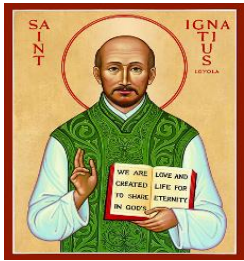


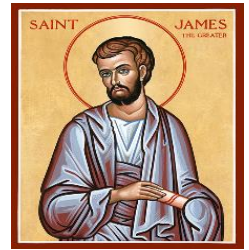
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR A
SUNDAY 21 DECEMBER 2025



FEAST DAY – 31 JULY

RICHMOND CATHOLIC PARISH
OF ST. IGNATIUS & ST. JAMES

Parish Priest: Fr. Trung Hoang Nguyen, SJ
Parish Manager: Ms. Licia Marchese (Mon-Fri)
Administrative Assistant: Miss Julia Cappozzo
Operation hours: Monday – Friday 9.00am – 4.00pm
Phone: (03) 8420 6789 Email: parish@ignatius.org.au
Website: <https://www.melbcatholic.org/richmond>



FEAST DAY- 25 JULY

ST. IGNATIUS
CHURCH

**326 Church Street,
RICHMOND VIC 3121**

Mass Times
12.00 noon
(Monday - Friday)

Saturday
5.00pm (Vigil)

Sunday
9.30am (English)
12.00 noon (Polish)
4.00pm (Vietnamese)

Adoration & Benediction
11.00am Friday

Anointing of the Sick
1st Friday of the Month

ST. JAMES CHURCH

**162 Kent Street,
NORTH RICHMOND,
VIC 3121**

Mass Times
Sunday: 11.00am

SACRAMENTS

Baptism
Contact Parish office.

Reconciliation
By appointment

Wedding
Contact Parish Office

TRINITY CATHOLIC
PRIMARY SCHOOL

**57-61 Davison Street,
NORTH RICHMOND
VIC 3121**

www.tcs.catholic.edu.au

Principal
Nigel Rodrigues
Tel: 03 9428 7180

RICHMOND CATHOLIC PARISH
PREPARING FOR THE CELEBRATION OF
CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS CAROLS



*St Ignatius Church – Sunday 21 December beginning at 6.00pm.
Carols will be sung in English, Vietnamese, Polish and
Tetum (Timor-Lester)*

PARISH CHRISTMAS MASSES – 2025



ST IGNATIUS CHURCH – CHRISTMAS EVE

6.00pm	Family Mass – English
7.30pm	Nativity Play – Vietnamese
8.00pm	Vietnamese Mass
10.00pm	Polish Mass
11.30pm	Christmas Carols – English
Midnight	Christmas Eve Mass – English

ST IGNATIUS CHURCH – CHRISTMAS DAY

9.30am	English Mass
10.45am	Vietnamese Mass
Midday	Polish Mass

ST JAMES CHURCH – CHRISTMAS DAY

9.30am	English Mass
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ST IGNATIUS CHURCH – BOXING DAY

11.00am	Polish Mass
Midday	English Mass (No Adoration or Benediction)

ST IGNATIUS CHURCH – NEW YEAR DAY
1 JANUARY 2026. Feast of Mary, Holy Mother of God

9.30am	English Mass
10.45am	Vietnamese Mass
Midday	Polish Mass

A JESUIT PARISH
OUR MISSION

We share responsibility to: Practise and promote gospel values, recognise and respond to the ever-changing needs of the community and foster a faith that leads to justice. As a parish open to change desiring to be a community, we strive to live the gospel values of: Diversity, Hospitality and Inclusivity.

We respectfully **ACKNOWLEDGE** the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation, as the traditional caretakers of the land which is the Richmond Catholic Parish.

We acknowledge the Elders, past & present.

May we too, be good stewards of this land.

SAFETY OF
CHILDREN & ALL
VULNERABLE
PEOPLE

Richmond Catholic Parish holds the care, safety and wellbeing of children and all vulnerable people as a central and fundamental responsibility for our community.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON*Isaiah 45:8*

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

FIRST READING*Isaiah 7:10-14*

A reading from the prophet of Isaiah

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No', Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.'

Then Isaiah said: 'Listen now, House of David: are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men without trying the patience of my God, too? The Lord himself, therefore, will give you a sign. It is this: the maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call Immanuel, a name which means "God-is-with-us".'

This is Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM*Ps 23:1-6*

(R.) Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

1. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm. **(R.)**
2. Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things. **(R.)**
3. He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob. **(R.)**

SECOND READING*Romans 1:1-7*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures.

This news is about the Son of God, who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION*Matthew 1:23*

Alleluia, alleluia!

A virgin will give birth to a son;
his name will be Emmanuel: God is with us.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL*Matthew 1:18-24*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

This is Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON*Isaiah 7:14*

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



The Fourth Sunday of Advent is a moment of quiet anticipation — the final stretch before Christmas, when the promise of God's love is about to be revealed in the birth of Jesus. By now, the candles of hope, peace, and joy are already lit, and this week's candle — love — completes the circle, reminding us that God's plan is rooted in deep, self-giving love.

This Sunday's readings often focus on Mary's "yes" to God, her openness to the unexpected, and her trust in His promise. Her response wasn't passive; it was a courageous act of faith. She stepped into uncertainty, carrying the Light of the World within her, showing us that God's work often begins in the hidden and humble places of our lives.

As we prepare for Christmas, this day invites us to:

- Pause and make space for God's presence in our hearts.
- Trust that even in our uncertainties, God is at work.
- Love in ways that reflect the generosity and humility of Christ.

In these final days of Advent, may we carry Mary's faith, Joseph's quiet obedience, and Elizabeth's joy — so that when Christmas dawns, we welcome Jesus not just into our homes, but into the very centre of our lives.

This week we light the fourth candle on the advent wreath. It represents LOVE, which is the central theme in the Christmas Story. This candle is sometimes called the "Angel's Candle," emphasizing the love that angels proclaimed at the birth of Jesus and the love that God has for all people.

FEAST DAYS – DECEMBER

- ✚ 21st St Peter Canisius
- ✚ 23rd St John of Kanty

PLEASE PRAY FOR ...

THE SICK IN OUR PARISH:

God of gentleness and love,
We entrust to your care all those in
need of any form of healing, and ask
you to guide and sustain all who
offer them healing and hope.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



- ✚ Kate Franklyn
- ✚ Sophie Hogan
- ✚ Cormac Keenan

To add to our prayer list, please notify the parish office by Tuesday 10.00am by ringing 8420 6789 or email: parish@ignatius.org.au

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS AND HELPERS

With another year drawing to a close, it is timely to be mindful and grateful for all the generous individuals who have contributed to making our Parish community a welcoming and spirit-filled place for all who enter the Richmond Catholic Parish.

I give thanks for our committed volunteers and helpers in sharing their many gifts and talents. I am aware of the quiet presence of those who volunteer and help in so many different ways.

Thank you to our:

- ✚ Minsters of the Word
- ✚ Ministers of the Eucharist
- ✚ Altar Servers
- ✚ Adults who look after the Altar Servers
- ✚ Florists
- ✚ Those who set up and prepare for our Masses, Weddings and Baptisms and special Parish Celebrations
- ✚ Musicians
- ✚ Choir Members
- ✚ Gardeners
- ✚ Collectors and Counters
- ✚ Church Cleaners
- ✚ The Faith at Work Committee Members
- ✚ Finance and Property Committee Member
- ✚ Parish Pastoral Council Members

Fr Trung Nguyen, SJ, PP

A REMINDER THAT OUR
PARISH OFFICE WILL BE
CLOSED FROM
SATURDAY 20th 2025
DECEMBER
UNTIL
MONDAY 12th JANUARY
2026.

The last Parish Bulletin will be
on Sunday 21 December 2025.
Our next bulletin will be on
Sunday 18 January 2026.



MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST ST. IGNATIUS CHURCH			
DATE	5.00PM VIGIL MASS	DATE	9.30AM SUNDAY MASS
20/12	Therese Keogh	21/12	Mary Ebolo
27/12	Volunteer	28/12	Volunteer

MINISTERS OF THE WORD ST. IGNATIUS CHURCH			
DATE	5.00PM VIGIL MASS	DATE	9.30AM SUNDAY MASS
20/12	Peter Keogh	21/12	Constantino Gonzales
27/12	Volunteer	28/12	Cory Gonzales

MINISTERS OF THE WORD ST. JAMES CHURCH	
DATE	11.00AM MASS
21/12	Volunteer
28/12	Barbara Shea

COLLECTION WEEK – 13 th & 14 th December ST. IGNATIUS CHURCH & St JAMES CHURCH	
Thanksgiving Envelopes – \$435.00	
Loose Collection – \$2371.90	

CHRISTMAS
carols night

St. IGNATIUS CHURCH
Richmond

SUNDAY | DECEMBER 21 | 6.00 PM

Choirs performing in
English, Vietnamese, Polish
and Tetum (Timor Leste)