

St Martin de Porres Parish

158 Military Rd, Avondale Heights Vic 3034

🌐 www.melbocatholic.org/avondaleheights

Parish Priest: Fr. Nhân Le

Secretary: Paula McKernan

Office Hours: 9:30am to 5pm

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

Pastoral Assoc: Sr. Cres Villas, asjm

Sr. Connie Mamo, asjm (Vol)

Phone: 9337 6016

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E-mail: avondaleheights@cam.org.au

St Martin de Porres School

Principal: Stefanie Harvey

Secretaries: Mary Carmuciano

Maria Aloe

Phone: 9331 9000

E-mail:

principal@smavondaleheights.catholic.edu.au

🌐 www.smavondaleheights.catholic.edu.au

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil 6:00pm

Sunday 8:00am & 9:30am

Vietnamese 11:00am

Weekday Masses

Tuesday to Friday 9:15am

Benediction Wednesday after Mass

Reconciliation Wednesday 10:00am

Saturday 5:30pm

The Augustinian Sisters

Convent: 2 Venice Court,
Avondale Heights

Phone: 9337 4595

E-mail: spinelli@bigpond.net.au

Website: www.asjmoz.org

Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility.

The Parish of St Martin de Porres and the Archdiocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community. Child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of everyone.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Sick:

Edward Tortoreto; Monika Marland; Anthony Sgro; Alex Mather; Emily & Grace; Mellisa; Rose; Nancy Green; Peter Falzon; Claudia & Thomas.

Recently Deceased:

Carol Lamb; Pasquale & Vittoria Nicolaci; Mijo Gorscak; Antonietta Licciardino; Grazia Cutri; Sr Annunziata Darmanin; Sr Clotilde Schiavone; Sr Veturia Theuma; (all ASJM); Anna Borg; Marek Momont; Rose Costa; Michele Soccio; Aloysius Furtado (Mumbai); Joe Fernandez; Fr Peter Carrucan; Francesco Anile; Lucia Dang Thi Nien.

Anniversaries & Remembrances:

Antonio Calidonna (1st); Corinna Pereira (1st); Gaetano Gangemi; Kerry Copley; Mary Gauci; Joseph & Mary Rapa; Beatriz Metra; Maryanne Walsh; Catarina Nguyen thi Anh; Victor Laroco; Petronilla Lo Guarro; Zoran & Peter Romich; Jane & Charlie Baldacchino; Flora Magsino Rivera; Charlie Sciberras; Victor Micallef; Dominic Cumbo; Joseph & Consiglia Grima; Emmanuel, Teresa & Menu Sammut; Francis & Bernarda Grima; John & Tonina Darmanin; Emmanuel & Nazzarena Farrugia; Victor Apap; Carmelo & Rita De Bono; Charlie Galea.

Parish Support Programme:

Pledge: \$2,588 Received: \$2,075 Shortfall: \$513
Loose: \$742 Presbytery: \$1,396

Contributing to the Collections

You may wish to use the QR code if you have left your cash at home.



Lenten Programme

Reflection Sessions with Srs Connie & Mayla



Wednesdays after Mass in the Pastoral Centre Meeting Room. All welcome.

Stations of the Cross after Mass

Vietnamese - Thursday; English - Friday

Easter Rosters in the Church Foyer

Please indicate where you can help.

Daylight Savings Ends Next Weekend

Wind your clocks back 1 hour on Saturday night for an extra hour sleep on next Sunday.



St Martin's is starting up Youth Masses

(followed by supper for the young attendees)

Commencing

Saturday 3rd May 6pm

The second will be very special on

Saturday 14th June 6pm

Celebrated by

Archbishop Peter Comensoli.

We prefer these to be run as much as possible by young people under 26 years. Please scan the QR code for more info.

Christian Meditation



Maranatha ... Come Lord Jesus

Monday 31 March 10 - 11am

Parent's Room in the Church. All Welcome.

St Martin's Prep Enrolments 2026



Applications Now Open

Please apply at the School Office or phone 9331 9000.



St Martin's Jubilee Year Calendar

Thursday 10th April 7pm

Fr Chris Monaghan-Lenten Reflection in hall

Saturday 3rd May 6pm Youth Mass

Sr Lorraine to facilitate 3
Reflections on Ageing

Tuesday 13th May 7pm

Getting old or ageing well?

Tuesday 20th May 7pm

Who cares for the carer?

Tuesday 27th May 7pm

The journey to eternal life.

13th - 15 June Episcopal Visitation by

Archbishop Peter Comensoli who will reside in the parish that weekend

Saturday 14th June 6pm Youth Mass

Date to be advised Pilgrimage to

Mary MacKillop Church, Keilor Downs

Project Compassion Lenten Prayer

God of our journey
we are all pilgrims of hope
brought together by your love
and your wish that we may all be one.
We pray that in this Year of Jubilee
when we are called to greater justice
and care for our common home
that we may *Unite Against Poverty*.
May we work in unity for the freedom
of the oppressed
and the renewal of creation.
May our compassionate minds and
generous hearts
help bring about a world where all can
live in peace.
May our Lenten pilgrimage of fasting,
almsgiving and prayer
bring us closer to your loving heart.
We ask this in the name of Jesus.
Amen



Caritas
AUSTRALIA

PROJECT
COMPASSION

Fourth Sunday of Lent
29th - 30th March 2025

Irene lives in the Kongolo Region in the DRC - Democratic Republic of the Congo and faced immense challenges after losing her father to war and raising her children in poverty. With support from Caritas Australia, Irene received vocational training in sewing and farming and can now support her whole family.



Photo credit: Arlette Bashizi/Caritas Australia

Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code. **Or online at:**
caritas.org.au/project-compassion

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father.

'While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate.

'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father,

"Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening."

'The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

In the midst of Lent we are given a moment for rejoicing, Laetare Sunday. All of the readings provide us with reasons for rejoicing. The overarching theme is the prodigal goodness of God. The responsorial psalm sets the context for the reflections. The other readings show how needy people were showered with divine favour. Even in the midst of this rejoicing, we find a challenge. We must undergo a change of heart if we are to rejoice in God.

The goodness of God is strikingly portrayed in the radically new image of father. This is a God who allows us to follow our own dreams, who is partial to no one, who faithfully and patiently waits for us to return, who gently corrects our misperceptions. God longs to be reconciled with us even more than we long to be reconciled with God.

The challenges placed before us set out some of the conditions required if we are to be a new creation. We are called to a profound and total reconciliation, first with God and then with each other. Christ was identified with sin so that we might be identified with God's righteousness. Reconciliation requires that we be open to giving and receiving forgiveness. It requires that we both remember and forget. We must always remember the causes of alienation, so that we not succumb to them again. However, we must forget the resentment that we felt so that we not allow it to influence our lives.

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ST MARTIN DE PORRES

Catholic Parish

Avondale Heights

Today's Celebration is on pages:

Old missal: 690 New Missal: 778



4th Sunday of Lent, Year C

30 March 2025

First Reading Joshua 5:9-12

A reading from the book of Joshua

The people of God went to the promised land and there kept the passover.

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.'

The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 33:2-7. R.v.9

(R.) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. (R.)
2. Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us praise his name.
I sought the Lord and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free. (R.)
3. Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called; the Lord heard him
and rescued him from all his distress. (R.)

Second Reading 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

God reconciled us to himself through Christ.

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on his reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 15:18

Praise and honour to you,

Lord Jesus Christ!

I will rise and go to my Father and tell him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.

Praise and honour to you,

Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Your brother here was dead and has come to life.

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them: