



ST CHRISTOPHER'S PARISH

34 Roberts Road, Airport West

Phone: 9338 3793

Email: airportwest@cam.org.au

Website: <https://www.melbatholic.org/airportwest>

Our Churches:

St Christopher's Church

34 Roberts Road, Airport West

St Augustine's Church

100 Harrick Road, Keilor Park

Parish Priest:

Fr Ananda Prasad Maddineni MSFS

Email: anand.maddineni@cam.org.au

Parish Secretary:

Marie Bonnici

Safeguarding Officer:

Alexandra Hickman

Primary Schools

St Christopher's Primary School

34 Roberts Road, Airport West

Principal: Gavin Brennan

Phone: 9338 3591

St Augustine's Primary School

Augustine's Way, Keilor

Principal: Catherine Steere

Phone: 9336 4294

St Christopher's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

12 / 13 September 2026

Pray with us

St Christopher's Church

MONDAY

Holy Rosary 9.00am
Communion Service 9.30am
Italian Charismatic Prayer Group (after Mass)

TUESDAY

Holy Rosary 9.00am
Mass 9.30am
Italian Rosary (after Mass)

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY

Holy Rosary 9.00am
Mass 9.30am

FRIDAY

Holy Rosary 9.00am
Mass 9.30am
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 6.30pm
(First Friday of each month)

Reconciliations

Every Friday after 9.30am Mass.

Anointing of the sick

First Friday of the month following 9.30am Holy Mass and as requested.

SATURDAY

Mass 5.00pm

SUNDAY

Mass (Italian) 8.30am
Mass (English) 10.30am

St Augustine's Church

SUNDAY

Mass 9.00am

Support Us

Thank you for your generosity toward our parish: physically, spiritually and financially. If you are not a regular contributor, we invite your support. Tap and Go machines are available at the weekend Mass in the church foyer.

Direct Deposits can also be made:

St Christopher's Church

CDF Bank (NAB)

BSB 083 347

Account 716 209 715

Presbytery

CDF Bank (NAB)

BSB 083 347

Account 666 212 720

St Augustine's Church

BSB 083 347

Account 448 864 907

Every donation is a true blessing!

The parish relies solely on your support. We receive no funding from external sources or the archdiocese. We thank you for your ongoing support which enables us to continue the work of the Gospel.



PLEASE PRAY FOR: Recently Deceased:

All anniversaries at this time:

Tony and Eileen O'Connor
Francesca Di Stefano



Exploring the word

Forgiveness Without Limits

The 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A reminds us that forgiveness is at the centre of our faith. The readings show how anger and resentment can harm us, but mercy brings healing. God's love is full of patience, and he asks us to treat others with the same care.

Sirach teaches that clinging to wrath only leads to trouble. We are told to remember our short lives and let go of grudges. Paul reminds the Romans that whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. This means our choices should show mercy and unity, not judgment.

In the Gospel, Jesus tells a story about a servant who was forgiven but would not forgive. This parable shows that mercy must flow both ways. The

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A is a call to forgive as we have been forgiven. It is about living in God's mercy every day.

young-catholics.com

FIRST READING *Ecclesiasticus 27:30-28:7*

A reading from the prophet Ecclesiasticus

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner.

He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin.

Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord? Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins?

Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his sins?

Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments.

Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will;

remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response:

***The Lord is kind and merciful;
slow to anger and rich in compassion.***

My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. **R.**

It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion. **R.**

His wrath will come to an end;
he will not be angry for ever.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults. **R.**

For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him.

As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins. **R.**

SECOND READING *Romans 14:7-9*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 18: 21-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.'

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time," he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me", he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said. "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



**Why the Church is
embracing synodality
now**

The call to synodality is a response to the signs of the times. In a fragmented world, God calls the Church to witness communion, dialogue, and hope.

ALPHA Course is Starting!

Curious about life, faith and the big questions? Alpha is a welcoming series of conversations, videos and dinner exploring questions like What is my purpose? Is there more to life? Who is Jesus? **Everyone aged 18–100 is welcome!** Whether you're Catholic, from another faith, have no faith, or are simply curious, come with your questions, your experiences, or simply come and listen.

Dinner is included and there is no cost.

When: Monday nights, starting 14 September 2026
7–9pm Where: Good Shepherd Parish Hall, Gladstone

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR PARISH

Sunday 20 September 9.00am

Bishop Mark Stuart Edwards- Diocese of Wagga
Wagga

Celebrating mass for Harvest Journeys Pilgrimage
at **St Augustine's Church**

Morning tea following parish mass (please bring a
plate to share)

Sunday 4 October 5.00pm

St Francis of Assisi feast day

Pet's Blessing at **St Christopher's Church**

PILGRIMAGE – Footsteps of St Paul (5th-19th October

2026) Fr Sebastian A.M from St Mary's Parish invites you on a 15-day pilgrimage to Greece and Turkey. All-inclusive price \$9,790. The tour cost includes return economy airfares, local transfers in deluxe coaches, accommodation in 4-star premium hotels, daily meals, professional guides and entrance fees.

Enquiries: 8839 6615 pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au

ONLINE INFORMATION SESSION ON THE PERMANENT DIACONATE

The permanent diaconate is open to single and married men, aged from 30 into their 50's, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. The information session is open to everyone interested in knowing more about the permanent diaconate.

Online Diaconate information meeting

Tuesday, 22 September 2026 beginning 19:00 –
20:00

Location: via [ZOOM](#)

Attendance will be by invitation. Express your interest by emailing Deacon Kevin Pattison

Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au

Please Join Us

Dear Parishioners,

I sincerely thank you for your response to First Parish Children's Mass held on last Saturday 29th August, 5pm. The joyful enthusiasm, exuberance and cheerful participation of our Children clearly proclaimed the true face of the Church; "Let the Children Come to me, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven". Mt. 19:14.

Invitation to the Archbishop's Parish Mass

Our Parish community is blessed to welcome Archbishop Peter Comensoli for a special Eucharistic celebration, marking our Parish Feast (St. Christopher Fest) and my 30th Priestly Ordination Anniversary and we warmly invite all of our school families to join us.

- **Date:** Saturday 17th October
- **Time:** 5.00pm
- **Location:** St. Christopher's Church, Airport West
- **Fellowship:** Refreshments will follow in the parish hall.

This Mass is a wonderful opportunity for our school and parish to come together in faith. Children are encouraged to wear their school uniform as a proud representation of our Catholic school community. If your child would like to participate in the liturgy (such as reading, bringing up the gifts, or joining the choir), we would joyfully provide that opportunity. More details will follow. We look forward to sharing this sacred and joyful celebration with your family.

Blessings,

Fr. Ananda Maddineni MSFS

Parish priest

St. Christopher's Parish

St. Augustine's Mission, Keilor

Safeguarding Sunday- 13th September

So, what is safeguarding?

At its heart, safeguarding is about creating safe and welcoming environments where everyone can participate fully in the life of our Church — particularly children, young people and those who may be vulnerable.

Sadly, abuse can occur in any setting, including organisations dedicated to caring for and supporting others. As a Catholic community, we have a responsibility to uphold the dignity, safety and wellbeing of every person.

Here at St Christopher's and St Augustine's, we are committed to building a child-safe culture where children and young people are listened to, respected and empowered.

Safeguarding is not about creating fear or suspicion. It is about creating a culture of care, awareness, respect and trust. And it is a shared responsibility. We all have a role in helping make our parish a safe and welcoming place. Our theme this year, "Love Protects," reminds us that safeguarding is a practical expression of Christian love. When we prioritise the safety, dignity and wellbeing of children, young people and vulnerable adults, we are living out the love and care that is at the heart of the Gospel.

As a faith community, we are also encouraged to reflect on the example of Jesus, who welcomed, valued and protected those who were vulnerable and marginalised. His example calls us to be a community of care, respect and justice.

Love protects when we listen.

Love protects when we notice someone needs support.

Love protects when we speak up when something doesn't feel right.

And love protects when we put the well-being of others at the centre of what we do.

So today, I encourage each of us to consider the part we can play in creating a culture where every person feels welcomed, respected, included and safe.

Because safeguarding is more than policies and procedures.

It is how we live our faith.

It is how we put love into action.

And together, we can make St Christopher's and St Augustine's places where everyone is valued, supported and able to flourish.

Love protects. Love listens. Love acts.

PARISH FINANCES (week ending 6 September 2026)

<u>Thanksgiving:</u>	\$ 835.50
<u>Presbytery:</u>	\$ 596.50

thank  you
FOR YOUR SUPPORT