

St Martin de Porres Parish

158 Military Rd, Avondale Heights Vic 3034

🌐 www.melbcatholic.org/avondaleheights

Parish Priest: Fr. Paul Tru

Secretaries: Fleur Allen: Wednesday - Friday
Charles Meneze: Tuesday

Office Hours: Closed Monday

9:30am - 5pm Tuesday - Friday

Pastoral Assoc: Sr. Cres Villas, asjm

Sr. Connie Mamo, asjm (Vol)

Phone: 9337 6016

E-mail: avondaleheights@cam.org.au

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil 6:00pm

Sunday 8:00am & 9:30am

Vietnamese 11:00am

Weekday Services for September

Mass Wednesday & Friday 9:15am

Communion Service

Tuesday & Thursday 9:15am

Benediction Wednesday after Mass

Reconciliation Wednesday 10.00am

Saturday 5:30pm

St Martin de Porres School

Principal: Stefanie Harvey

Secretaries: Mary Carmuciano

Maria Aloe

Phone: 9331 9000

E-mail:

principal@smavondaleheights.catholic.edu.au

🌐 www.smavondaleheights.catholic.edu.au

The Augustinian Sisters

Convent: 2 Venice Court,
Avondale Heights

Phone: 9337 4595

E-mail: sisaugustinian@gmail.com

Website: www.asjmoz.org

Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility.

The Parish of St Martin de Porres and the Archdiocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community. Child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of everyone.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Sick: Emily & Grace; Adamo; Robyn; Mellisa; Margaret Roe; Andreu & Marita; Nancy Green; Claudia & Thomas; Joseph Nguyen Ngoc Thi; Maria Nguyen Lam Quynh; Monika Marland; Alex Mather; Hazel; Rose; Giovanni.

Recently Deceased:

Teresa Borg; Antonina Trifiletti; Pina Caruso (Italy); Colomba Novella; Kathleen Rookas; Arinda Alvarez; Paul Cugliari; Maria Tran Thi Tho; Bishop Peter Elliott; Guise Tran Xuan Hoang (USA).

Anniversaries & Remembrances:

Gaetano Gangemi; Michael & Giovanni Costa; Antonio & John Alderuccio; Pasquale Canturi; Alfonso Benincasa; Victor Degabriele. Emma Roda; Victor Micallef; Charlie Sciberras; Dominic Cumbo; Joseph & Consiglia Grima; Emmanuel, Teresa & Menu Sammut; Francis & Bernarda Grima; John & Tonina Darmanin; Emmanuel & Nazzarena Farrugia; Carmelo & Rita De Bono; Joseph Apap; Charlie Galea.

Parish Support Programme:

Pledge: \$2,588 Received: \$1,688

Shortfall: \$900 Loose: \$1,191

Presbytery: \$1,836

Contributing to the Collections

You may wish to use the QR code if you have left your cash at home. Thank you for your generosity.



Bible Sharing with Sr Mayla

Wednesdays 10am in St Martin's Pastoral Centre. All Welcome!

Christian Meditation



Maranatha ... Come Lord Jesus

All welcome: Mondays 10 - 11am
Parent's Room in the Church
15th September.

HAPPY
Father's
DAY

Blessing Prayer for Fathers

Dear God, thank You for the gift of our Fathers!

Thank You for their encouragement, their guidance, and their provision for us. Thank You for their patience, understanding and sense of humour - in short, for their unfailing love!

Please bless our Fathers with Your Spirit of wisdom, counsel and fortitude. May they feel Your love in their hearts, Your peace in their minds and Your joy in their spirits this day.

We ask this in the name of Your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ through the intercession of Saint Joseph, whom You chose to be His father on earth.

Amen



Go out to
the whole world;
proclaim the
Good News
to all creation.



The Archbishop's Campaign 2025

One major collection for the Archdiocese of Melbourne: **Please give generously.**

- Corpus Christi College Building Fund
- Priests Retirement Foundation
- John Pierce Centre for the Deaf
- Melbourne Overseas Missions
- University of Divinity Building Fund
- Annual Grants to Catholic community agencies & community service organisations
- Archbishop's Evangelisation Initiatives
- Seminarian Education

Envelopes are on the seats.

Thanks, from Angela Farrugia

Angela sends thanks to all the Parishioners for their well wishes and prayers for recovery from her recent hospitalization. Please continue to keep Angela in your prayers for a complete recovery.

A Word of Thanks

Dear Parishioners of St Martin's, Avondale Heights,

My heart is full of gratitude as I thank you for your heartfelt farewell. I was deeply touched by your thoughtful love and appreciation, especially as we recalled the many memories we have shared together over the past 11 years.

Thank you for your generosity, your prayers, and your efforts to make my Farewell Thanksgiving Mass such a memorable celebration. In a special way, I wish to thank the parish council, the choirs, our school families, the Vietnamese, Italian, Maltese, Filipino communities, all the groups and ministries, and every person in our parish for the time we have worked side by side to bring forth the reign of God in this community.

I would like to echo the words of St Paul: "I thank my God each time I think of you, and when I pray for you, I pray with joy..." (Phillipians 1:3-11).

As I begin my new ministry at St Monica's, Moonee Ponds, and St Vincent de Paul's, Strathmore, I carry with me the love, friendship, and faith we have shared.

Please know that you will always remain in my prayers, as I hope to remain in yours.

With deep gratitude and blessings,

Fr Nhân Lê



The Augustinian Sisters Latest Newsletter



Read about Sr Lorraine's journey to the Philippines and Vietnam.

<https://www.asjmoz.org/mission-news-august-2025.html>

New Email: sisaugustinian@gmail.com



Gospel Acclamation Ps 118:135

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Let your face shine on your servant,
and teach me your laws. Alleluia!*

Gospel Luke 14:25-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*All who do not renounce their possessions
cannot be my disciples.*

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. 'If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

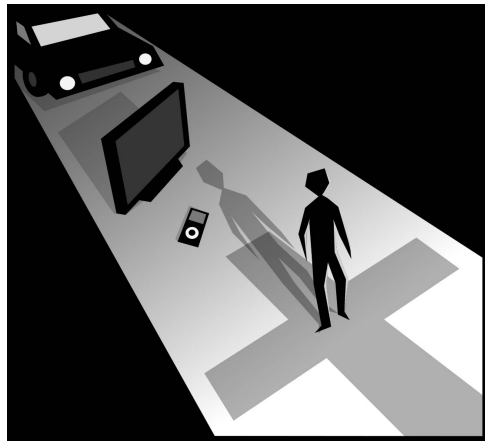
'And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, "Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish." Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

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Reflection by Greg Sunter

'Hate' is an emotive and extremely harsh word in our society. In its gospel context, the word is not used as an opposite of 'love' but as an indication of deserving of less significance than another thing. So the teaching about hating father, mother, etc can be read as saying that being a disciple of Jesus must take precedence over everything else, even family. In 1st Century culture, family was foremost above everything else; it was the very fibre that held society together. Jesus is saying that discipleship must be put above even that which is most important and most intrinsic to life in this world. That is why he goes on to tell the two stories about the need to count the cost before undertaking an important venture. He makes clear to his listeners that discipleship is more important than anything else and that there are huge costs associated with taking it on. A believer has to literally 'count the cost' of what it will mean to place discipleship above family, friendships, career, politics and even life itself. Jesus makes no apologies for the fact that what he is asking is incredibly demanding.

Our 'possessions' are all those things –material, emotional, and psychological –that we cling to and that we think give us our identity and status. Jesus called for a radical reinterpretation of status and position. He tells his listeners that they cannot truly be disciples if they continue to cling to those things that are considered important in this world. They have to surrender the things that bind them to this world's ideas of status and position before they can fully embrace the kingdom view of the world. As Jesus said, you have to really count the cost!



ST MARTIN DE PORRES

Catholic Parish

Avondale Heights

Today's Celebration is on pages:

Old Missal: 813 New Missal: 924



23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

7 September 2025

First Reading Wisdom 9:13-18

A reading from the book of Wisdom

Who can comprehend the will of God?

What man can know the intentions of God?
Who can divine the will of the Lord?
The reasonings of mortals are unsure and
our intentions unstable;
for a perishable body presses down the soul,
and this tent of clay weighs down the
teeming mind.

It is hard enough for us to work out what is
on earth,
laborious to know what lies within our reach;
who, then, can discover what is in the
heavens?

As for your intention, who could have learnt
it, had you not granted Wisdom
and sent your holy spirit from above? Thus
have the paths of those on earth been
straightened
and men been taught what pleases you,
and saved, by Wisdom.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 89:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. v.1

**(R.) In every age, O Lord, you have
been our refuge.**

1. You turn men back into dust
and say: 'Go back, sons of men.'
To your eyes a thousand years
are like yesterday, come and gone,
no more than a watch in the night. (R.)
2. You sweep men away like a dream,
like grass which springs up in the morning.
In the morning it springs up and lowers:
by evening it withers and fades. (R.)

3. Make us know the shortness of our life
that we may gain wisdom of heart.
Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever?
Show pity to your servants. (R.)
4. In the morning, fill us with your love;
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.
Let the favour of the Lord be upon us:
give success to the work of our hands. (R.)

Second Reading Philemon 9-10, 12-17

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Philemon

*Receive him, not as a slave anymore, but as a
very dear brother.*

This is Paul writing, an old man now and, what is more, still a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for a child of mine, whose father I became while wearing these chains: I mean Onesimus. I am sending him back to you, and with him – I could say – a part of my own self. I should have liked to keep him with me; he could have been a substitute for you, to help me while I am in the chains that the Good News has brought me. However, I did not want to do anything without your consent; it would have been forcing your act of kindness, which should be spontaneous. I know you have been deprived of Onesimus for a time, but it was only so that you could have him back for ever, not as a slave any more, but something much better than a slave, a dear brother; especially dear to me, but how much more to you, as a blood-brother as well as a brother in the Lord. So if all that we have in common means anything to you, welcome him as you would me.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.