



THE TIDINGS

SERVING THE AREAS OF MELTON, MELTON WEST, AINTREE, BONNIE BROOK,
GRANGEFIELDS, HARKNESS, KURUNJANG, PLUMPTON, ROCKBANK & TOOLERN VALE



The Catholic
Parish of Melton
is committed
to the safety,
wellbeing and
dignity of all
children and
vulnerable
adults

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT — Year B | 17 March 2024

CLERGY

Parish Priest: REV. FR MICHAEL MOODY

Parish Deacon: REV. DCN CHRIS CREO

Email: Christopher.Creo@cam.org.au

STAFF & SAFEGUARDING COORDINATOR

Parish Secretary: VIVIEN LEMALU

Finance Manager: LORRAINE STAFFORD (Thurs & Fri)

Email: Finance.Melton@cam.org.au

Safeguarding Coordinator: LIZ COUSTLEY

Mobile: 0490 885 515 | **Email:** cso.melton@gmail.com

POSTAL ADDRESS

PO Box 96, MELTON, VIC 3337, Australia

PRESBYTERY & OFFICE

20 Unitt Street, MELTON, VIC 3337

Contact: 03 9743 6515 | **Email:** melton@cam.org.au

Website: <http://www.melbcatholic.org/melton>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/c/parishmelton>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/catholicparishmelton>

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday to Friday 9.00am–3.00pm

(The parish office is CLOSED on weekends and public holidays)

MASS CENTRES & MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

St Catherine of Siena Church, Melton West

108 Bulmans Road, Melton West, VIC 3337

- Saturday 6pm (Vigil Mass)
- Sunday 9am, 11am & 5pm

St Dominic's Church, Melton

Church St, Melton, VIC 3337

- Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 9.15am

CONFESSIONS

St Catherine of Siena Church

Saturday: 5.45 pm | Sunday: 4.45pm

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED

SACRAMENT & ROSARY

St Dominic's Church

- Thursday following the 9.15am Mass

SCHOOLS IN OUR PARISH

ST DOMINIC'S PRIMARY SCHOOL (Prep-Year 6)

Principal: Mr Jeffrey Parker

Address: Church Street, Melton, VIC 3337

Phone: +61 3 9743 6225 | **Email:** enquiries@sdmelton.catholic.edu.au

ST CATHERINE OF SIENA CATHOLIC

PRIMARY SCHOOL (Prep-Year 6)

Principal: Mr Des Noack

Address: 108 Bulmans Road, Melton West, VIC 3337

Phone: +61 3 9743 2166 | **Email:** info@scmeltonwest.catholic.edu.au

SAINT FRANCIS CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Melton West (Year 7-12) | **Cobblebank** (Year 7)

formerly Catholic Regional College Melton

Principal: Ms Marlene Jorgensen

Address: 109-141 Bulmans Rd, Melton West, VIC 3337

Phone: +61 3 8099 6000 | **Email:** info@sfcc.vic.edu.au

Gospel Focus

Love of Life

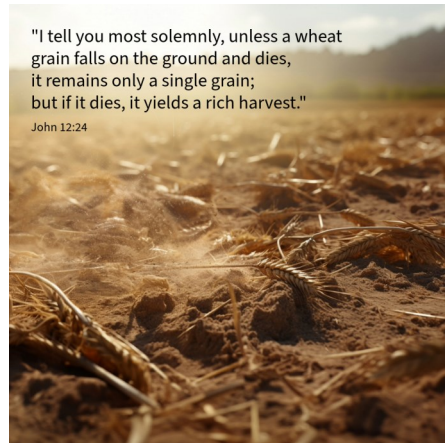
JESUS says, 'Anyone who loves (their) life loses it; anyone who hates (their) life in this world will keep it for the eternal life.'

This can seem pretty tough! It challenges us about how much we cling to the 'things' of this life. Are we concerned about the labels on our clothes; the number of our friends; how much money we have; the sort of house we live in?

If this is the 'life' that we place meaning on, then we will surely lose it. However, if we put aside the world's focus on material things and focus our attention on others then we are assured of eternal life.

"I tell you most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest."

John 12:24



RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Create a clean heart in me, O God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

God loved the world so much, he gave his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

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

Today's Scripture Readings

Jer 31:31-34; Ps 50 (51); Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33

Next Sunday's Scripture Readings

Is 50:4-7; Ps 21 (22); Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1-15:47

PALMS NEEDED FOR PALM SUNDAY



We are in need of palms for our Palm Sunday celebration. If you are able to assist with providing palm branches the week before Palm Sunday please contact Vivien at the Parish Office via email or during office hours on 9743 6515. Many thanks!



Parish Stewardship Update

February Pledged: \$7,260.09

Actual: \$5,896.45

*Our Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of
all children and vulnerable adults.*



WHY WE DO THINGS IN THE MASS

Why The Deacon Chants The Exsultet

A **THOROUGH** and compelling answer from Deacon Bill Ditewig:

Recently, a good friend and a priest whom I respect very much, asked me just WHY the deacon should be the person who chants the Exsultet at the Easter Vigil. "The rubrics permit someone other than the deacon to sing it, so why not just get the person with the best voice to do it? Tell me why the deacon should do it!"

I think there is so much more than simply worrying about the niceties of who gets to do what during the Easter Vigil. In particular, we should reflect on why the Church has long called upon her deacons for this responsibility.

As one commentator summarizes, "From the time of Saint Jerome, when deacons composed their own poems in praise of the candle, to the later Middle Ages. . . , the blessing of the Easter candle was the high moment of the deacon's year." (Margaret B. Freeman, "Lighting of the Easter Candle." Freeman was a curator of Medieval Art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art).

There follows an exceptional lesson in liturgy, history and theology—noting, in particular, the consistent and enduring connection between the deacon and Christ, represented by the Easter candle:

Bishop Ignatius of Antioch, writing in the early second Century:

"Correspondingly, everyone must show the deacons respect. They represent Jesus Christ, just as the bishop has the role of the Father, and the presbyters are like God's council and an apostolic band. You cannot have a Church without these.... Let the deacons (my special favourites) be entrusted with the ministry of Jesus Christ who was with the Father from eternity and appeared at the end of the world."

The history of the association of the deacon with the Candle goes back to this same period. The minister

most often associated with Christ in this literature is the deacon; for this reason, the deacon is entrusted with the great sign of the risen Christ: the Easter Candle. In fact, in many early liturgical texts, and even some into the early 20th Century, it is the Deacon who actually blesses the Candle and inserts the grains of incense.



Let us run the race that is before us and never give up.

As we Holy Week approaches, this encouragement is what so many of us are desperate for. We've taken on a big race during Lent and many of us may feel as if we've fallen short.

Maybe we gave up half way through. Maybe it was just last week. Or maybe it was the day after Ash Wednesday. **It doesn't matter when we gave up — what matters is how we finish the race.**

It's not the number of falls that matter, but the number of times we get back up that counts. Saints are not perfect but perfected by their relationship with Jesus Christ.

So as we round the last corner of Lent and go into the final lap, let's look at a few ways we can finish strong.

1.GO TO CONFESSION.

There's no better way to begin again than by going to the Sacrament of Penance. Lent is a season of grace. When we confess our sins in the Sacrament, God gives us many graces to be strengthened again for the fight.

2. BEGIN AGAIN ON YOUR RESOLUTIONS.

You don't have to be flashy to be faithful. St. Luke exclaims, "He who is faithful in little things is faithful also in much." (Luke 16:10). Make a time to pray every day, read the Bible, fast from something you love, go and serve those in need, or give a donation to your parish or Catholic centre. These are some of the small practices that done with great faith and love can be the spiritual renewal you need going into Easter.

3. GET AN ACCOUNTABILITY PARTNER.

If you want to be a disciple of Jesus, you need someone to run this race with. On your own, if you fall, there will be no one there to get you back up again. Find a few friends that will keep you accountable to your resolutions. Make sure these friends push you to go beyond your comfort zone and encourage you in your darkest moments. These friends remind you that you were made for greatness. Saints always came in bunches, so find grab your friends and get holy together.

"You're almost there!"

As we get closer to Holy Week, may we "run so as to win" (1 Corinthians 9:24) and finish strong, pushing hard the last few hundred yards to hold our head high, knowing we "left it all on the field."

Leave it all at Jesus' feet this Holy week. It will make His Resurrection on Easter Sunday all the sweeter!

Source: <https://focusequip.org/a-lenten-peg-talk-dont-give-up-now/>

There is much more and I encourage every deacon, priest, pastor and music director to read it all.

Deacon Bill concludes:

If the Service of Light at the Easter Vigil were simply a matter of choral performance, the answers would be simple. However, as we have seen, there is much more to the history and theology of this part of the Vigil than performance alone...Perhaps creative ways are necessary to assist the deacon in this task, or alternative musical settings might be made available. Ultimately, of course, the decision of who will chant the Exsultet rests as it should

with the pastor. However, the significant connections between the Candle, the Cross, the Gospel and the deacon should not easily be overlooked or set aside.

The article originally published in **PATHEOS** (24 February 2015)
by DEACON GREG KANDRA

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
11 LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY	12 7pm St Catherine's Primary School Sacrament of Penance (over 3 nights)	13 9.15am Mass at St Dominic's Church	14 9am Mass at St Catherine of Siena Church (joined by St Francis College for Bernard House Mass) St Luke's Sacrament of Penance Classes	15 9.15am Mass at St Dominic's Church	16 Baptisms: 11am & 12.15pm 6pm Vigil Mass	17 9am, 11am & 5pm Sunday Masses
18 FEAST OF ST PATRICK, Patron of the Diocese	19 FEAST OF ST JOSEPH, HUSBAND OF MARY 7pm St Dominic's Primary School Sacrament of Penance	20 9.15am Mass at St Dominic's Church 7.30pm Baptism Information Night @ St Catherine of Siena Church	21 9.15am Mass at St Dominic's Church St Luke's Sacrament of Penance	22 9.15am Mass at St Dominic's Church (joined by St Dominic's Primary Grade 4 classes)	23 Baptisms: 11am & 12.15pm 6pm Vigil Mass	24 PALM SUNDAY 9am, 11am & 5pm Sunday Masses
25	26	27 9.15am Mass at St Dominic's Church	28 MAUNDY THURSDAY 9.15am Mass at St Dominic's Church 7.30pm Mass of the Supper of the Lord Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 10pm	29 GOOD FRIDAY 10.30am Stations of the Cross 11am Individual Reconciliation 3pm Celebration of the Passion of the Lord	30 HOLY SATURDAY 10.30am Blessing of the Food 10.45am Individual Reconciliation 7.30pm Easter Vigil Mass	31 EASTER SUNDAY 9am & 11am Sunday Masses Please note: there is no 5pm Mass

BAPTISM INFORMATION EVENING

The next Baptism Information Night will be held at
7.30pm Wednesday March 20 at St Catherine of Siena Church

Parish Thanksgiving

If you would like to make either a one-off donation or to set up recurring donations to the parish, especially during this Lenten season, please scan the QR code below or head directly to the Donate page on our website:



TINYURL.COM/GIVEMELTON

You may also like to use the Smart Terminal at the welcome desk to tap & give with your card or smart device to contribute to the Parish.

Prime Timers March Outing

Tuesday 26th March at The Sugargum Hotel
(2 Gourlay Rd, Hillside)

Meeting at the OLD Bunnings car park at 11.30am.
If you require a lift, that can be arranged. RSVP Friday 22nd March to confirm numbers. Enquiries: Ineke 0400120401 or ineke49@yahoo.com

Just graduated and heading onto Campus?

The years spent studying at university are a unique time for building lifelong friendships with other students and with Jesus Christ. To find out what is happening for Catholics on and around campus & get connected, scan the QR code or check out our website to get connected at uni:



UDISCIPLE.MELBOURNECATHOLIC.ORG

PLEASE RING THE MASS MANAGERS IF UNABLE TO ATTEND:

6 pm Tania Walters 0492 952 478
9 am Theo Franken 0411 040 897

11am Bruna Tomassi 9743 0341
5 pm Josephine Krajina 0407 042 133

5 th Sunday of Lent		Saturday & Sunday March 16 & 17, 2024		
MINISTERS OF:	6 PM	9 AM	11 AM	5 PM
Welcome	Bill McGuinness	Anne Stokie	Liz Coustley	Josephine Krajina
The Word	Manoj D'Silva	Vickie Cassar	Liza Fernandes	Janet Estradra
Responder	Manoj D'Silva	Jennifer Peters	Cira Cleary	Lesley Sosa-Ritchie
Presentation of Gifts	Robert Obtinalla	Karl Metha	Bruna Tomassi	Janet Estradra
Holy Communion	Kate Mulholland	Asther Creo	Lea Jacuta	Michael Higgins
PowerPoint Operator	Help needed	Sanyata Creo		Nina Ahmet
Gift Shop	Margaret Richards	Maureen Mohr	Lea Jacuta	Frank Unferdorben
Choir	Divine Mercy	Samoan Choir	Veritas Choir	Tongan Choir
Counters	Elizabeth Marshall, Jennifer Peters			

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord		Saturday & Sunday March 23 & 24, 2024		
MINISTERS OF:	6 PM	9 AM	11 AM	5 PM
Welcomer	Kate Mulholland	Asther Creo	Chelsea Amato	Frank Unferdorben
The Word	Tania Walters	Theo Franken	Lea Jacuta	Ismael Sosa -Sanchez
Responder	Daniel Walters	Alzira Mascarenhas	Liz Coustley	Michael Higgins
Presentation of Gifts	Tetchie Hadfield	Karl Metha	Chelsea Amato	Janet Estradra
Holy Communion	Robert Obtinalla	Vickie Cassar	Bruna Tomassi	Josephine Krajina
PowerPoint Operator	Kate Mulholland	Sanyata Creo	Adela Marinjira	Nina Ahmet
Gift Shop	Margaret Richards	Graham Dempsey	Lea Jacuta	Frank Unferdorben
Choir		Veneration Choir	St Anuarite Choir	Filipino Choir
Counters	Leslie Gordon, Elaine Neely, John Woof			



First Aid & Defibrillator is located in the Lay-Sacristy.

CHANGE OF MASS VENUE: APRIL 6 & 7

Masses on April 6 & 7 will be at St Dominic's Parish Hall on Unitt St, Melton, due to the closure of Bulmans Road both ways. Entry via Smith St or Unitt St, Melton.

God and Beer: From Divine Comedy to Divine Mercy

Monday 18th March

6.30pm dinner available for purchase

7.30pm for the talk

Notting Hill Hotel (Steakhouse Room)

260-262 Ferntree Gully Rd, Notting Hill, VIC



Come along to God and Beer in March to hear the inspiring story of **John Canavan** who went from being an adult comedian to dedicating his life to sharing the Gospel message of Divine Mercy. He is a former professional comedian but there are a few things he doesn't find to be a laughing matter. Topping the list are spreading Divine Mercy, caring for his family & sharing about those who have inspired him.

God and Beer is an initiative of the Knights of the Southern Cross to bring together people of all ages from across the south-east suburbs of Melbourne each month. Our aim is to inspire and strengthen Christians by providing ideas and inspiration for renewing the Church by drawing on the truth, beauty & goodness of the Catholic tradition.

Cost: Free (donations gratefully accepted)

Register: GODANDBEER.COM.AU

NEW TO OUR PARISH?

Welcome!

Please collect a Welcome Pack from the Gathering Area of the church. Once census form is completed place it in the white return box in the Gathering Area.

MISSED OUT ON THE TIDINGS?

Back issues of the parish Tidings are available on our parish website: www.melbcatholic.org/melton



CLICK to VIEW
PREVIOUS BULLETINS



Would you like to receive

The Tidings prior to the weekend
Masses?



Email melton@cam.org.au requesting to join the mailing list for The Tidings or scan the QR code to subscribe on our website.

2024 HOLY WEEK & EASTER TRIDUUM TIMETABLE

St Catherine of Siena • 108 Bulmans Rd, Melton West

Wednesday

9:15am Daily Mass (St Dominic's Church)

Maundy Thursday

9:15am Daily Mass (St Dominic's Church)

7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 10pm

Good Friday

10:30am Stations of the Cross

11:00am Reconciliation

3:00pm Celebration of the Passion of the Lord

Holy Saturday

10:30am Blessing of the Food

10:45am Reconciliation

7:30pm Easter Vigil Mass

Easter Sunday

9:00am Mass

11:00am Mass

Please note: no 5pm Mass

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend

Couples from Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME) will be speaking at Sunday morning masses this weekend to invite you to a **MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER Weekend on 12-14 April 2024 at St Paul's Retreat Centre in Wantirna to "Live Your Best Married Life in Love."**

This weekend gives married couples time to nurture your relationship and some tools to keep passion alive in a gentle, supportive environment, away from pressures and distractions of daily living. The weekend is based around Catholic values and couples of all faiths are welcome. Every married couple deserves a Marriage Encounter weekend—BOOK NOW!

Please check our website for more details at:

WWME.ORG.AU, email vicbooking@wwme.org.au or call Mercy & James on 0409 183 676.

SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.

In the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne, the safety and wellbeing of all persons is of highest priority.

HOME VISITATION & BLESSING REQUESTS

For Home Visitation & Blessing requests, please speak to Deacon Chris safter Mass or fill out the online request form:

<https://tinyurl.com/HBlessing>

PARISH BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Announcements & Notices: Please submit your announcement or notices not later than 5pm every Wednesday. Bulletin notices are normally retained in **The Tidings** for two weekends. Notices and announcements submitted after the deadline will be considered for publication on the following weekend.



First Aid & Defibrillator is located in the Lay-Sacristy.