



THE TIDINGS

SERVING THE AREAS OF MELTON, MELTON WEST, AINTREE, BONNIE BROOK,
GRANGEFIELDS, HARKNESS, KURUNJANG, PLUMPTON, ROCKBANK & TOOLERN VALE



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.

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT – Year C | 22 December 2024

CLERGY

Parish Priest: FR ALEX CLEMENTE

Assistant Priest: FR WILFORD URMZA

Parish Deacon: DCN CRIS CREO

Email: Cristopher.Creo@cam.org.au

PRESBYTERY & 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 9am - 5pm

The parish office will reopen on January 7, 2025

We are closed on weekends and public holidays.

STAFF & SAFEGUARDING COORDINATOR

Parish Secretary: LIZ COUSTLEY (temporary)

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 & 5pm
- Wednesday Mass will resume in February

St Dominic's Church, Melton

Church St, Melton, VIC 3337

- Thursday & Friday Mass will resume January 2&3

CONFESSION

St Catherine of Siena Church

Saturday: 5.45 pm | Sunday: 4.45pm

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED

SACRAMENT & ROSARY

St Dominic's Church

- Thursday following the 9.15am 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 7-8): Bridge Rd, Cobblebank

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

Looking For Signs



When Mary went to visit Elizabeth she was not looking for a sign that she had made the right decision. Rather, because she had accepted God's will the sign was given to her.

Her acceptance and action came first. The sign came later as a confirmation. At times we look to God to provide us with a sign that our impending action is the right choice.

However, faith acts in trust and confidence; it doesn't wait around for a green light from God. When we do act in faith, the flow-on effects are the sign of confirmation.



CHRISTMAS 2024 MASS TIMES

ST CATHERINE OF SIENA CHURCH, MELTON WEST

15th-23rd Dec	Christmas Novena Masses	8pm
24th Dec	Christmas Vigil Family Mass	6pm
	Christmas Vigil Mass	8pm
	Midnight Mass	10pm
25th Dec	Christmas Day Mass	11am
	Christmas Day Swahili Mass	1pm

CHRISTMAS CAROLS WILL BEGIN 30 MINUTES BEFORE
CHRISTMAS VIGIL AND CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES.



The Melton Parish Office will be closed from
**Monday, Dec 23, 2024 - Monday,
Jan 6, 2025.** We will reopen on
Tuesday, January 7, 2025.

New Year's Day Mass (Jan 1, 2025)



*Mary, Solemnity of Mary,
the Holy Mother of God*

11 am

at St Catherine of Siena Church

St Catherine of Siena

Wednesday Morning Masses will resume in February, 2025.

St Dominic's Church

Weekday Masses will resume on January 2 & 3, 2025.

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

Reflection by Sr Mary Fermio RSI

In my experience, women I have met, who were pregnant, had a joy radiating from them, a joy, the source of which came from within. Always, I found myself sharing that joy for the new life growing within them.

This joy enveloped Elizabeth when Mary visited her. I love to sit and compose a story about Mary. After the angel visited her, did Mary ask herself whether she had dreamt the visit or not. Was it real what the Angel had told her?

She decided to visit Elizabeth – firstly probably to help an older woman, secondly, to check out whether what the angel had said was true – that Elizabeth was expecting a child. Elizabeth's joy and words would have assured Mary that all was as the Angel had said, and that God's plan for her was not what she had planned. This visit would have given both much joy in sharing and the expectation of both births.

At Christmas there is a lot of visiting happening – shared stories, meals, family events etc.

May you experience the joy of family visits and become for others the symbol of God's loving hospitality, bringing joy and blessings into your life.



CHRISTMAS.. THE BEGINNING OF THE EASTER STORY

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Lord, make us turn to you;
let us see your face and we shall be saved.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord:
may his will for me be done.

Alleluia!

Today's Readings: Micah 5:1-4 Hebrews 10:5-10 Luke 1:38

Next Week's Readings: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 Col 3:12-21 Lk 2:41-52

Prayer Requests

Recently Deceased: David Brendan Ruzanji

Death Anniversaries:

Louis Cutajar, Don Mc Carthy, Evelyn Bell, Robert Rayner, Molly Donnelly, Erika Lesnianski, Carmani Savirimattu, Margaret Cutajar, Kathleen Dillon, David Mackeen, George Verlander, Donald Graham Reardon, Maureen Prada, Lorna Munro, Nell Butler, Jenny Lucas (nee Dias), Monique Clencie, Corie Clencie, Estrella de Jesus, James Milligan, Margaret Caffrey, Margaret Hilbert, Alexander & Helen Sayno, Lily Zammit, Alan Cole, Nickolas Xerri, Maria Mc Intyre, Monsignor Francis McGuire, Imelda Rolloda, Carmel McGuinness, Meril Motha, Josephine Gray, Thomas Connor, Ryder Finn, Michael Schembri, Julianna Nonicki, Kazimierz Nonicki, Guzepp Haber, Albert Gil Estrada, Laurie Mc Knight, Joan Curtin, Cefferina Porcalla, William Leaupepe, Elina Jazz, Sonila Vague, Bill Winter, Patrick Conway, Rogelio Oropesa, John Douglas Anderson, Catherine Hanrahan, Geoffrey Barker, Darren Frain, Roberto Bascuña Jr, Chua Charlu Sr., Teodorico Ventura, Franz Buttigieg, Mary O'Leary, Mary Hickie, Bishop Joe Grech, Ernesto Claneza Sr, Darren Frain, Leah Abraham, Marcella Bacchilega, Helena Borg, Darren Murdoch, Maria Avellino, Veronica Lane, Mary Bugeja, Florence Byfieldt, Olive Hanney, Moussa Moussa, George Mencl, Jack Mc Callum, Michael Angelo Gatt, John Villarba, Maria Camilleri, Cecilio Bazar, Sandra Cooper, Constance Wheelahan, Jim Dillon, Margaret Doherty, Maria Gnacinski, Cecil Heyu, Aurlher Ferdinaiy, Therese Sloupe, Tarin Gomez, Marija Vogranič, William Skilbeck, Anthony Mendis, Vincent Barbara, Tony Bartolo, Lino Bartolo, Edward O'Rourke, Bill Hilbert, Colin Thomson, Christine Penza, Ron Lundberg, Lovett Remedios, Rita Camilleri, Alma Halliana, George Laffin, Kathleen O'Rourke, Joseph James Dean, Pauline Camilleri, Lashan Abeygoonawardena, Peter Todd, Jack Coburn, Mario Vannuccini, Peter Paul Mifsud, Elaine Turner, Jean Moran, Eliz Xerri, James Wotton, Micha Calleja, Lovely Dumapias, Joan Roberson, Protacio L Ty, Peter Delaharpe, Joe Bugeja Snr, Molly Moody, John Lahiff, Antonia Calleja, Dorothy Gomez, Bessie Nicholls, Eileen Foster, Joseph Muscat, Brian Bentley, Sam Borg, Joseph Buttigieg, Godfrey Farrugia, Rosina Gerada, Ivan Bezzina, Gerald and Maria Ella Hermosissima, Royland Unabia, Joan Gerada, Anton & Anne Tash Pigot, Sr Tania DeJong, Steven Allen, Moria Dalli, Marina Seneviratne, Florence Seneviratne, Lillian Johnston, Romeo Perez, Mary Debono, Maryanne Calleja, Bert Ilagan, Rita Debono, Iris Morgan

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS TREE



A huge thank you to the Parish community for your generosity in donating to the Vinnies Tree.

As a result of your donations we were able to collate 24 Christmas Hampers overflowing with treats just in time for Christmas. The Hampers have been delivered to families in our community and have been received with love.

Merry Christmas!



ST VINCENT DE PAUL - NEW STORE HAS OPENED 102 HIGH ST, MELTON

A second St Vincent de Paul store has opened selling white goods and furniture to the public. Head down and take a look!

5 TIPS TO KEEP YOUR FAMILY SAFE AND SANE OVER THE HOLIDAYS

Will you be juggling screens and routines with the kids these holidays? We know it can be a challenge, so we've got 5 tips to help:

1. Adjust [tech settings](#) and use [parental controls](#) to keep kids safe while they play.
2. Talk to your child about what they are doing online and identify trusted people to go to if something worries them. Our [Mighty Heroes](#) can help.
3. Take care when [taking and sharing photos and videos](#) of children. Practice asking for permission and respecting people's choices around being in photos and videos.
4. Set up a [family tech agreement](#) to suit the age and needs of your children.
5. Have fun! By watching and playing online together, you can learn about what your kids enjoy doing, as well as noticing any risks.

Tips for
keeping kids
safe online over
the holidays



PLEASE RING THE MASS MANAGER IF UNABLE TO ATTEND:

6 pm	Tania Walters	0492 952 478	11am	Liz Coustley	0490 885 515
9 am	Theo Franken	0411 040 897	5 pm	Josephine Krajina	0407 042 133

4 th Sunday of Advent			Saturday & Sunday December 21&22, 2024	
MINISTERS OF:	6 PM	9 AM	11 AM	5 PM
Welcomer	Kate Mulholland	Anne Stokie	Chelsea Amato	Frank Unferdorben
The Word	Tania Walters	Vickie Cassar	Cira Cleary	Lesley Sosa-Ritchie
Responder	Tania Walters	Theo Franken	Liz Coustley	Josephine Krajina
Presentation of Gifts	Leny Obtinalla	Karl Metha	Chelsea Amato	Elainne de los Santos
Holy Communion	Kate Mulholland	Theo Franken	Liz Coustley	Josephine Krajina
PowerPoint Operator	James Taniman	Faith Tuputala	Lea Jacuta	Nina Ahmet
Gift Shop	Margaret Richards	Graham Dempsey	Lea Jacuta	Josephine Krajina
Choir	Divine Mercy	Veneration Choir	Veritas Choir	Filipino Choir
Counters	Elizabeth Marshall, Jennifer Peters			

CHRISTMAS MASSES Tuesday December 24				Wednesday December 25
MINISTERS OF:	6 PM	8 PM	10 PM	11 AM
Mass Manager	Tania Walters	Lea Jacuta	Cira Cleary	Liz Coustley
Welcomer	Josephine Krajina	Margaret Richards	Jennifer Peters	Liza Fernandes
The Word	Maria Prasetyono	Tetchie Hadfield	Janet Estrada	Lesley Sosa-Ritchie
Responder	Josephine Krajina	Lea Jacuta	Cira Cleary	Cira Cleary
Presentation of Gifts	Tania Walters	Tetchie Hadfield	Elainne delos Santos	Liza Fernandes
Holy Communion	Tania Walters Josephine Krajina	Lea Jacuta Kate Mulholland		Vickie Cassar Ismael Sosa-Sanchez
PowerPoint Operator	James Taniman	Tania Walters	Danielle Ahmet	Liz Coustley
Choir	Tongan Choir	Divine Mercy	Filipino Choir	Veritas Choir

Feast of the Holy Family			Saturday & Sunday December 28&29, 2024	
MINISTERS OF:	6 PM	9 AM	11 AM	5 PM
Welcome	Margaret Richards	Graham Dempsey	Liza Fernandes	Josephine Krajina
The Word	Tania Walters	Sanghaya Creo	Lea Jacuta	Ismael Sosa-Sanchez
Responder	Tetchie Hadfield	Vickie Cassar	Cira Cleary	Frank Unferdorben
Presentation of Gifts	Robert Obtinalla	Faith Tuputala	Lea Jacuta	Josephine Krajina
Holy Communion	Tania Walters	Anne Stokie	Liz Coustley	Ismael Sosa-Sanchez
PowerPoint Operator	Kate Mulholland	Sanyata Creo	Choir	Nina Ahmet
Gift Shop	Kate Mulholland	Anne Stokie	Lea Jacuta	Frank Unferdorben
Choir		Veneration Choir	St Anuarite Choir	Filipino Choir
Counters	Leslie Gordon, John Woof			

Epiphany of the Lord			Saturday & Sunday January 4&5, 2025	
MINISTERS OF:	6 PM	9 AM	11 AM	5 PM
Welcome		Faith Tuputala	Liz Coustley	Frank Unferdorben
The Word	Manoj D'Silva	Lawrence Camenzuli	Liza Fernandes	Josephine Krajina
Responder	Tania Walters	Jennifer Peters	Cira Cleary	Lesley Sosa-Ritchie
Presentation of Gifts	Leny Obtinalla	Karl Metha	Liz Coustley	Elainne de los Santos
Holy Communion	Robert Obtinalla	Anne Stokie		Ismael Sosa-Sanchez
PowerPoint Operator	James Taniman	Faith Tuputala	Chelsea Amato	Nina Ahmet
Gift Shop	Tania Walters	Graham Dempsey	Lea Jacuta	Josephine Krajina
Choir	Divine Mercy	Veneration Choir	Veritas Choir	Tongan Choir
Counters	Maria Abela, Tania Walters			



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

THE SACRAMENTS OF PENANCE, EUCARIST & CONFIRMATION 2025

An invitation is extended to join our partnered parishes of Melton and Melton South, after hours Sacrament Program called:

St Luke's Sacramental Program

for young people who do not attend a Catholic Primary School, or attend a Catholic Secondary School and are baptised, but *have not received one or more of the above Sacraments.*

We begin with an Information Night on Thursday, January 30, 2025 at 7pm sharp in St Dominic's Parish Hall - entry via the gate on Smith St, Melton.

Information and the application form for these programs is available online on our Parish website: www.melbcatholic.org/melton or in hard copy from the Gathering Area of St Catherine of Siena church.

Please complete the application form and either:

- Email it to the parish office at: melton@cam.org.au,
- Drop it off personally at the office between 9am and 3pm, or
- Place it into the return box in the Gathering Area of the church.

The Sacrament of Penance program begins on Thursday February 6, 2025.

*Growing Together
In Faith*

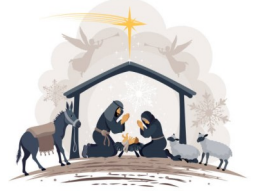


Christmas Gifts and Cards in the Piety Stall

A variety of **Christmas gifts** are on display, and available for purchase, in the Piety Stall.

St Vincent de Paul **Christmas Cards** are now available - \$4

2025 Columban Calendar Is available for \$11



THE ARCHBISHOP'S CAMPAIGN

The Archdiocese of Melbourne is pleased to share the success of the inaugural Archbishop's Campaign and sincerely thank you for your generosity and support.

Together, parishes across the Archdiocese raised **\$811,178** including **\$476** contributed by Catholic Parish, Melton.

These funds will support vital mission areas such as the Priests Retirement Foundation, the John Pierce Centre, Melbourne Overseas Mission, Corpus Christi College, Catholic Theological College and the Archbishop's Evangelisation Initiatives.

Thank you for being part of this important campaign and for living out your faith with action.



Parish Offertory Giving November Update

Pledged: \$6,428

Actual: \$4,475.81

NEW TO OUR PARISH?

Welcome!

Please collect a Welcome Pack from the Gathering Area of the church. Once census form is completed, place it in the white return box in the Gathering Area.

MISSED OUT ON THE TIDINGS?

Back issues of The Tidings are available on our parish website: www.melbcatholic.org/melton

CLICK to VIEW
PREVIOUS BULLETINS



Would you like to receive

The Tidings before the weekend?

Head to our website to subscribe to The Tidings or simply scan the QR code to enter your email to receive a digital copy. You will then receive a verification link via email to confirm your subscription.

Parish Offertory Giving

If you would like to make either a one-off donation or to set up recurring donations to the parish, please scan the QR code or head to our website:



[TINYURL.COM/GIVEMELTON](https://tinyurl.com/GIVEMELTON)

You may also like to use the Smart Terminal at the welcome desk to contribute to the

HOME VISITATION & BLESSING REQUESTS

For Home Visitation & Blessing requests, please speak to one of our priests 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.