



St Paul Apostle Catholic Community

One Family

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<https://www.melbatholic.org/s/endeavourhills>



Third Sunday of LENT Year A, 7-8 March, 2026

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ Jesus,

My prayerful greetings to you in the Lord.

In recent years, the Church throughout the world has entered a time of attentive listening, discernment and renewal through what we have come to call a synodal way of being. Many of you have taken part in important moments of consultation and reflection: for the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia, for the Synod of Bishops on Synodality, and within our own Archdiocesan journey of renewal, *Take the Way of the Gospel*. Through these experiences you have generously embraced the call to walk more faithfully with Christ and with one another.

From the earliest times of the Church, gatherings of the faithful — which became known as synods (from the Greek *synodos*, meaning “journeying together” or “walking the same path”) — have met to discern important questions in the light of the Word of God and through attentive listening to the Holy Spirit. “Synodality” therefore, describes the way in which this journeying together takes place: the shared participation of the whole People of God in the life and mission of the Church.

Such a journey requires patience, humility and trust in the guidance of the Spirit. At its heart is a simple but profound discipline: to listen — to the Gospel, to the lived experience of our communities, and to the Spirit who speaks through God’s faithful people.

Across our Archdiocese there is a rich diversity of gifts and a deep desire for renewal. Many have expressed hopes for stronger communion, renewed missionary purpose, deeper formation, and a Church in which every person knows they belong. These are signs of the Spirit at work among us.

As your Archbishop, I carry these hopes with you. I am deeply grateful for the generosity and faith you have shown in walking this path together.

In light of these reasons, today, Sunday 8 March, I formally convoke a Synod for the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

The purpose of this Synod is to help shape our evangelical and missionary priorities for the years ahead. It will be a time for our local Church to listen attentively to the Holy Spirit and to discern how we are called to proclaim the Gospel more faithfully in our time and place.

I invite every parish, community, ministry and Catholic organisation across the Archdiocese to take part in this journey.

In the months ahead, you will be asked to gather in prayer, to listen to one another, and to reflect together on how the Lord is calling our Church to a renewed faith and fruitfulness.

This synodal journey will focus particularly on three themes I shared with you at the end of last year: **Young Discipleship; Missionary Leadership; and Formation and Participation**. As you reflect on these themes, I encourage you to ask some simple but important questions: *Where is the Holy Spirit leading our Archdiocese at this time? To whom are we being called to accompany in faith more intentionally? How might we reflect the face of Christ more clearly in our local Church?*

As we begin this journey, I entrust our Archdiocese to Mary, Mother of the Church. She pondered the mysteries of God in her heart and remained steadfast among the first disciples. May she guide us to be a Church that listens with faith, loves with generosity, and follows Christ with renewed confidence and hope.

With every grace and blessing, I remain,
Yours sincerely in Christ Jesus,
Most Rev Peter A Comensoli Archbishop of Melbourne

More information will be in this site <https://melbournecatholic.org/synod2026>

Masses

Monday
9am

Tuesday
9am Mass

Wednesday
7pm Mass

Thursday
9am Mass

Friday
9am Mass

Saturday
6pm Mass

Sunday
9am, 11am, 6pm

Reconciliation
Saturdays
10am—10.30am

Parish Priest:
Fr Brendan Connell CP

Assistant Parish Priest
Fr. Tuan Paul Anh-Do CP

Parish Staff:
Gillian Velupillay (Bursar)
Didi Karkas (Secretary)
Valerie Ferreira
(Safeguarding & Visitation)

St Paul Apostle North
Primary School
Ph. 9700 6068
Principal
Cathy Mason

St Paul Apostle South
Primary School
Ph. 9700 3663
Principal
Mr Paul Gleeson

St John's
Regional College
Ph. 9791 3366
Principal
Mr Tim Hogan

Readings for NEXT WEEK
Fourth Sunday of LENT Year A, 2026

First Reading

1 Samuel 16:1. 6-7. 10-13

A reading from the first book of Samuel
The Lord said to Samuel, Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons."
When the sons of Jesse came, Samuel looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as the human see; the human looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." Jesse sent and brought David in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome.
The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward.
The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters he restores my soul
He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.
Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil; for you are with me;
your rod and your staff— they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long

Second Reading

Ephesians 5:8-14

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians
Brothers and sisters,
Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light.
Live as children of light - for the fruit of the light is found
in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is

pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light.
Therefore it is said, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."
The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord,
whoever follows me will have the light of life
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel

John 9:1-41

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. He spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then the man who was blind went and washed, and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."
They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him.
This is the Gospel, the Good News of the Lord

Reflection

"Where am I blind in my life, and what areas of darkness do I need the light of Christ to enter this Lent?"
"Do I see myself and others through the eyes of faith, or only by external appearances?"

We are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.
St Paul Apostle safeguarding policies can be found on our website at
<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/endeavourhills> or in hardcopy in the Sacristy



THANKSGIVING ENVELOPE

There are still a few sets of envelopes which have not been picked up. One of them maybe what you have been looking & waiting for. You can find it in the gathering space. They are arranged in alphabetical order of the STREET NAME (not your name)
If you encounter any difficulties in finding them, please do not hesitate to approach a member of the parish team.
If you are not in this program yet, but wish to take part, please contact the parish office and we can give you all the necessary information

STATION OF THE CROSS

During Lent, we have Station of the Cross on FRIDAY EVENINGS at 7pm in the Church. It is lead by the Passionist Companion group. All are welcome to join us

2026 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN

The children in the Sacrament of Reconciliation program are continuing their journey with their classes at school (for those attending parish schools) or at After School Religious Education classes at parish office for those attending non parish schools).
Please remember the last Family Night for this program will be on **TUESDAY 10 MARCH at 7pm**. All candidates and one or both parents must attend this family Night.

Your Sacrament of Reconciliation service is on Tuesday, 17 March in the Church. Service time will be confirmed at the last family night

Reminder!!

Please also remember that if your child is in grade 6 and wishes to take part in the **2026 Sacrament of Confirmation**. You must hand in the registration form **BY THURSDAY, 1st APRIL 2026**. Even though the program will not commence until term three, we need to finalise the numbers by the 1st of April.

Also note that your child must have received both the sacrament of Reconciliation and the sacrament of First Communion in order to join the Sacrament of Confirmation program.

BINGO

Our Next parish Bingo is on **FRIDAY 20 March** at 7.30pm in the annexe. You can come on your own or in a group. For more information please contact Vianney 0438 700 675 or Joe 0419 385 441



GARDENING

In preparation for Holy Week, we are scheduling a **WORKING BEE** on **SATURDAY, 28 MARCH from 8.30am to 11am**. As the area of the Church is very big, we are asking for more volunteers to help us this time in order to cover the entire garden. Please come and help us. You do not have to stay for the entire 2 1/2 hrs, even if you only stay for 1 hour, it will be a huge help for us. Please come with your garden tools

YOUTH FOR GOOD FRIDAY

Traditionally our Good Friday Station of the Cross is lead by our Young Adult group (18 to 25 Years). If you are in this age bracket, interested in getting involved and helping them, please contact parish office (97003781) by 21 March and we will give you more details on it. At this stage our practice will be around Saturday, 28 March at 10am.



PIETY STALL

If you are after something for Easter, or even some materials during this Lent, consider paying a visit to our Piety Stall. They have new items on display that might just be what you are looking for

NEWSLETTER

Please note that due to some issue with the Microsoft blocking newsletter emails sent from all parishes to hotmail, outlook and live accounts .

Just an update on this issue if you have explicitly opted in to receive newsletters this service will recommence. If you have not opted in you will get a one-time email invite in the coming weeks (email will come from the Melbourne Catholic Archdiocese)

You can continue to access our newsletter via our website and in hardcopy form each week.



CATHOLIC DEVELOPMENT FUND (CDF)

Is a financial Institution which assists to fund projects across Catholic organisations, including parishes (one of them being our parish), hospital wings and classrooms, with a CDF Community Fund saving account. Please visit the CDF website at www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au to learn more. CDF will visit our parish on **SUNDAY, 15th March, 2026** after all Masses, during our regular cuppa time

Readings:

Third Sunday of LENT Year A

Exodus 17:3-7

Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

John 4: 5-15, 19-26, 39, 40-42

www.universalis.com

Fourth Sunday of LENT Year A

1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-41

www.universalis.com

This weekend we pray for:

Those who are sick

Maryse Ferdinands, John Kelly, Doug McGuinness, Anne McCallister, Giuseppina Materia, Neville Akom, Terry Gough, Tyronne Waller, Cecile Potier, Fr. Michael Willemsen, Sebastian Nowakowski, Maria Terezia Szabo, Mavis David, James Mendis, Oliver Mendis, Hector de Santos, Teariki Sword, Rui Manuel Campos, Ruby Reid, Danny Sugunasekera, Dorothy Locke, Piper Anne Spriggs, Grace Sprigg, Ronella Tyrell *and All those in aged care or homebound with chronic health issues*

Those who have died

Betty Scanlan, Monica Mary Sleeman, Robert Stellato, Mareka (Mareta) Dunlop, Jacinta Martyn, Kamal Markos, Fr. Paul Mercieca CP, Salvino Mifsud, Santana D'Souza, *and all who are named in our church memorial book*

May they rest in peace

St Paul Apostle Parish Endeavour Hills
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST 2026

	Saturday—6pm	Sunday 9am	Sunday 11am	Sunday 6pm
1st Sunday	Riona Alveyn Lionel Alveyn Lien Phan	Mary Moore Nila Fernando Rosa Mitchell Rohan Wickramasinghe Jennifer Cunningham	Vianney Clark Antionette Gargano Stephen Herbert Binitha Mathew Patricia D'Souza	Anne Kankanige Peng Chee Vonny Lai
2nd Sunday	Gertrude Akom Mima Arena Carmeline Don Paul	Sig Romano Anabela Costa Aloma Pereira David Goh Rinku Arora	Dominique Maclou Sai Dlinger Naomi Falo Stephen Nasalio Santhanamary	Jenny Catania Brendan Keating Lakni Weerasekera
3rd Sunday	Celine Quinless Riona Alveyn Lionel Alveyn	Mary Moore Nila Fernando Rosa Mitchell Jennifer Cunningham Sig Romano	Vianney Clark Antionette Gargano Binitha Mathew Patricia De Souza Marie Claire Maillard	Vonny Lai Charlene Nheu Marg Keating
4th Sunday	Bernie Henstridge Lien Phan Celine Quinless	Aloma Pereira Michelle Boissezon Rohan Wickramasinghe David Goh Daphne Goh	Naomi Falo Dominique Maclou Lauren Rafferty Stephen Herbert Santhanamary	Brendan Keating Swineetha Disanayake Jenny Catania
5th Sunday	Bernie Henstridge Carmeline Don Paul Mima Arena	Sig Romano Anabela Costa Nila Fernando Rinku Arora Daphne Goh	Binitha Mathew Stephen Herbert Vianney Clark Patricia De Souza Marie Claire Maillard	Marg Keating Peng Chee Jenny Catania

St Paul Apostle Parish Endeavour Hills
MINISTERS OF WORD/ COMMENTATORS 2026

	Saturday—6pm	Sunday 9am	Sunday 11am	Sunday 6pm
1st Sunday	Mary Pegram Liz Spear	Virendra Jayetileke Janina Gorski	Anne Astin Rinku Arora	Stephen Nasalio William Roncon
2nd Sunday	Marg Daly Liseby Lapierre	Grace Sudjono Rosa Mitchell	Mars Sota Beth Sota	Charlene Nheu Mignonne Meerwald
3rd Sunday	Liz Flood Trevor Saldanha	Agnes Giam William Round	Alvita Dias Rinku Arora	Jeremy Ferrao Reg Young
4th Sunday	Mark Rolfe Karen Rolfe	Mary Moore Jodicee Tenisio	Mary Heaton Anne Astin	Marg Keating William Roncon
5th Sunday	Marg Daly Trevor Saldanha	Grace Sudjono Jodicee Tenisio	Mary Heaton Jennifer Tanti	Lakni Weerasekera Charlene Nheu

Please note that the above rosters are subject to the completion
of the required SAFEGUARDING documents and training

