

# 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.

## 5th Sunday of Lent – 17 March 2024

God never tires of forgiving us; we are the ones who tire of seeking his mercy. – Pope Francis

## 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’s

6:00 pm Easter Sunday Mass (Spanish) St Mary’s

## Sacrament of Reconciliation – Lent

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

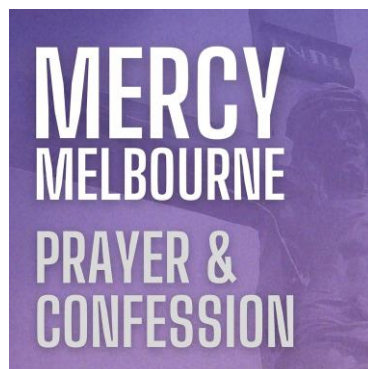
Confessions will be available at the following times:

**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**



### **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.

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

## ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – 23 /24 MARCH 2024

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	D Brennan		M Bonnici	
8.30 am		N Vaz		R Turnbull
10.30 am	B Philip		M DeMaria	

### Hymns:

**Entrance:** CWBII 290

**Offertory:** CWBII 547

**Communion:** CWBII 484

**Reflection:** CWBII 477

**Recessional:** CWBII 295

**Readings Next Week: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord:** Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1-15:47

### **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](mailto:AscotVale@cam.org.au) OR, [rosecalandra22@gmail.com](mailto:rosecalandra22@gmail.com) to enrol for these classes. For any enquiries, feel free to call Rose, the Catechist on mob: 0411 040 669.

**Working with Children Checks**—A reminder that all parish volunteers need to have a valid WWCC with the Parish listed as one of the places where you undertake child related work. That means all Readers Extraordinary Ministers of Communion Ministers of Communion to the Sick Musicians & Choir Members Church Cleaners need to have a WWCC—if you are unsure, please contact the Parish Office or speak to one of the priests. Registered teachers are exempt from requiring a WWCC but are required to notify WWCC if they engage in child-related work other than their teaching

**Child Safeguarding Training**—All volunteers need to undertake safeguarding training. You may undertake this training online [Online Safeguarding Training](#).

**Code of Conduct Declaration**—Thanks to all those who have completed their Code of Conduct Declaration. Again, this is a requirement of all volunteers. Please contact the parish office via email if you are yet to complete the declaration.

### **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.

**Partnership in action**

The work of Caritas Australia is only possible with the dedication, passion and tenacity of our local partners who implement the programs. They are the heroes on the ground, working tirelessly behind-the-scenes every day to create a better future for their communities.

Caritas Australia partners with the Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ) to support communities living in urban slums in the Philippines. FCJ runs a number of programs that include house renovating, food processing, basic literacy skills, urban gardening, upcycling and income generating activities. They also have a clinic visited weekly by a doctor and community nurse.

Caritas Australia partners with Caritas Samoa to assist communities to have increased access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene to ensure human health and well-being by providing water tanks and sanitation facilities.

Caritas Australia partners with the Catholic Development Commission in Malawi through the A+ program. Since 2016, the A+ program has helped 7,397 families across Malawi improve their food security, access to basic water and sanitation, boost women's income generation and strengthen child protection.

**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 [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](https://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) or by calling 1800 024 413.

Photo: Richard Wainwright / Caritas Australia

**The Melbourne Passion Play**

Palm Sunday, 24 March, at 1.30pm

Good Friday, 29 March, at 10.00am

Holy Cross Centre, 207 Serpells Road, Templestowe

For more information and to register your interest, contact Director, Robert Durai, on 0422 130 014 or at [robertodurai@yahoo.com](mailto:robertodurai@yahoo.com).

**Melbourn City Churches in Action present: Way of the Cross****Friday 29 March 2024 – 2.00pm – 3.00pm**

This live public event will be held through the streets of the CBD again this year. An electronic version of the liturgy booklet is available from the [MCCIA](https://mccia.org.au).

**Route of stations:**

1. St Francis' Church, 326 Lonsdale Street, cnr Elizabeth Street
2. In the garden of St Francis' Church, cnr Elizabeth & Little Lonsdale Streets
3. CrossCulture Church of Christ, cnr Swanston & Little Lonsdale Streets
4. Wesley Uniting Church, 148 Lonsdale Street
5. St Peter's Eastern Hill, Cnr Gisborne & Albert Streets
6. St Patrick's Cathedral, cnr Gisborne & Albert Streets
7. St Patrick's Cathedral, adjacent the main entrance, Cathedral Place
8. German Lutheran Trinity Church, 22 Parliament Place
9. St Michael's Uniting Church, 120 Collins Street
10. Scots Church, 156 Collins Street
11. Collins Street Baptist Church, 174 Collins Street
12. St Paul's Cathedral, Swanston Street entrance
13. St Paul's Cathedral, Flinders Street entrance
14. Easter Morning: St John's Southgate, 20 City Road, Southbank (near Arts Centre).

Come and experience again this very meaningful expression of our shared faith!

For more information, email Fran Henderson at [secretary@mccia.org.au](mailto:secretary@mccia.org.au).



## 5th Sunday of Lent

### **FIRST READING**

Jer 31:31-34

*A reading from the prophet Jeremiah*

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive – it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, ‘Learn to know the Lord!’ No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest – it is the Lord who speaks – since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

*The word of the Lord.*

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Ps 51

**R. Create in me a clean heart, O God.**

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.  
In your compassion blot out my offence.  
O wash me more and more from my guilt  
and cleanse me from my sin. (R.)

A pure heart create for me, O God,  
put a steadfast spirit within me.  
Do not cast me away from your presence,  
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. (R.)

Give me again the joy of your help;  
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,  
that I may teach transgressors your ways  
and sinners may return to you. (R.)

### **SECOND READING**

Hebrews 5:7-9

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

*The word of the Lord.*

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Jn 3:16

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!  
If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord;

and where I am, my servant will also be.  
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

### **GOSPEL**

John 12:20-33

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to John*

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, ‘Sir, we should like to see Jesus.’ Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:

‘Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life. If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too. If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him. Now my soul is troubled. What shall I say: Father, save me from this hour? But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name!’

A voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.’

People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, ‘It was an angel speaking to him.’ Jesus answered, ‘It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.

‘Now sentence is being passed on this world; now the prince of this world is to be overthrown. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.’ By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

