

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.

3rd Sunday of Lent – 3 March 2024

St. Paul writes in his First Letter to the Corinthians:

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. [12: 4-6]

St. Mary’s Parish Music and Singing: Sr. Diane and Teresa

As of the beginning of February, we now have Teresa Trinh and Sr. Diane Moore sharing the coordinating role with regard to the parish music and singing. Our sincere gratitude is extended to both Teresa and Sr. Diane for this undertaking and energetic commitment. May we all join enthusiastically with the efforts of Sr. Diane and Teresa in seeking to enhance the spirit and quality of the liturgical celebrations in St. Mary’s Parish ... helping to promote the full, conscious and active participation of all:

RCIA: Ana and Tony

Last Wednesday evening saw the RCIA process begin anew for this year. This process will run until mid-July. Two enquirers attended together with parishioners demonstrating their willingness to support the RCIA. St. Mary’s Parish can be most grateful to Ana Laughton and Anthony Higgins, who are sharing the coordinating leadership of the process.

Fr Desmond J Moloney



We have the missing piece! Is there someone who can put it securely in place?

Please contact the Parish Office on 9370 6688 or via email.

Please Note while Fr. Joseph is away:

There will be no 10.00am mass on Monday 4 March & 11 March.

Also, Friday morning 9.15am masses will be at St Margaret’s only on Friday 8 March and 15 March.

Stations of the Cross on Fridays of Lent, 7:00pm

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – 9 /10 MARCH 2024

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	N Familiari		P Bonnici	
8.30 am		B Dwyer		J Gilmartin
10.30 am	A Fogarty		M Andronaco	

Hymns:

Entrance: CWBII 501

Offertory: CWBII 291

Communion: CWBII 164

Reflection: CWBII 293

Recessional: CWBII 295

Recently deceased:

Olive D'Silva

Anniversaries:

Domenico Giampino; Janice Piacentini; Antonia Sgambellone; Joseph Tuan Ho; Peter Thanh Nguyen; Maria Lein Dang

Readings Next Week: **4th Sunday of Lent:** 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21

Sacramental Program

Does your child attend a non-Catholic school in Year 6 or older and needs to receive the **Sacrament of Confirmation**? Classes are running weekly (except school holidays), on **Thursdays 4pm**, at St Mary's school, for approx. 8 weeks. If your child has received First Reconciliation and First Communion and would like to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation this year, email the Parish Office: AscotVale@cam.org.au OR, rosecalandra22@gmail.com to enrol for these classes. For any enquiries, feel free to call Rose, the Catechist on mob: 0411 040 669.

Easter Is In Our Sights

Do we have a trumpeter? – a flautist? – other musicians?



Do we have additional singers? Please contact the Parish Office via email ascotvale@cam.org.au

Media Team Update

We have started the process of contacting each group in the Parish with details of what we need for their updated Parish Website entry. 10 groups have been selected to contribute all three items needed-

1. Single photo of group leaders or members or representatives, whichever suits the group. (We are happy to do this.)
2. Written description of what the group contributes to the Parish, particularly in a missionary context. (We will help with this.)
3. One to Two minute video illustrating the group in action. (We will organise this with your cooperation.)

The remaining groups will be asked to contribute items one and two at this stage, with the video a project once the initial 10 are done. We are shooting videos one a week at the moment, so it's slow progress but we are getting there. Remember this is our shop window to the world, and the key word is WELCOME!

Gerald Kearney

Vocations News

Thank you for your prayers for Vocations over the years. We were delighted to accept eight men to the Seminary for Melbourne this year:

Chinh Tran, Rohan Prince, Luke Kennedy, Luke Emslie, Tung Phan, Joseph Maae, Patrick Harris and Mathews Noble.

Many of you have personally helped and encouraged these men along their journey to apply to join the Seminary; it truly is a team effort!

Please continue to pray for them.

Celebrating 50 years of Worldwide Marriage Encounter in Australia: 'Love and respect' formation day

Inviting all "Encountered Couples/Spouses/Priests" to join us in Celebrating 50 years of WWME in Australia, Saturday 16 March 2024 at St John's Parish, Mitcham [Enter via Elizabeth St]

For further details and to register <https://www.trybooking.com/COSSN> or contact Steve & Sue Hollowood 0431 477 556/ 0412 130 845.



Six30 Holy Hour at St Patrick's Cathedral Every Thursday, 6.30pm – 7.30pm

Join with young Catholics from across the city for a time of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, music and an opportunity for confession.

For more information, email udisciple@cam.org.au or call 9926 5677.



Third Sunday of Lent 2 & 3 March



Samoa may be a country surrounded by water, but access to clean drinking water is scarce in some areas, with many families facing extreme hardship as a result.

Leaia lives with her five children, husband, brother and sister-in-law on the island of Upolu in Samoa. Not having access to a reliable source of clean water caused Leaia a lot of worry.

Their home is not connected to a piped water system, so they had to rely solely on rainwater collected in old fridges. When their water ran out, Leaia had to walk with her young children to collect water in buckets and containers from a neighbour down the street.

With the support of Caritas Australia's local partner, Caritas Samoa, a water tank was installed at Leaia's home. She and her family now have a steady supply of clean drinking water at home. Next year, they will also have a toilet built, with the support of Caritas Samoa.

"We are very thankful and grateful for the water tank. It has helped us so much and made our daily life easier," Leaia said.

Please donate to Project Compassion.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

Photo: Laura Womersley/Caritas Australia



3rd Sunday of Lent

FIRST READING

Exodus 20:1-17

A reading from the book of Exodus

God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

'You shall have no gods except me.

'You shall not make yourself a carved image or any likeness of anything in heaven or on earth beneath or in the waters under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God and I punish the father's fault in the sons, the grandsons, and the great-grandsons of those who hate me; but I show kindness to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

'You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it.

'Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath for the Lord your God. You shall do no work that day, neither you nor your son nor your daughter nor your servants, men or women, nor your animals nor the stranger who lives with you. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth and the sea and all that these hold, but on the seventh day he rested; that is why the Lord has blessed the sabbath day and made it sacred.

'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you.

'You shall not kill.

'You shall not commit adultery.

'You shall not steal.

'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

'You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 18

R. Lord you have the words of everlasting life.

The law of the Lord is perfect, it revives the soul.

The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, it gives wisdom to the simple. (R.)

The precepts of the Lord are right, they gladden the heart.

The command of the Lord is clear, it gives light to the eyes. (R.)

The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding for ever.

The decrees of the Lord are truth and all of them just. (R.)

They are more to be desired than gold, than the purest of gold and sweeter are they than honey, than honey from the comb. (R.)

SECOND READING

Corinthians 1:22-25

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 3:16

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

John 2:13-25

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the



money-changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money-changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.