



St Paul Apostle Catholic Community

One Family

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Second Sunday of Easter, 11-12 April, 2026

Letter from Passionist Superior General

To the Brothers and Sisters of the Passionist Family,
"The love of Christ urges us on" (2 Cor 5:14).

With a heart full of gratitude, hope and trust in the Holy Spirit who guides the Church, I write to invite the entire Passionist Family—religious and laity alike—on a journey of communal discernment. From this shared journey, our new **Mission Plan for the Congregation** will be born through a process that involves all levels of the Congregation and the wider Passionist family.

Setting Out from Our Fragility

Recent years, particularly the 48th General Chapter and the document *Renewing Passionist Mission*, have allowed us to stand in the truth. We are proud of our heritage, yet we acknowledge that our communities are becoming smaller, older, and often tired. We are "earthen vessels." Yet, our Constitutions remind us that it is precisely at the foot of the Cross that we find our strength (Const. 3).

Our response to the crises affecting the Church and the world today cannot be fear, nor can we hide behind old structures. Rather, we are called to a prophetic return to our charism. It is from our own wounds that our capacity to authentically co-suffer with the afflicted emerges. This demands of each of us—starting right now—a genuine inner conversion.

A Memory That Is Present

To define a mission that is faithful to St. Paul of the Cross, yet contemporary, we must rest on one foundation: the *Memoria Passionis*. The essence remains the "memory of the Passion of the Lord" as the greatest and most overwhelming work of God's love. However, this is not merely a pious recollection of the past. It is the living recognition that this Passion continues today in the suffering of the world.

Mission means being a contemplative apostle who draws strength from prayer beneath the Cross to bring comfort to Christ, who is present in suffering humanity and creation. In the spirit of synodality and responsibility, we must ask ourselves difficult questions and answer them—not through political debate, but through spiritual conversation:

How does the Crucified Christ look at our Passionist community and family today?

- Where in our local area are the "crucified" today—the victims of injustice, the poor, migrants, the excluded, and the lonely on the "digital continent"?
- How, in the spirit of integral ecology, can we care for the "suffering Earth," which today also bears the marks of crucifixion?

- What must we let go of to step out prophetically and hopefully to these existential peripheries, bringing the joy flowing from the Cross to a world losing its sense of meaning?

Mission is Life, Synodality is Community

Our goal is not to produce a corporate document or to save ministries that we can no longer maintain. Our goal is apostolic conversion. As our Constitutions remind us (Const. 67), our mission is closely tied to our fraternal life—we do not go out to evangelize as solitary activists. Community life itself is a mission through witness, just as mission is life through action.

The Laity: Co-responsible for the Charism

The Second Vatican Council and Pope Francis remind us that the mission of the Church belongs to every baptized person by the very nature of baptism. Every community, every local group, every Passionist – Religious and Lay – has something essential to offer in this discernment. Your experience, your questions, and your hopes are part of the voice of the Spirit speaking in the Church today. This truth harmonizes perfectly with our charism and calls for a concrete change in mentality. The laity, living amidst environments of work, family, and culture, can reach places no religious ever will. The task of the religious is not to replace the laity in mission, but to equip them for the apostolate and accompany them spiritually. In this spirit, we invite our lay collaborators, animated by the *Memoria Passionis*, to discern together the needs of their local environment. We ask you to step out and act as full **co-authors** of our mission, rather than merely its helpers.

How Will We Walk This Path?

In the coming months, the appointed Commission (Frs. Paul Cherukoduth, Gwen Barde, Germán Alberto Méndez Cortés, Łukasz Andrzejewski, Marco Staffolani) will provide a specific methodology for our meetings, based on listening and discernment in the Holy Spirit. This process will continue until October 2027 and will culminate during the Congregational Synod.

I ask you not to begin this process by calculating our strengths and budgets, but by personally standing beneath the Cross in prayer. May St. Paul of the Cross obtain for us the courage to cross our boundaries and go where the suffering of the world most needs the Wisdom and Love of the Crucified.

Let's walk this path together.

With fraternal devotion in Christ Crucified,

(Fr. Giuseppe Adobati, CP—Superior General of The Passionists)

Masses

Monday
9am

Tuesday
9am Mass

Wednesday
7pm Mass

Thursday
9am Mass

Friday
9am Mass

Saturday
6pm Mass

Sunday
9am, 11am, 6pm

Reconciliation
Saturdays
10am—10.30am

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 Easter, 2026

First Reader: Acts 2:14. 22-33

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

When the day of Pentecost had come, Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you, according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him, 'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.' This is the Word of God

Psalm

Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord;
I have no good apart from you.
The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup;
you hold my lot

I bless the Lord who gives me counsel;
in the night also my heart instructs me.
I keep the Lord always before me;
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;
my body also rests secure.
For you do not give me up to Sheol,
or let your faithful one see the Pit.

You show me the path of life.
In your presence there is fullness of joy;
in your right hand are pleasures forevermore

Second Reader: 1 Peter 1: 17-21

A reading from the first letter of St Peter
If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. Christ was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him

you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God. This is the Word of God

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Lord Jesus, open the Scriptures to us;
Make our hearts burn with love when you speak
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 24:13-35

On the first day of the week, two of the disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread

The Good news of the Lord

Reflection

"Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, when have I failed to recognize Jesus walking with me in my moments of disappointment or fear, and how can I 'invite him to stay' in my life today?"

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



PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUP

Our Passionist Family group is organising an event on **Sunday 19th April, 12pm to 3pm** at the St Paul Apostle School Hall, 9 William Hovell Drive, Endeavour Hills VIC 3802. We hope you can all join this event for an afternoon of stories, culture, and connection.

This special parish gathering invites every member of our community, new and familiar, to come together, celebrate our shared heritage, and strengthen the friendships that make our parish feel like home. Everyone is invited to wear or bring something that represents your story, a cultural item, a family keepsake, a traditional garment, colours, symbols—anything meaningful that reflects where you come from and who you are. And don't forget please bring a plate of finger food to share.

On the day, the group will also have silent auction in the effort to raise funds for a Community Christmas Lunch for those who will otherwise spend Christmas alone.

Your contributions, whether donating items or placing bids, will help ensure that they can also enjoy some Christmas cheer surrounded by great company and good food.

If you are interested in coming to this event, please put your name down in the sign up sheets in the Gathering space by this weekend. This is to help the organiser to prepare the day.

SACRAMENT PROGRAM—FIRST COMMUNION

Our next program for this year is the Sacrament of the First Communion. Please note of the following important dates:

- First Family Night is on TUESDAY, 5 May at 7pm in the Church
- This will be followed by 4 session either at school (those attending our parish schools) or at ASRE (for those attending non parish schools)
- Last Family Night is on TUESDAY 16 June at 7pm in the Church

BUILDING THE SYNODAL WAY TOGETHER

As we enter the Easter season, we are invited to continue growing as a Church that listens, learns, and walks together. The Synodal Way calls each of us—clergy, religious, and lay—to participate actively in discernment and dialogue, guided by the Holy Spirit. In the coming weeks, we will focus on deepening our commitment to:

- Listening with an open heart to the experiences, hopes, and concerns of others.
- Engaging in meaningful conversation, grounded in respect, humility, and prayer.
- Strengthening our sense of communion, recognising Christ at the centre of our shared mission
- Discerning pathways forward, so that our parish and wider Church can respond more faithfully to the needs of our time.

Reflection question: How can we deepen our understanding of synodality in our parish life? The first meeting of the Diocesan Synod Commission will be held on Thursday 9 April. We ask for your prayers as we gather to discern and plan for the work of the Synod. If you would like to become involved in the preparation toward the Melbourne Synod please email: Synod2026@cam.org.au

CATHOLIC DEVELOPMENT FUND (CDF)

Last month we had a visit from the Catholic Development Fund (CDF) which is a financial Institution assisting to fund projects across Melbourne Catholic Archdiocese organisations, including parishes (one of them being our parish), hospital wings and classrooms as well as charity groups (such as St. Vincent de Paul). These funds are generated from maintaining the accounts which are entrusted to CDF.

While the account holder gains interest from their savings or any other investment form, CDF is able to help fund charities, churches and other Catholic organisations with their needs. For more information, you can either use the QR code provided, call 1800 134 135, or use this link www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund

DANDENONG DEANERY

Theme The Voices That Echo the Glory of God through Peace & Mercy on **Wednesday 29th April 2026** at Graduate's Restaurant, St John's Regional College, Caroline Street, Dandenong. At 5.30pm for 5.45pm start. Cost is \$48 per person (incl. 3 course meal wine & Beer) Guest Speaker is Dalal Smiley Wellsprings for Women CEO. RSVP phone Paddy 0422 296 961 e-mail: dandenongdeanery@live.com.au. by Friday 24th April 2026

Readings:

Second Sunday of Easter Yr A

Acts 2:42-47

1 Peter 1:3-9

John 20:19-31

www.universalis.com

Third Sunday of Easter Yr A

Acts 2:14. 22-33

1 Peter 1:17-21

Luke 24:13-35

www.universalis.com

This weekend we pray for:

Those who are sick

Fr Chris Mithen CP, Kerry Carney, Mary Antoun, Anne McCallister, Giuseppina Materia, Neville Akom, Terry Gough, Tyronne Wallis, Cecile Potier, Fr. Michael Willemssen, 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

Milica Kosi, Kuntjoro Setyo, Raffaella Di Gennaro, Ronald Harris, Amato Ganino, Betty Scanlan, Monica Mary Sleeman, Robert Stellato, Mareka (Mareta) Dunlop, Jacinta Martyn, Cheryl Anthony, Michael D'Silva, Raoul Fernandes, Rohini Condegama **and all who are named in our church memorial book**

May they rest in peace

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

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

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

