



THE TIDINGS

SERVING THE AREAS OF MELTON, WEST MELTON, HARKNESS, KURUNJANG, TOOLERN VALE, PLUMPTON, GRANGEFIELDS, BONNIE BROOK (WEST), ROCKBANK (WEST).



We are committed to upholding the safety and wellbeing of each child and young person, and endeavour to provide a caring and supportive environment in our Church.

5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A - February 08, 2026

CLERGY

Parish Priest: FR ALEX CLEMENTE, RCJ

Assistant Priest: FR WILFORD URMZA, RCJ

Assistant Priest: FR JEFFREY SALVADOR, RCJ

Parish Deacon: DCN CRIS CREO

Email: Cristopher.Creo@cam.org.au

OFFICE

10 Unitt Street, MELTON, VIC 3337

Postal Address: PO Box 96, MELTON, VIC 3337

Phone: 03 9743 6515

Email: melton@cam.org.au

Website: melbcatholic.org/melton

Facebook: facebook.com/catholicparishmelton

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9.15am - 4.45pm

We are **closed** on Mondays, weekends and public holidays.

STAFF & SAFEGUARDING COORDINATOR

Parish Secretary: WILMA CHUA (Tues - Fri)

Finance Manager: LORRAINE STAFFORD (Mon & Tues)

Email: finance.melton@cam.org.au

Safeguarding Coordinator: LIZ COUSTLEY

Mobile: 0490 885 515 | **Email:** cso.melton@gmail.com

MASS CENTRES & MASS TIMES

St Catherine of Siena Church, Melton West

108 Bulmans Road, Melton West, VIC 3337

- **Saturday** 6pm (Vigil Mass)
- **Sunday** 9am, 11am & 5 pm
- **Wednesday Mass** 9.15 am
(no Mass during school holidays at St Catherine's Church)
- **Thursday & Friday** 9.15 am
(no Mass on public holidays)

St Dominic's Church, Melton

Church St, Melton, VIC 3337

CONFESSION

St Catherine of Siena Church

Saturday: 5.45 pm | Sunday: 10:30-10:50am/4.45 pm

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED

SACRAMENT & ROSARY

St Dominic's Church

- **Thursday** following the 9.15 am Mass

SCHOOLS IN OUR PARISH

ST DOMINIC'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Address: Church Street, Melton, VIC 3337

+61 3 9743 6225 | enquiries@sdmelton.catholic.edu.au

ST CATHERINE OF SIENA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Address: 108 Bulmans Road, Melton West, VIC 3337

+61 3 9743 2166 | info@scmeltonwest.catholic.edu.au

ST FRANCIS CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Melton West Campus (Year 7-12): 109-141 Bulmans Rd, Melton West

Cobblebank Campus (Year 7-9): Bridge Rd, Cobblebank
+61 3 8099 6000 | info@sfc.vic.edu.au

Reflection by Fr. Alex Clemente, RCJ

Jesus uses everyday essentials—salt and light—to describe the mission of Christian life. Just as salt preserves food from decay and enhances its flavor. Christians are called to counteract the rot of sin and bring out the "flavour" of God's goodness in the world. While, light is meant to be seen and to guide. A faith that remains private and fearful fails its purpose, much like a lamp hidden under a basket. Christians are called to serve while not seeking recognition.

The first reading from the prophet Isaiah emphasizes that true light breaks forth only when we share bread with the hungry, house the homeless, and remove oppression.

St. Paul reminds the Corinthians that his preaching was not about human eloquence or wisdom but a "demonstration of Spirit and power". It implies that our own limitations do not disqualify us from mission but rather admitting our insufficiency allows God's grace to become visible.

In what areas of my life—work, family, or social media—have I allowed my Christian values to become 'diluted' or 'bland' just to fit in?

If someone were to look at my daily actions, would they see a 'light' that points them toward God's goodness, or does it mostly point toward my own achievements?



SCHEDULE OF THE MIGRANT

JUBILEE CROSS VISIT

(Melton & Melton Churches)

Feb 21 -25, 2026

The Pilgrimage of the Migrant Jubilee Cross, a national Catholic initiative marking the 2025 Jubilee Year to honour the contributions, faith, and resilience of migrants in Australia.

Feb 21 (SAT) - Arrival of the Cross in St. Anthony Church around 4pm then followed Holy Mass at 5 pm

Feb 22 (SUN) - Transfer of the Cross in St. Catherine Church around 4pm then Mass at 5 pm

- After the mass the cross will be transferred to St. Anthony's Church.

Feb 23 (MON)- The Jubilee Cross will stay in St. Anthony's Church for Monday evening Mass & Tuesday morning/evening Masses.

Feb 24 (TUE) - The Cross will be transferred in St. Catherine Church in the evening after the 6:30pm Mass in St. Anthony Church.

Feb 25 (WED) - Holy Mass by 9:15 am at St. Catherine Church, followed by veneration of the Cross with the students. Departure of the cross to Springvale, Keysborough

Entrance Antiphon

O come, let us worship God
and bow low before the God who made us,
for he is the Lord our God.

First Reading

Isaiah 58:7-10

Your light will shine like the dawn.

Thus says the Lord:

Share your bread with the hungry,
and shelter the homeless poor,
clothe the man you see to be naked
and turn not from your own kin.
Then will your light shine like the dawn
and your wound be quickly healed over.
Your integrity will go before you
and the glory of the Lord behind you.
Cry, and the Lord will answer;
call, and he will say, 'I am here.'
If you do away with the yoke,
the clenched fist, the wicked word,
if you give your bread to the hungry,
and relief to the oppressed,
your light will rise in the darkness,
and your shadows become like noon.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

1. He is a light in the darkness for the upright:
he is generous, merciful and just.
The good man takes pity and lends,
he conducts his affairs with honour. **(R.)**
2. The just man will never waver:
he will be remembered for ever.
He has no fear of evil news;
with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord. **(R.)**
3. With a steadfast heart he will not fear;
open-handed, he gives to the poor;
his justice stands firm for ever.
His head will be raised in glory. **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 Cor 2:1-5

I came to you to proclaim Christ crucified.

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
the man who follows me
will have the light of life.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mat 5:13-16

You are the light of the world.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men.

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

Communion

Antiphon

Blessed are those
who mourn, for
they shall be
consoled.

Blessed are those
who hunger and
thirst for
righteousness,
for they shall
have their fill.



Prayer for Vocations

O Jesus' gentle heart, in your entire mortal life you sought always the glory of Your Father. Deign to send to Your Holy Church good and evangelical workers, who will incessantly glorify Your Father who is in heaven with the holiness of their life and apostolic work.

Send of Lord, Holy Apostles into Your Church.

Next Week's Readings:

Sir 15:15-20 1 Cor 2:6-10 Mat 5:20-22,27-28,33-34,37

Remembering Death Anniversaries:

Elizabeth Henaghan, Fr. Pat Negri, Karen Roberts, Frank Testa, Charlie Caurana, Olive Dempsey, Kathy Vella, Margaret Skilbeck, Kathleen Donovan, Joseph Camilleri, Stan Sliwa, Carmela Farfalla, Loreto Clemente, Michael Cirillo, Edward Woodward, Bernard Breslin, Thelma Luff, Gordon Weiland, Mieczyslaw Wojczys, John Haugh, Josephine Vella, John Cullis, Digger Dunn, Marie Rayner, Margeaux Elise Abella, Rudolf Bada, Phillip Drew, Abraham Groot, Elmer Layaden, Rita Knight, Len Kennedy, Pauline Williams, Travis Taylor, Frank Coburn, Ernest Hawira, Joseph Wojcik, Rosemary Magri, George Mitchell, John Caldwell, Nina James, Bill Van Orsouw, Fr Francesco Ceravolo, Angel De Luna, Ildefonso Punzalan

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Would you like to receive

The Tidings before the weekend?

Head to our website and subscribe to
The Tidings or simply scan the QR code to
enter your email to receive a digital copy.
Back issues are also available.



First Aid & Defibrillator is located in the Lay-Sacristy.

A prayer for the Jubilee Year of St Francis of Assisi

Pope Leo XIV had announced that 2026 is a Jubilee Year of St. Francis, to commemorate the 800th anniversary of the saint's death.
The Holy Father has offered this prayer for the occasion:

*Saint Francis,
our brother, you who eight hundred years ago
went to meet Sister Death as a man at peace,
intercede for us before the Lord.
You recognized true peace in the Crucifix of San Damiano,
teach us to seek in Him the source of all reconciliation
that breaks down every wall.
You who, unarmed, crossed the lines of war
and misunderstanding,
give us the courage to build bridges
where the world raises up boundaries.
In this time afflicted by conflict and division,
intercede for us so
that we may become
peacemakers:
unarmed and
disarming witnesses
of the peace that
comes from Christ.
Amen~~~*



SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

In the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne, the safety and wellbeing of all persons is of highest priority.

MISTAKES TO AVOID AT MASS (What to Do Instead)

The Holy Mass is the highest form of worship in the Catholic Church, where Heaven meets earth. Yet, sometimes we can fall into habits that distract us or prevent us from fully participating in this sacred mystery. Here are some common mistakes—and what to do instead.

1. Arriving Late

The Mistake: Missing the beginning of Mass means missing the Penitential Rite and the Liturgy of the Word's opening prayers.

What to Do Instead: Aim to arrive early to pray and prepare your heart. This sets the tone for a more reverent experience.

2. Not Participating in the Responses and Singing

The Mistake: Staying silent during prayers and hymns makes you a spectator instead of a participant.

What to Do Instead: Join in the responses and songs. Remember, you're part of the worship, not just an observer.

3. Distracted Posture

The Mistake: Leaning, slouching or fiddling with your phone sends the wrong message—both to God and others.

What to Do Instead: Maintain a posture of prayer—standing, sitting and kneeling with intention and reverence.

4. Skipping Communion Without Prayer

The Mistake: If you're not receiving Communion and simply sit idle, you miss a moment of grace.

What to Do Instead: Make a Spiritual Communion asking Jesus to come into your heart spiritually.

5. Leaving Early

The Mistake: Rushing out before the final blessing cut short the grace you could receive.

What to Do Instead: Stay until the priest has processed out and thank God for the gift of the Mass.

The Mass is not just a ritual - it's an encounter with the living God. Give Him your full attention, participation and love.

PLEASE RING THE MASS MANAGER IF UNABLE TO ATTEND AND PERFORM YOUR ROSTERED DUTY ➡

6 pm Tania Walters 0492 952 478
9 am Theo Franken 0411 040 897

11am Lea Jacuta 0414 390 151
5 pm Josephine Krajina 0407 042 133

5th Sunday Ordinary Time Year A

Saturday & Sunday February 7 & 8, 2026

MINISTERS OF:	6 PM	9 AM	11 AM	5 PM
Welcome	Margaret Richards	Karl Metha	Chelsea Amato	Lesley Sosa-Ritchie
The Word	Tetchie Hadfield	Jennifer Peters	Lea Jacuta	Ismael Sosa-Sanchez
Responder	Maria Prasetyono	Vickie Cassar	Chelsea Amato	Lesley Sosa-Ritchie
Presentation of Gifts	Robert Obtinalla	Faith Tuputala		Liz Coustley
Holy Communion	Leny Obtinalla	Anne Stokie		Lesley Sosa-Ritchie
PowerPoint Operator	James Taniman	Sanyata Creo	Daniella Ahmet	Nina Ahmet
Gift Shop	Kate Mulholland	Anne Stokie	Lea Jacuta	Janet Estrada
Choir	Divine Mercy	Veneration Choir	Veritas Choir	Filipino Choir
Counters	Leslie Gordon, John Woof			

6th Sunday Ordinary Time Year A

Saturday & Sunday February 14 & 15, 2026

MINISTERS OF:	6 PM	9 AM	11 AM	5 PM
Welcome	Tania Walters	Anne Stokie	Liz Coustley	Josephine Krajina
The Word	Maria Prasetyono	Alzira Mascarenhas	Chelsea Amato	
Responder	Tania Walters	Jennifer Peters	Cira Cleary	Janet Estrada
Presentation of Gifts	Tetchie Hadfield	Karl Metha	Lea Jacuta	Elainne de los Santos
Holy Communion	Robert Obtinalla	Vickie Cassar	Lea Jacuta	Ismael Sosa-Sanchez
PowerPoint Operator	Kate Mulholland	Faith Tuputala	Daniella Ahmet	Nina Ahmet
Gift Shop	Margaret Richards	Anne Stokie	Lea Jacuta	Josephine Krajina
Choir	Divine Mercy	Samoan Choir	Veritas Choir	Tongan Choir
Counters	Elizabeth Marshall, Jennifer Peters			



First Aid & Defibrillator is located in the Lay-Sacristy.

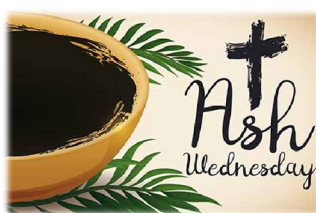
PALM LEAVES BURNING FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

Kindly bring your dried 2025 Palm leaves to weekend masses (Feb 7-15) to be use on Ash Wednesday (18 Feb 2026). Thank you.

What is the tradition behind ashes?

In the Catholic tradition, ashes are a symbol of repentance, mortality and spiritual renewal. On Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of Lent, ashes are used to remind parishioners of their own mortality and the need for spiritual reflection and repentance.

The ashes are typically made from burnt palms of the previous year's Palm Sunday, which is why the post mentions collecting of palms for this purpose. During the Ash Wednesday Mass, the ashes are blessed and then applied to the foreheads of the faithful, often with the phrase "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you return" or a similar phrase. This practice is meant to evoke a sense of humility, mortality and the need for spiritual cleansing.



PARISH OFFERTORY GIVING

January 2026 Update:

Pledged: \$5,246.27

Actual: \$4,342.12

If you would like to:

- Make a **one-off donation**
- Set up **recurring donations** to the parish
- Or **request a payment report**

please scan the QR code or head to our website: [TINYURL.COM/GIVEMELTON](https://tinyurl.com/GiveMelton)



A smart terminal is situated on the table by the wall in the Gathering Area of the church. You can tap & give with your card or smart device to support the Parish too.



Thank You

Parishioners can download and use the **Parousya Faith** app to automatically check-in when they arrive at their parish, receive the Day's Readings, and make a quick, simple, secure and anonymous donation using their Apple Wallet, all without registering an account.



HOME VISITATION & BLESSING REQUESTS

For Home Visitation & Blessing requests, please speak to Deacon Chris after Mass or fill out the online request

**Weekend Mass Times: Saturday 6pm
Sunday 9am, 11am & 5pm**

FEBRUARY

Tuesday, 10th	7:00pm St Catherine of Siena Church Baptism Information Night
Wednesday, 11th	9:15am Mass: St Catherine of Siena Church 10:15am Mass: St Catherine of Siena Church SFCC Bakita House Mass
Thursday, 12th	9:15am Mass: St Dominic's Church
Friday, 13th	9:15am Mass: St Dominic's Church
Saturday, 14th	Baptisms 11am
Wednesday, 18th	Ash Wednesday St Catherine of Siena Church 9:15am & 7:00pm Project Compassion begins
Thursday, 19th	9:15am Mass: St Dominic's Church
Friday, 20th	9:15am Mass: St Dominic's Church
Wednesday, 25th	9:15am Mass: St Catherine of Siena Church Year 5 Student's Mass
Thursday, 26th	9:15am Mass: St Dominic's Church
Friday, 27th	9:15am Mass: St Dominic's Church

Parish Lenten Groups 2026

This year the theme is "**Compassio**" *To suffer with.*

Let the beautifully designed, booklet guide your spiritual renewal through daily reflections, Sunday readings and reflections, spiritual direction, prayers, and group discussion questions. The program commences week of 16/02/26 and runs over 6 weeks. The supplied booklet, is free and easy to follow. **Names are required by 08/02/26**

(Feel free to organise your own group, but let Brendan know). Contact: Brendan Richards (Co-Ordinator)

Phone: 0418 883 550 or Email: bmrichards@ozemail.com.au

Memorial Wall Plaques

There are still spots available on our Memorial Wall next to St Dominic's Church to commemorate former parishioners and loved ones whose remains are buried or interred elsewhere with a memorial plaque.

For more details or to arrange or reserve a spot, please contact the Parish Office directly. Forms are also available in the Gathering Space to fill out and return to the Parish Office.



**In case of urgent situations, sickness etc.
in the parish please call 0422 869 646**

PARISH BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Announcements & Notices: Please submit your announcement or notices no later than 5pm every Wednesday. Bulletin notices are normally retained in *The Tidings* for two weekends. Notices and announcements submitted after the deadline will be considered for publication on the following weekend.



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