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www.melbocatholic.org/s/werribee
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PARISH TEAMS

Clergy

Fr. Albert Yogarajah PP
Fr. James Baptist
Fr. Martin Adichilamackal
Rev. Deacon William Daw

Pastoral Worker

Kemp Vinson

Home Based RE Coordinator

Benita Ediriwickrema

Finance:

Natascha Eve Klein

Administration:

Cora Ilagan

Tamil Chaplain

Fr. Anton Aseervathampillai

South Sudanese Chaplain

Fr. Stephen Kumyangi

Assistant Chaplain

Rev. Deacon William Daw
9741 4144

PARISH SCHOOLS

St. Andrew's Primary

School – Ph. 9741 3686

Principal: Melissa
Evgeniadis

Corpus Christi Primary

School – Ph. 9741 8440

Principal: Adele Vesty

Bethany Primary School

– Ph. 9742 9800

Principal: Joanne Webster

Our Lady of the

Southern Cross Primary

School – Ph. 9974 8500

Principal: Justin Hilton

St. John the Apostle PS

Tarneit West -

Ph. 8754 4300

Principal: Simon Dundon

St. Joseph Primary

School – 8742 3381

Principal: Troy Rickard

MacKillop Catholic

Regional College –

Ph. 8734 5200

Principal: Chris Caldow

Thomas Carr Catholic

Regional College -

Ph. 8734 2444

Principal: Rose Connolly



ST. ANDREW'S PARISH

Incorporating the Communities of
Werribee Central, Wyndham Vale, Werribee South,
Werribee North,
Tarneit West, Upper Point Cook
and Little River

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A – 7TH AND 8TH MARCH 2026

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we stand, the Wathaurong People. We pay our respects to them for their care of the land. May we walk gently and respectfully upon the land.

FIRST READING: *A reading from the book of Exodus (Exodus 17:3-7)*

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?' **THE WORD OF THE LORD.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *Psalm 94:1-2. 6-9.*

Response: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

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.

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.

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.'

Response: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

SECOND READING: *A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans (Romans 5:1-2, 5-8) (shorter version)*

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 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. **THE WORD OF THE LORD.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

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: *A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (John 4:5-15, 19-26, 39-42) (shorter version)*

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

*** GOSPEL CONTINUES ON THE NEXT PAGE ***

St. Andrew's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.

Gospel continue: 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.' **THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD.**



GOSPEL REFLECTION: The Israelites' hearts were hardened by their hardships in the desert. Though they saw His mighty deeds, in their thirst they grumbled and put God to the test in today's First Reading a crisis point recalled also in today's Psalm. Jesus is thirsty, too, in today's Gospel. He thirsts for souls (see John 19:28). He longs to give the Samaritan woman the living waters that well up to eternal life. These waters couldn't be drawn from the well of Jacob, father of the Israelites and the Samaritans. But Jesus was something greater than Jacob (see Luke 11:31–

32). The Samaritans were Israelites who escaped exile when Assyria conquered the Northern Kingdom eight centuries before Christ (see 2 Kings 17:6, 24–41). They were despised for intermarrying with non-Israelites and worshipping at Mount Gerizim, not Jerusalem. But Jesus tells the woman that the "hour" of true worship is coming, when all will worship God in Spirit and truth. Jesus' "hour" is the "appointed time" that Paul speaks of in today's Epistle. It is the hour when the Rock of our salvation was struck on the Cross. Struck by the soldier's lance, living waters flowed out from our Rock (see John 19:34–37). These waters are the Holy Spirit (see John 7:38–39), the gift of God (see Hebrews 6:4). By the living waters the ancient enmities of Samaritans and Jews have been washed away, and the dividing wall between Israel and the nations is broken down (see Ephesians 2:12–14, 18). Since His hour, all may drink of the Spirit in Baptism (see 1 Corinthians 12:13). In the Eucharist, the Lord now is in our midst as He was at the Rock of Horeb and at the well of Jacob. In the "today" of our Liturgy, He calls us to believe: "I am He," come to pour out the love of God into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. How can we continue to worship as if we don't understand? How can our hearts remain hardened? **Scott Hahn**

PRAYER AT HOME: Use today's response to the psalm as your prayer this week: ***If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.***

VOCATION VIEW: Only the Lord can give true living water, fullness of life. Our body cannot survive without water; our spirit cannot survive without living water. Now is the time to renew our lives in the waters and Spirit of Baptism.

RECENT DEATH: Angelo Luigi Menegazzo, Cosimo Nave, Maya Solian

DEATH ANNIVERSARY: Catherine Mau Tran, Joseph Domingo, Susana De Castro, Maria and Erhard Eisele

PRAYER FOR THE SICK: Nimal Pandithakoralege, Yvan Mamedy, John Hassett, Julie Horkings

To add or renew names for the Prayer for the Sick, please complete a Mass offering envelope and return it to the parish office. Envelopes are available in the church brochure racks or at the parish office. Names will be kept on the list for two months.

REMINDER: Parishioners are asked to note that requests for Recently Deceased, Anniversaries, and similar intentions to be included in the Prayers of the Faithful must clearly indicate the date and time of the Mass you will be attending for the name to be mentioned. All requests must be received at the Parish Office no later than Wednesday afternoon, and Mass offering envelopes should be addressed to Administration. Envelopes are available in the church brochure racks or at the parish office



CALLING ALL ALTAR SERVERS!!!

There will be a training for all Altar Servers on Friday, 13th March 2026 at 8.00pm in the church to serve on Holy Week Masses. Parents, please encourage your child/children to this great opportunity to serve the Lord at the altar. Only those who attend will be rostered for Holy Week Masses. New Altar Servers (those who have received their First Holy Communion) are welcome to join. Thank you and see you all there. Fr. Albert and Fr. Martin

ST. ANDREW'S PARISH RECONCILIATION FOR LENT

There will be a Reconciliation Service followed by individual confession on **Tuesday, 24th March 2026 at 7.00pm in the church.** Please take this opportunity to have your confession before holy week.

WEEKDAY LITURGY (9th to 14th March 2026)

Mon: *Communion Service with Liturgy*

Tues: 9.00am Mass

Wed: 9.00am Mass

Thurs: 9.00am Mass

Fri: 9.00am Mass followed by Stations of the Cross
7.00pm Stations of the Cross followed by Mass

Sat: 9.00am Mass

WEEKEND MASSES (14th and 15th March 2026)

Sat: 6.00pm Vigil Mass

Sun: 8.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am and 5pm Mass

10.00am Wyndham Vale Community Mass at
Our Lady of Southern Cross Primary School

TO ALL MINISTERS OF THE WORD AND EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST.

We are seeking some volunteers for the Holy week celebrations. Clipboards will be available at the front of the altar for those interested qualified parishioners. Holy Week Minsters of the Word and Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist - Thursday 26 March 7.00pm St Andrew's church. All ministers who are selected/volunteered for tasks during Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday are required to attend an Information night session to confirm their attendance and willingness to perform tasks and to clarify those tasks over the Holy Week period. Thank you. Peter Walters

Wyndham Vale Catholic Community

COMMUNITY MASS

Our Lady of the Southern Cross

2/20 Howqua Way, Manor Lakes

Sunday March

16

10am

ALL
WELCOME

Mass will be followed
by fellowship. Please
bring a plate of food to
share with your fellow
parishioners



ST. ANDREW'S PARISH

"Big Enough To Serve And Small Enough To Care."
werribee@cam.org.au



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 2026. 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 at melbournecatholic.org/synod2026. 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)

ROSTERS FOR THE WEEK 8th – 16th March 2026

	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am	11.00am	5.00pm
LECTORS 15 th / 16 th Mar	Desiree Galea	Darren Giese	Rita Edrmu	Grace Iaria	Young Adult Group
MUSIC 15 th / 16 th Mar	St. Carlo's Choir	St. Anthony's Choir	St. Andrew's Choir	Volunteer	Young Adult Group
Communion Minister 15 th / 16 th Mar	Anson John Desiree Galea	Lillian Jilbert Jude Disanayaka Anna Obieta	Maria Malanyaon Titus Lizardo Jen Climie	Anthony Acciarito Grace Iaria Dominic Thiep	Maria Parba Susanne Sweeny Sindhu Moreira
COMMUNION SERVICE (MONDAY)		This week: Next week:	Mon 9 Mar: Mon 16 Mar:	J. Hennessy C. Ilagan	
CLEANER		Cleaning: Vacuuming:	Mon 9 Mar: Fri 13 Mar: Mon 9 Mar:	M. Tong, N. Chol A. Ucala, R. Nykuy Volunteer	
ALTAR CLOTH		This week: Next week:	Sun 8 Mar: Sun 15 Mar:	O. Lesoa C. Ilagan	
OUR LADY'S STATUE		This week: Next week:	Sun 8 Mar: Sun 15 Mar:	Jodie Siu Jodie Siu	

FOR MORE INFORMATION OF WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE PARISH, PLEASE SEE FLYERS ON THE NOTICE BOARD.

The Wyndham Vale Catholic Community
(incorporating Manor Lakes, Bluestone,
Harpley, Jubilee, Mambourin)

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

6:30 PM | FRIDAY, 27 MARCH 2026
2-20 HOWQUA WAY MANOR LAKES, VIC 3024



Our Lady of the Southern Cross Primary School

Everyone is welcome to join us!

WORKING BEE TO PREPARE FOR HOLY WEEK

Let us all come together once again
on **Saturday, 28th March 2026**
after the 9.00am Mass to prepare our
church for Holy Week.

**This is our church, let us take care of it
and prepare it for the Lord and for all of us.**



EL SHADDAI PRAYER GROUP - for the coming weeks from
Tuesday 24th February to Tuesday 31st March, El Shaddai
Prayer Group is running a LENTEN program. We will be
reflecting on the Sunday scripture readings, using excellent
resources put out annually by the Diocese of Wollongong.
Lenten Program – Catholic Diocese of Wollongong Booklets
are provided. All are welcome to join us. **TUESDAYS 1pm -
2:30pm** followed by tea and coffee. Penola Hub 33 Mortimer
St. Werribee.

RINNOVAMENTO NELLO SPIRITO SANTO: ricorda che il
nostro gruppo di preghiera continua ogni Mercoledì dalle ore
10am alle 12.00pm nella Penola Hub, 33 Mortimer Street,
Werribee. Tutti benvenuti.

DIVINE MERCY GROUP - is on every Friday, after
the 9am Mass in the church. Everyone is welcome

ST MARTHA OF BETHANY CAMPUS - As many of you will
be aware, we have been working towards opening a new
campus of Bethany-St Martha of Bethany in Tarneit. We are
incredibly excited about this new campus and what it will
mean for our community. Originally it was to open in 2027,
however the statutory planning permit process is taking
longer than anticipated-as they often do-and as a result, we
will now open in 2028. Families living within the catchment
area remain fully eligible to enrol at Bethany Catholic Primary
School and will have the opportunity to transition to St
Martha's campus once it opens. There are many positives to
the delayed timeframe, including the ability to lengthen the
schedule for the build, which we will hopefully commence
before the end of the year, as well as providing time and
opportunity to plan carefully for this addition to Bethany and
our own St Mary of Bethany Campus. Our commitment
continues to be to providing the best learning facilities to
meet the educational needs of students and thriving
communities now and for the future. We look forward to
sharing further updates with you on this in due course.

**SAINT JOSEPH
MEN'S DINNER**

In honour of the Solemnity of
St. Joseph, you are invited to join
men from around Melbourne for
Holy Mass, fraternity and a meal.

WHO
Men aged 18+ (young men aged 15-17
may attend with their fathers).
Dress Code: Semi-Formal

WHEN
Thursday 19th March 2026
• 6.30pm - Holy Mass
• 7.30pm - Dinner

WHERE
St Catherine of Siena Catholic Church
• 28 College Street, Caroline Springs VIC
Dinner Location: WestWaters
• 10/20 Lake Street, Caroline Springs VIC

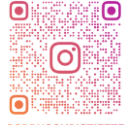
RSVP
Please RSVP by Thursday 12th March

Entertainment
John "Percy" Canavan

Keynote
Mark Wolfenden



CORPUS CHRISTI PRIMARY SCHOOL will be holding its inaugural Easter Fete
on Saturday 28th March from 11:00am-4:00pm. All are welcome. There will be
rides, food stalls, fairy floss, singing and dancing, games and plenty of fun for the
whole family."

CORPUSCHRISTIFETE

PRAYER OF WELCOME BEFORE BAPTISM - Dear Parents, as you prepare for your child's Baptism, the
people of St. Andrew's rejoice that you have chosen to baptize your child, and we pray that in the coming
years you and your family will continue to know and grow in the love of God that is everlasting.

f We now have an official parish Facebook page: St. Andrew's Catholic Parish, Werribee. This will be used
to post announcements and other events in our parish. Please like and share our page.

St. Andrew's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.