

PARISH OF ASCOT VALE

ST MARY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

ST MARY'S CHURCH, 123 ST LEONARDS ROAD, ASCOT VALE
ST MARGARET'S CHURCH, BARB STREET, MARIBYRNONG

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Desmond J Moloney
Assistant Priest / Lithuanian Chaplain: Rev Fr Joseph Deveikis
Presbytery / Parish Office: 123 St Leonards Rd, Ascot Vale (Postal: PO Box 468 Ascot Vale 3032)
Telephone: 9370 6688
Website: www.melbcatholic.org/ascotvale
Email: ascotvale@cam.org.au
Office Hours: Tue – Thu 9.30am – 3.00pm *Secretary: Carmen D’Rosario*
Principal, St Mary’s School: Mr Denis Johnstone T: 9370 1194
Principal, St Margaret’s School: Mr John Rudd T: 9318 1339

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil:

6.00pm St Mary’s

Sunday:

8.30am St Margaret’s

10.30am St Mary’s

6.00pm St Mary’s (Spanish)

Weekday Mass Times

Mon 10.00am St Mary’s

Tue 9.00am St Mary’s

Wed 9.00am St Mary’s

7.00pm St Mary’s

Thu 9.00am St Mary’s

Fri 9.15am St Mary’s

Sat 9.30am St Mary’s

Reconciliation

(Confession)

Saturday

10.00–10.30am St Mary’s

5.30–5.45pm St Mary’s

Eucharistic Adoration

Tue 9.30–10.30am St Mary’s

Sat 10.00–11.00am St Mary’s

Baptisms at St Mary’s

Baptisms are celebrated on the
2nd & 4th Sundays of each
month at 12:00 noon.

Baptism Information Sessions
are held in St Mary’s Church
at 7:30 pm on the first Thursday
of each month. Parents desiring
the baptism of their child must
attend one of these sessions.

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time – 28 June 2026

St Margaret’s Church

1. Structural Issues

a. The recommendation of the building surveyors is unequivocal, stating that the church has “reached the end of its economic and functional life” that “ongoing maintenance and compliance upgrades are no longer cost-effective, and the “full demolition” of the building is required.

b. Successive professional assessments and subsequent condition reports have concluded that St. Margaret’s Church:

i. By November 2026 will not comply with six different Australian Standards and National Construction Code requirements, necessitating immediate removal and replacement of gutters; internal walls; floors; building foundations; electrical systems; and fire-prevention doors and hardware.

ii. Within the next three years will be non-compliant with 17 Australian Standards and National Construction Code requirements.

c. St. Margaret’s Church demonstrates a wide spread of condition ratings, with critical failures conditions 7–10 concentrated in building cladding, flooring and general structure. These represent immediate risks.

d. A high proportion condition 5–6, reflecting deterioration that will escalate if not addressed. The remainder condition 3–4 are serviceable but ageing.

e. The Church has a single item listed as 2, indicating that most assets are late to end of life and require replacement soon.

2. Safety Issues

a. Important to note the likelihood of increasing safety issues.

b. Refer above to c), d), and e).

c. High risk: gas heaters; 2025 recommended replacement year.

3. Financial Issues

a. Adjusting for current building and construction costs inflation will require \$711, 656 to achieve a base level of compliance.

b. Will only achieve compliance at the earliest by 2035.

c. As a consequence, St. Margaret’s will be uninsurable as a consequence of this non-compliance, exposing the parish and archdiocese to considerable legal risk which may result in significant financial penalties.

d. The cost estimate (\$526,132) of essentially rebuilding St. Margaret’s will be borne by the parish, which will compromise its ability to engage in its ongoing mission of faith.

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – 4/5 JULY 2026

Parish Counters: J & S Crooks; B Toomey

Ministers of the Word			Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	
Time	St Mary's	St Margaret's	St Mary's	St Margaret's
6.00 pm	F Pinto		M Ginn	
8.30 am		S Varghese		R Turnbull
10.30 am	M Doran		L Venuto	

Hymns:

Entrance: CWBII 625

Offertory: CWBII 594

Communion: CWBII 645

Reflection: CWBII 651

Recessional: CWBII 566

Anniversaries:

Giuseppina Miranda; Grazjo Curmi; Gorege Bezzina; Franco Escano; Gianni Laverde

Feast Days:

29 June: Sts Peter and Paul

3 July: St Thomas

Readings Next Week: 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time Zech 9:9-10; Rom 8:9, 11-13; Mt 11:25-30

February 20th, 2026 – Masterplan Report prepared by Harmer Architecture referencing St. Margaret's Church:

It is also considered that the disposal of the St Margaret's Church property in Maribyrnong is inevitable, given its small congregation; but above all, significantly expensive ongoing maintenance issues, including the asbestos roof, and major non-compliance issues for its use as a place of assembly, in relation to the Building Code of Australia, making the disposal of this property a foregone conclusion.

The Parish understands that St Margaret's has its own history and connections to the community, however, both for St Margaret's and St. Mary's sites already fall within a single united parish, that will ultimately operate exclusively on the St Leonards Road site of St. Mary's.

Last month, the average Sunday Mass attendance over three Sundays at St. Margaret's Church was 58.

For the **Reception of Feedback:** feedback.stmargarets@gmail.com

Fr Desmond J Moloney

Baptisms

We warmly welcome the children being baptised this Sunday.

Ava Sambucco

Romeo Sambucco



PLEASE NOTE

No 10.00am Mass at St Mary's Church on Monday 29 June, 6 July & 13 July 2026.

Thanksgiving Envelopes

Please ensure you collect your pack of envelopes for those who have not done so already.

Special Collection this weekend – Peter's Pence

This weekend will be the annual collection for the Pope. The Holy See, in addition to the operating costs involved in ministering to the universal Church, regularly makes large charitable donations to those in special need. Thank you for your generosity.

An Appeal for Organists and/or Instrumentalists

St Mary's Parish music ministry is in need of additional organists (instrumentalists). If you would like to join the parish music ministry please contact Mayzie on 0401046875.

Soup Evening – 27 June 2026

There will be soup, bread and nibbles served, in the presbytery, **after 6pm Mass tonight**, organised by the Parish Community Group. Please join us and have a chat with fellow parishioners.

St, Vincent de Paul, Winter Appeal

Dear Fellow Parishioners - While we are again facing a cold winter, with all the extra pressures that puts on our budgets, our conference is seeing more people who have not come for help before and more who are reliant on casual work and wages that cannot support them and their families. Please spare a thought and a prayer for those around us in need, plus a donation if you can. Many are grateful for the help you give. There are envelopes at the church doors.

Catholics encouraged to identify themselves in the Census

Australia will hold its national Census on 11 August 2026, and Catholics across the Archdiocese of Melbourne are encouraged to participate fully, identifying their religious affiliation. This nationwide count is a crucial opportunity for the Catholic community to be recognised and for its needs to be understood. The ACBC says Census data informs government and Church planning, helping parishes, schools and Catholic services understand community needs and allocate resources effectively.

Magnifica Humanitas

Questions for reflection

On a personal level

Do I consider my faith a "static code" of rules or a dynamic way of thinking capable of being challenged by the transformations of the world? In my daily life, do I try to live like the "Good Samaritan," approaching the "wounds" of those around me without judging from above? When I analyse my work or that of others, do I try to prioritize the dignity of the person, or do I allow myself to be influenced by a purely financial or profit-driven logic?

In community

Are we capable of listening to and interpreting the "various languages" of the people in our community to understand how to truly promote their lives? How can we better value the diversity of vocations and cultures in our community, preventing the truth from becoming something to be defended rather than a good to be shared? How do our community choices (economic, organisational, pastoral) respond simultaneously to the "cry of the poor" and the "cry of the earth"?

Experiences On a personal level

Listening to the Signs: Choose a news story or an event happening in your neighbourhood and try to observe it not with a judgmental attitude, but with the "Good Samaritan's gaze," asking yourself what human wounds and hopes lie hidden within. In community Polyhedron Method: In a group or work meeting, try to give value to an opinion different from your own, remembering that truth is like a "polyhedron," which reflects from multiple angles. First Chapter 7 Magnifica Humanitas

Legion of Mary - For member enquiries and home visitations please contact: 9346 7900.

St Vincent de Paul Helpline: 1800 305 330, Monday – Friday, 10am – 3pm.

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

FIRST READING

2 Kgs 4:8-11. 14-16

One day as Elisha was on his way to Shunem, a woman of rank who lived there pressed him to stay and eat there. After this he always broke his journey for a meal when he passed that way. She said to her husband, 'Look, I am sure the man who is constantly passing our way must be a holy man of God. Let us build him a small room on the roof, and put him a bed in it, and a table and chair and lamp; whenever he comes to us he can rest there.'

One day when he came, he retired to the upper room and lay down. 'What can be done for her?' he asked. Gehazi (his servant) answered, 'Well, she has no son and her husband is old.' Elisha said, 'Call her.' The servant called her and she stood at the door. 'This time next year,' Elisha said 'you will hold a son in your arms.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 88

R. Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.

Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. (R.)

Happy the people who acclaim such a king,
who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face,
who find their joy every day in your name,
who make your justice the source of their bliss.
(R.)

For it is you, O Lord, who are the glory of their strength;
it is by your favour that our might is exalted:
for our ruler is in the keeping of the Lord;
our king in the keeping of the Holy One of Israel.
(R.)

SECOND READING

Rom 6:3-4. 8-11

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life.

But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him any more. When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy people. Praise God who called you out of darkness and into his marvellous light. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 10:37-42

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who prefers son or daughter to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who does not take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me. Anyone who finds his life will lose it; anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. 'Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me; and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me.

'Anyone who welcomes a prophet because he is a prophet will have a prophet's reward; and anyone who welcomes a holy man because he is a holy man will have a holy man's reward.

'If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is a disciple, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

The Gospel of the Lord

