

WELCOME TO THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF ST AMBROSE WOODEND, ST AMBROSE RIDDELLS CREEK, ST BRIGID'S GISBORNE, ST MARY'S LANCEFIELD & ROMSEY & ST PATRICK'S MACEDON

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph, Year A

28th December, 2025



ST AMBROSE 18 Templeton Street
Woodend



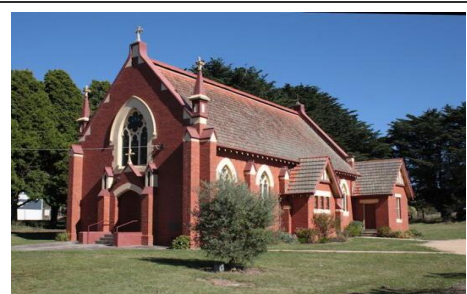
ST AMBROSE 10 Sutherland Street
Riddells Creek



ST BRIGID'S 66 Aitken Street
Gisborne



ST MARY'S (Our Lady of Lourdes)
27 Chauncey St Lancefield



ST MARY'S (Immaculate Conception)
85 Main St Romsey



ST PATRICK'S Victoria Street
Macedon

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday - 5pm Woodend, 6pm Gisborne, 6.30pm Lancefield

Sunday - 8am Riddells Creek, 9am Romsey, 9.30am Macedon, 11am Woodend & Gisborne

Please note: **During January, all St. Mary's parish Sunday Masses will be celebrated at the Romsey Church.**

Weekday Mass Times

Please see current bulletin or website for altered weekday Masses during January.

Anointing Mass Romsey: 1st Saturday of the month 10.30am

Reconciliation

Woodend: 2nd Saturday of the month 10am-10.30am, Gisborne 3rd Saturday of the month 10am- 10.30,

Lancefield: 4th Saturday of the month 10am-10.30am

Parish Staff

Parish Priest: Fr John Healy PO Box 397, 47 Urquhart St Woodend. Mobile: 0439 033 750 john.healy@cam.org.au

Assistant Priest: Fr Wahid Riad 66 Aitken Street, Gisborne

Parish Secretary Woodend: Bernadette Petruccelli PO Box 397, 47 Urquhart St Woodend. Ph: 0409 436 441

Email: bernadette.petruccelli@cam.org.au **Website Woodend:** www.stambrosewoodend.com.au

Parish Secretary Lancefield: Tammie Dalgleish 27 Chauncey Lancefield. Ph 03 54292130

Email: lancefield@cam.org.au **Website Lancefield:** www.melbcatholic.org/s/lancefield

Parish Secretary Gisborne: Tammie Dalgleish 66 Aitken Street Gisborne. Ph 03 54282591

Email: gisborne@cam.org.au **Website Gisborne:** www.melbcatholic.org/s/gisborne

Office Hours

Woodend Monday 9am - 4pm & Friday 9am - 4pm **Email:** woodend@cam.org.au

Lancefield Wednesday 8am - 5pm & Friday 8am - 5pm **Email:** lancefield@cam.org.au

Gisborne Tuesday 9am -5pm & Thursday 9am-5pm **Email:** gisborne@cam.org.au

Weekday mass during the month of January

As Fr Wahid will still be on personal leave during January the following is the amended weekday Mass timetable:

6th 6pm Woodend, 7th 9.15am Gisborne, 8th 9.30am Romsey, 9th 9.30am Lancefield

The week of 12th – 16th No weekday Mass

20th 5pm Gisborne, 21st 9.30am Woodend, 22nd 9.30am Romsey, 23rd 9.30am Lancefield

27th 6pm Woodend, 28th 9.15am Gisborne, 29th 9.30am Romsey, 30th 9.30am Lancefield

The Living Word

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Year A

28 December 2025

First Reading **Isaiah 3:2-6. 12-14**

Whoever fears the Lord honours his parents.

The Lord honours the father in his children, and upholds the rights of a mother over her sons.

Whoever respects his father is atoning for his sins,

he who honours his mother is like someone amassing a fortune.

Whoever respects his father will be happy with children of his own,

he shall be heard on the day when he prays. Long life comes to him who honours his father,

he who sets his mother at ease is showing obedience to the Lord.

My son, support your father in his old age, do not grieve him during his life.

Even if his mind should fail, show him sympathy,

do not despise him in your health and strength;

for kindness to a father shall not be forgotten

but will serve as reparation for your sins.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 127:1-5. R. see v.1

(R.) Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

1. O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be happy and prosper. *(R.)*
2. Your wife like a fruitful vine
in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive,
around your table. *(R.)*
3. Indeed thus shall be blessed
the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion
all the days of your life. *(R.)*

Second Reading **Col 3:12-21**

Concerning the Christian life in the world.

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful.

Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other,

and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Wives, give way to your husbands, as you should in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and treat them with gentleness. Children, be obedient to your parents always, because that is what will please the Lord. Parents, never drive your children to resentment or you will make them feel frustrated.

Gospel Acclamation **Col 3:15. 16**

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,

and the fullness of his message live within you.

Alleluia!

Gospel **Mt 2:13-15.19-23**

Take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt.

After the wise men had left, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother with you, and escape into Egypt, and stay there until I tell you, because Herod intends to search for the child and do away with him.' So Joseph got up and, taking the child and his mother with him, left that night for Egypt, where he stayed until Herod was dead. This was to fulfil what the Lord had spoken through the prophet:

I called my son out of Egypt.

After Herod's death, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother with you and go back to the land of Israel, for those who wanted to kill the child are dead.' So Joseph got up and, taking the child and his mother with him, went back to the land of Israel. But when he learnt that Archelaus had succeeded his father Herod as ruler of Judaea he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he left for the region of Galilee. Here he settled in a town called Nazareth. In this way the words spoken through the prophets were to be fulfilled:

He will be called a Nazarene.



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Herod is seeking to annihilate all the male children in Bethlehem. The child Jesus is in mortal danger. 'Arise, take the child and his mother, and flee into Egypt.' And Joseph did so. That night and by night, such was the urgency.

Have you ever thought: What if Egyptian border guards had turned back this refugee family? What if, instead of finding safe haven and sanctuary, this desperate family had been denied entry? The Divine plan to rescue Jesus from a murderous tyrant depended not only on Joseph but, also, on the Egyptian people.

And so we discover two Holy Families in this Gospel episode. One is the little Holy Family with Joseph, Mary and Jesus. The other is the larger Holy Family of humanity embodied in those Egyptians who provided sanctuary, who opened their land to allow Joseph, Mary and Jesus to settle out of danger.

We might pause for a moment to ask: Can we be as hospitable and open as the Egyptians of today's Gospel? Another baby in another family of refugees may depend on our answer!

mtate@bigpond.com

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EVERYONE WELCOME

Ministry	27/12/25 6:30pm	28/12/25 9am	03/01/26 6:30pm	04/01/26 9am	10/01/26 6:30pm
Priest	Fr. John	Fr. John			
Musician	Rosalie	Agnes	Rosalie	Christine	Rosalie
Reader	Leanne	Rosemary	Michael	Betty	Joan
Collector	Vol req	Ged	Vol req	Gerard	Vol req
Spec Min	Julie	Joanne	Julie	Joanne	Julie
Set up	Rosalie/Julie	Eileen	Rosalie/Julie	Joanne	Rosalie/Julie
Cleaner	-----	Anne N	-----	Anthea	Florence
Location	LF	Rom	LF	Rom	LF
Ministry	11/01/26 9am	17/01/26 6:30pm	18/01/26 9am	24/01/26 6:30pm	25/01/26 9am
Priest					
Musician	Agnes	Rosalie	Christine	Rosalie	Agnes
Reader	Eileen	Joanne	Kalma	Tony	Judith
Collector	Joe	Vol req	Tim	Vol req	Barry
Spec Min	Betty	Julie	Kerry	Julie	Joanne
Set up	Marie	Rosalie/Julie	Marie	Rosalie/Julie	Eileen
Cleaner	Anne N	-----	Christine	-----	Kerry
Location	Rom	LF	Rom	LF	Rom

Could those listed on the roster please advise if you are unavailable.

CONTINUING PRAYER LIST:

Please pray for the following who are in continuing need of our prayers:

Christine C & Brendan C.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL – RESPONSE: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

R: We pray for ourselves and the special needs of all in our parish community. We pray for those who are sick, those on our parish prayer list – the frail, and for all who care for them. For the faithful departed: for those who have died recently, especially and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially ***Dan & Freda McCarthy***. We remember all those whose anniversary falls during the month of January, especially ***Jack Martin, Jack Coburn, Hilda Whitworth, Diane Phillips, Rose Theisz, Sue O'Brien, Madge Scanlon, Laurence Harrigan, Ann Connors, John Baynes, Brian Scanlon, Val Carr & Marie Johnston.***

All CELEBRANT **HAIL MARY**
All **LET US BRING OUR PRAYERS TOGETHER BY SAYING THE JUBILEE PRAYER.**
JUBILEE PRAYER - (on screen)

Collections last week Presbytery \$524 Thanksgiving \$800
 1st collection: Presbytery & Priest 2nd collection: Thanksgiving (envelope)

SECRETARY ANNUAL LEAVE

Tam will be taking some time off throughout January.

From now until January 6th the parish office will be open as normal, only being closed on public holidays.

From January 8th to the 21st the parish office will be closed, reopening on the 22nd.

For matters of urgency during this time, please contact Fr. John directly.

All non urgent enquiries can be sent via email and will be answered upon my return.

BULLETIN & LIVING WORD

There will be NO bulletin or Living word printed during January.

Wishing everyone a very safe and

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

And may 2026 bring you good health, success & much love.

2026 ROSTERS

The rosters for 2026 will be produced in the coming weeks and distributed (that's the plan!) prior to February. If you have any holidays planned or extended periods of unavailability, please let me know so I can work around your dates. Thank you.

CHILD PROTECTION
 is everyone's responsibility

Safety of Children and All Vulnerable People

The St. Mary's Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy is on display on the church noticeboards or via the parish office.

All children leaving the church during Mass must be accompanied by a parent.

Child Safety Committee

Fr. John Healy
 Tammie Dalglish
 Michael Mooney

Baptism

As arranged with the Parish Secretary on the 1st Sunday of the month

Marriages

Arranged by appointment with at least 6 months' notice.

Please contact parish office.

Funerals

Contact Fr. John directly.

Thanksgiving

Any parishioner wishing to join the Thanksgiving program is invited to contact Tammie at the parish office to arrange some Thanksgiving envelopes. Thanksgiving contributions by Direct Debit or Credit Card welcome.

Welcome

St. Mary's Parish community warmly welcomes visitors and new parishioners. We invite new parishioners to introduce yourself to Fr. John, fill in a census card located in the church foyer and place in either collection or contact Tammie directly at the parish office.

Volunteering Ministries

A current Working with Children Check is required to volunteer within the parish.

Help is always welcome!

Power Point operator at Mass
 Reader of the Word
 Church Cleaning & Gardening

THANK YOU Fr. MARTIN

Our combined parishes extend our appreciation to FR. MARTIN FLEMING who will be celebrating Mass with us during the months of Dec & Jan.

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Please see front page of the bulletin for updated Mass times and locations.

2025 Volunteers – Thank You

Whilst many of us attend Mass and appreciate that it runs so smoothly, there is a team of volunteers behind the scenes who work hard to make this happen.

On behalf of Fr. John, Fr. Wahid, Secretary Tam and all parishioners, may I extend a sincere thank you to our Readers, Musicians, Florists, Special Ministers, Liturgy team, Finance team, Gardeners, Collectors, Greeters, Fundraisers, Visitors of the Sick, Church carers, Pest Controllers 😊 and everyone who says yes when I ask for help!

YOU ARE AMAZING!

THANK YOU

As 2025 comes to a close, we'd like to thank the Business' that support our parish by advertising in our bulletin each week.

Many of them are parish families and are caring for our parishioners by serving them in their chosen fields.

Of course, nobody wants to seek out a funeral home but the two funeral homes who support our parish are simply amazing and when we are at our lowest, they are the hands you want your loved ones to be in.

Thank you to all of our Bulletin advertisers for their continued support.

T.J. Scott & Sons Funeral Director, Tobin Brothers Funerals, Measured Joinery, Blackwood Advisory & Andrew Baddeley Podiatrist.

Our final thank you goes to our hall users, carers and groundskeepers.

We have a number of hall users on a regular weekly basis who not only provide a regular source of income to the parish which in turn helps to maintain our assets, but who also help care for our hall.

In order to keep usage fees low, our hall users care for the hall like it was their own building. This keeps cleaning by volunteers to a minimum and brings peace of mind that our hall is being cared for properly.

Thank you to the Drop In team who provide a monthly lunch and cards day for our most vulnerable parishioners in our community.

Thank you to the Romsey Lancefield Probus group who meet monthly in our hall and provide a wonderful service to our retired community members.

Thank you to Justine Sargeant, founder of Outside the Box Training who runs a twice weekly gentle exercise class in our hall to help older community members who may experience mobility issues, younger community members who may be recovering from injury or community members of any age who just want to work on their fitness and strength.

Thank you to Amy, co-founder of Bluebird Dance Theatre who provides ballet classes to a wonderful group of young women who can continue their love of dance in our space.

Each of our hall groups treat our parish hall with respect and we are happy to support them to support our community.

Lastly, and most certainly not least are the amazing people who look after our grounds. Both locations have sizeable plots of land and just like magic prior to any special event, the lawns are mowed and the grounds look amazing.

A big Thank You to Marion in Lancefield who uses our lawn care as meditation and has done wonderful things with our plants and also to Ian & Rhonda Wilkins of Slashez in Romsey who have cared for our Romsey grounds for many, many years.

Crossword

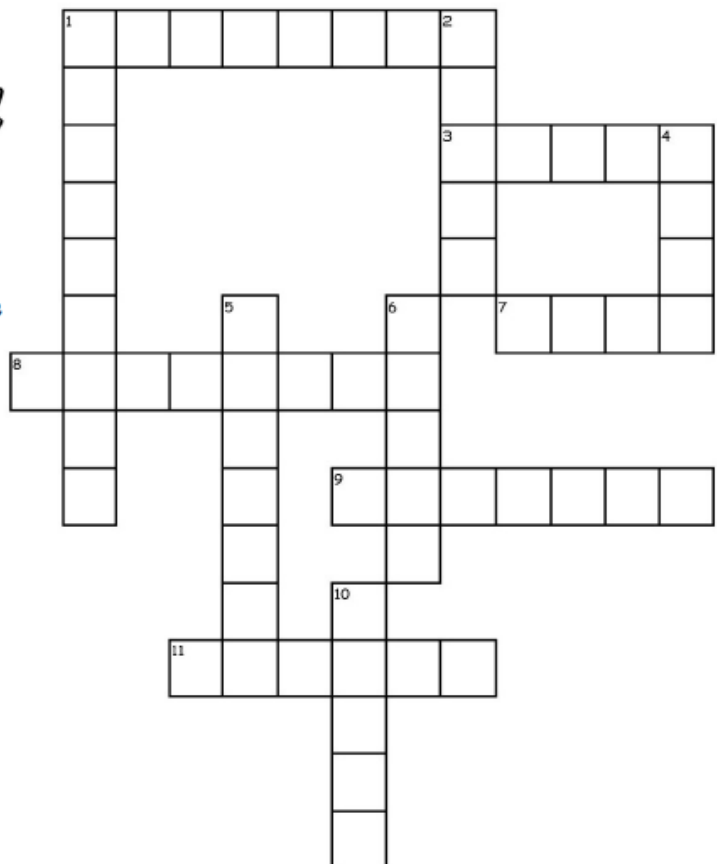


Across

- 1: to have come into sight
- 3: the angel told Joseph to take Mary and Jesus to this place
- 7: a husband's partner
- 8: someone who comes from Nazareth
- 9: what we use our eyes for
- 11: to go back

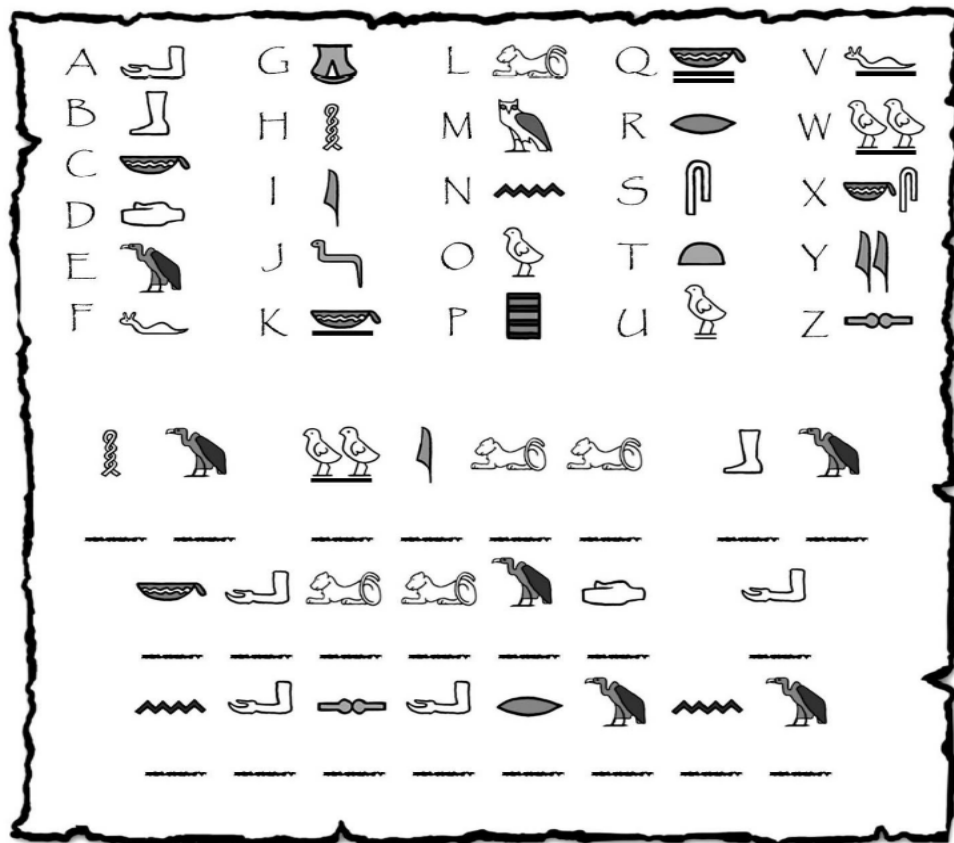
Down

- 1: the name of Herod's son
- 2: the angel appeared to Joseph in a _____
- 4: the opposite of false
- 5: to assure someone of a definite outcome
- 6: this king wanted to harm Jesus
- 10: rush



DECODE THE PROPHECY

Use the code below to decipher the prophet's message



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- ✓ Superannuation & Retirement Planning
- ✓ Self Managed Superannuation
- ✓ Income Protection & Life Insurance

THANKSGIVING BY DIRECT DEBIT

Anyone not already on the Thanksgiving Program who would like to contribute to the Church may do so by direct debit to the acct below:

**St. Mary's Church Account
NAB**

BSB: 083 347

Acct: 64150 3257

Please use your surname and TG number as the reference.

PRIEST & PRESBYTERY BY DIRECT DEBIT

Anyone not already contributing to the Priest & Presbytery expenses who would like to contribute may do so by direct debit to the acct below:

**St. Mary's Presbytery Account
NAB**

BSB: 083 347

Acct: 64151 8467

Please use your surname as the reference.

**Do you have foot
problems?**



Andrew Baddeley | Podiatrist

ROMSEY | 5429 5254 | 99 Main St

RIDDELLS CREEK | 5428 7591 | 9 Station St