



THE TIDINGS

SERVING THE AREAS OF MELTON, MELTON WEST, AINTREE, BONNIE BROOK,
GRANGEFIELDS, HARKNESS, KURUNJANG, PLUMPTON, ROCKBANK & TOOLERN VALE

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.

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR A - December 07, 2025

CLERGY

Parish Priest: FR ALEX CLEMENTE, RCJ

Assistant Priest: FR WILFORD URMAZA, 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: 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 Sr. Mary Fermio, RSJ

If John the Baptist appeared in Collins St today or along the Yarra River preaching, how would I react? Would I consider him a true believer, calling us to follow Jesus, some homeless person on the street, or would I ring the police to have him locked up

Today, through the Gospel, John the Baptist still calls us to repent, calls us to change our lives, change our heart, to show a change of lifestyle, to change our attitude towards others. We cannot just go through the motions, or some ritual. Rituals are easy. Truth seeking, costs. Changing our lives is left to each of us to decide how, to whom and why. To find time to pray, to listen, to ask myself questions.

As I prepare for the celebration of God's coming, may I approach it honestly, from the heart, even if it costs eg my pride, my pocket, my time.



Next Week's Readings:

Isa 35:1-6 James 5:7-10 Mat 11:2-11

Recently Deceased

Mary Teresa Kelly

Remembering Death Anniversaries:

Katherine Spillman, Phillip Galea, Phil Wright, Yan Nowicki, Eileen Waller, Antonio Biviano, Tony Vella, Clarence De Beaufort, Myra O'Leary, Albert Muscat, Michael Dalli, Kazimierz Wroblowski, Carmela Tiberio, Fr John Williams, Trixie Rayner, Peter Donnelly, Attilio De Nardin, Julie Anne Smith, Antonius Bambang, Karina Benjamin, Nesta Muthukrishna, Ramon & Elma Villarente, Kathleen Hishon, Joseph Vella, Mark Clarke, Joseph Caffrey, John Ciantar, Teopisto Saldana, Margaret McGuire, Conor Stewart, John Baldacchino, Terry Treadwell, Charles Vella, Thomas Hanrahan, Fr Bill Donegan (2010), Pat Hocter, Pina Reali, Carmen Cortis, Wayne Mattocks

241212-59



The Melton Parish Office will be closed from Wed, Dec 24, 2025 - Monday, Jan 5, 2026 inclusive.



The Smart Terminal is operating and available again. It is now 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.



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

Entrance Antiphon

O people of Sion, behold,
the Lord will come to save the nations,
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard
in the joy of your heart.

First Reading *Isa 11-10 He judges the poor with justice.*

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse,
a scion thrusts from his roots:
on him the spirit of the Lord rests,
a spirit of wisdom and insight,
a spirit of counsel and power,
a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.
(The fear of the Lord is his breath.)
He does not judge by appearances,
he gives no verdict on hearsay,
but judges the wretched with integrity,
and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land.
His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless,
his sentences bring death to the wicked.

Integrity is the loincloth round his waist,
faithfulness the belt about his hips.
The wolf lives with the lamb,
the panther lies down with the kid,
calf and lion cub feed together
with a little boy to lead them.
The cow and the bear make friends,
their young lie down together.
The lion eats straw like the ox.
The infant plays over the cobra's hole;
into the viper's lair
the young child puts his hand.
They do no hurt, no harm,
on all my holy mountain,
for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters swell the sea.
That day, the root of Jesse
shall stand as a signal to the peoples.
It will be sought out by the nations
and its home will be glorious.

Responsorial Psalm

**(R.) Justice shall flourish in his time,
and fullness of peace for ever.**

1. O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement. **(R.)**
2. In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to the earth's bounds. **(R.)**
3. For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor. **(R.)**

4. May his name be blessed for ever
and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,
all nations bless his name. **(R.)**

Second Reading *Rom 15:4-9 Christ, the hope of all people.*

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing your name.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.

- *Alleluia!*

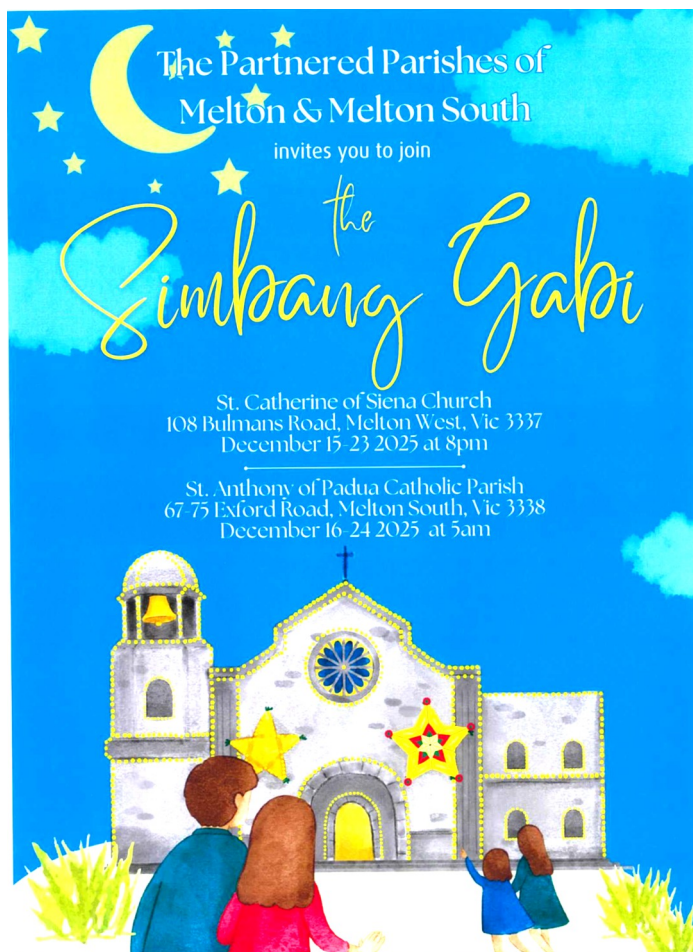
Gospel *Mat 3:1-12 Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.*

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said:

A voice cries in the wilderness:

Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight.

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'



Christmas Carols before mass, food and drinks to follow

St Anthony of Padua Melton South WANT TO WIN A CAR for \$25?



- 1st Prize: MG ZS value \$28,799
2nd Prize: Travel Voucher value \$3,000
3rd Prize: Apple Mac Book value \$1,699
4th Prize: Apple iPhone 16 value \$1,399
5th Prize: Apple Watch value \$649

THE SACRAMENTS OF PENANCE, EUCHARIST & CONFIRMATION 2026

An invitation is extended to join our partnered parishes of Melton and Melton South, Sacramental Program called:

St Luke's Sacramental Program

for young people who do not attend a Catholic Primary School, or attend a Catholic Secondary School and are baptised, but have not received one or more of the above Sacraments.

We begin with an Information Night on Thursday, January 29, 2026 at 7pm sharp in St Dominic's Parish Hall - entry via the gate on Smith St, Melton.

Information and the application form for these programs is available online on our Parish website: www.melbcatholic.org/melton or in hard copy from the Gathering Area of St Catherine of Siena church.

Please complete the application form and either:

- Email it to the parish office at: melton@cam.org.au,
- Drop it off personally at the parish office (10 Unitt St Melton) Tuesday - Friday between 9.30am and 4.30pm, or
- Place it into the white return box in the Gathering Area of St Catherine of Siena church.



The Sacrament of Penance program begins on Thursday February 5, 2026.

Growing Together In Faith

Baptism 2026

Application Forms and the New Baptism Policy are now available at the Gathering Area or via our website www.melbcatholic.org/melton.org/melton

Knights of the Southern Cross—JP Mitchell Fund

Short Term Financial Assistance for people in need in the Parish
Application Form contact +61448398344 or email lcamenzu@gmail.com or simplesimon1607@hotmail.com / +61400771812

PLEASE RING THE MASS MANAGER IF UNABLE TO ATTEND AND PERFORM YOUR ROSTERED DUTY ➡

6 pm Tania Walters 0492 952 478
9 am Theo Franken 0411 040 897

11am Lea Jacuta 0414 390 151
5 pm Josephine Krajina 0407 042 133

Second Sunday of Advent Year A

Saturday & Sunday December 6 & 7, 2025

MINISTERS OF:	6 PM	9 AM	11 AM	5 PM
Welcome	Bill McGuinness	Theo Franken	Liz Coustley	Frank Unferdorben
The Word	Maria Prasetyono	Vickie Cassar	Cira Cleary	Frank Unferdorben
Responder	Tania Walters	Jennifer Peters	Cira Cleary	Janet Estrada
Presentation of Gifts	Leny Obtinalla	Karl Metha		Josephine Krajina
Holy Communion	Robert Obtinalla	Maureen Mohr	Liz Coustley	Josephine Krajina
PowerPoint Operator	Kate Mulholland	Sanyata Creo	Liz Coustley	Nina Ahmet
Gift Shop	Tania Walters	Anne Stokie		Janet Estrada
Choir	Divine Mercy	Veneration Choir	Veritas Choir	Tongan Choir
Counters	Maria Abela, Tania Walters			

Third Sunday of Advent Year A

Saturday & Sunday December 13 & 14, 2025

MINISTERS OF:	6 PM	9 AM	11 AM	5 PM
Welcomer	Kate Mulholland	Maureen Mohr	Amy Jacuta	Josephine Krajina
The Word	Tania Walters	Sanyata Creo	Lea Jacuta	Janet Estrada
Responder	Tetchie Hadfield	Faith Tuputala	Lea Jacuta	Josephine Krajina
Presentation of Gifts	Tania Walters	Faith Tuputala	Amy Jacuta	Elainne de los Santos
Holy Communion	Leny Obtinalla	Anne Stokie	Liz Coustley	Lesley Sosa-Ritchie
PowerPoint Operator	James Taniman	Sanghaya Creo	Choir	Nina Ahmet
Gift Shop	Margaret Richards	Anne Stokie	Lea Jacuta	Frank Unferdorben
Choir	Divine Mercy	Veneration Choir	St Anuarite Choir	Filipino Choir
Counters	Leslie Gordon, John Woof			



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

Welcome Our New Assistant Priest

Rev. Fr. Jeffrey A. Salvador, RCJ,

is a priest of the Rogationist of the Heart of Jesus and was born on 27 August 1993 in Cebu, Philippines.

He entered the Rogationist

Seminary in 2010 shortly after completing his secondary education. As part of his religious formation, he completed his practical training in Cebu and Cavite, Philippines, where he served as a collaborator of the Prefect and co-formator of the young discerners of the congregation towards priesthood.

He pursued his theological studies at Don Bosco School of Theology, an affiliate of the Salesian Pontifical University in Rome. After twelve years of comprehensive formation, he was ordained as priest on 22 October 2022.

Following his ordination, Fr. Jeffrey received his first assignment as Vocation Director at the Rogationist Seminary in Cebu. He later served as Prefect of Discipline of the same seminary, contributing significantly to the human and spiritual formation of seminarians.

He will be appointed as an assistant parish priest of a partnered Catholic Churches of Melton & Melton South where he is expected to continue his priestly ministry in service to the Church of Australia and the Rogationist mission.



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

DECEMBER

Wednesday, 10th	Mass: St Catherine of Siena Church 9.15 am
Thursday, 11th	Mass: St Dominic's Parish Hall 9.15 am End of Year School Mass
Friday, 12th	Mass: St Dominic's Church 9.15 am Mass: St Catherine of Siena Church 6 pm St Dominic's Primary Graduation Mass
Monday, 15th	Mass: St Catherine of Siena Church (15-23/12) 8 pm Start 9-days Christmas Novena Masses
Wednesday, 17th	Mass: St Catherine of Siena Church 9.15 am End of Year Whole School Mass
Thursday, 18th	Mass: St Dominic's Church 9.15 am
Friday, 19th	Mass: St Dominic's Church 9.15 am



Christmas 2025 Mass Times

St Catherine of Siena Church, West Melton

Dec 15-23	Christmas Novena Masses	8 pm
Dec 24	Christmas Vigil Family Mass	6 pm
	Christmas Vigil Mass	8 pm
	Late Evening Mass (no midnight Mass)	10 pm
Dec 25	Christmas Day Mass	10am
	Christmas Day African Mass	2 pm

Christmas Carols will begin 30 minutes before Christmas Vigil and Christmas Day Masses.



PARISH OFFERTORY GIVING

November Update

Pledged: \$ 5,132.50

Actual: \$4,185.42

Thank You

The next set of Parish Offertory Giving Envelopes are now available in the Gathering Area of St Catherine of Siena church. Please collect your envelopes.



New Year's Day Mass 11am

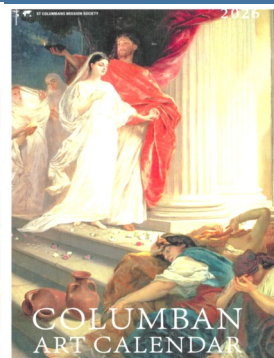
(Jan 1, 2026)

*Solemnity of Mary,
The Holy Mother of God*

St Catherine of Siena Church

THE SEASONS OF THE LITURGICAL YEAR

	ADVENT -Christ is Coming
	CHRISTMAS -Christ is Born
	ORDINARY TIME -Christ Teaches
	LENT -Christ Calls for Conversion
	PASCHAL TRIDUUM -Christ Suffers & Died on the Cross, & is Risen
	EASTER -Christ is Risen from the dead & Ascended to Heaven
	PENTECOST -Holy Spirit Descends (End of Easter Season)
	ORDINARY TIME -Living the Faith
	CHRIST THE KING -Jesus Reigns (End of the Liturgical Year)



2026 COLUMBAN ART CALENDAR

Now available at the Piety Store Gathering Area at \$10

PARISH OFFERTORY GIVING

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)

You may also like to use the Smart Terminal at the welcome desk to contribute to the Parish.



SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.

In the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne, the safety and wellbeing of all persons is of highest priority.

PARISH BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Announcements & Notices: Please submit your announcement or notices no later than 5pm 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.



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