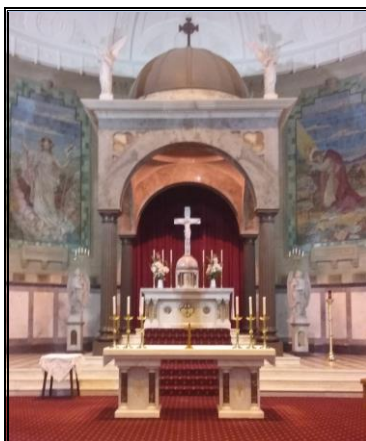


# PARISH OF ASCOT VALE

## 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  
**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 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.

## 1st Sunday Of Advent – 3 December 2023

### NEW YEAR OF GRACE

### The Year of Mark’s Gospel



Mark is the primary evangelist for Year B of the three-year Lectionary cycle. His account is the earliest of the four Gospels, although is second to Matthew in its placement in the New Testament. The evangelist, Mark, wrote for an audience composed

primarily of non-Jewish people living outside of the Holy Land. We can date the Gospel according to Mark somewhere between AD 60 and 70.

### Pre-Christmas Reconciliation

Sunday, 10th December at St. Margaret’s after the 8.30am Mass

Sunday, 17th December at St. Mary’s after the 10.30am Mass

Wednesday, 20th December at St. Mary’s after the 7.00pm Mass from 7.30pm till 8.30pm with Rite II

### The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday (23rd December) Vigil Mass at 6.00pm (St. Mary’s)

Sunday (24th December) Masses at 8.30am (St. Margaret’s)

10.30am (St. Mary’s)

### Christmas Masses

Sunday (24th December) Christmas Eve Vigil Masses

6.00pm (Spanish mainly & English) at St. Mary’s

8.00pm at St. Mary’s

11.30pm Carols followed by Midnight Mass at St. Mary’s.

Monday (25th December) Christmas Day

10.30am at St. Mary’s

### New Year’s Day: Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Monday (1st January) - Mass at 10.00am at St. Mary’s

## ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – 9 / 10 DECEMBER 2023

Parish Counters: T Peters ; B Loke

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 Stanley	
8.30 am		B Dwyer		J Gilmartin
10.30 am	M Doran		M Andronaco	

**Hymns:**

**Entrance:** CWB 239

**Offertory:** CWBII 540

**Communion:** CWB

**Recessional:** CWB 242 vs 1,2,3

**Anniversaries:**

Giacomo Mandarona; Ana Carreon; Gil Arreza; Teresde Masalonga

**Feast Days:**

**30 November:** St Ambrose

**Readings Next Week:**

**2nd Sunday of Advent:** Is 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Pet 3:8-14 Mk 1:1-8

### ***Calling for Organists and Singers – can you help?***

#### **Music Ministry**

We are in need for more cantors in December onwards due to some of our regular singers being away. Advent and the Christmas season is a time full of rich liturgical music, and we would appreciate the help of anyone who feels like they are able to sing for Mass once or twice a month in December and beyond. Please call the Parish Office at 9370 6688 or email us at [ascotvale@cam.org.au](mailto:ascotvale@cam.org.au) to register your interest in volunteering your talents.

#### **Volunteers for new Rosters:**

#### **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Lectors, Welcomers, Counters**

The next roster for St Mary's & St Margaret's commencing January 2024 to April 2024 is being prepared. If you wish to be part of any of these wonderful ministries please contact Carmen at the parish office via phone or email. If you wish to come off the rosters, please contact us as well. Thank you to all who are part of these ministries.



## **Hymnals**

in  
HAND

**VOICES** are  
**READY**



#### **Morning Tea this Sunday after Mass – Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023**

It has been a while since we have had a morning tea, so there will be a morning tea after 10:30am Mass next Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023. Hope to see you there.

## **SENIOR PARISHIONERS' DAY – Friday, 8 December 2023**

Warmly inviting the Senior Parishioners of St Mary's and St Margaret's parish to join us at this year's **Senior Parishioners' Day which will be held on Friday, 8 December 2023, with Mass commencing at 11.00 am at St Mary's Church.**

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be conferred during Mass.

**Positions Vacant** can be found on the Archdiocese website on the link below.

<https://melbourncatholic.org/job-vacancies>

### **Volunteers for new Rosters:**

#### **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Lectors, Welcomers, Counters**

The next roster for St Mary's & St Margaret's commencing January 2024 to April 2024 is being prepared. If you wish to be part of any of these wonderful ministries please contact Carmen at the parish office via phone or email. If you wish to come off the rosters, please contact us as well. Thank you to all who are part of these ministries.

### **Special collection this weekend**

Next weekend 9/10 December there is a special third collection for **Melbourne Overseas Mission**. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

### **Caritas Global Gifts**

Send a Christmas message to those you love, and support those in need. When you choose a Global Gift card to give to family or friends this Christmas, you are bringing a moment of joy and helping create a lifetime of change for some of the world's most vulnerable people. **Order Global Gift cards online at: [www.globalgifts.org.au](http://www.globalgifts.org.au) or call us on 1800 024 413**

### **Christmas Carols at the Cathedral**

Sunday 17 December 2023 – 3.00pm -4.15pm

Come along for a family concert of traditional and modern Christmas carols in the beautiful and inspiring space of St Patrick's Cathedral. Featuring Cathedral Brass, Cathedral Schola and the Grand Organ, this performance will include plenty of audience participation, a children's segment and 'special guest' appearance.

Tickets:

- Adult—\$30
- Concession—\$25
- Children aged 15 years and under—free admission

Tickets can be purchased in advance or are available to purchase (via cash or card) at the door.

### **The dynamics of conversion**

Conversion is what God wants, most of all, to happen in our lives. At the heart of conversion there are two driving forces that, in a sense, we cannot control. We can put obstacles in the way of these forces, but we really can't stop them. One force is God's drive to change us. The other force is an innate drive in us to be changed. These two forces make up the dynamics of conversion.

On the divine side, God is consumed with a passionate and relentless drive to bring all people to new levels of life and life-giving. God never stops seeking us out to change us more and more into God's own image. In a very true sense God cannot stop trying to transform us. God's love for us is precisely a never ending drive to draw us closer and to transform us into God's own image and likeness.

On our side, we have a similar force so deep within us that we do not have much control over it. We call this force the drive to grow up. No one can come to the maturity of a human person or the maturity of a Christian except through constant change and transformation.

Eugene A. Walsh

## 1st Sunday of Advent

### **FIRST READING**     Isaiah 63:16-17,64:1,3-8

*A reading from the prophet Isaiah*

You, Lord, yourself are our Father,  
'Our Redeemer' is your ancient name.  
Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways  
and harden our hearts against fearing you?  
Return, for the sake of your servants,  
the tribes of your inheritance.  
Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and  
come down!

– at your Presence the mountains would melt.

No ear has heard,  
no eye has seen  
any god but you act like this  
for those who trust him.

You guide those who act with integrity  
and keep your ways in mind.

You were angry when we were sinners;  
we had long been rebels against you.

We were all like men unclean,  
all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing.

We have all withered like leaves  
and our sins blew us away like the wind.

No one invoked your name  
or roused himself to catch hold of you.

For you hid your face from us  
and gave us up to the power of our sins.

And yet, Lord, you are our Father;  
we the clay, you the potter,  
we are all the work of your hand.

*The word of the Lord.*

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Ps 79

**R. Lord, let us see your kindness,  
and grant us your salvation.**

I will hear what the Lord god has to say,  
a voice that speaks of peace, peace for his people.  
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**

2 Peter 3:8-14

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send  
you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces you  
have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that  
you have been enriched in so many ways, especially  
in your teachers and preachers; the witness to  
Christ has indeed been strong among you so that  
you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit  
while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be  
revealed; and he will keep you steady and without  
blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus  
Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to  
his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

*The word of the Lord.*

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Psalms 84:8

Alleluia, Alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love,  
and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

### **GOSPEL**

Mark 13:33-37

*reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay  
awake, because you never know when the time will  
come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone  
from home, and left his servants in charge, each  
with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper  
to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not  
know when the master of the house is coming,  
evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes  
unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And  
what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

*The Gospel of the Lord*

