

PARISH OF ASCOT VALE

ST MARY'S CHURCH, 123 ST LEONARDS ROAD, ASCOT VALE
ST MARGARET'S CHURCH, BARB STREET, MARIBYRNONG

Parish Priest:	Rev Fr Justin Ford
Assistant Priest / Lithuanian Chaplain:	Rev Fr Joseph Deveikis
Presbytery / Parish Office:	123 St Leonards Rd, Ascot Vale (Postal: PO Box 468 Ascot Vale 3032)
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Office Hours:	Tue – Fri, 10am – 3pm. Secretary: Carmen D’Rosario (Wednesdays)
Principal, St Mary’s School:	Mr Paul Hogan T: 9370 1194
Principal, St Margaret’s School:	Mr Gavin Brennan T: 9318 1339

Mass

From 1 June, Masses can be celebrated with 20 people attending, plus essential ministers. You are invited to book your attendance at a Mass using the parish website.

Reconciliation (Confession)

By appointment - no name required. Arrangement will be made for the confession to be anonymous, not face-to-face, with suitable distancing.

Baptisms at St Mary’s

Our normally scheduled Baptisms on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month are still on hold. However, Baptism will be administered if there is urgent and grave need.

Baptism Information Sessions are also still on hold. To discuss a future baptism, please ring the parish office during office hours.

Weddings at St Mary’s

6 months’ notice required. For information on weddings please ring the parish office during office hours.

Private prayer in our churches

Our churches are not currently open for private prayer.

Parish Bulletin

The Bulletin will continue to be published, containing the readings for that Sunday for your reflection. This will be uploaded to the parish website the Saturday afternoon prior.

Pentecost Sunday – 31 May 2020

New COVID-19 Guidelines: return to normal Mass times (bookings still required)

From this Monday, 1 June, new government regulations and archdiocesan guidelines allow us to have 20 people attend Masses and other services (or 50 at funerals), in addition to essential ministers.

So, we will now return to our normal schedule of Mass times through the week.

However, it will still be necessary to book on the parish website to be one of the 20 attending a Mass. If you do not have internet access, a family member, friend, or fellow parishioner can book on your behalf. Parishioners who do have internet access – please think about other parishioners you may know, whom you can help out in this regard. We want everyone to have the chance to come to Mass at least once in these coming weeks!

If you have already been able to attend a Mass since restrictions lifted, you are asked to refrain from booking to attend another Saturday night / Sunday Mass for a few weeks, to let others have an opportunity. However, if it is within one hour of bookings closing and there are still spaces available, then you can feel free to make a booking, as others have had their chance. Also, this does not apply to weekday Masses – there should now be plenty of room for all those wishing to attend, even daily (though you still need to book). Finally, it does not apply if you are a rostered ‘essential minister’ (reader / musician / server / registrar / hand sanitiser / sacristan / technician); and rostered essential ministers do not need to make a booking at all. Bookings for a coming Sunday will be open from every Wednesday morning.

Saturday night / Sunday Masses:

6:00 pm Saturday Vigil, St Mary’s	8:30 am Sunday, St Margaret’s
10:30am Sunday, St Mary’s (which is also livestreamed)	(3:00 pm Mass discontinued from 7 June)

Daily Masses (all at St Mary’s):

Monday 10:00 am	Tuesday 9:00 am	Wednesday 9:00 am & 7:00 pm
Thursday 9:00 am	Friday 9:15 am	Saturday 9:30 am

- School Masses will not recommence for some time.
- Friday Mass will be at St Mary’s, not St Margaret’s, until School Mass returns.
- The Sunday 6:00 pm Spanish Mass will recommence next Sunday, 7 June. To attend this, one would need to make a booking on the website of the Spanish Chaplaincy.
- Regular Baptisms, and Baptism Information Sessions, remain on hold.
- Holy Hour on Tuesdays (9:30-10:30) will return this week, but not yet Saturdays.
- We are not in a position to open the church for private prayer, as this would require us to have someone at the doors registering entrants, and also to sanitise after use.

Volunteers needed to help sanitise pews between Masses

The most difficult part of the regulations we must follow is the requirement to sanitise pews after every use. This is currently being done entirely by our cleaner. Especially as permitted numbers at services increase, we urgently need volunteers who are able to help her in this. This might be for about an hour per week, at a mutually agreed time, either alongside the cleaner or independently; she would provide instruction for your first time. Please contact the parish office by phone or email if you can help.

RCIA – Sacraments of Christian Initiation

We are now able to move towards the Sacraments of Christian Initiation for Imogen, Dina, Habib, Tim and Chris, that were to have been celebrated at the Easter Vigil. We keep them in our prayers! The date for the celebration will be announced in the coming weeks.

THE SEVEN GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit puts good thoughts into our minds, and draws us to do good actions. When we receive the Holy Spirit, first in Baptism then more fully in Confirmation, we receive his seven Gifts, which help us to listen to, and act on, these holy suggestions he makes to us in the secret of our hearts.

Wisdom

Wisdom helps us see all things and events from God's point of view, and in the light of our eternal destiny.

Understanding

This gift helps us understand the deep meaning of all the things God has told us through Christ and through the teaching of his Church.

Counsel

Counsel helps us to choose the best thing to do when we are making any decision.

Fortitude

This gives us the courage to do what is right despite any fears, and the confidence that God will help us through all difficulties and dangers.

Knowledge

This gift helps us know instinctively which things we should believe by faith and which things are against faith.

Piety

Piety helps us to love, honour and respect God as our Father.

Fear of the Lord

This gift helps us fear sin, because we do not want to offend the God of infinite holiness and majesty.

THE TWELVE FRUITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit forms in us his Fruits, the beginning of eternal glory.

Like the fruits of a tree, they bring us refreshment and delight.

Charity, or Love	The Holy Spirit himself is Love, and when he comes to us, he puts his image in us.
Joy	We rejoice at the presence of God in our souls – if we have God, we have everything.
Peace	Because God is within us, outward troubles do not upset us, and our hearts' desires are at rest.
Patience	We remain at peace and do not complain when we are in pain or hardship.
Goodness	We want to do good to all people, especially all those we know or meet.
Kindness	We put our good intentions into action by being kind to one another.
Generosity	We are happy to give and share from what we have – our time, our belongings, our money.
Gentleness	Even if people do wrong to us, we don't let ourselves be ruled by any anger we might feel.
Faithfulness	We keep our promises, and do not tell lies; we stay true to our friends.
Modesty	The safeguard of chastity: we speak, behave and dress, sensitive to our own and others' dignity.
Self-Control	We do not follow every impulse, but guide ourselves by what is best – eating and drinking in moderation, and being disciplined in our use of time.
Chastity	We respect the human body, not violating its sacred capacity for marital union and procreation.

From the Church's Teaching – The Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit

1830 The moral life of Christians is sustained by the gifts of the Holy Spirit. These are permanent dispositions which make man docile in following the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

1831 The seven *gifts* of the Holy Spirit are wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord. They belong in their fullness to Christ, Son of David. (Cf. *Is* 11:1-2) They complete and perfect the virtues of those who receive them. They make the faithful docile in readily obeying divine inspirations.

Let your good spirit lead me on a level path. (*Ps* 143:10)

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God...If children, then heirs, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ. (*Rom* 8:14, 17)

1832 The *fruits* of the Spirit are perfections that the Holy Spirit forms in us as the first fruits of eternal glory. The tradition of the Church lists twelve of them: "charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, chastity." (*Gal* 5:22-23 (Latin Vulgate translation))

PENTECOST SUNDAY, YEAR A – ANTIPHONS & READINGS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON *(if no hymn is sung)*

The love of God has been poured into our hearts
through the Spirit of God dwelling within us, alleluia.

FIRST READING

Acts 2:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 103

R. Lord, send out your Spirit
and renew the face of the earth.

1. Bless the Lord, my soul!
Lord God, how great you are,
How many are your works, O Lord!
The earth is full of your riches. (R.)

2. You take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth. (R.)

3. May the glory of the Lord last for ever!
May the Lord rejoice in his works!
May my thoughts be pleasing to him.
I find my joy in the Lord. (R.)

SECOND READING

1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

The word of the Lord.

SEQUENCE *(please remain seated)*

10:30 Mass – sung, CWB 379. Other Masses, spoken:

Holy Spirit, Lord of light,
From the clear celestial height
Thy pure beaming radiance give.

Come, thou Father of the poor,
Come with treasures which endure;
Come, thou light of all that live!

Thou, of all consolers best,
Thou, the soul's delightful guest,
Dost refreshing peace bestow.

Thou in toil art comfort sweet;
Pleasant coolness in the heat;
Solace in the midst of woe.

Light immortal, light divine,
Visit thou these hearts of thine,
And our inmost being fill:

If thou take thy grace away,
Nothing pure in man will stay;
All his good is turned to ill.

Heal our wounds, our strength renew;
On our dryness pour thy dew;
Wash the stains of guilt away:

Bend the stubborn heart and will;
Melt the frozen, warm the chill;
Guide the steps that go astray.

Thou, on us who evermore
Thee confess and thee adore,
With thy sevenfold gifts descend:

Give us comfort when we die;
Give us life with thee on high;
Give us joys that never end.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia!

GOSPEL*Jn 20:19-23**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John*

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you'.

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.
For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven:
for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (*if no hymn is sung*)

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit
and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.

Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Hymns:

Entrance – CWB 387 Holy Spirit, Lord of love

Sequence – CWB 379 Holy Spirit, Lord divine

Offertory – CWB 564 O breathe on me

Communion – CWB 390 Veni, creator Spiritus

Recessional – CWB 385 Filled with the Spirit's power

Memorial Acclamation: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection, until you come again.

Recently deceased: Joseph Sy Tinh Do

Anniversaries: Eric D'Rosario; Lucia Sessarego; Romeo Dancel; Eustacio Mallari

Feast Days: **1 June:** The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church **2 June:** Sts Marcellinus & Peter
3 June: Sts Charles Lwanga & companions **5 June:** St Boniface

Readings Next Week: **Trinity Sunday:** Ex 34:4-6, 8-9; 2 Cor 13:11-13; Jn 3:16-18

Bishop Mark Edwards

Bishop Mark Edwards OMI, who has been one of the Auxiliary Bishops of Melbourne since 2014, has been appointed by Pope Francis as the Bishop of Wagga Wagga. We thank Bishop Edwards for his years of service in our Archdiocese, and keep him in our prayers for his new appointment.

For the Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians, Patroness of Australia, celebrated last Monday, the Catholic Bishops of Australia entrusted our nation anew 'to the Immaculate Heart of Mary under the title Our Lady Help of Christians, seeking her intercession for the safety of all our people especially in this time of COVID-19 pandemic'. You are invited to join with the action of the Bishops, by praying the same Act of Entrustment as part of your own prayers:

ENTRUSTING AUSTRALIA TO MARY, HELP OF CHRISTIANS

O Immaculate Mary, Help of Christians, Queen of heaven and earth, and tender Mother of humanity,
at this time when a pandemic threatens all your children,
we entrust to you our nation, Australia, and all who live in this country.

We commit to your intercession all the members of our community,
beginning with the weakest ones, from the unborn to the sick, the disabled and the elderly.

We commit to you our families, our young and old, and all who are vulnerable, those who are quarantined or anxious.

We entrust to your Immaculate Heart those who have lost their livelihood or employment,
our pastors and other essential service workers, and our leaders at this time.

We implore your intercession especially for the protection of doctors and nurses
and those who minister to the contagious sick in this crisis.

Reign over us, Mother of God,
and teach us how to make the Heart of Jesus
reign and triumph in us and around us,
as it has reigned and triumphed in you!