

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

18th October, 2026



116 Cecil Street, Williamstown 3016

Telephone: 9397 6066

Email: williamstown@cam.org.au

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 – 3.00pm

Thursday 9:00am – 3.00pm

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

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—YEAR A

FIRST READING:

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah. 45:1, 4-6

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Give the Lord glory and honour.

SECOND READING:

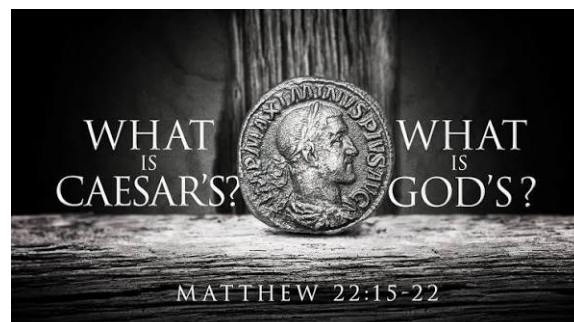
A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians. 1:1-5

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 22:15-21

Then the Pharisees went off and plotted how they might entrap him in speech. They sent their disciples to him, with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are a truthful man and you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. And you are not concerned with anyone’s opinion, for you do not regard a person’s status. Tell us, then, what is your opinion: Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?” Knowing their malice, Jesus said, “Why are you testing me, you hypocrites? Show me the coin that pays the census tax.” Then they handed him the Roman coin. He said to them, “Whose image is this and whose inscription?” They replied, “Caesar’s.” At that he said to them, “Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God.”



Tuesday 20th October	9.15am Mass at St Mary's Church. 11:00am Communion Service with Fr Greg at "The Village". 2.30pm Funeral Mass for Margaret Mary Huagen.
Wednesday 21st October	9:15am Mass at St Mary's Church. 2:30pm – 3:30pm Silent Hour of Adoration in Church.
Thursday 22nd October	9.15am Mass at St Mary's Church.
Friday 23rd October	9.15am Mass at St Mary's Church.

Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

Brochures listing the many ways to **get involved in the Parish** are available on the back table of the church, should you be interested. This is only open to "new volunteers" or to current parishioners who would like to take on an additional ministry. Please return your completed brochure next weekend or drop it into the parish letterbox. Thank you in anticipation.

WEDDING VOWS:

Congratulations and thanks to the five couples who renewed their wedding vows last weekend after 10, 30, 35 and 60 years of marriage.

DEATH PENALTY:

While I could list several reasons why I do not support the death penalty, it ultimately comes down to my deeply held belief that only God has the right to take a human life. I do not believe it is our place to make that choice under any circumstances.

While people generally understand this premise, it can sometimes be misinterpreted. An essential part of my worldview is that refusing to take a life does not mean we must unnaturally prolong it.

I was faced with this exact choice when I walked into our living room and my mother said to me very seriously, "There's something wrong with your dad." He was having a seizure. In that moment, believing it was his time to pass, I made the decision to instruct the doctor not to attempt resuscitation.

I am glad I took that decision out of the doctor's hands. He later told me he believed I had made the right choice, explaining that while he might have been able to bring my father back, my dad would have been left in a very poor and compromised state.

This experience perfectly illustrates my point: there is a profound difference between actively killing someone and simply allowing them to die of natural causes.

Just in the last week the Holy See's permanent observer to the United Nations urged the international community to abolish the death penalty during a meeting at the 81st General Assembly. Archbishop Christophe El-Kassis stated that the defence of human rights must be "consistent and universal, extending to every person, at every stage and in every circumstance." Archbishop El-Kassis' remarks come after Tennessee's September 30th botched execution of convicted murderer Christa Pike, who survived the administration of two syringes of lethal pentobarbital and is receiving medical treatment.

"The death penalty is inadmissible because it is an attack on the inviolability and dignity of the person," Archbishop El-Kassis said, quoting the Catechism of the Catholic Church. "This God-given dignity is never forfeited, no matter the gravity of the crime. Advances in penal systems now allow states to protect society effectively without foreclosing the possibility of repentance and redemption."

FUTURE PURCHASES:

This weekend and next weekend the Advent & Christmas daily reflection booklets from Wollongong diocese are available so that parishioners will have them ready for the 1st Sunday of Advent – November 29th. It is \$5 a booklet into tin box or use tap and go. We have also ordered the Brisbane program, but it has not turned up yet. Either choose one or the other is the best bet. Our longest standing program has been the Wollongong one as above.

MELBOURNE CATHOLIC PROFESSIONALS LUNCHEON – THURSDAY OCTOBER 22nd

So far due to lack of space (and priority) I have not advertised these Luncheons over the last two years since their inception. However, there is an extraordinary priest from the diocese of Sandhurst (Bendigo) who has inspired millions of people across the globe. He is the founder and executive director of ICON Ministry, a charity reaching more than 2 million people worldwide. As a musician and singer Fr Rob Galea has released 10 albums and authored multiple books. Fr Rob speaks at more than 60 schools each year, mainly in Australia. His dynamic presentations inspire students, empower teachers, and engage audiences of all ages with a message of faith, hope and love. At this particular Catholic Professionals Luncheon Fr Rob will share insights from his journey, his leadership of ICON Ministry, and his mission to share the love of Christ with everyone, everywhere.

COST: Free admission for MCP Members, \$192 for non-members (incl.GST) For further information: Visit <https://melbournecatholic.org/connect/melbourne-catholic-professionals> or book your ticket at <https://www.trybooking.com/DJAMI>

Date: Thursday October 22. 12pm – 2:00pm

Location: Zinc@ Federation Square, Cnr Princes Walk & Russell St Ext, Melbourne.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PRIESTS ELECTIONS:

When I went into the seminary there were 26 other seminarians in my year. Strange as it may seem, as it shows a changing world, almost every one of those seminarians were born in Australia except for Attard (from Malta) and Bogusz (from Poland). The latter two were both here before their 2nd birthdays as migrants or refugees. All the rest had Anglo Saxon names, typical of Australia at the time: O'Brien, Maher, Buick, Prunty, Hannon, Bowd, Clarke, Snowdon, Renehan, Moloney and so forth. I mention this partly because today, almost every second priest comes from overseas. With the severe shortage of Australian-born clergy, those born in Australia often find themselves wearing several hats—stretched thin by managing multiple parishes and responsibilities at once. This is mainly true of the recent election results for the National Council of Priests which were officially posted during this week. Accordingly, besides myself being the only Victorian elected to the committee, there were the following elected from the 170 who cast their vote:

- Very Rev Shammi Nilantha Perera , Vicar General of Hobart Archdiocese and Parish Priest of Flinders Island.
- Very Rev Gregory Barker, Vicar General of dioceses of Maitland & Newcastle and Parish Priest of Booragul – Warners Bay Parishes.(parish of latter backs onto Lake Macquarie)
- Very Rev Gregory Kennedy, Vicar for Clergy and Parish Priest of Dubbo and Coonamble(160 kms north of Dubbo).
- Rev Michael O'Brien, Dean of Cathedral Toowoomba and Administrator of both Toowoomba & Toowoomba South Parishes.
- Rev Gregory Trythall, Parish Priest Williamstown.
- Rev James Collins (not elected but ex officio as Editor of "The Swag").

Notice of the six to sit at any future committee meetings of the NCP three have the Christian name of Gregory.

Yours 'in Christ' Fr Greg greg.trythall@cam.org.au 0400 524 363

ANNUAL PARISH OPERA NIGHT

The annual Parish Opera Night will not be staged this year in it's usual "last Saturday in November" timeslot. There is something else being staged that day – a little event called the Victorian State Election! We are working on a new date for early in the New Year – before Easter. We will advise further when the new date has been confirmed.

Rosters for this Week 17th & 18th October 2026

Counting Team 2	David Jamieson, Marguerite Buckley, Bob Paz, Lauren Dittmar
Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Larry Rigoni 8.30am John O'Keefe, Ivonne Cram 10.30am Alison Silke, Di Collins
Mass Readers	6.00pm Daniel Corcoran 8.30am Peter Kirwan 10.30am Eilin Taylor
Welcomers	6.00pm Imma Marguglio 8.30am Jeanette Thompson 10.30am Herb Zimmer

Rosters for next Week 24th & 25th October 2026

Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Mary Soppitt 8.30am Eilin Taylor, Yoshua Yii 10.30am Eugene Yii
Mass Readers	6.00pm Emma Pinzone 8.30am Stephen Littleton 10.30am Joe Covelli
Welcomers	6.00pm Simon Pinzone 8.30am Maryann Wenzel 10.30am Joe Covelli

IN OUR PRAYERS

We pray for Yeme Reddy, Sarah Rodgers, David Hume

RECENTLY DECEASED & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for Remy Grogan and Margaret Mary Huagen who passed away recently and Greg Roda Geoff Sheers, Ronald Elias, Maria Camilleri, Lucy Kostraby, Tom Portelli, Matthew Bruno, Nellie McGrath, William Black, Fr. Dutchy Guelen, Peter Brannick, Nicky Colton, Rebecca Kenny, Paul Zahra, Bill Keogh, Sr. Winifred Murphy, Mario and Evelina Lugnani, John Flood, Maria Buongiovanni, Paula Bugeja, Linda Stroud, Bob Alexander, Gwen Cosgrove, Joy Gallagher, Liz Wilson, Ena Fewster, Peter Luckhurst, Marg Hamilton, Stephen West, Dylan Wheat, Joy Lewis, Norrie Gardiner, Albert Curtis, Edward Hinge, Maysie McAdie, Alice Sutton, Muriel Dooley, Charles Mula, Anthony Nuzzo, Filomena Paoline, Cirri Ippolyto, Gennaro Mastrogiovani, Roberta Carlon, Anthony and Elena Banavage, Lucio and Maria Falzon, Thomas and Giuseppina Falzon, Peter Corva, Maria Corva, Joseph Sammut, Blondina and Lorenzo Sammut, David Mangion, Joseph and Teresa Xueref, Biagio Dante Cobis, Ilaria Salvatori, Rosaria Mangion, Bruno Bonfa, Frances Bonfa and Kath Harney whose anniversaries are at this time.