

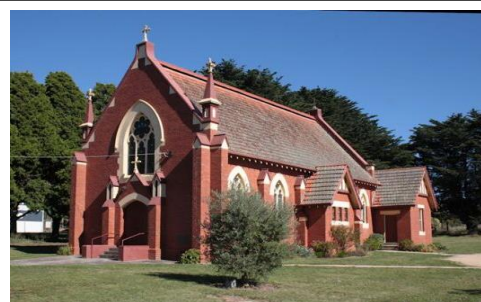
WELCOME TO THE CATHOLIC PARISH'S OF ST AMBROSE WOODEND & ST MARY'S LANCEFIELD AND ROMSEY



ST AMBROSE
18 Templeton Street
Woodend



ST MARY'S
(Our Lady of Lourdes)
27 Chauncey St Lancefield



ST MARY'S
(Immaculate Conception)
85 Main St Romsey

Fourth Sunday of Lent - Year C

30th March, 2025

Mass Times

Weekend

Saturday 5pm Woodend, 6.30pm Lancefield

Sunday 9am 1st & 3rd Romsey, 2nd, 4th and 5th Lancefield, 11am Woodend

Weekday

Tuesday 6pm Woodend followed by the Rosary

Wednesday 9.30am Woodend and Lancefield

Thursday 9.30am Woodend and Romsey

Friday 9.30am Woodend and 9:30am Lancefield

Reconciliation

Woodend: 2nd Saturday of the month 10am-10.30am. Lancefield 3rd Sunday of the month 10am-10.30am

Healing Mass

Romsey: 1st Saturday of the month 10am – Rosary begins at 9:30am

Parish Staff

Parish Priest: Fr John Healy 47 Urquart St Woodend. Ph: 03 54272690 Mobile: 0439 033 750.

Email: john.healy@cam.org.au

Assistant Priest: Fr Brian Muling 27 Chauncey St Lancefield. Ph 03 54292130

Email: brian.muling@cam.org.au

Parish Secretary Woodend: Bernadette Petrucci 47 Urquart St Woodend. Ph: 03 54272690.

Email: bernadette.petrucci@cam.org.au

Parish Secretary Lancefield: Tammie Dalgleish 27 Chauncey Lancefield. Ph 03 54292130.

Email: lancefield@cam.org.au

Office Hours

Woodend Monday 9am - 4pm & Friday 9am - 4pm

Lancefield Wednesday 8am - 5pm & Friday 8am - 5pm

Websites

Woodend: www.stambrosewoodend.com.au

Lancefield: www.melbcatholic.org/s/lancefield

School Communities

St Ambrose Woodend Principal: Bronwyn Phillips Ph 03 54271285.

Email office@sawoodend.catholic.edu.au Website: www.stambrose.catholic.au

St Mary's Lancefield Principal: Gabe Agius Ph 03 54291359.

Email office@smlancefield.catholic.edu.au Website: www.smlancefield.catholic.edu.au

Child Protection

We hold the care, safety and well-being of children and all vulnerable people as a central and fundamental responsibility for our community.

Diocesan Polices are available at www.melbournecatholic.org.au

The Living Word

Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year C

First Reading

Joshua 5:9-12

The people of God went to the promised land and there kept the passover.

The Lord said to Joshua, ‘Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.’

The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 33:2-7. R. v.9

(R.) *Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. (R.)
2. Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us praise his name.
I sought the Lord and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free. (R.)
3. Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called; the Lord heard him
and rescued him from all his distress. (R.)

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

God reconciled us to himself through Christ.

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God’s work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on his reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men’s faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ’s name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 15:18

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

I will rise and go to my Father and tell him:

Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Your brother here was dead and has come to life.

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. ‘This man’ they said ‘welcomes sinners and eats with them.’ So he spoke this parable to them:

‘A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, “Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me.” So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

‘When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, “How many of my father’s paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants.” So he left the place and went back to his father.

‘While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son.” But the father said to his servants, “Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found.” And they began to celebrate.

‘Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. “Your brother has come” replied the servant “and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound.” He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, “Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening.”

‘The father said, “My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.”’

The Gospel of the Lord.

EVERYONE WELCOME

Ministry	29/03/25 6:30pm	30/03/25 9am	05/04/25 10am Healing	05/04/25 6:30pm	06/04/25 9am
Musician	Rosalie	Agnes	-----	Rosalie	Christine
Reader	Joan	Eloise	John	Leanne	Eileen
Collector	<i>Vol req</i>	Gerard	-----	<i>Vol req</i>	Tim
Cleaner	-----	Leanne	-----	-----	Anthea
Location	. LF	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 Cheney, Kath Ireland & Brendan Coburn.

MYSTERY OF FAITH

We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection
until you come again.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL – RESPONSE: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

R: We pray for ourselves and the special needs of all in our parish community. We pray for those who are sick, especially **Bp Terry Curtin** – 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 and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially **James & Catherine McCarthy**. Give strength and peace to their souls.

All	HAIL MARY
CELEBRANT	FINAL CLOSING PRAYER
All	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.



Collections last week	Presbytery \$664	Thanksgiving \$1150
	1 st collection: Presbytery & Priest	2 nd collection: Thanksgiving (envelope)

Next week's readings: Isaiah 43:16-21; Philippians 3:8-14; John 8:1-11

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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
Monica Tomlinson

Baptism

As arranged with the Parish Secretary on the 4th Sunday of the month

Marriages

Arranged by appointment with at least 6 months' notice. Please contact parish office.

Funerals

Contact Fr. John directly.
Contact Fr. Brian 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

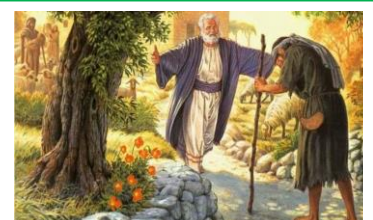
St. Mary's Parish community warmly welcomes visitors and new parishioners. We invite new parishioners to introduce yourself to Fr. John/Fr. Brian, fill in a census card located in the church foyer and place in either collection or contact Tammie directly at the parish office.

Volunteering Ministries

A current Working with Children Check is required to volunteer within the parish.

Help is always welcome!

Power Point operator at Mass
Reader of the Word
Church Cleaning & Gardening



This weekend 29th/30th of March.

As we have two priests in the parish and Fr Vincent from Gisborne needs help this weekend, Fr John will celebrate the four Masses in the Gisborne Parish and Fr Brian will celebrate our four weekend Masses.

HOLY WEEK TIMETABLE (see below)

Dear Friends,

As you may be aware, a move for Fr Brian is likely to happen very soon and this may affect our Holy Week Timetable. In the light of this I have set a Holy Week timetable that I can cover if I am on my own. If we are blessed to have Fr Brian with us for Easter we will still keep the same timetable and share the celebrations. Please see timetable below. Fr. John

EASTER SERVICES 2025

Wed April 9th – 7pm – Lenten Reconciliation – **Romsey**
Sun April 13th – 9am – Palm Sunday – **Lancefield**
Wed April 16th – 7pm – Lenten Reconciliation – **Woodend**
Thur April 17th – 6pm – Holy Thursday – **Lancefield**
Thur April 17th – 7:30pm – Holy Thursday – **Woodend**
Fri April 18th – 10am – Stations of the Cross – **Woodend**
Fri April 18th – 2pm – Good Friday Passion – **Lancefield**
Fri April 18th – 4pm – Good Friday Passion – **Woodend**
Sat April 19th – 5:30pm – Easter Vigil – **Romsey**
Sat April 19th – 7:30pm – Easter Vigil – **Woodend**
Sun April 20th – 9am – Easter Sunday – **Romsey**
Sun April 20th – 9am – Easter Sunday – **Woodend**
If Fr. Brian is not with us at Easter, Fr. Arnold has kindly offered to celebrate Easter Sunday Mass at Romsey.

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

ST MARY'S DROP IN

Thursday April 3rd – 10:30am – Romsey Parish Hall

HOLY HOUR

Friday April 4th – 7pm – Woodend Church

A time to gather, pray evening prayer, a time of quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, concluding with Benediction.

All Welcome!

HEALING MASS

Saturday April 5th – 10am – Romsey Church

FRIDAY WEEKDAY MASS

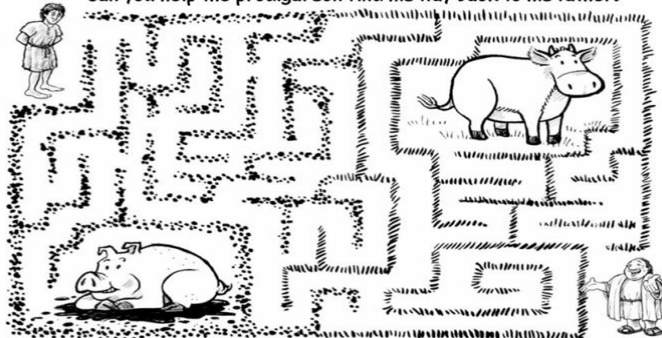
As from Friday 4th April, Friday Mass will permanently be held at 9:30am in Lancefield.

During the school term, if the school have a Mass scheduled it will be held as a separate event after the Parish Mass.

Please Note Changes to Weekday Mass Schedule

Wednesday 2nd April there is no morning Mass at Woodend.
Wednesday 9th April there is no morning Mass at Lancefield.

Can you help the prodigal son find his way back to his father?



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

TJ Scott & Son Funeral Directors

Kyneton 54226455 Gisborne 54284155 **Lancefield & Romsey**

75 years of care

Now also at 23 Sydney Street, Kilmore 57821112

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

CARITAS – PROJECT COMPASSION

Mite boxes and giving envelopes are
now available in church.

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.

**Do you have foot
problems?**



Andrew Baddeley | Podiatrist

ROMSEY | 5429 5254 | 99 Main St

RIDDELLS CREEK | 5428 7591 | 9 Station St

Light in the Desert

A LENTEN RESOURCE

Fourth Sunday in Lent, Year C

Revised New Jerusalem Bible © 2019 by Darton, Longman and Todd Ltd

The tax collectors and sinners, however, were all crowding round to listen to him, and the Pharisees and scribes complained saying, 'This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he told them this parable ... 'There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that will come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money in loose living ...

Then he came to his senses and said ... "I will get up and go to my father and say: 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired men.' So he got up and went back to his father.

While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him ... the father said to the servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf, and kill it; we will celebrate by having a feast, because this son of mine is dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." (Luke 15: 1-3, 11-13, 17-24).

Did you know?

Points of interest and Catholic lore.

The parable of the prodigal son encapsulates the journey of conversion and repentance, with the merciful Father at the centre: '... the fascination of illusory freedom, the abandonment of the father's house; the extreme misery in which the



The Prodigal Son, by John Macallan Swan (1888).

son finds himself after squandering his fortune; his deep humiliation at finding himself obliged to feed swine, and still worse, at wanting to feed on the husks the pigs ate; his reflection on all he has lost; his repentance and decision to declare himself guilty before his father; the journey back; the father's generous welcome; the father's joy—all these are characteristic of the process of conversion ... Only the heart of Christ Who knows the depths of his Father's love could reveal to us the abyss of his mercy in so simple and beautiful a way' (CCC §1439).

Exploring the faith

Another image that recurs throughout the Scriptures is the feast. Often, the Old Testament expresses Israel's hopes in the language of feasting. No matter what they faced, Israel was called again and again to put their trust in the Lord, to believe that no matter how dire things seemed he would lead them to a land of abundance, where their stomachs and their hearts would be full (cf. Jer 31:1-14).

The New Testament takes up this theme, speaking of 'the wedding feast of the Lamb' to which all people are invited at the end of time (Rev 19:9). Will we 'come to our senses' as the prodigal son did and rise to meet the heavenly Father who runs ahead to embrace and clothe us in the dignity of his household?

Vatican II's Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, *Sacrosanctum concilium*, invites us to look beyond the veil and see the heavenly feast of which we eat whenever we partake of the Eucharist.

Reading from *Sacrosanctum concilium*

2. For the liturgy, 'through which the work of our redemption is accomplished,' most of all in the divine sacrifice of the Eucharist, is the outstanding means whereby the faithful may express in their lives, and manifest to others, the mystery of Christ and the real nature of the true Church. It is of the essence of the Church that she be both human and divine, visible and yet invisibly equipped, eager to act and yet intent on contemplation, present in this world and yet not at home in it ... While the liturgy daily builds up those who are within into a holy temple of the Lord, into a dwelling place for God in the Spirit, to the mature measure of the fullness of Christ, at the same time it marvellously strengthens their power to preach Christ, and thus shows forth the Church to those who are outside as a sign lifted up among the nations under which the scattered children of God may be gathered together, until there is one sheepfold and one shepherd ...

8. In the earthly liturgy we take part in a foretaste of that heavenly liturgy which is celebrated in the holy city of Jerusalem toward which we journey as pilgrims, where Christ is sitting at the right hand of God, a minister of the holies and of the true tabernacle; we sing a hymn to the Lord's glory with all the warriors of the heavenly army; venerating the memory of the saints, we hope for some part and fellowship with them; we eagerly await the Saviour, Our Lord Jesus Christ, until He, our life, shall appear and we too will appear with Him in glory ...

9. The sacred liturgy does not exhaust the entire activity of the Church. Before men can come to the liturgy they must be called to faith and to conversion: 'How then are they to call upon him in whom they have not yet believed? But how are they to believe him whom they have not heard? And how are they to hear if no one preaches? And how are men to preach unless they be sent?' (Rom. 10:14-15). Therefore the Church announces the good tidings of salvation to those who do not believe, so that all men may know the true God and Jesus Christ whom He has sent, and may be converted from their

ways, doing penance. To believers also the Church must ever preach faith and penance, she must prepare them for the sacraments, teach them to observe all that Christ has commanded, and invite them to all the works of charity, piety, and the apostolate. For all these works make it clear that Christ's faithful, though not of this world, are to be the light of the world and to glorify the Father before men.

Questions

- » The parable of the prodigal son offers a vision of God the Father in striking terms. What stands out most to you about it? Have you ever experienced the love of the Father in a special way?
- » What stood out to you most from these passages in *Sacrosanctum concilium*? Why?
- » How are the sacrament of the Eucharist and penance connected? How might our prayer, fasting and almsgiving prepare us better to celebrate the liturgy?

Notes
