

St Martin de Porres Parish

158 Military Rd, Avondale Heights Vic 3034

🌐 www.melbocatholic.org/avondaleheights

Parish Priest: Fr. Nhân Le

Secretary: Paula McKernan

Office Hours: 9:30am to 5pm

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

Pastoral Assoc: Sr. Cres Villas, asjm

Sr. Connie Mamo, asjm (Vol)

Phone: 9337 6016

Fax: 9337 1943

E-mail: avondaleheights@cam.org.au

St Martin de Porres School

Principal: Stefanie Harvey

Secretaries: Mary Carmuciano

Maria Aloe

Phone: 9331 9000

E-mail:

principal@smavondaleheights.catholic.edu.au

🌐 www.smavondaleheights.catholic.edu.au

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil 6:00pm

Sunday 8:00am & 9:30am

Vietnamese 11:00am

Weekday Masses

Tuesday to Friday 9:15am

Benediction Wednesday after Mass

Reconciliation Wednesday 10:00am

Saturday 5:30pm

The Augustinian Sisters

Convent: 2 Venice Court,
Avondale Heights

Phone: 9337 4595

E-mail: spinelli@bigpond.net.au

Website: www.asjmoz.org

Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility.

The Parish of St Martin de Porres and the Archdiocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community. Child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of everyone.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Sick: Sofia Saidel; Nancy Green; Peter Falzon; Joseph Nguyen Ngoc Thi; Maria Nguyen Lam Quynh; Edward Tortoreto; Monika Marland; Anthony Sgro; Alex Mather; Emily & Grace; Rose; Mellisa; Claudia & Thomas.

Recently Deceased:

Nunzio Monitto; Veronica Dovey; Santina Leo; Palma Prato; Fernando Francis; Faye Tudor; Linda Saidel; Roger Cerezo; Pope Francis; Brian Redfern; Sylvia Figueroa; Gioconda Moretti.

Anniversaries & Remembrances:

Mary Attard (1st); Joseph Mizzi (1st); John Baker; Angela Gangemi; Salvatore Tomarchio; Simon Nguyen van Duong; Carmen Cita Perez Jones; Agostino D'Angelo; Antonio Esmaquel; Savario Polito; Carmelo & Rita De Bono; Victor Micallef; Dominic Cumbo; Joseph & Consiglia Grima; Emmanuel, Teresa & Menu Sammut; Francis & Bernarda Grima; John & Tonina Darmanin; Emmanuel & Nazzarena Farrugia; Victor Apap; Charlie Sciberras; Charlie Galea.

Parish Support Programme:

Pledge:\$2,588 Received:\$2,127 Shortfall:\$461
Loose:\$586 Presbytery:\$1,707
CatholiCare Appeal \$1,771 Thank you.

Reminder: Please return your Census cards as soon as possible.

Contributing to the Collections

You may wish to use the QR code if you have left your cash at home.



Devotion to Divine Mercy

Mondays 2:30pm in the church.
All Welcome!



Bible Sharing with Sr Mayla

Wednesdays 10am in St Martin's Pastoral Centre. All Welcome!



Blessing Prayer for Mothers

Lord God, through your creative power you give birth to all and love all as a mother loves her child. Bless these women who are mothers. When they worry for their child, hold them in your care. When they work to provide a home for their child, stand beside them. If they mourn for their child, hold them in your love. When the joy of their child overtakes them, laugh with them. Bless them, and may they each be a living symbol of your love; a symbol to their children and all who they encounter. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Amen



St Martin's Jubilee Year Calendar

Reflect on Ageing and Spirituality

Sr Lorraine Testa will facilitate three, 1 hr sessions, attend one OR all.

Tuesdays 13th/ 20th/ 27th May 7pm

St Martin's Hall \$5/session

Getting Old or Ageing Well

Journey into Caring-Who Cares for The Carer?

The Journey to Eternal Life

Bookings: www.trybooking.com/DARQO

13th - 15 June Episcopal Visitation

by Archbishop Peter Comensoli who will reside in the parish that weekend

Saturday 14th June 6pm Youth Mass

Date to be advised Pilgrimage

to Mary MacKillop Church, Keilor Downs

Good Shepherd Sunday

Today is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Pope Francis told us:

There can be no greater joy than to risk one's life for the Lord! I would like to say this especially to you, the young. Do not be deaf to the Lord's call. If he calls you to follow this path, do not pull your oars into the boat, but trust him.

Let us pray for the young people in our community, and in our families and circle of friends. May our prayers help them to be open to the Lord's call to consecrated life or priesthood.

A Vocation View

On this World Day of Prayer for Vocations, pray for yourself. Pray to know if God is calling YOU to be a Priest, Sister or Brother. Pray!

A Prayer for Vocations

God our Father,

You made each of us to use our gifts in the Body of Christ.

We ask that You inspire young people whom You call to the priesthood and consecrated life to courageously follow Your will.

Send workers into Your great harvest so that the Gospel is preached, the poor are served with love, the suffering are comforted, and Your people are strengthened by the sacraments.

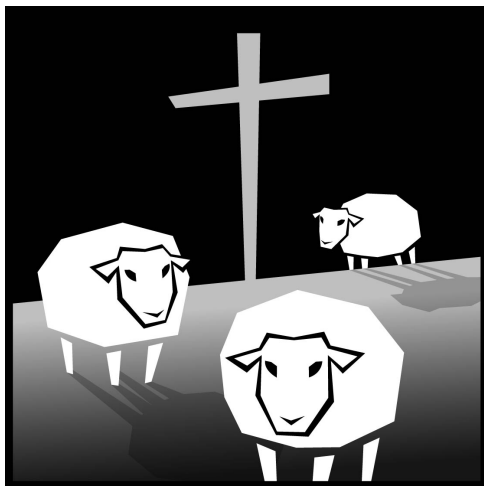
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen



NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome you and ask that you make yourself known to us by completing the New Parishioners Form in Documents and Forms under Recommended Links on our website and return it to the Parish Office. Thank you.



Gospel Acclamation Jn 10:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

*I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.*

Alleluia!

Gospel John 10:27-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

I give my sheep eternal life.

Jesus said:

‘The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice;
I know them and they follow me.
I give them eternal life;
they will never be lost
and no one will ever steal them from me.
The Father who gave them to me is
greater than anyone,
and no one can steal from the Father.
The Father and I are one.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Reflection by Greg Sunter

Shepherds in the first century did not have a particularly good reputation. Whilst the task itself was a responsible one, it was usually undertaken by hired help – usually young men or even boys. Being hired help, they had little allegiance to the flock and were generally regarded as basically untrustworthy and often accused of illicitly selling off the sheep’s milk and even the occasional lamb. They lived for months at a time out in the hills with the sheep; often risking their lives in defence of their flock, yet still regarded with suspicion. Shepherds were held in such low regard that they could not appear in court as a witness. Yet, despite this grim picture of shepherds, Jesus described himself as the Good Shepherd. With that one word, he acknowledged the reputation of shepherds but utterly dismissed it by describing himself as a shepherd – but a good shepherd. He chose to describe himself as the worst of all occupations but raised the status to unimpeachable heights.

In describing himself as the good shepherd, Jesus joined a distinguished list of biblical shepherds: Abraham, his son Isaac, and grandson Jacob were all shepherds; Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, when God appeared to him in the burning bush and revealed God’s name; and the great King, David, began life as a humble shepherd-boy. So, despite the poor reputation of shepherds in Jewish society, some of the greatest leaders of the Jews began life as shepherds.

Today’s gospel passage follows the famous ‘good shepherd’ passage in the gospel of John and continues on the image. The passage portrays Jesus as ‘claiming’ his flock; guaranteeing them not only safety but also eternal life. This oath of loyalty and commitment is all the stronger and more remarkable in light of Jesus’ rehabilitation of the status of shepherds.



ST MARTIN DE PORRES

Catholic Parish

Avondale Heights

Today’s Celebration is on pages:

Old Missal: 709 New Missal: 798



4th Sunday of Easter, Year C

11 May 2025

First Reading Acts 13:14, 43-52

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

We are now turning to the gentiles.

Paul and Barnabas carried on from Perga till they reached Antioch in Pisidia. Here they went to synagogue on the sabbath and took their seats.

When the meeting broke up, many Jews and devout converts joined Paul and Barnabas, and in their talks with them Paul and Barnabas urged them to remain faithful to the grace God had given them.

The next sabbath almost the whole town assembled to hear the word of God. When they saw the crowds, the Jews, prompted by jealousy, used blasphemies and contradicted everything Paul said. Then Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, ‘We had to proclaim the word of God to you first, but since you have rejected it, since you do not think yourselves worthy of eternal life, we must turn to the pagans. For this is what the Lord commanded us to do when he said:

*I have made you a light for the nations,
so that my salvation may reach the ends
of the earth.’*

It made the pagans very happy to hear this and they thanked the Lord for his message; all who were destined for eternal life became believers. Thus the word of the Lord spread through the whole countryside.

But the Jews worked upon some of the devout women of the upper classes and the leading men of the city and persuaded them to turn against Paul and Barnabas and expel them from their territory. So they shook the dust from their feet in defiance and went off to Iconium; but the disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 99:1-3. 5. R. v.3

(R.) We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

1. Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Serve the Lord with gladness.
Come before him, singing for joy. (R.)
2. Know that he, the Lord, is God.
He made us, we belong to him,
we are his people, the sheep of his flock. (R.)
3. Indeed, how good is the Lord,
eternal his merciful love.
He is faithful from age to age. (R.)

Second Reading Revelations 7:9, 14-17

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

The Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water.

I, John, saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. One of the elders said to me, ‘These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and because they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb, they now stand in front of God’s throne and serve him day and night in his sanctuary; and the One who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. They will never hunger or thirst again; neither the sun nor scorching wind will ever plague them, because the Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.’

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.