



Parish Priest: Fr Shabin Kaniampuram IVDei  
Pastoral Associate: Mirella Pace (Wed/Thurs 9-2pm)  
Financial Administrator: Margaret Harrington (Mon/Fri 9-2pm)

Assistant Priest: Fr Peter Nguyen  
Parish Secretary: Liza Powell (Tues 9-3pm /Thurs 1-4pm)  
Email: adminANT@cam.org.au  
Seminar Placement: Andrew Tran  
Email: financeANT@cam.org.au

### ST MARY'S THORNBURY

1 Rossmoyne Street, Thornbury 3071  
Email: adminant@cam.org.au  
Italian Coordinator:  
Maria Zaccardi (Thursday 9am-3pm)  
Interim Principal: Kevin Gleeson | Ph: 9484 5333

Follow us on  
Facebook and Instagram



### Reconciliation Times

10.30am Saturdays — St Mary's  
4.30pm Saturdays — Holy Spirit  
5.00pm Saturdays — St Joseph's

### MASS TIMES

#### St Mary's Thornbury

**Sunday:** 10:00am English/Italian  
5:30pm  
**Weekday:** Wednesday, 9:15am  
English/Italian

#### St Joseph's Northcote

**Saturday:** 5:30pm  
**Sunday:** 11:00am  
**Weekday:** Tuesday, 9:15am

#### Holy Spirit Thornbury East

**Saturday:** 5:00pm  
**Sunday:** 9:30am  
**Weekday:** Thursday, 9:15am  
English/Italian

#### St Anthony's Alphington

**Sunday:** 9:00am Italian:  
11:00am: English  
**Weekday:** Friday, 9:15am

#### FEAST DAYS IN THE WEEK

21 Dec: St Peter

#### Recently Deceased

Angela Buzzi, Serafina Stella, Hanna  
Lahoud Daher Taouk and Sirhan Habib  
Tannous Taouk, Maria Rosa Italiano  
(1month)

#### Anniversaries

Brian Lennox, Joseph Fernadis,  
Therese Attieh Fakhry, Youssef Anoor  
Taouk, Boutros Saleh Fakhry, Maroun  
Hanna Maroun Taouk, Elisabetta  
Sabatino (1 year anniversary)

To update parish details, please visit  
our official parish website:

[www.melbcatholic.org/s/hosan](http://www.melbcatholic.org/s/hosan)

### ST JOSEPH'S NORTHCOTE

140 Westbourne Grove, Northcote 3070  
Principal: Mary Kearney | Ph: 9481 7166

#### Partnership Parish Office Address

45 Railway Place Alphington  
P.O.Box 85 Fairfield 3078  
**Office Number:** 9484 2907  
**Office Hours:** Mon-Fri 9am-2pm

### PARISH OF HOLY SPIRIT AND ST ANTHONY'S

45 Railway Pl, Alphington VIC 3078  
**Supporting Priests:** Monsignor Tom Doyle; Fr Brendan Hayes  
**Pastoral Worker:** Pauline Egan  
**Principals:** Rob Costin, Holy Spirit Primary School,  
197 Clarendon Street, Thornbury East | Ph: 9480 0391  
James Casey, Anthony's Primary School,  
Tania Bennett, Acting Principal  
52 Austin Street, Alphington | Ph: 9489 7936

[www.melbcatholic.org/s/hosan](http://www.melbcatholic.org/s/hosan)

### 3rd Sunday of Advent Year C

14-15 December



The 3rd Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday. "Gaudete" means "rejoice" in Latin, reminding us that joy is both a present gift and a future promise. This Gaudete Sunday calls us to find joy in God's presence and not in what is around us. It's a joy that doesn't ignore life's challenges but transforms them. It's a joy that moves us to look beyond ourselves, inviting others to experience this peace and encourages us to live with gratitude and compassion. Joy is a fruit of the Holy Spirit, one we can experience in sorrow as in happiness. Joy isn't merely an emotion but a spiritual depth. John the Baptist's words show that preparing for Christ's coming requires us to live with integrity and to share joy through justice and mercy. Luke 3:10-18 gives us a practical picture of what it means to prepare for the coming of Christ. When the people ask John the Baptist what they should do, his answers were: to share with those who have less, treat others honestly and act with integrity. This joy, then, is not just for ourselves; rather, it is something that extends to others through acts of kindness, justice, and mercy. The joy of Advent isn't solely about waiting for Jesus in a passive sense but actively preparing our hearts and lives to welcome Christ more fully. In this Advent season, let us pray for a heart open to drawing deeply from the well of God's love, a heart that rejoices in God's presence, and hands willing to share that joy with others.

'Glory to  
God in  
the highest  
heaven, and  
peace to  
all who  
enjoy  
his favour'



### CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

#### CHRISTMAS EVE TUESDAY 24 DECEMBER

|        |               |             |
|--------|---------------|-------------|
| 5.00pm | Holy Spirit   | Family Mass |
| 5.00pm | St. Joseph's  | Family Mass |
| 6.30pm | St. Anthony's | Family Mass |
| 6.30pm | St. Mary's    | Family Mass |

**9.00pm Carols St. Mary's. 9.30pm Mass St. Mary's**  
**9.00pm Carols St. Joseph's 9.30pm Mass St. Joseph's**  
**Midnight Mass St. Anthony's**

**NO MORNING MASS AT ST JOSEPH'S ON 24 DECEMBER**

#### CHRISTMAS DAY WEDNESDAY 25 DECEMBER

|        |                         |
|--------|-------------------------|
| 9.00am | St. Anthony's (Italian) |
| 9.30am | Holy Spirit             |
| 10am   | St Mary's               |
| 11 am  | St Anthony's            |
| 11am   | St. Joseph's            |

**NO EVENING MASS AT ST MARY'S CHRISTMAS DAY**

#### NEW YEAR MASS

**10AM MASS AT ST JOSEPH'S AND ST MARY'S**

**NO WEEKDAY MASSES FROM  
BOXING DAY 26 DECEMBER UNTIL 3 JANUARY**

**FIRST READING: Zephaniah 3:14-18***A reading from the prophet Zephania*

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud! Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has repealed your sentence; he has driven your enemies away. The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear. When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem: Zion, have no fear, do not let your hands fall limp. The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior. He will exult with joy over you, he will renew you by his love; he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.****RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Isaiah 12:2-6***R. Cry out with joy and gladness:**for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.*

Truly, God is my salvation,

I trust, I shall not fear.

For the Lord is my strength, my song,  
he became my saviour.With joy you will draw water  
from the wells of salvation. **R**

Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!

Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!

Declare the greatness of his name. **R**

Sing a psalm to the Lord

for he has done glorious deeds,

make them known to all the earth!

People of Zion, sing and shout for joy

for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel **R****SECOND READING: Philippians 4:4-7***A reading from the first letter of St Paul  
to the Philippians*

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is no need to worry; but if

there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.****GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;  
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.  
Alleluia!

**GOSPEL Luke 3:10-18***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke*

When all the people asked John. 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ****Next week's readings: 4th Sunday of Advent**

Micah 5:1-4 Ps 79:2-3, 15-16, 18-19

Hebrews 10:5-10 Luke 1:39-44

**PRIMA LETTURA SOF 3,14-18***Dal libro del profeta Sofonia*

Rallègrati, figlia di Sion, grida di gioia, Israele, esulta e acclama con tutto il cuore, figlia di Gerusalemme! Il Signore ha revocato la tua condanna, ha disperso il tuo nemico. Re d'Israele è il Signore in mezzo a te, tu non temerai più alcuna sventura. In quel giorno si dirà a Gerusalemme: «Non temere, Sion, non lasciarti cadere le braccia! Il Signore, tuo Dio, in mezzo a te è un salvatore potente. Gioirà per te, ti rinnoverà con il suo amore, esulterà per te con grida di gioia».

**Parola di Dio*****Tutti: Rendiamo grazie a Dio.*****SALMO RESPONSORIALE IS 12*****Rit: Canta ed esulta, perché grande in mezzo a te è il Santo d'Israele.***

Ecco, Dio è la mia salvezza;  
io avrò fiducia, non avrò timore,  
perché mia forza e mio canto è il Signore;  
egli è stato la mia salvezza.

Attingerete acqua con gioia  
alle sorgenti della salvezza.  
Rendete grazie al Signore e invocate il suo  
nome,  
proclamate fra i popoli le sue opere,  
fate ricordare che il suo nome è sublime.

Cantate inni al Signore, perché ha fatto cose  
eccelse, le conosca tutta la terra.  
Canta ed esulta, tu che abiti in Sion,  
perché grande in mezzo a te è il Santo  
d'Israele.

**SECONDA LETTURA FIL 4,4-7***Dalla lettera di san Paolo apostolo ai Filippesi*

Fratelli, siate sempre lieti nel Signore, ve lo  
ripeto: siate lieti. La vostra amabilità sia nota a

tutti. Il Signore è vicino! Non angustiatevi per  
nulla, ma in ogni circostanza fate presenti a Dio le  
vostre richieste con preghiere, suppliche e  
ringraziamenti. E la pace di Dio, che supera ogni  
intelligenza, custodirà i vostri cuori e le vostre  
menti in Cristo Gesù.

**Parola di Dio*****Tutti: Rendiamo grazie a Dio.*****CANTO AL VANGELO Is 61,1****Alleluia, alleluia.**

Lo Spirito del Signore è sopra di me,  
mi ha mandato a portare ai poveri il lieto  
annuncio. Alleluia.

**VANGELO Lc 3, 10-18***Dal Vangelo secondo Luca*

In quel tempo, le folle interrogavano Giovanni,  
dicendo: «Che cosa dobbiamo fare?». Rispondeva  
loro: «Chi ha due tuniche, ne dia a chi non ne ha,  
e chi ha da mangiare, faccia altrettanto». Vennero  
anche dei pubblicani a farsi battezzare e gli  
chiesero: «Maestro, che cosa dobbiamo fare?». Ed  
egli disse loro: «Non esigete nulla di più di quanto  
vi è stato fissato». Lo interrogavano anche alcuni  
soldati: «E noi, che cosa dobbiamo fare?». Rispose  
loro: «Non maltrattate e non estorcete niente a  
nessuno; accontentatevi delle vostre paghe». Poiché  
il popolo era in attesa e tutti, riguardo a Giovanni,  
si domandavano in cuor loro se non fosse lui il  
Cristo, Giovanni rispose a tutti dicendo: «Io vi  
battezzo con acqua; ma viene colui che è più forte di  
me, a cui non sono degno di slegare i lacci dei  
sandali. Egli vi battezzerà in Spirito Santo e fuoco.  
Tiene in mano la pala per pulire la sua aia e per  
raccolgere il frumento nel suo granaio; ma  
brucerà la paglia con un fuoco inestinguibile». Con  
molte altre esortazioni Giovanni evangelizzava il  
popolo.

**Parola del Signore*****Tutti: Lode a Te O Cristo.***

## WE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Names will remain for 4 weeks, then a new request is required.

Kirstin Spiteri, Jessica Simioni, Swhalia Ibrahim  
Suad Hermiz, Isabela Yousef, Wafa Ibrahim  
Sivador Kassab, Phoenix Toma, Onyx Toma,  
Lucia & Pietro Piro, Piero Finotello

## HOUSE VISITATIONS

Do you or someone you know require any of the following:

- Annual House Visits
- Visits to the Sick
- Anointing of the Sick

Please contact the Parish Office on 9484 2907 to arrange a time with Fr Shabin or Fr Peter.

## SICK OR HOUSEBOUND / MALATI O

### CONFINATI A CASA

Se conoscete persone che sono malate o confinate a casa e vorrebbero ricevere visite o la comunione a casa siete pregati di mettervi in contatto Parish Office **9484 2907**

## CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

**Christian Meditation on Thursdays at 10:30am at Holy Spirit Parish. ALL WELCOME.**

## BAPTISMS: By Appointment Only

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month—St Mary's

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month—Holy Spirit

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month—St Anthony's

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month—St Joseph's

**Please call the Parish Office 9484 2907 or go to our website at**

**<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/hosan>**

## SENIORS

After the Thursday 9:15am Mass at Holy Spirit Parish Hall.

- Dopo messa Bingo e carte nella sala, si offre caffè e biscotti. Tutti benvenuti.

After Mass, bingo and cards in the hall, with coffee and biscuits offered. All Welcome.

## Last Friday of the month

**St Joseph's Seniors Mass every last Friday of the Month at 10:30am in the church.**

Parrochiani anziani di San Giuseppe sono invitati a partecipare alla **Santa Messa ultimo Venerdì del mese alle 10:30am.**

## Mass of Anointing of the Sick

9:15am Mass of Anointing of the Sick will take place on the first Friday of the month at St Anthony's Alphington.

## "Telephone Prayer meeting"

When: Every Tuesday at 11:30am

Dial: **07- 5660 6012** (call from home)

Access code: **722762 #**

Cost: Cost of a local call. Open to all.

## Catholic Religious Education Classes for children attending government schools in preparation for the Sacraments

Please call the Parish Office 9484 2907 or go to our website at

**<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/hosan>**

## Safeguarding Children, Young

## People and Vulnerable People Committee

Contact Person via the Parish Office:

Moses El-Fahkri

## Parish Notices

# Pastoral Leadership Team report, December 2024

Our combined Pastoral Leadership Team met on Wednesday 4 December to consider matters affecting our four communities. The main items discussed at the meeting were:

1. The outcomes of the recent thanksgiving campaign and use of the tap-and-go machines
  2. Activities and events to celebrate the 2025 Jubilee Year, which we will launch in our parishes on Sunday 2 February
  3. The upcoming retirement of Mirella Pace and Maria Zaccardi.
- We also took some time to reflect on what it means to be a "vibrant parish", how our communities are already embodying those characteristics, and the needs and challenges we face in helping our parishes to flourish and grow. Our first meeting for 2025 will be on Wednesday 5 February. In the meantime, we wish you all a joyful Christmas and a safe and peaceful New Year.

## CAN YOU HELP?

We need donations for flowers for the churches for Christmas. Please place in envelop marked 'flowers' and put in collection plate. **Thank You!**

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

We welcome into the Christian Community **Anthony Rossi & Romina Parisi** as they present **HARLOW MILA ROSSI and Nicholas Malcolm & Genevieve Bailey** as they present **OLIVER BURN MALCOLM** for their baptisms at **St Anthony's** on Sunday. We congratulate the families and pray for their spiritual growth and wellbeing in the Lord.



We would like to extend an invitation to our Partnered Parish Community to join us in celebrating **Mirella Pace and Maria Zaccardi's retirement.** 10am Mass and morning tea at **St Mary's Thornbury on 22 December.**



## ST VINCENT DE PAUL (VINNIES) -

### ST MARYS & HOLY SPIRIT

## GIVING TREE – PROVIDING CHRISTMAS HAMPERS TO THE NEEDY OF THORNBURY

ST VINCENT DE PAUL (VINNIES) - ST MARYS & HOLY SPIRIT  
CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

### PROVIDING CHRISTMAS HAMPERS TO THE NEEDY OF THORNBURY

Just a reminder that next weekend is the last weekend for you to return the items purchased for the St Vincent de Paul Giving Tree. This deadline is to ensure we have time to stocktake what we have received and to purchase additional items as needed. So far the parish response has been great and we extend our thanks to those who have already returned their gift(s) or donation. For further details about the hampers (or Vinnies in general) please contact the parish office and a Vinnies member will be in contact with you.

If you would prefer to make a cash donation to assist us purchase additional items and gift vouchers there are also envelopes on the tree. Donations can be left on the collection plates. Should you prefer a bank transfer to support our works please direct to: Account Name: St Vincent de Paul Society Victoria BSB: 063000 Account Number: 10317778 Agent Number: 946 (if not prompted for an Agent number please include '946 Thornbury' in the transaction description). We thank you in advance for enabling us to continue our works in the community.

**\*\* Note: This applies to St Mary's & Holy Spirit churches only \*\***