



THE TIDINGS

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



We are committed to upholding the safety and wellbeing of each child and young person, and endeavour to provide a caring and supportive environment in our Church.

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR A - December 21, 2025

CLERGY

Parish Priest: FR ALEX CLEMENTE, RCJ

Assistant Priest: FR WILFORD URMZA, RCJ

Assistant Priest: FR JEFFREY SALVADOR, RCJ

Parish Deacon: DCN CRIS CREO

Email: Cristopher.Creo@cam.org.au

OFFICE

10 Unitt Street, MELTON, VIC 3337

Postal Address: PO Box 96, MELTON, VIC 3337

Phone: 03 9743 6515

Email: melton@cam.org.au

Website: melbcatholic.org/melton

Facebook: facebook.com/catholicparishmelton

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9.15am - 4.45pm

We are **closed** on Mondays, weekends
and public holidays.

STAFF & SAFEGUARDING COORDINATOR

Parish Secretary: WILMA CHUA (Tues - Fri)

Finance Manager: LORRAINE STAFFORD (Mon & Tues)

Email: finance.melton@cam.org.au

Safeguarding Coordinator: LIZ COUSTLEY

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

MASS CENTRES & MASS TIMES

St Catherine of Siena Church, Melton West

108 Bulmans Road, Melton West, VIC 3337

- **Saturday** 6pm (Vigil Mass)
- **Sunday** 9am, 11am & 5 pm
- **Wednesday Mass** 9.15 am
(no Mass during school holidays at St Catherine's Church)

St Dominic's Church, Melton

Church St, Melton, VIC 3337

- **Thursday & Friday** 9.15 am
(no Mass on public holidays)

CONFESSION

St Catherine of Siena Church

Saturday: 5.45 pm | Sunday: 4.45 pm

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED

SACRAMENT & ROSARY

St Dominic's Church

- **Thursday** following the 9.15 am Mass

SCHOOLS IN OUR PARISH

ST DOMINIC'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Address: Church Street, Melton, VIC 3337

+61 3 9743 6225 | enquiries@sdmelton.catholic.edu.au

ST CATHERINE OF SIENA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Address: 108 Bulmans Road, Melton West, VIC 3337

+61 3 9743 2166 | info@scmeltonwest.catholic.edu.au

ST FRANCIS CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Melton West Campus (Year 7-12): 109-141 Bulmans Rd,
Melton West

Cobblebank Campus (Year 7-9): Bridge Rd, Cobblebank

+61 3 8099 6000 | info@sfcc.vic.edu.au

Reflection by Fr. Wilford Urmaza, RCJ

Emmanuel: God-with-us (Fourth Sunday of Advent Mt 1:18-24)

The prophet Isaiah spoke a profound proclamation about a virgin who would conceive and bear a son and would name him Emmanuel. This name did not pop up randomly because at the time, in the land of Judah, people were in a crisis situation. They needed someone to console them about their adversity, as their leader, King Ahaz, was facing threats from their enemies. God had to intervene by giving them the assurance of His abiding presence and deliverance, pointing to a child who embodies protection and presence.

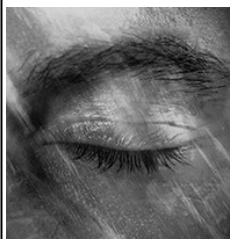
And so, this name resonated from that time on until this contemporary time, and a foreshadowing of the past was revealed at Incarnation. God-with-us is a profession of belief that He is present in all circumstances to His beloved at all times in history from the time of His birth, passion, death, and resurrection until today, where His presence is adored in the Eucharist.

But what does this name mean for us?

It evokes a deeper meaning in our existence, identity, and salvation. We exist because God willed it so: to gather people to Himself to be in communion with Him for all eternity. He created us for a purpose and a mission, and we shall carry His identity as the true sons and daughters and bring salvation to humanity tainted with sins.

What should be our proper response to this reassurance of His presence?

God, in his sheer goodness, will always discover a way to make his presence felt, not only in times of victory or abundance but even in the darkest hour of our lives. Only then do we encounter peace,



peace that only He could give, not the world, not material things nor fame, but a living God in the Sacraments and His people.

This profound connection calls us to deepen our faith and trust in His plan. In embracing this divine presence, we find strength to navigate our struggles and the grace to support one another along our spiritual journeys.



Entrance Antiphon

Drop down dew from above, you heavens,
and let the clouds rain down the Just One;
let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

First Reading *Isa 7:10-14*

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No', Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.'

Then Isaiah said:

'Listen now, House of David:
are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men
without trying the patience of my God, too?
The Lord himself, therefore,
will give you a sign.
It is this: the maiden is with child
and will soon give birth to a son
whom she will call Immanuel,
a name which means "God-is-with-us"'

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory .

1. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm. **(R.)**
2. Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things. **(R.)**
3. He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob. **(R.)**

Second Reading *Rom 1:1-7*

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures.

This news is about the Son of God, who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

A virgin will give birth to a son;
his name will be Emmanuel: God is with us.
- *Alleluia!*

Gospel *Mat 1:18-24*

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son
and they will call him Emmanuel,

a name which means 'God-is-with-us'.
When Joseph woke up he did what the
angel of the Lord had told him to do: he
took his wife to his home.



Communion Antiphon

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son;
and his name will be called Emmanuel.

Next Week's Readings:

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 Col 3:12-21 Mat 2:13-15, 19-23

Remembering Death Anniversaries:

Lily Zammit, Alan Cole, Nickolas Xerri, Maria Mc Intyre, Monsignor Francis McGuire, Imelda Rolloda, Carmel McGuinness, Meril Motha, Josephine Gray, Thomas Connor, Ryder Finn, Michael Schembri, Julianna Nonicki, Kazimierz Nonicki, Guzepp Haber, Albert Gil Estrada, Ann O'Brien, Laurie Mc Knight, Joan Curtin, Cefferina Porcalla, William Leauepe, Elina Jazz, Sonila Vague, Bill Winter, Patrick Conway, Rogelio Oropesa, David Naves, Lina Tovia, Tovia Muagutotia, Mikaele F, Alejandro Gomez, John Douglas Anderson, Catherine Hanrahan, Geoffrey Barker, Darren Frain, Roberto Bascuña Jr., Charlu Snr. Chua

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Parousya Faith app to automatically check-in when they arrive at their parish, receive the Day's Readings, and make a quick, simple, and secure donation using their Apple Wallet, all without registering an account and anonymously. *Download App now*



**Would you like to receive
The Tidings before the weekend?**

Head to our website and subscribe to The Tidings or simply scan the QR code to enter your email to receive a digital copy.



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



The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the *faith* you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of *charity* enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed *hope*
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the
seeds of the Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within
both humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen.

Franciscus



St Vincent de Paul Christmas Hampers

A heartfelt thank you to the Melton Parish community for their generous donations to the Christmas Giving Tree. Yesterday, our volunteers collated the hampers and were delighted to prepare 22 Christmas hampers, along with several additional bags, to be delivered to families within our local community.

Each laundry basket was overflowing with Christmas essentials and festive treats, including Christmas crackers, serviettes, Christmas puddings, Christmas cakes, and a variety of canned goods.

We also extend our sincere thanks to the members of the *Knights of the Southern Cross* for their generous donation of all the laundry baskets. Your support, generosity, and spirit of giving have truly helped make Christmas brighter for many families.



PLEASE RING THE MASS MANAGER IF UNABLE TO ATTEND AND PERFORM YOUR ROSTERED DUTY



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

11am Lea Jacuta 0414 390 151
5 pm Josephine Krajina 0407 042 133

Fourth Sunday of Advent Year A

Saturday & Sunday December 20 & 21, 2025

MINISTERS OF:	6 PM	9 AM	11 AM	5 PM
Welcome	Tania Walters	Asther Creo	Amy Jacuta	Frank Unferdorben
The Word	Maria Prasetyono	Lawrence Camenzuli	Cira Cleary	Janet Estrada
Responder	Tania Walters	Theo Franken	Liz Coustley	Frank Unferdorben
Presentation of Gifts	Robert Obtinalla	Karl Metha	Amy Jacuta	Elainne de los Santos
Holy Communion	Kate Mulholland	Asther Creo	Liz Coustley	Josephine Krajina
PowerPoint Operator	James Taniman	Faith Tuputala	Daniella Ahmet	Nina Ahmet
Gift Shop	Kate Mulholland	Anne Stokie	Lea Jacuta	Josephine Krajina
Choir	Divine Mercy	Samoan Choir	Veritas Choir	Tongan Choir
Counters	Elizabeth Marshall, Jennifer Peters			

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Wednesday, December 24

Thursday, Dec 25

NEW YEAR'S DAY JAN 1

MINISTERS OF:	6 PM	8 PM No Deacon Cris	10 PM No Deacon Cris	10 AM	11 AM
Mass Manager	Tania Walters	Tania Walters	Josephine Krajina	Liz Coustley	Josephine Krajina
Welcomer	Margaret Richards	Josephine Krajina	Maria Abela	Liz Coustley	Liz Coustley
The Word	Josephine Krajina	Lea Jacuta	Josephine Krajina	Jennifer Peters	Tetchie Hadfield
Responder	Lesley Sosa-Ritchie	Josephine Krajina	Tania Walters	Cira Cleary	Lorraine Stafford
Presentation of Gifts	Tania Walters	Josephine Krajina	Maria Abela	Liz Coustley	Josephine Krajina
Holy Communion	Ismael Sosa-Sanchez Fr Jeff	Josephine Krajina Lea Jacuta Fr Jeff	Josephine Krajina Tania Walters Fr Jeff	Liz Coustley	Josephine Krajina
PowerPoint Operator	Kate Mulholland	Tania Walters	Daniella Ahmet	Vickie Cassar	Liz Coustley
Choir	Tongan Choir	No Choir	Filipino Choir	Veritas Choir	Filipino Choir

Holy Family, Jesus, Mary & Joseph Year A

Saturday & Sunday December 27 & 28, 2025

MINISTERS OF:	6 PM	9 AM	11 AM	5 PM
Welcome	Margaret Richards	Karl Metha	Amy Jacuta	Josephine Krajina
The Word	Tetchie Hadfield	Jennifer Peters	Lea Jacuta	Lesley Sosa-Ritchie
Responder	Tania Walters	Alzira Mascarenhas	Liz Coustley	Ismael Sosa-Sanchez
Presentation of Gifts	Robert Obtinalla	Karl Metha	Amy Jacuta	Elainne de los Santos
Holy Communion	Tania Walters	Theo Franken	Liz Coustley	Josephine Krajina
PowerPoint Operator	Kate Mulholland	Faith Tuputala	Choir	Nina Ahmet
Gift Shop	Margaret Richards	Anne Stokie	Lea Jacuta	Frank Unferdorben
Choir	Divine Mercy	Veneration Choir	St Anuarite Choir	Filipino Choir
Counters	Karl Metha, Anne Stokie, Maureen Mohr			



St Anthony of Padua Melton South WANT TO WIN A CAR for \$25? Last Chance

1st Prize: MG ZS value \$28,799



2nd : Travel Voucher value \$3,000

3rd : Apple Mac Book value \$1,699

4th : Apple iPhone 16 value \$1,399

5th Prize : Apple Watch value \$649

"every day somewhere in the world the nativity scene is alive."



November 2025 Envelopes

Raised about \$3, 500.00

money went to Rogationist

Mission Project 2025

Housing for the

Poor, Pasay City

Philippines.

Thank you very much for
your generosity.

Knights of the Southern Cross—JP Mitchell Fund

Short Term Financial Assistance for people in need in the Parish
for Application Form contact +61448398344 or email
lcamenzu@bigpond.net.au or

SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.

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

PARISH OFFERTORY GIVING

If you would like to make a **one-off donation**, set up
recurring donations to the parish,
or **request a payment report**,
please scan the QR code or head
to our website: [TINYURL.COM/
GIVEMELTON](https://tinyurl.com/GIVEMELTON)



You may also like to use the Smart
Terminal at the welcome desk to
contribute to the Parish.

Weekend Mass Times: Saturday 6pm Sunday 9am, 11am & 5pm

DECEMBER 2025

Wednesday, 24th	NO 9:15am Mass: St Catherine of Siena Church
Thursday, 25th	NO 9:15am Mass: St Dominic's Church
Friday, 26th	NO 9:15am Mass: St Dominic's Church
Wednesday, 31st	NO 9:15am Mass: St Catherine of Siena Church

JANUARY 2026

Thursday, 1st	NO 9:15am Mass: St Dominic's Church
Friday, 2nd	NO 9:15am Mass: St Dominic's Church
Wednesday, 7th	NO 9:15am Mass: St Catherine of Siena Church
Thursday, 8th	NO 9:15am Mass: St Dominic's Church
Friday, 9th	NO 9:15am Mass: St Dominic's Church



Christmas 2025 Mass Times

St Catherine of Siena Church, West Melton

Dec 15-23	Christmas Novena Masses	8 pm
Dec 24	Christmas Vigil Family Mass	6 pm
	Christmas Vigil Mass	8 pm
	Late Evening Mass (no midnight Mass)	10 pm
Dec 25	Christmas Day Mass	10am
	Christmas Day African Mass	2 pm

Christmas Carols will begin 30 minutes before Christmas Vigil and
Christmas Day Masses

New Year's Day Mass (Jan 1, 2026)



*Mary, Solemnity of Mary,
Holy Mother of God*

11am St Catherine of Siena Church



**The Parish of Melton Office will be
Closed for the Holidays
from 24 December 2025
Till Monday, 5 January 2026**



**PARISH OFFERTORY GIVING
November Update
Pledged: \$5,132.50
Actual: \$4,185.42**



Thank

The Smart Terminal is operating and available again.
It is now situated on the table by the wall in the
Gathering Area of the church. You can tap & give
with your card or smart device to support the Parish.



PARISH BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Announcements & Notices: Please submit your announcement or notices no 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.