



St Mary of the Cross Catholic Parish

EMBODYING CHRIST'S LOVE

Parish Priest: Fr Andrew Jekot, Assistant Priest: Fr Huy Nguyen,
Deacon: George Piech-Meat

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 31 August 2025

Readings for Year C Sirach 3: 17-20, 28-29 Hebrews 12: 18-19, 22-24 Luke 14: 1, 7-14



*"the man who humbles
himself will be exalted"*

Jesus' message about humility is as relevant today as it was in the first century.

It is part of human nature to want to fit in and to want to belong. Sometimes we are tempted to seek this acceptance at any cost.

When our sense of belonging is achieved through the harming, humiliation or exploitation of others then the price is too high.

When our desire for the latest fashion comes at the expense of others being able to simply live, then the price is too high.

When we lift ourselves up by putting others down, then the price is too high.

Pope Leo XIV urges clergy and Catholics to serve with humility and walk alongside the marginalized, calling for a departure from superficial faith to one rooted in humility and compassion, leading to greater missionary outreach and a focus on peace through dialogue and solidarity.

Wendy Sullivan
Principal, St Brigid's Primary School



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News and Announcements

World Day of Prayer for Creation 7 September - Season of Creation 1 September - 4 October



The annual celebration of "Creation Day" on September 1, also known as "World Day of Prayer for Creation", is the celebration that inspires and nourishes the larger Season of Creation that flows from it. Inspired by a rich liturgical tradition of the Orthodox Church, it was later embraced by the World Council of Churches in 2008 and the Catholic Church in 2015.

This feast is not just about celebrating "Creation as the created world" that God gifted us, but most importantly, it is about celebrating "Creation as a foundational mystery" of our Christian faith. In fact, as we celebrate the 1700 years of Nicaea in 2025, Creation Day is an opportunity to celebrate the Creed's proclamation of our faith in the Triune God as Creator – in "the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth", in Christ "through [whom] all things were made", and in the Holy Spirit, "the giver of life".

"The Redeemer is the Creator and if we do not proclaim God in his full grandeur—as Creator and as Redeemer—we also diminish the value of the Redemption... The renewal of the doctrine of Creation and a new understanding of the inseparability of Creation and Redemption are of supreme importance."

Pope Benedict XVI

Laudato si: 2000 Years in the Making

2025 is the 10th anniversary of Pope Francis' encyclical, *Laudato si* - 'care for our common home'.

Thanks to those who came along to reflect upon the richness of this encyclical. Thanks Patrick for such an informative presentation. Here are the links that Patrick referenced during his talk:

[Laudatio si Encyclical](#) by Pope Francis [Grace](#) A booklet by Patrick Jurd

We also have a link to a recording of the the talk if you were unable to come along, that is now available to watch on uTube [Patrick Jurd presentation](#)



Let's Do Footy Lunch

Please join us on **Tuesday 16 September 12 to 2pm in St Louis Church foyer**. Enjoy a special Footy themed lunch with a fun footy quiz and Spot Prizes. Cost is a donation to St Vincent de Paul's Assist a Student Program. All are welcome. Please sign up at the Welcome Desk.

Holy Rosary and Eucharistic Adoration

All are welcome and invited to pray to Our Lady and spend quiet time in adoration - Saturday 6 September at St Louis' Church from 4.30-5.30pm.

Prayer ministry this weekend

Prayer Ministry is the practice of two or more people praying with you for a particular intention. We will have prayer teams available after Mass this weekend (30/31 August) to pray for any intention that you have at this time. The prayer team will gently guide you, all you need to do is to present yourself and open your heart to God! Father will announce the Prayer Ministry teams at the end of Mass.

The Archbishop's Campaign August 2025 - Thank you

Thank you to everyone who has so generously already made a pledge or gift to the 2025 Archbishop's Campaign. Every gift, large or small, is greatly appreciated! If you are yet to make a gift, you can still do so. This campaign supports the vital ministries of the Church in our Archdiocese. Campaign envelopes with tear-off pledge cards are still available in the church. You can also make a gift online at [archbishops campaign](#). I encourage you to please give generously to the Campaign.



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Forming Catholics for Life.

Pope Saint Gregory the Great | Catholic Saints

In the history of the Church, there are less than five popes esteemed with the title "the Great." One of the lesser known members of this impressive group is Pope St. Gregory the Great. Gregory is known for his prolific writing, his radical humility, his emphasis on missions, and his dedication to almsgiving. Enjoy this discussion between Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. John Sehorn.

Our parish has a Formed subscription. Visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.



News and Announcements

Social Justice Sunday 31 August



Australian Catholic Bishops Social Justice Statement - Serving homeless people with mental ill-health

This year's Social Justice Statement calls us to follow the example of Jesus, who always noticed, listened to, and cared for those on the edge of society. Just as Jesus healed the blind man Bartimaeus (Mark 10:46-52), we are called to see and respond to the needs of our sisters and brothers living in hardship. There are some printed copies of the statement in the church foyers.

You can also access the Bishops Social Justice Action Statement at: <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2025/08/06/signs-of-hope-on-the-edge-social-justice-statement-2025-2026/>



Sacrament of Reconciliation - Journeying Together - Journey Mass next weekend

Our new program for the sacrament of reconciliation for children from government schools is underway, which

involves children and parents journeying together. Please hold in your prayers Maree and Lenny, James and Lachlan and Peter and Casey. Next weekend we welcome them for their journey Mass, when the children and their families will be attending mass at St Mary of the Cross.

Also, if you know of any families looking to receive the sacraments for their children in 2026, that are currently attending government schools, please contact the parish office.

MenALIVE: MAX25 10-12 October



Join men from across Australia for MAX2025, a national menALIVE gathering designed to inspire, challenge and energise you to grow in faith and purpose. Set in the tranquil surrounds of the Edmund Rice Centre in Lower Plenty, this weekend experience will help you take your life to the next level. The event will run from Friday evening to Sunday early afternoon. The program will include a mix of talks, panel discussions and small group sessions. There will also be opportunities for personal quiet time and reflection, as well as fellowship and recreational activity. More details will be made available in the coming weeks. Costs can be covered by the parish. If you are interested, please contact Jon Searle 0418 415 865.

John Paul College Van Thursday 2 October - volunteers required

The van services people experiencing homelessness in the Frankston area. Volunteers greet guests and provide a snack and hot drink. Please contact Sandy if you are able to help: sandy.lindfield@bigpond.com

Pet Blessing - SAVE THE DATE - Saturday 4 October 10-11am



Our annual Pet Blessing will be held on Saturday 4 October from 10am out the front at St Brigid's church. Bring along your pets of all shapes and sizes for a blessing by Fr Andrew.

Caritas Australia launches urgent pledge as restrictions further threaten aid delivery in Gaza. Pledge closes Sunday 31 August. Please sign up this weekend

New restrictive conditions for international NGOs (INGOs) operating in Gaza are due to come into effect on 9th September that require them to breach the safety and security of their staff or face deregistration. While this does not affect Caritas, as they use local partners on the ground, Caritas is encouraging us all to speak up for other INGOs as this will likely further hinder critical humanitarian assistance reaching Palestinians.

Caritas need as many pledges as possible by **31 August** so they can be presented to the Australian Foreign Minister's office on **1st Sept.**

In addition to signing the pledge, Caritas Australia is offering a range of resources and actions for Catholics and all Australians who wish to stand in solidarity with the people of Gaza. These include:

Writing to your MP using Caritas Australia's letter-writing guide to advocate for peace and humanitarian access.

Praying in solidarity, with downloadable prayer resources for parishes, schools, and homes.

Lighting a candle in remembrance or sharing a simple meal as a symbolic act of solidarity.

Donating to provide urgent food, water, shelter, and medical support.

To sign the pledge and explore all the ways to act, visit: <https://www.caritas.org.au/act/gaza>

NEXT WEEK'S SERVE MINISTERS ROSTER - 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 7 SEPTEMBER 2025

6/7 Sept 25	23 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C Wisdom 9: 13-18 Philemon 9-10, 12-17 Luke 14: 25-33						
	Reader	Commentator	Special Minister	Special Minister	Special Minister	Welcomer	Welcomer
6pm (A)	Patrick Jurd	Jennifer Ford	Marg De Vries	Anthony Barnhoorn	Bernie Stuart	Berna Wake	Julie Buick
8.00am (M)	Tony Aloysious	Angela Meo	Carole Guthrie	Jack Meyer	Chris McAleer	Jack Guthrie	Jane Standish
9.30am (A)	Phillip Morriss	Ann Furlong	Ron Schneider-Loos	Martin Newington	Elizabeth Newington	Niko Tovia	Anne Marsh
11.00am (M)	Peter Hannan	Adam Whatmore	Christine D'Cruze	Peter Wain	Gail Bell	Ellen Young	MaryAnn Farren
Counters 2	Helen and Kelvin Rocks		Mary Nayna				

Recently deceased: Alonzo Rep

Anniversaries: Megan Tomasetti (Levvey) - Yvonne Lazaroo - Lena Saccio
 Nicholas Castenetto - Patricia Daly - Daniel P Farren -
 Benita Schneider-Loos - Joseph Rochford - Sebastiana Musumeci -
 Les Woodhead - Jose Mari Manahan - Sr Susan Shannon - Allison Burch -
 Gillian Dalton - Evan Jenkins - Vittorio Paterno - Charles Barkley -
 Maria Merlino - Bernard Bourke - Charles Nichols - Julien Pigeot -
 Margaret Jenkins - Venera Barbagallo - Eveleigh Vickers - Bernard Cleary -
 Linda Jamieson - Marcella Doran - Dr Janos Bogner - Clara Dundon -
 ack Lanaway - Kathleen Mary Doherty - Margaret Dow - Alan Brereton -
 Agnes Bugden - Curtis Drenen - Mary Meyer - Terence Partleton -
 George D'Cunha - Marc Licciardo - P.J. Thomas - Bert Hodgkinson -
 Mary Carroll - Dennis Porter - Alec Rodrigues Maria Scardoni -
 Virgilio Arcilla - Carmel Maria Funston - Joseph Antonios.

Praying for healing and the sick: Chris Doran, Chris Wardle, Ann Muir,
 John Nicholson, Peter Waltho, Janice Gillette, Michelle Parker, Greg Hayes,
 Sue Waltho, Jeffrey Sellar, Alasdair Hughes, Sophia Bicos, Fr Terry Kean,
 May Warrenner, Andrea Williams, Brian Smith, Michelle Burne, Rosemary Hall,
 Michelle Ives, Kees Meyer, Graham Owen, Norreen Spies, Nancy Maxfield,
 Craige Ross, Virginia O'Toole.

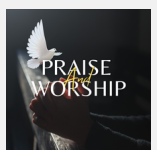
Growing in community & belonging at St Mary of the Cross



Children's Liturgy
 5 - 12-year-olds.
 4th weekend of the
 month. All masses
 except 8am.



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.

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

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

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.

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:**
m.stmaryofthecross.com/mass

WEEKDAY MASSES

St Louis Mon 9.15am Communion
 Service, St Louis Tuesday 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 Friday's 12pm
 St Louis Saturday's 5.30pm

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Fr Andrew, Fr Huy, Trish Angliss,
 Berna Wake

**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 Andrew Jakot 03 9412 8432
 Fr Huy Nguyen 03 9412 8432
 Trish 0421 604 849
 Louise 0415 963 799
 Joe 0407 354 568
 Helen 0498 178 899
 Anthony 0407 505 341
 Robyn 0412 814 592
 Denise 0412 926 752