



Parish Priest: Fr Shabin Kaniampuram IVDei
Parish Secretary: Fran Adamopoulos (Tue-Thu 9am-2pm)
Financial Administrator: Margaret Harrington (Mon/Fri 9-2pm)

Assistant Priest: Fr Peter Nguyen
Pastoral Worker: Pauline Egan
Email: adminANT@cam.org.au

Supporting Priests: Fr Brendan Hayes
Email: financeANT@cam.org.au

ST MARY'S THORNBURY

1 Rossmoyne Street, Thornbury 3071
Principal: Mary Kearney | Ph: 9484 5333

ST JOSEPH'S NORTHCOTE

140 Westbourne Grove, Northcote 3070
Principal: Mary Kearney | Ph: 9481 7166

Mission Prayer: Loving God, guide us as we build a joyful and inclusive community. May your Holy Spirit lead and inspire us to be the Good News of Jesus Christ by serving others and caring for all. Amen.

PARISH OF HOLY SPIRIT & ST ANTHONY'S

45 Railway Pl, Alphington VIC 3078

Principals: Rob Costin, Holy Spirit Primary School,
197 Clarendon Street, Thornbury East | Ph: 9480 0391

James Casey, St Anthony's Primary School,
Tania Bennett, Acting Principal
52 Austin Street, Alphington | Ph: 9489 7936

Partnership Parish Office Address

45 Railway Place Alphington
P.O.Box 85 Fairfield 3078

Office Number: 9484 2907

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-2pm

Email: adminANT@cam.org.au

www.melbatholic.org/s/hosan

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram



Reconciliation Times

10.30am Saturdays — St Mary's

4.30pm Saturdays — Holy Spirit

5.00pm Saturdays — St Joseph's

MASS TIMES

St Mary's Thornbury

Sunday: 10:00am English/Italian
5:30pm

Weekday: Wednesday, 9:15am
English/Italian

St Joseph's Northcote

Saturday: 5:30pm

Sunday: 11:00am

Weekday: Tuesday, 9:15am

Holy Spirit Thornbury East

Saturday: 5:00pm

Sunday: 9:30am

Weekday: Thursday, 9:15am
English/Italian

St Anthony's Alphington

Sunday: 10:30am, English/Italian

Weekday: Friday, 9:15am

FEAST DAYS IN THE WEEK

25 Dec: The Nativity of the LORD (Christmas)

26 Dec: St Steven, the first martyr

27 Dec: St John, apostle, evangelist

Recently Deceased

Stephen Prowse

Anniversaries

Mario Costantini, Daniel Hanna Fakhry,
Sam Maatouk, Ray Farr, Salim Y. Taouk
and Dale Smedley, Joseph Ninh,
Alba Moretti 1 Yr, Angelo Sartoretto 2
Yrs, Anna Antonicelli,
Vito Di Benedetto, Maria Di Benedetto,
Rosellina Di Benedetto, Vito Maida,
Kata Lukric, Juraj Lukric, Ante Lukric,
and Chiara Buso.

To update parish details, please visit
our official parish website:
www.melbatholic.org/s/hosan



Fourth Sunday of Advent—Year A

20-21 Dec 2025



Christmas Eve: Wednesday 24 December

5.00pm	Holy Spirit	Nativity Play & Family Mass
5.00pm	St. Joseph's	Nativity Play & Family Mass
6.30pm	St. Anthony's	Nativity Play & Family Mass
6.30pm	St. Mary's	Nativity Play & Family Mass
9.30pm	St. Mary's	9pm Carols & 9:30pm Vigil Mass

No Midnight Mass at St. Anthony's Alphington

Christmas Day: Thursday 25 December

9.30 am	Holy Spirit
10.00 am	St Mary's (Bi-Lingual)
10.30 am	St Anthony's (Bi-Lingual)
11.00 am	St. Joseph's

No 5:30pm Mass at St Mary's Thornbury

New Year's Day: Thursday 1 January

10am Mass at St Anthony's and St Mary's

No Weekday Masses From: Boxing Day 26 December until 3 January

First Reading Isaiah 7:10-14**A reading from Isaiah**

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No,' Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.'

Then Isaiah said:

'Listen now, House of David:

are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men

without trying the patience of my God, too?

The Lord himself, therefore,

will give you a sign.

It is this: the maiden is with child

and will soon give birth to a son

whom she will call Emmanuel,

a name which means "God-is-with-us".'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 23:1-6

R *Let the Lord enter;
he is king of glory.*

L The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.

It is he who set it on the seas;

on the waters he made it firm. **R.**

L Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?

Who shall stand in his holy place?

The man with clean hands and pure heart,

who desires not worthless things. **R.**

L He shall receive blessings from the Lord

and reward from the God who saves him.

Such are the men who seek him,

seek the face of the God of Jacob. **R.**

Second Reading Romans 1:1-7**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans**

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures.

This news is about the Son of God, who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead.

Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 1:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

A virgin will give birth to a son;

his name will be Emmanuel: God is with us.

Alleluia!

Gospel of Matthew 1:18-24**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, and said 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.'

Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son
and they will call him Emmanuel,

a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



Readings Next Week—The Holy Family Year A—28 Dec 2025

1st Rdg: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 (Year A)

2nd Rdg: Colossians 3:12-21 (Year A)

Gospel: Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23 (Year A)

Prima lettura Is 7,10-14**Dal libro del profeta Isaia**

In quei giorni, il Signore parlò ad Acaz:

«Chiedi per te un segno dal Signore, tuo Dio, dal profondo degli inferi oppure dall'alto».

Ma Àcaz rispose:

«Non lo chiederò, non voglio tentare il Signore».

Allora Isaia disse: «Ascoltate, casa di Davide! Non vi basta stancare gli uomini, perché ora vogliate stancare anche il mio Dio? Pertanto il Signore stesso vi darà un segno. Ecco: la vergine concepirà e partorerà un figlio, che chiamerà Emmanuele».

Parola di Dio

Tutti: Rendiamo grazie a Dio.

Salmo responsoriale Sal 23

Rit. _ Ecco, viene il Signore, re della gloria.

L. Del Signore è la terra e quanto contiene: il mondo, con i suoi abitanti.

È lui che l'ha fondato sui mari e sui fiumi l'ha stabilito. **Rit.**

L. Chi potrà salire il monte del Signore?

Chi potrà stare nel suo luogo santo?

Chi ha mani innocenti e cuore puro, chi non si rivolge agli idoli. **.**

L. Egli otterrà benedizione dal Signore, giustizia da Dio sua salvezza.

Ecco la generazione che lo cerca, che cerca il tuo volto, Dio di Giacobbe. **Rit.**

Seconda lettura Rm 1,1-7**Dalla lettera di san Paolo apostolo ai Romani**

Paolo, servo di Cristo Gesù, apostolo per chiamata, scelto per annunciare il vangelo di Dio – che egli aveva promesso per mezzo dei suoi profeti nelle sacre Scritture e che riguarda il Figlio suo, nato dal seme di Davide secondo la carne, costituito Figlio di Dio con potenza, secondo lo Spirito di santità, in virtù della risurrezione dei morti, Gesù Cristo nostro Signore;



per mezzo di lui abbiamo ricevuto la grazia di essere apostoli, per suscitare l'obbedienza della fede in tutte le genti, a gloria del suo nome, e tra queste siete anche voi, chiamati da Gesù Cristo –, a tutti quelli che sono a Roma, amati da Dio e santi per chiamata, grazia a voi e pace da Dio, Padre nostro, e dal Signore Gesù Cristo!

Parola di Dio

Tutti: Rendiamo grazie a Dio.

Canto al Vangelo Mt 1,23

Alleluia, alleluia.

Ecco la vergine concepirà e darà alla luce un figlio: a lui sarà dato il nome di Emmanuele: "Dio con noi".

Alleluia.

Vangelo Mt 1,18-24**Dal Vangelo secondo Matteo**

Così fu generato Gesù Cristo: sua madre Maria, essendo promessa sposa di Giuseppe, prima che andassero a vivere insieme si trovò incinta per opera dello Spirito Santo. Giuseppe suo sposo, poiché era uomo giusto e non voleva accusarla pubblicamente, pensò di ripudiarla in segreto.

Però, mentre stava considerando queste cose, ecco, gli apparve in sogno un angelo del Signore e gli disse:

«Giuseppe, figlio di Davide, non temere di prendere con te Maria, tua sposa. Infatti il bambino che è generato in lei viene dallo Spirito Santo; ella darà alla luce un figlio e tu lo chiamerai Gesù: egli infatti salverà il suo popolo dai suoi peccati».

Tutto questo è avvenuto perché si compisse ciò che era stato detto dal Signore per mezzo del profeta:

«Ecco, la vergine concepirà e darà alla luce un figlio: a lui sarà dato il nome di Emmanuele»,

che significa "Dio con noi".

Quando si destò dal sonno, Giuseppe fece come gli aveva ordinato l'angelo del Signore e prese con sé la sua sposa.

Parola del Signore

Tutti: Lode a Te O Cristo.



WE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Names will remain for **2 weeks**, then a new request is required.

Onyx Toma, Phoenix Toma, Tony Gribbeh, Wafa Ibrahim, and Suhalia Yousef.

HOUSE VISITATIONS

Do you or someone you know require any of the following:

- Annual House Visits
- Visits to the Sick
- Anointing of the Sick

Please contact the Parish Office on 9484 2907 to arrange a time with Fr Shabin or Fr Peter.

SICK OR HOUSEBOUND / MALATI O CONFINATI A CASA

Se conoscete persone che sono malate o confinate a casa e vorrebbero ricevere visite o la comunione a casa siete pregati di mettervi in contatto Parish Office **9484 2907**

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Christian Meditation on Thursdays at 10:30am at Holy Spirit Parish. ALL WELCOME.

BAPTISMS: By Appointment Only

- 1st Sunday of the month—St Mary's
- 2nd Sunday of the month—Holy Spirit
- 3rd Sunday of the month—St Anthony's
- 4th Sunday of the month—St Joseph's

Please call the Parish Office 9484 2907 or go to our website at <https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/hosan>

SENIORS

After the Thursday 9:15am Mass at Holy Spirit Parish Hall.

- Dopo messa Bingo e carte nella sala, si offre caffè e biscotti. Tutti benvenuti.

After Mass, bingo and cards in the hall, with coffee and biscuits offered. All Welcome.

Last Friday of the month

St Joseph's Seniors Mass every last Friday of the Month at 10:30am in the church.

Parrocchiani anziani di San Giuseppe sono invitati a partecipare alla **Santa Messa ultimo Venerdì del mese alle 10:30am.**

Mass of Anointing of the Sick

9:15am Mass of Anointing of the Sick will take place on the first Friday of the month at St Anthony's Alphington.

"Telephone Prayer meeting"

When: Every Tuesday at 11:30am
Dial: **07- 5660 6012** (call from home)
Access code: **722762 #**
Cost: Cost of a local call. Open to all.

Catholic Religious Education Classes for children attending government schools in preparation for the Sacraments

Please call the Parish Office 9484 2907 or go to our website at

<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/hosan>

Safeguarding Children, Young People and Vulnerable People Committee

Contact Person via the Parish Office:
Moses El-Fakhri

Parish Notices

2026 Columban Calendars available for Purchase at the back of the church—\$10.

There will be **No** morning Mass **next Wednesday at St Mary's** on **24 Dec.**

Pastoral Leadership Team report, November 2025

Our combined Pastoral Leadership Team met on Wednesday 26 November to consider matters affecting our four communities. The main items discussed at the meeting were:

- the changes to our clergy as we farewell Fr Peter and welcome Fr Tuong
- our final parish celebrations for the 2025 Jubilee Year, with sincere thanks to the Jubilee Committee for all of their wonderful ideas and hard work this year
- a general review of our activities throughout 2025 and initial plans for 2026 - we've decided that our parish theme for 2026 will be the "Year of Faith Community", to reflect the official church Year of Faith and our continued focus on bringing our four communities together. More details about upcoming events and activities will be shared in the new year!

Our first meeting for 2026 will be on Wednesday **11 February**. We thank you for your continued prayers and support for our parishes, and wish you all a joyful and blessed Christmas and a safe and happy new year.

Naomi Brammer—*Combined Leadership Team*

Our combined parish community gathered at St Patrick's Cathedral on Saturday 13



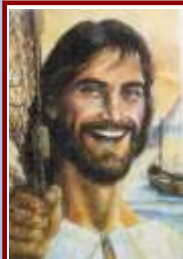
December, to celebrate our final Jubilee Year event. Fr's Shabin and Tuong celebrated Mass for us on the main altar, followed by a visit to the St Mary McKillop Centre. It was the perfect way to end a year of joy, hope and blessing in our community.

This Jubilee Year officially ends on January 6th, the feast of the Epiphany.



Please remember those in need during this festive season. Thank you for generosity.

<https://www.caritas.org.au/>



We get energy and joy and hope from our conversations with others about life and God. Climbing the Mountain of God is a new series of enriching conversations in our parish led by **Jim Brown**, beginning in late **January**.

Watch for details in the Weekly Bulletin.



Earthcare group launched - now planning events for 2026 We will begin the new year with a display in each church highlighting the group's aims and plans. Still keen to join? please contact John via the parish office.

We look forward to your interest, participation and prayers.