

St Mary's Parish

We proudly acknowledge the Boonwurrung People of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land.

A community where we bring together our gifts and talents

9th March, 2025



116 Cecil Street, Williamstown 3016

Telephone: 9397 6066

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www.melbcatholic.org/s/williamstown

Parish Priest

(Fr.) Greg Trythall

0400 524 363

Email:

greg.trythall@cam.org.au

Parish Office Staff

Pastoral Associate & Parish Secretary

Monique Julian

9397 6066

Tuesday 9:00am – 4:00pm

Thursday 9:00am – 4:00pm

Friday 9:00am – 2:00pm
0450 789 951

Wednesday Parish Secretary

Kylie Skinner

9:30am–1:30pm

Safeguarding Officer

Frank Schobben

0427 416 184

St. Mary's School

Principal Anthony Hockey

Normal Mass Times

Consult bulletin inside for any changes.

Saturday at 6:00pm

Sunday at 8:30am and 10:30am

Tuesday to Friday 9:15am

Reconciliation

Saturday 10:00am

Silent Adoration in Church

2:30pm – 3:30pm

Wednesday

Baptism Preparation Night

Third Thursday monthly

7.00pm at Parish Centre.

Baptism must be booked prior to attending Preparation Night.

Baptisms 12:30pm Sunday

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT—YEAR C

FIRST READING:

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy. 26:4-10

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

SECOND READING:

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans. 10:8-13

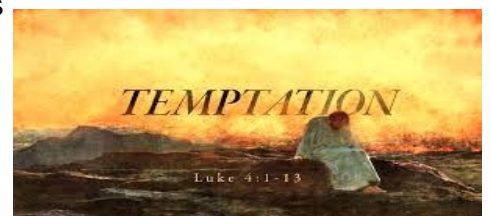
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

GOSPEL: LUKE 4:1-13



Filled with the holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and when they were over he was hungry. The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.” Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’” Then he took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a single instant. The devil said to him, “I shall give to you all this power and their glory; for it has been handed over to me, and I may give it to whomever I wish. All this will be yours, if you worship me.” Jesus said to him in reply, “It is written: ‘You shall worship the Lord, your God, and him alone shall you serve.’” Then he led him to Jerusalem, made him stand on the parapet of the temple, and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written: ‘He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,’ and: ‘With their hands they will support you, lest you dash your foot against a stone.’” Jesus said to him in reply, “It also says, ‘You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test.’” When the devil had finished every temptation, he departed from him for a time.



Tuesday 11th March	9.15am Mass at St Mary's Church.
Wednesday 12th March	9:15am Mass at St Mary's Church.
Thursday 13th March	9:15am Mass at St Mary's Church.
Friday 14th March	10:30am Funeral Mass at St Mary's Church for Mary Ward.

Dear Parishioners,

From this weekend our Parish will be reciting the 3rd acclamation of faith during 2025 (which is slightly easier to learn than the others)

***Save us, Saviour of the world.
For by your Cross and Resurrection
You have set us free.***

I was somewhat taken back by the amount of money parishioners and a few individual families contributed two weeks ago for **seminarians' expenses in East Timor**. This means we can support 3 of the poorer seminarians this year in their priestly studies. There is a little note enclosed in the bulletin from the Altona Parish Priest, Michael Kalka in thankfulness for that wonderful contribution to help him and Altona Parish in their support of these future priests. Well done 😊

As per last week I informed parishioners that I would keep you in touch with certain matters from the **Parish Council agenda**. Last Thursday night was the meeting but the bulletin had already been printed as it gets done on a Wednesday morning. On the agenda were some of the following plus several other matters:

- Suggestions from "Ask Mary" box at back
- Setting new date for New Parishioners Luncheon for 2025
- Items on recent discussions of achieving our parish to be in line with Archdiocese on being a Vibrant, Vital and Viable parish
- A Strategic Plan for the long-term future and hopefully bringing that to the Sunday June 1st Annual General Meeting.

LENTEN REFLECTION BOOK:

Most people have taken a Lenten book – so probably only a few left. Aptly this year's Lenten program is named "Metanoia". It is a term many of you may not be accustomed to, but it is something mentioned often in our seminary training or theological 'speak'. The Greek word "metanoia" speaks of a fundamental change of one's mind and heart – as it says in the Lenten booklet – a reorientation towards God. Lent is an invitation to metanoia, to confront all that creates distance between God and us, and to embrace the path of mercy and hope. I recommend for your weekends the 'artwork spotlight' in the booklet with

Mgr Graham Schmitzer as always illuminating. I don't know about the stuff from Ballarat priest Fr John Corrigan but I would more recommend the material and explanations on the next page with Mother Hilda Scott. She obviously has undergone a worthwhile spiritual journey and her message is clearer and wiser (I believe) than the Corrigan material.

A SYNODALITY CHURCH:

Pope Francis is always on about having a Synodality Church or engaging in a synodality way. A Melbourne based Catholic group called "Sense of the Faithful" held a zoom forum of over 600 interested people on the matter of the importance of synodality just two weeks ago. The main two presenters had been in Rome for such a gathering last year in October with the Pope and many other delegates, both religious and lay from various countries . The presenters were the very articulate bishop of Sandhurst (Bendigo diocese) Shane Mackinley and Dr Sandie Cornish. They spoke about how the Church can implement the results of the Synod on Synodality and address unresolved issues like women deacons or whatever. A Synodality mindset helps greater others to participate and be more involved in Jesus' mission , and open ourselves to where the Holy Spirit is calling . We do this by dialogue, (as we did in our Parish Council half day on Feb 1st) moving to hear what others say and then see how we can best respond to the Holy Spirit. Everyone has the right to be involved and the people of God are always entitled to share Jesus's mission. If you want to read or find out more google www.synod.VA Apparently paragraphs 81 - 86 of the final Synodality document are well worth the read.

Two new Melbourne bishops:

About a month ago two new bishops were consecrated for the Melbourne Archdiocese. We still retain Martin Ashe for the West but there are three other regions North, South and East in the Melbourne Archdiocese which is the biggest diocese in Australia(Sydney was carved up many decades ago into Sydney, Parramatta, Broken Bay - up north) . These two new bishops are Rene Ramirez and Thinh Nguyen and will look after two of the other three areas of Melbourne Archdiocese. I only know Thinh well – he is one of the loveliest guys you would ever meet: very warm and friendly.

PROJECT COMPASSION:

For the 1st four weeks of Lent there will be a Project Compassion video which will take place immediately after Communion.

During Lent we are meant to be good news for the poor. Project Compassion is a wonderful way to do this.

COMBINED STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

Again, this year Stations of the Cross will be offered by the four neighbouring parishes as it was so successful last year with greater numbers for all. Accordingly, you are welcome to any of the following:

- Friday 14th March at St Mary's Altona at 6pm
- Friday 21st March at Sacred Heart Newport at 6pm
- Friday 28th March at St Leo's Altona North at 6pm
- Friday 4th April at St Mary's Williamstown at 6pm

Such meetings and session are uplifting and assuring in our faith journey – personal and communitarian.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL

This national event will be in Melbourne from November 30- December 2nd . It will be held at the Melbourne Exhibition and Convention Centre .

GREEN TEAM:

- **Recycling of small household items:** This Sunday 9th March and next Sunday 16th March, (first and second Sundays of Lent), there will be a tub at the back of the church in which parishioners can place small recyclable items which cannot be disposed of **in the yellow household bin collection**. Eg outdated mobile phones, batteries, packaging for medication (must be empty) and light globes. **No large items please**. The Green Team will arrange for immediate removal and recycling.
- Over Sundays coming, prior to Sunday Masses excerpts from Pope Francis' 2015 Encyclical Laudato Si will be projected on to audiovisual screens, inviting parishioners to consider how they might act on various ecological matters.
- **Save the date: Saturday 10th May 10:30am to midday :** Walk of prayer and reflection along Williamstown foreshore for St Mary's parishioners but all others welcome. Facilitator Peter Hay, Heart of Life Spirituality Centre Croydon. **More information to come.**

Yours 'in Christ' Fr Greg Trythall – ggreg.trythall@cam.org.au -0400 524 363

Thank you for your generous assistance with the Seminary in Timor Leste:

The amount raised by the parishioners of Williamstown was \$3,753.50 (Australian dollars) plus one \$20 US bank note. Fr Bento who is the Director of Catholic Mission in Timor Leste, returned to Timor on Friday night (February 28th) with your money converted into US cash. On Monday March 3rd, he handed \$1,950 (usd cash) to the Rector of the College in Dili. You have now paid for 3 student priests for one year at the Dili Seminary. As soon as I receive their names and details, I will give the information to Fr Greg. The small cash balance remaining will be in the safe here at Altona for me to take when I visit the Dili Seminary in January 2026.

May God bless you all,

Archpriest (Monsignor) Michael Kalka

Mary Help of Christians Church, Altona

Rosters for this Week 8th & 9th March 2025

Counting Team 4	Leanne Spiteri, Greg Morgan, Herb Zimmer, Steven Sagona, Eugene Yii
Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Gail Tull 8.30am Evol Farrelly, Gerard Colla 10.30am Maria Laudato
Mass Readers	6.00pm Daniel Corcoran 8.30am Peter Kirwan 10.30am Cindy Kotevski, Charlize Kotevski
Welcomers	6.00pm Imma Marguglio 8.30am Jenny O'Sullivan 10.30am Mariza O'Keefe

Rosters for next Week 15th & 16th March 2025

Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Maylene Clayton 8.30am Karen Colla, Maryanne Wenzel 10.30am Maria Laudato, Eugene Yii
Mass Readers	6.00pm Frank Schobben 8.30am Stephen Littleton, Evol Farrelly 10.30am Antoinetta Acquaro
Welcomers	6.00pm Maylene Clayton 8.30am Charles Hili 10.30am Joe Covelli

IN OUR PRAYERS

We pray for Yeme Reddy, Sarah Rodgers, Assunta Delgrosso,
Anne-Marie Pelikinakis, Evol Farrelly, Ruth Francis.

RECENTLY DECEASED & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for Mary Ward , Egidia Nave, Giuseppe Demasi who passed away recently and Filomena Renzi Teresa Iaccarino, Pearl Wells, Lynette McCann (Lily), Giovanni Raunik, Peter Wentworth, Brendan Rooney, Kevin Hynes, Zaren Bartolo, Francis Spira, John Bartolo, Marcelle Michaud, Sr. Mary Byrne, Brendan Rooney, Win Kelly, Czeslaw Pleban, Jim Houlahan, Terrence Mahoney, Bessie Wood, Isabella Belmonts, Antonio Fernandes, Kevin Creaney, Terrence Duffy, Carmel Johnson, Cynthia Frawley, Harry Orr, Norma Ranson, Des O'Driscoll, Noreen Hunter, Geoff Hopkins, Kevin Grace, Giuseppe Nardo, William Spurling, William Dorgan, Lou Hindle, Charles Little, Fran Mannix, Michael McGrath, Kevin Walsh, Ted Literski, Margaret Mangion, Len Owens, Gordon Barnes, Edward Maguire, Mary Zahra, Gertrude Embach, Andrew Murphy, Robert Telfer, Win Hogan, Les Williams, Severina Ordinario, John Smith, Giovanni Radoicovic, Robert James Burke, Nancy McCrae, Marie Richardson, Baskal Farrugia, Domenico & Maria Ulcigrai, Giacomo, Caterina & Lino Lugnani, Laura Palumba, Henrietta Augustin and Shirley Barclay, whose anniversaries are at this time.

Update from the CRISP team

An exit meeting was held on February 24th with the refugee family to wrap up CRISP program #1 as it approaches its 12-month end date. The family has settled in well and now self-sufficient. The CRISP team is now looking at going again with program #2 in 2025 so is seeking new members who are willing to join. Please express your interest via Fr Greg at one of the masses.