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ST. ANDREW'S PARISH
Incorporating the Communities of
Werribee Central, Wyndham Vale, Werribee South,
Werribee North,
Tarneit West, Upper Point Cook
and Little River

PARISH TEAMS

Clergy

Fr. Albert Yogarajah PP
Fr. Martin Adichilamackal
Fr. Marydas Arackal Francis
Rev. Deacon William Daw

Pastoral Worker

Kemp Vinson

Home Based RE

Coordinator

Benita Ediriwickrema

Finance:

Natascha Eve Klein

Administration:

Cora Ilagan

Tamil Chaplain

Fr. Anton Aseervathampillai

South Sudanese Chaplain

Fr. Stephen Kumyangi

Assistant Chaplain

Rev. Deacon William Daw
9741 4144

PARISH SCHOOLS

St. Andrew's Primary School

– Ph. 9741 3686
Principal: Melissa
Evgeniadis

Corpus Christi Primary

School – Ph. 9741 8440
Principal: Adele Vesty

Bethany Primary School –

Ph. 9742 9800
Principal: Joanne Webster

Our Lady of the

Southern Cross Primary

School – Ph. 9974 8500
Principal: Justin Hilton

St. John the Apostle PS

Tarneit West –
Ph. 8754 4300
Principal: Simon Dundon

St. Joseph Primary School –

8742 3381
Principal: Troy Rickard

MacKillop Catholic Regional

College –
Ph. 8734 5200
Principal: Chris Caldow

Thomas Carr Catholic

Regional College –
Ph. 8734 2444
Principal: Rose Connolly

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD YEAR A, 16TH / 17TH MAY 2026

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we stand, the Wathaurong people. We pay our respects to them for their care of the land. May we walk gently and respectfully upon the land.

FIRST READING: *A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11)*

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.' Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.' As he said this, he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.' **THE WORD OF THE LORD.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *Psalm 46:2-3. 6-9*

Response: *God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.*

All peoples, clap your hands, cry to God with shouts of joy! For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, great king over all the earth.

God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast. Sing praise for God, sing praise, sing praise to our king, sing praise.

God is king of all the earth. Sing praise with all your skill. God is king over the nations; God reigns on his holy throne.

Response: *God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.*

SECOND READING: *A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians (Ephesians 1:17-23)*

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation. **THE WORD OF THE LORD.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!

*** GOSPEL CONTINUES ON THE NEXT PAGE ***

GOSPEL: *A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (Matthew 28:16-20)*

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him, they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commandments I gave to you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD,

The Great Commission

Matthew 28:16-20



GOSPEL REFLECTION: The feast of the Ascension is really a kind of liminal moment in the Easter season. It is a time between times, a moment when we have left one place in our journey but have not yet arrived at a second. The glory of the Risen Christ has already been revealed in us, but not yet totally. The feast itself celebrates the exaltation of Jesus. Today we stand awestruck, watching Jesus ascend into the clouds of heaven, there to be enthroned at the right hand of God. Today we are overwhelmed by the reality of the divinity of the one whom

we have known in his humanity. Like the conquering creator-god, he has overcome his enemy (death) and now reigns over his new creation (the church). Christ who ascended into heaven in his body carries on what he began on earth through his new body, the church. He teaches through its apostles and evangelists. He ministers through its prophets and pastors. In and through the church, Jesus continues to heal and to comfort; to forgive and to include. We have not been left alone; we have his power, the same power with which he performed marvels when he walked the earth. We have not been left alone; we have each other. Together we make up the new body of Christ. Together we await the fullness of this body. It is this new body that stands in between the times, secure in what we have, confident of what we will be given. **Dianne Bergant CSA**

PRAYER AT HOME: *'Know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'* Memorise this verse to help you in times of doubt or distress.

VOCATION VIEW: Through His death, resurrection and ascension, Christ showed us the path to eternal life. Know that the Lord is with you always, through your struggles and triumphs, and that he will hear your prayers.

RECENT DEATH: Angelina Cristiano, Kristina Barr

DEATH ANNIVERSARY: Francesco Burgio, Vito Montalto, Anthony Marsters, Lidia Jerkovic, Loren Jerkovic, Tom Sturnela, Mary Donaghy, Mirella Moss, Joseph Hedwig Viegas, Giuseppe De Petro

PRAYER FOR THE SICK: Nimal Pandithakoralege, Yvan Mamedy, John Hassett, Julie Horkings, Anna, Lynne Worsley, Sheila Joseph, Rafael, Janet

To add or renew names for the Prayer for the Sick, please complete a Mass offering envelope and return it to the parish office. Envelopes are available in the church brochure racks or at the parish office. Names will be kept on the list for two months.

REMINDER: Parishioners are asked to note that requests for Recently Deceased, Anniversaries, and similar intentions to be included in the Prayers of the Faithful must clearly indicate the date and time of the Mass you will be attending for the name to be mentioned. All requests must be received at the Parish Office no later than Wednesday afternoon, and Mass offering envelopes should be addressed to Administration. Envelopes are available in the church brochure racks or at the parish office

WEEKDAY LITURGY (18th to 23rd May 2026)

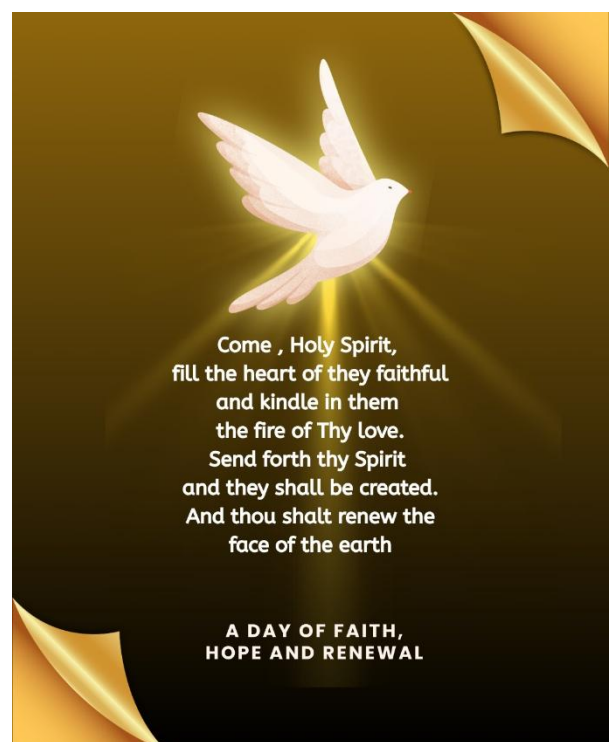
Mon: 9.00am Communion Service with Liturgy
Tues: 9.00am Mass
Wed: 9.00am Mass
Thurs: 9.00am Mass
Fri: 9.00am Mass
Sat: 9.00am Mass

WEEKEND MASSES (23rd and 24th May 2026)

Sat: 6.00pm Mass *lead by St. John the Apostle P/S*
Sun: 8.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am Mass and 5.00pm
10.00am Mass – *St. Michael - Little River*
2.30pm *South Sudanese Community Mass*

THE NATIONAL COUNT OF ATTENDANCE (MASS COUNT) -

The count is conducted over the first four consecutive Sundays (and Saturday evenings) in May. This weekend 16th and 17th May 2026 is the third weekend. Could collectors please see Priest prior to Mass. This annual count taken in May is important for our pastoral planning activities and allows for comparisons to be made across the years.



FOR MORE INFORMATION OF WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE PARISH, PLEASE SEE FLYERS ON THE NOTICE BOARD.



FLOWER OFFERING TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY - As we know month of May is month of Mary, we encourage family especially those with little child/children to offer flowers to the Blessed Virgin Mary. There will be 5 foil trays at the altar steps at each mass which you can take one home. You can arrange flowers on it and bring it back to church on the following Sunday to offer to the Blessed Virgin Mary

WELCOME & THANKSGIVING MASS

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK - We invite all volunteers and new families in our parish to come for a Mass of Welcome and Thanksgiving on Sunday, 24th May 2026, 11.00am Mass followed by a fellowship at the Presbytery Veranda. You are most welcome to bring a plate to share.

Dear Parish Volunteers,

We are truly grateful for your ongoing commitment and the valuable time you give to serve our parish community. Your dedication to God's work is deeply appreciated, and we thank you for all that you do. As part of our parish's responsibility to maintain a safe and compliant environment, we kindly ask all volunteers to ensure the following are up to date:

1. WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK (WWCC)

If you have not updated your Working with Children Check, please do so as soon as possible. When applying or renewing, please select "volunteering at St Andrew's Church" as the organisation. The Department of Human Services will then send us a copy directly. Please also email us a copy of your updated check for our records.

2. SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE CODE OF CONDUCT DECLARATION

The Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct Declaration is an acknowledgement that clergy, employees and volunteers have read and understood the behaviours and conduct expected of them and agree to comply with the Code of Conduct. Clergy, employees and volunteers are required to sign the Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct Declaration upon their commencement. Volunteers are required to re-sign the Declaration every three years. Clergy and employees are required to re-sign the Declaration annually. Printed forms can be found near the altar steps. You may pick up two forms one for yourself to keep as a reference and other one to be signed and returned to the parish office.

3. PARISH REGISTRATION

It is compulsory for all volunteers to be registered parishioners in our parish database. If you are not yet registered, please complete the attached parishioner registration form and email it back to us. Please note: Only registered parishioners can take part in volunteer work within the parish.

4. SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

Those who missed the Safeguarding Training in December are required to complete the training online. Once completed, please email us a copy of your certificate for our records.

<https://safeguarding.melbournecatholic.org/s/login/?ec=302&startURL=%2Fs%2F>

5. UPDATED CONTACT DETAILS

If your address, phone number, email, or name has changed recently, kindly let us know so we can keep your information current. Once again, we thank you for your generous service and support. May God continue to bless you abundantly as you serve in His vineyard.

Kindly note:

In accordance with the government and the Diocesan Safeguarding regulation, which all parishes, including ours are mandatory obligated all our Priests, Staff and Volunteers should have a valid Working with Children Check (WWCC) document. This document is an essential document to continue your important and invaluable service you are giving to your beloved parish. Therefore, please obtain or update your WWCC document immediately.



This year marks 100 years of World Mission Day, a time in which the global Church celebrates God's mission through prayer and generosity. Today, that mission continues in places like Malawi, where communities are rebuilding after devastating floods and families are striving to create a future for their children. In the coming

weeks, we will share how the Church is walking alongside these communities, and how you can be part of this living mission of love. To learn more about Catholic Mission and work, please go to catholicmission.org.au/unity



SYNODALITY AND BISHOPS - Bishops remain shepherds and teachers of the faith. Synodality does not weaken their authority; rather, it enriches their ministry by grounding leadership in prayerful listening and communal discernment. A bishop who listens walks more closely with his people, as Christ the Good Shepherd does.

ROSTERS FOR THE WEEK 17th to 25th May 2026

	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am	11.00am	5.00pm
LECTORS 23 rd /24 th May	St. John the Apostle P/S	Red Dubier	Ana Balanza	Aubrey Gantalao	Sindhu Moreira
MUSIC 23 rd /24 th May	Joyful Voices Choir	St. Anthony's Choir	St. Andrew's Choir	Ensemble of Faith	St. Joseph Vaz Choir
Communion Minister 23 rd /24 th May	Ann-Marie Palmer Kim Beyer Thiloshini Perera	David Cox John Hennessy Lillian Jilbert	Sherine Rapahel John Faranda Maria Malanyaon	Stealth D' Rozario Dennis Vanspall Sheridan Fevaleaki	Nadia Richards Sindhu Moreira Judy Anderson
COMMUNION SERVICE (MONDAY)		This week: Next week:	Mon 18 May: M. H. Chong Mon 25 May: S. Raphael		
CLEANER		Cleaning: Vacuuming:	Mon 18 May: Z. Prasad Fri 22 May: S. Hadgie Mon 18 May: Volunteer		
ALTAR CLOTH		This week: Next week:	Sun 17 May: O. Lesoa Sun 24 May: C. Ilagan		
OUR LADY'S STATUE		This week: Next week:	Sun 17 May: M.H. Chong Sun 24 May: Senivarapu		

MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHBISHOP OF MELBOURNE - SEMINARY ENQUIRY DAY 2026

Prayerful greetings to you in the Lord.

It is with pleasure that I personally invite you to join me at Corpus Christi College on *Saturday 23 May 2026*. Corpus Christi is the place where young men discern and study for the priesthood. You are receiving this invitation because your Parish Priest believes you have the qualities that may suggest a vocation to the priesthood or you may like to hear more about a vocation. You may or may not be considering a vocation, however, I would encourage you to join us and hear more about a vocation and enjoy lunch with current Seminarians. For catering purposes, please RSVP by Tuesday 19 May via vocations@cam.org.au. If you have questions, the Vocation Director, Father Dishan Candappa, would be pleased to assist you. Please be in touch via vocations@cam.org.au. I hope that you will consider and accept the offer to join with many others in a gathering of prayer, fellowship and information about the diocesan priesthood and seminary life.

With every grace and blessing, I remain,
Yours sincerely in Christ Jesus,

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli

Archbishop of Melbourne

THE MELBOURNE CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION 2026 - On the solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (*Corpus Christi*), parishes, communities, families and all people of good will are invited to join Archbishop Peter A Comensoli at the annual Melbourne Corpus Christi Procession as the Archdiocese of Melbourne publicly and joyfully journeys with Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. The procession will begin with a gathering at St Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday, 7th June 2026 at 2pm, walk through the streets of Melbourne's CBD, and conclude at Federation Square. Like those disciples who recognised Jesus on the journey to Emmaus, the whole Archdiocesan community is invited to take up this a wonderful opportunity to bear witness to the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist, our light and hope, in the heart of the city. **For the most up-to-date information, including FAQs and promotional resources, visit the [Melbourne Corpus Christi Procession](#) page.**

PENTECOST CONCERT - The Catholic Parishes of Yarraville & Kingsville warmly invite you to join us. For a free Concert of Sacred music celebrating the presence of the Holy Spirit amongst us. Sunday 24th May 2026, 3.00pm at St Augustine's Church, 71 Somerville Road, Yarraville You are invited to join us for refreshments after the concert.

PRAYER OF WELCOME BEFORE BAPTISM - Dear Parents, as you prepare for your child's Baptism, the people of St. Andrew's rejoice that you have chosen to baptize your child, and we pray that in the coming years you and your family will continue to know and grow in the love of God that is everlasting.



We now have an official parish Facebook page: [St. Andrew's Catholic Parish, Werribee](#). This will be used to post announcements and other events in our parish. Please like and share our page. St. Andrew's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults

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