



THE TIDINGS

SERVING THE AREAS OF MELTON, WEST MELTON, HARKNESS, KURUNJANG, TOOLERN VALE, PLUMPTON, GRANGEFIELDS, BONNIE BROOK (WEST), ROCKBANK (WEST).

We are committed to upholding the safety and wellbeing of each child and young person, and endeavour to provide a caring and supportive environment in our Church.

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A - March 1, 2026

CLERGY

Parish Priest: FR ALEX CLEMENTE, RCJ

Assistant Priest: FR WILFORD URMATA, RCJ

Assistant Priest: FR JEFFREY SALVADOR, RCJ

Parish Deacon: DCN CRIS CREO

Email: Cristopher.Creo@cam.org.au

OFFICE

10 Unitt Street, MELTON, VIC 3337

Postal Address: PO Box 96, MELTON, VIC 3337

Phone: 03 9743 6515

Email: melton@cam.org.au

Website: melbcatholic.org/melton

Facebook: facebook.com/catholicparishmelton

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9.15am - 4.45pm

We are **closed** on Mondays, weekends and public holidays.

STAFF & SAFEGUARDING COORDINATOR

Parish Secretary: WILMA CHUA (Tues - Fri)

Finance Manager: LORRAINE STAFFORD (Mon & Tues)

Email: finance.melton@cam.org.au

Safeguarding Coordinator: LIZ COUSTLEY

Mobile: 0490 885 515 | **Email:** cso.melton@gmail.com

MASS CENTRES & MASS TIMES

St Catherine of Siena Church, Melton West

108 Bulmans Road, Melton West, VIC 3337

- **Saturday** 6pm (Vigil Mass)
- **Sunday** 9am, 11am & 5 pm
- **Wednesday Mass** 9.15 am
(no Mass during school holidays at St Catherine's Church)

St Dominic's Church, Melton

Church St, Melton, VIC 3337

- **Thursday & Friday** 9.15 am
(no Mass on public holidays)

CONFESSION

St Catherine of Siena Church

Saturday: 5.45 pm | Sunday: 10:30-10:50am/4.45 pm

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED

SACRAMENT & ROSARY

St Dominic's Church

- **Thursday** following the 9.15 am Mass

SCHOOLS IN OUR PARISH

ST DOMINIC'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Address: Church Street, Melton, VIC 3337

+61 3 9743 6225 | enquiries@sdmelton.catholic.edu.au

ST CATHERINE OF SIENA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Address: 108 Bulmans Road, Melton West, VIC 3337

+61 3 9743 2166 | info@scmeltonwest.catholic.edu.au

ST FRANCIS CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Melton West Campus (Year 7-12): 109-141 Bulmans Rd, Melton West

Cobblebank Campus (Year 7-9): Bridge Rd, Cobblebank

+61 3 8099 6000 | info@sfcc.vic.edu.au

Reflection by Sr. Mary Fermio, RSJ

2nd Sunday of Lent

All of us would at some time, have had to make a decision that would have changed our lives - a new job, get married, move the family. Most of us probably consulted family or friends to help us decide what to do.

Matthew presents this as a time when Jesus is deciding what the future holds and seeks and receives assurance from God.. Moses and Elijah, two of Israel's great prophets, both received strength from God to fulfil their tasks determining the future of Israel. Thus, Jesus prays for strength and guidance to help him continue his journey, which ends in his death and they come to reassure him.

When we pray for help and guidance, may we be aware of the comforting presence of God, who always listens to us.



Next Week's Readings:

Exo 17:3-7 Rom 5:1-2, 5-8 John 4:5-16, 19-26, 39-42

Recently Deceased

Neville Prada

Death Anniversaries:

Zofie Divin, Pat Mc Burney, Arthur Milligan, Ethan Debrincat, Vincent Bezzina, Glenn Dean, Tom Hughes, Faustino Agbayani, Filomena D'Souza, Jozef Czlapa, Thomas Trethowan, Frank Sabbage, Dorothy Webster, Benny Psaila, George Novak, Lina Tong, Emanuel Spiteri, Marcella Antoniani, Lavina Mascarenhas, Walter George Williams, Rose Cutajar, Bernard Arenas, Mary Pace, Kataldo Zahra, Carmello Muscat, Agostino Raschilla, Dorothy Evelyn Byrne, Pedro E Vizcaya, Policarpo L Pintor, Pacita Lizo, Caesar Dabu, Pauline Summers, Glen Outshooou, Dalston DeRozario, Michael Tabb, Peter Dobrogorsky, Louis Pirotta, Simon Mc Mahon, Lilia Sepe, John Borg

250228-0306



Caritas
AUSTRALIA

End poverty
Promote justice
Uphold dignity



PROJECT
COMPASSION
FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS

**In case of urgent situations, sickness etc.
in the parish please call 0422 869 646**

Entrance Antiphon

Of you my heart has spoken, Seek his face.
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face from me.

First Reading

Gen 12:1-4

The call of Abraham, the father of God's people.

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing.

'I will bless those who bless you:
I will curse those who slight you.
All the tribes of the earth
shall bless themselves by you.'
So Abram went as the Lord told him.

Responsorial Psalm

**(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.**

1. The word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love. **(R.)**
2. The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine. **(R.)**
3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield.
May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you. **(R.)**

Second Reading

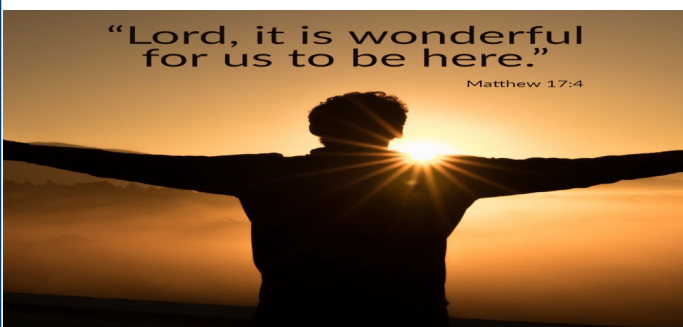
2Tim 1:8-10

God has saved us, and called us to be holy.

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!



Gospel

Mat 17:1-9

His face shone like the sun.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order. 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

Communion Antiphon

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

Prayer for Vocations

O Jesus' gentle heart, in your entire mortal life you sought always the glory of Your Father. Deign to send to Your Holy Church good and evangelical workers, who will incessantly glorify Your Father who is in heaven with the holiness of their life and apostolic work. Send of Lord, Holy Apostles into Your Church.

A prayer for the Jubilee Year of St Francis of Assisi

Pope Leo XIV had announced that 2026 is a Jubilee Year of St. Francis, to commemorate the 800th anniversary of the saint's death. The Holy Father has offered this prayer for the occasion:

Saint Francis, our brother, you who eight hundred years ago, went to meet Sister Death as a man at peace, intercede for us before the Lord. You recognized true peace in the Crucifix of San Damiano, teach us to seek in Him the source of all reconciliation that breaks down every wall. You who, unarmed, crossed the lines of war and misunderstanding, give us the courage to build bridges where the world raises up boundaries. In this time afflicted by conflict and division, intercede for us so that we may become peacemakers: unarmed and disarming witnesses of the peace that comes from Christ. Amen~~~



First Aid & Defibrillator is located in the Lay-Sacristy.

SUGGESTIONS ON WHAT SHOULD I GIVE UP FOR LENT?

Don't buy anything you don't need

Be silent for 30 minutes

Throw away 40 things for 40 days

Fast on another day instead of just Fridays of lent.

40 days of home organization

Arrive 15 minutes earlier to Mass

No gossiping

Stay after Mass to help sanitise the church

Work out daily to take care the body God gave you

Search and learn about a saint each week of lent

Don't eat after dinner

Say 3 nice things to your spouse & kids daily

Pick one of the 4 Gospels and read a chapter each Sunday

Don't eat out for 40 days

Post only positive quotes on your social media

Replace 30 minutes of TV or screen time with devotion / prayer time

Stop worrying about tomorrow but focus on today

Do not complain or speak negatively

Volunteer in a ministry that you've always wanted to

Sit down and have a meal as a family or with someone

PRAYER / FASTING / ALMSGIVING

WHY ARE THE GLORIA & ALLELUIA OMITTED DURING LENT?

The Lenten season is marked by two very distinct liturgical omissions. Neither the hymn known as the Gloria (Glory to God in the Highest) nor the Alleluia verse sung before the Gospel is permitted during the entire 40 days of Lent (*with the exceptions stated below*). Why is that?

First of all, the Gloria is a hymn that celebrates the coming of the Lord using words from the angels at Christ's birth. The Church during Lent returns in spirit to a time when the people of God were in exile, waiting for the Messiah to come and save them. It is a similar season of expectation as is Advent, but instead of awaiting Christ's birth from the womb of Mary, the Christian people await Christ's second "birth" from the womb of the sepulcher.

Secondly, following this same spirit of exile, the Church joins Moses and the Israelites as they wander in the desert for 40 years. It is a time of agony and purification, one where the faithful join together in saying, "How shall we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land?" (Psalm 137:4) The word "Alleluia" is rooted in a Hebrew expression that means "praise the Lord" and is thus omitted during Lent.

As a result, our focus in Lent is not in rejoicing, but in mourning our sins, looking at those things that prevent us from an authentic relationship with God. Once these are removed through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, we are able to rejoice again at Easter, for it is not only Christ's resurrection that we celebrate, but our own rebirth in the spirit.

Exceptions: On the Solemnities of Saint Joseph, husband of Mary, Mother of God (March 19) and the Annunciation of our Lord (March 25) the Church sets aside her purple for white vestments, sings the Gloria and prays the Creed. The Solemnity of St. Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church and foster father of Jesus, is a feast of highest rank. On the Solemnity of the Annunciation, we celebrate a feast that propels us into the Christmas mystery. Jesus, the Savior who will shortly give his life for our sins, is this day conceived in the Virgin Mary's womb. Her "fiat" to an angel, will undo the subjection to sin caused by Eve's "yes" to a fallen angel. This is indeed the most sublime moment in the history of time.

Catholic Online

PLEASE RING MASS MANAGER IF UNABLE TO ATTEND AND PERFORM YOUR ROSTERED DUTY



6 pm—Tania Walters 0492 952 478 11am—Lea Jacuta 0414 390 151
9 am—Theo Franken 0411 040 897 5 pm - Josephine Krajina 0407 042 133
Please note new rosters have been emailed to current ministers. Thank you.

Second Sunday of Lent Year A

Saturday & Sunday February 28 & March 1, 2026

MINISTERS OF:	6 PM	9 AM	11 AM	5 PM
Welcome	Kate Mulholland	Charlu Chua	Marissa Tuason	Josephine Krajina
The Word	Maria Prasetyono	Vickie Cassar	Cira Cleary	Josephine Krajina
Responder	Tania Walters	Alzira Mascarenhas	Liz Coustley	Janet Estrada
Presentation of Gifts	Tetchie Hadfield	Karl Metha	Chelsea Amato	Elaine de los Santos
Holy Communion	Robert Obtinalla	Theo Franken	Lea Jacuta	Ismael Sosa-Sanchez
PowerPoint Operator	Kate Mulholland	Sanyata Creo	Daniella Ahmet	Nina Ahmet
Gift Shop	Tania Walters	Anne Stokie	Lea Jacuta	Janet Estrada
Choir	Divine Mercy	Veneration Choir	Veritas Choir	Tongan Choir
Counters	Maria Abela, Tania Walters			

Third Sunday of Lent Year A

Saturday & Sunday March 7 & 8, 2026

MINISTERS OF:	6 PM	9 AM No Mass Manager	11 AM	5 PM
Welcomer	Tania Walters	Anne Stokie	Liz Coustley	Josephine Krajina
The Word	Tetchie Hadfield	Sanghaya Creo	Lea Jacuta	Lesley Sosa-Ritchie
Responder	Maria Prasetyono	Jennifer Peters	Liz Coustley	Ismael Sosa-Sanchez
Presentation of Gifts	Robert Obtinalla	Karl Metha	Marissa Tuason	Josephine Krajina
Holy Communion	Leny Obtinalla	Anne Stokie	Lea Jacuta	Lesley Sosa-Ritchie
PowerPoint Operator	Kate Mulholland	Sanyata Creo	Chelsea Amato	Nina Ahmet
Gift Shop	Margaret Richards	Anne Stokie	Lea Jacuta	Frank Unferdorben
Choir	Divine Mercy	Samoan	Veritas	No Choir
Counters	Elizabeth Marshall, Jennifer Peters			



First Aid & Defibrillator is located in the Lay-Sacristy.

COUPLES FOR CHRIST AUSTRALIA (CFCA)

CLP—Christian Life Program

starts 01 March 2026 St Dominics Hall,
Melton West, flyers available in the gathering area



Weekend Mass Times: Saturday 6pm Sunday 9am, 11am & 5pm

MARCH

Wednesday, 4th	9:15am Mass: St Catherine of Siena Church Year 4 Student's Mass
Thursday, 5th	9:15am Mass: St Dominic's Church
Friday, 6th	9:15am Mass: St Dominic's Church Year 6 Student's Mass
Tuesday, 10th	7pm Baptism Information Night St Catherine of Siena Church
Wednesday, 11th	9:15am Mass: St Catherine of Siena Church Year 2 Student's Mass
Thursday, 12th	9:15am Mass: St Dominic's Church
Friday, 13th	9:15am Mass: St Dominic's Church Year 5 Student's Mass
Saturday, 14th	Baptisms 11am

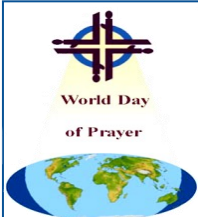
WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2026

Friday 6th March at 10.30am.

Grace Community Church

Yuille Street Melton

Prepared by Women of Nigeria



Theme: "I will give your Rest. Come" Everyone is Invited
More Info Contact: Margaret Richards 0418 883 550
St Catherine's representative—Melton Prayer Committee

KSC Men's Rosary

Date: 7th March 2026 Time: 10:00 am

St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne

(outside near statue of St Catherine of Siena)

For more Info contact: Lawrence 0448 398 344

KSC Men's Breakfast at St Dominics Hall

Date: 14th March 2026 Time: 8.00 am

Speaker: Josua Ince- Prominent scientist and materials
specialist. More info contact Lawrence 0448398344
Cost is free. A gold coin donation will be appreciated.

PARISH OFFERTORY GIVING

January 2026 Update:

Pledged: \$5,246.27

Actual: \$4,342.12



If you would like to:

- Make a **one-off donation**
- Set up **recurring donations** to the parish
- Or **request a payment report**

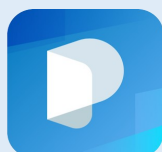
please scan the QR code or head to our website: [TINYURL.COM/GIVEMELTON](https://tinyurl.com/GiveMelton)

A smart terminal is situated on the table by the wall in the Gathering Area of the church. You can tap & give with your card or smart device to support the Parish too.

Parishioners can download and use the **Parousya Faith** app to automatically check-in when they arrive at their parish, receive the Day's Readings, and make a quick, simple, secure and anonymous donation using their Apple Wallet, all without registering an account.



Thank You



Is it time to renew your Working With Children Check card?

PLEASE NOTE: When applying for a Working With Children Check or renewal as a volunteer, please state that the organisation is:

**Catholic Parish of Melton
10 Unitt St, Melton VIC 3337**

NOT St Catherine of Siena Parish, Bulmans Rd., as this is **not** the name of our Parish.



MORE VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR THE WEEKEND LITURGY ROSTER ARE YOU WILLING TO HELP?

Pick up a 'Volunteer Information Pack' in the Gathering Area of the church for detailed information on each ministry, necessary requirements and the application form.

Would you like to receive

The Tidings before the weekend?

Head to our website and subscribe to The Tidings or simply scan the QR code to enter your email to receive a digital copy. Back issues are also available.



HOME VISITATION & BLESSING REQUESTS

For Home Visitation & Blessing requests, please speak to Deacon Chris after Mass or fill out the online request form: [TINYURL.COM/HBLESSING](https://tinyurl.com/HBLESSING)

SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY
In the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne, the safety and wellbeing of all persons is of highest priority.

PARISH BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Announcements & Notices: Please submit your announcement or notices no later than 5pm every Wednesday. Bulletin notices are normally retained in *The Tidings* for two weekends. Notices and announcements submitted after the deadline will be considered for publication on the following weekend.



First Aid & Defibrillator is located in the Lay-Sacristy.