

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

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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:

Nancy Green; Peter Falzon; Claudia & Thomas; Alex Mather; Emily & Grace; Mellisa; Rose.

Recently Deceased:

Anda Biturjac; Maria Millimaci; Adam Myska; Anne Dale; Giuse Duong Van Trong; Fr John O'Reilly PE; Gioakim Nguyen Ngoc Tuynh (USA); Giovanni Costa; Maria Lam Thi Thuan; Maria Giovanna Sofia (Italy); Charlie Coxhead; Giuseppe Mangiagli.

Anniversaries & Remembrances:

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: \$1,743

Shortfall: \$845 Loose: \$908

Presbytery: \$1,239

Contributing to the Collections

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



Devotion to Divine Mercy

Mondays 2:30pm in the church.
All Welcome!



Christian Meditation

Maranatha ... Come Lord Jesus

All welcome: Mondays 10 - 11am
Parent's Room in the Church

Term 1: 24 February; 17 & 31 March.



Bible Sharing with Sr Mayla

Wednesdays 10am in St Martin's
Pastoral Centre. All Welcome!

St Martin's Prep Enrolments 2026



Applications Now Open

Please apply at the School
Office or phone 9331 9000.

Archdiocese Vacancies

Further details of positions can be found at:
<https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies>



Understanding

Jubilee 2025

Jubilee in the Church

The first jubilee was celebrated in 1300 AD at the initiative of Pope Boniface VIII. They are celebrated every 25 years in the Church - though the pope may mark 'extraordinary jubilees' outside of that - and bear the hallmarks of the ancient spirit of jubilee.

In the tradition of the Church, a Jubilee is proclaimed by a Papal Bull of Indiction. This publication explores the particular themes and focus of the Jubilee. The Bull for Jubilee 2025 is titled *Spes non confundit* or 'Hope does not disappoint' (Rom 5:5)

Pope Francis notes that we, as a pilgrim people, need 'moments of greater intensity to encourage and sustain hope as the constant companion that guides our steps' (*Spes non confundit* §5).

Jubilee years offer those moments of 'greater intensity', opportunities to reorient, refresh, and renew our relationship with the Lord and with our neighbours.

One of the important hallmarks of Catholic jubilee years is the availability of the Jubilee Plenary Indulgence.

Pope Francis reminds us that indulgences are 'a way of discovering the unlimited nature of God's mercy. Not by chance, for the ancients, the terms "mercy" and "indulgence" were interchangeable, as expressions of the fullness of God's forgiveness, which knows no bounds' (SNC 23).

God lavishes us with mercy. He gives us every means of receiving that mercy, and the granting of indulgences by the Church is just one of these. For Jubilee 2025, the conditions of receiving the Jubilee Plenary Indulgence have been greatly expanded to include several different prayer, formation, and charitable initiatives.

These include:

- Formation activities based upon the Catechism and documents of the Second Vatican Council

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

- Pilgrimages to Rome or other sacred Jubilee sites in locally designated churches.
- Corporal and spiritual works of mercy.
- Various penitential practices - almsgiving, fasting and abstinence, and volunteering in the community.

Next Week: *Being Pilgrims of Hope in The World*

NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome you and ask that you make yourself known to us by completing the New Parishioners Form in Documents and Forms under Recommended Links on our website and return it to the Parish Office. Thank you.

Gospel Luke 6:27-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Be merciful as your Father is merciful.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Perhaps one of the most difficult lessons to learn is forgiveness of those whom we consider our enemies, those who have wronged us. As challenging as this may be, the Gospel calls us to a very high standard: we must be merciful as God is merciful. If such perfection can become a reality in our lives, we will be able to forgive. Paul assures us that we can indeed attain such perfection, not by ourselves, but through the power of the risen Lord whose image we bear.

Paul plays with the theology of creation. In the beginning, we were made like the first Adam, earthly, limited, weak, concerned about the things of this world, and committed to our own well being. Through baptism we have been fashioned after the image of the second Adam, Christ the risen Lord. Being like Christ, we become godlike, empowered with his saving power, transformed with him into new beings. It is now in our power, which is really the power of the resurrection, to be merciful as God is merciful. In the risen Lord we experience a mystical transformation. From now on, all of our actions can flow from this new reality.

Transformed by the power of the resurrection, we are capable of unprecedented good works. We can live without retaliation; we can render good for evil. We can be prodigal in our generosity toward others: we can relinquish any rights of proprietorship that we might enjoy. We can live with others without unfairly judging them. We can be like God, boundless is our forgiveness.



ST MARTIN DE PORRES

Catholic Parish

Avondale Heights

Today's Celebration is on pages:

Old missal: 756 New Missal: 858



7th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

23 February 2025

First Reading 1 Samuel 26:2. 7-9. 12-13. 22-23

A reading from the first book of Samuel

The Lord has put you in my power, but I will not raise my hand against you.

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph.

So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him.

Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice. David answered Abishai, Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them.

David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 102:1-4. 8. 10. 12-13. R. v.8

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. (R.)

2. It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and
compassion. (R.)
3. The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults. (R.)
4. As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.
As a father has compassion on his sons,
the Lord has pity on those who fear him. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 15:45-49

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Just as we have carried the earthly image, we must carry the heavenly image.

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

**I give you a new commandment;
love one another as I have loved you.
Alleluia!**