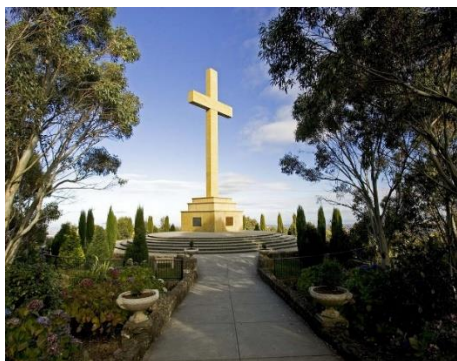




**WELCOME TO THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF
ST AMBROSE WOODEND,
ST AMBROSE RIDDELLS CREEK,
ST BRIGID'S GISBORNE,
ST MARY'S LANCEFIELD/ROMSEY &
ST PATRICK'S MACEDON**

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A

8th March, 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 033 750, 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

9nd March – 14th March

Tuesday 10th: 5pm Gisborne.

Wednesday 11th: No Weekday Mass.

Thursday 12th: 9.30am Romsey.

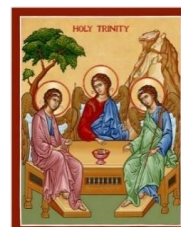
Friday 13th: No Weekday Mass

Friday 13th: 7pm Stations of the Cross – Woodend

Saturday 14th: 10:00am-10:30am Reconciliation – Woodend

+++++

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

Third Sunday of Lent Year: Alternate Readings, Year A

8 March 2026

First Reading Ex 17:3-7

Give us water to drink.

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?' Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' The Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 94:1-2. 6-9. R. v.8

(R.) If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. (R.)
2. Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. (R.)
3. O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my
work.' (R.)

Second Reading Rom 5:1-2, 5-8

The love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given to us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

Gospel Acclamation See Jn 4:42. 15

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world;
give me living water, that I may never thirst again.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel shorter form

Jn 4:5-15, 19-26, 39-42

The water that I shall give will turn into a spring of eternal life.

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied:

'If you only knew what God is offering
and who it is that is saying to you:
Give me a drink,
you would have been the one to ask,
and he would have given you living water.'

'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied:

'Whoever drinks this water
will get thirsty again;
but anyone who drinks the water that I shall
give
will never be thirsty again:
the water that I shall give
will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to
eternal life.'

'Sir,' said the woman, 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water. I see you are a prophet, sir. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said:

'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming
when you will worship the Father
neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.
You worship what you do not know;
we worship what we do know;
for salvation comes from the Jews.
But the hour will come – in fact it is here
already –
when true worshippers will worship the Father
in spirit and truth:
that is the kind of worshipper
the Father wants.
God is spirit,
and those who worship
must worship in spirit and truth.'

The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.'

Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony, so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

The Jewish people worshipped at the Temple in Jerusalem. The Samaritans to the north worshipped on Mount Gerizem. But Jesus says to the woman of Samaria: 'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem . . . true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth.'

We do this by acknowledging Jesus Christ as our sacred site. Jesus is where God is to be found. In his earthly ministry this was around places like the well in Samaria. As Risen Lord, he is to be found in those in dire need, and in the Heavenly Bread. In both cases we need to incline the body as an act of worship: in the case of the needy, by doing something practical; in the case of the Heavenly Bread, by genuflecting, bowing, before the Blessed Sacrament.

We could pause for a moment to reorientate ourselves to the Sacred Site who is the Risen Christ, acknowledging him as indeed the 'Saviour of the World'.

mtate@bigpond.com

The psalm responses are from the English Translation of the Lectionary for the Mass ©1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved. The psalm texts, from The Psalms, A New Translation, ©1985 by The Grail, England and used by permission of the publishers. The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1956, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. © 2017 Creative Ministries Resource Pty Ltd All use must be in accordance with your user licensing agreement.

EVERYONE WELCOME

Ministry	07/03/26 10:30am	07/03/26 6:30pm	08/03/26 9am	14/03/26 6:30pm	15/03/26 9am
Musician	-----	Rosalie	Agnes	Rosalie	Christine
Reader	Eileen	Joan	Betty	Tony	Kalma
Collector	-----	Vol req	Tim/Ged	Vol req	Joe
Spec Min	-----	Julie	Kerry	Julie	Marie
PowerPoint	-----	Tony	Vol req	Julie C	Josh
Set up	Eileen	Rosalie/Julie	Kerry	Rosalie/Julie	Marie
Cleaner	-----	Tam	Loretta	Rosalie	-----
Location	Rom	LF	Rom	LF	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, especially **Merle Trembath** and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially **Edie Smith, Anthony Grealy, Pat Kelly & Susan Brady.**

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.

Collections last week Priest & Presbytery \$417 Thanksgiving & Church \$1060
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.



**We welcome
Fr Zaher who
begins his ministry
amongst us.**

*Fr John will be away
Monday to Friday of
this week.*

SUNDAY MORNING MASS

LANCEFIELD/ROMSEY

Permanent change to Mass.
Saturday night Vigil Mass –
Lancefield – 6:30pm
Sunday morning Mass –
Romsey – 9am

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK ACROSS OUR PARISHES

Tue 10/03/26 10am Mass The Oaks, 5pm Mass **Gis**, 7.30pm RCIA **LF**
Wed 11/03/26 11am Funeral Gisborne: Camilla Banon
Thu 12/03/26 9.30am Mass **Rom**
Fri 13/03/26 10:30am Funeral – Merle Trembath **Rom**,
7pm Stations of the Cross **Wood**
Sat 14/03/26 10am Reconciliation **Wood**

EASTER SERVICES 2026

Thursday 2nd April - Holy Thursday

7pm - St. Brigids Gisborne & 7pm - St. Ambrose Woodend

Friday 3rd April - Stations of the Cross

10am - St. Brigids Gisborne & 10am - St. Ambrose Woodend

Friday 3rd April - Friday of the Passion of the Lord

3pm - St. Mary's Lancefield & 3pm - St. Brigids Gisborne

Saturday 4th April - Holy Saturday

7pm – St. Mary's Lancefield & 7pm St. Brigids Gisborne

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 Dalgleish

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

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

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

March 13th Woodend,

March 20th Gisborne,

March 27th Romsey.

Convocation of the Melbourne Synod 2026

On the third Sunday of Lent, Archbishop Peter A. Comensoli will formally convoke a Synod for the Archdiocese of Melbourne. The Synod calls the Melbourne Church to journey together in communion, participation, and mission, echoing Pope Francis' vision of a 'listening Church' (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 31). Informed by Vatican II's teaching, the Church is 'a people made one with the unity of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit' (*Lumen Gentium*, 4).

There are three themes about which the church of Melbourne is being invited to discern:

- Young discipleship
- Missionary Leadership
- Formation and Participation.

The synod assembly will be held across the weekend of 4-6 December. Over these next months a range of opportunities will be available for Melbourne Catholics to be part of the consultation process toward the synod. In the meantime, further information can be accessed via: [Melbourne Synod 2026 | Melbourne Catholic](#).

In the synodal Church "the whole community, in the free and rich diversity of its members, is called together to pray, listen, analyse, dialogue, discern and offer advice on taking pastoral decisions" (ITC 68) for mission. (Final Document, 87)

Lent Penitential Service - Wednesday, 18th March - 7pm St Brigid's Church Gisborne. You will notice that there is only one penitential service. When looking at the numbers that attended last year and the best way to offer the various services across three parishes, I have decided after speaking to the PPC and Lay Leadership Group to alternate this service across our three Parishes. Lent will be in Gisborne and Advent will be at Wooded. The rotation will continue next year including Lancefield.

TJ Scott & Son

Funeral Directors

75 years of care

Kyneton 5422 6455 Gisborne 5428 4155 Kilmore 5782 1112

Lancefield & Romsey

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



TOBIN BROTHERS FUNERALS

Cnr Brook & Barkly
Streets
Sunbury
Tel: 9740 9500

*Leaders in
Service and Care*

(INCORPORATING
O'CONNOR FUNERALS)



ROMSEY
VIC 3434

find us on facebook
and
instagram

Joel Caspersz

Cabinet Maker

0425 854 370

joel@measuredjoinery.com.au
admin@measuredjoinery.com.au



Your local financial experts.
www.blackwoodadvisory.au

tim.mccarthy@blackwoodadvisory.au
0403 036 654

- ✓ Tax & Accounting Services
- ✓ Business Advisory Services
- ✓ Financial Advice & Investments
- ✓ Superannuation & Retirement Planning
- ✓ Self Managed Superannuation
- ✓ 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

SAVE THE DATE

Celebrating the Feast of St Patrick.

Mass will be celebrated at St Brigid's
Gisborne on Tuesday 17th March at
5pm, followed by a meal at the
Macedon Hotel. Please put your name
on the clipboard in our church foyers
for booking purposes. All are
welcome to come and celebrate the
patron of our Archdiocese.

**(Please not the change in time and
venue due to storm damage to St
Patrick's Church)**



PARISH CENSUS

Census cards are now available in
church foyers.

Could all parishioners please
complete, not just if you are new to
the parish.

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.