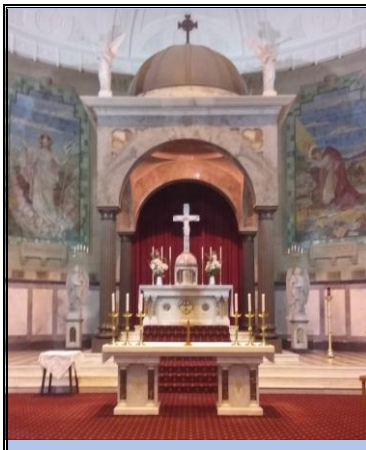




PARISH OF ASCOT VALE

ST MARY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

ST MARY'S CHURCH, 123 ST LEONARDS ROAD, ASCOT VALE
ST MARGARET'S CHURCH, BARB STREET, MARIBYRNONG

Parish Priest:	Rev Fr Desmond J Moloney
Assistant Priest / Lithuanian Chaplain:	Rev Fr Joseph Deveikis
Presbytery / Parish Office:	123 St Leonards Rd, Ascot Vale (Postal: PO Box 468 Ascot Vale 3032)
Telephone:	9370 6688
Website:	www.melbcatholic.org/ascotvale
Email:	ascotvale@cam.org.au
Office Hours:	Tue – Thu 9.30am – 3.00pm Secretary: Carmen D’Rosario
Principal, St Mary’s School:	Mr Denis Johnstone T: 9370 1194
Principal, St Margaret’s School:	Mr John Rudd T: 9318 1339

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil:

6.00pm St Mary’s

Sunday:

8.30am St Margaret’s

10.30am St Mary’s

6.00pm St Mary’s (Spanish)

Weekday Mass Times

Mon 10.00am St Mary’s

Tue 9.00am St Mary’s

Wed 9.00am St Mary’s

7.00pm St Mary’s

Thu 9.00am St Mary’s

Fri 9.15am St Mary’s

Sat 9.30am St Mary’s

Reconciliation

(Confession)

Saturday

10.00–10.30am St Mary’s

5.30–5.45pm St Mary’s

Eucharistic Adoration

Tue 9.30–10.30am St Mary’s

Sat 10.00–11.00am St Mary’s

Baptisms at St Mary’s

Baptisms are celebrated on the
2nd & 4th Sundays of each
month at 12:00 noon.

Baptism Information Sessions
are held in St Mary’s Church
at 7:30 pm on the first Thursday
of each month. Parents desiring
the baptism of their child must
attend one of these sessions.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe – 23 November 2025

ADVENT

The Meaning of the Season

In a secular, consumerist society, Advent is typically marketed: stores are decked out for the holidays and marketing emails have targeted Christmas shoppers for months. While we hustle and bustle to prepare for Christmas, what is it exactly that we do to prepare for Advent, or better yet, what is Advent? Advent is the arrival of a notable person, thing, or event. Christians observe four weeks prior to Christmas as a time to pray, wait, and remain vigilant in joyful anticipation of the notable arrival of Jesus. The season is shaped by its meaning and placement within the liturgical year.

YEAR A

The Gospel according to Matthew

This first Gospel is anonymous, but early tradition ascribed it to Matthew, the tax collector who became an Apostle (Matthew 9:9). Most scholars today read it as an expanded “second edition” of the Gospel according to Mark. Readers quickly notice great blocks of Jesus’ spoken teaching. It might be that this Gospel account was placed first in the New Testament because it stood out as the “teaching Gospel”.

Unique among the Gospel accounts, Matthew pays attention to the community of Jesus’ followers; only Matthew uses the word *church* (ekklesia; 16:18; 18:17).

Matthew contains many treasures found nowhere else. His Christmas stories uniquely tell of Joseph’s dreams, the adoring Magi, the star, Herod’s murderous fury, and the Holy Family’s flight into Egypt (chapters 1-2). *(from Sourcebook)*

SENIOR PARISHIONERS’ DAY – Friday, 5 December 2025

Warmly inviting the Senior Parishioners of St Mary’s and St Margaret’s parish to join us at this year’s **Senior Parishioners’ Day which will be held on Friday, 5 December 2025, with Mass commencing at 11.00am at St Mary’s Church.**

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be conferred during Mass. Following the service, a celebration luncheon will be provided in St Mary’s School Hall from 12.00 Noon. If you are able to attend, please either:

1. Complete the form and place it in the box at the Parish Office door
- or
2. Email the parish office at ascotvale@cam.org.au

RSVP Requested By: Thursday, 27 November 2024 please (in order to finalise catering).

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – 29/30 Nov 2025

Parish Counters: V Colicchia, T Peters

Ministers of the Word			Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	
Time	St Mary's	St Margaret's	St Mary's	St Margaret's
6.00 pm	F Pinto		P Barbaro	
8.30 am		Family Mass		A Laughton
10.30 am	M Kenny		M Andronaco	

Hymns:

Entrance: CWBII 449

Offertory: CWBII 469

Communion: CWBII 482

Reflection: CWBII 561

Recessional: CWBII 400

Recently Deceased:

Eduardo Dancel Jnr

Anniversaries:

Mary Berger; Dominic Ciccone; Luigi Cesarini; Lolita Fajardo-Zoleta; Helen Farrugia; Teresa Du; Dominic Vien; Dominic Ha; Dominic Dat

Feast Days:

24 Nov: Sts A Dung-Lac, priest, and companions, martyrs

Readings Next Week:

1st Sunday of Advent (Year A)

Is 2:1-5; Rom 13:11-14; Mt 24:37-44

St Margaret's Church – Building Audit & Condition Report by Ultum

Ultum's Building Audit & Condition Report reached St. Mary's Parish on 14th October. The Parish Masterplan Reference Group has been sent the report and the Advisory Board has been briefed on it. The report comprises: Executive Summary, Overall Summary, Project Recommendation – Retain, Re-development or Disposal of Building, Strategic Summary, Defects, Defects – Trade, Defects – Risk Rating, and two Appendices. It is expected the Reference Group will meet in a couple of weeks or so and discuss the next steps. Much more information is to follow.

Fr Desmond J Moloney

Baptisms

We welcome into the family of God's Church the children who will be baptised in our parish on Sunday.

Matilda Elizabeth Williams

William James Rechichi



We are delighted to share the wonderful success of the Archbishop's Campaign and extend our heartfelt thanks for your generosity and support. Together, parishes across the Archdiocese have raised over \$1.1 million, including \$3,715.00 contributed by Parish of St Mary Of The Immaculate Conception, Ascot Vale. These funds will strengthen key mission areas across our Archdiocese. Thank you for your commitment to this important mission and for your generous response.



Please use the QR code if you wish to contribute to our parish church. Your generosity is much appreciated. Thank you.

Legion of Mary - For member enquiries and home visitations please contact: 0435 095 998.
St Vincent de Paul Helpline: 1800 305 330, Monday – Friday, 10am – 3pm.

St Mary's Youth Update

First Gathering Recap

Our first combined youth gathering for St Mary's and St Margaret's was a truly fruitful evening! On Friday (24/10), the group enjoyed the Spaghetti–Marshmallow Tower Challenge and competed in a lively Kahoot. We shared dinner together with a mix of takeaway and delicious home-cooked dishes, followed by a quiet time of prayer.

It was an engaging and joy-filled night, and the kids are already looking forward to the next gathering!



Youth Gathering – Nativity Scene Reimagined

Join us for a fun and creative youth gathering as we work together to reimagine our parish Nativity scene for this Christmas! This session will focus on designing and planning the new scene, with the building and setup to take place on a later date.

We'll also take some time to learn about the history of the Nativity scene and delve into its Scriptural context, deepening our understanding of the mystery we're depicting.

Dinner will be included, so come along, share your ideas, and enjoy a meaningful and inspiring night together!

Time and Date: 7pm Friday 28/11/25

Bring: Tablet/Laptop/Electronic Device

Location: St Mary's School Hall

Grade 6+

80 Roseberry St, Ascot Vale Vic 3032

For queries contact stmarysyouth.ascotvale@gmail.com



PALMS INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERING

64 years

of Sustainable Development
through cross cultural relationships



A number of overseas communities in Asia and the Pacific are seeking Australian Catholics for Global Mission. For those of the faithful who hear the call, Palms is holding two webinars:

1. GAP YEAR webinar on **Thursday 4 December** 6pm & 9pm **AEDT** for Year 12 school leavers and uni students (aged 18-25), along with their parents. This is a chance for you to discover what you are interested in, and to define your purpose - before launching career path.
2. TIMOR-LESTE ENCOUNTER Information session on **Monday 8 December** 7.30pm-8.30pm **AEDT** for those who would like a short taste and tour of Palms placements on our [2026 Palms Encounter](#) to Timor-Leste from 14-27 May.

For more information contact ph: 02 9560 5333 e: palms@palms.org.au web: www.palms.org.au

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A PERMANENT DEACON

The permanent diaconate is open to single and married men, aged between 30 and 60 years, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers.

For more information: melbournecatholic.org/permanentdiaconate or www.ausdeacons.asn.au

Phone: 03 9412 3357, Email: diaconate@cam.org.au

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

FIRST READING

2 Sm 5:1-3

All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron. 'Look' they said 'we are your own flesh and blood. In days past when Saul was our king, it was you who led Israel in all their exploits; and the Lord said to you, "You are the man who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you shall be the leader of Israel."' So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a pact with them at Hebron in the presence of the Lord, and they anointed David king of Israel.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 121

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

I rejoiced when I heard them say:

'Let us go to God's house.'

And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem. (R.)

Jerusalem is built as a city
strongly compact.

It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord. (R.)

For Israel's law it is,
there to praise the Lord's name.

There were set the thrones of judgement
of the house of David. (R.)

SECOND READING

Col 1:12-20

We give thanks to the Father who has made it possible for you to join the saints and with them to inherit the light.

Because that is what he has done: he has taken us out of the power of darkness and created a place for us in the kingdom of the Son that he loves, and in him, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins.

He is the image of the unseen God and the first-born of all creation, for in him were created all things in heaven and on earth:

everything visible and everything invisible,

Thrones, Dominations, Sovereignities, Powers – all things were created through him and for him.

Before anything was created, he existed,
and he holds all things in unity.

Now the Church is his body, he is its head.

As he is the Beginning,

he was first to be born from the dead,

so that he should be first in every way;

because God wanted all perfection to be found in him and all things to be reconciled through him and for him, everything in heaven and everything on earth, when he made peace by his death on the cross.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom of David our Father;

blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lk 23:35-43

The people stayed there before the cross watching Jesus. As for the leaders, they jeered at him. 'He saved others,' they said, 'let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.' The soldiers mocked him too, and when they approached to offer him vinegar they said, 'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.' Above him there was an inscription: 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals hanging there abused him. 'Are you not the Christ?' he said. 'Save yourself and us as well.' But the other spoke up and rebuked him. 'Have you no fear of God at all?' he said. 'You got the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus,' he said, 'remember me when you come into your kingdom.' 'Indeed, I promise you,' he replied, 'today you will be with me in paradise.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

