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PARISH TEAMS

Clergy

Fr. Albert Yogarajah PP
Fr. James Baptist
Fr. Martin Adichilamackal
Rev. Deacon William Daw

Pastoral Worker

Kemp Vinson

Home Based RE Coordinator

Benita Ediriwickrema

Finance:

Natascha Eve Klein

Administration:

Cora Ilagan

Tamil Chaplain

Fr. Anton Aseervathampillai

South Sudanese Chaplain

Fr. Stephen Kumyangi

Assistant Chaplain

Rev. Deacon William Daw
9741 4144

PARISH SCHOOLS

St. Andrew's Primary

School – Ph. 9741 3686

Principal: Melissa
Evgeniadis

Corpus Christi Primary

School – Ph. 9741 8440

Principal: Adele Vesty

Bethany Primary School

– Ph. 9742 9800

Principal: Joanne Webster

Our Lady of the

Southern Cross Primary

School – Ph. 9974 8500

Principal: Justin Hilton

St. John the Apostle PS

Tarneit West -

Ph. 8754 4300

Principal: Simon Dundon

St. Joseph Primary

School – 8742 3381

Principal: Troy Rickard

MacKillop Catholic

Regional College –

Ph. 8734 5200

Principal: Chris Caldow

Thomas Carr Catholic

Regional College -

Ph. 8734 2444

Principal: Rose Connolly



ST. ANDREW'S PARISH

Incorporating the Communities of
Werribee Central, Wyndham Vale, Werribee South,
Werribee North,
Tarneit West, Upper Point Cook
and Little River

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A – 21ST AND 22ND MARCH 2026

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we stand, the Wathaurong People. We pay our respects to them for their care of the land. May we walk gently and respectfully upon the land.

FIRST READING: A reading from the prophet Ezekiel (Ezekiel 37:12-14)

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

THE WORD OF THE LORD.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 129

Response: With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord, Lord, hear my voice! O let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleading.

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive? But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you.

My soul is waiting for the Lord; I count on his word. My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak. (Let the watchman count on daybreak and Israel on the Lord.)

Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption, Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

Response: With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

SECOND READING: A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans (Romans 8:8-11)

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

THE WORD OF THE LORD.

Gospel Acclamation:

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will not die for ever. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

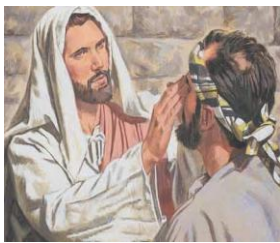
GOSPEL: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (John 11:3-7. 17. 20-27. 33-45) shorter version

The sisters Martha and Mary sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.' Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.' On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that even now,

*** GOSPEL CONTINUE ON NEXT PAGE ***

St. Andrew's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.

GOSPEL: whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said: 'I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' 'Yes, Lord,' she said, 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.' Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said: 'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.' When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.' Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him. **THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD.**



GOSPEL REFLECTION: As we draw near to the end of Lent, today's Gospel clearly has Jesus' passion and death in view. That's why John gives us the detail about Lazarus' sister, Mary that she is the one who anointed the Lord for burial (see John 12:3, 7). His disciples warn against returning to Judea; Thomas even predicts they will "die with Him" if they go back. When Lazarus is raised, John notices the tombstone being taken away, as well as Lazarus' burial cloths and head covering all details he later notices with Jesus' empty tomb (see John 20:1, 6, 7). Like the blind man in last week's readings, Lazarus represents all humanity. He stands for "dead men" for all those Jesus loves and wants to liberate from the bands of sin and death. John even recalls the blind man in his account today (see John 11:37). Like the man's birth in blindness, Lazarus' death is used by Jesus to reveal "the glory of God" (see John 9:3). And again, like last week, Jesus' words and deeds give sight to those who believe (see John 11:40). If we believe, we will see that Jesus loves each of us as He loved Lazarus, that He calls us out of death and into new life. By His Resurrection Jesus has fulfilled Ezekiel's promise in today's First Reading. He has opened the graves that we may rise, put His Spirit in us that we may live. This is the Spirit that Paul writes of in today's Epistle. The same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead will give life to we who were once dead in sin. Faith is the key. If we believe as Martha does in today's Gospel that Jesus is the resurrection and the life even if we die, we will live. "I have promised and I will do it," the Father assures us in the First Reading. We must trust in His word, as we sing in today's Psalm that with Him is forgiveness and salvation. **Scott Hahn**

PRAYER AT HOME: Use Martha's creed this week: "Yes Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God."

VOCATION VIEW: Seeing physically dead people return to life is not a common event. But Christians, serious about their vocation, are eager to help the "down and out" find new meaning in Christ and live a full life.

RECENT DEATH: Angelo Luigi Menegazzo, Vilma Aruliah

DEATH ANNIVERSARY: Zenaida Ilagan, George and Joseph Vanspall, Douglas Dubier and Daisy Fernandez, Felice Piccolo

PRAYER FOR THE SICK: Nimal Pandithakoralege, Yvan Mamedy, John Hassett, Julie Horkings, Anna, Lynne Worsley

To add or renew names for the Prayer for the Sick, please complete a Mass offering envelope and return it to the parish office. Envelopes are available in the church brochure racks or at the parish office. Names will be kept on the list for two months.

REMINDER: Parishioners are asked to note that requests for Recently Deceased, Anniversaries, and similar intentions to be included in the Prayers of the Faithful must clearly indicate the date and time of the Mass you will be attending for the name to be mentioned. All requests must be received at the Parish Office no later than Wednesday afternoon, and Mass offering envelopes should be addressed to Administration. Envelopes are available in the church brochure racks or at the parish office

TAKE AWAY SHEET VIA EMAIL – Due to some technical issue, we are unable to send Take Away Sheet via email for the past 3 weeks. You can access the Take Away Sheet through our website: www.melbcatholic.org/s/werribee Once the issue is resolved, we will start sending Take Away Sheet to your email. We apologise for the inconvenience. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

WORKING BEE TO PREPARE FOR HOLY WEEK



Let us all come together once again
on Saturday, 28th March 2026
after the 9.00am Mass to prepare our
church for Holy Week.

This is our church, let us take care of it
and prepare it for the Lord and for all of us.



**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS
ON SUNDAY, 5th APRIL 2026.
ADJUST YOUR
CLOCK ONE HOUR BACKWARD
AT 3.00AM (AUSTRALIAN
EASTERN DAYLIGHT)**



Collection for flowers for the Church for Easter will be held at all Masses on this weekend, 21st and 22nd March 2026. Thank you for your generosity.

WEEKDAY LITURGY (23rd to 28th March 2026)

Mon: Communion Service with Liturgy
Tues: 9.00am Mass
 7.00pm Parish Reconciliation
Wed: Feast of the Annunciation
 9.00am Mass
 7.00pm Rosary followed by Mass
Thurs: 9.00am Mass
Fri: 9.00am Mass followed by Stations of the Cross
 7.00pm Stations of the Cross followed by Mass
Sat: 9.00am Mass

WEEKEND MASSES (28th and 29th March 2026) PALM SUNDAY

Sat: 5.00pm Tarneit West Community Mass at
 St. John the Apostle Primary School
 6.00pm Vigil Mass (blessing of palms in church)
Sun: 8.00am, 9.30am, and 5pm Mass (blessing of palms
 in the church)
 11.00am Mass (blessing of palms outside
 followed by procession of palms to the church)

The Wyndham Vale Catholic Community
 (incorporating Manor Lakes, Bluestone,
 Harpley, Jubilee, Mambourin)

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

6:30 PM | FRIDAY, 27 MARCH 2026
 2-20 HOWQUA WAY MANOR LAKES, VIC 3024

Everyone is welcome to join us!

ST. ANDREW'S PARISH RECONCILIATION FOR LENT - There will be a Reconciliation Service followed by individual confession on **Tuesday, 24th March 2026 at 7.00pm in the church.** Please take this opportunity to have your confession before holy week.

TO ALL MINISTERS OF THE WORD AND EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

We are seeking some volunteers for the Holy week celebrations. Clipboards will be available at the front of the altar for those interested qualified parishioners. **Holy Week Ministers of the Word and Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist and Choir Leaders - Thursday 26 March 7.00pm St Andrew's church.** All ministers who are selected/volunteered for tasks during Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday are required to attend an Information night session to confirm their attendance and willingness to perform tasks and to clarify those tasks over the Holy Week period. Thank you. Peter Walters

ROSTERS FOR THE WEEK 22nd to 30th March 2026

	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am	11.00am	5.00pm
LECTORS 28 th / 29 th Mar	Aldrin Manohar Nicola Fernando Aroon Sequeira Rhea Fernandes	Laura Chamberlain David Cox Peter Walters John Hennessy	Maria Malanyaon Ana Balanza Rose Chu Edna Silva	Clare Taylor Natasha Krishnakumar Stealth D'Roario Eric Demate	Sindhu Moreira Angelo Moreira Andrew Canet Nadia Richards
MUSIC 28 th / 29 th Mar	Joyful Voices Choir	St. Anthony's Choir	Leituala Choir	Light of Jesus Choir	St. Andrew's Youth Choir
Communion Minister 28 th / 29 th Mar	Anne Marie Palmer Reuben Charles Anson John	David Cox John Hennessy Lillian Jilbert	Charles Mei Sherine Raphael John Faranda	Cora Demate Clare Taylor Anthony Acciarito	Sindhu Moreira Stephen Hart Judy Anderson
COMMUNION SERVICE (MONDAY)		This week: Next week:	Mon 23 Mar: S. Raphael Mon 30 Mar: Mass		
CLEANER		Cleaning: Vacuuming:	Mon 30 Mar: C. Camilleri, G. Iria Fri 3 Apr: A. Majok, N. Deng Mon 30 Mar: Volunteer		
ALTAR CLOTH		This week: Next week:	Sun 22 Mar: M. Galea Sun 29 Mar: C. Demate		
OUR LADY'S STATUE		This week: Next week:	Sun 22 Mar: N. George Sun 29 Mar: S. Raphael		

GOOD FRIDAY HOLY LAND COLLECTION - Offer hope by supporting the Sacred Places and Christians of the Holy Land. Donations can be made to: Commissary of the Holy Land, 47 Victoria Street, Waverley NSW 2024 T: (02) 9369 9300 | E: holyland@franciscans.org.au
Offer hope by supporting the Sacred Places and Christians of the Holy Land.



WHERE DOES THE WORD "SYNOD" COME FROM? - The word Synod comes from the Greek syn-hodos, meaning "walking together on the road." This reminds us that the Christian life is never meant to be lived alone. Faith is a shared journey, where we support one another, listen to one another, and discern together how best to follow Christ.

CHRISM MASS (HOLY OILS) 2026 - You are warmly invited to join us for the annual Chrism Mass, which will be celebrated at **St Patrick's Cathedral, 1 Cathedral Place, East Melbourne on Tuesday 31 March 2026 at 10.00am–12.00pm**. In this ancient and beautiful liturgy, Archbishop Peter A Comensoli, together with all of Melbourne's priests, will bless the oils being used in the sacraments for the year ahead. For all enquiries, email communications@cam.org.au.

EL SHADDAI PRAYER GROUP - for the coming weeks from Tuesday 24th February to Tuesday 31st March, El Shaddai Prayer Group is running a LENTEN program. We will be reflecting on the Sunday scripture readings, using excellent resources put out annually by the Diocese of Wollongong. Lenten Program – Catholic Diocese of Wollongong Booklets are provided. All are welcome to join us. TUESDAYS 1pm - 2:30pm followed by tea and coffee. Penola Hub 33 Mortimer St. Werribee.

RINNOVAMENTO NELLO SPIRITO SANTO: ricorda che il nostro gruppo di preghiera continua ogni Mercoledì dalle ore 10am alle 12.00pm nella Penola Hub, 33 Mortimer Street, Werribee. Tutti benvenuti.

PEONIES CRAFT GROUP - It is a friendly group, which meets every Thursday at 10.00am until mid-day at the Penola Hub. We meet for companionship, having a cup of tea or coffee together and sewing, knitting, crochet or whatever craft each person likes to do. Sometimes we just come along to meet with our friends. We welcome all ages and cultures. Please contact the Parish office for further details.

DIVINE MERCY GROUP - is on every Friday, after the 9am Mass in the church. Everyone is welcome to join.



"CORPUS CHRISTI PRIMARY SCHOOL will be holding its inaugural Easter Fete on Saturday 28th March from 11:00am–4:00pm. All are welcome. There will be rides, food stalls, fairy floss, singing and dancing, games and plenty of fun for the whole family."



CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES VICTORIA - Join the Palm Sunday Walk: You are warmly invited to join the 2026 Palm Sunday Walk for Justice, Respect and Kindness. Palm Sunday has been a moment for Christians to publicly witness peace and social justice for all. In that same spirit, we come together again in 2026 to call for communities where every person feels safe, respected and valued – especially those seeking asylum. Please join this public expression of faith, hope and solidarity. Sunday 29 March 2026. **1.00 pm** – Gather on Princes Bridge (near Flinders Street Station) with banners and placards. **1.30 pm** – Walk to Lower Terrace, Birrarung Marr. **2.00 – 3.30 pm** – Speakers and music at Lower Terrace, Birrarung Marr



ANCHORED - *Helping Kids Thrive: Developmental Changes and Digital Wellbeing* - Tuesday 28 April 2026, 7pm-8pm Online. Facilitated by Real Talk, this practical and faith-centred webinar will help parents and caregivers of children aged 12 and under better understand key stages of childhood and adolescence, set healthy digital boundaries and respond with confidence and care. Register now.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OF WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE PARISH, PLEASE SEE FLYERS ON THE NOTICE BOARD.



We now have an official parish Facebook page: St. Andrew's Catholic Parish, Werribee. This will be used to post announcements and other events in our parish. Please like and share our page.

PRAYER OF WELCOME BEFORE BAPTISM

Dear Parents, as you prepare for your child's Baptism, the people of St. Andrew's rejoice that you have chosen to baptize your child, and we pray that in the coming years you and your family will continue to know and grow in the love of God that is everlasting.

St. Andrew's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.