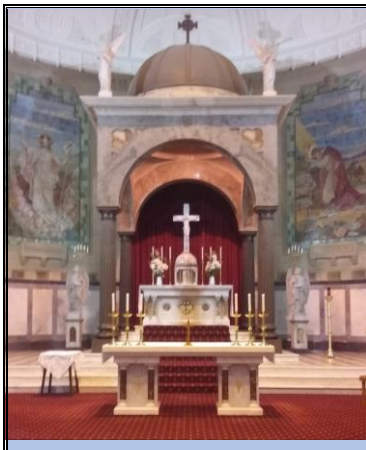




PARISH OF ASCOT VALE

ST MARY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

ST MARY'S CHURCH, 123 ST LEONARDS ROAD, ASCOT VALE
ST MARGARET'S CHURCH, BARB STREET, MARIBYRNONG

Parish Priest:	Rev Fr Desmond J Moloney
Assistant Priest / Lithuanian Chaplain:	Rev Fr Joseph Deveikis
Presbytery / Parish Office:	123 St Leonards Rd, Ascot Vale (Postal: PO Box 468 Ascot Vale 3032)
Telephone:	9370 6688
Website:	www.melbcatholic.org/ascotvale
Email:	ascotvale@cam.org.au
Office Hours:	Tue – Thu 9.30am – 3.00pm Secretary: Carmen D’Rosario
Principal, St Mary’s School:	Mr Denis Johnstone T: 9370 1194
Principal, St Margaret’s School:	Mr John Rudd T: 9318 1339

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil:

6.00pm St Mary’s

Sunday:

8.30am St Margaret’s

10.30am St Mary’s

6.00pm St Mary’s (Spanish)

Weekday Mass Times

Mon 10.00am St Mary’s

Tue 9.00am St Mary’s

Wed 9.00am St Mary’s

7.00pm St Mary’s

Thu 9.00am St Mary’s

Fri 9.15am St Mary’s

Sat 9.30am St Mary’s

Reconciliation

(Confession)

Saturday

10.00–10.30am St Mary’s

5.30–5.45pm St Mary’s

Eucharistic Adoration

Tue 9.30–10.30am St Mary’s

Sat 10.00–11.00am St Mary’s

Baptisms at St Mary’s

Baptisms are celebrated on the
2nd & 4th Sundays of each
month at 12:00 noon.

Baptism Information Sessions
are held in St Mary’s Church
at 7:30 pm on the first Thursday
of each month. Parents desiring
the baptism of their child must
attend one of these sessions.

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross – 14 September 2025

Parish Jubilee Pilgrimage

Visit local Pilgrim Places

A Parish Jubilee Pilgrimage will take place on **Saturday 11 October** which includes two of our local pilgrim places.

St Mary Star of the Sea, West Melbourne

Polish Marian Shrine, Aberfeldie

Clipboards will be available at our churches, if you wish to be part of the pilgrimage. For further information please contact Anne via email annefogarty2010@hotmail.com.

Parish Offertory Programme – June 2025

Outcome

The Development and Philanthropy Team, Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne assisted St. Mary’s Parish this year in holding a renewal programme concerning parish planned-giving. A marked difference from renewal campaigns in the past is that through this new team in the Archdiocese the parish was not charged for the programme.

For this campaign the number of Ongoing Givers with Increased Giving is 25. The number of New Givers is 10. The most outstandingly positive aspect has been the attention given to supporting the Presbytery Account. Actual pledged contributions to the Presbytery Account is a most welcome new development.

Fr Desmond J Moloney

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) process will resume for 2025-2026 on **Wednesday, 8th October at 7.30pm** in the Presbytery. The following Wednesday will be missed with the second gathering taking place on Wednesday, 8th October. While the upcoming process remains open to additional enquirers, a big number has already contacted the Parish Office to enquire about Sacraments for Adults.

Morning Tea after Mass

The Parish Community Group will be holding morning tea after **10.30am Mass on Sunday, 28 September**. We invite everyone to come along and have a cuppa and something to eat, while chatting with fellow parishioners. It is always good to say hello to a person you haven’t met before, as well as chat to other parishioners whom you do know.

If you would like to bring a plate of food to share, that would be welcomed. Please come along!

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – 20/21 Sept 2025

Parish Counters: J & S Crooks; J Dawson

Ministers of the Word			Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	
Time	St Mary's	St Margaret's	St Mary's	St Margaret's
6.00 pm	R Boyer		P Bonnici	
8.30 am		P McLoughlin		J Gilmartin
10.30 am	R Wiatrowski		R Rotunno	

Hymns:

Entrance: CWBII 329

Offertory: CWBII 570

Communion: CWBII 537

Reflection: CWBII 530

Recessional: CWBII 561

Recently Deceased:

Luigi Pansino; Giuseppe Perre; Giuseppa Indomenico

Anniversaries:

Kathleen Ward; John Berger; Jerome Pinto; Maria Giuseppina Timpano; Maria D'Andrea

Feast Days:

15 Sep: Our Lady of Sorrows **16 Sep:** Sts Cornelius and Cyprian

20 Sep: Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Paul Chong Ha-sang and companions

Readings Next Week: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

Amos 8:4-7; 1 Tim 2:1-8; Lk 16:1-13

Parish Sacramental Program

Our Sacramental Program for **1st Reconciliation (Grade 3) and Holy Communion (Grade 4)**, has commences on **Thursdays at 4.00pm**. Classes run after school, at St Mary's school. Anyone with eligible children who have been validly baptised are welcome. Contact Rose 0411 040 669 or via email catechist.rc@gmail.com.

Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) is a national gathering of Catholic young people established by the Australian Bishops.

Run over three days, the Festival provides young people from all across Australia with the opportunity to come together to connect, deepen their relationship with Jesus, be empowered to live their faith in the world and experience the breadth of the Church in Australia.

Who: Year 9 to 25 years of age

Where: St Patrick's Cathedral and Melbourne Convention Exhibition Centre

When: 30 November – 2 December 2025

The parish of St Mary's is looking to send a group to ACYF. Please express your interest by filling the form below to be involved and receive updates.

The link and qr code to the Expression of Interest form are found on this page.

Link <https://forms.gle/nuzryRwSzXB4xwJt6>



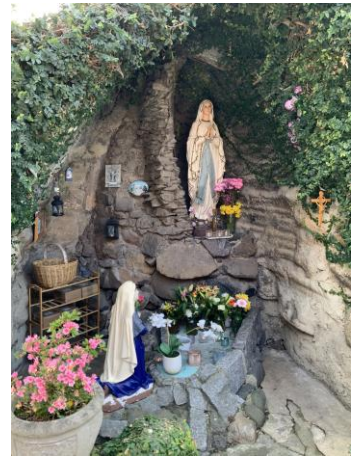
Please use the QR code if you wish to contribute to our parish church.
Your generosity is much appreciated.
Thank you.

Legion of Mary - For member enquiries and home visitations please contact: 0435 095 998.

St Vincent de Paul Helpline: 1800 305 330, Monday – Friday, 10am – 3pm.

Grotto CARE

It happens that from time to time people bring pious objects (religious items, such as framed pictures, images, crosses and statues, etc.) to the Grotto to dispose of them there. Some, obviously, wrongly see the Grotto as a place for discarding these items. The repercussions are that apart from cluttering the Grotto, the prime focus is diminished, and the task of disposing of them becomes a job for someone else. We have a couple of women I see as true caretakers of the Grotto. They try to keep the Grotto clean and in good order to suit its purpose as a place of prayer. Regrettably, a sign is being considered to ward off anyone wishing to leave their unwanted religious items at the Grotto.



Fr Desmond J Moloney

ONLINE INFORMATION SESSION ON THE PERMANENT DIACONATE

The permanent diaconate is open to single and married men, aged between 30 and 60 years, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. The information session is open to everyone interested in knowing more about the permanent diaconate. Online Diaconate information meeting **Tuesday, 23 September 2025 beginning 19:00 – 20:00 Location: via ZOOM**. Attendance will be by invitation. Express your interest by emailing Deacon Kevin Pattison Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au. In the week before the ZOOM link will be sent.

Sisters of the Good Samaritan of the Order of St. Benedict

www.goodsams.org.au

Prayer is central to Good Samaritan life.

Good Samaritans gather around the Word, recognising that Christ is present in the Word, and Christ is present in the people gathered. Prayer and quiet contemplation allow time to recognise and



respond to the invitation to enter into the presence of God, opening the possibility for inner growth and listening hearts.

We pray the Liturgy of the Hours each morning and evening. The psalms are the core element of these prayers, expressing every emotion and mood of the human heart. It is a sacred time of reflection on the Word of God, during which we pray for the needs of the other and our world.

An ancient form of prayer practised by Good Samaritans is *Lectio Divina* – a prayerful, contemplative reading of the Word of God. This involves reading slowly and listening intently to Scripture personally or communally. We meditate on the text so that God reveals its meaning to us. As well as through Scripture, the Word of God can speak to us through music, poetry, art, movement, and through the beauty of the world around us.

Steps of *Lectio Divina*

1. Hear the Word (*Listen and remain silent.*)
2. Meditate on the Word (*What is it saying to you?*)
3. Respond to the Word (*How is my life touched? Is there an invitation here?*)
4. Contemplate the Word (*Pray*)

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

FIRST READING

Num 21:4-9

On the way through the wilderness the people lost patience. They spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt to die in this wilderness? For there is neither bread nor water here; we are sick of this unsatisfying food.'

At this God sent fiery serpents among the people; their bite brought death to many in Israel. The people came and said to Moses, 'We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you. Intercede for us with the Lord to save us from these serpents.' Moses interceded for the people, and the Lord answered him, 'Make a fiery serpent and put it on a standard. If anyone is bitten and looks at it, he shall live.' So Moses fashioned a bronze serpent which he put on a standard, and if anyone was bitten by a serpent, he looked at the bronze serpent and lived.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 77

R. Do not forget the works of the Lord!

Give heed, my people, to my teaching;
turn your ear to the words of my mouth
I will open my mouth in a parable
and reveal hidden lessons of the past. (R.)

When he slew them then they would seek him,
return and seek him in earnest.
They would remember that God was their rock,
God the Most High their redeemer. (R.)

But the words they spoke were mere flattery;
they lied to him with their lips.
For their hearts were not truly with him;
they were not faithful to his covenant. (R.)

Yet he who is full of compassion
forgave their sin and spared them.
So often he held back his anger
when he might have stirred up his rage. (R.)

SECOND READING

Phil 2:6 -11

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave and became as men are; and being as all men are,

he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross.

But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your cross you have redeemed the world. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 3:13 -17

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'No one has gone up to heaven except the one who came down from heaven, the Son of Man who is in heaven; and the Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.

Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

