



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.

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time – 15 February 2026

Lent begins Wednesday, 18 February 2026

Parish Mass Times for **Ash Wednesday**

9:15 am St Margaret’s (with school; all welcome)

11:45 am St Mary’s (with school; all welcome)

7:00 pm St Mary’s

Please note: No 9.00am Mass at St Mary’s on Wednesday 18 February 2026.

Ash Wednesday is a day of fast and abstinence.



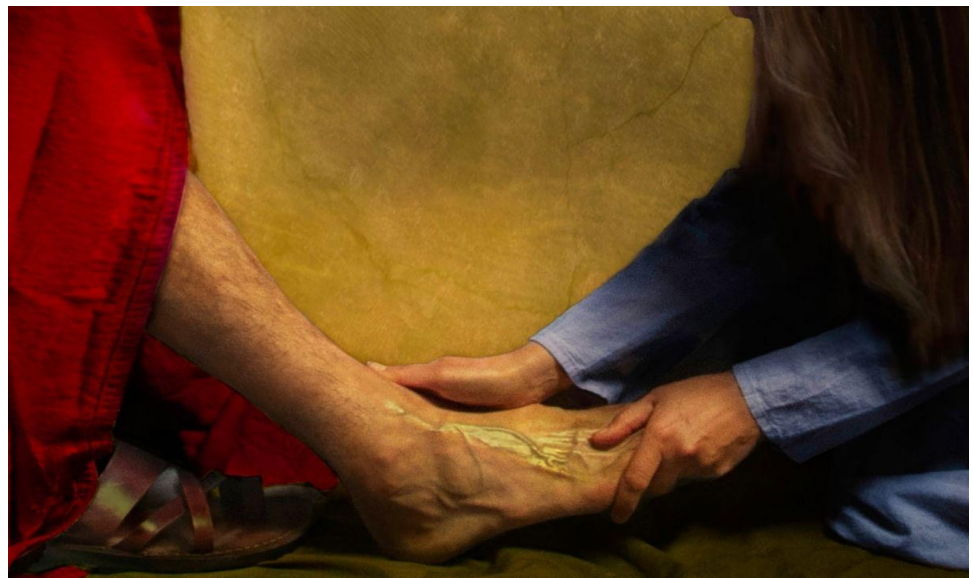
Project Compassion - Project Compassion boxes/envelopes are available
for collection in both churches.

Stations of the Cross at St Mary’s

Fridays of Lent at 7:00pm – starts Friday 20 February 2026

Fr Desmond J Moloney

Are you serious? Why we should hold nothing back in Lent



Lent, together with Easter, is the whole Christian life condensed into an intense series of disciplines, practices and liturgical celebrations. It begins in the most serious way a season can begin: with a recognition of our own mortality. It then gradually ascends towards the mystery at the heart of the Christian faith: the crucifixion and death of our Lord and his glorious resurrection. When we enter into it wholeheartedly, the season immerses us once again in the mystery of our own Baptism, not only refocusing us but sharpening us spiritually. Lent is a time to get serious.

Melbourne Catholic

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – 21/22 Feb 2026

Parish Counters: J & S Crooks; B Toomey

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	F Pinto		P Bonnici	
8.30 am		R Turnbull		A Laughton
10.30 am	D Cutinho		M Andronaco	

Hymns:

Entrance: CWBII 543

Offertory: CWBII 651

Communion: CWBII 528

Reflection: CWBII 552

Recessional: CWBII 455

Recently Deceased:

Fortunata Caccamo

Anniversaries:

Domenica Iermano; Rita Pace; William & Eleanor Richards; Neville & Barbara Gill

Readings Next Week: 1st Sunday of Lent: Gen 2:7-9, 3:1-7; Rom 5:12-19; Mt 4:1-11

Sacramental Program

*Does your child attend a non-Catholic school in Year 6 or older and needs to receive the **Sacrament of Confirmation**?* Classes are run weekly (except school holidays), commencing 12th March 2026, **Thursdays 4pm**, at St Mary's school, for approx. 8 weeks. If your child has received First Reconciliation and First Communion and would like to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation this year, email, catechist.rc@gmail.com or the Parish Office: ascotvale@cam.org.au to enrol for these classes. For any enquiries, feel free to call Rose, the Catechist on mob: 0411 040 669.

Parish Community Group Meeting

Would you like to join this group to help when we have morning tea after Sunday Mass or wine & cheese or soup after Saturday evening Mass etc.?

We would love more people to be involved!

Our next meeting is on Tuesday, 24th February at 7.30pm

If you would like further information about the group or would like to come to the meeting, please ring Marie on 9372 0307 for details and venue.

The Rite of Election 2026

Sunday 22 February 2026, 3.00pm–4.00pm

St Patrick's Cathedral, 1 Cathedral Place, East Melbourne

Archbishop Peter A Comensoli will celebrate this significant annual occasion in the life and mission of the local Church in Melbourne. All are welcome to attend and support our catechumens and candidates.

For any enquiries, please contact proclaim@cam.org.au.



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.

Immaculate Heart Youth of the Parish



St. Mary's and St. Margaret's are excited to share that our new youth group, **Immaculate Heart Youth**, is officially underway! Late last year, children ages 12 and above had a fruitful time making new friends while learning more about our faith. Together, they helped rebuild the Nativity set and enjoyed celebrating Christmas as a group. Next Friday (6:30pm 20/02), we'll be having our very first Bible study in the school hall, focusing on the temptations of Christ in the desert with games and dinner. We'd love for you to join us – so don't forget your Bible!



Volunteer with IMPACT

Develop sustained self-reliant futures in overseas communities!

Join Palms International Volunteering [online](#) in this special session where you'll learn about our [diverse assignments](#) suited to your qualifications. Hear from past Palms volunteers how skill-exchange makes a lasting impact in communities and changes lives.



Venue: Online- Scan the QR or register at palms.org.au/events
Date: Thursday 19 February 2026
Time: 7 pm – 8:30 pm AEDT

02 9560 5333/palms@palms.org.au

Want to visit a community first? Join our 13-day **Encounter Tour to Timor Leste!**

Book by **28 February** for the May tour! See palms.org.au/encounters

Taizé prayer in Ascot Vale

Third Sunday each month 5.30 - 6.30pm, next service Sunday 15 February.

All Saints Anglican Church Ascot Vale invites...

- Join us for a service of meditative song, prayer, silence and contemplation
- You are welcome to come anytime from **5.00pm** to sit in silent prayer, meditation and personal reflection prior to the service.

Theme: God is Love Alone.

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

FIRST READING

Sir 15:15-20

If you wish, you can keep the commandments,
to behave faithfully is within your power.
He has set fire and water before you;
put out your hand to whichever you prefer.
Man has life and death before him;
whichever a man likes better will be given him.
For vast is the wisdom of the Lord;
he is almighty and all-seeing.
His eyes are on those who fear him,
he notes every action of man.
He never commanded anyone to be godless,
he has given no one permission to sin.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 118

R. Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

You have laid down your precepts
to be obeyed with care.
May my footsteps be firm
to obey your statutes. (R.)

You have laid down your precepts
to be obeyed with care.
May my footsteps be firm
to obey your statutes. (R.)

Bless your servant and I shall live
and obey your word.
Open my eyes that I may consider
the wonders of your law. (R.)

Teach me the demands of your statutes
and I will keep them to the end.
Train me to observe your law,
to keep it with my heart. (R.)

SECOND READING

1 Cor 2:6-10

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him.

These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 5:17-37

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish them but to complete them. I tell you solemnly, till heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, one little stroke, shall

disappear from the Law until its purpose is achieved. Therefore, the man who infringes even one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven; but the man who keeps them and teaches them will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven.

'For I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court; if a man calls his brother "Fool" he will answer for it before the Sanhedrin; and if a man calls him "Renegade" he will answer for it in hell fire. So then, if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, go and be reconciled with your brother first, and then come back and present your offering. Come to terms with your opponent in good time while you are still on the way to the court with him, or he may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. I tell you solemnly, you will not get out till you have paid the last penny.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye should cause you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body thrown into hell. And if your right hand should cause you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body go to hell.

'It has also been said: Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a writ of dismissal. But I say this to you: everyone who divorces his wife, except for the case of fornication, makes her an adulteress; and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all, either by heaven, since that is God's throne; or by the earth, since that is his

footstool; or by Jerusalem, since that is the city of the great king. Do not swear by your own head either, since you cannot turn a single hair white or black. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

The Gospel of the Lord.