



St Mary of the Cross Catholic Parish

Mordialloc and Aspendale | Bunurong Country

EMBODYING CHRIST'S LOVE TO LOVE GOD, LOVE OTHERS, MAKE DISCIPLES

Parish Priest: Fr Andrew Jekot, Assistant Priest: Fr Huy Nguyen
Deacon: George Piech-Meat

1st Sunday of Advent 1 December 2024

Readings for Yr C: Jeremiah 33:14-16 1Thessalonians 3:12,4:2 Luke 21:25-28,34-36



Can we stay spiritually awake?

In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks of future trials, warning of chaos and distress in the world. Yet, He urges us not to fear, but to stand erect and raise our heads because our redemption is near. In times of uncertainty, Jesus reminds us that these signs point toward God's Kingdom and that we are not abandoned. Instead, we are called to remain vigilant, avoiding distractions and staying focused on our relationship with God. We must guard our hearts against the anxieties of life and instead prepare for Christ's coming through prayer, reflection, and acts of love.

This Advent season, let us live with hopeful expectation, remembering that Christ is near and our redemption is drawing closer each day. By staying alert and trusting in God's promises, we are ready to welcome His Kingdom with faith and joy.

What steps can we take to stay spiritually awake and prepared for Christ's coming?

Michelle Barron
St Louis' Primary School Deputy Principal
Learning and Teaching Leader

Our Parish acknowledges that we gather, pray and live on the land of the Bunurong People of the Kulin nation, and pay our respects to Elders, past, present and emerging. We recognise their continued connection to Country, and we thank them for their role in caring for, and maintaining Country and waterways, over thousands of generations.



m.stmaryofthecross.com



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Pray

INVITE

BRING

Advent is a four-week season dedicated to reflective preparation for the arrival, "advent", of Jesus Christ's nativity at Christmas time. Advent is a special time to reflect on the Holy Family, pray for families in need, and grow in faith together. Our parish offers several opportunities to grow deeper in faith, friendship, and love with during this season.

Advent Small Groups

Our Advent small groups have begun, and it's not too late to join one of our groups. It's an opportunity to discuss and reflect on the weekly Advent Readings. The dates and times are: 10am Tuesday at St Louis'; Wednesday 10.30am at St Brigid's; Wednesday 7.30pm at Tony & Josie's house and Thursday 7.30pm via zoom (furlong_ann@hotmail.com) Everyone is welcome.



Advent Morning Retreat

All are welcome to join in this special time of prayer, music and reflection as we prepare for the birth of Christ at our Advent Retreat. Facilitated once again by Jacqui Guiliani from the Archdiocese Proclaim Office.

On **Saturday the 7th of December 9.00am - 12.30pm**, at **St Brigid's Church**. Please free to invite a friend. Morning tea provided.

Christmas Gifts that nurture the faith - on sale in the church foyers this weekend and next Children's Bibles. The children's Bible is designed to help children (and adults) understand the greatest story of all time, from Adam and Eve to Jesus and the Apostles so that they appreciate how the stories connect to tell the one big story of our salvation. Also available are Catholic student diaries and Children's Rosary booklets. All proceeds from this sale will go to support the great work of the **Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project**.

Sacred Art. Australian sacred artist, Kristian Tangso, will be selling prints of her original artworks, as well as prayer cards, mugs, Christmas cards, tags, baubles and candles. She greatly appreciates your support on her journey as a Catholic artist and her mission to lead many souls on the path of Beauty. Commissions are welcome in 2025.

Feel free to reach out to Kristian via email at love.kristianjoy@gmail.com.



A FREE EVENT
Gold coin donation appreciated

CHELSEA & DISTRICT INTER-CHURCH COUNCIL
CHRISTMAS CAROLS
ecumenical service

SUNDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2024
4.00PM - 5.30PM

LF PAYNE HALL, STATION ST CHELSEA

All welcome

And a special visit from Santa!

Includes tea, coffee and Christmas cake.





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RAY WHITE CHELSEA



Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

The sacrament is administered to give strength and comfort for both physical and spiritual healing. All are welcome, feel free to bring a family member or friend. The dates are **Tuesday 17 Dec 9.15am at St Louis' and Wednesday 18 Dec 10am at St Brigid's**.



Second Rite of Reconciliation

The sacrament is a communal liturgical celebration, often celebrated during Advent. The individual confession and absolution that follows is communal too in that the penitents approach the priest at an appropriate point around the worship space in such a way that penitents can be seen but not heard by others. The sacrament will be offered for all on **Wednesday 18 December at 7.30pm at St Brigid's**.

News and Announcements



Vinnies Let's Do Christmas Lunch - TUESDAY

Aspendale's St Vincent de Paul Conference invites you to: **Let's Do Christmas Lunch on Tuesday 3rd December, 12pm-2pm, in St Louis' Church Foyer.** Enjoy a Christmas themed lunch and carols performed by St Louis de Montfort School Choir. Cost is a donation to St Vincent de Paul's Assist a Student Program. Please sign up at the Welcome Desk this weekend for catering purposes. All parishioners welcome.

Calendars & Christmas Cards

2025 Columban Calendars and St Vincent de Paul Christmas Cards are now available from the Piety stalls after all weekend Masses. 2025 Calendars are \$10 each & Christmas Cards are \$3.50 per pack (5 cards in a pack).

Australian Catholic Religious Against Human Trafficking (ACRATH)

The ACRATH calendar, creates awareness of human trafficking globally and here in Australia and will be available for sale at \$10 each in the church foyers from mid -December.



Baptism Celebrations - This Weekend

We welcome and pray for the following children who will receive the Sacrament of Baptism at St Brigid's on Sunday 1 December at 12.30pm.

Florence Jane, Poppy Joan, Fletcher John, Robbie Itajahy.

God has you in His hands on this special day.

With every step you take, He guides you on His way.

Rite of Acceptance

We have 8 people who have responded to the call to join our parish as Catholics. We welcome Amy Dullard, Jason Stanbury, Giselle Doyle, Deidre Carino, Yan Zhang, Brian Irvine, Jade Coull, Caity Purvis. They have been journeying with us the last couple of months alongside our RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation) team - Tony & Josie Aloysius, Carmel Barker, Vikki Fitzgerald, Judy Lamb & Bernie Stuart. We will formally welcome them into the process at the **8am mass & 9.30am mass this Sunday** through the Rite of Acceptance. We ask for God's blessing upon them and all are invited to keep our friends in our prayers.

Hour of Grace - Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Sunday 8 December 12 noon - 1pm at Stella Maris, Beaumaris (after 10.30am Mass). **Monday 9 December 12 noon - 1pm at St Patirck's Mentone.** Everyone is invited to join in the prayer hour.

16 Days of Prayer - Activism against Gender-Based Violence

The global campaign sees communities around the world join the call to prevent and eliminate violence against women and girls, with a different focus each day. The JAG Domestic and Family Violence Team has prepared a prayer for each day. These are published in a booklet which is available in the church foyers, on the [parish website](#) and via the parish [Facebook](#). Please join us in prayer for these 16 Days - 25/11 -10/12.

Vinnies Christmas Hampers

You are invited to place donations of non-perishable food items under the Christmas trees in our churches. Suggestions - **Christmas treats, lollie's & chocolates, nuts & savoury nibbles, sweet & savoury biscuits, coffee, Milo, teabags, long-life milk, soft drinks, breakfast cereals, jams & spreads, bathroom & cleaning products.** Vouchers and cash donations are also welcome. Donations can be made online at www.vinnies.org.au or call 13 1812.

Our two St Vincent de Paul conferences will use these donations to make up hampers to distribute to needy families in this area. The Conferences like to deliver the hampers early so it would be helpful if donations arrived by **15th December.**

Anyone needing assistance from St Vincent de Paul can call: 1800 305 330.

Parish Groups

Holy Rosary and Adoration

Saturday 7 December at 4.30pm at St Louis'. Holy Rosary and Adoration is also held every Friday at St Brigid's from 10.30am ahead of our Friday Mass at 11.30am.

Flower Ministry

We are looking for a couple more volunteers. Please contact the office if you would like to join the team.

Choir Practice - Christmas

We are rehearsing for all our Christmas masses on Tuesday nights from 7.30pm at St Louis' church. All welcome. Call Trish on 0421 604 849.

JAG Christmas Function

Wednesday 11 December 6.30pm at Longbeach Chelsea RSL. RSVP by 4 December to Judy at judith@jml.net.au

NEXT WEEK'S SERVE MINISTERS ROSTER - 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - 7/8 DECEMBER 2024

7/8 Dec 2024	2nd Sunday of Advent Readings (Yr C) Baruch 5: 1-9 Philippians 1: 4-6,8:11 Luke 3: 1-6 CUPPA WEEKEND						
	Reader	Commentator	Special Minister	Special Minister	Special Minister	Welcomer	Welcomer
6pm (A)	Debra Searle	Carmel Barker	Anthony Barnhoorn	Marie Medlicott	Marg De Vries	Ann Brennan	Sonia Williams
8.00am (M)	Frances North	Paula Rodrigues	Carole Guthrie	Jack Guthrie	Joan Healy	Tony Aloysious	Odette Budge
9.30am (A)	Niko Tovia	Maureen Wraight	Ann Furlong	Mary Nayna	Elizabeth Newington	Jon Searle	Berna Wake
11.00am (M)	Volunteer	Nola Petraitis	Louise Breslin	Peter Hannan	Gail Bell	Robyn Worsnop	Helen Rocks
Counters	Group 3	Joe Corda	Nelson Popley				

Recently deceased:

Anniversaries: Edwin Wood, Kevin Murphy, Tom Evans, Patricia Rochford, Sebastiano Barbarino, Ryan Kerlin, Brian James Davie, Nerina Brown, Alma Brennan, Gillian Griffiths, Lawrence Pickett, Juan Mauel Gomez Folz, Mariann McDonnell, John Campbell, Yolanda Arce, Willie Reilly, Anne Hoyne, Jack Colwell, Sudarmo Haryanto, Les Woodhead, Pearl Amor, Beryl Alma Johnson, Reg Garbelotto, Soledad Setia, Toni Egan, Filippo Cordoma, Effie Lobo, Pat Robertson, Jill Sulzberger, Rachelle Lynch, Matthew Haar, Joan May, Philomena Lazard, John Newington, Salvatore Perotta, Michael David Elbrish, Emily Braganza, Gerry Elboz, David Corda, Ronald Moore, Brendan Evans, Marguerite Hamilton, Tony Brennan, Ruth Naicker, Conor Hughes, Rita O'Brien, Bonnie Wilkinson, Mary Patricia Wilkinson, Fr Pat Laws.

Praying for the sick: Fr Terry Kean, Walter Young, Julie Griffiths, Naldi Junaldi, Nik Selepak, Sophia Bicos, Steve Gobac, Therese Brown, Maureen Fitzgerald, Fernanda Barbarino, John Nicholson, Peter Waltho, Ben Quirk, Sam Finnochiaro, Anne Burke, Michelle Ives, Graham Owen, Norreen Spies, Harry Spies, Caiden Hoare, Sarah Gilbert, Brenda Cortese, Peter Baxter, Deborah Hall, Donna Cardamone, Heidi Soeding, Janice Gillette, Nancy Selby, Sr Anita Le Clerq, Desmond Dunn, Adam Taylor, Peter Shoppe, Natalian Constanzo, Flynn, Maree Wesols, Veronica Wesols, Andrea Williams, Fr Kevin Tortorelli (OFM), Joseph Michaleff, Marie Ella Bednarski, Geraldine Bennett, Charmaine Milne, Michelle Lieour, Odette Ward, Louise Hawes, Virginia Hindall, Penny Proctor

If you would like healing prayers in our Parish Bulletin or a pastoral visit:
mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au

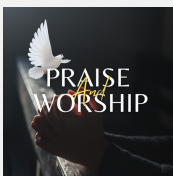
GROWING IN COMMUNITY & BELONGING AT ST MARY OF THE CROSS



CHILDREN'S LITURGY
 5 - 12-year-olds.
 4th weekend of the month. All masses except 8am.



PRAYER MINISTRY
 Intercessory prayer.
 Last weekend of the month - all masses.



PRAISE & WORSHIP
 3rd Friday of the month
 7.30 - 8.30pm.
 Alternates between each church.

FORMED

This Week on FORMED - Christmas - What Catholics believe

Dr Barker answers some of the most asked questions on the internet. Is Christmas a pagan holiday? Why is it celebrated on December 25?

What happened at the "first Christmas"?

Go to formed.org/signup and select our parish.

WEEKEND MASSES

St Louis Saturday 6pm
 St Brigid's Sunday 8am
 St Louis Sunday 9.30am
 St Brigid's Sunday 11am
Our 6pm Saturday Vigil & 8am Sunday Masses are live streamed and can be accessed at:
m.stmaryofthecross.com/mass
WEEKDAY MASSES
 St Louis Mon 9.15am Communion Service, St Louis Tuesday 9.15am, St Brigid's Wed 10am, St Louis Thurs 9.15am, St Brigid's Fri 11.30am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AND ROSARY

St Brigid's every Fri 10.30am
 St Louis 1st Sat of the month 4.30pm

RECONCILIATION

St Brigid's Friday's 12pm
 St Louis Saturday's 5.30pm

CONTACT US

Parish Office:
 Ann Fitzgerald 03 9580 7981
mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au

Parish House 03 9412 8432

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Fr Andrew, Fr Huy, Trish Angliss, Berna Wake

Our Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and human dignity of children, young people & adults at risk in our community.

CHILD SAFEGUARDING TEAM:

Fr Andrew Jekot 03 9412 8432
 Fr Huy Nguyen 03 9412 8432
 Trish 0421 604 849
 Louise 0415 963 799
 Joe 0407 354 568
 Helen 0498 178 899
 Joanne 0413 133184
 Robyn 0412 814 592