



St Paul Apostle Catholic Community

One Family

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Second Sunday of LENT Year A, 28 February—1 March, 2026

Eucharistic Renewal and the International Eucharistic Congress 2028

Early this year, as we began the Year of Prayer, we received a letter from the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference in which it has a message from Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB as below

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As you may be aware, the International Eucharistic Congress 2028 will be hosted in Sydney.

The International Eucharistic Congress 2028 (“Eucharist28”) will be a moment of profound joy for the whole Church of Australia as we welcome pilgrims from across the globe, including the Holy Father, Leo XIV.

To prepare well for this important event, and to ensure that we do not let this opportunity slip by, each of us as members of the Catholic community here in Australia are invited to enter into a time of personal and communal reflection and prayer by focusing our attention on the Congress theme: “This is My Body, Given for You”.

We know that by participating in the Eucharistic Sacrifice, “which is the source and summit of the Christian life”, we enter into profound communion with Our Lord. While many different activities and programmes will be developed and implemented ahead of the Congress, it is important to recall the prophetic words of Pope St John Paul II, “The program already exists [...] it has its centre in Christ himself, who is to be known, loved and imitated.”

As we journey towards the Congress and beyond, we must never lose sight of something

which is at the heart of our vocation to be missionary disciples: that through the gift of the Eucharist, Jesus transforms us, both as individuals and as a faith community, so that we can become the Body of Christ, the daily bread of salvation for others. Just as Christ gave himself to the Father and to us, we pray that the Holy Spirit might strengthen us, so that we too may offer our lives to God and to others.

The Bishops of Australia encourage and exhort you all to embrace this unique opportunity for renewal of eucharistic faith, hearts and minds. We hope that these years of prayerful preparation will ensure that 2028 marks a truly transformative moment for our nation and the Church in this land

(Timothy Costelloe SDB—Archbishop of Perth)

Attached to this letter also a message from Benjamin Galea, who is the Chief Operating Office of Eucharist28. Below is the extracted message:

Eucharist28 is not simply an event, but a defining moment in the life of the Church in Australia. It invites us to be renewed in Christ and formed more deeply as Eucharistic missionary disciples. This vision has been shaped by listening sessions held across the Church in Australia, and we welcome leaders to read the report (see QR code below). We are also conscious that this is our first communication with many of you, so we have produced a short clip introducing ourselves, which can also be accessed from the QR Code.

We look forward to walking this journey together, united in prayer and hope, as the Holy Spirit leads the Church in Australia during this moment of renewal



eucharist28.org

Masses

Monday
9am

Tuesday
9am Mass

Wednesday
7pm Mass

Thursday
9am Mass

Friday
9am Mass

Saturday
6pm Mass

Sunday
9am, 11am, 6pm

Parish Priest:
Fr Brendan Connell CP

Assistant Parish Priest
Fr. Tuan Paul Anh-Do CP

Parish Staff:
Gillian Velupillay (Bursar)
Didi Karkas (Secretary)
Valerie Ferreira
(Safeguarding & Visitation)

**St Paul Apostle North
Primary School**
Ph. 9700 6068
Principal
Cathy Mason

**St Paul Apostle South
Primary School**
Ph. 9700 3663
Principal
Mr Paul Gleeson

**St John's
Regional College**
Ph. 9791 3366
Principal
Mr Tim Hogan

Readings for NEXT WEEK
Third Sunday of LENT Year A, 2026

First Reading

Exodus 17:3-7

A reading from the book of Exodus
In the wilderness the people thirsted for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me."
The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go.
I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"
The word of the Lord

Psalm

O come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

O come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!
For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.

O that today you would listen to his voice!
Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah,
as on the day at Massah in the wilderness,
when your ancestors tested me, and put me to the proof,
though they had seen my work.

Second Reading

Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters, Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; And we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.
For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person – though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.
The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
Lord you are truly the Saviour of the world
give me living water, that I may never be thirsty
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel

John 4: 5-15, 19-26, 39, 40-42

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)
Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his children and his flocks drank from it?"
Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."
The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water. I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him.
God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."
The woman said to him, "I know that the Messiah is coming" (who is called the Christ).
"When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."
Many Samaritans from that city believed in Jesus. So when they came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world."
This is the Gospel, the Good News of the Lord

Reflection

"Am I willing to bring my 'broken past' and honest truth to Jesus, as the woman did, to receive his healing?"

"Who in my life is on the 'margins,' and how can I meet them with the same compassion Jesus showed?"

We are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.
St Paul Apostle safeguarding policies can be found on our website at
<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/endeavourhills> or in hardcopy in the Sacristy



THANKSGIVING ENVELOPE

As many have reminded us that your thanksgiving envelopes are about to run out. The good news is that the **NEW SETS are ready to be picked up from the Gathering space in the Church**. They are arranged in alphabetical order of the STREET NAME (not your name)

If you encounter any difficulties in finding them, please do not hesitate to approach a member of the parish team.

If you are not in this program yet, but wish to take part, please contact the parish office and we can give you all the necessary information

STATION OF THE CROSS

During Lent, we have Station of the Cross on FRIDAY EVENINGS at 7pm in the Church. We will be lead by the Passionist Companion group. All are welcome to join us

2026 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN

The children in the Sacrament of Reconciliation program will now continue their journey with their classes at school (for those attending parish schools) or at After School Religious Education classes at parish office for those attending non parish schools).

Please remember the last Family Night for this program will be on **TUESDAY 10 MARCH at 7pm**. All candidates and one or both parents must attend this family Night.

Your Sacrament of Reconciliation service is on Tuesday, 17 March in the Church. Service time will be confirmed at the last family night

Please also remember that if your child is in grade 6 and wishes to take part in the **2026 Sacrament of Confirmation**. You must hand in the registration form **BY THURSDAY, 1st APRIL 2026**. Even though the program will not commence until term three, we need to finalise the numbers by the 1st of April.

Also note that your child must have received both the sacrament of Reconciliation and the sacrament of First Communion in order to join the Sacrament of Confirmation program.

COME AWAY

Provides a time for both sharing and quiet time in the beautiful garden setting of Holy Cross; ^[SEP] guided meditation, silence, Mass and Anointing, opportunity for individual guidance Come Away Day which is on Wednesday March 25th
For more information, please phone 9846 6014

CATHOLIC DEVELOPMENT FUND (CDF)

Is a financial Institution which assists to fund projects across Catholic organisations, including parishes (one of them being our parish), hospital wings and classrooms, with a CDF Community Fund saving account. Please visit the CDF website at www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au to learn more. CDF will visit our parish on SUNDAY, 15th March, 2026 after all Masses, during our regular cuppa time



EUCCHARIST28 Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,
we thank you for the gift of your real presence
in the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist.
Grant us the grace to receive you reverently,
worship you truly and serve you with hearts renewed.
By the power of the Holy Spirit strengthen us,
so that as you gave yourself to the Father and to us,
we too may offer our lives to God and to others.
Inspire and help us to serve you in those
who are in need, especially the defenceless
and homeless, the lonely and lost.
Unite us with your sacrifice of the Mass, so
that we may truly become what we have received,
the Body of Christ.
Amen

Readings:

Second Sunday of LENT Year A

Genesis 12:1-4a
2 Timothy 1:8b-10
Matthew 17:1-9

www.universalis.com

Third Sunday of LENT Year A

Exodus 17:3-7
Romans 5:1-2, 5-8
John 4: 5-15, 19-26, 39, 40-42

www.universalis.com

This weekend we pray for:

Those who are sick

Maryse Ferdinands, John Kelly, Doug McGuinness, Anne McCallister, Giuseppina Materia, Neville Akom, Terry Gough, Tyronne Walles, Cecile Potier, Fr. Michael Willemsen, Sebastian Nowakowski, Maria Terezia Szabo, Mavis David, James Mendis, Oliver Mendis, Hector de Santos, Teariki Sword, Rui Manuel Campos, Ruby Reid, Danny Sugunasekera, Dorothy Locke, Piper Anne Spriggs, Grace Sprigg, Ronella Tyrell **and All those in aged care or homebound with chronic health issues**

Those who have died

Betty Scanlan, Monica Mary Sleeman, Robert Stellato, Mareka (Mareta) Dunlop, Jacinta Martyn, Kamal Markos, Fr. Paul Mercieca CP, Salvino Mifsud, Adrian Dal Lago, Cheryl Anthony, Fr. John Pearce CP, Aida Hendriks, Henk Hendriks, **and all who are named in our church memorial book**

May they rest in peace

St Paul Apostle Parish Endeavour Hills
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST 2026

	Saturday—6pm	Sunday 9am	Sunday 11am	Sunday 6pm
1st Sunday	Riona Alveyn Lionel Alveyn Lien Phan	Mary Moore Nila Fernando Rosa Mitchell Rohan Wickramasinghe Jennifer Cunningham	Vianney Clark Antionette Gargano Stephen Herbert Binitha Mathew Patricia D'Souza	Anne Kankanige Peng Chee Vonny Lai
2nd Sunday	Gertrude Akom Mima Arena Carmeline Don Paul	Sig Romano Anabela Costa Aloma Pereira David Goh Rinku Arora	Dominique Maclou Sai Dlinger Naomi Falo Stephen Nasalio Santhanamary	Jenny Catania Brendan Keating Lakni Weerasekera
3rd Sunday	Celine Quinless Riona Alveyn Lionel Alveyn	Mary Moore Nila Fernando Rosa Mitchell Jennifer Cunningham Sig Romano	Vianney Clark Antionette Gargano Binitha Mathew Patricia De Souza Marie Claire Maillard	Vonny Lai Charlene Nheu Marg Keating
4th Sunday	Bernie Henstridge Lien Phan Celine Quinless	Aloma Pereira Michelle Boissezon Rohan Wickramasinghe David Goh Daphne Goh	Naomi Falo Dominique Maclou Lauren Rafferty Stephen Herbert Santhanamary	Brendan Keating Swineetha Disanayake Jenny Catania
5th Sunday	Bernie Henstridge Carmeline Don Paul Mima Arena	Sig Romano Anabela Costa Nila Fernando Rinku Arora Daphne Goh	Binitha Mathew Stephen Herbert Vianney Clark Patricia De Souza Marie Claire Maillard	Marg Keating Peng Chee Jenny Catania

St Paul Apostle Parish Endeavour Hills
MINISTERS OF WORD/ COMMENTATORS 2026

	Saturday—6pm	Sunday 9am	Sunday 11am	Sunday 6pm
1st Sunday	Mary Pegram Liz Spear	Virendra Jayetileke Janina Gorski	Anne Astin Rinku Arora	Stephen Nasalio William Roncon
2nd Sunday	Marg Daly Liseby Lapierre	Grace Sudjono Rosa Mitchell	Mars Sota Beth Sota	Charlene Nheu Mignonne Meerwald
3rd Sunday	Liz Flood Trevor Saldanha	Agnes Giam William Round	Alvita Dias Rinku Arora	Jeremy Ferrao Reg Young
4th Sunday	Mark Rolfe Karen Rolfe	Mary Moore Jodicee Tenisio	Mary Heaton Anne Astin	Marg Keating William Roncon
5th Sunday	Marg Daly Trevor Saldanha	Grace Sudjono Jodicee Tenisio	Mary Heaton Jennifer Tanti	Lakni Weerasekera Charlene Nheu

Please note that the above rosters are subject to the completion
of the required SAFEGUARDING documents and training

