

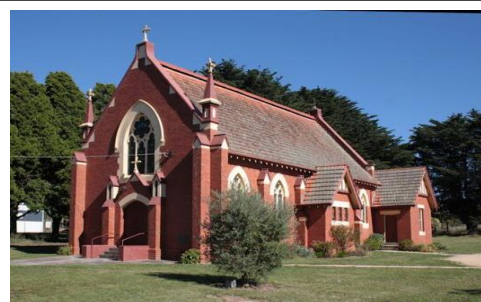
# WELCOME TO THE CATHOLIC PARISH'S OF ST AMBROSE WOODEND & ST MARY'S LANCEFIELD AND ROMSEY



**ST AMBROSE**  
18 Templeton Street  
Woodend



**ST MARY'S**  
(Our Lady of Lourdes)  
27 Chauncey St Lancefield



**ST MARY'S**  
(Immaculate Conception)  
85 Main St Romsey

**The Presentation of the Lord - Year C**

**2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2025**

## Mass Times

### Weekend

Saturday 5pm Woodend, 6.30pm Lancefield

Sunday 9am 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Romsey, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Lancefield, 11am Woodend

### Weekday

Tuesday 6pm Woodend followed by the Rosary

Wednesday 9.30am Woodend and Lancefield

Thursday 9.30am Woodend and Romsey

Friday 9.30am Woodend and Lancefield

### Reconciliation

Woodend: 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month 10am-10.30am. Lancefield 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month 10am-10.30am

### Healing Mass

Romsey: 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month 10am – Rosary begins at 9:30am

### Parish Staff

**Parish Priest:** Fr John Healy 47 Urquart St Woodend. Ph: 03 54272690 Mobile: 0439 033 750.

Email: [john.healy@cam.org.au](mailto:john.healy@cam.org.au)

**Assistant Priest:** Fr Brian Muling 27 Chauncey St Lancefield. Ph 03 54292130

Email: [brian.muling@cam.org.au](mailto:brian.muling@cam.org.au)

**Parish Secretary Woodend:** Bernadette Petruccelli 47 Urquart St Woodend. Ph: 03 54272690.

Email: [bernadette.petruccelli@cam.org.au](mailto:bernadette.petruccelli@cam.org.au)

**Parish Secretary Lancefield:** Tammie Dalgleish 27 Chauncey Lancefield. Ph 03 54292130.

Email: [lancefield@cam.org.au](mailto:lancefield@cam.org.au)

### Office Hours

**Woodend** Monday 9am - 4pm & Friday 9am - 4pm

**Lancefield** Wednesday 8am - 5pm & Friday 8am - 5pm

### Websites

**Woodend:** [www.stambrosewoodend.com.au](http://www.stambrosewoodend.com.au)

**Lancefield:** [www.melbcatholic.org/s/lancefield](http://www.melbcatholic.org/s/lancefield)

### School Communities

**St Ambrose Woodend Principal:** Bronwyn Phillips Ph 03 54271285.

Email [office@sawoodend.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office@sawoodend.catholic.edu.au) Website: [www.stambrose.catholic.au](http://www.stambrose.catholic.au)

**St Mary's Lancefield Principal:** Gabe Agius Ph 03 54291359.

Email [office@smlancefield.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office@smlancefield.catholic.edu.au) Website: [www.smlancefield.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smlancefield.catholic.edu.au)

### Child Protection

We hold the care, safety and well-being of children and all vulnerable people as a central and fundamental responsibility for our community.

Diocesan Polices are available at [www.melbournecatholic.org.au](http://www.melbournecatholic.org.au)

# The Living Word

**The Presentation of the Lord**

**2 February 2025**

## **First Reading Mal 3:1-4**

*The Lord whom you seek will come to his temple.*

The Lord God says this: Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his temple; and the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire and the fuller's alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to the Lord as it should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will then be welcomed by the Lord as in former days, as in the years of old.

## **Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 23:7-10. R. v.10**

*(R.) Who is this king of glory?  
It is the Lord!*

1. O gates, lift up your heads;  
grow higher, ancient doors.  
Let him enter, the king of glory! (R.)
2. Who is the king of glory?  
The Lord, the mighty, the valiant,  
the Lord, the valiant in war. (R.)
3. O gates, lift high your heads;  
grow higher, ancient doors.  
Let him enter, the king of glory! (R.)
4. Who is he, the king of glory?  
He, the Lord of armies,  
he is the king of glory. (R.)

## **Second Reading Heb 2:14-18**

*He had to be made like us in all things.*

Since all the children share the same blood and flesh, Jesus too shared equally in it, so that by his death he could take away all the power of the devil, who had power over death, and set free all those who had been held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. For it was not the angels that he took to himself; he took to himself descent from Abraham. It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers so that he could be a compassionate and trustworthy high priest of God's religion, able to atone for human sins. That is, because he has himself been through temptation he is able to help others who are tempted.

## **Gospel Acclamation Lk 2:32**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

***This is the light of revelation to  
the nations,***

***and the glory of your people Israel.***

**Alleluia!**

## **Gospel Lk 2:22-40**

*My eyes have seen your saving power.*

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God, and he said:

*'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace,  
just as you promised;  
because my eyes have seen the salvation  
which you have prepared for all the nations  
to see,  
a light to enlighten the pagans  
and the glory of your people Israel.'*

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.'

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.



## **Reflection by Fr Michael Tate**

In a time (in the Western world at least) when there seems to be a growing gap between the old and the young, it is good to reflect on this Gospel incident.

A young woman, still in her teens, a newly-wed cradling her newborn son in her arms, places that baby in the arms of a very old stranger who embraces her child with all the fervour of a now fulfilled hope.

Is this the model for overcoming the distance between young and old in our culture? Can the young, like Mary, listen to the wisdom of tradition from an elder? Can the old like Simeon still be open to a moment of serendipity mediated by the young?

The answer is: 'Yes, when young and old come together around Jesus.' As Pope Francis remarks of this encounter: 'Jesus is at the centre.' (Homily 2 Feb 2018)

At whatever age we find ourselves, Mary is only too willing to place Jesus in our arms to fulfil our hopes and our yearnings.

Perhaps we could pause for a moment to accept the gift of Jesus placed in our arms and hearts so that we can say with Simeon:

*'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace...'*

mtate@bigpond.com

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### CONTINUING PRAYER LIST:

Please pray for the following who are in continuing need of our prayers:

**Merle Trembath, Christine Cheney, Kath Ireland, Gwen DeCarolis, Brendan Coburn & Vittoria Cafari.**

### MYSTERY OF FAITH

We proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
and profess your Resurrection  
until you come again.

**PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL – RESPONSE:** *Lord, hear our prayer.*

**R:** We pray for ourselves and the special needs of all in our parish community. We pray for those who are sick – especially those on our parish prayer list – the frail, and for all who care for them. For the faithful departed: for those who have died recently and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially **Brian Sheehan & Christopher Martin**. May they enter into the eternal life of God's kingdom, as promised to us all.

**We pray to the Lord.**

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

### All HAIL MARY

### All 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.**

**Collections last week**      Presbytery \$355      Thanksgiving \$660  
1<sup>st</sup> collection: Presbytery & Priest      2<sup>nd</sup> collection: Thanksgiving (envelope)

**Next week's readings:** **Isaiah 6:1-8   1 Corinthians 15:1-11   Luke 5:1-11**



### ROSTERS

Thank you to all volunteers who have served in whatever capacity was needed during Masses in January. As I will be back to normal hours next week, rosters will be finalised and distributed then.

### FEAST of the PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

This Sunday is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, also known as the Candlemas. During each of our weekend Masses our church candles will be blessed. If you would like your candles blessed, bring them along this weekend.

### FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

#### February 5<sup>th</sup> - Saint Agatha

As in the case of Agnes, another virgin-martyr of the early Church, almost nothing is historically certain about this saint except that she was martyred in Sicily during the persecution of Emperor Decius in 251. Legend has it that Agatha, like Agnes, was arrested as a Christian, tortured, and was later put to death.

#### February 6<sup>th</sup> - Saint Paul Miki and Companions

Brother Paul Miki, a Jesuit and a native of Japan, has become the best known among the martyrs of Japan. The only reason for my being killed is that I have taught the doctrine of Christ. I certainly did teach the doctrine of Christ. I thank God it is for this reason I die. I believe that I am telling only the truth before I die. I know you believe me and I want to say to you all once again: Ask Christ to help you to become happy. I obey Christ. After Christ's example I forgive my persecutors. I do not hate them. I ask God to have pity on all, and I hope my blood will fall on my fellow men as a fruitful rain."

### CHILD PROTECTION is everyone's responsibility

#### Safety of Children and All Vulnerable People

The St. Mary's Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy is on display on the church noticeboards or via the parish office.

*All children leaving the church during Mass must be accompanied by a parent.*

#### Child Safety Committee

Fr. John Healy  
Tammie Dalglish  
Michael Mooney  
Monica Tomlinson

### Baptism

As arranged with the Parish Secretary on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month

### Marriages

Arranged by appointment with at least 6 months' notice. Please contact parish office.

### Funerals

Contact Fr. John directly.  
Contact Fr. Brian directly.

### Thanksgiving

Any parishioner wishing to join the Thanksgiving program is invited to contact Tammie at the parish office to arrange some Thanksgiving envelopes. Thanksgiving contributions by Direct Debit or Credit Card welcome.

### Welcome

St. Mary's Parish community warmly welcomes visitors and new parishioners. We invite new parishioners to introduce yourself to Fr. John/Fr. Brian, fill in a census card located in the church foyer and place in either collection or contact Tammie directly at the parish office.

### Volunteering Ministries

A current Working with Children Check is required to volunteer within the parish.

### Help is always welcome!

Power Point operator at Mass  
Reader of the Word  
Church Cleaning & Gardening

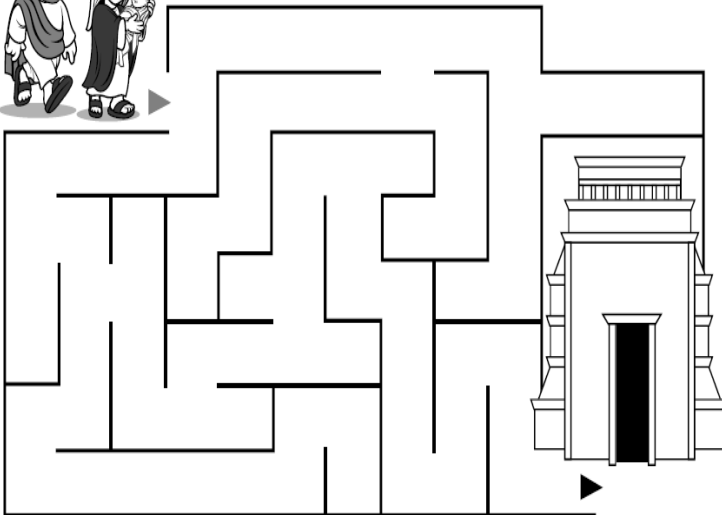
### Holy Hour

A time of quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament beginning with Evening Prayer at 7pm, followed by quiet prayer and concluding with Benediction. All are invited.

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February 7pm-8pm St Ambrose Woodend.**



Mary and Joseph had to travel from Nazareth to Jerusalem to take baby Jesus to the temple. Help them find their way.



### FEBRUARY HEALING MASS – change of date

Due to a Priest availability the February Healing Mass will be held on **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> of February**. Healing Mass will return to the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in March.

### FEAST DAY of OUR LADY of LOURDES

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February is the feast of the Church in Lancefield. Morning Mass will be celebrated at 9.30am on that day followed by a cuppa in the presbytery. Put the date in your calendar.

### SAVE THE DATE - 9<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2025

St. Brigid's Parish will celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Gisborne Church.

Mass will commence at 11:00am and will also be live streamed. Memorabilia display, activities & food vendors to follow between 12 & 4pm. Learn more about the St. Brigid's Church story and meet or reconnect with present and past parishioners.

### ST MARY'S DROP IN – DATES FOR 2025

**ST. MARY'S PARISH HALL ROMSEY**

**10:30AM TO 2:30PM**

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February      Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March  
Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

### POPES PRAYER INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY

**For vocations to the priesthood and religious life.**

Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.



ROMSEY  
VIC 3434

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### PRIEST & PRESBYTERY BY DIRECT DEBIT

Anyone not already contributing to the Priest & Presbytery expenses who would like to contribute may do so by direct debit to the acct below:

**St. Mary's Presbytery Account  
NAB**

**BSB: 083 347**

**Acct: 64151 8467**

Please use your surname as the reference.

### THANKSGIVING BY DIRECT DEBIT

Anyone not already on the Thanksgiving Program who would like to contribute to the Church may do so by direct debit to the acct below:

**St. Mary's Church Account  
NAB**

**BSB: 083 347**

**Acct: 64150 3257**

Please use your surname and TG number as the reference.