

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

Fax: 9337 1943

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: Alex Mather; Emily & Grace; Mellisa; Rose; Nancy Green; Peter Falzon; Claudia & Thomas.

Recently Deceased:

Marek Momont; Michele Soccio; Rose Costa; Anna Borg; Aloysius Furtado (Mumbai); Fr Peter Carrucan; Joe Fernandez; Francesco Anile; Lucia Dang Thi Nien; Anda Biturjac; Maria Millimaci; Adam Myska; Anne Dale; Fr John O'Reilly PE; Giuse Duong Van Trong; Gioakim Nguyen Ngoc Tuynh.

Anniversaries & Remembrances:

Antonio Teixeira (1st); Rocco Barbaro; Lillian Evans; Ivana Barbis; Carmelo & Rita De Bono; Dominic Cumbo; Joseph & Consiglia Grima; Emmanuel, Teresa & Menu Sammut; Francis & Bernarda Grima; John & Tonina Darmanin; Emmanuel & Nazzarena Farrugia; Charlie Sciberras; Victor Apap; Charlie Galea; Victor Micallef.

Parish Support Programme:

Pledge: \$2,588 Received: \$1,865 Shortfall: \$723
Loose: \$701 Presbytery: \$1,360

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

Vietnamese Retreat and Reconciliation

Wednesday 19th March 7pm

Reconciliation English & Italian

Wednesday 26th March 7pm

Easter Rosters in the Church Foyer

Please indicate where you can help.

Lenten Regulations from the Archdiocese

Copies available in the foyer of the church.

Corpus Christi College - Melb Archdiocese

5 new seminarians joined this year: Alex Sgro, Liam Bui, Chris Fernando, Thiago Carvalho, & Ben Eid. Please keep them in your prayers.

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



Second Sunday of Lent

15 - 16th March 2025

Toefuata'iga - (Toy-foo-ah-tah-ing-ah) a primary school student from Samoa faced severe water shortages at her school. Thanks to Caritas Australia and the generosity of supporters like you, her primary school now has a 10,000 L water tank. Teachers and students now have access to clean drinking water at their school and are able to focus on education.



Photo credit: 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



The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,

may the *faith* you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of *charity* enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed *hope*
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the
seeds of the Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within
both humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.
To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen.

Franciscus



St Martin's Jubilee Year Parish Picnic THIS Sunday 16 March

11am - 4pm

Venue changed to the undercover area of St Martin's school due to weather.

Bring food to share and chairs.

Activities provided for all kids, young and old.

St Martin's Prep Enrolments 2026

Applications Now Open Please apply at the School Office or phone 9331 9000.

Christian Meditation



Maranatha ... Come Lord Jesus

All welcome: Mondays 10 - 11am

Parent's Room in the Church

Term 1: 17 & 31 March.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 17:5

*Glory and praise to you,
Lord Jesus Christ!
From the shining cloud the Father's
voice is heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.
Glory and praise to you,
Lord Jesus Christ!*

Gospel Luke 9:28-36

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

As Jesus prayed, the aspect of his face was changed, and his clothing became brilliant as lightning.

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' – He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

One often hears the conventional wisdom: 'All religions are the same, with somewhat different packaging.' But, do they believe the same thing about the human person? What if one believed that the most vital part of a person was 'the soul' which alone was destined for Heaven? This is not the Christian belief.

Today's Gospel recounts that Jesus' body was transfigured. This was no out-of-the-body experience of religious ecstasy. Jesus' body was totally translucent, totally radiant with Divine Light. Every molecule of his materiality was reverberating in the halo of divine glory. That is the destiny which God desires for us also. When we are really in harmony with God, when we really participate in the life of God, then that Divine Life envelops and permeates our whole person, body and soul. That is our ultimate destiny, but can it be anticipated in the lives of those close to God? You might care to read the story of St Seraphim of Sarov from the Russian Orthodox tradition. A follower recounts the dazzling bodily transformation of the saint with the blaze of light spilling over onto the snow-covered meadow.

We might pause for a moment to affirm our Christian hope that, with God's grace, we will be radiant with Divine Light, our bodies immersed in translucent glory, filled with infinite joy in our hearts.

mtate@bigpond.com



ST MARTIN DE PORRES

Catholic Parish

Avondale Heights

Today's Celebration is on pages:

Old missal: 681 New Missal: 769



2nd Sunday of Lent, Year C

16 March 2025

First Reading Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

A reading from the book of Genesis

God made a covenant with Abraham, his faithful servant.

Taking Abram outside the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified. 'I am the Lord' he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord, the Lord' Abram replied, 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off.

Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms:

'To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 26:1. 7-9. 13-14

(R.) The Lord is my light and my salvation.

1. The Lord is my light and my help;
whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life
before whom shall I shrink? (R.)

2. O Lord, hear my voice when I call;
have mercy and answer.
Of you my heart has spoken:
'Seek his face.' (R.)
3. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek,
hide not your face.
Dismiss not your servant in anger;
you have been my help. (R.)
4. I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness
in the land of the living.
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.
Hope in the Lord! (R.)

Second Reading Philippians 3:17-4:1

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Christ will transfigure these bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body.

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things. For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe.

So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.