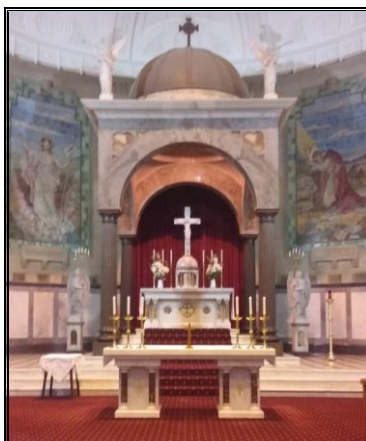


PARISH OF ASCOT VALE

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.

The Ascension of the Lord – 12 May 2024

Welcome to Bishop Terry Curtain
to minister the Sacrament of Confirmation
to the Candidates from St. Mary’s School
6.00pm Vigil Mass

The Holy Spirit empowers us to live justly
The Holy Spirit empowers us to live compassionately
The Holy Spirit empowers us to live the Word of God



A prayer of praise and petition: the Hail Mary

As we continue to journey through this Year of Prayer in preparation for the Jubilee Year, Archbishop Peter A Comensoli invites us to reflect on the great prayer of our Blessed Mother, the Hail Mary. It’s especially timely in this month of May—traditionally known as the month of Mary—that, as the Archbishop says, we reflect on the words that form ‘the foundation of our devotion’ to our Blessed Mother.

The Hail Mary, as you might know, is basically a prayer of praise and petition. The first part, ‘Hail Mary full of grace’, is the praise part, and the second part, the ‘Holy Mary, Mother of God’, is the petition part to that prayer. So it’s an old, old, prayer in our tradition. Its current form as we know it, traces back to the 16th century, when particularly that petition part, ‘pray for us sinners’, was incorporated into the prayer.

It’s the basis also of other prayers that are really treasures of our Christian and Catholic faith. Think of the Angelus, which is a reflection with the prayer of petition that is also a reflection on the incarnation of our Lord. And there is of course the Rosary, so much a favourite of families and of individuals. That devotional prayer where the story of our faith, our salvation, is incorporated into the prayer with the repeating of the petitions.

Archbishop Peter A Comensoli

Possible Prayer Intentions when praying the Rosary

- ❖ For the Family Unit
- the strengthening of the family unit in our society
- ❖ For Peace
- an end to current wars and conflicts in our world
- ❖ For St. Mary’s Parish
- the growth and development of our parish

Fr Desmond J Moloney

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – 18/19 MAY 2024

Parish Counters: R Aparo ; D McAleer

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	Confirmation		Confirmation	
8.30 am		P McLoughlin		A Laughton
10.30 am	B Philip		M Bonnici	

Hymns:

Entrance: CWBII 372

Offertory: CWBII 549

Communion: CWBII 582

Reflection: CWBII 477

Recessional: CWBII 408

Recently Deceased: Hector Ottelli; Jose Angel Honrado

Anniversaries: Les & Vera Whittle; George & Rose Glover; Francesco Zanni; Jose Brusas; Anthony Catania

Feast Days: **14 May:** Feast of St Matthias, apostle

Readings Next Week: **Pentecost Sunday:** Acts 2:1-11; Gal 5:16-25; Jn 15:26-27, 16:12-15

In the Month of May

Parish Confirmation Mass

30 May 2024: 6.00pm St Margaret's School/children from the Sacramental Programme

Parish Mass Count

As always in May, for four weeks the annual diocesan Mass Count of those attending will be carried out at each weekend Mass.

Baptisms

We welcome into God's Church, the children baptised today:

Noah Benitez Marin

Lottie June Nicholson

Henry John Arthurson

Fiat returns in 2024

For the second year running, our local communities of grace across the Archdiocese of Melbourne will unite for a weekend of prayer from Friday 31 May to Sunday 2 June 2024. The weekend coincides with the Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi).

Following the example of Mary and Elizabeth, *Fiat* is an opportunity for us to celebrate and rejoice in prayer.

Fiat is also an opportunity to continue our Year of Prayer journey as an Archdiocesan community as we prepare for the Jubilee Year 2025.

Gavin's Final Mass and Morning Tea

Come and celebrate Gavin's 9 Amazing Years! at St Margaret's

Friday 24 May 2024: Mass at 9.15am with morning tea to follow in the MPR.

All parishioners are most welcome to join us at the Mass and Morning Tea.

If you would like to attend please RSVP to St. Margaret's School office on 9318 1339.



Mother's Day Prayer

God our Creator, we pray:
for new mothers, coming to terms with new responsibility ;
for expectant mothers, wondering and waiting;
for those who are tired, stressed or depressed;
for those who struggle to balance the tasks of work and family;
for those who are unable to feed their children due to poverty;
for those whose children have physical, mental or emotional disabilities;
for those who raise children on their own; for those who have lost a child;
for those who care for the children of others; for those whose children have left home;
and for those whose desire to be a mother has not been fulfilled.
Bless all mothers, that their love may be deep and tender,
and that they may lead their children to know and do what is good,
living not for themselves alone, but for God and for others. Amen.

Piano Give Away

Looking to give away a Yamaha baby grand piano to a passionate instrument lover. Please let me know if you will care for it. Contact Jane Parnell via email at janeparnell05@gmail.com

Caritas Australia celebrates 60 years of 'compassion in action'

This year, Caritas Australia celebrates its 60th anniversary. Founded as the Catholic Overseas Relief Committee in 1964, the organisation later became Caritas Australia and over its 60 years has grown to work in 36 countries across Africa, Asia, the Middle East and the Pacific. It is part of one of the largest humanitarian networks in the world, Caritas Internationalis, which is a confederation of 162 member organisations, with programs in 200 countries and more than a million staff and volunteers.

PILGRIMAGE SAINTS OF ITALY, MARIJA BISTRICA & MEDJUGORJE

Pilgrimage Dates: Tues, 1/10/2024 to Tues, 22/10/2024.

The first part of the pilgrimage will cover The Great Saints of Italy and will include Rome (Vatican, St. Peter's Basilica, St. Paul, St. John Lateran, St. Alphonso, etc), San Giovanni Rotondo (Padre Pio), Assisi (St. Francis of Assisi), Sienna (St. Catherine) , Padua (St. Anthony), Venice (St. Mark), etc. We will also visit Our Lady of Revelation, Manoppello, Lanciano, Loreto and the Shrine of the Mystical Rose. The second part of the pilgrimage will see us drive through Slovenia to spend two nights in Marija Bistrica (Croatia) and then to Medjugorje (Hercegovina) for a week to have a quiet retreat joining the thousands of pilgrims attending the daily Mass at St. James, reciting the rosary whilst climbing the Apparition Hill & walk the stations of the cross climbing the Krizevic Mountain, a quiet prayer at the statue of the Risen Christ, adoration chapel, listen to the testimonies and enjoy this quiet little town. Experience the healings and miracles of this holy place.

The SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR is FATHER GEORGE JAMES, Sacred Heart Parish, Thornlie

Those interested to join us, please contact, PILGRIM COORDINATORS - EDMAN/RADHA ANTHONY at 0424 437 251 and/or email edmanpilgrimage@gmail.com for more details.

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

The Ascension of the Lord

FIRST READING

Acts 1:1-11

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 46

**R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.**

All peoples, clap your hands,
cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,
great king over all the earth. (R.)

God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise,
sing praise to our king, sing praise. (R.)

God is king of all the earth.
Sing praise with all your skill.
God is king over the nations;
God reigns on his holy throne. (R.)

SECOND READING

Ephesians 4:1-13

I, the prisoner in the Lord, implore you to lead a life worthy of your vocation. Bear with one another charitably, in complete selflessness, gentleness and

patience. Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together. There is one Body, one Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is Father of all, over all, through all and within all.

Each one of us, however, has been given his own share of grace, given as Christ allotted it. It was said that he would:

When he ascended to the height, he captured prisoners, he gave gifts to men.

When it says, 'he ascended', what can it mean if not that he descended right down to the lower regions of the earth? The one who rose higher than all the heavens to fill all things is none other than the one who descended. And to some, his gift was that they should be apostles; to some, prophets; to some, evangelists; to some, pastors and teachers; so that the saints together make a unity in the work of service, building up the body of Christ. In this way we are all to come to unity in our faith and in our knowledge of the Son of God, until we become the perfect Man, fully mature with the fullness of Christ himself.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 28:19,20

Alleluia, alleluia! Go, make disciples of all the nations. I am with you always; yes, to the end of time. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mark 16:15-20

Jesus showed himself to the Eleven and said to them:

'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised will be saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers: in my name they will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and be unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.'

And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

The Gospel of the Lord.

