINATOR:

Deb Poynton
debannp64@gmail.com
0403 471 931

PARISH HOUSE:

9412 8432

PARISH OFFICE:

9580 7981
Parish Office Hours:
9am-4.00pm
Tuesday-Friday

PARISH EMAIL:

**mordiallocaspendale
@cam.org.au**

PARISH WEBSITE:

**www.melbcatholic.org/
mordialloc-aspendale**

Gospel Reflection - 3rd Sunday of Advent

This week is the third Sunday of Advent, Christmas is getting closer and our preparations are starting to reach fever pitch. Shops are busy, frustration sets in when it's hard to find a car park or the queues in Kmart are far too long, postmen are inundated with parcels to deliver and finalizing end of year work tasks can be stressful. Even trying to work out where to put that Elf on a Shelf can be stressful!

Yet in this week's gospel John's message is primarily a call for change, A change of mind, a change of heart and a change of direction. In order to prepare for the coming of the Lord, he has given specific instructions for everyone such as: sharing and being just to others, taking time to appreciate the gifts we already have, and reflecting on our thoughts and actions. He is telling us to be sorry for the wrong choices we may have made and to turn back to God, for only then will salvation and true happiness be found.

The instruction of John the Baptist is not too difficult to do unless we have hardened our heart. Sharing our time, talent and treasure with the needy is a good start. Then we look into our behavior and see what injustices we have been inflicting on others. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we will have the courage to admit them and the will to stop doing them. Not only that, we will make restitution by returning what is not rightfully ours and compensating the loss of others due to our actions. In short, John is telling us to do what is good that we have not been doing and to stop doing the bad things that we have been doing.

John's lifestyle was authentic. He preached what he practiced. There was no hypocrisy in him. No wonder he was a magnet for others. May the season of advent allow us to start listening to his word.

By Marylene Douglas



Parish News

Newly Ordained Fr Hoang to celebrate Masses this weekend (11/12 December)

Fr Hoang, who was ordained on 4 December will be the main celebrant at all masses this weekend. There will be an opportunity to personally congratulate Fr Hoang with a cuppa after all Masses. *There will also be a card to sign and a gift to contribute to, which will be an icon of St. Mary of the Cross by Iconographer Marice Sariola. Unfortunately it won't be ready until the new year.*

There are now no density limits applying to our churches. The only restriction is that mass attendees must be **fully vaccinated**.

For those that can't make it, the celebration of Mass will be live-streamed from [6pm Saturday](#) and [8am Sunday](#). Go to YouTube for 'Catholic Mass with Fr Andrew' or the [parish website](#).



Fr Peter Matheson

With the appointment of Fr Hoang to the parish, the regular assistance from Fr Peter will gradually come to an end. I am most grateful for Fr Peter's presence, his readiness to assist in the parish along with his support and wisdom all of which has been much appreciated. I know that Fr Peter won't be sitting around twiddling his thumbs as many parishes require the support of our retired priests. We will acknowledge his time with us appropriately in the new year.

Opening our Churches for personal prayer

With our **"Opening the Doors"** Parish Renewal plans, we would love to have our Churches open more often. Ideally Monday-Saturday, requiring teams of 2, in a 3 hour block, 9-12pm and 12-3pm. If this is something that interests you, please contact Berna Wake from our Parish Leadership Team via berna.wake@cam.org.au.

Choir Practice

There will be a choir practice each **Wednesday (15th and 22nd Dec)** at **St Louis Church** at **7.30pm** in preparation for the 8.30pm Christmas Eve Mass. Please contact Trish for further enquiries 0421604849.



Advent Challenge

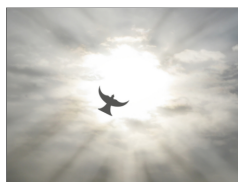
Please join our Advent Challenge coordinated by our very own Kristian Tangso, member of the parish leadership team. Join our parish [Facebook page](#) and receive a daily challenge during Advent.

Longbeach Knights Of The Southern Cross Bursaries

The KSC Longbeach Branch would like to thank all Parishioners who donated towards this year's School's Bursaries for year 6. There will be 10 awards across the three schools, similar to last year granted to Members and Parishioners. Thank you once again for your generous contribution.



Parish Prayer Group



The Parish Prayer Group gathers every **Tuesday evening at 7.30pm - 9pm at St. Louis' church** up to and including the 14th December. All are welcome to come and spend some time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in Adoration, worship, rosary and intercessory prayer. The prayer intentions that are placed in the St. Mary of the Cross prayer box will be prayed for.

Calendars & Christmas Cards

The 2022 Columban Calendars (\$10) & St Vincent de Paul Christmas Cards (\$3.50) are for sale after all weekend Masses.

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Hampers

Thank you to all those who kindly donated to the St Vincent de Paul Christmas hamper appeal. The hampers will be delivered to families in need over the next week or so.



Parish News

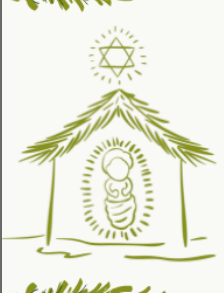


Food For Friends

As part of our Care Ministries our Parish is planning to launch a new initiative early 2022. "Food for Friends" parishioners create delicious home-cooked meals for people in our community who at times might appreciate the thoughtfulness of a meal made with love. New members are welcome. The team has already prepared some meals which have been frozen and are available now. Do you know someone, a family, couple or single who might appreciate this? If so please contact Ann Brennan at 0425 712 741.

Christmas Roster Volunteers

We're looking for volunteers for the Christmas Rosters across all masses. We require Readers, Commentators, Special Ministers, Welcomers, Counters and Sacristans please. If you're able to assist please sign up on the clipboard located in both church foyers.



Christmas Mass Times

CHRISTMAS EVE

- 6pm Mass on St Louis' School Oval
- 8.00pm Carol singing followed by 8.30pm Mass in St Louis' School Hall
- 11.30pm Carols followed by Midnight Mass in St Brigid's Church

CHRISTMAS DAY

- 8.30am Mass in St Louis' School Hall,
- 10.30am Mass in St Brigid's Church

Advent Twilight Retreat

We are delighted to offer an opportunity for parishioners to attend our annual Advent Retreat as part of their preparation for Christmas. The Advent Retreat will be on **Thursday the 16th December from 6pm to 9pm** at St Louis de Montfort's Church. The Retreat begins with a meal, and will include prayer, readings from Fr Andrew, the Eucharist, music and reflection. There is a charge of \$10 to cover costs to be paid on the night. If you would like to attend, you are very welcome. Please either contact the Parish Office or register at our Welcome Stands in the church foyers at the weekend Masses, advising any catering requirements. We need final numbers by **Monday 13 December**.



Baptisms this weekend.

We welcome into our parish family:

Brooklyn - Isla Renae - Mia Amee -
Jack Stephen - Harvey John Ronald

God has you in His hands on this special day. With every little step you take, He guides you on your way.

Next Week's Mass Roster

4th Sun Advent	Readings (Year C): Micah 5:1-4, Hebrews 10:5-10, Luke 1:39-44			
18 th 19 th Dec 2021	6p.m. (A)	8.00a.m. (M)	9.30 a.m. (A)	11a.m. (M)
Reader	Jenny Ferguson	Sr Deidre Malone	Maureen Wraight	Dianne Wain
Commentator	Julie Barrnhoorn	Frances North	Phillip Morris	Gail Selwyn
Special Minister	Sonia Williams	Barry Wheeler	Felice Cortese	Helen Rocks
Welcomers	Volunteer please Carmel Barker Kristian Tangso	Wence Rodrigues Odette Budge Angela Meo	Joe Corda Niko Tovia Mary Nayna	Volunteer please Vanessa Fernandes Lucy Cameron
Counters	Gary and Joanne Partlton		Ron Soares	
Sacristan	Marie Medlicott	Fred Burns	Susan Dornom	Pam Hannan

Recent Deaths:

Iris Scerri (mother of Sue McKenzie.)
Rita O'Brien (St. Louis')
John Linnane (Beaumaris)

Anniversaries:

Sebastian D'Imperio, Thomas Aspery, Bill Bateson, Ivy Bateson, Michael Bateson, John Beable, Craig Blair, Bill Bristow, Carmel Cantwell, Dot Cartmar, Frank Cleary, Gwen Mary Coghlan, Vera Corda, Maria Teresa Costanzo, Camillo Costanzo, Pasqualina Costanzo, Cath Cuffley, Golbert D'Cruz, Doris Genovese, Roy Glenister, Ernest Goss, Jack Guthrie, Adrian Jones, Gladys Kennedy, Francis Lebler, John May, Rosario Messina, Mary Morris, Julian Murphy, Rita O'Farrell, Ross Pickles, Sr Dorothy Renton, Jack Riordan, John William Ryan Snr, Bill Seymour, Robert Slattery, Michael Smith, Peter Toner Snr, Frank Waltho, David Whelan and Lorna Woodhead.

Healing Prayers Asked For:

Jenny Doran, John Nicholson, Maura Scully, Carly Gordon, Sue Kelly, David Marshall, Josie Tobin, Mimmo Rodolico, Jarrod Le Brocq, Antonio Delprete, Lindsey Edwards, Laura Bruder, Liam Campbell, Patricia Carrazzo, Peter Spencer, George Caruana, Jan Mitula, Helen Pedrazzini, Salvatore (Sam) Finocchiaro, Lilah Finocchiaro and Maureen Hepburn.

Our Parish is committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, and vulnerable people in our community.

All Parish volunteers require:

- A current Working with Children Check
 - To have read & signed our Child Safety Code of Conduct
- Available on our Parish website & at our Parish Office.**

Any concerns please contact our Child Safeguarding Team:

Fr Andrew Jekot	9412 8432	Susan Dornom	0413 979 049
Trish Angliss	0421 604 849	Joanne Partleton	0413 133 184
Louise Breslin	0415 963 799	Deb Poynton	0403 471 931
Judy Dickinson	0407 865 522	Robyn Worsnop	0412 814 592



**St Mary of the Cross
Catholic Parish**
EMBOODYING CHRIST'S LOVE



PARISH MASS TIMES:

WEEKENDS:

Saturday:

6pm (Vigil) St Louis', Aspendale

Sunday:

8am - St Brigid's, Mordialloc

9.30am - St Louis', Aspendale

11am - St Brigid's, Mordialloc

WEEKDAYS:

Monday (Communion Service)

9.15am - St Louis'

Tuesday 9.15am - St Louis'

Wednesday 10am - St Brigid's,

Thursday 9.15am - St Louis'

Friday 11.30am - St Brigid's

RECONCILIATION:

Friday 12pm - St Brigid's,

Saturday 5.30pm - St Louis'

PARISH SCHOOLS:

St Brigid's School,

129 Albert St,

Mordialloc

9580 4518

www.sbmord.catholic.edu.au

St Louis de Montfort's School,

37 Dolphin St,

Aspendale

9580 5169

www.stlouisaspendale.catholic.edu.au



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

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land of the Kulin Nation who have walked upon and cared for this country for thousands of years. We pay our respect to them and their cultures and to Elders, past, present and emerging.



Our Parish Mission

**Love God, Love Others
Make Disciples**