



Parish Priest: Fr Shabin Kaniampuram IVDei
Pastoral Associate: Mirella Pace (Wed/Thurs 9-2pm)
Financial Administrator: Margaret Harrington (Mon/Fri 9-2pm)

Assistant Priest: Fr Peter Nguyen
Parish Secretary: Liza Powell (Tues 9-3pm /Thurs 1-4pm)
Email: adminANT@cam.org.au
Seminarian Placement: Andrew Tran
Email: financeANT@cam.org.au

ST MARY'S THORNBURY

1 Rossmoyne Street, Thornbury 3071
Email: adminant@cam.org.au
Italian Coordinator:
Maria Zaccardi (Thursday 9am-3pm)
Interim Principal: Kevin Gleeson | Ph: 9484 5333

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Reconciliation

Times

10.30am Saturdays — St Mary's
4.30pm Saturdays — Holy Spirit
5.00pm Saturdays — St Joseph's

MASS TIMES

St Mary's Thornbury

Sunday: 10:00am English/Italian
5:30pm
Weekday: Wednesday, 9:15am
English/Italian

St Joseph's Northcote

Saturday: 5:30pm
Sunday: 11:00am
Weekday: Tuesday, 9:15am

Holy Spirit Thornbury East

Saturday: 5:00pm
Sunday: 9:30am
Weekday: Thursday, 9:15am
English/Italian

St Anthony's Alphington

Sunday: 9:00am Italian:
11:00am: English
Weekday: Friday, 9:15am

FEAST DAYS IN THE WEEK

23 Dec: St John of Kanty
25 Dec: the Nativity of the Lord
26 Dec: St Stephen, 1st Martyr
27 Dec: St John, Apostle & Evangelist
Dec 28: The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

Recently Deceased

Helene Green Ahern, Alan Frazer,
Addissi Boulos Taouk and Silvio
Ongarato Mary Egan, Sr Mary Veronica
FCJ, Isaac Kaltoumi (40 days),
Antonietta Rossini

Anniversaries

Maria Francesca Galati, Antonino Lo
Piccolo, Maria Beninati, Anna
Antonicelli, Catarena Mercuri, Dale
Smedley, Salim Youssef Taouk, Ray Farr
and Antonios Saleh Fakhry, Chiara Buso

ST JOSEPH'S NORTHCOTE

140 Westbourne Grove, Northcote 3070
Principal: Mary Kearney | Ph: 9481 7166

Partnership Parish Office Address

45 Railway Place Alphington
P.O.Box 85 Fairfield 3078
Office Number: 9484 2907
Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-2pm

PARISH OF HOLY SPIRIT AND ST ANTHONY'S

45 Railway Pl, Alphington VIC 3078
Supporting Priests: Monsignor Tom Doyle; Fr Brendan Hayes
Pastoral Worker: Pauline Egan
Principals: Rob Costin, Holy Spirit Primary School,
197 Clarendon Street, Thornbury East | Ph: 9480 0391
James Casey, Anthony's Primary School,
Tania Bennett, Acting Principal
52 Austin Street, Alphington | Ph: 9489 7936

www.melbatholic.org/s/hosan

4th Sunday of Advent Year C

21-22 December 2024

Life in the Womb

This little gospel story tells us that 'the baby in Elizabeth's womb leaped' and not merely leaped, but leaped 'for joy'. Is this just poetic hyperbole? We know that beautiful music can have a wonderful effect on life in the womb. Good vibrations. Here, the presence of Jesus, being carried by Mary in her pregnancy, had a wonderful effect on the life carried by Elizabeth. Very good vibrations. From the moment of the conception of Jesus, good vibrations reverberated out to all human beings.



The good news is that you and I and every human life ever conceived is visited by Our Risen Lord Jesus Christ, and we receive that visit as Original Blessing. There is a further and consoling truth. Every mother or father who has lost a baby too early needs to know that the same extraordinary sense of Our Lord's presence was felt by your baby. That Divine Presence conferred a powerful Original Blessing on that little life within the womb, and that same Presence accompanied your baby into the everlasting embrace of Divine Love in Heaven.

'Glory to
God in
the highest
heaven, and
peace to
all who
enjoy
his favour'



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

CHRISTMAS EVE TUESDAY 24 DECEMBER

5.00pm	Holy Spirit	Family Mass
5.00pm	St. Joseph's	Family Mass
6.30pm	St. Anthony's	Family Mass
6.30pm	St. Mary's	Family Mass

9.00pm Carols St. Mary's. 9.30pm Mass St. Mary's
9.00pm Carols St. Joseph's 9.30pm Mass St. Joseph's
Midnight Mass St. Anthony's

NO MORNING MASS AT ST JOSEPH'S ON 24 DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS DAY WEDNESDAY 25 DECEMBER

9.00am	St. Anthony's (Italian)
9.30am	Holy Spirit
10am	St Mary's
11 am	St Anthony's
11am	St. Joseph's

NO EVENING MASS AT ST MARY'S CHRISTMAS DAY

NEW YEAR MASS

10AM MASS AT ST JOSEPH'S AND ST MARY'S

**NO WEEKDAY MASSES FROM
BOXING DAY 26 DECEMBER UNTIL 3 JANUARY**



To update parish
details, please visit our
official parish website:

SECOND READING: Hebrews 10:5-10**FIRST READING: Micah 5: 1-4**

A reading from the prophet Micah

The Lord says this:

You, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
the least of the clans of Judah,
out of you will be born for me
the one who is to rule over Israel;
his origin goes back to the distant past,
to the days of old.

The Lord is therefore going to abandon them
till the time when she
who is to give birth gives birth.

Then the remnant of his brothers will come back
to the sons of Israel.

He will stand and feed his flock
with the power of the Lord,
with the majesty of the name of his God.

They will live secure, for from then on he will
extend his power
to the ends of the land.

He himself will be peace.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Ps 79:2-3, 15-16, 18-19

***R. Lord, make us turn to you;
let us see your face and we shall be saved.***

O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.

O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help. R.

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. R.

May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name. R.

A reading from the first letter of Hebrews

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world:

You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation,
prepared a body for me.

You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices for sin;
then I said,

just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book,

'God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.'

Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law
lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the
sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the
sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and
then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will.
He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the
second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the
offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus
Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord:
may his will for me be done. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 1: 39-44

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

Mary set out at that time and went as quickly as she
could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went
into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as
soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt
in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy
Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you
are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your
womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the
mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting
reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy.
Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made
her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

PRIMA LETTURA Mi 5,1-4*Dal libro del profeta Michèa*

Così dice il Signore:

«E tu, Betlemme di Èfrata,
così piccola per essere fra i villaggi di Giuda,
da te uscirà per me
colui che deve essere il dominatore in Israele;
le sue origini sono dall'antichità,
dai giorni più remoti.

Perciò Dio li metterà in potere altrui,
fino a quando partorirà colei che deve
partorire; e il resto dei tuoi fratelli ritornerà ai
figli d'Israele. Egli si leverà e pascerà con la
forza del Signore, con la maestà del nome del
Signore, suo Dio. Abiteranno sicuri, perché egli
allora sarà grande fino agli estremi confini della
terra. Egli stesso sarà la pace!».

Parola di Dio

Tutti: Rendiamo grazie a Dio.

SALMO RESPONSORIALE SAL 79

***Signore, fa' splendere il tuo
volto e noi saremo salvi.***

Tu, pastore d'Israele, ascolta,
seduto sui cherubini, risplendi.
Risveglia la tua potenza
e vieni a salvarci.

Dio degli eserciti, ritorna!
Guarda dal cielo e vedi
e visita questa vigna,
proteggi quello che la tua destra ha piantato,
il figlio dell'uomo che per te hai reso forte.

Sia la tua mano sull'uomo della tua destra,
sul figlio dell'uomo che per te hai reso forte.
Da te mai più ci allontaneremo,
facci rivivere e noi invocheremo il tuo nome.

SECONDA LETTURA EB 10, 5-10*Dalla lettera agli Ebrei*

Fratelli, entrando nel mondo, Cristo dice:

«Tu non hai voluto né sacrificio né offerta,
un corpo invece mi hai preparato. Non hai gradito
né olocausti né sacrifici per il peccato. Allora ho
detto: "Ecco, io vengo – poiché di me sta scritto
nel rotolo del libro – per fare, o Dio, la tua
volontà"». Dopo aver detto: «Tu non hai voluto e
non hai gradito né sacrifici né offerte, né olocausti
né sacrifici per il peccato», cose che vengono
offerte secondo la Legge, aggiunge: «Ecco, io
vengo per fare la tua volontà». Così egli abolisce il
primo sacrificio per costituire quello nuovo.
Mediante quella volontà siamo stati santificati per
mezzo dell'offerta del corpo di Gesù Cristo, una
volta per sempre.

Parola di Dio

Tutti: Rendiamo grazie a Dio.

CANTO AL VANGELO Lc 1,38

Alleluia, alleluia.

Ecco la serva del Signore:
avvenga per me secondo la tua parola.
Alleluia.

VANGELO Lc 1, 39-45*Dal Vangelo secondo Luca*

In quei giorni Maria si alzò e andò in fretta verso la
regione montuosa, in una città di Giuda.

Entrata nella casa di Zaccaria, salutò Elisabetta.
Appena Elisabetta ebbe udito il saluto di Maria, il
bambino sussultò nel suo grembo. Elisabetta fu
colmata di Spirito Santo ed esclamò a gran voce:
«Benedetta tu fra le donne e benedetto il frutto
del tuo grembo! A che cosa devo che la madre del
mio Signore venga da me? Ecco, appena il tuo
saluto è giunto ai miei orecchi, il bambino ha
sussultato di gioia nel mio grembo. E beata colei
che ha creduto nell'adempimento di ciò che il
Signore le ha detto». Parola del Signore

Tutti: Lode a Te O Cristo.

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Names will remain for 4 weeks, then a new request is required.

Kirstin Spiteri, Jessica Simioni, Swahila Ibrahim, Suad Hermiz, Isabela Yousef, Wafa Ibrahim, Sivadior Kassab, Phoenix Toma, Onyx Toma, Lucia & Pietro Piro, Piero Finotello, Melvin Thomas, Ross Pace

HOUSE VISITATIONS

Do you or someone you know require any of the following:

- Annual House Visits
- Visits to the Sick
- Anointing of the Sick

Please contact the Parish Office on 9484 2907 to arrange a time with Fr Shabin or Fr Peter.

SICK OR HOUSEBOUND / MALATI O CONFINATI A CASA

Se conoscete persone che sono malate o confinate a casa e vorrebbero ricevere visite o la comunione a casa siete pregati di mettervi in contatto Parish Office **9484 2907**

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Christian Meditation on Thursdays at 10:30am at Holy Spirit Parish. ALL WELCOME.

BAPTISMS: By Appointment Only

- 1st Sunday of the month—St Mary's
- 2nd Sunday of the month—Holy Spirit
- 3rd Sunday of the month—St Anthony's
- 4th Sunday of the month—St Joseph's

Please call the Parish Office 9484 2907 or go to our website at <https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/hosan>

SENIORS

After the Thursday 9:15am Mass at Holy Spirit Parish Hall.

- Dopo messa Bingo e carte nella sala, si offre caffè e biscotti. Tutti benvenuti.

After Mass, bingo and cards in the hall, with coffee and biscuits offered. All Welcome.

Last Friday of the month

St Joseph's Seniors Mass every last Friday of the Month at 10:30am in the church.

Parrocchiani anziani di San Giuseppe sono invitati a partecipare alla **Santa Messa ultimo Venerdì del mese alle 10:30am.**

Mass of Anointing of the Sick

9:15am Mass of Anointing of the Sick will take place on the first Friday of the month at St Anthony's Alphington.

"Telephone Prayer meeting"

When: Every Tuesday at 11:30am
Dial: **07- 5660 6012** (call from home)
Access code: **722762 #**
Cost: Cost of a local call. Open to all.

Catholic Religious Education Classes for children attending government schools in preparation for the Sacraments

Please call the Parish Office 9484 2907 or go to our website at

<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/hosan>

Safeguarding Children, Young

People and Vulnerable People Committee

Contact Person via the Parish Office:

Moses El-Fakhri

Parish Notices

- ♦ Readings from December 29—January 12 available at the Sacristy for the readers. Includes Italian readings.
- ♦ 7.30 pm Syro Malankara Mass at Holy Spirit Church and 8pm Tamil Mass at St Anthony's on Christmas Eve
- ♦ 7pm Syro Malakakara Mass at Holy Spirit Church and 10pm Tamil Mass at St Anthony's Church on New Year's Eve

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

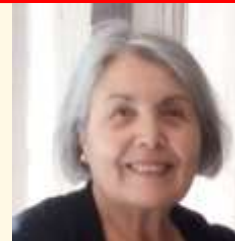
We welcome into the Christian Community **Mitchell Birthisel & Elizabeth Spiteri** as they present **FLYNN BIRTHISEL and LOLA BIRTHISEL** for their baptisms at **St Joseph's** on Sunday. We congratulate the families and pray for their spiritual growth and wellbeing in the Lord.



We would like to Thank our Seminarian AN-DREW TRAN who spend last few months embracing pastoral and apostolic work more readily. He has been active with the Schools and also in the Parish life. Sadly, its time for him to leave. We wish him all the very best for his future journey!!!



Happy Retirement



Mirella Pace and Maria Zaccardi are retiring. Mirella began in 1996 with Fr Gerry at Thornbury, worked with him at Holy Spirit, then join Fr Werner at Alphington and now works across the 3 parishes. Since our Mission Parishes have begun, she has been vital in organizing and supporting the 4 churches and their communities. She has built many relationships with parishioners, schools and the wider community, her work with RCIA, Alpha, Liturgies, Sacraments, Funerals, school Masses and many other groups and ministries will be very hard to replace. We wish her well in her retirement and hope we will see her often.

We also say thank you to Maria Zaccardi who has volunteered at the parish office and St Mary's church for over 34 years and is also taking a step back. Her support administratively in the office has been exceptional, but more importantly we will all certainly miss her superb cooking skills.

Congratulations on your well-deserved retirement ladies! Your dedication and hard work over the years have been truly inspiring. May this new chapter bring you joy, relaxation, and fulfillment. We will miss your positive attitude and leadership in the office. Enjoy every moment of your retirement!