

St Mary's Parish

We proudly acknowledge the
Boonwurrung People of the
Kulin Nation as the Traditional
Owners and Custodians of
this land.

*A community where we bring
together our gifts and talents*

9th February, 2025



116 Cecil Street, Williamstown 3016

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Parish Priest

(Fr.) Greg Trythall

0400 524 363

Email:

greg.trythall@cam.org.au

Pastoral Associate

Monique Julian

0450 789 951

Monday, Tuesday

Parish Staff

Sharon Vassallo

Tuesday 8:30am – 4.00pm

Thursday 8:30am – 4.00pm

Friday 8.30am - 4.00pm

Kylie Skinner-Wednesday

9.30am–1.30pm

Safeguarding Officer

Frank Schobben

0427 416 184

St. Mary's School

Principal Anthony Hockey

Normal Mass Times

Consult bulletin inside for
any changes.

Saturday at 6:00pm

Sunday at 8:30am and
10:30am

Tuesday to Friday 9:15am

Reconciliation

Saturday 10:00am

Silent Adoration in Church

2:30pm – 3:30pm
Wednesday

Baptism Preparation Night

Third Thursday monthly
7.00pm at Parish Centre.
Baptism must be booked
prior to attending
Preparation Night.

Baptisms 12:30pm Sunday

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FIRST READING:

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah. 6:1-8

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

In the sight of the angels I will sing you praises, Lord.

SECOND READING:

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians. 15:1-11

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Come follow me, says the Lord, and I will make you fishers of my people.

GOSPEL: LUKE 5:1-11

While the crowd was pressing in on Jesus and listening to the word of God, he was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret. He saw two boats there alongside the lake; the fishermen had disembarked and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, he asked him to put out a short distance from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. After he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch." Simon said in reply, "Master, we have worked hard all night and have caught nothing, but at your command I will lower the nets." When they had done this, they caught a great number of fish and their nets were tearing. They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. They came and filled both boats so that they were in danger of sinking. When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at the knees of Jesus and said, "Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man." For astonishment at the catch of fish they had made seized him and all those with him, and likewise James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners of Simon. Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men." When they brought their boats to the shore, they left everything and followed him.



Tuesday 11th February	9.15am Mass at St Mary's Church.
Wednesday 12th February	9:15am Communion Service at St Mary's Church. (Fr. Greg celebrating Mass at Emmanuel College)
Thursday 13th February	9:15am Mass at St Mary's Church.
Friday 14th February	9:15am Mass at St Mary's Church.

Dear Parishioners,

On request I promised parishioners late last year that I would supply some details of our Parish Council and Parish Finance Team agendas or deliberations. Accordingly, as regards the Parish Council:

- We met all Saturday morning February 1st at the Parish Centre.
- On Thursday February 6th we also met for our 1st Thursday of the Month meeting at our presbytery.

At the Thursday meeting some items on the agenda were the following:

1. Further consideration of what we discussed at last weekend's half day meeting of February 1st.
2. Need for us to complete a 'vision statement' for the parish.
3. Any further suggestions needed for following nights 'beer for the boys' gathering at presbytery of the St Mary's dads on February 7th.
4. Desire of local bishop Martin Ashe to visit our parish for a 3 day period later in year and his desired agenda.
5. Future of Children's Liturgy
6. Need for more special ministers to be trained for any future communion services (eg when Fr Greg is at the gaol, at Seminar of the Archdiocese or annual holidays)

On the other hand **at the Saturday morning meeting last week we discussed all the material disseminated by the Archdiocese in regards to the ideal model at this present time of "Take the Way of the Gospel."** In particular we discussed with the help of self-reflection tools both 'growing vital parishes' and 'growing vibrant parishes.' In regards 'growing vibrant parishes' the following is mentioned in 'the take the way of the gospel' material as the ideal:

***Vibrant parishes** are life-giving communities that foster holiness and discipleship among their members, joyfully desiring to share the gift of faith in Jesus Christ with those they encounter. Understanding each person is uniquely called and gifted, vibrant parishes help form and equip them to live that call. They know people are searching for a deeper spiritual connection in their lives, where their hopes, joys and anxieties can be expressed, and they embrace new opportunities for service.*

Realising that the above needed to be teased out we first tried to see what groups we had in the parish and the final list was 23. It varied from Parish Council, Way of the West to even the lawn mowing group. When all is said and done it is quite surprising how many parishioners are involved in various activities and ministries. I am very thankful for that. With that information we were able to use a self-reflection tool that enables parishes to identify their strengths and areas of improvement against the five characteristics of a vibrant parish (worship, evangelisation, fellowship, formation and service).

PRACTICAL AFTERMATHS OF RENEWAL PROGRAM OCTOBER 2024

Following our 3-year Renewal Program there were some things needing doing sooner or later. Thanks to yourselves we have been able to purchase **two high quality vacuum cleaners:** one for Church and one for the Parish Centre. Already they are far more effective than our old, outdated ones. Also, the many visitors to the toilets of the Parish Centre will notice two new toilet dispensers which are much more of a modern type than the outdated and partly impractical other ones we have used for years. **The motor mower** for the lawns has had its days as it has been used by various parishioners on a roster system for the last 10-12 years. The newer popular motor mower and on back order to middle March has a wider cut and is of a superior quality, and God willing will last as long as our serviceable old one. **The scaffolding for the Church** in place will mean that certain plaster, painting and maintenance work can be underdone on the Church. All the above means some costs to us. Thus, if you don't carry cash for the plate at weekend Mass and you feel generous then the new "tap and go" machine is now fully functional and thanks to you if you are able to help at any time in that particular way.

CATHOLIC CHURCH JUBILEE YEAR OF 2025.

More than half a million pilgrims crossed the threshold of the Holy Door of St Peter's Basilica in the first two weeks of the Jubilee Year of Hope. The City of Rome has estimated that more than 30 million people will travel to the city during the Jubilee. You know wonders never cease. For instance, inspired by the Church's Jubilee Year of Hope, Cuba will release 553 prisoners convicted of various crimes. The decision was communicated to Pope Francis earlier this month in a letter from Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel, who indicated that the release of prisoners was made "in the spirit of the Ordinary Jubilee of 2025."

BACK NOTICE BOARD – SCHOOL SIDE

Due to space constraints on the bulletin, there are a few things you may find more interesting by reading in a fuller version:

IMPORTANCE TO UNIVERSAL CHURCH OF ST LATERAN BASILICA IN ROME.

VATICAN COMMENTS ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)

A new Vatican document sounds the alarm against allowing artificial intelligence to be controlled by only a few powerful corporations and pleads for 'moral evaluation' on how and when AI is used. The guiding principle throughout the text is that "AI should only be used only as a tool to complement human intelligence rather than replace its richness."

RELIGIOUS BROTHER 2025 SENIOR AUSTRALIAN OF THE YEAR.

Charity co-founder and Christian Brother Thomas Oliver Pickett has been named 2025 Senior Australian of the Year. Brother Pickett, 84, co-founded Wheelchairs for Kids in 1996 to provide adjustable wheelchairs and occupational therapy expertise for children in developing countries. His volunteer run organisation has built and fitted more than 60,000 custom made wheelchairs for children in 80 countries.

NEW PARISH SECRETARY:

There have been a few good applicants, and it has not been easy to discern the best person for this important role. Over the last few weeks though, I have had several recommendations from various sources for a particular person for that role and I am grateful to say that particular person, Monique, our current Pastoral Associate, applied for the position. I am very pleased we will have her here on a wider basis and central part of our Parish team. I am very confident that with her expertise, social skills, knowledge and faith that Monique will be perfect in the role.

To fit in with her other work as a part time music teacher Monique will be in the presbytery office on Tuesdays and Thursdays. She will complete her Pastoral Associate duties including her invaluable work as coordinator of Sacramental programs for government/private school children and Liturgy Coordinator over other days of the week.

Kylie Skinner will keep continuing after 14 years here to manage mainly the Parish Bulletin on a Wednesday. This means we will cut some costs by not employing someone for Friday, but after Mass to cover this gap, I hope to be around for most of the day to answer any doorbells or phone calls as I get on with also other necessary requirements in my position. Some aspects of the secretarial work and handover will be undergone over the next month with present secretary Sharon Vassallo before her and Anthony Vassallo leave for interstate. We are in debt to them for being so generous with their time for St Mary's while here. As there is a bookkeeping gap we have hired Bernard Negline of the Brighton area who does the bookkeeping for around 40 parishes in the Archdiocese.

Yours 'in Christ'

Fr Greg Trythall – greg.trythall@cam.org.au -0400 524 363

Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal — We urgently need your support.

The ceasefire means more aid can assist people in Gaza, but the need is immense and the recovery long. Gaza's people cannot recover alone. They need the support of the global community to survive and rebuild.

Please donate to Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal.

You can donate online www.caritas.org.au/gaza or phone 1800 024 413.



Rosters for this Week 8th & 9th February 2025

Counting Team 2	David Jamieson, Marguerite Buckley, Bob Paz, Lauren Dittmar
Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Larry Rigoni 8.30am Maryanne Wenzel, Eilin Taylor 10.30am Maria Laudato
Mass Readers	6.00pm Rosemarie Smith 8.30am Anthony Verhoef 10.30am Olga Reginato
Welcomers	6.00pm Frank Schobben 8.30am Maryanne Wenzel 10.30am Joe Covelli

Rosters for next Week 15th & 16th February 2025

Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Larry Rigoni 8.30am Jeanette Thompson, Peter Kirwan 10.30am Eugene Yi, Maria Laudato
Mass Readers	6.00pm Emma Pinzone 8.30am Himali Peter 10.30am Eilin Taylor
Welcomers	6.00pm Simon Pinzone 8.30am Stephen Littleton 10.30am Di Collins

IN OUR PRAYERS

We pray for Yeme Reddy, Sarah Rodgers, Assunta Delgrosso, Anne-Marie Pelikinakis, Tita Lopres, Lazarus Wilson, Ben Johnson, Anne Falzon.

RECENTLY DECEASED & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for Norma Kennedy, Robert Watts, Veronica Dillon, George Marzic, Kerry Danaher, Rosaria Mangion, Hilary Coles, Sr. Patricia Coolahan rsj, Michele Cafagna, Anna Pungitore, Karen Ann Dey, Margaret Eastmure, Pat Doherty, Luisa Kucic, Lyn Trojkovic, Anne Baker, Kath Dorgan, Elizabeth Brent, Antonio Darmanin, Marie Morgan, Franceschina Mifsud, Natalina Costa, Ilone Szabados, Erminia Abigniente, Valerie Watt, Tarryn Crawley, Mate Delija, Mavis Nichols, Stephanie Taliana, Dorothy Baker, Peter Hayes, Drago Trojkovic, John Foley, Emily Hudson, Hugh Auld, Peter Soussa, Joe Ellis, Lena Cassar, Michael Nicholaci, Valda Wills, Sr. Nell Russell, Sr. Kathleen Nolan, Norma Hynes, Philip Webb, Lisa Di Donato and Stephen Kelly, whose anniversaries are at this time.

WORKING BEE AROUND CHURCH GARDENS

SATURDAY 22nd February, 2025—9.00AM—11.00AM

Come along and help clean up our beautiful church gardens, even if it is only for an hour or two. If you could bring your own equipment, it would be greatly appreciated.