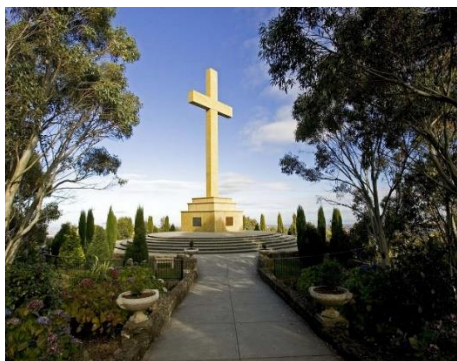




**WELCOME TO THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF
ST AMBROSE WOODEND,
ST AMBROSE RIDDELLS CREEK,
ST BRIGID'S GISBORNE,
ST MARY'S LANCEFIELD/ROMSEY &
ST PATRICK'S MACEDON**

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A

22nd February, 2026

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday – 5pm Woodend, 6pm Gisborne, 6.30pm Lancefield

Sunday - 8am Riddells Creek, 9am Romsey, 9.30am Macedon, 11am Woodend and Gisborne

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Please see the Mass schedule below

ANointing MASS – 1st Saturday of the month 10.30am St Mary's Romsey

RECONCILIATION 10am – 10.30am 2nd Saturday of the month Woodend, 3rd Saturday of the month Gisborne, 4th Saturday of the month Lancefield

HOLY HOUR AND EVENING PRAYER 7pm – 8pm 1st Friday of the month. See Mass schedule for church

PARISH STAFF

Parish Priest: Fr John Healy, 0439 033 759, john.healy@cam.org.au

Assistant Priest: Fr Zaher Al Mhanna, Zaher.Almhanna@cam.org.au

WOODEND: Secretary Bernadette Petrucci, PO Box 347, 47 Urquhart St Woodend. Ph: 0409 436 441, bernadette.petrucci@cam.org.au

LANCEFIELD: Secretary Tammie Dalglish, 27 Chauncey Lancefield. Ph: 03 54292130, lancefield@cam.org.au

GISBORNE: Secretary Tammie Dalglish, PO Box 467, 66 Aitken St Gisborne. Ph: 03 54282591, gisborne@cam.org.au

OFFICE HOURS

Woodend: Monday and Friday 9am – 4pm,

Lancefield: Wednesday and Friday 8am – 5pm,

Gisborne: Tuesday and Thursday 8am – 5pm

PARISH WEBSITES

Woodend: www.stambrosewoodend.com.au

Lancefield: www.melbcatholic.org/s/lancefield

Gisborne: www.melbcatholic.org/s/gisborne

SCHOOL COMMUNITIES St Ambrose Woodend: www.sawoodend.catholic.edu.au , St Mary's Lancefield: www.smlancefield.catholic.edu.au , St Brigid's Gisborne: www.sbgisborne.catholic.edu.au , Holy Cross New Gisborne: www.hcnewgisborne.catholic.edu.au

WEEKDAY LITURGY SCHEDULE

23rd February – 28th February

Tuesday 24th: 5pm Gisborne.

Wednesday 25th: 9:30am Beginning school Mass Woodend.

Thursday 26th: 9.30am Romsey.

Thursday 26th: 6pm Sacred Heart College Yr 7 Mass Kyneton

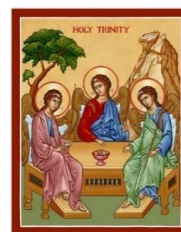
Friday 27th: 8:30am Boarders Mass Kilmore

Friday 27th: 9.30 Lancefield.

Friday 27th: 7pm Stations of the Cross - Gisborne

Saturday 28th: 10am Reconciliation Lancefield

During 2026 our focus as a community of faith will be based on the image of the Trinity. An image reflecting the community of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, calling us to be community of **WELCOME and HOSPITALITY.**



The Living Word

First Sunday of Lent, Year A

22 February 2026

First Reading Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7

Creation of our first parents, and sin.

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being.

The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden.

The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death".' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 50:3-6, 12-14, 17. R. see v.3

(R.) *Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.*

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my offence. O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin. (R.)
2. My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned; what is evil in your sight I have done. (R.)
3. A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit. (R.)
4. Give me again the joy of your help; with a spirit of fervour sustain me. O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare your praise. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 5:12-19

(or Shorter form Rom 5:12, 17-19)

Where sin increased, there grace abounded all the more.

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift. The results of the gift also outweigh the results of one man's sin: for after one single fall came judgement with a verdict of condemnation, now after many falls comes grace with its verdict of acquittal. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:4

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

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

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel Mt 4:1-11

Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says:

Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says:

He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says:

You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these,' he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says:

You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.'

Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Jesus was offered three shortcuts for his ministry. Firstly, exceptional powers to satisfy his own needs (bread out of stones). Secondly, when he needed to take risks, angels to keep him safe. Thirdly, when he wanted to change the world, absolute political power.

These were the Temptations of Christ, but also for us. If you or I are tempted to sin, we will find the marks of this threefold pattern. We want the whole world to change to satisfy us, or we want to take stupid risks and come out unscathed, or we want to exercise total power over others.

How can we try to follow Jesus without the shortcuts of the fantasy world which the Devil may offer? Note that Jesus resisted each temptation with: 'It is written'. The forty days of Lent are a perfect opportunity to read what 'is written' in the Gospels about the episodes and pattern of the life of Jesus Christ.

We could pause for a moment to find what is written and to imitate what we find. That is how the Devil is defeated.

mtate@bigpond.com

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EVERYONE WELCOME

Ministry	21/02/26 6:30pm	22/02/26 9am	28/02/26 6:30pm	01/03/26 9am	07/03/26 10:30am
Priest	Fr. Martin	Fr. Martin	Fr. John	Fr. John	
Musician	Rosalie	Agnes	Rosalie	Christine	-----
Reader	Julie C	Rosemary	Leanne	Joanne	Eileen
Collector	<i>Vol req</i>	Tim/Ged	<i>Vol req</i>	Gerard	-----
Spec Min	Julie	Kerry	Julie	Betty	-----
PowerPoint	Tony	Joanne	Julie C		-----
Set up	Rosalie/Julie	Eileen	Rosalie/Julie	Betty	Eileen
Cleaner	-----	Anne/Chris	-----	Anne/Chris	-----
Location	LF	Rom	LF	Rom	Rom

Could those listed on the roster please advise if you are unavailable.

CONTINUING PRAYER LIST:

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

Christine C & Brendan C.

MYSTERY OF FAITH

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,
until you come again.

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

We pray for ourselves and the special needs of all in our parish community. We pray for those who are sick, 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 Colleen O'Connor.

CELEBRANT We bring our prayers to a close as we pray,
All **GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, AND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT.**
AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING, IS NOW, AND EVER SHALL BE, WORLD WITHOUT END.
AMEN.

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. **Amen.**

Collections last week Priest & Presbytery \$377 Thanksgiving & Church \$640
1st collection: Presbytery & Priest 2nd collection: Thanksgiving (envelope)

SACRAMENTS 2026 – registrations open for Eucharist & Confirmation.
contact the Secretary at lancefield@cam.org.au to register your interest.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INTIATION OF ADULTS

On Sunday 22nd at 3pm those adults seeking to become part of our Catholic Faith Community will be presented to Archbishop Peter in St Patrick's Cathedral. During this ceremony they will be enrolled in the Book of the Elect.

We are invited to keep these adults in our prayers.

St Ambrose Woodend and St Mary's Lancefield will have for adults to present:
Kate Johnston, Lesley McLure, Ron Carrington & Bevan McWha.

Please keep them in your prayers.

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

Baptism

As arranged with the Parish Secretary on the 1st Sunday of the month

Marriages

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

Funerals

Contact Fr. John 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, 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

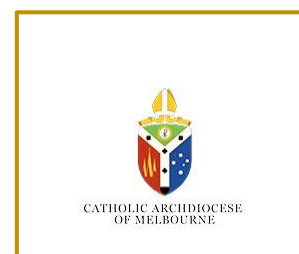
A current Working with Children Check is required to volunteer within the parish.

Help is always welcome!

Power Point operator

Reader of the Word

Church Cleaning & Gardening





PARISH CENSUS

If you did not fill out a census card last weekend you are invited to complete a card so that we are able to get our parish records up to date. A census card can be found in the pews or at our church entrances. Please place completed cards in the box or basket provided.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Will be celebrated on a rotation through our Mass Centres at 7pm each Friday evening.

February 27th Gisborne, March 6th Lancefield, March 13th Woodend,
March 20th Gisborne, March 27th Romsey.

CHILDREN CAN HELP UNDERSTAND THE MEANING OF LENT

Seeing Jesus in others

A lesson I learned from my children happened one Holy Thursday when we stopped after Mass to pray at the altar of repose. My daughter, who was four years old, watched our fellow parishioners kneel to pray and look reverently on the Blessed Sacrament. As we left she asked, "Why do they kneel down and look like that?" I answered that it was Jesus and they were kneeling because they loved him. She innocently replied, "But if Jesus is in all of us, why don't they look at each other that way?" Her words have followed me all these years as I sometimes struggle to see the face of Jesus in others. Joanne

I'm being watched

I learned that I model for my children how one should act during Lent. Children listen more with their eyes than they do with their ears! S

Keep trying

My children taught me that it's OK to slip up, but don't stop trying. J.B.

Seeing is believing

My children have taught me to visually put into practice my beliefs about Lent. This way I can demonstrate to them the joy of altering our lifestyle as we draw closer to Christ during Lent. EM.

Reflection questions:

What message do I want to offer others through what I say and do this Lent?

What have my children taught me about entering into the season of Lent?

TJ Scott & Son

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Lancefield & Romsey

Our family helping yours, when you need it most – John, Kelly, Jack & Daniel Scott



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- ✓ Income Protection & Life Insurance

Do you have foot Problems?



Andrew Baddeley | Podiatrist

ROMSEY | 5429 5254 | 99 Main St
RIDDELLS CREEK | 5428 7591 | 9
Station St

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Focus on *Nigeria*

6th March, 2026 – 10:30am

St. Mary's Church - Romsey

All Welcome

Followed by lunch in the parish
hall. Please bring a plate to share.

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.