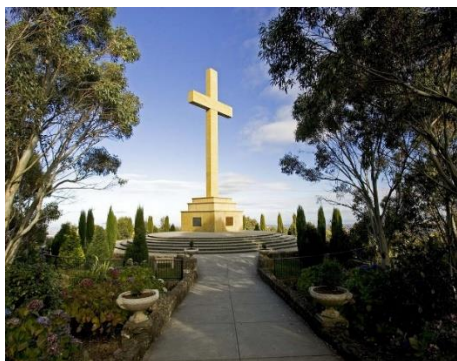




**WELCOME TO THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF
ST AMBROSE WOODEND,
ST AMBROSE RIDDELLS CREEK,
ST BRIGIDS GISBORNE,
ST MARY'S LANCEFIELD/ROMSEY &
ST PATRICK'S MACEDON**

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A

15th March, 2026

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

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

Sunday - 8am Riddells Creek, 9am Romsey, 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

16th March – 21st March

Tuesday 17th: 5pm Gisborne followed by dinner at 6pm at the Macedon Pub.

Wednesday 18th: 9:15am Mass Gisborne, 9:30am Mass Woodend

Thursday 19th: 9:15am Mass Gisborne 9.30am Romsey.

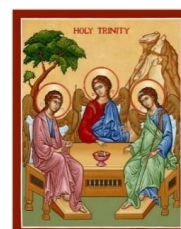
Friday 20th: 9:15am Mass Gisborne 9:30am Lancefield

Friday 20th: 7pm Stations of the Cross – Gisborne

Saturday 21st: 10:00am-10:30am Reconciliation – Gisborne

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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

Fourth Sunday of Lent Year, Year A

15 March 2026

First Reading 1 Sm 16:1, 6-7, 10-13

In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel.

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 22 R. v.1

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. (R.)
2. He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your
staff;
with these you give me comfort. (R.)
3. You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
My cup is overflowing. (R.)
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall
follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. (R.)

Second Reading Eph 5:8-14

Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep,
rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 8:12

*Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!*

Gospel Jn 9:1-41

The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.'

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe,' and worshipped him.



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Our Lord, by the power of his word alone, could have healed the disease of this man, blind since birth. Yet, he made a paste with spittle and put it over the eyes of the blind man. Just as God would have moistened the dust of the earth to shape the first human being, for the blind man, it was as though he had been created anew.

God rarely works by telepathy but has a preferred way of working through the elements of creation, especially in the Sacraments. So, with the Anointing of the Sick, pressing olive oil onto the forehead and hands of the sick or dying symbolises the Holy Spirit entering the very pores of the sick person, relieving that person of undue anxiety and giving strength for the next stage of life.

This sacrament is a formal ritual of healing by the Church. But there are a million informal ways, such as putting one's arm around someone who is lonely or unwell, which are sacramental to the world.

We could pause for a moment that we might go into the world like the man healed by Jesus, eyes wide open to see where we might exercise the healing power of the Lord of the Gospel.

mtate@bigpond.com

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EVERYONE WELCOME

Ministry	14/03/26 6:30pm	15/03/26 9am	21/03/26 6:30pm	22/03/26 9am	28/03/26 6:30pm
Musician	Rosalie	Christine	Rosalie	Agnes	Rosalie
Reader	Tony	Kalma	Michael	John	Julie C
Collector	<i>Vol req</i>	Joe	<i>Vol req</i>	Tim/Ged	<i>Vol req</i>
Spec Min	Julie	Marie	Denis C	Rob	Julie
PowerPoint	Julie C	Josh	Leanne	Alex	Michael
Set up	Rosalie/Julie	Marie	Rosalie/Julie	Joanne	Rosalie/Julie
Cleaner	Rosalie	----	----	Anthea	Anne T
Location	LF	Rom	LF	Rom	LF

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 *Michael Grelis* and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially *Wendy Lakin, Mark Naismith & Peg Hawkins.*

CELEBRANT We bring our prayers to a close as we pray,

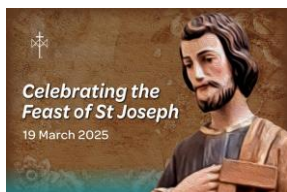
All **GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, AND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING, IS NOW, AND EVER SHALL BE, WORLD WITHOUT END. AMEN.

Collections last week Priest & Presbytery \$tbc Thanksgiving & Church \$tbc
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.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK



Joseph's pilgrim heart remained open, always attentive to where the Spirit was leading him. On this journey, he accompanied Mary and Jesus, reassuring them that God's way is not always our way. Mary MacKillop and Julian Tenison Woods drew strength from Joseph as they placed the Sisters of Saint Joseph under his protection.

On this day, "Our Glorious Patron was first honoured as Patron of little children, and our work committed to his care". (Mary MacKillop, Letter to the Sisters, 4.3.1891)
Pilgrim Joseph, teach us to listen and to trust in God's dream for us. Give us the courage to seek God's face in unfamiliar places. Show us how to serve with a humble heart, as we respond to the call 'to act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with our God.' (Micah 6:8)

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 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

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

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

March 20th Gisborne,

March 27th Romsey.

Convocation of the Melbourne Synod 2026

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

1. Young discipleship,
2. Missionary Leadership,
3. 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. 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 Woodend. The rotation will continue next year including Lancefield.

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK ACROSS OUR PARISHES

Tue 17/03/26 5pm Mass **Gis** celebrating the Feast of St. Patrick
Wed 18/03/26 9:15am Mass **Gis**, 9:30am Mass **Wood**, 7pm Penitential Service **Gis**
Thu 19/03/26 9:15am Mass **Gis**, 9:30am Mass **Rom**
Fri 20/03/26 9:15am Mass **Gis**, 9:30am Mass **LF**, 7pm Stations of the Cross **Wood**
Sat 21/03/26 10am Reconciliation **Gis**

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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- ✓ Self Managed Superannuation
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**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 note the change in time and venue due to storm damage to St Patrick's Church)



SECRETARY ANNUAL LEAVE

From March 27th to April 10th the parish office will be closed, reopening on the 15th.

For matters of urgency during this time, please contact Fr. John directly. All non urgent enquiries can be sent via email and will be answered upon my return.

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.