



Parish Priest: Fr Shabin Kaniampuram IVDei
Parish Secretary: Fran Adamopoulos (Tue-Thu 9am-2pm)
Financial Administrator: Margaret Harrington (Mon/Fri 9-2pm)

Assistant Priest: Fr Peter Nguyen
Pastoral Worker: Pauline Egan
Email: adminANT@cam.org.au

Supporting Priests: Fr Brendan Hayes
Email: financeANT@cam.org.au

ST MARY'S THORNBURY

1 Rossmoyne Street, Thornbury 3071
Principal: Mary Kearney | Ph: 9484 5333

ST JOSEPH'S NORTHCOTE

140 Westbourne Grove, Northcote 3070
Principal: Mary Kearney | Ph: 9481 7166

Mission Prayer: Loving God, guide us as we build a joyful and inclusive community. May your Holy Spirit lead and inspire us to be the Good News of Jesus Christ by serving others and caring for all. Amen.

PARISH OF HOLY SPIRIT & ST ANTHONY'S

45 Railway Pl, Alphington VIC 3078

Principals: Rob Costin, Holy Spirit Primary School,
197 Clarendon Street, Thornbury East | Ph: 9480 0391

James Casey, St Anthony's Primary School,
Tania Bennett, Acting Principal
52 Austin Street, Alphington | Ph: 9489 7936

Partnership Parish Office Address

45 Railway Place Alphington
P.O.Box 85 Fairfield 3078

Office Number: 9484 2907

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-2pm

Email: adminANT@cam.org.au

www.melbcatholic.org/s/hosan

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Reconciliation Times

10.30am Saturdays — St Mary's
4.30pm Saturdays — Holy Spirit
5.00pm Saturdays — St Joseph's

MASS TIMES

St Mary's Thornbury

Sunday: 10:00am English/Italian
5:30pm

Weekday: Wednesday, 9:15am
English/Italian

St Joseph's Northcote

Saturday: 5:30pm

Sunday: 11:00am

Weekday: Tuesday, 9:15am

Holy Spirit Thornbury East

Saturday: 5:00pm

Sunday: 9:30am

Weekday: Thursday, 9:15am
English/Italian

St Anthony's Alphington

Sunday: 10:30am, English/Italian

Weekday: Friday, 9:15am

FEAST DAYS IN THE WEEK

Recently Deceased

Rev. Michael Leonard Shadbolt PE,
Jack Nicholls, Fakhr Hanna Daniel
Fakhry, Silvia Simioni, Maria Barresi.

Anniversaries

Sam Maatouk, Hanna Saleh Fakhry,
Youssef A Taouk, Mansour Y Taouk and
Adissi Boulos Taouk,
Anne Blith N Saundvanayagan,
Charles Francis Attard,
Elisabetta Sabatino, Nick Ciaparra and
Esther & Louie Zahra, .

To update parish details, please visit
our official parish website:
www.melbcatholic.org/s/hosan



Third Sunday of Advent—Year A

13-14 Dec 2025



Christmas Eve: Wednesday 24 December

5.00pm	Holy Spirit	Nativity Play & Family Mass
5.00pm	St. Joseph's	Nativity Play & Family Mass
6.30pm	St. Anthony's	Nativity Play & Family Mass
6.30pm	St. Mary's	Nativity Play & Family Mass
9.30pm	St. Mary's	Carols & Vigil Mass

No Midnight Mass at St. Anthony's Alphington

Christmas Day: Thursday 25 December

9.30 am	Holy Spirit
10.00 am	St Mary's (Bi-Lingual)
10.30 am	St Anthony's (Bi-Lingual)
11.00 am	St. Joseph's

No 5:30pm Mass at St Mary's Thornbury

New Year's Day: Thursday 1 January

10am Mass at St Anthony's and St Mary's

No Weekday Masses From: Boxing Day 26 December until 3 January

First Reading *Isaiah 35:1-6, 10***A reading from the prophet Isaiah**

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult,
 let the wasteland rejoice and bloom,
 let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil,
 let it rejoice and sing for joy.
 The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it,
 the splendour of Carmel and Sharon;
 they shall see the glory of the Lord,
 the splendour of our God.
 Strengthen all weary hands,
 steady all trembling knees
 and say to all faint hearts,
 'Courage! Do not be afraid.
 'Look your God is coming,
 vengeance is coming,
 the retribution of God;
 he is coming to save you.'
 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
 the ears of the deaf unsealed,
 then the lame shall leap like a deer
 and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy,
 for those the Lord has ransomed shall return.
 They will come to Zion shouting for joy,
 everlasting joy on their faces;
 joy and gladness will go with them
 and sorrow and lament be ended.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 145:6-10*

R *Lord, come and save us.*

L It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
 who is just to those who are oppressed.
 It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
 the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **R.**

L It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
 who raises up those who are bowed down,
 the Lord, who protects the stranger
 and upholds the widow and orphan. **R.**

L It is the Lord who loves the just
 but thwarts the path of the wicked.
 The Lord will reign for ever,
 Zion's God, from age to age. **R.**

**Second Reading** *James 5:7-10***A reading from the letter of St James**

Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring rains! You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation *Isaiah 61:1 (Luke 4:18)*

Alleluia, alleluia!

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
 he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.*
Alleluia!

Gospel of *Matthew 11:2-11***A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'

As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'

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

Readings *Next Week—4th Sun of Advent—21 Dec 2025*

1st Rdg: Isaiah 7:10-14

2nd Rdg: Romans 1:1-7

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24

Prima lettura Is 35,1-6.8.10

Dal libro del profeta Isaia

Si rallegrino il deserto e la terra arida,
esulti e fiorisca la steppa.
Come fiore di narciso fiorisca;
sì, canti con gioia e con giubilo.
Le è data la gloria del Libano,
lo splendore del Carmelo e di Saron.
Essi vedranno la gloria del Signore,
la magnificenza del nostro Dio.
Irrobustite le mani fiacche,
rendete salde le ginocchia vacillanti.
Dite agli smarriti di cuore:
«Coraggio, non temete!
Ecco il vostro Dio,
giunge la vendetta,
la ricompensa divina.
Egli viene a salvarvi».
Allora si apriranno gli occhi dei ciechi
e si schiuderanno gli orecchi dei sordi.
Allora lo zoppo salterà come un cervo,
griderà di gioia la lingua del muto.
Ci sarà un sentiero e una strada
e la chiameranno via santa.
Su di essa ritorneranno i riscattati dal Signore
e verranno in Sion con giubilo;
felicità perenne splenderà sul loro capo;
gioia e felicità li seguiranno
e fuggiranno tristezza e pianto.

Parola di Dio

Tutti: Rendiamo grazie a Dio.

Salmo responsoriale Sal 145

Rit. _ Vieni, Signore, a salvarci.

L. Il Signore rimane fedele per sempre
rende giustizia agli oppressi,
dà il pane agli affamati.

Il Signore libera i prigionieri. **Rit.**

L. Il Signore ridona la vista ai ciechi,
il Signore rialza chi è caduto,
il Signore ama i giusti,
il Signore protegge i forestieri. **Rit.**

L. Egli sostiene l'orfano e la vedova,
ma sconvolge le vie dei malvagi.
Il Signore regna per sempre,
il tuo Dio, o Sion, di generazione in generazione.

Rit.



Seconda lettura Gc 5,7-10

Dalla lettera di san Giacomo apostolo

Siate costanti, fratelli miei, fino alla venuta del Signore.
Guardate l'agricoltore: egli aspetta con costanza il
prezioso frutto della terra finché abbia ricevuto le
prime e le ultime piogge. Siate costanti anche voi,
rinfrancate i vostri cuori, perché la venuta del Signore è
vicina.

Non lamentatevi, fratelli, gli uni degli altri, per non
essere giudicati; ecco, il giudice è alle porte. Fratelli,
prendete a modello di sopportazione e di costanza i
profeti che hanno parlato nel nome del Signore.

Parola di Dio

Tutti: Rendiamo grazie a Dio.

Canto al Vangelo Is 61,1

Alleluia, alleluia.

Lo Spirito del Signore è sopra di me,
mi ha mandato a portare ai poveri il lieto annuncio.

Alleluia.

Vangelo Mt 11,2-11

Dal Vangelo secondo Matteo

In quel tempo, Giovanni, che era in carcere, avendo
sentito parlare delle opere del Cristo, per mezzo dei
suoi discepoli mandò a dirgli: «Sei tu colui che deve
venire o dobbiamo aspettare un altro?». Gesù rispose
loro: «Andate e riferite a Giovanni ciò che udite e
vedete: I ciechi riacquistano la vista, gli zoppi
camminano, i lebbrosi sono purificati, i sordi odono, i
morti risuscitano, ai poveri è annunciato il Vangelo. E
beato è colui che non trova in me motivo di scandalo!».
Mentre quelli se ne andavano, Gesù si mise a parlare di
Giovanni alle folle: «Che cosa siete andati a vedere nel
deserto? Una canna sbattuta dal vento? Allora, che cosa
siete andati a vedere? Un uomo vestito con abiti di
lusso? Ecco, quelli che vestono abiti di lusso stanno nei
palazzi dei re! Ebbene, che cosa siete andati a vedere?
Un profeta? Sì, io vi dico, anzi, più che un profeta. Egli è
colui del quale sta scritto: "Ecco, dinanzi a te io mando
il mio messaggero, davanti a te egli preparerà la tua
via".

In verità io vi dico: fra i nati da donna non è sorto
alcuno più grande di Giovanni il Battista; ma il più
piccolo nel regno dei cieli è più grande di lui».

Parola del Signore

Tutti: Lode a Te O Cristo.



Giovanni di Paolo (1403-1482)

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Names will remain for **2 weeks**, then a new request is required.

Phoenix Toma, Onyx Toma, Wafa Ibrahim, Suhalia Yousef

HOUSE VISITATIONS

Do you or someone you know require any of the following:

- Annual House Visits
- Visits to the Sick
- Anointing of the Sick

Please contact the Parish Office on 9484 2907 to arrange a time with Fr Shabin or Fr Peter.

SICK OR HOUSEBOUND / MALATI O CONFINATI A CASA

Se conoscete persone che sono malate o confinate a casa e vorrebbero ricevere visite o la comunione a casa siete pregati di mettervi in contatto Parish Office **9484 2907**

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Christian Meditation on Thursdays at 10:30am at Holy Spirit Parish. ALL WELCOME.

BAPTISMS: By Appointment Only

- 1st Sunday of the month—St Mary's
- 2nd Sunday of the month—Holy Spirit
- 3rd Sunday of the month—St Anthony's
- 4th Sunday of the month—St Joseph's

Please call the Parish Office 9484 2907 or go to our website at <https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/hosan>

SENIORS

After the Thursday 9:15am Mass at Holy Spirit Parish Hall.

- Dopo messa Bingo e carte nella sala, si offre caffè e biscotti. Tutti benvenuti.

After Mass, bingo and cards in the hall, with coffee and biscuits offered. All Welcome.

Last Friday of the month

St Joseph's Seniors Mass every last Friday of the Month at 10:30am in the church.

Parrocchiani anziani di San Giuseppe sono invitati a partecipare alla **Santa Messa ultimo Venerdì del mese alle 10:30am.**

Mass of Anointing of the Sick

9:15am Mass of Anointing of the Sick will take place on the first Friday of the month at St Anthony's Alphington.

"Telephone Prayer meeting"

When: Every Tuesday at 11:30am
Dial: **07- 5660 6012** (call from home)
Access code: **722762 #**
Cost: Cost of a local call. Open to all.

Catholic Religious Education Classes for children attending government schools in preparation for the Sacraments

Please call the Parish Office 9484 2907 or go to our website at

<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/hosan>

Safeguarding Children, Young People and Vulnerable People Committee

Contact Person via the Parish Office:
Moses El-Fakhri

Parish Notices

2026 Columban Calendars available for Purchase at the back of the church—\$10.

Advent
2025
Waiting in Hope, Peace, Joy & Love

✱ **Week 3-Reconciliation - 2nd Rite**
Thursday 18 December - 7:30pm
St Joseph's Church - Northcote

✱ **Weekly Advent Reflection Groups**
Reflecting on "In Holy Stillness"

Wednesday Group: 7:30 pm @ John & Anne's Home
Thursday Group: 10:30 am @ Holy Spirit Church
Led by John Samana



<https://www.caritas.org.au/>

MEET OUR NEW ASSISTANT PRIEST



FR TUONG NGUYEN

We warmly welcome Fr Tuong as our new Assistant Priest in our partnered parishes. Fr Tuong was recently ordained Priest. He previously attended the Seminary of Christ the King in British Columbia in Canada, before joining Corpus Christi College in Melbourne. As he joins our communities, we assure him of our prayerful support.

ASYLUM SEEKER SUPPORT GROUP CHRISTMAS GIFT BAGS: St Anthony's

ONLY: On Sale Sunday 7 & 14 December: Working with the Brigidine Asylum Seeker Project team, Christmas Gift Bags with toiletries have been prepared and are on sale in the foyer for \$20. Pay for a bag, and sign a card, if you like. See Geraldine in the foyer: You can pay with cash or Tap & Go options. Thank you for your generosity.



ST VINCENT DE PAUL (VINNIES) - ST MARYS & HOLY SPIRIT—GIVING TREE PROVIDING CHRISTMAS HAMPERS TO THE NEEDY OF THORNBURY

Just a reminder that next weekend is the last weekend for you to return the items purchased for the St Vincent de Paul Giving Tree. This deadline is to ensure we have time to stocktake what we have received and to purchase additional items as needed.

So far the parish response has been great and we extend our thanks to those who have already returned their gift(s) or donation.

For further details about the hampers (or Vinnies in general) please contact the parish office and a Vinnies member will be in contact with you.

**** This applies to St Marys & Holy Spirit churches only ****

Instrumental Musicians needed for Christmas Eve 5pm Mass. Join the Holy Spirit orchestra—contact John via Parish Office .



We get energy and joy and hope from our conversations with others about life and God. Climbing the Mountain of God is a new series of enriching conversations in our parish led by **Jim Brown**, beginning in late **January**.

Watch for details in the Weekly Bulletin.



Earthcare group launched - now planning events for 2026 We will begin the new year with a display in each church highlighting the group's aims and plans. Still keen to join? please contact John via the parish office.

We look forward to your interest, participation and prayers.