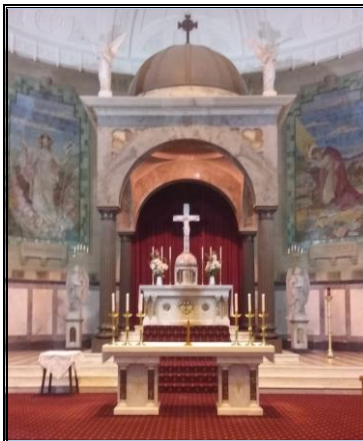




PARISH OF ASCOT VALE

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.melbourne.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.

5th Sunday of Lent – 6 April 2025

Celebrating Holy Week and the Sacred Paschal Triduum

Palm Sunday 13 April

Holy Thursday 17 April 7.30 pm Mass of the Lord’s Supper St Mary’s

Good Friday 18 April 11.00 am Stations of the Cross St Mary’s

3.00 pm Celebration of the Passion of the Lord
St Mary’s

Holy Saturday 19 April 8:00 pm Easter Vigil St Mary’s

Easter Sunday 20 April 8.30 am Easter Sunday Mass St Margaret’s

10.30 am Easter Sunday Mass St Mary’s

6:00 pm Easter Sunday Mass (Spanish) St Mary’s

Sacrament of Reconciliation – Lent

Normal Confession times Saturdays 10:00-10:30am, 5:30-5:45pm

Confessions will also be available at the following times:

Friday 11 April St Mary’s Church 7:30 – 8:00pm (following Stations)

Sunday 13 April St Margaret’s Church 9:30am (following 8:30am Mass)

Wednesday 9 April St Mary’s Church 7:30 – 8:00pm (Second Rite)

No Confessions Holy Saturday 19 April

Palm-Passion Sunday

The principal Mass for Palm Sunday at 10.30am will begin outside the church for *The Commemoration of the Lord’s Entrance into Jerusalem* with the Blessing of Palms and Procession into the church. Please gather at the side of the church.

Holy Thursday: Reaching out in Charity

The Roman Missal points out, uniquely, that gifts for the poor may be presented along with the bread and wine being carried in procession to the altar at the Mass of the Lord’s Supper. Such an offering becomes a real reminder of the practical charity that should flow from our participation in the Eucharist. Those coming on Holy Thursday evening are asked, therefore, to bring your **Project Compassion** boxes/ envelopes to be part of the procession and a tangible sign of practical charity in St. Mary’s Parish.

Request – St Vincent De Paul

ST.VINCENT DE PAUL is struggling with limited resources and growing demand, so we are asking if anyone in the parish has an unneeded cot or pram they could give to a young couple expecting a child in the near future. If you can help please ring 0416 088 214.

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – 12/13 Apr 2025

Parish Counters: V Colicchia; J Dawson

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 Stanley	
8.30 am		B Port		A Laughton
10.30 am	M Kenny		M Andronaco	

Hymns:

Entrance: CWBII 295

Offertory: CWBII 648

Communion: CWBII 509

Reflection: CWBII 450

Recessional: CWBII 587

Recently Deceased: Dennis Fredericks

Anniversaries: Peter Thanh Nguyen; Maria Lien Dang; Josep Tuan Ho; Magno Dancel Snr & Jnr; Rodolfo Reyes; Charles Parnis

Readings Next Week: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (Year C)
Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Lk 22:14-23:56

Communion at Home

Do you have a family member, friend or neighbour, living in this parish, who is no longer able to attend Mass, but would like to receive Communion regularly?

If so, please contact the parish office or ring Marie on 9372 0307.

Rosters for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Lectors, Welcomers, Counters

The next roster for St Mary's & St Margaret's commencing May to August 2025 have been emailed to you all. Thank you for the support you give these ministries.

Moonee Valley Alpha is coming!

The Alpha course will commence on **Thursday 1st May** for 10 weeks in the Symons Centre, 822 Mt Alexander Road, Moonee Ponds from 7.00pm to 9.00pm.

Alpha is geared for people enquiring about the Christian faith, especially those who are not certain about their practice of the faith. Alpha is ideal for the parents of children in our Schools.

Each session includes a free meal, a video presentation, dessert, and group discussion.

Enquiries and Registration: 0403 512 936 (or the parish office 93705035).

Jubilee prayer

Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. *Amen.*

'Dilexit nos' – encyclical letter of Pope Francis on the Human and Divine Love of the Heart of Jesus Christ, 24 October 2024

The heart, too, has the advantage of being immediately recognizable as the profound unifying centre of the body, an expression of the totality of the person, unlike other individual organs. As a part that stands for the whole, we could easily misinterpret it, were we to contemplate it apart from the Lord himself. The image of the heart should lead us to contemplate Christ in all the beauty and richness of his humanity and divinity.



Certain of these representations may indeed strike us as tasteless and not particularly conducive to affection or prayer. Yet this is of little importance, since they are only invitations to prayer, and, to cite an Eastern proverb, we should not limit our gaze to the finger that points us to the moon. Whereas the Eucharist is a real presence to be worshiped, sacred images, albeit blessed, point beyond themselves, inviting us to lift up our hearts and to unite them to the heart of the living Christ. The image we venerate thus serves as a summons to make room for an encounter with Christ, and to worship him in whatever way we wish to picture him. Standing before the image, we stand before Christ, and in his presence, "love pauses, contemplates mystery, and 13 enjoys it in silence". [35]

At the same time, we must never forget that the image of the heart speaks to us of the flesh and of earthly realities. In this way, it points us to the God who wished to become one of us, a part of our history, and a companion on our earthly journey. A more abstract or stylized form of devotion would not necessarily be more faithful to the Gospel, for in this eloquent and tangible sign we see how God willed to reveal himself and to draw close to us.

Lent

The life-changing work of Caritas Australia is only made possible by the unwavering generosity of our supporters and the dedication of our local partners on the ground.

Our partners are the true heroes, working tirelessly on the frontlines every day to transform lives and build brighter, more hopeful futures for their communities.

Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above.

Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

CARITAS AUSTRALIA
PROJECT
COMPASSION



St Vincent de Paul Helpline: 1800 305 330, Monday – Friday, 10 am – 3pm.

5th Sunday of Lent

FIRST READING

Is 43:16-21

Thus says the Lord, who made a way through the sea, a path in the great waters; who put chariots and horse in the field and a powerful army, which lay there never to rise again, snuffed out, put out like a wick: No need to recall the past, no need to think about what was done before. See, I am doing a new deed, even now it comes to light; can you not see it? Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness, paths in the wilds. The wild beasts will honour me, jackals and ostriches, because I am putting water in the wilderness (rivers in the wild) to give my chosen people drink. The people I have formed for myself will sing my praises.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 125

R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs. (R.)

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!' What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad. (R.)

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land. Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap. (R.)

They go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing: they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves. (R.)

SECOND READING

Phil 3:8-14

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on faith. All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far from thinking that I have already

won. All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jl 2:12-13

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! With all your heart turn to me, for I am tender and compassionate. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

Jn 8:1-11

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them. The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir,' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and don't sin any more.'

The Gospel of the Lord

