



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		FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT		22 MARCH 2026	
PARISH PRIEST	Fr Francis Denton	ASSISTANT PRIEST	Fr Simeon Anthony		
YOUTH MINISTER	Michelle Biju - 9407 6704	PASTORAL ASSOCIATE	Sr Rodelia Bordan - 9407 6720		
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR	Maree Chamoun - 9407 6700	PARISH/SCHOOL LIAISON	Ruth Lees - 9407 6703		
SCHOOL PRINCIPAL	Mark Basile - 9407 3100	PARISH BOOKKEEPER	Paul - 9407 6722		
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				
Car Parking: Please ensure all cars are parked in designated parking spaces only. No-standing areas must be kept clear at all times.					
VIGIL MASS:	1st Friday of the month 7:30 pm to Midnight Mass.			Next Mass: 1 st May	
FILIPINO MASS:	2nd Sunday of the month at 12 noon.			Next Mass: 12 th April	
MALTESE MASS:	3rd Saturday of the month at 4 pm. Confession 3:30. Rosary 3:40.			Next Mass: 18 th April	
INDONESIAN FAMILY GROUP MASS:	3rd Saturday of the month at 7pm.			Next Mass: 18 th April	
EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: During Lent Wednesdays 10 am - 6pm in the chapel.					
NOVENA TO ST JOSEPH: 1st Wednesday of the month after 9:15 am Mass.					
ST ANTHONY’S PRAYER GROUP MASS: Every Tuesday at 7:00 pm.					
NOVENA TO ST ANTHONY (MALAYALAM): Every Tuesday at 6:30 pm.					
LEGION OF MARY: Every Thursday at 10:00 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					
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 YOUNG ADULTS PRAYER MEETING : Every Thursday at 7 pm in the chapel. Contact Irene K. Jacob - 0481 829 529					
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 (Small Hall).					
MOTHERS WHO PRAY FOR THEIR CHILDREN: Every Monday night 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm in the Church fellowship area.					
LIFE TEEN: Every Sunday during the school terms 6 -7:45pm for those in high-school. Contact Michelle at the Parish Office 9407 6700					
AYA FELLOWSHIP: Young Adults aged 19-35. Every Last Saturday of the Month. NEXT 28th March 2026 Contact the Parish Office 9407 6700					
CHILDREN’S LITURGY: Sunday 10:30am Mass. All pre-school and lower to middle primary school children are welcome.					
PARISH NEWS					
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS:					
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: There will be NO Cells All Leaders Meeting this Tuesday.					
SUGGESTION BOX: All suggestions with full names & Phone No included will be considered. (Location: Church Foyer)					
HOUSE BLESSINGS: To invite our clergy to visit and bless your house, please fill in the card 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: Dean Mancuso, Greg Brandon					
IN MEMORIAM: Mario De Vincentis, Joseph Giuseppina					
THOSE WHO ARE ILL: Keith Lambert, Pierce Ng, Angus Santosa, Fr Anthony Fox, Julieta Bordan, Kim Ki Tan, Greg Forrester, Nancy Gheno, Caterina Schiavello, Cliff Aquilina, David Wallace, Fr Terry Kean.					
(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 Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This weekend, the 5th Sunday in Lent, was traditionally named Passion Sunday. The statues and sacred images in the church are traditionally veiled in violet cloth on this day. This is part of the ‘stripping back’ of the liturgical celebrations during Lent: we refrain from singing the joyful ‘Alleluia’ and ‘Gloria’; flowers are removed from the church; music is often simplified to voice (unaccompanied by instruments); the sign of peace may also be omitted; and now with the statues covered there is a further ‘sobering of our senses’ to mirror our Lenten fasting and abstinence. All this helps to prepare us for Holy Week, beginning with Palm Sunday and the spiritual ascent to the Sacred Triduum, the most solemn of all the Church’s liturgical celebrations.

The name ‘Triduum’ refers specifically to the liturgical action of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil. Even though these occur over three consecutive days they are best thought of as one single liturgical action that unfolds in three parts, to commemorate the work of salvation that Christ won for us. At the Last Supper on Holy Thursday, Jesus institutes both the Eucharist and the Priesthood, establishing the pattern of the sacrifice offered in the new and eternal covenant. On Good Friday, Christ completes the sacrificial offering of His body and blood on the Cross, as the sublime manifestation of Divine Love. The Easter Vigil anticipates the dawning light of Christ’s glorious resurrection, by which the devil, sin and death are definitively conquered. Each part is integral to the work of Redemption. Without Easter Sunday, Jesus’ death on Good Friday would mean humiliating defeat. Without the institution of the Mass on Holy Thursday we would have no means of receiving the merits of Christ’s Passion – without the Mass, the fountain of sanctifying grace would be inaccessible to every generation of Christians thereafter. Because the timing of each of these liturgical celebrations corresponds to a specific moment in the Passion story, they remain unique and distinct, and it is highly unusual to repeat them on the same day.

For this reason (in a change from the schedule in previous years at St Francis), there will only be one celebration of Good Friday (3:00pm - the hour of Christ’s death) and the Easter Vigil at 7:30pm since according to the Missal “the Easter Vigil must take place during the night, so that it begins after nightfall”. Please note, that to compensate for the cancellation of the 5:00pm vigil Mass, there will be an extra Mass on Easter Sunday morning at 7:30am.

Please be sure to take home the newsletter which includes the revised schedule for Holy Week lest there be any confusion. Wishing you all a prayerful and solemn Holy Week.

Yours in Christ, Fr Francis Denton P.P.



PALMS DONATIONS - THIS FRIDAY 27TH MARCH

We are looking for donations of palms to be used for celebrations next Sunday, **Palm Sunday - 29th March.**

Please call the parish office to arrange a **drop off on Friday 27th.**

A **warm thank you** to those who have assisted in previous years.

CONFESSIONS FOR LENT

Monday 8:30am – 9:00am

Tuesday 8:30am – 9:00am

Wednesday 8:30am – 9:00am

8:30pm – 9:30pm

(After the 7:30pm Novena Mass)

Thursday 8:30am – 9:00am

Friday 8:30am – 9:00am

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Friday Mornings 9:15 am Holy Mass followed by Stations.

Friday Evenings 7 pm Stations, followed by Holy Mass.

EXPOSITION OF THE

BLESSED SACRAMENT

Mon - Fri 8am - 9am

HOLY WEEK

St Francis of Assisi Parish
290 Childs Road Mill Park 3082

29 MARCH	PALM SUNDAY
Sat 5:00 pm Sun 9:00 am 10:30 am 5:00 pm	The Solemn Entrance and Blessing of Palm branches 10 mins before Masses. 9:00 am & 10:30 am begins in the school courtyard.
30 MARCH	MONDAY
9:15 am	Mass
31 MARCH	TUESDAY
No Mass	10:00 am Chrism Mass at St Patrick’s Cathedral.
1 APRIL	WEDNESDAY
9:15 am 7:30 pm 8:30 pm	Mass Mass Confessions
2 APRIL	HOLY THURSDAY
7:30 pm 11:50 pm	Mass of the Last Supper followed by silent adoration in the chapel. Night Prayer
3 APRIL	GOOD FRIDAY
9:30 am 11:30 am 3:00 pm	Stations of the Cross Begins at the rear car park Confessions The Passion of the Lord
4 APRIL	HOLY SATURDAY
7:30 PM	THE EASTER VIGIL
5 APRIL	EASTER SUNDAY
7:30 am 9:00 am 10:30 am	Mass Mass Mass
12 APRIL	DIVINE MERCY
1:00 pm 2:30 pm 3:00 pm	Confessions & Devotions Chaplet of Divine Mercy Divine Mercy Sun. Mass

PARISH PASSION PLAY

Stations of the Cross with a live Passion Play will take place on Good Friday at 9:30 am. **Rehearsals Thursday 7pm 26th of March - On the grass at back of church rear carpark.** (Brian - 0478 323 646)

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL ENROLMENT

Enrolments for 2027 are now being taken. You are invited to view our facilities and meet our staff and students. Applications close Friday 8th May 2026.

OPEN DAY Sat 28 March 9am - 11:30 am

Tours are conducted every Tuesday at 9:30 am throughout terms 1 & 2 - bookings essential. Please call the office to arrange a suitable time. 9407 3100