

# 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

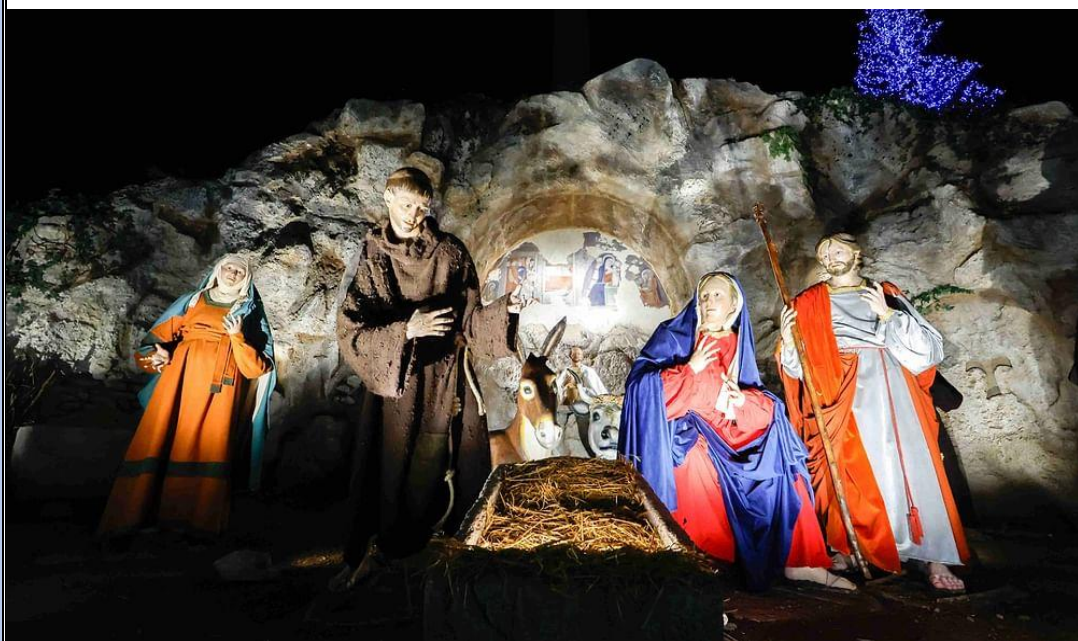
Baptisms are celebrated on the  
2nd & 4th Sundays of each  
month at 12:00 noon.

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.

### Christmas Day – 25 December 2023

Wishing Everyone  
a Happy and Holy Christmas!  
May your celebration of Christmas  
be full of faith, love, and peace.

Fr Desmond J Moloney  
Fr Juozas Deveikis



This is how God showed  
his love among us:  
He sent his one and only Son  
into the WORLD that  
we might live through him.

Let your light so shine before others,  
that they may see your good works  
and give glory to your Father  
who is in heaven.

Matthew 5:16

1 John 4:9

### **No Evening Mass – 27 December 2023**

There will be no 7.00pm mass on Wednesday 27th December 2023.

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

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

### **New Rosters for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Lectors, Welcomers, Counters**

-The next roster for both churches  
commencing January 2024 to April 2024 have been emailed. Thank you to all.

## CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASSES

### First reading

Isaiah 62:1-5

About Zion I will not be silent,  
about Jerusalem I will not grow weary,  
until her integrity shines out like the dawn  
and her salvation flames like a torch.  
The nations then will see your integrity,  
all the kings your glory,  
and you will be called by a new name,  
one which the mouth of the Lord will confer.  
You are to be a crown of splendour in the hand  
of the Lord,  
a princely diadem in the hand of your God;  
no longer are you to be named 'Forsaken',  
nor your land 'Abandoned',  
but you shall be called 'My Delight'  
and your land 'The Wedded';  
for the Lord takes delight in you  
and your land will have its wedding.  
Like a young man marrying a virgin,  
so will the one who built you wed you,  
and as the bridegroom rejoices in his bride,  
so will your God rejoice in you.

### Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 88

**R: Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.**

'I have made a covenant with my chosen one;  
I have sworn to David my servant:  
I will establish your dynasty for ever  
and set up your throne through all ages.' (R)

Happy the people who acclaim such a king,  
who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face,  
who find their joy every day in your name,  
who make your justice the source of their bliss. (R)

'He will say to me: 'You are my father,  
my God, the rock who saves me.'  
I will keep my love for him always;  
for him my covenant shall endure.'(R)

### Second reading

Acts 13:16-17,22-25

When Paul reached Antioch in Pisidia, he stood  
up in the synagogue, held up a hand for silence  
and began to speak:

'Men of Israel, and fearers of God, listen!  
The God of our nation Israel chose our  
ancestors, and made our people great when

they were living as foreigners in Egypt; then by  
divine power he led them out.

'Then he made David their king, of whom he  
approved in these words, "I have selected David  
son of Jesse, a man after my own heart, who  
will carry out my whole purpose." To keep his  
promise, God has raised up for Israel one of  
David's descendants, Jesus, as Saviour, whose  
coming was heralded by John when he  
proclaimed a baptism of repentance for the  
whole people of Israel. Before John ended his  
career he said, "I am not the one you imagine  
me to be; that one is coming after me and I am  
not fit to undo his sandal.'"

### Gospel Acclamation

**6.00pm only**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Tomorrow there will be an end to the sin of the  
world and the saviour of the world will be our  
king.

Alleluia!

### Gospel

Matthew 1:18-25

**6.00pm only**

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 and, though he had not had intercourse  
with her, she gave birth to a son; and he named  
him Jesus.

## CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT MASS

**First reading** Isaiah 9:1-7

The people that walked in darkness  
has seen a great light;  
on those who live in a land of deep shadow  
a light has shone.  
You have made their gladness greater,  
you have made their joy increase;  
they rejoice in your presence  
as men rejoice at harvest time,  
as men are happy when they are dividing the  
spoils.  
For the yoke that was weighing on him,  
the bar across his shoulders,  
the rod of his oppressor,  
these you break as on the day of Midian.  
For all the footgear of battle,  
every cloak rolled in blood,  
is burnt, and consumed by fire.  
For there is a child born for us,  
a son given to us  
and dominion is laid on his shoulders;  
and this is the name they give him:  
Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God,  
Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace.  
Wide is his dominion  
in a peace that has no end,  
for the throne of David  
and for his royal power,  
which he establishes and makes secure  
in justice and integrity.  
From this time onwards and for ever,  
the jealous love of the Lord of Hosts will do this.

**Responsorial Psalm** Psalm 95

**R: Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.**

O sing a new song to the Lord,  
sing to the Lord all the earth.  
O sing to the Lord, bless his name. (R )

Proclaim his help day by day,  
tell among the nations his glory  
and his wonders among all the peoples. (R )

Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad,  
let the sea and all within it thunder praise,  
let the land and all it bears rejoice,  
all the trees of the wood shout for joy  
at the presence of the Lord for he comes,  
he comes to rule the earth. (R )

With justice he will rule the world,  
he will judge the peoples with his truth. (R )

**Second reading** Titus 2:11-14  
God's grace has been revealed, and it has made  
salvation possible for the whole human race  
and taught us that what we have to do is to give  
up everything that does not lead to God, and all  
our worldly ambitions; we must be self-  
restrained and live good and religious lives here  
in this present world, while we are waiting in  
hope for the blessing which will come with the  
Appearing of the glory of our great God and  
saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us  
in order to set us free from all wickedness and  
to purify a people so that it could be his very  
own and would have no ambition except to do  
good.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

I bring you news of great joy: today a saviour  
has been born to us, Christ the Lord.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel** Luke 2:1-14 **8.00pm & Midnight**

Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a census of  
the whole world to be taken. This census – the  
first – took place while Quirinius was governor  
of Syria, and everyone went to his own town to  
be registered. So Joseph set out from the town  
of Nazareth in Galilee and travelled up to  
Judaea, to the town of David called Bethlehem,  
since he was of David's House and line, in order  
to be registered together with Mary, his  
betrothed, who was with child. While they were  
there the time came for her to have her child,  
and she gave birth to a son, her first born. She  
wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him  
in a manger because there was no room for  
them at the inn.

In the countryside close by there were  
shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in  
turns to watch their flocks during the night. The  
angel of the Lord appeared to them and the  
glory of the Lord shone round them. They were  
terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid.  
Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be  
shared by the whole people. Today in the town  
of David a saviour has been born to you; he is

Christ the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' And suddenly with the angel there was a great throng of the heavenly host, praising God and singing: 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to men who enjoy his favour.'

## CHRISTMAS DAY

**First reading** Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful on the mountains,  
are the feet of one who brings good news,  
who heralds peace, brings happiness,  
proclaims salvation, and tells Zion,  
'Your God is king!'

Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices,  
they shout for joy together,  
for they see the Lord face to face,  
as he returns to Zion.

Break into shouts of joy together,  
you ruins of Jerusalem;  
for the Lord is consoling his people,  
redeeming Jerusalem.

The Lord bares his holy arm  
in the sight of all the nations,  
and all the ends of the earth shall see  
the salvation of our God.

**Responsorial Psalm** Psalm 97

**R: All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.**

Sing a new song to the Lord  
for he has worked wonders.  
His right hand and his holy arm  
have brought salvation. (R )

The Lord has made known his salvation;  
has shown his justice to the nations.  
He has remembered his truth and love  
for the house of Israel. (R )

All the ends of the earth have seen  
the salvation of our God.  
Shout to the Lord all the earth,  
ring out your joy. (R )

Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp,  
with the sound of music.  
With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
acclaim the King, the Lord.(R )

**Second reading** Hebrews 1:1-6

At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son, the Son that he has appointed to inherit everything and through whom he made everything there is. He is the radiant light of God's glory and the perfect copy of his nature, sustaining the universe by his powerful command; and now that he has destroyed the defilement of sin, he has gone to take his place in heaven at the right hand of divine Majesty. So he is now as far above the angels as the title which he has inherited is higher than their own name.

God has never said to any angel: *You are my Son, today I have become your father; or: I will be a father to him and he a son to me.* Again, when he brings the First-Born into the world, he says: *Let all the angels of God worship him.*

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

A hallowed day has dawned upon us.

Come, you nations, worship the Lord,  
for today a great light has shone down upon the earth. Alleluia.

**Gospel** **As Christmas Midnight Mass**

