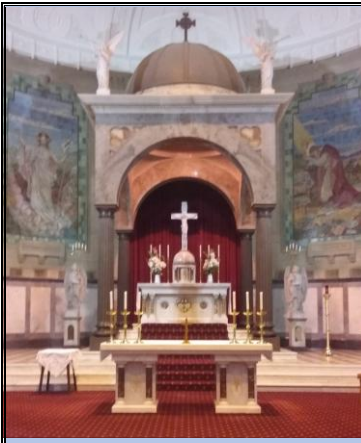




PARISH OF ASCOT VALE

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.melbcatholic.org/ascotvale
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 John Rudd 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.

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time – 27 September 2026

For St. Margaret's Church:

Archbishop Comensoli, in response to the Letter of Petition, has granted a **Decree for the Relegation and Demolition of St. Margaret's Church in St. Mary's Parish, Ascot Vale**, dated 14th September, 2026.

Contained in this Decree is the following:

That St. Margaret's Church located on the corner of Barb Street and The Esplanade, Maribyrnong, Victoria 3032 is no longer a place for the divine worship. It herewith loses its blessing, dedication or consecration. Its altars, sacred objects and religious artefacts are to be removed from the church and carefully preserved. It is henceforth to be relegated to profane use and subsequently demolished, consistent with its Christian dignity and without prejudice to what is required by law for sacred things.

It is noted in the Decree that the final Mass in the church is to be celebrated on Sunday 25 October 2026.

It is recognised in the Decree that provision will be made by the "relocation of the 8.30am Sunday Mass previously celebrated at St. Margaret's Church to St. Mary's, the principal Church of the parish".

Aon, the Parish insurer, has confirmed that St. Margaret's Church will continue to be insured under the ISR (Property) insurance (under 'Removal of Debris') from the date of the final Mass, Sunday 25th October.

Fr Desmond J Moloney

OCIA (commonly referred to as RCIA)

In St. Mary's Parish, the process for OCIA [Order of Christian Initiation of Adults] will resume on Wednesday 7th October at 7.30pm in the Presbytery. This will represent the beginning of the Period of Enquiry.

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – 3/4 OCTOBER 2026

Parish Counters: V Colicchia; R Koh & J Chong

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	F Pinto		M Ginn	
8.30 am		B Dwyer		J Gilmartin
10.30 am	G Kearney		M Andronaco	

Hymns:

Entrance: CWBII 535

Offertory: CWBII 549

Communion: CWBII 459

Reflection: CWBII 597

Recessional: CWBII 477

Recently Deceased:

Rose Phillis Pereira; Imperia Muscat; Rufimel Pelayo

Anniversaries:

Gregory Francis Hillas; Daniella Sessarego; Vence Pinto; Maria D'Andrea; Eduardo Dancel; Pilar Ramos; Rosalie Printer

Feast Days:

29 Sep: Sts Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, archangels

30 Sep: St Jerome

1 Oct: St Therese of the Child Jesus

2 Oct: The Holy Guardian Angels

Readings Next Week:

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 5:1-7; Phil 4:6-9; Mt 21:33-43

Preservation Church Account

Specially prepared brochures are available this Sunday for financial support to be given to the Preservation Church Account.

Parish Benefactors

Recently, it was again made known that this year St. Mary's Parish is to be the beneficiary of two bequests; one from John Balzan and the other from Michael Thompson. At this time, in the final month of congregating in St. Margaret's Church for Mass may we spare not only a thought but also our prayer for those who helped in the establishment of community around the church and school, especially in its first years, enabling the community to grow. In a history of St. Margaret's, it is stated: "Functions to raise money for St. Margaret's site were "well-attended" and some volunteer labour was used in preparing the church and site for use." Also, more broadly, in a history of St. Mary's Parish, we find: "While traditional forms of fund-raising gradually declined in the 1950s, schemes popular among Catholic parishes of the time took their place. St. Mary's ran car raffles, held fetes, and ran a "Silver Ring", as well as using collection envelopes." Great generosity was shown, and faith in that generosity, by those generations that sought to build and create churches as true centres of worship and prayer, giving life to the community. May we remember prayerfully in gratitude our Parish benefactors!

Re St MARGARET'S

Please send to the Parish Office email, ascotvale@cam.org.au –

memories, any recollections of those who, in the first years of St. Margaret's Church and School, helped prepare the church and the site and helped to build community. What part did they play and what are their names?

WORLD YOUTH DAY SEOUL 2027

As stated in the Melbourne Catholic digest, hundreds gather at SeoulFest to launch World Youth Day 2027.

Melbourne young adult Abigail described her World Youth Day experience to the 600 – strong crowd that gathered at St Patrick's Cathedral, launching the Archdiocese's pilgrimage to the next World Youth Day in Seoul, South Korea.

From 3–8 August 2027, young Catholics from around the world will gather in Seoul, South Korea, with Pope Leo XVI for this international celebration of faith, friendship and the universal Church. The theme is 'Take courage! I have overcome the world.' (John 16:33).

The Archdiocese of Melbourne is offering three pilgrimage options to Seoul, giving young people the opportunity to encounter Christ, experience the vibrant universal Church and make life-long memories.

Find out more and register your interest at: proclaim@cam.org.au

For youth in our parish who are interested and would like to organise a group, please contact Justine Escano at justineescano19@gmail.com



MARCH FOR THE BABIES

Come and show your support and march for the babies at 1.00pm Saturday, **10th October - Treasury Gardens, Cnr Spring St and Wellington Pde, Melbourne**

Wear pink and blue for the Babies! www.marchforthebabies.com

This is the 17th annual March for the Babies, and every year since 2009, thousands of Victorians have gathered peacefully with grief and hope to remember the ever-increasing number of babies killed by abortion in this state since the Government legalized abortion-till-birth on October 10, 2008.



A Marriage Encounter weekend is a gift for every married couple and priest

Every married couple and priest deserves to experience this very special weekend.

The weekend is based on Catholic values and couples of all faiths are very welcome.

Please check our website for more details and to book your special weekend:

November 6-8th, 2026, St Paul's Retreat Centre, Wantirna South.

Starts Friday evening at 7pm and finishes Sunday afternoon around 4:30pm

Information/Bookings: Please phone Mercy & James 0409 183 676 or

Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au Website: wwme.org.au



Pray with Pope Leo XIV: One Million Children Praying the Rosary



From 1-7 October, *Aid to the Church in Need* invites you to join with Pope Leo XIV and Catholics worldwide for the *One Million Children Praying the Rosary* prayer campaign, for peace and unity in the world.

Families, parishioners, prayer groups, and schools are all encouraged to register to take part!

For free Rosary resources and to register, please scan the QR code or visit:

www.acninternational.org/millionchildrenpraying

"When one million children pray the Rosary, the world will change." - Saint Padre Pio

Legion of Mary - For member enquiries and home visitations please contact: 9346 7900.

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

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

FIRST READING

Ez 18:25-28

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 24

R. Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Lord, make me know your ways.

Lord, teach me your paths.

Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. (R.)

Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord. (R.)

The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor. (R.)

SECOND READING

Phil 2:1-11

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind.

That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing.

Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead.

In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine,
yet he did not cling
to his equality with God
but emptied himself
to assume the condition of a slave,
and became as men are;
and being as all men are,
he was humbler yet,
even to accepting death,
death on a cross.

But God raised him high
and gave him the name
which is above all other names
so that all beings
in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld,
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus
and that every tongue should acclaim
Jesus Christ as Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! My sheep listen to my voice,
says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 21:28-32

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion?

A man had two sons.

He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went.

The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir," but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?'

'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you.

For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

The Gospel of the Lord