

St Martin de Porres Parish

158 Military Rd, Avondale Heights Vic 3034

🌐 www.melbocatholic.org/avondaleheights

Parish Priest: Fr. Nhàn Le

Secretary: Paula McKernan

Office Hours: 9:30am to 5pm

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

Pastoral Assoc: Sr. Cres Villas, asjm

Sr. Connie Mamo, asjm (Vol)

Phone: 9337 6016

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St Martin de Porres School

Principal: Stefanie Harvey

Secretaries: Mary Carmuciano

Maria Aloe

Phone: 9331 9000

E-mail:

principal@smavondaleheights.catholic.edu.au

🌐 www.smavondaleheights.catholic.edu.au

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil 6:00pm

Sunday 8:00am & 9:30am

Vietnamese 11:00am

Weekday Masses

Tuesday to Friday 9:15am

Benediction Wednesday after Mass

Reconciliation Wednesday 10:00am

Saturday 5:30pm

The Augustinian Sisters

Convent: 2 Venice Court,
Avondale Heights

Phone: 9337 4595

E-mail: spinelli@bigpond.net.au

Website: www.asjmoz.org

Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility.

The Parish of St Martin de Porres and the Archdiocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community. Child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of everyone.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Sick:

Edward Tortoreto; Monika Marland; Anthony Sgro; Alex Mather; Emily & Grace; Mellisa; Rose; Nancy Green; Peter Falzon; Claudia & Thomas.

Recently Deceased:

Carol Lamb; Pasquale & Vittoria Nicolaci; Mijo Gorscak; Antonietta Licciardino; Grazia Cutri; Sr Annunziata Darmanin; Sr Veturia Theuma; Sr Clotilde Schiavone; (all ASJM); Anna Borg; Marek Momont; Rose Costa; Michele Soccio; Aloysius Furtado (Mumbai); Francesco Anile; Joe Fernandez; Fr Peter Carrucan.

Anniversaries & Remembrances:

Aniceta Esmaquel; Maryanne Walsh; Letizia Giuliano; Maria-Celeste La Porta; Riccardo Caputo; Charlie Sciberras; Victor Micallef; Dominic Cumbo; Joseph & Consiglia Grima; Emmanuel, Teresa & Menu Sammut; Francis & Bernarda Grima; John & Tonina Darmanin; Emmanuel & Nazzarena Farrugia; Victor Apap; Carmelo & Rita De Bono; Charlie Sciberras; Victor Micallef; Charlie Galea.

Parish Support Programme:

Pledge: \$2,588 Received: \$2,059

Shortfall: \$529 Loose: \$807

Presbytery: \$1,425

Contributing to the Collections

You may wish to use the QR code if you have left your cash at home.



St Martin's is starting up Youth Masses

(followed by supper for the young attendees)

Commencing

Saturday 3rd May 6pm

The second will be very special on

Saturday 14th June 6pm

Celebrated by

Archbishop Peter Comensoli.

We prefer these to be run as much as possible by young people under 26 years. Please scan the QR code for more info.

Lenten Programme

Reflection Sessions with Srs Connie & Mayla



Final Session this Wednesday after Mass in the Pastoral Centre Meeting Room.

Stations of the Cross after Mass

Vietnamese - Thursday; English - Friday

Easter Cards at the back of the church

Please take some to deliver this weekend or during the week to streets listed in the letter.

Palm Sunday: Needed Saturday 12 April

Please bring Cypress, Palms and Olive branches to the church by 10am.

We kindly need people to help from 10am to move chairs & decorate the church.

Easter Rosters in the Church Foyer

Please indicate where you can help.

The Augustinian Sisters

Easter Goodies: for sale after the Masses next weekend. All proceeds to go to the Missions in the Philippines and Vietnam.

Latest Newsletter: Read or download at www.asjmoz.org/mission-news-march-2025.html



St Martin's Jubilee Year Calendar

Thursday 10th April 7pm Fr Chris Monaghan - *Lenten Reflection* - in church

Saturday 3rd May 6pm Youth Mass

Sr Lorraine to facilitate 3
Reflections on Ageing

Tuesday 13th May 7pm

Getting old or ageing well

Tuesday 20th May 7pm

Who cares for the carer?

Tuesday 27th May 7pm

The journey to eternal life

13th - 15 June Episcopal Visitation by Archbishop Peter Comensoli who will reside in the parish that weekend

Saturday 14th June 6pm Youth Mass

Date to be advised Pilgrimage to Mary MacKillop Church, Keilor Downs

Project Compassion Lenten Prayer

God of our journey
we are all pilgrims of hope
brought together by your love
and your wish that we may all be one.
We pray that in this Year of Jubilee
when we are called to greater justice
and care for our common home
that we may *Unite Against Poverty*.
May we work in unity for the freedom
of the oppressed
and the renewal of creation.
May our compassionate minds and
generous hearts
help bring about a world where all can
live in peace.
May our Lenten pilgrimage of fasting,
almsgiving and prayer
bring us closer to your loving heart.
We ask this in the name of Jesus.

Amen



Caritas
AUSTRALIA

**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

Fifth Sunday of Lent

5 - 6th April 2025



The life-changing work of Caritas Australia is only made possible by the unwavering generosity of our supporters & the dedication

of our local partners on the ground.



Our partners are the true heroes, working tirelessly on the frontlines every day to transform lives and build brighter, more hopeful futures for their communities.

Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion through the donation boxes, envelopes, scanning the QR code, calling: 1800 024 413 Or online at:

caritas.org.au/project-compassion

St Martin's Prep Enrolments 2026



Applications Now Open

Please apply at the School Office or phone 9331 9000.

Gospel Acclamation Joel 2:12-13

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
king of endless glory!*

*With all your heart turn to me,
for I am tender and compassionate.*

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
king of endless glory!*

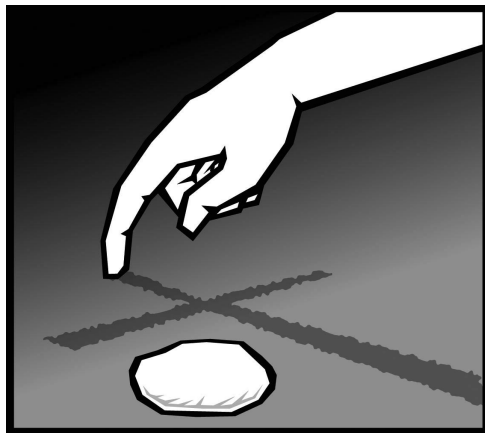
Gospel John 8:1-11 A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Let the person without sin be the first to throw a stone.

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them. The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir,' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and don't sin any more.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



Reflection by Greg Sunter

This entire scene is a conspiratorial 'set-up' to trap Jesus. Jewish law dictated that adultery was to be punished by death for both parties. However, the Roman occupation had forbidden the Jewish authorities to carry out the death penalty. By bringing the woman to Jesus they sought to place him in a no-win situation. If he upheld the Jewish law and ordered the death penalty, then he was flaunting Roman law. If he did not uphold the law then he could be branded as a false teacher. They thought it was a perfect trap!

But where is the man with whom the woman was committing adultery? When he is not also brought forward for judgment as any legitimate accusation would demand, Jesus senses the trap being set for him. He realises that those accusing the woman must have somehow been involved in setting her up so that she could be 'caught committing adultery'. In Jewish law, accessories to a crime were equally guilty and subject to the same penalty. When Jesus says to the gathering, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned' he's letting them know that he's aware of their part in this crime and what judgment is due them also! If they persist with their accusation, they'll also be tried as accessories! So they quietly walk away.

Jesus' words to the woman sum up his message throughout the gospel: 'Neither do I condemn you, go away, and don't sin any more.' As with others in the gospels, Jesus recognises that the woman has indeed sinned, but he does not condemn her for it. By telling her not to sin any more he is calling her to conversion. He is saying, yes, you've made mistakes, but you can do better and I'm challenging you to try.



ST MARTIN DE PORRES

Catholic Parish

Avondale Heights

Today's Celebration is on pages:

Old missal: 694 New Missal: 783



5th Sunday of Lent, Year C

6 April 2025

First Reading Isaiah 43:16-21

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I am doing a new thing and I will give drink to my people.

Thus says the Lord,
who made a way through the sea,
a path in the great waters;
who put chariots and horse in the field
and a powerful army,
which lay there never to rise again,
snuffed out, put out like a wick:

No need to recall the past,
no need to think about what was done before.
See, I am doing a new deed,
even now it comes to light; can you not
see it?

Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness,
paths in the wilds.

The wild beasts will honour me,
jackals and ostriches,
because I am putting water in the wilderness
(rivers in the wild)
to give my chosen people drink.

The people I have formed for myself
will sing my praises.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 125. R. v.3

**(R.) The Lord has done great things
for us; we are filled with joy.**

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from
bondage,
it seemed like a dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs. (R.)
2. The heathens themselves said:
'What marvels the Lord worked for them!'
What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad. (R.)

3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.
Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap. (R.)
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back,
full of song,
carrying their sheaves. (R.)

Second Reading Philippians 3:8-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

*Because of Christ I look upon everything else
as useless in order to gain him.*

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on faith. All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far from thinking that I have already won. All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

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