



THE TIDINGS

SERVING THE AREAS OF MELTON, MELTON WEST, AINTREE, BONNIE BROOK,
GRANGEFIELDS, HARKNESS, KURUNJANG, PLUMPTON, ROCKBANK & TOOLERN VALE



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 OF LENT Yr C | April 6 2025

CLERGY

Parish Priest: FR ALEX CLEMENTE, RCJ

Assistant Priest: FR WILFORD URMZA, 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)

St Dominic's Church, Melton

Church St, Melton, VIC 3337

- **Thursday & Friday** 9.15 am (no Mass on public holidays)
-

CONFESSION

St Catherine of Siena Church

Saturday: 5.45 pm | Sunday: 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 7-8): Bridge Rd, Cobblebank
+61 3 8099 6000 | info@sfc.vic.edu.au

Lent

ends on a note of wonder. In the face of all the mighty works that God has already performed for the people, God promises something even more magnificent.

Throughout this season we have reflected on the marvels that God accomplished in the lives of the people, cutting a covenant with Abraham, leading the people out of bondage, revealing God's own personal name, bring them into a land that is bursting with life. Now God says: You haven't seen anything yet.

The first reading proclaims that something new is about to appear. In the gospel, this new thing unfolds before our eyes. Here we see Jesus neither rejecting the law nor changing it. Instead, he shows that the law, as good as it might be, serves something higher. He shows that the mercy and compassion of God exceed the authority of the law. Once again we see that the readings of Lent are less concerned with mortification and penance than they are with divine graciousness and our response of joy and thanksgiving.

Paul is not satisfied with the blessings of the past. In fact, he considers them rubbish when compared with knowing and being united with Christ. Life with Christ transforms us from people who are caught in sin to women and men who have been forgiven. Life in Christ is the new thing that God has fashioned for us. God is the one who creates something new; we are the ones who are re-created.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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!

Today's Readings:

Isa 43:16-21 Phil 3:8-14 John 8:1-11

Next Week's Readings:

Isa 50:4-7 Phil 2:6-11 Luke 23:1-49

Recently Deceased

Doris Kenely

Death Anniversaries:

Veronica Sullivan, Kathryn Sheppard-Irwin, Mary Lahiff, Catherine Mizzi, Andriana Feketa, Ding Aguer, Aton Gutleber, Maria Gutleber, Maria Pirotta, Shirley Devolta, Mehes Nadarajah, Sagula Abraham, Kathleen Broderick O'Brien Sunardi, Michael Mangion, Terence Downs, Jerry Hendrik, Archbishop Frank Little, Slavica Michelčić, Michael Stolleni, Josephine Remedios, Maurice Johnson, Joseph Armeni, Maurice Winter, Mario Dubouzet, Marie Jongebloed, Brian Stokie, Brito Molha, John Mac Donald, Mary Bezzina, Carmen Testa, James O'Meara, Salvatore Cassar



**Parish Offertory Giving
March Update**

Pledged: \$6,803.39 Actual: 4,972.14

Thank You

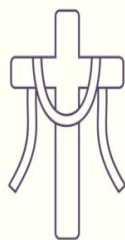
**In case of urgent situations, sickness etc.
in the parish please call 0422 869 646**

Reflection by Sr Mary Fermio, RSJ

No one likes a hypocrite, someone who says one thing and does another. But someone who uses one person to destroy another's reputation is unlikeable as well.

The Pharisees were always looking for ways to destroy the reputation of Jesus, a difficult aim, as he was so popular with the people. A woman caught in adultery was by law to be stoned to death, so they tested Jesus as to his loyalty to the Law. A plaything for the Scribes and Pharisees! Where is the man – surely he is as guilty! Jesus turns the tables on them suggesting that those without sin act according to the Law. Jesus liberates her from her past, by showing her the love of God – forgiveness!

Sit in prayer with Jesus and hear him say the same words to you: "Neither do I condemn you. Go and don't sin any more!" Let us place our confidence in the loving mercy of God.



But those who hope in the Lord
will renew their strength. They
will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow
weary, they will walk and not be
faint.

Isaiah 40:31

HELP NEEDED

FOR PALM SUNDAY:

We need eight palm fronds to be cut off a palm tree on Holy Saturday, April 19, from a private property for our church. If you have a trailer/ute and a saw and can assist please call Liz on the number below.



FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY (HOLY THURSDAY):

Twelve parishioners are required for the washing of the feet at the 7.30pm Mass on April 17. If you are willing to have your foot washed by the priest - man, woman, child, young or old! - please let Liz know. You are also invited to wear your national costume if you have one. Please contact Liz if you can assist.

Liz Coustley
0490 885 515 or email: cso.melton@gmail.com

NEW TO OUR PARISH? Welcome!

Please collect a Welcome Pack from the Gathering Area of the church. Once census form is completed, place it in the white return box in the Gathering Area.

TRADITIONAL BLESSING OF EASTER FOOD BASKETS

In many Eastern European countries, it is a tradition to have a basket of food blessed on Holy Saturday or Easter Sunday. This practice dating back to the 15th century or earlier, is one which is still maintained by many families on Holy Saturday.

The food items in the Easter basket, as well as at the Easter Sunday breakfast when the blessed food is eaten, have special significance. Each family may have its own traditions, but there are some practices that are universal.

Basket Decorations

A lot of thought, time, and care are put not only into the foods that will go into the basket but also to how the basket is assembled. The basket is lined with an embroidered cloth or traditional folk fabric. Once the basket is filled, it is covered with a white linen cloth (some have a colourfully crocheted edging or embroidered design) representing the shroud of Christ. The basket can then be decorated with greenery and/or flowers.

Symbolic Foods

A typical Eastern European Easter basket would include a variety of symbolic foods, although families can personalize to their liking. Baskets will most likely include these ingredients:

- Bacon as a symbol of the abundance of God's mercy
- Bread representing the staff of life given by God.
- Cake is reminiscent of the risen Lord.
- Butter to celebrate the end of Lent and the richness of our salvation.
- Candles symbolize Jesus, the "light of the world,"
- Cheese to remind Christians of moderation.
- Coloured eggs as well as uncoloured hard boiled eggs, indicate hope, new life, and Christ rising from his tomb
- Ham as well as other meats, symbolizes great joy and abundance in celebration of Christ's resurrection.
- Sausage links are symbolic of the chains of death that were broken when Jesus rose from the dead, as well as of God's generosity.
- Horseradish is a reminder of the bitterness and harshness of the Passion of Jesus, and the vinegar it is mixed with symbolizes the sour wine given to Jesus on the cross.
- Salt is present to add zest to life and preserve us from corruption.
- Sweets suggest the promise of eternal life or good things to come.

Family Traditions

Although every family might have its own traditions when it comes to the Easter baskets, many make sure to include enough food so every family member can have a bite of all the blessed foods after Mass on Easter Sunday.



beyond the vows

Saturday 12th April • 9:45am to 5pm
St Catherine of Siena Parish, Caroline Springs

\$50 per couple

A one day Catholic marriage retreat designed to help couples navigate life and draw closer together.

To register, scan the QR code or visit **beyondthevows.site**



Deepen in Intimacy

Connect with God

Be Renewed



HOLY WEEK & EASTER TRIDUUM 2025

St Anthony of Padua Church, Melton South
Friday, April 11

6.30pm Stations of the Cross followed by Reconciliation (approx. 7.30pm)

ST CATHERINE OF SIENA CHURCH, WEST MELTON

Maundy Thursday April 17



7.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 10 pm

Good Friday April 18



10.30am Stations of the Cross followed by Reconciliation
3pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday April 19



10.30am Blessing of the Easter food baskets
7.30pm Easter Vigil Mass

Easter Sunday April 20

9am & 11am Easter Sunday Masses
Please Note: no 5pm Mass

SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.

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

HOME VISITATION & BLESSING REQUESTS

For Home Visitation & Blessing requests, please speak to one of our priests after Mass or fill out the online request form: [TINYURL.COM/HBLESSING](https://tinyurl.com/HBlessing)

PLEASE RING THE MASS MANAGER IF UNABLE TO ATTEND:

6 pm	Tania Walters	0492 952 478	11am	Lea Jacuta	0414 390 151
9 am	Theo Franken	0411 040 897	5 pm	Josephine Krajina	0407 042 133

5th Sunday of Lent

MINISTERS OF:	6 PM	9 AM	11 AM	Saturday & Sunday April 5&6, 2025
Welcome	Kate Mulholland	Anne Stokie	Lea Jacuta	Josephine Krajina
The Word	Manoj D'Silva	Jennifer Peters	Cira Cleary	Josephine Krajina
Responder	Tetchie Hadfield	Alzira Mascarenhas	Lea Jacuta	Lesley Sosa-Ritchie
Presentation of Gifts	Tania Walters	Karl Metha	Chelsea Amato	Elainne de los Santos
Holy Communion		Anne Stokie	Liz Coustley	Ismael Sosa-Sanchez
PowerPoint Operator	James Taniman	Faith Tuputala	Choir	Nina Ahmet
Gift Shop	Kate Mulholland	Graham Dempsey	Lea Jacuta	Frank Unferdorben
Choir	Divine Mercy	Samoan Choir	Veritas Choir	Tongan Choir
Counters	Karl Metha, Anne Stokie, Maureen Mohr			

Palm Sunday Passion of the Lord

MINISTERS OF:	6 PM	9 AM	11 AM	Saturday & Sunday April 12&13, 2025
Welcome	Tania Walters	Asther Creo	Liza Fernandes	Frank Unferdorben
The Word	Maria Prasetyono	Alzira Mascarenhas	Liza Fernandes	Janet Estrada
Responder	Tania Walters	Theo Franken	Cira Cleary	Ismael Sosa-Sanchez
Presentation of Gifts	Tetchie Hadfield	Karl Metha	Lea Jacuta	Josephine Krajina
Holy Communion	Kate Mulholland	Asther Creo	Lea Jacuta	Lesley Sosa-Ritchie
PowerPoint Operator	James Taniman	Sanyata Creo	Daniella Ahmet	Nina Ahmet
Gift Shop	Tania Walters	Maureen Mohr	Lea Jacuta	Janet Estrada
Choir	Divine Mercy	Samoan Choir	Veritas Choir	Filipino Choir
Counters	Elizabeth Marshall, Jennifer Peters			



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



The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the *faith* you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of *charity* enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed *hope*
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the
seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within
both humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen.

Franciscus

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

APRIL

Wednesday ,9th	No Mass at St Catherine's Church Mass at St Anthony's Melton South 9.30am
Thursday, 10th	Mass: St Dominic's Church 9:15 am
Friday, 11th	Mass: St Dominic's Church 9:15 am
Sunday, 13th	Palm / Passion Sunday
Wednesday,16th	No Mass at St Catherine's Church Mass at St Anthony's Melton South 9.30am
Thursday, 17th	No morning Mass at St Dominic's
Friday, 18th	No morning Mass at St Dominic's

See Holy Week & Easter Triduum Liturgy Times on page 3 of the Tidings

Wednesday, 23rd	Mass: St Catherine's Church 9:15 am Year 6 & Prep students to attend Baptism Information Night 7.30 pm St Catherine of Siena Church
Thursday, 24th	Mass: St Dominic's Church 9:15 am
Friday, 25th	ANZAC Public Holiday No Mass at St Dominic's Church Mass: 9.30 am at St Anthony's Melton South
Saturday, 26th	Baptisms: 11am & 12.15pm
Tuesday, 29	St Catherine of Siena Feast Day
Wednesday, April 30th	Mass: St Catherine's Church 9:15 am Whole school Mass for ST Catherine's School

ENGAGING YOUR FAITH

Engaging Your Faith (EYF) is a **series of short, online presentations** that invite participants to reflect on what it means to be people of faith in the contemporary world. Experienced academics from Catholic Theological College present on a variety of topics such as: science and faith issues including AI, Vatican II, Blessed Virgin Mary, Scriptures, religion and ethics, and Jubilee of Hope. For further information visit the Catholic Theological College at <https://ctc.edu.au/news-and-events/engaging-your-faith/>

These sessions would be an ideal opportunity for lay leaders and other interested people in our parish to explore the possibilities offered at CTC for personal, theological, and spiritual development.



PARISH OFFERTORY GIVING

If you would like to make either a one-off donation or to set up recurring donations to the parish, please scan the QR code or head to our website:

[TINYURL.COM/
GIVEMELTON](https://tinyurl.com/GIVEMELTON)

You may also like to use the Smart Terminal at the welcome desk to contribute to the Parish.



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. You will then receive a verification



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.



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