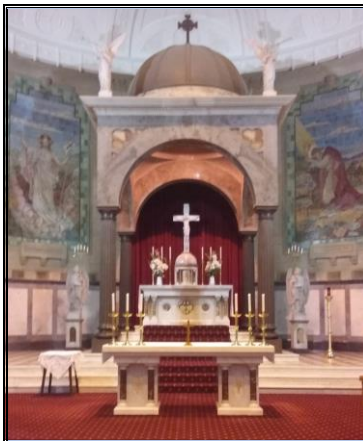




PARISH OF ASCOT VALE

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.

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time – 26 January 2025

Episcopal Ordinations – 1st February

On the 1st February at 10.00am – 12.30pm, Father Thinh Nguyen and Father Rene Ramirez will be ordained bishops for the Archdiocese of Melbourne at St Patrick’s Cathedral. Most Reverend Rene Ramirez will succeed Most Reverend Terry Curtin as Auxiliary Bishop for the Northern Region.

Those unable to be at the Cathedral in person can watch online at the [Archdiocesan YouTube channel](#) and or on free-to-air TV via C31 (channel 44 on digital TV).

Let us continue to pray for our two bishops-elect as they prepare to take up their new ministry in our Church!

Coming Soon – concerning **Parish Offertory Programme**

Assistance is being provided to St. Mary’s Parish by the Development & Philanthropy office of the Archdiocese. The 1st Stage concerns a census process, which will be conducted in February and March towards the **Offertory Programme** in May.

Parish Census - In February over three weeks, we invite each member of our parish to participate in our census process. By completing the census form, which will be made available during Mass, we can register the number of our parish members and better understand the needs of our community. Data from this census will also enable the parish to strategically plan for important events, ministries, and other future endeavours. Your privacy is essential, and all information will be treated with confidentiality

Fr Desmond J Moloney

Lourdes Mass

You are invited to attend the annual Lourdes Mass at **St Patrick’s Cathedral on Saturday 8 February at 10.30 am**. Principal Celebrant: Archbishop Comensoli. This is a special occasion to pray for our sick, infirm and elderly and those who care for them. Everybody attending will receive a gift pack containing water from the grotto at Lourdes, rosary beads and prayer resources.

For more information, please contact Sauro Antonelli AM on 0411 250 288

“Be who you are and be that well”. – Saint Francis de Sales

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

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – 1/2 Feb 2025

Parish Counters: R Aparo; D McAleer

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 Hoshun		P Barbaro	
8.30 am		S Varghese		J Gilmartin
10.30 am	A Fogarty		R Rotunno	

Recently Deceased: Daniel Vezzoso

Anniversaries: Cecilia Falzon; Clifford Jordan; George Bezzina; Grazio Curmi; Giovanni DeMaria; James Moloney; Cosima Pograri; Rocco Trimboli; Noel Hughes; Gladwyn Allen

Feast Days: **28 January:** St Thomas Aquinas **31 January:** St John Bosco

Readings Next Week: The Presentation of the Lord (Year C) Mal 3:1-4; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40

Baptisms

We warmly welcome into the family of God's Church, the following children being baptised this weekend in our Parish:

Grace Evangeline Powell

Henry Conor Jones



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 20th February 2025, **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, rosecalandra22@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.

From THE SPIRITUAL GIFTS HANDBOOK by Randy Clark & Mary Healy Who Gets the Gifts?

The charisms are gifts not only in the sense that God gives them to people, but that their very purpose is to be used for others. They are by definition gifts to be given away, to be used "for the common good" (1 Cor 12:7). They are a means by which God's grace circulates among the members of the Church and overflows beyond its boundaries. For that very reason, no one has all the gifts it is possible to have – because then we would not need each other. The charisms teach us to receive and give away God's grace, so that the Body of Christ functions as a living organism, each part contributing in a unique way to the whole.

God's idea of unity is a marvelous unity in diversity, each person contributing to the flourishing of the whole by using his or her unique God-given gifts.

Paul makes it very clear that charisms are given not only to some, but to all Christians: "To *each* is given the manifestation of the Spirit" (1 Cor 12:7). Every believer has an irreplaceable role to play in the growth of the Church; everyone is given charisms that perfectly correspond to that role. There is no unemployment in the Kingdom of God! Or at least there would not be, if everyone knew how to recognise and use his or her gifts. Scripture therefore emphasises that exercising our gifts is not optional; it is a sacred responsibility. "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace" (1 Peter 4:10). Many Christians do not exercise charisms because they have no idea how to use them and grow in them; they may not even know what they are. This is a great loss to the Body of Christ.

Fr Desmond J Moloney

Jubilee prayer

Praying this together as a community is a way to reflect on what it means to be pilgrims of hope:

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.*



Jubilee of Families Pilgrimage 2025 - Tuesday 20 May 2025 – Wednesday 4 June 2025

Registrations for the Archdiocese of Melbourne's 2025 Jubilee of Families pilgrimage will close on 7 February 2025. The pilgrimage, which coincides with the Jubilee of Families, Grandparents and the Elderly, is open to all parishioners. Harvest Journeys is the pilgrimage provider, Fr Andrew McCarter will accompany the pilgrims as their chaplain. For more information, contact Harvest Journeys at info@harvestjourneys.com, or call 1800 819 156.



Jubilee of Youth Pilgrimage 2025 - Monday 21 July 2025 – Tuesday 5 August 2025

This pilgrimage is open to Catholics aged between 18 and 30 years. Fr Jude Johnson will accompany the pilgrims as their chaplain.

This graced and hope-filled journey will take in the towns and cities of Italy, the homes of great saints like St Francis and St Clare—and soon-to-be canonised saints Carlo Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassati—before culminating in a visit to the Eternal City of Rome, where we will walk through the Holy Doors of St Peter's Basilica and participate in the Jubilee celebrations.

For more information, contact Harvest Journeys at info@harvestjourneys.com, or call 1800 819 156.



'Marriage' with Matt and Cameron Fradd

Thursday 6 February 2025, 6.00pm–9.30pm, ACU Cathedral Hall, 22 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy

- 6pm—Live music and barbecue
- 7.30pm—Marriage talk by Matt and Cameron Fradd
- 9.30pm—Finish

Cost: \$30 adults, \$20 concession/student, free for children under 10yrs.

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

FIRST READING

Isaiah 32:15-18

Once more there will be poured on us
the spirit from above; then shall the wilderness
be fertile land and fertile land become forest.
In the wilderness justice will come to live
and integrity in the fertile land;
integrity will bring peace, justice give lasting
security.

My people will live in a peaceful home,
in safe houses, in quiet dwellings.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 84

R. The Lord speaks of peace to his people.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace.

His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land. (R.)

Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven. (R.)

The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps. (R.)

SECOND READING

Romans 12:9-13

Do not let your love be a pretence, but
sincerely prefer good to evil. Love each other as
much as brothers and sisters should, and have a
profound respect for each other. Work for the
Lord with untiring effort and with great
earnestness of spirit. If you have hope this will
make you cheerful. Do not give up if trials
come; and keep on praying. If any of the saints
are in need you must share with them; and you
should make hospitality your special care.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 5:9

Alleluia, alleluia!

Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called
children of God.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 1: 1-4. 4:14-21

Seeing that many others have undertaken to
draw up accounts of the events that have taken
place among us, exactly as these were handed
down to us by those who from the outset were
eyewitnesses and ministers of the word, I in my
turn, after carefully going over the whole story
from the beginning, have decided to write an
ordered account for you, Theophilus, so that
your Excellency may learn how well founded
the teaching is that you have received. Jesus,
with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to
Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout
the countryside. He taught in their synagogues
and everyone praised him. He came to Nazara,
where he had been brought up, and went into
the synagogue on the sabbath day as he usually
did. He stood up to read, and they handed him
the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the
scroll he found the place where it is written:
The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for
he has anointed me. He has sent me to bring
the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty
to captives and to the blind new sight, to set the
downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord's year
of favour. He then rolled up the scroll, gave it
back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes
in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he
began to speak to them, 'This text is being
fulfilled today even as you listen.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

