

## 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 JohnstoneT: 9370 1194Principal, St Margaret's School:Mr Gavin BrennanT: 9318 1339

#### **Weekend Mass Times**

#### Saturday Vigil:

6.00pm St Mary's

#### <u>Sunday:</u>

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.

#### 4th Sunday of Lent - 10 March 2024

The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent is Laetare Sunday, 'Rejoicing' Sunday, when in the midst of our Lenten penances we anticipate the joy of Easter.

#### Celebrating Holy Week and the Sacred Paschal Triduum

Palm Sunday 24 March

**Holy Thursday 28 March** 7.30 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper St Mary's **Good Friday 29 March** 11.00 am Stations of the Cross St Mary's

3.00 pm Celebration of the Passion of the Lord

St Mary's

**Holy Saturday 30 March** 8:00 pm Easter Vigil St Mary's

Easter Sunday 31 March 8.30 am Easter Sunday Mass St Margaret's

10.30 am Easter Sunday Mass St Mary's6:00 pm Easter Sunday Mass (Spanish) St Mary's

### Sacrament of Reconciliation - Lent

Normal confession times Saturdays 10:00-10:30am, 5:30-5:45pm

Confessions will also be available at the following times:

Friday 22 March St Mary's Church 7:30 – 8:00pm (following Stations)

Sunday 24 March St Margaret's Church 9:30am (following 8:30am Mass)

Wednesday 27 March St Mary's Church 7:30 – 8:00pm (following 7:00pm Mass)

No confessions Holy Saturday 30 March

#### **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

#### **ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – 16 /17 MARCH 2024** Parish Counters: R Aparo; D McAleer **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy** Ministers of the Word **Communion** St Margaret's Time St Mary's St Margaret's St Mary's 6.00 pm M Bonnici P Barbaro 8.30 am A Laughton Family Mass 10.30 am M Bonnici G Kearney

*Hymns:* Entrance: CWBII 295

Offertory: CWBII 291 Communion: CWBII 633 Reflection: CWBII 290 Recessional: CWBII 647

**Recently deceased:** Pasquale (Charlie) De Fazio **Anniversaries:** Nicola Mirenda; Clare Williams

Readings Next Week: 5th Sunday of Lent: Jer 31:31-34; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33

#### **Baptisms**

We welcome into the family of God's Church the children to be baptised in our parish this weekend.

Lenny Deak Declyn Kai Nguyen Roman Manuel Bonanno

Sam Douglas Robertson Beau Garfield Robertson

#### **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: <a href="mailto:AscotVale@cam.org.au">AscotVale@cam.org.au</a> OR, <a href="mailto:rosecalandra22@gmail.com">rosecalandra22@gmail.com</a> to enrol for these classes. For any enquiries, feel free to call Rose, the Catechist on mob: 0411 040 669.



#### **Mercy Melbourne**

Focus on the Grace of Reconciliation

This is an initiative that invites parishes to open their doors in welcome for a special evening of prayer and Confessions.

Tuesday, 19th March from 7.00pm till 7.45pm: Lenten Prayer, Reflection and the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Please Note while Fr. Joseph is away:

There will be no 10.00am Mass on 11 March.

Also, Friday morning 9.15am Masses will be at St Margaret's only on Friday 15 March.

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

St Vincent de Paul Helpline: 1800 305 330, Monday – Friday, 10 am – 3pm.

#### St. Vincent de Paul, 170 years in Australia

St. Vincent de Paul began in Australia with the establishment of a local group (conference), by Fr. Gerald at St. Francis church in Melbourne, in March, 1854.

His immediate concern was the number of children on the streets of Melbourne, many abandoned by parents who had gone to the gold fields.

He soon founded an orphanage and advised the government that " the new conference aims to provide relief for the destitute in a manner as much as possible permanently beneficial and the visitation of poor families'.

Today the society has 242 conferences, 3,600 members and 6,434 Volunteers as well as 113 Vinnies shops in Victoria.

While the nature of needs has changed with the times, the mission and vision remain the same. New members are always welcome. Contact Bill on 0416 088 214.

#### 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.





# Caritas Project Compassion Sunday AUSTRALIA 9 & 10 March





Memory is 26 years old and lives in rural Malawi. As the eldest child in a low-income farming family, Memory had to take on many household chores and farming activities to support her parents. They struggled to pay for Memory's school fees and school supplies, and Memory often had to walk to school barefooted.

With the support of Caritas Australia and its partner the Catholic Development Commission in Malawi (CADECOM), Memory was able to enrol at a technical college where she learnt technical skills in carpentry. She undertook a three-year carpentry course, with CADECOM supporting part of her tuition and boarding fees.

Memory became the first female carpenter from her village. Today, she works as a carpenter at one of Malawi's largest hydroelectric power stations. With the income from her job, she can provide financial support to her family and inspire other young women in her community so that they may have the opportunity to succeed in a maledominated industry.



#### Please donate to Project Compassion.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow, for all future generations.

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

1800 024 413. Photo: Tim Lam/Caritas Australia



On the lands of the Gadigal People PO Box 521, LEICHHARDT NSW 2040



Overseas Mission: Transform lives - theirs ... and yours Build relationships & exchange skills in one of these

**ASSIGNMENTS ABROAD** 



#### 4th Sunday of Lent

#### FIRST READING 2 Chron 36:14-16,19-23

A reading from the second book of Chronicles

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy.

Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke through Jeremiah, 'Until this land has enjoyed its sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.'

And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: 'Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, "The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up."'

The word of the Lord.

#### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Ps 136

#### R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

By the rivers of Babylon there we sat and wept, remembering Zion: on the poplars that grew there we hung our harps. (R.)

For it was there that they asked us, our captors, for songs, our oppressors, for joy. 'Sing to us,' they said, 'one of Zion's songs.' (R.)

O how could we sing the song of the Lord on alien soil?

If I forget you, Jerusalem, let my right hand wither!(R.)

O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not, if I prize not Jerusalem

above all my joys. (R.)

#### SECOND READING Ephesians 2:4-10

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ—it is through grace that you have been saved—and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus.

This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

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 3:14-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.

Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life.

For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved.

No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son.

On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light has come into the world men have shown they prefer darkness to the light because their deeds were evil.

And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.'

The Gospel of the Lord