

St Mary's Parish

We proudly acknowledge the Boonwurrung People of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land.

A community where we bring together our gifts and talents

1st December, 2024



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www.melbcatholic.org/s/williamstown

Parish Priest

(Fr.) Greg Trythall

0400 524 363

Email:

greg.trythall@cam.org.au

Pastoral Associate

Monique Julian

0450 789 951

Monday, Tuesday

Parish Staff

Sharon Vassallo

Tuesday 8:30am – 4.00pm

Thursday 8:30am – 4.00pm

Friday 8.30am - 4.00pm

Kylie Skinner-Wednesday

9.30am–1.30pm

Safeguarding Officer

Frank Schobben

0427 416 184

St. Mary's School

Principal Anthony Hockey

Normal Mass Times

Consult bulletin inside for any changes.

Saturday at 6:00pm

Sunday at 8:30am and 10:30am

Tuesday to Friday 9:15am

Reconciliation

Saturday 10:00am

Silent Adoration in Church

2:30pm – 3:30pm

Wednesday

Baptism Preparation Night

Third Thursday monthly

7.00pm at Parish Centre.

Baptism must be booked prior to attending

Preparation Night.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C



FIRST READING:

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah. 33:14-16

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

SECOND READING:

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians. 3:12-4:2

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

GOSPEL: LUKE 21:25-28, 34-36



“There will be signs in the sun, the moon and the stars and on earth nations will be in dismay, perplexed by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will die of fright in anticipation of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand. Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life and that day catch you by surprise like a trap. For that day will assault everyone who lives on the face of the earth. Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man.”

Tuesday 3rd December	9:15am Mass at St Mary's Church. 7:30pm Final Report Meeting at the Presbytery
Wednesday 4th December	9.15am Mass at St Mary's Church. 7:30pm Parish Finance Team Meeting
Thursday 5th December	9:15am Mass at St Mary's Church.
Friday 6th December	11:30am Seniors Christmas Mass & Luncheon - All welcome.

Dear Parishioners

At the Saturday evening Mass, we welcome Steven & Sarah Galea who will be celebrating their 10th wedding anniversary - married here 29th November 2014. Also, a big welcome to the many who will be present from different parishes in our nearby area for annual musical festival in our Church this weekend - also on the Saturday night almost straight after earlier Mass.

Our Prep Mass and annual Parish barbeque is also two other big occasions this weekend. After meeting many of the new prep dads for 2025 at our new prep dads social night before AFL Grand Final - I look forward to meeting many of their wives or partners at our barbecue straight after 10:30am Mass. The refugee family we have been sponsoring from Syria this year should also be present - please say hello but remember English is not their first language - slow down your delivery!

Of course, we now celebrate Advent and I will give a bit of background to our Advent wreath ceremony. This particular Sunday each year the Church invites us to embark on a journey - the journey of the Liturgical Year - Year C - within that normal cycle of Year A, B, C. At the very least we hear a variety of Biblical readings from the Old Testament and New Testament.

Returning to Advent - there is a twofold aspect to Advent: it is a time of preparation for Christmas in which the first coming of Christ is recalled; at the same time it directs our thoughts to the second coming of Christ. Accordingly, it is divided into two parts. The first part which runs from the beginning incorporates the first two Sundays of Advent, the second part runs until December 24th focuses on the first coming of Christ at Bethlehem. The liturgy turns to the passages in Scripture that speak of the two comings of Christ. The Old Testament readings centre on the messianic hope of Israel as it takes shape and grows. The Gospel readings focus on Jesus in whom the messianic prophecies are fulfilled, and on his forerunner John the Baptist.

In the course of this new liturgical year, Year C, the whole of Christ's life and teaching will pass before us. We will revisit all the mysteries of his life: from his expectation, to his birth, his life, death, resurrection, ascension into heaven, and his sending of the Holy Spirit.

In the course of the year we will relive his whole story. But we have heard the story many times. Hence, there is a danger that we may see it as old and stale. We must try to see it as new and present and alive. It's not like playing an old video. The celebration of each feast brings back the event in its original clarity and vitality, never allowing it to grow cold and lifeless, or fade into oblivion. Besides, we are not spectators but actors in all this. The mysteries of Christ's life are represented in such a way that we are drawn into them, and become participants in them. That makes it more demanding, but also more enriching and exciting. God is not just a God of the past, but of the present and the future too.

Yours 'in Christ' Fr Greg 28/11/2024

MEMORIAL MASS FOR RECENTLY DECEASED

Annual Memorial Mass for recently deceased parishioners and family will be held on Sunday 8th December at 6:00pm at St Mary's Church. All welcome and light refreshments in the Parish Center to follow. You may like to bring a photo or small memento of your loved one to place in front of the altar during the Mass.

St. Mary's Church Williamstown
Annual Parish BBQ – All Welcome
1st December 2024, 11.30am in the Parish Centre.
Meat, bread and drinks will be provided.

We would ask that attendees with surnames beginning with the letters A-M bring a salad to share and attendees with surname's beginning with N-Z bring a dessert to share.

ADVENT BOOKS - *The Light*

100 Advent Books will be available to everyone this weekend on the back table.

For those financially able please put a \$5 contribution in the tin box at the back of the Church.



www.acrath.org.au
People are NOT for sale

The 16 days of activism against Gender-based violence 2024 campaign started on 25th November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and the anniversary of the brutal assassination of activists Patria, Minerva and Maria Teresa Mirabel in the Dominican Republic in 1960 and ends on 10th December – Human Rights Day.

Advent session at Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre, East Melbourne
Waiting in Joyful Hope

We invite you to this special three-day retreat offering a unique opportunity to pause and reflect during Advent. In the midst of the chaos, this retreat will provide rest, contemplation, and a deeper connection to the meaning of the season.

Facilitated by Sister Rita Malavisi. Rita has been a Sister of St Joseph for over thirty years. She trained as a primary school teacher, working in city and country schools. Rita is involved in adult formation and is a trained Spiritual Director. She is the current National Chair of the Conference of Spiritual Directors Australia.

Day : Monday 9th December to Wednesday 11th December 2024
Time: Starting Monday evening and finishing on Wednesday morning
Venue : Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre, 362 Albert street, East Melbourne
Price: \$480 for live in retreatant including accommodation and catering
\$400 for daily retreatants including catering

Lebanon Crisis Appeal

The escalating conflict between Israel and Hezbollah has pushed Lebanon into severe turmoil, with tragic consequences that have spread from Southern Lebanon to the entire nation. The situation is dire: over 3,000 lives have been lost, more than 13,000 people injured, and critical infrastructure has been destroyed.

In response to a heartfelt plea for assistance by Bishop Tarabay and Bishop Rabbat, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference in partnership with Catholic Religious Australia, Caritas Australia and Caritas Lebanon, has launched the Lebanon Appeal.

This appeal aims to provide essential humanitarian aid to our brothers and sisters suffering in Lebanon, especially those who are displaced and without homes or shelter.

Donate today: www.caritas.org.au/lebanondonate



LEBANON CRISIS APPEAL

Communities are being devastated by conflict and economic instability. Please help provide families with food, water, and medical care.

DONATE NOW caritas.org.au/lebanondonate
1800 024 413



Rosters for this Week 30th November & 1st December 2024

Counting Team 1	Frank Jones, Robyn Jones, Kimberley Jones, Paul Francis
Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Larry Rigoni 8.30am Karen Colla, Peter Kirwan 10.30am Alison Silke, Di Collins
Mass Readers	6.00pm Frank Schobben 8.30am Himali Peter 10.30am Antoinetta Acquaro
Welcomers	6.00pm Frank Schobben 8.30am Stephen Littleton 10.30am Herb Zimmer

Rosters for next Week 7th & 8th December 2024

Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Mary Soppitt 8.30am John O'Keefe, Mary Frisby 10.30am Maria Laudato, Maylene Clayton
Mass Readers	6.00pm Rosemarie Smith 8.30am Christal Augustin 10.30am Eilin Taylor
Welcomers	6.00pm Claudia Hall 8.30am Volunteer Needed 10.30am Di Collins

IN OUR PRAYERS

We pray for Haizil Joseph, Santhi Komatineni, Sarah Rodgers, Assunta Delgrosso, Yemme Reddy, Anne-Marie Pelikinakis, Tita Lopres, Lazarus Wilson, Danuta Kurkowski, Ben Johnson.

RECENTLY DECEASED & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for Sr Anne Tuck who passed away recently and John Newington, Peter Fiamengo, Mandina Bozanic, Tonci Bozanic, Katina Bozanic, Andre Bozanic, Desanka Repanic, Gavan Casey, Fr. Gerard Dowling and Darren Pomazan, Jack Fitzgerald, Petar Fiamengo, Mary Martin, Arthur Jones, Frank Cini, Brendan Harkin, Maria Napoli, Norma Arnold, Josie Wilde, Nora Doig, Stan Woodruff, Eric Flackhlam, Maria De Grassi, Merle O'Keefe, Marion Lorient, Libero Costanzo, Andrej Edovic, Giuseppe Pecora, Ersilia Portelli, Carmela Pisano, Nunzio Ficarra, Joseph Sammut, Eugena Fewster, John Wilson and Michele Cafagna; whose anniversaries are at this time

Green Team

Williamstown Repair Cafe Saturday 7th Dec 2pm - 4pm, 119 Douglas Parade.
Bring along your household items to be repaired, save money on repairs or replacement costs. Christmas activities for the kids, free barista coffee for the adults.