

GOSPEL
P. The Lord be with you.
R. And with your spirit.
P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.
R. Glory to you, O Lord.
The teaching of scripture is that he must rise from the dead.

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. ‘They have taken the Lord out of the tomb’ she said ‘and we don’t know where they have put him.’

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord.
R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY
RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES

Replaces the Profession of Faith.
Dear brethren (brothers and sisters), through the Paschal Mystery we have been buried with Christ in Baptism, so that we may walk with him in newness of life. And so, now that our Lenten observance is concluded, let us renew the promises of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and his works and promised to serve God in the holy Catholic Church. And so I ask you:

P. Do you renounce Satan?
All: I do.

P. And all his works?
All: I do.

P. And all his empty show?
All: I do.

P. Do you believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?
All: I do.

P. Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered death and was buried, rose again from the dead and is seated at the right hand of the Father?
All: I do.

P. Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?
All: I do.

P. And may almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and bestowed on us forgiveness of our sins, keep us by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord, for eternal life.
All: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL
LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

After the priest raises the paten with the bread and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to each prayer:

R. Blessed be God for ever.

P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P. Exultant with Paschal gladness, O Lord, we offer the sacrifice by which your Church is wondrously reborn and nourished. Through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. The Lord be with you.
R. And with your spirit.
P. Lift up your hearts.
R. We lift them up to the Lord.
P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
R. It is right and just.

PREFACE I OF EASTER

After the Preface, we sing or say:

All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P. The mystery of faith.
All: When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

COMMUNION RITE

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.
R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON 1 Cor 5:7-8

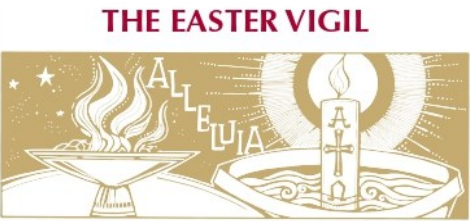
Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Look upon your Church, O God, with unfailing love and favour, so that, renewed by the Paschal mysteries, she may come to the glory of the resurrection. Through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. Go forth, the Mass is ended, alleluia, alleluia!
R. Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia!



I. THE SOLEMN BEGINNING OF THE VIGIL

Preparation and Lighting of the Candle.
Easter Proclamation (*Exsultet*)

II. LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Genesis 1:1–2:2
RESPONSORIAL PSALM from Ps 103

R. Lord, send out your Spirit, / and renew the face of the earth.

SECOND READING Genesis 22:1-18
RESPONSORIAL PSALM from Ps 15

R. Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.

THIRD READING Exodus 14:15–15:1
CANTICLE From Ex 15

R. Let us sing to the Lord; / he has covered himself in glory.

FOURTH READING Isaiah 54:5-14
RESPONSORIAL PSALM From Ps 29

R. I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

FIFTH READING Isaiah 55:1-11
CANTICLE From Isa 12

R. You will draw water joyfully / from the springs of salvation.

SIXTH READING Baruch 3:9-15, 32–4:4
RESPONSORIAL PSALM From Ps 18

R. Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

SEVENTH READING Ezekiel 36:16-28
RESPONSORIAL PSALM From Ps 41

R. Like a deer that longs for running streams, / my soul longs for you, my God.

EPISTLE Romans 6:3-11
RESPONSORIAL PSALM From Ps 117

R. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

GOSPEL Mt 28:1-10
HOMILY

III. BAPTISMAL LITURGY

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES
(*see far left column*)

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

IV. LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

(*see middle column*)

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL
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OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

EASTER SUNDAY / A

5 APRIL 2026

CHRIST IS RISEN. ALLELUIA! The empty tomb, and the neatly folded burial cloths, were signs that led the Beloved Disciple to believe that Jesus had risen from the dead. In the witness of the apostles, and the faithfulness, courage and love of our fellow Christians, we too have powerful signs that Christ is risen and lives among us. Observing them, our faith cries out: ‘Alleluia!’

DAY MASS
INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ps 138:18, 5-6

I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia.

You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia.

Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.

GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
R. Amen.

P. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

R. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries. P. Lord Jesus, you are the image of unseen God: Lord have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You are the firstborn of all creation: Christ have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

P. You are the head of the body, the Church: Lord have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

R. Amen.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, / and on earth peace to people of good will. / We praise you, / we bless you, / we adore you, / we glorify you, / we give you thanks for your great glory, / Lord God, heavenly King, / O God, almighty Father. / Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, / Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, / you take away the sins of the world, / have mercy on us; / you take away the sins of the world, / receive our prayer; / you are seated at the right hand of the Father, / have mercy on us. / For you alone are the Holy One, / you alone are the Lord, / you alone are the Most High, / Jesus Christ, / with the Holy Spirit, / in the glory of God the Father. / Amen.



2. The Lord’s right hand has triumphed; / his right hand raised me up. / I shall not die, I shall live / and recount his deeds. **R.**
3. The stone which the builders rejected / has become the corner stone. / This is the work of the Lord, / a marvel in our eyes. **R.**

SECOND READING Col 3:1-4

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

Look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is.

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God’s right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

The word of the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God

SEQUENCE
The sequence may be said or sung.

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise. / The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb; / and Christ, the undefiled, / hath sinners to his Father reconciled. / Death with life contended; combat strangely ended! / Life’s own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign. / Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way. / The tomb the Living did enclose; / I saw Christ’s glory as he rose! / The angels there attesting, / shroud with grave-clothes resting. / Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee. / That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know. / Victorious king, thy mercy show!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION 1 Cor 5:7-8

Alleluia, alleluia! Christ has become our Paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord. Alleluia!

COLLECT

P. O God, who on this day, through your Only Begotten Son, have conquered death and unlocked for us the path to eternity, grant, we pray, that we who keep the solemnity of the Lord’s Resurrection may, through the renewal brought by your Spirit, rise up in the light of life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 10:34, 37-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: ‘You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea: about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.’

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM Ps 117:1-2, 16-17, 22-23. R. v. 24

R. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad. (or Alleluia!).

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, / for his love has no end. / Let the sons of Israel say: / ‘His love has no end.’ **R.**

ST MARY'S PARISH, DANDENONG

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Sebastian Arockia **ASSISTANT PRIEST:** Fr. Vincent Nguyen
Parish Website: <https://melbcatholic.org/s/dandenong> **Facebook:** St Mary's Parish Dandenong
Parish Phone: 9791-4611 **Email:** dandenong@cam.org.au **Address:** 160 Foster Street, Dandenong
PARISH SECRETARY: Franca Van Boxtel **FINANCE OFFICER:** Deslene de Niese
Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday 9:00am-3:00pm (**Mondays office closed**)
PARISH COMMUNITY CENTRE MANAGER: Mr. Miguel Matamala
St. Mary's Community Centre Tel: 7064 3928 or 0402 155 192



St. Mary's Primary School Phone: 9791 7650, New St, Dandenong. **Principal:** Terry Gardiner
St. John's Regional College Phone: 8793 2000 Caroline St, Dandenong. **Principal:** Timothy Hogan

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday Morning: 9.15am
Saturday Evening: 6.00pm
Sunday: 8.30am, 10.30am and 5.30pm

WEEK DAY MASS TIMES

Monday to Friday: 9.15am
Friday (9.45am –12.30pm Exposition of Blessed Sacrament, concluding with Benediction at 12.30pm)

ANNOINTING MASS

Last Friday of every month 9.15 am

DAILY ROSARY

After morning Mass Mon-Sat (Fridays will be before Mass)

RECONCILIATION

Saturday after 9.15am Mass and 5pm to 5.45pm before 6pm Mass or upon request

BAPTISM, MARRIAGE OR HOUSE BLESSING

Please contact the Parish Centre on 9791 4611

COMMUNION AND ANOINTING OF SICK

Please inform the Parish Office on 9791-4611 if a sick person is seriously ill, homebound or hospitalised and wants to receive Holy Communion or the Sacrament of Anointing.

REGULAR GROUP MEETING ST MARY'S PARISH

LEGION OF MARY:

Saturday mornings after 9:15am mass in the Fellowship Room followed by Rosary

SPANISH PRAYER GROUP :

Wednesday evenings at 7pm in the church

ST MARY'S FRIENDSHIP CLUB:
3rd Wednesday of month lunch meet at Dandenong RSL.12pm

BINGO AT ST MARY'S

St. Mary's Bingo is on Tuesdays at 12noon & Saturdays at 6.30pm in St Mary's Community Centre, New St, Dandenong



2026 EASTER MESSAGE

Easter offers a way forward

Friends,

Easter invites us to stand at the threshold from night into dawn. In the Gospel, we meet Mary Magdalen arriving at the tomb while it was still dark (Jn 20:1). She carries grief and confusion, yet a fragile hope. What she finds is not an ending but a beginning: the stone is rolled away, the tomb is empty. And before her stands the One who knows her name: Mary.

As dawn breaks, a quiet truth emerges: death has not had the final word; life has arisen.

The resurrection unfolds like morning light. It does not blind, but illumines. It does not erase wounds, but transfigures them. Christ, the Light of the World, comes to meet us as the light we need. Christ is present; Christ is life. Yet many today experience absence. For the young especially, the world can feel stripped of mystery—flattened, reduced. Meaning feels distant; hope can seem lost. Our lives can appear dark and empty. Conflict and war confront us. And yet, it is precisely there that Easter speaks our name. The empty tomb is the sign which awakens us to the truth that God is still with us; Jesus is still for us. This Easter, we are called not only to receive Christ's light, but to rediscover its wonder—and to bear that light for others. Here in Melbourne, we see both vitality and vulnerability: generosity among neighbours, yet distance towards others. Into this world comes the risen Christ, shining light into every darkness and upon every life. To be a light is to reflect the One who brings hope, and to keep it alive in a world that can forget to hold in safety those in need.

In our divided and conflicted world, Easter offers not escape but a way forward: to live with compassion, seek truth, build peace, and stand for hope.

To the steadfast in faith: may this Easter renew your joy and courage. To those who feel distant: the light of Christ is already seeking you. To people of goodwill: Easter proclaims that life is stronger than death, love stronger than fear, and hope stronger than despair. May the risen Christ bless Melbourne and all its people this Easter. And may we rediscover his company as we walk from darkness into his marvelous light.

Christ is risen. Alleluia.

Most Rev. Peter A. Comensoli, Archbishop of Melbourne

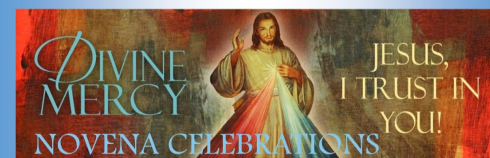
PLEASE PRAY FOR

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries:

Sick: Kulandhai Therese, Rosa Maria Santos, Long Phan, Ush Henry Bangkal, Leti Luki, Kathleen Nelson, Jim Lynch, Bernardo, Ray Gilligan, Frank Pezzaro, Janet Augustine, Bridget Phyland, Solofuti, Samantha Vasanthy, Kevin, Maria Perez, Angela Anthony, Ray Simmons, Frank Camara, Rita Breen, Tasileta Lolesio, Jim, Lucia Germano, Imelda Quatrebornes, Sandra Wills, Maddie, Herve, Asis Zullah, Nacera Burekovic, Charlie Mastrogiovanni, Carla Lunardi, Russell D'Costa, Satty Lee, Ping Lo, Robyn, Fr Brendan Lane, Anne Richards, Gervais Tourmentin, Ashleigh Wills, Anthony Morri, Lyma Payne, Eva Salvacion Satuito, Fr Michael Willemsen, Vreni Bien, Robyn Campbell, Rosario Giaquinta, Joanna Van Der Ven, Ricky (*The privacy legislation requires us to have written permission by an authorised person before any name can be printed*) in the Marian.

(IF THERE ARE ANY NAMES THAT NEED TO COME OFF THE SICK LIST PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE)



Friday 3rd April 2026—Good Friday
8:30am Novena

Saturday 4th April —Holy Saturday (Easter Vigil)
8:30am Novena

Sunday 5th April—Easter Sunday
5:30 Mass followed by Novena at 6:30pm

Monday 6th April –Saturday 11th April
8:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Followed by Rosary, Divine Mercy Novena & Chaplet
9:10am Benediction
9:15am Mass

Sunday 12th April—Divine Mercy Sunday
1:30pm Exposition & Confessions
3:00pm Divine Mercy Novena & Mass

We are pleased to announce that our parish has been blessed to receive a relic of Saint Faustina Kowalska from Poland. This sacred relic will be available for veneration on Divine Mercy Sunday.

The faithful are warmly invited to take part in this special occasion, to honour the life and mission of Saint Faustina, and to deepen their devotion to the Divine Mercy.



OUR PARISH WELCOMES

Congratulations and God's Blessings to Binta and Dulashi who are to be baptised & confirmed at our Easter Vigil. Please keep them in your prayers

A big THANK YOU to everyone who helped with cleaning the church, preparing the Holy Water bottles, arranging the Altar of Repose, and organizing the flowers. We are especially grateful to our Choirs, Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Sacristans, and all our dedicated volunteers. Your time, effort, and service are truly appreciated.

Please remember to return your Project Compassion Boxes or Envelopes as soon as possible.

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

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Thanksgiving: \$1641.00 **Presbytery** \$755.00 **Loose:** \$2193.00
Support our Parish If you would like to make direct payments to our bank accounts, the details are:
St Mary's General Account: (Thanksgiving & Donations) NAB BSB: 083 347 ACC. No. 483196852
For contributions to support our priests and the Archdiocese:
Presbytery Account: NAB BSB: 083 347 ACC. No. 460761193

St. Mary's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people and vulnerable adult