



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.

7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YR C | February 23, 2025

CLERGY

Parish Priest: FR ALEX CLEMENTE, RCJ
Assistant Priest: FR WILFORD URMaza, RCJ
Parish Deacon: DCN CRIS CREO
Email: Christopher.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

St Dominic's Church, Melton

Church St, Melton, VIC 3337

- Thursday & Friday 9.15 am

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@sfcc.vic.edu.au



Francis' Focus

'To go beyond instinct, to go beyond hatred,' Pope Francis suggests, is fundamental. However bad it gets, Jesus calls on us to see those who wrong us as God sees them: as creatures loved into existence, still capable of good.

Understandably, we find this challenging. But, as the Pope points out, Jesus faced such situations himself and shows us what turning the cheek really means.

By not trading strike for strike, Jesus avoids becoming like those who struck him in the first place. Jesus does not give in to injustice. Rather, he reveals it.

During his Passion, as the Pope explains, Jesus 'asks for an account of the wrong done to him.' He calls it out, gently but firmly. 'With his question,' the Pope affirms, 'Jesus denounces what is unjust. But he does so without anger, without violence, indeed with kindness.'

In any conflict, whether personal or international, we are therefore called to unmask the absurdity of hatred by being the 'one who has a greater inner strength,' to use our voice rather than fists, or gestures rather than words.

Ultimately, as the Pope declares: 'Turning the other cheek does not have to mean suffering in silence, giving in to injustice.' It means transforming the moment to bring light to the darkness.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

The Lord is kind and merciful!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

Today's Readings: 1 Sam 26:2 7-9 12-13 22-23 1 Cor 15:45-49
Luke 6:27-38

Next Week's Readings: Ecc: 27:4-7 1 Cor 15:54-58 Luke 6:39-45

Prayer Requests

Recently Deceased:

Patrick Bradley

Death Anniversaries:

Emil Jongebloed, Nellie Breslin, Anthony Jarvis, Lanza Piscopo, Paul Piscopo, Joe Larkin, Aileen Lacey, Edil Huerto, Robert Hulett, Clara Cham Dominguez, Stanley Pereira, Mary Spiteri, Joyce Dias, Salvina Borg, Sr. Bernadette, Joseph FC, Nancy Poulton, Renee Williams, Leslie Simmons, Josephine Camilleri, Les Simmons, Abby Rogers, Bernard Williams, Ramona Gliddon, Cecil Tissiera, Dominic Ryan, Bertram Stone, May McCann, Zofie Divin, Pat Mc Burney, Arthur Milligan, Ethan Debrincat, Vincent Bezzina, Glenn Dean, Tom Hughes, Faustino Agbayani, Mary Bradley

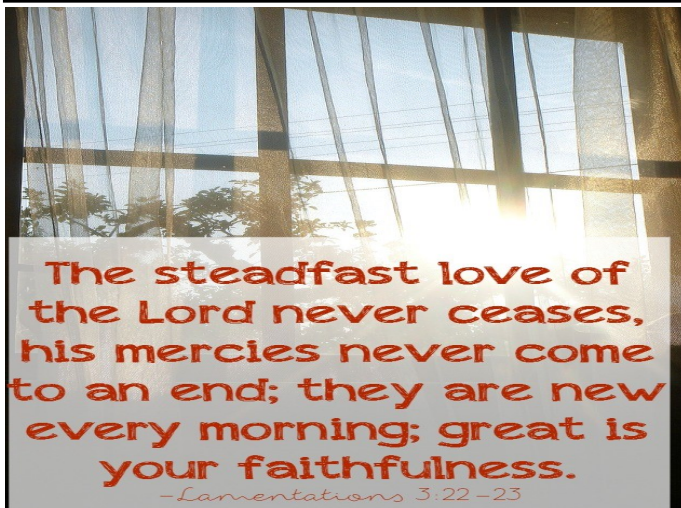
**In case of urgent situations, sickness etc.
in the parish
please call 0422 869 646**

Reflection by Sr Mary Fermio, RSJ

Some years ago, a mother lost three of her own children and a nephew when they were hit and killed by a drunken driver. She spoke publicly: "I think in my heart to forgive him...I am not going to hate him, because that's not who we are". Such words of forgiveness and compassion can only come from a love of God.

In today's Gospel Jesus gives us a recipe for living – "Be compassionate, as your Father is compassionate". The words before, explain what living compassionately means. It seems to be a hard ask, ignoring our own needs for the sake of others, who are in need. But as Jesus says: "Even sinners lend to sinners..." expecting a return, whereas we are asked not to expect anything in return. But, Jesus also says: "Give, and there will be gifts for you...and the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back".

To let go of words and actions that hurt and imitate the mother, can be a giant step to restoring life to ourselves and those we forgive. Maybe, I am the one who needs forgiveness? Can I accept it? Talk to Jesus about this.



Memorial Wall Plaques

Spots available on our Memorial Wall, next to St Dominic's Church, to commemorate former parishioners and loved ones whose remains are buried or interred elsewhere with a memorial plaque.

For more details or to arrange or reserve a spot, please contact the Parish Office directly. Forms are also available in the Gathering Space to fill out and return to the Parish Office.



10 Things to Know About Jubilee 2025

by Maria Wiering
(continued)



4. Drawing on their Jewish roots, jubilee years emphasise the sacrament of reconciliation and restoring relationships with God. They also provide an opportunity for a special jubilee indulgence, which can remove the residual effects of sin through the grace of Christ.

5. The year calls Christians to action. Pope Francis called for "signs of hope" in the Jubilee Year, including the desire for peace in the world, openness to life and responsible parenthood, and closeness to prisoners, the poor, the sick, the young, the elderly, migrants and people "in difficult situations."

Pope Francis has called on affluent countries to forgive the debts of countries that would never be able to repay them, and address "ecological debt," which he described as "connected to commercial imbalances with effects on the environment and the disproportionate use of natural resources by certain countries over long periods of time."

6. Expect an influx of pilgrims in the Eternal City. Italy's National Tourist Research Institute projects 35 million visitors in 2025, nearly triple of its 13 million visitors in 2023. Pilgrimage is a "fundamental" part of jubilee events, Pope Francis said in "Spes Non Confundit."

"Setting out on a journey is traditionally associated with our human quest for meaning in life. A pilgrimage on foot is a great aid for rediscovering the value of silence, effort and simplicity of life," he wrote.

He noted that jubilee pilgrims are likely to visit Rome's Christian catacombs and its seven pilgrim churches - the basilicas of St Peter, St Mary Major, St John Lateran, St Paul Outside the Walls, St Lawrence, Holy Cross and St Sebastian - destinations St Philip Neri popularised in the 16th century with a 15-mile walk.



People pass through the Holy Door of the Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome after its opening by Pope Francis for the Jubilee of Mercy in this file photo from Jan. 1, 2016. During jubilee years, Holy Doors are opened at the Basilica of St. Peter at the Vatican, and the Rome basilicas of St. Mary Major, St. John Lateran and St. Paul Outside the Walls. Twelve other Roman churches, including the Sanctuary of Divine Love in southeast Rome, are designated "jubilee churches" intended as gathering spots for pilgrims during the jubilee.

Experts in the travel and hospitality industries suggest anyone heading to Rome in 2025 - pilgrim or not - book accommodations, tickets and tours in advance. Visitors may also be expected to pay an increased tourist tax, depending on their type of accommodations.

Bible Verses for Forgiveness

By Andrea Frey

- Luke 6:36-37
- Mark 11:25
- Colossians 3:12-13
- Matthew 6:14
- Ephesians 4:31-32

Catholic365.com



World Day of Prayer 2025

This year the World Day of Prayer will be held at
St Mark's Lutheran Church,
98-100 Coburns Road Melton
South on Friday 7th March at
10am.

This year's Prayer Service has been prepared by the Women of the Cook Islands with the theme being "I made you wonderful". Everyone welcome to attend this annual event of the Christian Churches praying together.

Margaret Richards
Catholic Parish of Melton representative on the
Melton World Day of Prayer Committee

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING AT A WEEKEND MASS?

Pick up a 'Volunteer Information Pack' in the Gathering Area of the church for detailed information on each ministry and an application form.

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SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.

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

PRIME TIMERS February Outing

BBQ at Melton Botanic Gardens,
Tuesday 25th, 11:30 am
Sausage sizzle will be provided BYO salad, drinks etc.
Further enquiries: Ineke 0400 120 401 /
ineke49@yahoo.com

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)

Parish Offertory Giving January Update

Pledged: \$6,500.23 Actual:
4,925.25

Thank You

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

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday & Sunday February 22&23, 2025

MINISTERS OF:	6 PM	9 AM	11 AM	5 PM
Welcome	Margaret Richards	Anne Stokie	Chelsea Amato	Josephine Krajina
The Word	Tania Walters	Jennifer Peters	Cira Cleary	Frank Unferdorben
Responder	Tetchie Hadfield	Vickie Cassar	Lea Jacuta	Josephine Krajina
Presentation of Gifts	Robert Obtinalla	Karl Metha	Chelsea Amato	Elainne de los Santos
Holy Communion	Leny Obtinalla	Maureen Mohr	Lea Jacuta	Ismael Sosa-Sanchez
PowerPoint Operator	James Taniman	Sanyata Creo	Choir	Nina Ahmet
Gift Shop	Kate Mulholland	Graham Dempsey	Lea Jacuta	Frank Unferdorben
Choir	Divine Mercy	Veneration Choir	St Anuarite Choir	Filipino Choir
Counters	Leslie Gordon, John Woof			

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday & Sunday March 1&2, 2025

MINISTERS OF:	6 PM	9 AM	11 AM	5 PM
Welcome	Bill McGuiness	Asther Creo	Liz Coustley	Frank Unferdorben
The Word	Tetchie Hadfield	Theo Franken	Liza Fernandes	Josephine Krajina
Responder	Tania Walters	Jennifer Peters	Cira Cleary	Lesley Sosa-Ritchie
Presentation of Gifts	Leny Obtinalla	Karl Metha	Lea Jacuta	Elainne de los Santos
Holy Communion		Anne Stokie	Liz Coustley	Ismael Sosa-Sanchez
PowerPoint Operator	Kate Mulholland	Faith Tuputala	Daniella Ahmet	Nina Ahmet
Gift Shop	Margaret Richards	Maureen Mohr	Lea Jacuta	Josephine Krajina
Choir	Divine Mercy	Veneration Choir	Veritas Choir	Tongan Choir
Counters	Maria Abela, Tania Walters			



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	
FEBRUARY	
Saturday, 22nd	Baptisms @ 11 am & 12:15 pm
Wednesday, 26th	Mass: St Catherine's Church 9:15 am: St Catherine's Year 4 students to attend
Thursday, 27th	Mass: St Dominic's Church 9:15 am
Friday, 28th	Mass: St Dominic's Church 9:15 am: St Dominic's Grade 3 students to attend
MARCH	
Wednesday, 5th	Ash Wednesday Masses: St Catherine of Siena Church 9:15am (whole school) & 7 pm Prayer Service: St Dominic's School 9:15am
Thursday, 6th	Mass: St Dominic's Church 9:15 am
Friday, 7th	Mass: St Dominic's Church 9:15 am
Saturday, 8th	Mass: St Catherine of Siena Church 6 pm Commitment Mass for Sacrament of Penance for St Catherine's / St Dominic's Year 3 students
Wednesday, 12th	Mass: St Catherine's Church 9:15 am: St Catherine's Year 2 students to attend 7pm: Sacrament of Penance for St Catherine's School Year 3 students
Thursday, 13th	Mass: St Dominic's Church 9:15 am 7pm: Sacrament of Penance for St Dominic's School Year 3 students and those in St Luke's Sacramental Program for Penance
Friday, 14th	Mass: St Dominic's Church 9:15 am: St Dominic's Grade 2 students to attend

Soup Van

VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION

Do you:

- Have a passion for giving a 'hand up' to individuals experiencing food and financial insecurity?
- Love giving back to your local community?
- Enjoy engaging with people from all walks of life?

What could I be doing on the Soup Vans?
Preparing and packing food, assisting with loading the Soup Vans, distributing food on a 'Soup Van Run' and assisting in cleaning up the kitchen and soup van vehicle as a team.

Sign up now using our QR code!

VINNIES SOUP VANS STREET SERVICE MELTON

Soup Vans will continue its Street Service around Melton as follows:

Tuesday 6.00-6.30pm
Melton Town Centre Amphitheatre
Palmerston St, Melton

Tuesday 7.00-7.30pm
Melton Station Square Shopping Centre
11-25 Station St, Melton 5th

Thursday (new stop) 6.00-7.00pm **Melton Town Centre Amphitheatre**
Palmerston St, Melton

- Non-perishable pantry items
- Toiletries Soup,
- Sandwiches, hot food

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 link via email to confirm your subscription.

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.