



St Mary of the Cross Catholic Parish

Mordialloc and Aspendale | Bunurong Country

EMBODYING CHRIST'S LOVE TO LOVE GOD, LOVE OTHERS, MAKE DISCIPLES

Parish Priest: Fr Andrew Jekot, Assistant Priest: Fr Huy Nguyen
Deacon: George Piech-Meat

4th Sunday of Advent 22 December 2024

Readings for Year C Micah 5: 1-4 Hebrews 10: 5-10 Luke 1: 39-44



Embrace the joy of God's presence

Our gospel, this 4th Sunday of Advent, recounts the visit of Mary to her cousin Elizabeth, a moment filled with joy and the recognition of God's work. When Mary greets Elizabeth, the baby in Elizabeth's womb (John the Baptist) leaps, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, exclaims that Mary is blessed among women.

This passage highlights the deep connection between the two women, both pregnant with divine promise. Elizabeth's blessing affirms Mary's faith and obedience to God's call, recognizing the greatness of her role in God's plan. Mary's visit also demonstrates the power of community and support, as they share in the miraculous nature of their pregnancies.

This moment encourages us to recognize and celebrate God's work in our lives and in the lives of others. It calls us to embrace the joy of God's presence, and the strength found in supporting one another in faith.

Advent Blessings,
Fr. Andrew
Parish Priest

Our Parish acknowledges that we gather, pray and live on the land of the Bunurong People of the Kulin nation, and pay our respects to Elders, past, present and emerging. We recognise their continued connection to Country, and we thank them for their role in caring for, and maintaining Country and waterways, over thousands of generations.



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Pray

INVITE

BRING

The Fourth week of Advent. The fourth candle of Advent represents Love, the ultimate love of God that He might send His only Son for us. Called the “Angel's Candle,” the fourth candle of Advent is lit the Sunday before Christmas, and it is the color purple, leading us to eagerly await the new Kingdom of God on earth.



Pray Invite Bring

We encourage all parishioners to pick up one of our Christmas postcards, which you can give to family and friends with a gentle invitation to attend one of our Christmas masses. This is a wonderful opportunity to experience our welcoming community. Let's all pray this Christmas, that our visitors and ourselves will experience the love of our Saviour Jesus during this season.



Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve 6pm at St Louis' School Oval (Carols from 5.30pm)*
Christmas Eve 8.30pm at St Louis' Church (Carols from 8pm)
Midnight Mass at St Brigid's (Carols from 11.30pm)

Christmas Day 8.30am at St Louis' Church
Christmas Day 10.30am at St Brigid's Church

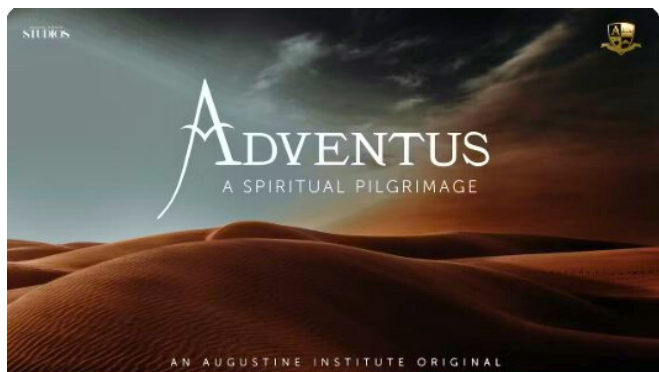


***If attending the Christmas Eve Mass on the oval please BYO chair or rug.**

FORMED

Formed Advent and Christmas content

Have you signed up for **Formed?** If you are not aware, Formed is Netflix for Catholics. There is something for everyone: award-winning studies and parish programs, inspiring audio content, movies, e-books, and family-friendly kids' programming. Great Christmas content too. Go to the back page to sign up for free.



Adventus - A Spiritual Pilgrimage on FORMED

This special documentary allows Catholics from all around the world to unite and make a spiritual pilgrimage to the Holy Land to see the places associated with Christ's Birth. Great viewing for the whole family. The documentary is only 33 mins. and is particularly informative at this time of the year as well as providing education on the Holy Land, given the sad ongoing conflict. Let us pray for peace.

Blessings Quarterly Parish Magazine

The December 2024 edition of our Blessings magazine is available from this weekend. Packed with stories including - the National alpha Conference, parish groups, news from our schools and much more. All who have subscribed to our parish newsletter will automatically receive a copy in their inbox and there will be printed copies available. If you are yet to subscribe to our weekly newsletter and parish emails, please do so here **SUBSCRIBE**, or at our [parish website](#).



News and Announcements



Vinnies Christmas Collection and Christmas Hamper Donations

There will be a special collection at all our Christmas Masses. Thank you for helping those in need. Thank you for the generous parishioner

contributions for our Vinnies Christmas hampers, which will be so appreciated for those in need in our community, particularly during the Christmas season.

Vinnies Calendars & Christmas Cards - available from our piety stalls. 2025 Columban Calendars (\$10) and St Vincent de Paul Christmas cards \$3.50 (5 pack).

Australian Catholic Religious Against Human Trafficking (ACRATH) 2025 Calendars

The ACRATH calendar, creates awareness of human trafficking globally and here in Australia and will be available for sale at \$10 each in the church foyers this weekend.

PLEASE NOTE

The 9.15am Mass will not be celebrated at St Louis on Boxing Day Thursday 26 December.

New Serve Ministry Roster

The new roster for January to March has been emailed out to all our serve ministers. If you require a hard copy, they are available at the Welcome Desk. Would you like to serve in our parish? We encourage and invite everyone to step up and serve God and our parish. When you do, you find you are rewarded in many ways. To read about our Serve Ministries please pick up a booklet in our parish foyers or access online at our parish website.



New Thanksgiving envelopes

Please pick up your new envelopes. The new envelopes started the weekend of **14/15 December**.

You may now have a new number on your envelopes after our latest campaign. Please throw out your old envelopes once you have picked up your new ones. Thank you for your generosity.

CRISP (Community Refugee and Integration Settlement)

Members of our JAG team have joined with others from Christ our Light Parish Cheltenham to support a refugee family to assimilate in Australia. To learn more: <https://refugeesponsorship.org.au/what-we-do/crisp/> Please support the team. There is a donation box at the welcome desk and there will be upcoming fund raising events in the new year.

Fr Robert McCulloch and Eric Siraj - 20th January

Fr Robert McCulloch, a Columban missionary, and Eric Siraj, Hospital Administrator, will talk on their work in Hyderabad, Pakistan at 7:00 pm on **Monday 20th January in St Patrick's Parish Centre, 3 Mitchell Street, Mentone**. The evening has been arranged by the Knights of the Southern Cross and all are welcome. To assist with catering it would be helpful to advise johnberuldsen@gmail.com, 0429 693 030, if you plan to attend.

Parish Groups

Music Ministry Christmas Choirs

Thanks to all our choir members and musicians who have worked hard in rehearsal to be able to sing for you at all our Christmas masses. We hope you enjoy singing along to all the Christmas Carols.

Call Trish on 0421 604 849

Flower Ministry

We are still looking for more volunteers for both churches. Please contact the office if you would like to join the team. Thanks to the flower teams at both churches for their work each week in beautifying our altars. We can look forward to seeing the beautiful Christmas flowers.

NEXT WEEK'S SERVE MINISTERS ROSTER - HOLY FAMILY - 28/29 DECEMBER 2024

28/29 Dec	THE HOLY FAMILY Readings Year C		1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28		John 3: 1-2, 21-24,		Luke 2: 41-52
	Reader	Commentator	Special Minister	Special Minister	Special Minister	Welcomer	Welcomer
6pm (A)	Marie Seddon	Lesley-Anne Bailey	Michael Barker	Carmel Barker	Gail McGillivray	Berna Wake	Julie Buick
8.00am (M)	Angela Meo	Volunteer	Frances North	Carole Guthrie	Jack Guthrie	Jane Standish	Jack Meyer
9.30am (A)	Maureen Wraight	Phillip Morris	Alison Krishnadas	Felice Cortese	Ron Schneider-Loos	Norma Taylor	Trish Le Brocq
11.00am (M)	Dianne Wain	Vikki Fitzgerald	Christine D'Cruze	Juan Wilson	Peter Hannan	Judy Lamb	Mary Ann Farren
Counters	Group 1	Gary & Joanne Partleton		Ron Soares			

Recently deceased: Patricia Carrazzo (mother of Mark), Fr Len Thomas

Anniversaries: Nicholas Morillion, Gordon Adrian Wagstaff, James O'Donnell, Edmond O'Sullivan, Mary Tancheff, Margaret Smith, Guiseppe Taranto, Jim Kerlin, Des Lourey, John Ilott, Sr Mary Vera A.C., Aloysius Mendonça, Walter M Wesols, Sam Cassano, Joan Juliff, Pietro Gazzo, Theresa Morrison, Mario Nasello, Lance Riordan, Robert Martin, Bert Parisi, Muriel Cramer, Simone Ellul, Marino Nasello, Michael Melbourne, Max Stooke, Max Stooke, Luileen McGrath, Denis Raihely, Nancye Raihely, Peter Raihely, Kerry O'Keeffe, Robert Lasrado, Angela Vuat, Elvina Braganza, Gaetano La Pira, Jean Barber, Llorenç Rovira-Durán, Colin Harding, Gus Roomer, Veronica Arthur, Thelma Bromley, Pasqualino Costanzo, Max D'Astoli, Jack Plant, Nello Fabris, Milena Fabris, Lilly Fabris.

Praying for the sick: Fr Terry Kean, Walter Young, Julie Griffiths, Naldi Junaldi, Nik Selepak, Sophia Bicos, Steve Gobac, Therese Brown, Maureen Fitzgerald, Fernanda Barbarino, John Nicholson, Peter Waltho, Ben Quirk, Sam Finnochiaro, Anne Burke, Michelle Ives, Graham Owen, Norreen Spies, Harry Spies, Caiden Hoare, Sarah Gilbert, Brenda Cortese, Peter Baxter, Deborah Hall, Donna Cardamone, Heidi Soeding, Janice Gillette, Nancy Selby, Desmond Dunn, Adam Taylor, Peter Shoppe, Natalian Constanzo, Flynn, Maree Wesols, Veronica Wesols, Andrea Williams, Fr Kevin Tortorelli (OFM), Joseph Michaleff, Geraldine Bennett, Charmaine Milne, Michelle Lieour, Louise Hawes, Virginia Hindall, Penny Proctor, Gail Bell.

WEEKEND MASSES

St Louis Saturday 6pm
 St Brigid's Sunday 8am
 St Louis Sunday 9.30am
 St Brigid's Sunday 11am
Our 6pm Saturday Vigil & 8am Sunday Masses are live streamed and can be accessed at:
m.stmaryofthecross.com/mass

WEEKDAY MASSES

St Louis Mon 9.15am Communion Service
 St Louis Tuesday 9.15am,
 St Brigid's Wed 10am,
 St Louis Thurs 9.15am,
 St Brigid's Fri 11.30am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AND ROSARY

St Brigid's every Fri 10.30am
 St Louis 1st Sat of the month 4.30pm

RECONCILIATION

St Brigid's Friday's 12pm
 St Louis Saturday's 5.30pm

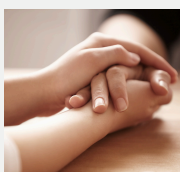
PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Fr Andrew, Fr Huy, Trish Angliss, Berna Wake

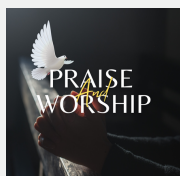
Growing in Community & Belonging at St Mary of the Cross



Children's Liturgy
 5 - 12-year-olds.
 4th weekend of the month. All masses except 8am.



Prayer Ministry
 Intercessory prayer.
 Last weekend of the month - all masses.



Praise & Worship
 3rd Friday of month
 7.30 - 8.30pm.
 Alternates between each church.

Pastoral care

If you would like a pastoral visit, Helen is available to drop by for a chat or to organise some help if required.

Please contact the office at mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au

Contact us

Parish Office: 03 9580 7981
 OPEN Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday's 9am to 4.30pm
 Parish Coordinator: Ann Fitzgerald
mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au
 Parish House: 03 9412 8432

Our Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and human dignity of children, young people & adults at risk in our community.

CHILD SAFEGUARDING TEAM:

Fr Andrew Jekot 03 9412 8432
 Fr Huy Nguyen 03 9412 8432
 Trish 0421 604 849
 Louise 0415 963 799
 Joe 0407 354 568
 Helen 0498 178 899
 Joanne 0413 133184
 Robyn 0412 814 592