



St Mary of the Cross Catholic Parish

EMBODYING CHRIST'S LOVE



Parish Priest: Fr Michael Kong
Deacon: George Piech-Meat

2nd Sunday of Easter 12 April 2026

Readings for Year A Acts 2: 42-47 1 Peter 1: 3-9 John 20: 19-31

Doubting Thomas

Locked doors cannot imprison the Risen Jesus. He enters, speaks 'Peace be with you', and breathes the Holy Spirit. This is the heart of Divine Mercy Sunday: God comes personally to heal and restore. In this day and age, when fear, doubt, and pressure can weigh on the heart, the gospel reading in John 20 offers the same reassurance. God arrives with peace even while our minds and hearts are still finding their way.

The disciple Thomas asks for proof, and Christ meets him gently, offering His wounds as truth and healing. St. Thomas Aquinas reminds us that this moment is also for us: when Thomas touches the wounds of Christ, we learn to bring our knowledge, our gifts, and even our questions into the service of faith. Jesus' blessing on those who believe without seeing shows that trust grows through living, not through perfect certainty. As the risen Christ breathes the Spirit upon his disciples, he entrusts them, and us, with sharing this living faith. Across Australia, about 2,200 adults have joined the Catholic faith this Easter, and here in our parish eight new believers now walk with us in Christ. Their presence invites all of us to grow together in hope and deeper meaning. May the mercy of Christ continue to fill every anxious place with peace, courage, and new beginnings.

Tony Aloysious
Parishioner



News and Announcements

Congratulations to our Neophytes and the RCIA team

What a beautiful ceremony for our Easter Vigil where Holly, Peter, Adam, Antonia, Cathy, Anthony, Sinead and Jason were fully accepted as Catholic's into our Parish community. It was a night of great celebration for all. Thanks to the dedication of our RCIA team Josie, Tony, Carmel and Patrick who prepared them with such care. You can watch a replay of the ceremony on our uTube channel.

[catholicmassstmaryofthecross](#)

Thank you

Many thanks to all those who contributed to the Holy Week services. Fr Michael, Deacon George, the Parish Leadership Team, readers, commentators, special ministers, welcomers, sacristans, musicians and singers and many more behind the scenes. All made a special contribution towards the success of Holy Week for our parish.

John Paul College Van

Volunteers are being called for the JPC van for **Thursday 23 April**. Volunteers meet in St Louis carpark at 4.15pm and return around 7pm. It's a great experience to help out and chat with the homeless and needy in the Frankston area. Please call Sandy if you can help 0412 057 177.

St Brigid's Garden Working Bee

Please join us on **Monday 13th April from 8.30am** finishing with morning tea about 10.30am. Various tidying up jobs to be done. Hope to see you there. All welcome.

80th

Happy 80th Birthday Terese

Congratulations to Terese Basile on your 80th birthday. Thank you for your steadfast and Holy Spirit filled prayers for our parish and community. May the blessings of the Holy Spirit continue to shine forth from your soul.

Praise and Worship Friday 17 April

Please join us on **Friday 17 April at St Louis Church for Praise and Worship from 7.30 to 8.30pm**. Come along to pray, sing and worship among friends.



FORMED - Divine Mercy

Renowned speaker Fr Michael Gaitley tells the dramatic story of God's love and mercy as interwoven through the transformative message of St Faustina.

Go to: <https://formed.org/signup> type in St Mary of the Cross Mordialloc and Aspendale, and enter your name and email address, for free access to this and much more great content.

Chelsea Longbeach Luncheon

All are invited to the luncheon on **15 April** at the Chelsea Longbeach RSL Thames Prom. Arrive by 12:30pm for lunch at 1pm. Contact either Pat Adams on 0448-866-020 or Keith Reiter 0417-350-733. Alternatively leave a message on Keith's landline 9772-7292. Seniors meals provided and all in good company.

Permanent Diaconate Information Session 2 May 2026

The annual May Information session has been scheduled. The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men, aged between 30 and the 50s, 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. It is an opportunity to further discern your vocation. Wives most welcome.

The session will be on Saturday morning, 2nd 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.

Event Date: Saturday 2 May 2025 10.00am-11.30am.

Venue: Catholic Theological College 278 Victoria Parade East Melbourne.

News and Announcements



Australians urged to join Pope Leo in praying for peace

Australians have been urged to take up the invitation of Pope Leo XIV to pray for peace on **April 11**.

Pope Leo will celebrate a prayer vigil for peace in St Peter's Basilica in Rome on Saturday, April 11 (6pm Rome time) and has invited all people of goodwill across the world to join him in prayer.

"Let us continue to pray for the gift of peace for the whole world," Pope Leo said.

The call comes amid a two-week ceasefire to allow talks between the United States and Iran.

Fr Michael's Pilgrimage trip

Fr Michael will be away until 24 April while leading his Pilgrimage in Korea. We wish him and all the pilgrims every blessing on their journey. During this time Friday and weekend masses will be as normal. We are blessed to welcome back Fr Peter Matheson who will be presiding in place of Fr Michael. Thank you Fr Peter.

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning masses will be replaced with Communion Services.

Men's Fellowship Group

The next get together of our Men's Fellowship group will be **Thursday 16 April. 7.30pm at St Louis**. All men of the parish are warmly invited to share in a discussion of faith in a safe and welcoming environment.

Thank you

Many thanks to all those who so generously donated so many goods to our grocery drive, which will go to assist the many refugees and asylum seekers who the Brigidine Asylum seekers assist. They will be delivered over the next week. Thanks to John Meyer for delivering the groceries to BASP.



Mother's Day Cake Stall - save the date

We are now looking to help our friends at BASP with a fundraising Mother's Day Cake stall on the weekend of 9/10 May at all masses. Save the date to do some baking or your cash to do some buying.



Servant Leadership - One of our Parish Core Mission Anchors

Serve Ministries - are you being called?

When we focus on helping others and honouring Christ, we soon discover that our needs are met far more deeply than we ever experienced otherwise. When you serve the parish, you serve God.

We have ministries in Children's liturgy, music, sacristan, flowers, readers, special ministers, welcomers and more.

Visit our parish [website](#) to find out more. Reach out to a member of our Parish Leadership Team or Parish Pastoral Council to learn more. You can also contact the parish office to express your interest at

mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au



Building the Synodal Way Together

Preparations for a Synod to be held in the Archdiocese of Melbourne in 2026 are now underway. A synodal gathering is focused on pastoral renewal and can result in decrees or pastoral plans that guide the diocese in its planning.

Archbishop Peter A Comensoli has invited the community to focus on three key themes for the Synod:

- Young Discipleship
- Missionary Leadership
- Formation and Participation

'They have emerged consistently and clearly through all the listening, discernment, and consultation undertaken in recent years across the Archdiocese,' the Archbishop said, 'including the Plenary Council process, the global Synod, and our local pastoral initiatives. Together, they will now form the foundational focus of our Archdiocesan Synod.'

The Synodal Way calls each of us—clergy, religious, and lay—to participate actively in discernment and dialogue, guided by the Holy Spirit. Over the months leading up to the Synod we will be answering some questions about the process, in this Bulletin column.

If you would like to become involved in the preparation toward the Melbourne Synod please email:

Synod2026@cam.org.au

NEXT WEEK'S SERVE MINISTERS ROSTER - 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER - 19TH APRIL 2026

18/19 April 2026	3rd Sunday of Easter (Year A) Acts 2: 14, 22-33 1 Peter 1: 17-21 Luke 24: 13-35						
	Reader	Commentator	Special Minister	Special Minister	Special Minister	Welcomer	Welcomer
6pm (A)	Patrick Jurd	Ann Brennan	Ann Furlong	Bernie Stuart	Marg De Vries	Annette Brilliant	Julie Buick
8.00am (M)	Chris McAleer	Paula Rodrigues	Jack Meyer	Carole Guthrie	Marlene Tangso	Volunteer	Odette Budge
9.30am (A)	Lisa Tuke	Niko Tovia	Mary Nayna	Maureen Wraight	Volunteer	Anne Marsh	Norma Taylor
11.00am (M)	Peter Hannan	Adam Whatmore	Helen Rocks	Louise Breslin	Juan Wilson	Vanessa Fernandes	Volunteer
Counters	Group 4	Bern & Geoff Terrell	Susan Dornom				

Recently deceased: Keith Arthur Carmody (father of Diedre Riordan Aspendale), Maureen Comer (sister-in-law of Marie Seddon), Aileen Marita O'Reilly (Mordialloc), Felice Errante Parrino (Mordialloc).

Anniversaries: Anthony Zerdoner, Gail Panton, Anne Weir, Gwen Rosario, Gavin Kirchner, Phillip Allan Reid, Gisele Labonte, Filippina (Phyl) Giarrusso, Michael John Healy, Helena O'Toole, Peter Wain, John Smith, Bishop Camillo Balin, John Myles, Margaret Burns, Edmond Allen, Maria Carmen Duch-Camps, Gayle Magee, Gerardo Velona, Josefa MacDonnell, Joan Mooney, Marie Ange Cheong-Lan, Pierre Commins, Matilda Grace Stevenson, Angelina Bambir, Berislav Bambir, Peter Bambir, Rosaleen McAlinden, Sydney Smout, Yvonne Farrell, Ivy Pearle, Sebastiano Accaputo, Heather Velfrage, Benjamin Fernandes, Ronald Wilton, Arthur Lamb, Marie Therese Hoban, Lena D'Cruz, Pat Dalton, Chris Morris, George Saddler, Nance Patrick, Peg Hayes.

Praying for healing and the sick: Len Scott, Julie Buick, Deborah Joseph, Chris Doran, Ruben David, Vasilos Garavelis, Mary Agiropoulos, Luis, Marisa, Rita Popley, Prunella Julien, Maree Wesols, Sophia Bicos, Jeffrey Sellar, Peter Waltho, Damian Haggerty, Noleen Dunn, Alasdair Hughes, Harry Donohue, Stephen Hopkins, Stephen Oldboldstone, Brilliant boys, John Catalano, Andrea Williams.

WEEKEND MASSES

St Louis' Saturday 6pm
St Brigid's Sunday 8am
St Louis' Sunday 9.30am
St Brigid's Sunday 11am

Our 6pm Saturday Vigil & 8am Sunday Masses are live streamed and can be accessed at:
[catholicmassstmaryofthecross](http://catholicmassstmaryofthecross.com)

WEEKDAY MASSES

St Louis' Mon 9.15am Communion Service,
St Louis' Tues 9.15am,
St Brigid's Wed 10am,
St Louis' Thurs 9.15am,
St Brigid's Fri 11.30am

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION AND HOLY ROSARY

St Brigid's every Fri 10.30am
St Louis' 1st Sat of the month 4.30pm

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

St Louis' Monday's 7.30 - 8.30pm

RECONCILIATION

St Brigid's Fri after 11.30am Mass
St Louis' Sat 5.30pm before 6pm Mass

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Fr Michael, Trish Angliss, Berna Wake, John Field

Our Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and human dignity of children, young people & adults at risk in our community.

CHILD SAFEGUARDING TEAM:

Fr Michael Kong 9580 7981
Trish 0421 604 849
Joe 0407 354 568
Helen 0498 178 899
Anthony 0407 505 341
Robyn 0412 814 592
Denise 0412 926 752

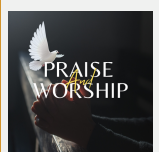
Growing in community & belonging at St Mary of the Cross



Children's Liturgy
5 - 12-year-olds.
4th weekend of the month. 6pm, 9:30am and 11am



Prayer Ministry
Intercessory prayer.
Last weekend of the month - all masses.



Praise & Worship
3rd Friday of month
7.30 - 8.30pm.
Alternates between each church.

Contact us
Parish Office: 03 9580 7981
OPEN Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday's 9am to 4.30pm
Parish Coordinator: Ann Fitzgerald
mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au
Parish House: 03 9412 8432

Pastoral care
If you would like a pastoral visit, Helen is available to drop by for a chat or to organise some help if required.
Please contact the office at
mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au

Baptism Coordinator
Debbie Poynton 0403 471 931

Our Parish acknowledges that we gather, pray and live on the land of the Bunurong People of the Kulin nation, and pay our respects to Elders, past, present and emerging. We recognise their continued connection to Country, and we thank them for their role in caring for, and maintaining Country and waterways, over thousands of generations.