



THE TIDINGS

SERVING THE AREAS OF MELTON, WEST MELTON, HARKNESS, KURUNJANG, TOOLERN VALE, PLUMPTON, GRANGEFIELDS, BONNIE BROOK (WEST), ROCKBANK (WEST).



We are committed to upholding the safety and wellbeing of each child and young person, and endeavour to provide a caring and supportive environment in our Church.

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A - August 16, 2026

CLERGY

Parish Priest: FR ALEX CLEMENTE, RCJ

Assistant Priest: FR WILFORD URMZA, RCJ

Assistant Priest: FR JEFFREY SALVADOR, RCJ

Parish Deacon: DCN CRIS CREO

Email: Cristopher.Creo@cam.org.au

OFFICE

10 Unitt Street, MELTON, VIC 3337

Postal Address: PO Box 96, MELTON, VIC 3337

Phone: 03 9743 6515

Email: melton@cam.org.au

Website: melbcatholic.org/melton

Facebook: facebook.com/catholicparishmelton

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9.15am - 4.45pm

We are **closed** on Mondays, weekends and public holidays.

STAFF & SAFEGUARDING COORDINATOR

Parish Secretary: WILMA CHUA (Tues - Fri)

Finance Manager: LORRAINE STAFFORD (Mon & Tues)

Email: finance.melton@cam.org.au

Safeguarding Coordinator: LIZ COUSTLEY

Mobile: 0490 885 515 | **Email:** cso.melton@gmail.com

MASS CENTRES & MASS TIMES

St Catherine of Siena Church, Melton West

108 Bulmans Road, Melton West, VIC 3337

- **Saturday** 6pm (Vigil Mass)
- **Sunday** 9am, 11am & 5 pm
- **Wednesday Mass** 9.15 am
(no Mass during school holidays at St Catherine's Church)

St Dominic's Church, Melton

Church St, Melton, VIC 3337

- **Thursday & Friday** 9.15 am
(no Mass on public holidays)

CONFESSION

St Catherine of Siena Church

Saturday: 5.45 pm | Sunday: 10:30-10:50am/4.45 pm

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED

SACRAMENT & ROSARY

St Dominic's Church

- **Thursday** following the 9.15 am Mass

SCHOOLS IN OUR PARISH

ST DOMINIC'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Address: Church Street, Melton, VIC 3337

+61 3 9743 6225 | enquiries@sdmelton.catholic.edu.au

ST CATHERINE OF SIENA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Address: 108 Bulmans Road, Melton West, VIC 3337

+61 3 9743 2166 | info@scmeltonwest.catholic.edu.au

ST FRANCIS CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Melton West Campus (Year 7-12): 109-141 Bulmans Rd, Melton West

Cobblebank Campus (Year 7-9): Bridge Rd, Cobblebank
+61 3 8099 6000 | info@sfcc.vic.edu.au

Reflection by Fr. Jeffrey Salvador, RCJ

Faith That Refuses to Give Up



There are moments in life when we pray, but God seems silent. We ask for help, but nothing seems to change. We knock on the door, but it feels as though no one is answering. It is easy in those moments to become discouraged and ask, "Lord, are you really listening?"

The Canaanite woman in today's Gospel knew this experience. She came to Jesus carrying the pain of her daughter. She cried out, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Yet at first, Jesus did not answer her.

But she did not leave.

She continued to follow Jesus. She continued to ask. Even when the disciples wanted her sent away, she remained. She knelt before Jesus and simply said, "Lord, help me."

This is the heart of today's Gospel: true faith does not easily give up.

Sometimes we think strong faith means receiving an immediate answer to our prayers. But perhaps strong faith is revealed precisely when the answer does not come immediately. It is continuing to trust when God seems silent. It is continuing to pray when circumstances remain difficult. It is continuing to believe even when we do not understand what God is doing.

The woman could have walked away disappointed. Instead, she remained humble and persistent. And eventually Jesus said to her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish."

Perhaps today we carry a prayer that has remained unanswered for a long time—a family problem, a personal struggle, a difficult relationship, or concern for someone we love.

The Gospel invites us: do not stop bringing it to Jesus.

God's silence does not mean God's absence. Like the Canaanite woman, may we have the faith to remain, to trust, and to keep saying:

"Lord, help me."

**In case of urgent situations, sickness etc.
in the parish please call 0422 869 646**

Entrance Antiphon

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield;
and look on the face of your anointed one;
one day within your courts
is better than a thousand elsewhere.

First Reading

Isaiah 56:1.6-7

I will lead the foreigners to my holy mountain.

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest.

Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!

1. O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help. **(R.)**

2. Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth. **(R.)**

3. Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Romans 11:13-15, 29-32

The gifts and call of God are irrevocable

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice.

Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom
and healed all who were sick.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 15:21-28

Woman, you have great faith.

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.'

He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet.

'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.

Communion Antiphon

With the Lord

there is mercy;

in him is

plentiful

redemption.



Prayer for Vocations

O Jesus' gentle heart, in your entire mortal life you sought always the glory of Your Father. Deign to send to Your Holy Church good and evangelical workers, who will incessantly glorify Your Father who is in heaven with the holiness of their life and apostolic work.

Send of Lord, Holy Apostles into Your Church.

MORE VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR THE WEEKEND LITURGY ROSTER

ARE YOU WILLING TO HELP?



Pick up a 'Volunteer Information Pack' in the Gathering Area of the church for detailed information on each ministry, necessary requirements and the application form.



First Aid & Defibrillator is located in the Lay-Sacristy.

Next Week's Readings:

Isa 22;19-12 Rom 11:33-36 Mat 16:13-20

Recently Deceased:

Rev. Fr Henry D'Cruz

Death Anniversaries:

Mel Dudley, Patrick O'Leary, Tom Coburn, James Hazewinkel, John Hogan, Barbara Slimmon, Bernie Milburn, Laurence Grech, Giana Sultana, Danilla Sessarego, Lorraine Wong, Rohini Fernando, Denzil Considine, Junior Faapito, Lorenza Galea, Peter Paul Borg, Christopher Ryan Lane, Ivy Silva, Paul D'Souza, Jose G Ty, Kevin Nihill, Georgette Bazzerghi, Hilda Callanan, Lafaele Matul, Mary Ann Zammit, Zaren Aquinalla, Francisca Silva, Philomina Peters, Christine Curtain, James Dempsey, James Simpson, Helen Van Orsouw, Luisa F Romea, Lois McPhee, Ruth Turner, Joseph Gerada, Melissa Duod-Harvey, Rosario Machado, Maurice Vassallo -Grant, Alfred Formosa, Ester Abraham, Lynette Paiva, Dianne Curtin, Mary Aquilina, Nicola D Sante, Marolli, Edna Verlander Robert Hislop, Rebecca Vas 250815-21_39

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Seeking for Volunteers / Help needed ASAP

Breakfast at St Dominic's Primary School

from 7:30am—8:45am

Home Visits on Mondays or any other day in twos /

Soup Van on Tuesdays and or Thursdays

Working With Children Check (WWCC) ID required

For further details please Contact

Anne

0417 149 472 or

Maureen

0437 463 449



Memorial Wall Plaques

There are still spots available on our Memorial Wall next to St Dominic's Church to commemorate former parishioners and loved ones whose remains are buried or interred elsewhere with a memorial plaque. For more details or to arrange or reserve a spot, please contact the Parish Office directly. Forms are also available in the Gathering Space to fill out and return to the Parish Office.



Prime Timers

Tuesday 25th August, lunch 12 o'clock at Back to Bacchus, 147 Main St Bacchus Marsh

RSVP before Friday 21st

Enquiries contact Ineke on 0400120401 or ineke49@yahoo.com

Is it time to renew your Working With Children Check card?



PLEASE NOTE: When applying for a Working With Children Check or renewal as a volunteer, please state that the organisation is:

**Catholic Parish of Melton
10 Unitt St, Melton VIC 3337**

NOT St Catherine of Siena Parish, Bulmans Rd., as this is **not** the name of our Parish.

Melbourne Synod 2026

"journeying together," reflecting the Church's commitment to collaboration and shared decision-making.



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE

PLEASE RING MASS MANAGER IF UNABLE TO

➡ 6pm—Tania Walters 0492 952 478 11am— Lea Jacuta 0414 390 151
9am Theo Franken 0411 040 897 5pm - Josephine Krajina 0407 042 133

Twentieth Sunday Ordinary Time

Saturday & Sunday August 15 & 16, 2026

Ministers of:	6 PM	9 AM	11 AM	5 PM
WELCOME	Kate Mulholland	Asther Creo	Chelsea Amato	Frank Unferdorben
THE WORD	Tania Walters	THEO FRANKEN	Cira Cleary	Lesley Sosa-Ritchie
RESPONDER	Tetchie Hadfield	VICKIE CASSAR	Liz Coustley	Sarah Olayvar
PRESENTATION OF GIFTS	Robert Obtinalla	Karl Metha	Lea Jacuta	JOSEPHINE KRAJINA
EM OF HOLY COMMUNION	KATE MULHOLLAND	Vickie Cassar	Marissa Tuason	Ismael Sosa-Sanchez
POWERPOINT OPERATOR	James Taniman	Sanyata Creo	DANIELLA AHMET	Nina Ahmet
GIFT SHOP	Tania Walters	ANNE STOKIE	Lea Jacuta	Josephine Krajina
CHOIR	Divine Mercy	CHRIST THE KING	VERITAS	TONGAN
COUNTERS	Anne Stokie, Maureen Mohr, Karl Metha			

Twenty-First Sunday Ordinary Time

Saturday & Sunday August 22 & 23, 2026

Ministers of:	6 PM	9 AM	11 AM	5 PM
WELCOME	Bill McGuinness	Charlu Chua	Marissa Tuason	Josephine Krajina
THE WORD	Tetchie Hadfield	Vickie Cassar	Chelsea Amato	Frank Unferdorben
RESPONDER	Maria Prasetyono	THEO FRANKEN	Liz Coustley	Lesley Sosa-Ritchie
PRESENTATION OF GIFTS	Maria Alvarado	Charlu Chua	Lea Jacuta	ELAINE DE LOS SANTOS
EM OF HOLY COMMUNION	Leny Obtinalla	THEO FRANKEN	LEA JACUTA	Josephine Krajina
POWERPOINT OPERATOR	Kate Mulholland	Sanyata Creo	MARISSA TUASON	Daniella Ahmet
GIFT SHOP	MARGARET RICHARDS	ANNE STOKIE	LEA JACUTA	Frank Unferdorben
CHOIR	DIVINE MERCY	VENERATION	CFC GLOBAL CHOIR	FILIPINO
COUNTERS	Tania Walters, Maria Abela			



First Aid & Defibrillator is located in the Lay-Sacristy.

**Weekend Mass Times: Saturday 6pm
Sunday 9am, 11am & 5pm**

AUGUST

Wednesday, 19th	9:15am Mass: St Catherine of Siena Church
Thursday, 20th	9:15am Mass: St Dominics Church 7:00PM: St Dominic's Parish Hall St Luke's Sacramental Prog. - Confirmation
Friday, 21st	9:15am Mass: St Dominics Church - Year 2
Saturday, 22nd	St Catherine of Siena Church—Confirmation 11:00am/ 2:00pm St Catherine of Siena Primary
Wednesday, 26th	St Catherine of Siena Church 9:15am Mass: SCPS Year 6 Retreat 10:15am Mass: SFC Bernard House
Thursday, 27th	9:15am Mass: St Dominics Church 7:00PM: St Catherine's of Siena Church St Luke's Sacramental Prog. - Confirmation
Friday, 28th	9:15am Mass: St Dominics Church - Year 6
Saturday, 29th	St Catherine of Siena Church—Confirmation 11:00am: St Dominic's Primary 2:00pm : St Luke's Sacramental Program

SEPTEMBER

Wednesday, 1st	9:15am Mass: St Catherine of Siena Church Fathers' Day—whole school
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SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY
In the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne,
the safety and wellbeing of all persons
is of highest priority.



**PARISH OFFERTORY
GIVING 2026**

July Update

Pledged: \$4,700.96

Actual: \$4,228.12

Thank You

If you would like to:

- Make a **one-off donation**
- Set up **recurring donations** to the parish
- Or **request a payment report**

please scan the QR code or head to our website: [TINYURL.COM/GIVEMELTON](https://tinyurl.com/GivEMelton)

A smart terminal is situated on the table by the wall in the Gathering Area of the church. You can tap & give with your card or smart device to support the Parish too.

Parishioners can download and use the **Parousya Faith** app to automatically check-in when they arrive at their parish, receive the Day's Readings, and make a quick, simple, secure and anonymous donation using their Apple Wallet, all without registering an account.



You're invited to Alpha at our Parish

Alpha is an informal and welcoming series that brings together people from all backgrounds, regardless of where they are on their faith journey. Whether you are new to Alpha or simply curious, everyone is encouraged to join and participate.

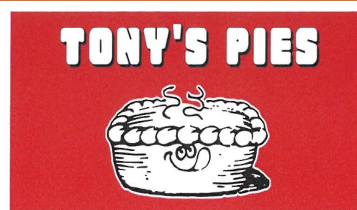
The program will run every Wednesday for 12 weeks, with each session lasting just 2 hours. Each week, a small group will share a meal, watch a video, and engage in open conversation.

This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with fellow parishioners, make new friends, and explore questions together in a supportive environment.

Our first meeting is scheduled for **Sept 2, 2026, at 7pm at St Dominic's Parish Hall in Unitt Street.**

Please email your details to melton@cam.org.au or send a SMS to 0422 808 018.

Hope you can join us! We look forward to meeting everyone and sharing this experience together.



Catholic Parish of Melton Alpha Program

Fundraising Pie drive to support our Alpha Program. Start ordering now via QR Code. Last day to order is Thursday, September 3, 2026. Collection day is Saturday, September 5, 2026 at St Catherine of Siena Church, Bulmans Road Melton at 10am - 11:30am only. Flyers available at gathering space.



PARISH BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Announcements & Notices: Please submit your announcement or notices no later than 9am every Wednesday. Bulletin notices are normally retained in *The Tidings* for two weekends. Notices and announcements submitted after the deadline will be considered for publication on the following weekend. All subject to approval.



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