

St Mary's Parish

We proudly acknowledge the
Boonwurrung People of the
Kulin Nation as the Traditional
Owners and Custodians of
this land.

*A community where we bring
together our gifts and talents*

6th April, 2025



116 Cecil Street, Williamstown 3016

Telephone: 9397 6066

Email: williamstown@cam.org.au

www.melbcatholic.org/s/williamstown

Parish Priest

(Fr.) Greg Trythall

0400 524 363

Email:

greg.trythall@cam.org.au

Parish Office Staff

Pastoral Associate & Parish Secretary

Monique Julian

9397 6066

Tuesday 9:00am – 4:00pm

Thursday 9:00am – 4:00pm

Friday 9:00am – 2:00pm
0450 789 951

Wednesday Parish Secretary

Kylie Skinner

9:30am–1:30pm

Safeguarding Officer

Frank Schobben

0427 416 184

St. Mary's School

Principal Anthony Hockey

Normal Mass Times

Consult bulletin inside for
any changes.

Saturday at 6:00pm

Sunday at 8:30am and
10:30am

Tuesday to Friday 9:15am

Reconciliation

Saturday 10:00am

Silent Adoration in Church

2:30pm – 3:30pm

Wednesday

Baptism Preparation Night

Third Thursday monthly

7.00pm at Parish Centre.

Baptism must be booked

prior to attending

Preparation Night.

Baptisms 12:30pm Sunday

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT—YEAR C

FIRST READING:

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah. 43:16-21

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.

SECOND READING:

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians. 3:8-14

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

With all your heart turn to me, says the Lord,
for I am tender and compassionate.

GOSPEL: JOHN 8:1-11

While Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. But early in the morning he arrived again in the temple area, and all the people started coming to him, and he sat down and taught them. Then the scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery and made her stand in the middle. They said to him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery. Now in law, Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do you say?" They said this to test him, so that they could have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and began to write on the ground with his finger. But when they continued asking him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." Again he bent down and wrote on the ground. And in response, they went away one by one, beginning with the elders. So he was left alone with the woman before him. Then Jesus straightened up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" She replied, "No one, sir." Then Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go, and from now on do not sin anymore."



Tuesday 8th April	CHURCH CLOSED FOR RENOVATIONS
Wednesday 9th April	9.15am Mass at St Mary's Church. 2:30pm – 3:30pm Silent Hour of Adoration in Church
Thursday 10th April	9:15am Mass at St Mary's Church.
Friday 11th April	9:15am Mass at St Mary's Church

Dear Parishioners,

In reading through my different reflective diaries recently I thought I would share 'word for word' what I actually put down in my last reflection piece I read from these reflections, and although it is a little bit personal, it comes down to the fact that the only truly trustworthy power is God's creative love. Anyway, here is what I wrote:

"In Year 10 I was awarded the best and fairest in the under 15 Australian Rules Team (for the school). The previous year I was made captain of the Under 14 cricket team. In Year 10 I was promoted to the 1st X1 of the school (cricket). Having good parents, good school, sport going well, life could not be much better. But then came the first real shock to the ego. The letter box revealed that I had failed Year 10. I couldn't quite believe it. I was in denial. Realizing now that I wasn't self sufficient in my own cocoon, and that not even parents or sport could provide the emotional help I needed, I started to go to Mass before school started as St Patrick's Cathedral was on same grounds. Thus started the journey of peace I needed. Even the shock of Year 11 failure could not stop the peace that I received to get through those two seismic shocks to the self-sufficient ego system. I am for ever grateful they happened. My eventual openness to a possible vocation would most likely not have happened without that initial deeper encounter of God drawing me to Himself."

In line with above as God's creative love being the only truly trustworthy power it is an ideal (if at all practically possible) to join the other 50- 60 of us at **Reconciliation Rite 2 next Saturday night. It starts at 5:15pm and is over by 5:50pm.** Retired Williamstown priest Fr Barry Hughes will join me on the night. As for a greater understanding of reconciliation there is a not much better example than last week's gospel of the Prodigal Son. Both shame and dignity work together to cause the prodigal son's conversion. When he came to himself, he realised that, although his sins had reduced him to the level of the animals, he still maintained a certain dignity. He realised the truth of himself, of his own worth, and also of his ability to repent.

As with the prodigal son, so also with us. Shame reminds us of our dignity. It comes about when our conscience accuses us of sin and reveals that certain thoughts, words or actions, contradict our status as the children of God. It is the moral nervous system alerting us of injury. It highlights the disconnect between our dignity and our behaviour. And it thus enables us to come to our senses – better, to return to ourselves – and then return to our heavenly Father.

NEXT PHASE OF SYNOD PROCESS:

Pope Francis has approved the next phase of the Synod of Bishops of Synodality, launching a three-year implementation process culminating in an ecclesial assembly at the Vatican in October 2028. The final document of the Synod on Synodality, approved by Pope Francis in October 2024, emphasized synodality as essential to the Church's mission and called for greater lay participation, mandatory pastoral councils and continued study on women in ministry (eg women deacons) and seminary formation. Most of you know we have a good working pastoral council but within 15 kilometres of us there has been a parish whose priest has not had a parish council. It seems a bit strange to me as advisory bodies to a school or a parish are so necessary to the professional running of a parish in an age when life is so much more complex.

VOLUNTEERS FOR EASTER WEEK:

Please put your name down on back table sheet if your able to help as a Reader for Palm Sunday at 10.30am, and Holy Saturday at 7pm. Also volunteers are needed for Washing of the Feet on Holy Thursday night at 7pm.

RECONCILIATION SERVICE:

Next Saturday April 12th you are welcome to join us for our annual Lenten Reconciliation Service Rite 2 at 5:15pm.

NEW PARISHIONERS LUNCHEON:

New parishioners' luncheon will take place after the 10:30 am Mass in the Parish Centre on Sunday June 15th. It would be great if you could put your name down on pad at back table in order for our secretary Monique to contact you at the time.

LAUNDRY

We have 4 names now to handle the Church small linen cleaning such as the purifier little ones. Please let me know as soon as possible if you can do two months during the year at some time as two more people would be handy for the roster and can then do two months each.

Yours 'in Christ'

Fr Greg Trythall – greg.trythall@cam.org.au -0400 524 363

COMBINED PARISHES YOUTH GATHERING

Our next Combined Parishes Youth Gathering will be held on Saturday 5th of April from 7:00pm–8:30pm, at St Mary's Church Williamstown Parish Centre, 116 Cecil Street Williamstown.

We invite all Youth aged 13-18 years to come and join us for a fun evening with food/snacks, faith topic discussion, and games.

Permanent Diaconate Information Session 3rd May 2025, 10.00am–11.30am

Catholic Theological College, 278 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne

Following the success of the permanent diaconate information sessions in 2024, we will be holding another session for those interested.

The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men, aged between 30 and 60 years, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. It is an ordained ministry of service. The information session is open to **everyone interested in learning more about the permanent diaconate**. If you have attended any previous session, you are also welcome to attend this session. Wives most welcome.

The session will be on Saturday morning, 3rd May and will be in person. If you are interested email Deacon Kevin Pattison Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au with full name and parish, but if you forget, then just turn up on Saturday morning. All are welcome.



Save with CDF Community Fund – it's in everyone's best interest.

By opening a savings account or Term Investment, not only will you receive a competitive financial return, but your savings will also help build parishes,

classrooms, hospital wings, aged care homes and social service facilities. With competitive interest

rates available across a range of savings accounts, including **5.10% p.a.* on a 6-month Term Investment**, it's a way to save while doing good. To find out more, visit www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund/offer, scan the QR code, or speak to us on 1800 134 135.

offer, scan the QR code, or speak to us on 1800 134 135. *Interest rates subject to change. View current rates on the CDF website.



Holy Week at St Mary's Church

Palm Sunday Weekend

Saturday 12th April	5:15pm–5.45pm 6.00pm	Reconciliation Rite 2 (forgiveness of sins) Mass at St Mary's Church
---------------------	-------------------------	---

Sunday 13th April	8.30am & 10.30am	Mass at St Mary's Church
-------------------	------------------	--------------------------

<u>Holy Thursday 17th April</u>	7.00pm	Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper
---------------------------------	--------	-----------------------------------

<u>Good Friday 18th April</u>	10.00am 3.00pm	Stations of the Cross at St Mary's Church Good Friday main service at St Mary's Church
-------------------------------	-------------------	---

<u>Holy Saturday 19th April</u>	7.00pm	Mass at St Mary's Church
---------------------------------	--------	--------------------------

<u>Easter Sunday 20th April</u>	8.30am & 10.30am	Mass at St Mary's Church
---------------------------------	------------------	--------------------------

Rosters for this Week 5th & 6th April 2025

Counting Team 2	David Jamieson, Marguerite Buckley, Bob Paz, Lauren Dittmar
Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Gail Tull 8.30am Peter Kirwan, Stephen Littleton 10.30am Maria Laudato
Mass Readers	6.00pm Marcia Schobben 8.30am Himali Peter 10.30am Eilin Taylor
Welcomers	6.00pm Cathy Pagano 8.30am Mary Frisby 10.30am Herb Zimmer
Children's Liturgy	8.30am Doreen Mitchell, Joe Covelli

Rosters for next Week 12th & 13th April 2025

Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Larry Rigoni 8.30am Gerard Colla, Doreen Mitchell 10.30am Eugene Yi, Maria Laudato
Mass Readers	6.00pm Josie Penna 8.30am Christal Augustin 10.30am Olga Reginato
Welcomers	6.00pm Imma Marguglio 8.30am Stephen Littleton 10.30am Joe Covelli

IN OUR PRAYERS

We pray for Pope Francis, Yeme Reddy, Sarah Rodgers, Assunta Delgrosso, Anne-Marie Pelikinakis, Evol Farrelly, Ruth Francis.

RECENTLY DECEASED & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for Gisela Maria Reeves, Cecilia Buckley, Spiro Zahra, Nella Siragusa, Isa Frances Mannes, Innocenza Pecora, Angelina Pace, Marie Ann Richardson, John Clarke, Tony Falzon, Kurt Goetz, Rosaria Laudato, Jeff Cockerell, Emily McVeigh, Gordon O'Keefe, Frederick Hernan, Chris McKenzie, Thomas Mullens, Vera Newbury, Adrian Van Osta, John Galvin, Regis Hynes, Mary Sexton, Paul Vaisanen, Philip Hoban, Vincenzo Taliana, Benito Cilea, George Jones, Mary Bennett, Michael McGrath, Norah Maher, Hack Geoghegan, Calogero Durante, Giuseppina Petar, Francesco Antonio Mesiti, Carlo Falzon, Anthony Falzon and Frank Hynes; whose anniversaries are at this time.

ST MARY'S PRAYER NATURE WALK:**SATURDAY MAY 10TH at 10:30AM**

Walk through the beauty of Williamstown Esplanade and connect to faith. Lead by Peter Hay you will be guided to reflect upon the nature that surrounds us and connects us to God.

Cost: By Donation

For further information please contact Monique in the office on 9397 6066.