



St Francis of Assisi Parish

290 Childs Road, Mill Park 3082 phone: 9407 6700

web: www.melbcatholic.org/millpark email: millpark@cam.org.au

PARISH BULLETIN

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, JOSEPH

29TH DEC 2024

PARISH PRIEST	Fr Anthony Girolami	ASSISTANT PRIEST	Fr Simeon Anthony
DEACON	Rev John Vespa	PASTORAL ASSOCIATE	Sr Anh Tran - 9407 6720
YOUTH MINISTER	Carmel Walsh - 9407 6704	PARISH/SCHOOL LIAISON	Ruth Lees - 9407 6703
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR	Maree Chamoun - 9407 6700	PARISH BOOKKEEPER	Paul - 9407 6722
SCHOOL PRINCIPAL	Mark Basile - 9407 3100		
WEEKEND MASS TIMES	Saturday vigil 5:00 pm; Sunday 9:00 am, 10:30 am & 5:00 pm		
WEEKDAY MASS TIMES	Monday – Saturday 9:15 am Wednesday 7:30 pm - Our Lady of Perpetual Help		
RECONCILIATION	Wednesday evening after Mass and Novena Saturday 9:45 am		
ADORATION	Saturday 9:45 am – 10:45 am concluding with Benediction		
VIGIL MASS:	1st Friday of the month 7:30 pm to Midnight Mass.	Next Mass: 3 rd January	
FILIPINO MASS:	2nd Sunday of the month at 12 noon.	Next Mass: 12 th January	
MALTESE MASS:	3rd Saturday of the month at 4 pm. Confession 3:30. Rosary 3:40.	Next Mass: 18 th January	
INDONESIAN FAMILY GROUP MASS:	3rd Saturday of the month at 7pm.	Next Mass: NO MASS DEC/JAN	
EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:	Wednesday 6:30 am - 7:00 pm in the chapel.		
NOVENA TO ST JOSEPH:	1st Wednesday of the month after 9:15 am Mass.		
ANOINTING OF THE SICK:	2nd Wednesday of the month after 9:15am Mass.		
ST ANTHONY’S PRAYER GROUP MASS:	Every Tuesday at 7:00 pm.		
NOVENA TO ST ANTHONY (MALAYALAM):	Every Tuesday at 6:30 pm.		
LIFE TEEN:	Every Sunday during school terms after 5pm Mass. Contact Carmel at millpark.youthministry@cam.org.au for further details.		
LEGION OF MARY:	Every Thursday at 10:15 am in the church fellowship area. Contact Jackie - 0422 443 324.		
JUNIOR LEGION OF MARY:	Every Wednesday at 3:30 pm during school terms in the fellowship area. Contact Jackie - 0422 443 324.		
WORD OF LIFE PRAYER GROUP:	Every Friday at 7:00 pm in the chapel. Contact Nancy - 0434 559 352.		
PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUP:	Contact Regina - 0432 267 557 or Alfons and Helen Glatzel - 9404 2050.		
DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET:	Every Friday at 3:00 pm in the chapel and Friday mornings after 9:15am Mass.		
AGAPE RENEWAL PRAYER MEETING:	Contact Jigimon - 0402 652 646.		
JESUS YOUTH PRAYER GROUP:	Every Thursday at 7 pm in the chapel. Contact Amish Joseph - 0481 717 616		
CATECHIST R.E. CLASSES:	For all enquiries contact May Park at stfranciscatechist@gmail.com.		
MEN’S MEET & GREET GROUP:	1st Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm.		

PARISH NEWS

PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS: Contributions can be dropped off between 9am and 5pm each day at the parish office.

THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES: Please remember to write the amount on the front of your thanksgiving envelopes.

PARISH CELLS OF EVANGELISATION:

SUGGESTION BOX: All will be considered by the Parish Evangelisation Team each month (Location: Church Foyer)

HOUSE BLESSINGS: To invite our clergy to visit and bless your house, please fill in the "Family Visitation - House Blessing card found in the Church foyer.

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING: 1st Saturday of every month (except school holidays), meeting in the church foyer.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

RECENTLY DECEASED: Rosario Perri

IN MEMORIAM: Say- Lui (Rosie) Magalotti

THOSE WHO ARE ILL: Fr Varghese Kattikattu, Seamus Quinn, Cliff Aquilina, David Wallace, Greg Forrester, Antonina Gangi, Fr Terry Kean, Jack Mercovich

(From time to time we will modify the sick list. If you prefer a person to remain on the list please contact the parish office.)

The newsletter will be available each week on our website www.melbcatholic.org/millpark

Dear Parishioners,

Many thanks to all who assisted in so many ways to make our Christmas celebrations beautiful and dignified. A special thanks to those who organised and participated in the Nativity Play, which brought great warmth and joy to many hearts. We are also very grateful to Sr. Anh for her beautiful floral arrangements.

I will be filling in for the Parish Priest of Mount Eliza for the next week or so as he visits his family overseas. Fr. Simeon is kindly holding the fort while I am away.

On behalf of the entire Parish Team, we extend our heartfelt wishes for a very Happy and Holy New Year, filled with the hope and blessings of the Jubilee Year.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Anthony Girolami

Saint Who? Saint Thomas of Canterbury - Martyr Feast: 29th December

A strong man who wavered for a moment, but then learned one cannot come to terms with evil, and so became a strong churchman, a martyr, and a saint—that was Thomas Becket, archbishop of Canterbury, murdered in his cathedral on December 29, 1170.

His career had been a stormy one. While archdeacon of Canterbury, he was made chancellor of England at the age of 36 by his friend King Henry II. When Henry felt it advantageous to make his chancellor the archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas gave him fair warning: he might not accept all of Henry's intrusions into Church affairs. Nevertheless, in 1162 he was made archbishop, resigned his chancellorship, and reformed his whole way of life!

Troubles began. Henry insisted upon taking authority of Church rights. At one time, Thomas came close to compromise. He momentarily approved the Constitutions of Clarendon, which would have denied the clergy the right of trial by a Church court and prevented them from making direct appeal to Rome. But Thomas rejected the Constitutions, fled to France for safety, and remained in exile for seven years.

When he returned to England he suspected it would mean certain death. Because Thomas refused to remit disapproval he had placed upon bishops favored by the king, Henry cried out in a rage, "Will no one rid me of this troublesome priest!" Four knights, taking his words as his wish, slew Thomas in the Canterbury cathedral.

Thomas Becket remains a hero-saint down to our own times.

Reflection

No one becomes a saint without struggle, especially with himself. Thomas knew he must stand firm in defense of truth and right, even at the cost of his life.

We also must take a stand in the face of pressures—against dishonesty, deceit, destruction of life—at the cost of popularity, convenience, promotion, and even greater goods.



JUBILEE 2025

Pope Francis officially declared 2025 a Year of Jubilee with a papal bull, titled "Spes Non Confudit," meaning "Hope Does Not Disappoint." The Jubilee Year began with the opening of the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica on Christmas Eve 2024.

"Hope is also the central message of the coming Jubilee", said Pope Francis in his papal bull. "My thoughts turn to all those 'pilgrims of hope' who will travel to Rome in order to experience the Holy Year and to all those others who, though unable to visit the City of the Apostles Peter and Paul, will celebrate it in their local Churches."

The theme of the jubilee is "pilgrims of hope" as the pope is calling on all Catholics to renew in the hope of Christ, using St. Paul the Apostle as a guide for this special year.
More information to come.



THANKSGIVING STATEMENTS & NEW ENVELOPES

Thanksgiving statements and envelopes for those who contribute via all methods will be posted via mail. Thank you for your continued support.

CHOIRS ON BREAK DURING JANUARY

From Christmas Day on and during January our choirs at Mass will have a well-earned break. We thank them for the talents they share with us faithfully every week.

PIETY STALL

Columban and Divine Mercy calendars are now selling in the Piety Stall for \$10 each
Large Devine Mercy calendars - \$20
God's Word - \$22! Don't Miss Out!



JANUARY ROSTERS

The rosters for Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Communion will continue during January. If you will be absent or on holiday on your rostered turn, please contact another person to take your place.

DONATE YOUR REFUND!

This refund will go towards our **Marian Chapel Renovations.** Thank you for your generosity!

Check for the 10c Label on your aluminum, glass, plastic & cartons for recycling.



Donation Bins are located in the Church rear carpark OR visit a CDS VIC Location.

