



St Mary of the Cross Catholic Parish

Mordialloc and Aspendale | Bunurong Country

EMBODYING CHRIST'S LOVE TO LOVE GOD, LOVE OTHERS, MAKE DISCIPLES

1st Sunday in Advent - 3 December 2023

Our readings are from Year B: Isaiah 63:16-17, 64:1, 3-8, 1 Corinthians 1:3-9, Mark 13:33-37

PARISH CHURCHES

St Brigid's,
520 Main St, Mordialloc
St Louis de Montfort's,
37 Dolphin St, Aspendale

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Andrew Jekot

ASSISTANT PRIEST

Fr Ignatius Tan

PARISH COORDINATOR

Ann Fitzgerald

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Fr Andrew, Fr Ignatius, Trish Angliss,
Berna Wake

BAPTISM COORDINATOR

Deb Poynton - 0403 471 931

PARISH HOUSE

03 9412 8432

PARISH OFFICE

03 9580 7981

Hours: Tue, Wed & Fri 9am - 4pm

PARISH SCHOOLS

St Brigid's, 9580 4518,
sbmord.catholic.edu.au

St Louis de Montfort's, 9580 5169
stlouisaspendale.catholic.edu.au

EMAIL

mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au

WEBSITE

m.stmaryofthecross.com

LIVE-STREAMED MASS

m.stmaryofthecross.com/mass

ONLINE BULLETIN

m.stmaryofthecross.com/news

Simply scan the QR code
with your mobile phone
and in a few easy steps
you can subscribe to
our parish bulletin.



GOSPEL REFLECTION



This Sunday marks the beginning of Advent and of a new liturgical year. Advent is a time of waiting, preparation and a time of prayer. It is a time of joy and hope. Advent is a time of preparing our hearts to 'receive' Jesus into the world each year.

In John's Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples to: *"Be on your guard, Stay awake!"* With these words, Jesus cautions his disciples to be constantly vigilant and to be alert to the return of the Lord.

Perhaps the time of preparation for this Advent is also a call to stay awake and stay alert in faith. According to Greg Saunter, one of the great challenges to faith today is the complacency that has taken hold of many in our society. When life is comfortable, the perceived need for faith appears to diminish. Many young people in our society cannot see the value of religious belief or religious practice. In a world of instant communication and instant 'satisfaction', the reflective and slow work of faith can seem too much effort for some people. The gospel call to stay awake in preparation for the coming of the Lord is a call to continue the work of bringing about the Kingdom of God.

"Stay awake because you do not know when the master will come back – stay awake." It is important to stay awake, Awake to what is happening around us in the world and awake to what is happening within us. How do we do that? Very simply: We keep in touch with our God and those around us by each day doing our best to live lives of love, of compassion, of forgiveness, of honesty, of integrity and of service.

So, as we watch and we wait, we call upon our good God, and thus we get ourselves ready to meet the Lord at the same time. To be aware of the active presence of God permeating every single moment of every single day we pray: *"O Lord, help us to recognise you and respond to you in love through every person and every experience of this day."*

Marylene Douglas St Louis' Primary School

PARISH NEWS AND OTHER EVENTS

SERVE MINISTERS ROSTER ADMINISTRATION

In recent months the Parish Leadership Team have streamlined the Parish Serve Ministries roster administration whereby all rosters are now prepared by the Parish Office. This provides a more efficient line of sight so as to ensure the smooth running of the ministries that allow our parish to thrive. The PLT wished to communicate that this administrative change did not involve the PLT asking any serve ministers to step down from their serving roles. Any changes in this respect have been the decision of the individuals involved. As we approach the Season of Advent we give thanks to all who step forward to selflessly serve God and our parish. Let us extend the hand of friendship, modelling the love, peace and joy of Jesus to the many visitors and guests who we will have the opportunity to welcome over the coming weeks. **The Parish Leadership Team**

MELBOURNE OVERSEAS MISSION (MOM)

Next weekend the 9th and 10th of December, there will be a collection for the Melbourne Overseas Mission (MOM). The MOM is a volunteer based missionary organisation with a focus on providing face to face assistance to the disadvantaged communities around the world. Thank you for your generosity.



BOBS KNITTING GROUP

The next session for the Group will be on **Friday 15 December from 10-12.30 pm at St Louis' Church meeting room**. All knitters from **St Brigid's and St Louis'** are invited, please bring a plate of food to share with your fellow knitters.

ADVENT SMALL GROUPS

Our Advent small groups have begun and all are welcome. Each group lasts one hour and they will run for the 4 weeks of Advent. It is not too late to join a group. **Group 1.** Tuesdays 10am St. Louis' Trish Le- Brocq. **Group 2.** Wednesdays 10.30am St. Brigid's Frances North. **Group 3.** Wednesdays 7.30pm Tony & Josie's house. **Group 4.** Thursdays 7.30pm online Zoom Ann Furlong.



THANKSGIVING MASS FOR BAPTISM FAMILIES

At our weekend masses on the **9th and 10th of December** we warmly invite all families who have had a child baptised in our parish this year to a special thanksgiving Mass. Father will give a special blessing for your child and family. We hope as many families as possible can attend. You can attend either 6pm Saturday at St Louis', 8am Sunday at St Brigid's, 9.30am Sunday at St Louis' or 11am Sunday at St Brigid's.

RITE OF ACCEPTANCE

We have 5 people who have responded to the call to join our parish as Catholics. We welcome **Kate Keltie, Tanya Stefanec, Gary Young, Sarah & James Barr**. They have been journeying with us the last couple of months alongside our RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation) team - Tony & Josie Aloysius, Carmel Barker, Vikki Fitzgerald, Judy Lamb & Bernie Stuart. We will formally welcome them into the process at the 9.30am mass this Sunday through the Rite of Acceptance. We ask for God's blessing upon them and all are invited to keep our friends in our prayers.

CHELSEA AND DISTRICT INTERCHURCH COUNCIL COMMUNITY CAROLS

10th December 2023 @ 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm | Free | Chelsea Town Hall Station Street, Chelsea, Victoria, VIC
Community Carols run by local churches with Chelsea Concert band.



ST MARY OF THE CROSS CHRISTMAS CHOIR PRACTICE

Christmas Choir Practice is on **every Tuesday evening from 7:30pm at St Louis' Church**. This is for the Christmas Eve 8:30pm Mass at St Louis' and the Midnight Mass at St Brigid's. Please contact Trish Angliss on 0421 604 849 for further details.



Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve: 6pm St Louis' School Oval -

8.30pm St Louis' Church - Midnight Mass St Brigid's

Christmas Day: 8.30am St Louis' - 10.30am St Brigid's



PARISH NEWS AND OTHER EVENTS

PRAYER FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Lord Jesus Christ, the Holy Land is once again struck by violence, hatred, and death.

Lord, look with mercy upon the land that was your earthly home.

Receive the deceased into your presence. Comfort those who mourn, are wounded or forced to flee.

Be close to all who are full of fear and despair.

You are our peace and light of the nations, put an end to the spiral of terror and suffering in the Holy Land and in the whole Middle East. Let peace and justice flourish at the holy sites. You are our refuge. Let the people be safe in your love. Have mercy on us and on our time. Amen

Please pick up a prayer card for peace in the middle east from the church foyers

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

If you are able to assist, please donate non-perishable items, such as sweet/savoury snacks, beverages, groceries, gift vouchers or cash donations, to help those in need in our area. Please place under the Christmas trees in our churches by the 2nd week of Advent as the hampers will be delivered early. Online donations can be made at www.vinnies.org.au or call 13 1812. There will also be a special collection at all our Christmas Masses to support the work of our local St Vincent de Paul Conferences.



COLUMBAN CALENDARS & SVDP CHRISTMAS CARDS

The 2024 Columban Calendars & SVDP Christmas Cards are now available from the Piety stalls after the weekend Masses. Calendars are \$10 & Christmas Cards are \$3.50 per pack.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH ST KILDA EAST - CAROLS

The Catholic Women's League of Victoria and Wagga Wagga warmly invites you to a beautiful Advent Carols event, at St Mary's Catholic Church St Kilda East on **Saturday 9th December starting at 2pm** followed by afternoon tea at 3pm. This is a free event. For catering purposes please email cwlvicww@gmail.com or go to www.trybooking.com/CMCSZ.

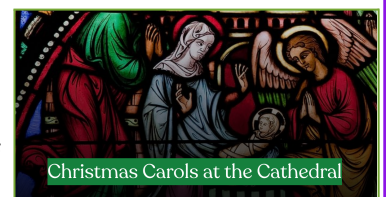
CHRISTMAS SERVE MINISTRY TEAM

Christmas is an incredible opportunity to welcome guests and visitors to our parish community. Let us all offer the gifts of peace, love and joy to all this season. To make the occasion memorable we are looking for **people to volunteer as Readers, Commentators, Special Ministers, Welcomers, Sacristan's and Parking attendants across all our Christmas Masses.** Please put your name down on the clipboard at the welcome desk or email the parish on mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au if you would like to be a part of our Christmas Serve Ministry team. **New Serve Ministers welcome.**



CHRISTMAS CAROLS AT THE CATHEDRAL

Come along for a family concert of traditional and modern Christmas carols in the beautiful and inspiring space of St Patrick's Cathedral. Featuring Cathedral Brass, Cathedral Schola and the Grand Organ, this performance will include plenty of audience participation, a children's segment and 'special guest' appearance. [Tickets can be purchased in advance](#) at trybooking.com/BRYBS or are available to purchase (via cash or card) at the door.



CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S GAZA CRISIS APPEAL

The alarming escalation of violence in Gaza is leaving people in urgent need of humanitarian assistance. Your support is needed now. Please donate to Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal. You can donate online www.caritas.org.au/gaza or phone 1800 024 413.

THIS WEEK ON FORMED

St. Nicholas Day | Catholic All Year at Home w/ Kendra Tierney watch.formed.org



FORMED® THE CATHOLIC FAITH. ON DEMAND.
St. Nicholas Day | Catholic All Year at Home w/ Kendra Tierney
Kendra shares her favorite recipes and traditions for celebrating the feast of St. Nicholas (a.k.a. Santa!). Learn how to make mulled wine and cider, speculaas cookies, and deep-fried Dutch meatballs

Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Visit formed.org/signup and select our parish. Scan the QR code to download the FORMED app to your phone.



Please note the Parish Office will be closed over Christmas and reopen 30 January 2024. Urgent calls will still be attended to. Thank you for understanding!



If you know of anyone who needs prayers
or a pastoral visit
please contact the Parish Office. 

RECENTLY DECEASED

Fr. Gerard Dowling

ANNIVERSARIES

Les Woodhead, Pearl Amor, Beryl Alma Johnson, Reg Garbelotto, Soledad Setia, Toni Egan, Filippo Cordoma, Effie Lobo, Pat Robertson, Jill Sulzberger, Rachelle Lynch, Matthew Haar, Joan May, Philomena Lazard, John Newington, Salvatore Perotta, Michael David Elbrish, Emily Braganza, Gerry Elboz, David Corda, Ronald Moore, Brendan Evans, Marguerite Hamilton, Tony Brennan, Ruth Naicker, Conor Hughes, Rita O'Brien, Bonnie Wilkinson, Mary Patricia Wilkinson, Fr Pat Laws, Angelo Cortese, Peter Youl, William Fitzgerald, Tony Bova, Marino Lacson, Thomas Mathai, Frank Logan, Fr Jim English, Florence O'Donnell, Guiseppe Miano, Edward Dziadek, Jane Morillion, Marjorie Ryan, Gloria Caleo, Rendel Roberts

HEALING PRAYERS ASKED FOR

Fernanda Barbarino, Peter Hopkins, Naldi Junaldi, Kath Kidd, Thomas Jacobs, Julie Buick, Serge Nayna, Olive Rankin, Pam Ulbricks, Sally McGloin, Eugene Roberts, Peter Waltho, Rita Popley, Judy Callmac, Sophia Bicos, Ian Hughes, Gerard Augustine, Sr Anita Le Clercq, Christine Wagstaff, John Nicholson, Brenda Cortese, Philip Maynes, Graham Owen, Sam Finocchiaro, Michael Bell, Julie Griffith, Serena Zienau, Josephine Wood, Nellie Julian, Michelle Ives, Minnie Joseph, Darren Rankin, Danielle Spencer, Paul Morillion, Fli Schumacker

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday: 6pm Mass (St Louis')

Sunday: 8am Mass (St Brigid's)

Sunday: 9.30am Mass (St Louis')

Sunday: 11am Mass (St Brigid's)

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday: 9.15am Communion
Service (St Louis')

Tuesday: 9.15am Mass (St Louis')

Wednesday: 10am Mass (St Brigid's)

Thursday: 9.15am Mass (St Louis')

Friday: 11.30am Mass (St Brigid's)

RECONCILIATION

Friday - 12pm St Brigid's,

Saturday - 5.30pm St Louis'

KIDZ ZONE

4th Weekend of the month

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Friday: 10.30am at St Brigid's

PRAYER GROUP AND ADORATION

1st Saturday of the Month: 4.30pm to 5.30pm at St Louis'

PRAISE & WORSHIP NIGHT

3rd Friday of the Month: 7.30 to 8.30pm alternating church each month

Our Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and human dignity of children, young people and adults in our community.

All Parish volunteers require a current Working With Children Check and completion of the Safeguarding Essentials training. Copies of the policy are available on our Parish Website and at our Parish Office. For any concerns please contact our Child Safeguarding Team.

Fr Andrew Jekot ... 03 9412 8432	Joe Corda ... 0407 354 568
Fr Ignatius Tan ... 03 9412 8432	Joanne Partleton ... 0413 133 184
Trish Angliss ... 0421 604 849	Robyn Worsnop ... 0412 814 592
Louise Breslin ... 0415 963 799	

NEXT WEEK'S SERVE MINISTERS' ROSTER

2nd Sunday in Advent - Our readings are from Year B: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11, 2 Peter 3:8-14, Mark 1:1-8

9th & 10th Dec	Reader	Commentator	Special Minister	Special Minister	Special Minister	Welcomer	Welcomer	Sacristan
6pm (A)	Marg De Vries	Ann Furlong	Bernie Stuart	Volunteer	Marie Medlicott	Jan Hughes	Tom Hughes	Susan Dornom
8.00am (M)	Barry Wheeler	Tony Aloysious	Jack Meyer	Joan Healy	Stephen Pooley	Jane Standish	Chris McAleer	Pamela Shanley
9.30am (A)	Lisa Tuke	Gerard Wagstaff	Maureen Wraight	Mary Nayna	N/A	Berna Wake	Carmel Smith	Tony Allday
11:00am (M)	Dianne Wain	Jennifer Rodrigues	Louise Breslin	Volunteer	Peter Hannan	Ellen Young	Judith Lamb	Glenice Laughlan
Counters	Group 2		Anthony Barnhoorn		Kelvin & Helen Rocks			

If you are unavailable on your rostered day please arrange a replacement and contact the Parish Office on 9580 7981 to inform us of the change.



**Our Parish acknowledges that we gather, pray and live on the land of the
Bunurong People of the Kulin Nation, and pay our respect to Elders,
past, present and emerging.**

