

St Mary's Parish

We proudly acknowledge the
Boonwurrung People of the
Kulin Nation as the Traditional
Owners and Custodians of
this land.

*A community where we bring
together our gifts and talents*

6th October, 2024



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www.melbcatholic.org/s/williamstown

Parish Priest

(Fr.) Greg Trythall

0400 524 363

Email:

greg.trythall@cam.org.au

Pastoral Associate

Monique Julian

0450 789 951

Monday, Tuesday

Parish Staff

Sharon Vassallo

Tuesday 8:30am – 4.00pm

Thursday 8:30am – 4.00pm

Friday 8.30am - 4.00pm

Kylie Skinner-Wednesday

9.30am–1.30pm

Safeguarding Officer

Frank Schobben

0427 416 184

St. Mary's School

Principal Anthony Hockey

Normal Mass Times

Consult bulletin inside for
any changes.

Saturday at 6:00pm

Sunday at 8:30am and
10:30am

Tuesday to Friday 9:15am

Reconciliation

Saturday 10:00am

Silent Adoration in Church

2:30pm – 3:30pm

Wednesday

Baptism Preparation Night

Third Thursday monthly

7.00pm at Parish Centre.

Baptism must be booked
prior to attending

Preparation Night.

TWENTY SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

FIRST READING:

A reading from the book of Genesis. 2:18-24.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

May the Lord bless us
all the days of our lives.

SECOND READING:

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews. 2:9-11.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

If we love one another, God will live in us in perfect love.

GOSPEL: MARK 10:2-16

The Pharisees approached and asked, "Is it lawful for a husband to divorce his wife?" They were testing him. He said to them in reply, "What did Moses command you?" They replied, "Moses permitted him to write a bill of divorce and dismiss her." But Jesus told them, "Because of the hardness of your hearts he wrote you this commandment. But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female. For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, no human being must separate." In the house the disciples again questioned him about this.

He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."



Tuesday 8th October	9.15am Mass at St Mary's Church. 7pm – 8pm Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults – at the Presbytery
Wednesday 9th October	9:15am Mass at St Mary's Church. 7.00pm Parish Finance Meeting at the Presbytery.
Thursday 10th October	9:15am Mass at St Mary's Church.
Friday 11th October	9:15am Mass at St Mary's Church.

OUR PARISH RENEWAL PROGRAM

LAUNCHED NEXT WEEKEND 12th & 13th October

Next weekend is the launch of our special **Parish Renewal Program**. The Program is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on what it means to be a member of our parish community. As individuals and together as a community, we will be challenged to make a new commitment to our role in parish life – to ensure we provide the human and financial resources for mission, for vibrant liturgy, quality pastoral care and outreach to the needy. We also need to maintain our beautiful church and other parish facilities and ensure ongoing financial stability. We encourage you to be actively involved – read the materials, listen to the speakers and follow the Program with weekly updates on our parish website, through email and SMS. We encourage you to reflect, pray and discuss the themes and topics with your family, friends, and fellow parishioners. To launch the Program next weekend, at all Masses we will hear from parishioners on the impact of our parish on them and the importance of being actively engaged in parish life. Stephen Littleton will be coordinating the Program.

Dear Parishioners,

CHANGE OF PULPITS:

This weekend I will be celebrating the 10:30am Mass at St Leo's North Altona while Fr Paul Tru will celebrate the 10:30am Mass here. I will be back for the 12:30am baptisms.

Next week our four parish priests and our reps namely Stephen Littleton and Joe Covelli for us, will meet again to discuss how we forge greater parish collaboration through the exchange of information and insights, the discernment of common opportunities and challenges, and the sharing of hospitality and friendship.

We usually have a standing agenda such as the following:

- News from each parish – information, insights challenges and opportunities.
- Consideration of any combined action relating to matters raised in the news reports.
- Updates on existing collaborations eg Youth Group that meets this weekend after the Saturday night Mass at our Parish Centre.

Sometimes we will discuss some substantial matter such as the recent resource guide of "Take the Way of the Gospel" put out two weeks ago by the Archdiocese.

EUTHANASIA:

One of the big elephants in the room these days is Euthanasia. Shortly I will soon try to explain how the Bishops of Australia have given advice about how to pastorally handle this desire of some people to end their life. But before I try to give some clarity it is best to look first at the church's general position.

Whatever its motives and means, direct euthanasia consists in putting an end to the lives of handicapped, sick, or dying persons. In that it is morally unacceptable. Murder is the unlawful taking of a life whether it be your own or someone else's. It fits under one of the 10 commandments "thou shall not kill". An act which causes death in order to eliminate suffering constitutes a murder gravely contrary to the respect due to the living God, our Creator. Whereas on the other hand discontinuing medical procedures that are burdensome, dangerous, extraordinary, or disproportionate to the expected outcome can be legitimate. Even if death is thought imminent, the ordinary care owed to a sick person cannot be legitimately interrupted. The use of painkillers to alleviate the sufferings of the dying, even at the risk of shortening their life, can be morally in conformity with human dignity if death is not willed as either an end or a means, but only foreseen and tolerated as inevitable. Palliative care is a special form of charity and as such it should be encouraged as widely as possible.

Now let's deal more with the fact that the Australian bishops want to be compassionate with those who choose VAD – Voluntary Assisted Dying for whatever complicated reasons. Thus, how do we accompany them with some sensitivity and wisdom: even though morally we may disagree with their stance.

Last year there were 650 Victorians who chose in various forms to go down the VAD route. Although it cannot be verified as yet, it seems to many of us clergy that social isolation is probably a factor in the choice of many. That is why we as Christians wish to stress the importance of Community support in all its forms to help people realise that they can be supported whether it is through medical professionals or wider community support for instance of those involved in palliative care that shows the single individual has others who wish them to continue living.

The resource of the Australian bishops called COMPANION GUIDE “To witness and to Accompany with Christian Hope” comprises seven sections which cover both a summary of the document and tools for continued reflection and ongoing learning and formation for relatives, friends, pastoral carers, healthcare workers and ordained ministers. I am happy to pass this on to anyone who wishes to read it.

MARCH FOR THE BABIES:

On October 10, 2008 the Victorian Parliament voted to remove all legal protection for children before birth. Since that tragic day, thousands of children have been disposed of instead of allowing them to have the same right to life as the rest of us. On October 10, 2009 thousands gathered in the centre of Melbourne for the first March for the Babies. I hope as many of you as possible can stand for the babies and their mums at 1pm on Saturday October 12 in the Treasury Gardens, Spring Street, Melbourne at the 2024 March for the Babies. Wear blue or pink – catch the train to Parliament Station.

Yours 'in Christ'

Fr Greg 03/10/24

WORKING BEE-CHURCH GARDENS

SATURDAY 12th October, 9.00am-11.00AM

*Come along and help clean up our beautiful church gardens,
even if it is only for an hour or two.*

If you could bring your own equipment, it would be greatly appreciated.

RENEWAL OF WEDDING VOWS

October 20th: Life, Marriage and Family Sunday:

If any couple would like a blessing and to renew their wedding vows, especially if celebrating a significant anniversary, you will be able to do this at all Masses on this weekend.

Please leave your name on the form at the back of the church or contact Monique

monique.julian@cam.org.au or Fr Greg.

SAFEGUARDING - Code of Conduct declaration

*There are a number of parish volunteers who have not yet returned
their signed declaration to the parish office.*

We request that you attend to this at your earliest convenience please.

GREEN TEAM SUSTAINABILITY THIS WEEK:

Donate unwanted goods to charity

Rosters for this Week 5th & 6th October 2024

Counting Team 1	Frank Jones, Robyn Jones, Kimberley Jones, Paul Francis
Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Beata Sicat 8.30am Ivonne Cram, Eilin Taylor 10.30am Eugene Yii
Mass Readers	6.00pm Youth Leaders 8.30am Chris Maine 10.30am Mareena Peter
Welcomers	6.00pm Michael Dillon 8.30am Teofila Hunt 10.30am Di Collins

Rosters for next Week 12th & 13th October 2024

Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Mary Soppitt 8.30am Jeanette Thompson, Maryanne Wenzel 10.30am Alison Silke, Di Collins
Mass Readers	6.00pm Frank Schobben 8.30am Anthony Verhoef 10.30am Eilin Taylor
Welcomers	6.00pm Frank Schobben 8.30am Stephen Littleton 10.30am Joe Covelli

IN OUR PRAYERS

We pray for Haizil Joseph, Santhi Komatineni, Sarah Rodgers, Assunta Delgrosso, Yemme Reddy, Anne-Marie Pelikinakis, Tita Lopres, Lazarus Wilson, Danuta Kurkowski, Silvana & Emma Ursini.

RECENTLY DECEASED & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for Frank Guastalegname, Lido Fontanini who passed away recently and Anthony Zahra, Tagore Yenigenne, Nonie Ward, (Fr.) Bill O'Halloran, Michael Kennedy, Michael Darmanin, Rosario De Bono, Brian Debenham, Mark Penfold, Sheila Maguire, Joan Hudson, Angela Teuma, Joseph Cogan, Maria Meloni, Mark Gerada, Michael Rogerson, Andrew Dory, Kathleen Anderson, Johanna Wilkinson, Andre Portelli, Mary Quinn, Ellen Maguire, Roger Dawson, Edna Gregory, Mary O'Keefe, Doris Gleeson, Florence Hamment, Luigi Vivone, Elizabeth Perram, Priscilla Dresser, Joseph Magdziara, John Meehan, Bernard Brown, Bianca Carwana, Rita Zahra, Paul and Lorenza Dimeck, Les Sharp, Franca Napoli, Antonio Rigoni, Willy Colton and Nicky Colton; whose anniversaries are at this time.

An upcoming event for St Josephs by the Sea

The Observant Eye of Jesus

Thursday 17 October – 7:30pm – 9:00pm

How the parables show Jesus' appreciation of the natural world.

- Presenter: Fr Brendan Byrne
- Session followed by supper (Donations appreciated)

RSVP: please call (03) 9397 6012 or email admin.sjbts@sosjspirit.org.au