

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.melbourne.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.

1st Sunday of Advent – 1 December 2024



Take the Way of the Gospel Framework for Parish Renewal

Vibrant parishes are life-giving communities that foster holiness and discipleship among their members, joyfully desiring to share the gift of faith in Jesus Christ with those they encounter. Understanding each person is uniquely called and gifted, vibrant parishes help form and equip them to live that call. They know people are searching for a deeper spiritual connection in their lives, where their hopes, joys and anxieties can be expressed, and they embrace new opportunities for service.

Vital parishes read the signs of the times with hope and missionary vision. They understand their local neighbourhoods, culture, and history. Having been shaped by the past, they are nevertheless filled with hope for their future. This may involve openness to new ideas, acknowledging that past methods no longer fit where God is calling the parish today. They have clear direction, purpose, and collaborate effectively with others to further the kingdom of God.

Viable parishes have the financial, people and property resources, and are able to mobilize those resources, for their common vision and mission. They have sufficient income streams to resource and grow their mission and to provide and maintain buildings to support the needs of their mission and ministries. Their diverse sources of income enable them to serve their local communities in a sustainable way. They openly share their spiritual, ministerial and material resources with others for the benefit of the whole of the Archdiocese.

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – 7/8 Dec 2024

Parish Counters: J & S Crooks; J Balzan

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 Barbaro	
8.30 am				J Gilmartin
10.30 am	M Doran		M Andronaco	

Hymns:

Entrance: CWBII 242

Offertory: CWBII 293

Communion: CWBII 459

Reflection: CWBII 232

Recessional: CWBII 647

Recently Deceased:

Sr Anne Tuck

Anniversaries:

Nicola Cicconi

Feast Days:

3 Dec: St Francis Xavier

7 Dec: St Ambrose

Readings Next Week:

2nd Sunday of Advent (Year C)

Bar 5:1-9; Phil 1:3-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve, Tuesday 24 December

6:00 pm St Mary's
 8:00 pm St Margaret's
 12:00 Midnight St Mary's Carols from 11:30

Christmas Day, Wednesday 25 December

(no 8:30 am Mass)
 10:30 am St Mary's

Extra times for individual Reconciliation in Advent

In addition to our normal Confession times of **10:00-10:30 am and 5:30-5:45 pm every Saturday**,

St Mary's	Tuesday 17 December	9:30-9:50am	during Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration
St Mary's	Wednesday 18 December	7:30-8:30pm	with the Second Rite
St Mary's	Sunday 22 December	10:00-10:20am	

Christmas Carols

True North Young Adults' choir will sing at 10.30am Mass, on the 22nd December at St Mary's Ascot Vale. Followed by Christmas Carols at 11.45am, plus a sausage sizzle and bake sale afterwards!



SENIOR PARISHIONERS' DAY – Friday, 6 December 2024

Warmly inviting the Senior Parishioners of St Mary's and St Margaret's parish to join us at this year's **Senior Parishioners' Day which will be held on Friday, 6 December 2024, with Mass commencing at 11.00am at St Mary's Church.**

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be conferred during Mass.

First Friday & First Saturday devotions

This Friday is the 1st Friday of the month, with devotions after the morning Mass.

Saturday is the 1st Saturday: we will have devotions at Holy Hour after 9:30am Mass.

Proposed Master Plan Timeline

At the Parish Advisory Board's last meeting for this year, Philip Harmer, the Principal of Harmer Architecture, and an Associate, Jonathan Hadiprawira, presented an indicative timeline for the parish masterplan process. Through six stages, it is expected that the final report on the masterplan will be completed by the end of June, 2025. Philip Harmer has said that they, the architects, would want to know how St. Mary's Parish understands its mission, which includes the parish's response to the Growing Viable, Vibrant and Vital Self-Reflection Tool outlined by the Archdiocese. Thus, he says the masterplan will respond to this Mission accordingly. The Self-Reflection Tool is available and will be utilised by the Parish Masterplan Reference Group soon to be formalised.

Fr Desmond J Moloney

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL, CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Each year the Christmas Appeal plays a vital role in supporting the word of the Society.

We are grateful for the generosity of our parish and schools, but we all realise that there is a particularly great need for help this year.

Over the first six months of the year we have spent over \$4.5 million on food, clothing, furniture and financial support to struggling households across Victoria, about \$45 thousand in our own area. Any amount helps, no matter how small. You will find envelopes at the church doors.

Donations of over \$2 are taxdeductible. Receipts provided.

New members welcome.

The Jubilee Year 2025

"Pilgrim People" - Pilgrims of Hope

Being pilgrims of hope in the world

St Mary of the Cross Mackillop used to say: 'We are but travellers here.' For the 2025 Jubilee Year, Pope Francis invites us to reflect on what it means to be pilgrims of hope: a people who are not only travellers here but walking in joyful anticipation of 'the heavenly goal to which we have been called' (SNC §25).

Pope Francis believes that, in today's world, hope suffers; that too many people have been robbed by cynicism and despair. During Jubilee 2025, he wants everyone to have 'an intense experience of the love of God that awakens in hearts the sure hope of salvation in Christ' (SNC §6). Only this hope—born from knowing that nothing can separate us from God's love (Rom 8:35-39)—can breathe life back into weary souls.

This hope is not optimism. It is not a forced positivity in the face of hardship and evil. It is a grace from God, a trust in the Lord's promises: that he is good, that he is merciful, and that we are journeying towards the one who says, 'Look, I am making everything new' (Rev 21:5)



CDF Tap & Go Machine in St Mary's Church



To allow for convenience to donate to our parish.

We have this machine located at the back in our church.

Thank you for the support you give our parish.

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

1st Sunday of Advent

FIRST READING

Jer 33:14-16

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah:

‘In those days and at that time,
I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David,
who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land.

In those days Judah shall be saved
and Israel shall dwell in confidence.

And this is the name the city will be called:
The-Lord-our-integrity.’

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 24

R. The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.

The Lord is king, with majesty enrobed;
the Lord has robed himself with might,
he has girded himself with power. (R.)

The world you made firm, not to be moved;
your throne has stood firm from of old.
From all eternity, O Lord, you are. (R.)

Truly your decrees are to be trusted.
Holiness is fitting to your house,
O Lord, until the end of time. (R.)

SECOND READING

1 Thes 3:12-4:2

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.

Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love,

and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 21:25-28,34-36

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.

‘Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

