



St Mary of the Cross Catholic Parish

EMBODYING CHRIST'S LOVE

Parish Priest: Fr Andrew Jekot, Assistant Priest: Fr Huy Nguyen,
Deacon: George Piech-Meat

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time 10 August 2025

Readings for Year C Wisdom 18: 6-9 - Hebrews 11: 1-2, 8-9 - Luke 12:32-48



In today's Gospel, Luke points out that the greatest gift we Christians have received is knowing that Jesus is the Messiah, the Christ. From everyone to whom much has been given, however, much will be required and so knowing who Jesus is only goes halfway. Living out the reality of the Christian life is the other half. Today's Gospel highlights five key traits of Christian living: generosity toward those in need, commitment to justice, alertness to God's presence, protection of faith, and peaceful relationships. Jesus teaches us to focus on what truly matters.

Despite the passage of two thousand years, many still lead complicated lives that distract from true happiness. Often, it takes a tragedy for people to pause and reconsider what truly holds value. In the aftermath of the Columbine tragedy, a student penned a reflection on society's paradoxes: our material and technological growth has not brought deeper meaning or better relationships. We build taller buildings but have shorter tempers; we have bigger houses and smaller families; we have fancier houses, but broken homes; we know more but judge less wisely. We've been all the way to the moon and back, but have trouble crossing the street to meet our neighbour. We have more conveniences but less time, more choices but fewer lasting joys. And more recently, we have many Instagram Friends, but very few true friendships. We accumulate wealth and possessions but often lack peace, love, and understanding. This exposes the imbalance between outward success and inward emptiness. Ultimately, the question remains: what truly matters? Jesus asks: 'What do we treasure, and where is our heart?' We are urged to return to the essentials—faith, love, justice, presence, and peace.

Marylene Douglas St Louis' School
Vice Principal and RE Leader



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News and Announcements

Feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop 8 August: Australia's First Saint

We honour her life, legacy, and the profound impact she had on Australian education and social justice, particularly for the underprivileged.

Prayer

Ever-present God,
you gifted us with Mary MacKillop
whose life inspires us never to lose hope.
Build our confidence in your strengthening
presence
especially in the darkest moments of our lives.
Be present with hope for those suffering trauma,
injustice, illness and despair
at this time in our world.
We ask this through Christ accompanying us.
Amen

*Di Colborne rsj and Kath Dawe rsj
Published in the 10th Anniversary of Canonisation
Commemorative Prayer Book by the Sisters of St Joseph of the
Sacred Heart.*

Feast of Our Lady's Assumption - Friday 15 August

Please join us to celebrate Mass on the Feast of the Assumption. The Mass times will be:

9.00am St Louis' School Hall with students and teachers, parishioners very welcome.

11.30am St Brigid's Church with students and teachers, parishioners very welcome.

7.00pm St Louis' Church.

*Thanks For
Your Support*

Gail Hamilton and family would like to thank Fr Huy and the many parishioners for their love and prayers on the passing of her beloved husband Fred. May he rest in peace.



Children's Reconciliation Commitment Masses

We welcome and pray for the children accompanied by their parents who have commenced their journey towards the sacrament of reconciliation (govt. schools). They will be with us at masses at St Louis' this weekend.



The Archbishop's Campaign August 2025

The Archbishop's Campaign will begin next weekend. We are encouraged to think about what a vibrant faith community means for each of us, and to consider making a personal and recurring monthly gift to support the vital ministries that serve all in our Archdiocese.

From next week, you will notice posters and campaign envelopes with tear-off pledge cards around the church, a banner on our website and images supporting the campaign on our social media accounts. More information about this campaign is coming; in the meantime, we are all encouraged to prayerfully begin discerning your gift.

National Vocations Awareness Week

Please pray for our priests today in thanksgiving for their ministry and presence in our community. Please pray for the religious who do so much in pastoral care, education, health care and many other ministries. Pray also that the saints may inspire many vocations to consecrated life and priesthood, especially from our community.

Longbeach Luncheon 20 August

All parishioners are invited to join for a lunch amongst parishioners and friends at a locally selected restaurant or hotel bistro. The August luncheon will be on **20 August from 12:30 to 2:30** at the Riviera Hotel Nepean Highway Seaford. If you need a lift just contact Keith or Pat (see below). For Bookings contact Pat on 0448-866-020 or Keith on 0417-350-733. Alternatively leave a message on 9772-7292.



formed
Forming Catholics for Life.

The Assumption of Mary

The Assumption of Mary, body and soul in Heavenly glory, highlights the power of God and Christ's victory over sin and death for Mary's soul. Learn about this great mystery in Mysteries of the Rosary.

Our parish has a Formed subscription. Visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.



News and Announcements

Parish Groups - Why not come along?

Our parish has a number of groups which provide opportunity for friendship, hospitality and deepening our faith. If you have been thinking about joining a group, why not make this month the one to do so. All are welcome, feel free to bring a friend. Here are some upcoming groups:

Scripture and Friendship

Our Parish Scripture & Friendship group will meet on **Tuesday 12th August** at Ann's home, 47 Gothic Road Aspendale. We begin at 10am and will finish at about 11am for a cuppa. This group is open for anyone - we discuss the coming Sunday's Gospel, sharing our thoughts, questions or just listening. A great way to meet people in our Parish.

For any queries contact Ann on 0425 712 741 or Carmel 0425773608.

Justice Action Group

The JAG vision is to follow Jesus' example to hear and respond to issues of social justice including family violence, human trafficking, refugees and asylum seekers, people experiencing homelessness, First Nations people and the protection of the environment. If you have an interest in these areas, please do come to our monthly meeting on **Wednesday 13 August from 7.30-9pm at St Louis' Church**.

Praise and Worship

All are welcome to Praise and Worship next **Friday 15 August** at 7.30pm at our Church at St Louis', **after** the Feast of Our Lady's Assumption Mass at St Louis' at 7pm. Be filled with the Holy Spirit through scripture, song and prayer. Hospitality provided.

Men's Fellowship

Our Men's Fellowship group will gather on **Thursday 21 August** at 7.30pm at St. Louis Church. Come along into this safe space to talk about faith and enjoy some new friendships. New members are very welcome.

Laudato si: 2000 years in the making

2025 is the 10th anniversary of Pope Francis' encyclical, Laudato si - 'care for our common home'. Come along to **St Louis' Church on Thursday 28 August from 7.00 to 8.30pm** to learn, discuss and reflect upon the richness of this encyclical.

Presented by Patrick Jurd.

CARITAS Gaza Emergency Appeal

Caritas Australia, the official international aid and development agency of the Catholic Church, is working tirelessly with its overseas partners to provide urgent assistance to people displaced and affected by the war in Gaza. The humanitarian crisis in Gaza continues to deteriorate at an alarming rate, with severe shortages of food, water, and shelter. Caritas Jerusalem and Catholic Relief Services can continue providing aid and support to people in Gaza and the West Bank, despite restrictions. Please consider financially supporting the people of Gaza through Caritas via this link:

<https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/gaza-crisis/>

Justice Action Group

Family Violence: What can we do?

Our parish has been invited to send representatives to the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne Faith, Hope and Love conference and men's summit on Family Violence on **18 and 19 August**: They state: "In every church community there are likely to be DFV victims and those who choose violence, but most of all there are people who are witnesses to one another's lives." Given our focus on Family Violence this year, the Justice Action Group and the parish have offered funding for members of JAG and parishioners to attend. You may attend one day, both days or the half-day men's summit on **Tuesday 19 from 9am-12:45pm**.

If you are interested, please contact Judy Lamb 0419311255. Further details:

<https://www.tencommitments.org.au/conference>

Nappy Drive

During August, JAG will be collecting disposable nappies for families living in difficult situations; families escaping domestic violence, asylum seekers and families facing housing and food insecurity. At present there is a huge demand for nappy sizes for children aged six months to five years (sizes 2,3,4,5,6 and larger). Opened or unopened packs will be gratefully accepted. Boxes for donations will be in the church foyers over the next three weeks. Any queries contact **Maree 0407376505**

JAG Meeting

Our next monthly JAG meeting is this Wednesday **13 August from 7.30-9pm** at St Louis'. All are welcome, especially new members.

ROSTER 16/17 August 2025		20 th Sunday in Ordinary Time Readings (Year C) Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10 Hebrews 12:1-4 Luke 12:49-53					
	Reader	Commentator	Special Minister	Special Minister	Special Minister	Welcomer	Welcomer
6pm (A)	St L. Year 1 Mass	St L Year 1 Mass	Bernie Stuart	Anthony Barnhoorn	Ann Furlong	Carmel Barker	Gail Hamilton
8.00am (M)	Graham Jones	Jane Standish	Joan Healy	Carole Guthrie	Jack Guthrie	Jack Meyer	Volunteer
9.30am (A)	St L Year 1 Mass	St L. Year 1 Mass	Felice Cortese	Maureen Wraight	Mary Nayna	Trish Le Brocq	Jon Searle
11.00am (M)	Dianne Wain	Paula Rodrigues	Peter Wain	Louise Breslin	Helen Rocks	Robyn Worsnop	Vanessa Fernandes
Counters Group 3		Joe Corda	Deborah Joseph	Nelson Popley			

Recently deceased: Bishop Emeritus Peter John Elliott, Frank Barber (Barbara's husband Edithvale).

Anniversaries: Lily Fabris - George Michael Brink - William Bowles - Monica Pierce - Angelina Cortese - Judith Boileau - Elisabeth Bury - Jessie Guthrie - Andrew Basile - Verna Moorhouse - Ann Fosberry - Mariamma Johnson - Amanda McLaggan - Hipolito Coutinho - Shelia Dawson - Keith Drinan - Edward James Sheehan - Rita Beha - Adrian Pobjoy - Edna Bowden - Maureen Lyons - Gordon Dunstan - Roman Luvara - Marie Nanci Barbarich - Frank Mooney - Mary Wintle - Juanita Caday - Juanita Caday - Richard Craig - Fr John Carnie CSSB - Mary Lavery - John Byrne - Sarah Christensen - Felice Cortese - Frank Lebler - Paul Goodier - Rye Johnson - Yvonne White - Gabrielle Margaret Southam - Dean Cowden - Richard Pearle - Mary Dawson - Walter Cresswell - Leo Laragy - Philip Hunter - Maureen Koenig - Mary Wilde - Roma Jones.

Praying for healing and the sick: Chris Doran, Chris Wardle, Ann Muir, John Nicholson, Peter Waltho, Janice Gillette, Michelle Parker, Greg Hayes, Sue Waltho, Jeffrey Sellar, Alasdair Hughes, Nelson Popley, Sophia Bicos, Patsy Riordan, Fr Terry Kean, May Warrenner, Andrea Williams, Brian Smith, Michelle Burne, Rosemary Hall, Michelle Ives, Kees Meyer, Graham Owen, Norreen Spies, Nancy Maxfield, Craige Ross, Virginia O'Toole.

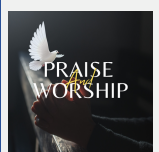
Growing in community & belonging at St Mary of the Cross



Children's Liturgy
5 - 12-year-olds.
4th weekend of the month. All masses except 8am.



Prayer Ministry
Intercessory prayer.
Last weekend of the month - all masses.



Praise & Worship
3rd Friday of month
7.30 - 8.30pm.
Alternates between each church.

Pastoral care

If you would like a pastoral visit, Helen is available to drop by for a chat or to organise some help if required. Please contact the office at mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au

Baptism Coordinator

Debbie Poynton 0403 471 931

Contact us

Parish Office: 03 9580 7981
OPEN Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday's 9am to 4.30pm
Parish Coordinator: Ann Fitzgerald
mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au
Parish House: 03 9412 8432

Our Parish acknowledges that we gather, pray and live on the land of the Bunurong People of the Kulin nation, and pay our respects to Elders, past, present and emerging. We recognise their continued connection to Country, and we thank them for their role in caring for, and maintaining Country and waterways, over thousands of generations.

WEEKEND MASSES

St Louis Saturday 6pm
St Brigid's Sunday 8am
St Louis Sunday 9.30am
St Brigid's Sunday 11am
Our 6pm Saturday Vigil & 8am Sunday Masses are live streamed and can be accessed at:
m.stmaryofthecross.com/mass

WEEKDAY MASSES

St Louis Mon 9.15am Communion Service, St Louis Tuesday 9.15am, St Brigid's Wed 10am, St Louis Thurs 9.15am, St Brigid's Fri 11.30am

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION AND HOLY ROSARY

St Brigid's every Fri 10.30am
St Louis 1st Sat of the month 4.30pm

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

St Louis Monday's 7.30 - 8.30pm

RECONCILIATION

St Brigid's Friday's 12pm
St Louis Saturday's 5.30pm

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Fr Andrew, Fr Huy, Trish Angliss, Berna Wake

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

CHILD SAFEGUARDING TEAM:

Fr Andrew Jekot 03 9412 8432
Fr Huy Nguyen 03 9412 8432
Trish 0421 604 849
Louise 0415 963 799
Joe 0407 354 568
Helen 0498 178 899
Anthony 0407 505 341
Robyn 0412 814 592
Denise 0412 926 752