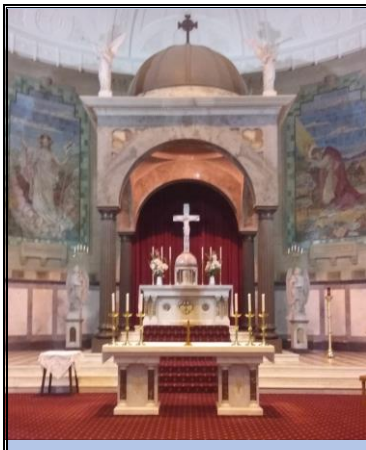


# PARISH OF ASCOT VALE

## 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.stmaryschurch.org.au](http://www.stmaryschurch.org.au)  
**Email:** [ascotvale@cam.org.au](mailto: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 Gavin Brennan 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.

## 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – 30 July 2023

### Two Objectives in the Short Term

In coming to St. Mary’s Parish, two key objectives have been i) to grow the Finance Committee, and ii) to have the assistance of a parishioner volunteering time as a project manager, essentially focusing on the Presbytery.

- Finance Committee
- Project Manager

### St. Mary’s Parish Finance Committee & Project Manager

Last Sunday, I made the happy announcement that the Parish Finance Committee is now comprised of five members. This is a wonderful development. The members are Darcy Brennan (continuing), Kim Nguyen, Nancy Wiatrowski, Iris Samayoa and Dolly Cutinho. Iris Samayoa accepted nomination as Secretary. Progress was made during the week in connection with securing assistance from some parishioners willing provide much needed support, essentially focusing on the Presbytery.

*Fr. Desmond J. Moloney*

### Awakening The Man Within

The Men’s Group in St Mary’s Parish meets fortnightly with the aim is to help men thrive in their relationships and prosper in the gifts given to them by the Holy Spirit. The sessions run in a fun, lighthearted and safe environment.

All men are welcome. The genuine hope is to make a better world one man at a time. If you or someone you know wants to join us in our journey please call Joe Librandi on 0400650861.

### Parish Sacraments Programme

We are pleased to announce that our Parish Sacramental Programme for **First Holy Communion and Reconciliation**, will commence **7 September 2023** and run on Thursdays at 4pm. Classes will be held at St Mary’s school library. Anyone with eligible children (Grade 3 & up) or knows of baptised youngsters, who have yet to celebrate these Sacraments, this is such an opportune time to enrol and look to live this wonderful Life of Grace, that Christ has given us.

Please email or contact the Parish Office to book in these classes. Carmen, our Office Administrator, is available Tuesdays and Thursdays and can be contacted on: 9370 6688 or email: [ascotvale@cam.org.au](mailto:ascotvale@cam.org.au) Our Catechist will then be in contact with you personally, to see you through this exciting Program.”

## ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – 5 / 6 AUGUST 2023

Parish Counters: J & S Crooks, J Balzan

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	J Escano		P Barbaro	
8.30 am		R Turnbull		J Gilmartin
10.30 am	A Fogarty		M DeMaria	

### Friday Morning Masses

In the absence of Fr. Joseph, four Friday Masses at 9.15am will be celebrated at St. Margaret's Church. The remaining Fridays are 4th August and 11th August.

### Holy Land pilgrimage to Jordan & Israel

Trace the journey of Jesus from the land of his birth to the way he carried his cross and gave the eternal sacrifice in this 12-day Holy Land pilgrimage to Jordan & Israel led by Fr Thomas Areekuzhy MCBS. This pilgrimage features places from the Old & New Testament and includes Petra, Mt Nebo, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Sea of Galilee and Jerusalem for an all-inclusive offer of \$6,590 AUD. The fare includes Airfare + Local Transfers in Deluxe Coaches + Stay in Premium Hotels + All Breakfasts & Dinners + English speaking professional guides. Departure from Melbourne on 15 October 2023. For inquiries & bookings call 1300 721 561 or email us [info@magiholidays.com.au](mailto:info@magiholidays.com.au)

**Are You Retired or Seeking A Deeply Rewarding Ministry to Others?** We invite you to join Heart of Life's Taster Session 2 on Saturday 5 August 2023, 9.30-11am, via Zoom, where we'll share with you information on our formation programs to become a spiritual director, pastoral supervisor, spiritual leader and contemplative listener to others. Our programs develop a compassionate, listening heart. The session will include a facilitated reflection session led by formation team members at Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation. Bookings via [https:// www.heartoflife.melbourne/events/tastersession/](https://www.heartoflife.melbourne/events/tastersession/)? or email [info@heartoflife.melbourne](mailto:info@heartoflife.melbourne) for more details.

### The 'stay at home' pilgrim: shrines to visit in Melbourne this WYD

A number of sacred shrines around Melbourne provide the opportunity to spiritually refresh ourselves and pray for Melbourne's WYD pilgrims. Here are a few of the local sites:

Our Lady of Ta'Pinu Shrine – 15 Flanagans Drive, Merrimu

National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel – Cnr Richardson & Wright Streets, Middle Park

National Shrine of St Thérèse of Lisieux – 94 Stevenson Street, Kew

Shrine of St Anthony – 182 Power Street, Hawthorn

**Honouring Dr John Billings' Research** This year marks the 70th anniversary of the commencement of Dr John Billings' research in finding a natural, reliable method of Fertility Awareness for couples. During Natural Fertility Awareness Week, in August, a special, free webinar entitled "*Understanding Couple Fertility: the Male Perspective*" will be held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2023 at 7.30pm AEST.

As well as highlighting the male perspective in using the Billings Ovulation Method®, couples will reflect on how it has helped them in understanding their joint fertility, as well as benefiting their relationships and family life. Please follow the link to register for the Webinar on Eventbrite.

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/understanding-couple-fertility-the-male-perspective-webinar-tickets-678382479257?aff=oddtcreator>

## Advanced care finder

A free service supporting people to access aged care services or other supports in their local community.

Our team helps people access:

- My Aged Care
- Health services
- Mental health support services
- Social support services
- Housing and homelessness support services
- Community groups
- Services that support independent living, wellbeing and inclusion
- To book an appointment, learn more or refer someone to this service, call 1800 123 228

## From St. Vincent de Paul Conference, Ascot Vale.



This is just a note of thanks to the parishioners and to students and staff of both St. Mary's and St. Margaret's for their generous support in this winter period.

The food is currently being used by us at Ascot Vale and by the Footscray soup van.

We have also received a request from our twin conference in Jharkhand state, a conference we correspond with regularly through our twinning officer (Dolly Cutinho) and we help to support financially.

While we are glad to hear that they are not in what they refer to as "the burning state of Manipur", from where we have seen the recent reports of sectarian violence, our twin is involved in the attempts to give material support to the victims of that violence and they simply ask "We Indians need a lot of prayers". Please remember them. *Bill Dwyer (President)*

Did you know that you can arrange Masses through *Aid to the Church in Need*? All Mass stipends that are given to CAN are sent directly to priests in need who will offer a Mass for your intentions. For many priests in the poorest parts of the world, these Mass stipends are a vital contribution to their survival and to their work on behalf of their parish. To learn more or arrange a Mass visit [www.aidtochurch.org/massses](http://www.aidtochurch.org/massses) or scan the QR code.



Pilgrims from the Archdiocese of Melbourne met the Holy Father in Rome on Wednesday 26 July, in a special private audience as part of the lead-up to World Youth Day Lisbon.

'The main message I want to get across is that the Lord is always by your side—always. Even in the most difficult moments, he is always with us. He never tires of walking with us!' *Pope Francis*

## 17<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

### FIRST READING

*1Kgs 3:5,7-12*

*A reading from the first book of the Kings*

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its number cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

*The word of the Lord.*

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Ps 118*

#### **R. Lord, I love your commands.**

My part, I have resolved, O Lord,  
is to obey your word.

The law from your mouth means more to me  
than silver and gold. (R.)

Let your love be ready to console me  
by your promise to your servant.

Let your love come to me and I shall live  
for your law is my delight. (R.)

That is why I love your commands  
more than finest gold.

That is why I rule my life by your precepts:  
I hate false ways. (R.)

Your will is wonderful indeed;  
therefor I obey it.

The unfolding of your word gives light  
and teaches the simple. (R.)

### SECOND READING

*Rom 8:28-30*

*A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Romans*

We know that by turning everything to their good, God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

*The word of the Lord.*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Mt 11:25*

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;  
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!

### GOSPEL

*Mt 13:44-52*

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew*

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

#### Hymns:

**Entrance:** CWBII 448 vs 1,2,4,5

**Communion:** CWBII 616

**Offertory:** CWBII 499

**Recessional:** CWBII 566

#### Anniversaries:

Giuseppina Ciampa; Kathleen Frances Ward

#### Feast Days:

**31 July:** St Ignatius of Loyola

**3 August:** St Dominic

**1 August:** St Alphonsus Liguori

**4 August:** St John Vianney

**Readings Next Week:** Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord: Dan 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Pet 1:16-19; Mt 17:1-9