



PARISH OF ASCOT VALE

ST MARY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

ST MARY'S CHURCH, 123 ST LEONARDS ROAD, ASCOT VALE
ST MARGARET'S CHURCH, BARB STREET, MARIBYRNONG

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Desmond J Moloney
Assistant Priest / Lithuanian Chaplain: Rev Fr Joseph Deveikis
Presbytery / Parish Office: 123 St Leonards Rd, Ascot Vale (Postal: PO Box 468 Ascot Vale 3032)
Telephone: 9370 6688
Website: www.melbourne.org/ascotvale
Email: ascotvale@cam.org.au
Office Hours: Tue – Thu 9.30am – 3.00pm *Secretary: Carmen D’Rosario*
Principal, St Mary’s School: Mr Denis Johnstone T: 9370 1194
Principal, St Margaret’s School: Mr John Rudd T: 9318 1339

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil:

6.00pm St Mary’s

Sunday:

8.30am St Margaret’s

10.30am St Mary’s

6.00pm St Mary’s (Spanish)

Weekday Mass Times

Mon 10.00am St Mary’s

Tue 9.00am St Mary’s

Wed 9.00am St Mary’s

7.00pm St Mary’s

Thu 9.00am St Mary’s

Fri 9.15am St Mary’s

Sat 9.30am St Mary’s

Reconciliation

(Confession)

Saturday

10.00–10.30am St Mary’s

5.30–5.45pm St Mary’s

Eucharistic Adoration

Tue 9.30–10.30am St Mary’s

Sat 10.00–11.00am St Mary’s

Baptisms at St Mary’s

Baptisms are celebrated on the
2nd & 4th Sundays of each
month at 12:00 noon.

Baptism Information Sessions
are held in St Mary’s Church
at 7:30 pm on the first Thursday
of each month. Parents desiring
the baptism of their child must
attend one of these sessions.

6th Sunday of Easter – 25 May 2025

Parish Offertory Program

Dear Parishioners,

This weekend, we begin the Offertory Giving Program, which will continue over the next three weeks. The call to generosity is God’s invitation for us to deepen our faith and is a vital part of our identity as Christians.

I encourage you to prayerfully engage in this time of reflection and discernment. Together, we look forward to growing deeper in our relationship with Christ through this process.

Towards a Masterplan - Where Are We?

Architects (Harmer Architecture) engaged by St. Mary’s Parish came for a meeting with the Parish Masterplan Reference Group on 4th March. The Parish Finance Committee also made contact for a short time with this meeting. It was acknowledged then that the parish needed to develop a clear vision and mission and for the realisation of such a vision and mission it would be important to have the broadest possible participation of the parish. Once again, the architects said that the vision and mission would guide them concerning the direction of the masterplan.

Soon thereafter a document prepared by Stephanie Houten (Parish Advisory Board) was made available to parishioners in both churches. This document is entitled "St Mary’s Parish Vision: Directions Paper". It was based on the 63 completed Self-Reflection tools: Growing Vital and Vibrant Parishes and also the report of the Future Directions Working Party. The feedback sought in response to the Vision – Directions Paper was extremely low: 2 formal responses and 2 informal responses.

The architects have been kept informed while they have continued working in the background based on the previous parish development vision. Some design ideas, yet to be seen in the parish, are ready for discussion. The financial capacity of the parish and financial strategies will have to be considered. Discussion will be required to establish project priorities, scope and stage of building projects, accompanied by cost analysis and estimates.

Harmer Architecture and the Parish Masterplan Reference Group had a meeting in the past week.

Fr Desmond J Moloney

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – 31 May/1 Jun 2025

Parish Counters: R Aparo; D McAleer

Ministers of the Word			Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	
Time	St Mary's	St Margaret's	St Mary's	St Margaret's
6.00 pm	P Familiari		P Barbaro	
8.30 am		FAMILY MASS		R Turnbull
10.30 am	M Kenny		M DeMaria	

Hymns:

Entrance: CWBII 490

Offertory: CWBII 443

Communion: CWBII 511

Reflection: CWBII 553

Recessional: CWBII 566

Feast Days:

26 May: St Philip Neri

31 May: The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin MARY

Readings Next Week: The Ascension of the Lord (Year C)

Acts 1:1-11; Eph 1:17-23; Lk 24:46-53

Morning Tea after Mass

Firstly, a belated 'Thank You' to the parishioners who brought food to share at our Morning Tea in April! We are very grateful to you.

The Parish Community Group will be holding morning tea after **10.30am Mass on Sunday, 1st June**. We invite everyone to come along and have a cuppa and something to eat, while chatting with fellow parishioners. It is always good to say hello to a person you haven't met before, as well as chat to other parishioners whom you do know.

If you would like to bring a plate of food to share, that would be a boost for catering and we will be very grateful. Everyone is welcome, so please come along!

Communion at Home

After Covid-19, we have noted that quite a few of our (mainly older) parishioners have not returned to Mass. Do you have a family member, friend or neighbour, living in this parish, who is no longer able to attend Mass, but would like to receive Communion regularly?

If so, please contact the presbytery or ring Marie on 9372 0307.

Annual Mass for marriage anniversaries

Sunday 1 June 2025, 11.00am – 12.00pm at St Patrick's Cathedral

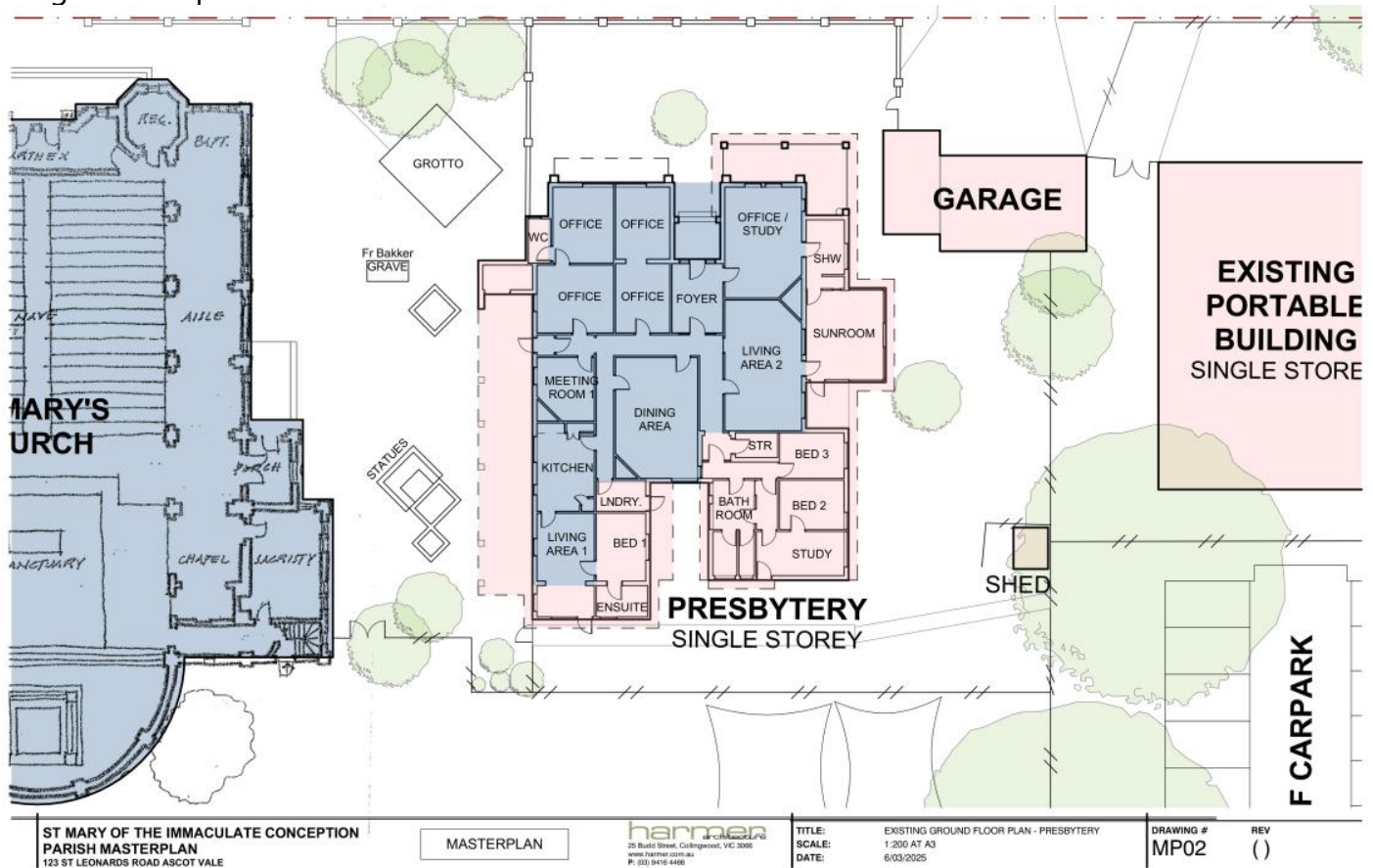
Couples and their families are invited to join us as we celebrate the gift of marriage and family, coinciding with the Jubilee of Families. Couples who register and are celebrating the following anniversaries—5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 or 40 years and above—will receive a commemorative certificate. Please contact the Proclaim team on 9926 5761 or at proclaim@cam.org.au.

SHRINES OF OUR LADY (18th Aug- 3rd September 2025)

Fr Johnson Malayil, CRS, would like to invite you for a 16-day Jubilee pilgrimage, departing on the 18th of August 2025. This pilgrimage features Fatima, Avila, Loyola, Lourdes, Turin, Milan, Padua, Assisi, Rotondo, and Rome for an all-inclusive price of \$8890 + tips (30+ pilgrims).

The fare includes Return Economy Airfares + Local Transfers in Deluxe coaches + Stay in 4-star Premium Hotels, Catholic priest, Meals + English speaking professional guides + Entrances as per itinerary. Inquiries & bookings call 03 8839 6615 or email pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au

Harmer architects have conducted a site measure up of the external building footprint at Ascot Vale and photographic survey of the presbytery and have drawn up existing conditions drawings and site plan to discuss as the masterplan progresses. Harmer will also outline the key strengths, weakness, opportunities, threats of the existing church assets. Harmer intends to assess against the SWOT analysis to come up with a strategy on the masterplan approach to meet the key objectives in light of the parish's vision and mission.



'Peace be with all of you': how Pope Leo XIV embodies a living dialogue between tradition and modernity

'Leo XIV embodies a living dialogue between tradition and modernity,' writes historian Prof Darius von Güttner Sporzynski. 'His formation, intellect and record of bridge-building suggest he understands the Church's credibility now rests where it did in 1891 under Leo XIII: in that social charity and theological clarity are not rivals, but partners on the road to God.'

Of one heart

The opening sentence of the *Rule of Saint Augustine* is 'be of one mind and heart on the way to God.'

Pope Leo's formation, intellect and record of bridge-building suggest he understands the Church's credibility now rests where it did in 1891 under Leo XIII: in that social charity and theological clarity are not rivals, but partners on the road to God.

Leo XIV has set the compass of his papacy. It points toward a Church intellectually serious, socially committed and pastorally close.

Melbourne Catholic

A Mother's Life Should Not Be Left To Chance

Thursday, 5 June, 7.00pm at St Peter's Centre, 581 Toorak Road, Toorak.

Contact catholicmission.org.au or 1800 257 296 for more information.

St Vincent de Paul Helpline: 1800 305 330, Monday – Friday, 10am – 3pm.

6th Sunday of Easter

FIRST READING

Act 15:1-2,22-29

Some men came down from Judaea and taught the brothers, 'Unless you have yourselves circumcised in the tradition of Moses you cannot be saved.' This led to disagreement, and after Paul and Barnabas had had a long argument with these men it was arranged that Paul and Barnabas and others of the church should go up to Jerusalem and discuss the problem with the apostles and elders. Then the apostles and elders decided to choose delegates to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; the whole church concurred with this. They chose Judas known as Barsabbas and Silas, both leading men in the brotherhood, and gave them this letter to take with them: 'The apostles and elders, your brothers, send greetings to the brothers of pagan birth in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia. We hear that some of our members have disturbed you with their demands and have unsettled your minds. They acted without any authority from us, and so we have decided unanimously to elect delegates and to send them to you with Barnabas and Paul, men we highly respect who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accordingly we are sending you Judas and Silas, who will confirm by word of mouth what we have written in this letter. It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials: you are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from fornication. Avoid these, and you will do what is right. Farewell.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 66

R. O God, let all the nations praise you!

O God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us. So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help. (R.)

Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice. With fairness you rule the peoples, you guide the nations on earth. (R.)

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. May God still give us his blessing till the ends of the earth revere him. (R.)

SECOND READING

Rev 21:10-14,22-23

In the spirit, the angel took me to the top of an enormous high mountain and showed me

Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down from God out of heaven. It had all the radiant glory of God and glittered like some precious jewel of crystal-clear diamond. The walls of it were of a great height, and had twelve gates; at each of the twelve gates there was an angel, and over the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel; on the east there were three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. The city walls stood on twelve foundation stones, each one of which bore the name of one of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. I saw that there was no temple in the city since the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were themselves the temple, and the city did not need the sun or the moon for light, since it was lit by the radiant glory of God and the Lamb was a lighted torch for it.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 14:23-29

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our home with him. Those who do not love me do not keep my words. And my word is not my own: it is the word of the one who sent me. I have said these things to you while still with you; but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you. Peace I bequeath to you, my own peace I give you, a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. You heard me say: I am going away, and shall return. If you loved me you would have been glad to know that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. I have told you this now before it happens, so that when it does happen you may believe.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

