



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.

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time – 2 August 2026

The recent Gathering at St. Margaret’s School brought to surface concerns that the parish land would be sold and “turned into apartments”. With this in mind, it is important that the following points are now clarified:

1. **The Parish will not be selling the land on which St. Margaret’s Church now sits.**
2. Future use of the land will be considered strictly within the context of the St. Margaret’s School masterplan and the Parish masterplan. A decision regarding the use of the land within these contexts has **not been made** and will only be made following a **further period of discernment and consultation.**
3. The land will continue to serve the Parish’s Mission of Faith, **although the form which that takes has not been determined**, and will only be determined following further consultation.

In sharing the above information, the fervent hope is that there be a walking with the worshipping community of St. Margaret’s, and so, taking the next steps together.

The next Gathering will take place on Saturday, 22nd August, from 2.00-3.30pm.

The purpose of this Gathering will be to:

4. **Update**, providing any new information.
5. **Respond to the question:** what is to be captured, honoured, and shared about the history/ identity/ story of St. Margaret’s Church?
6. **Respond to the question:** how is a final Mass in St. Margaret’s Church envisaged?

For the **Reception of Feedback:** feedback.stmargarets@gmail.com

Fr Desmond J Moloney

National Vocations Awareness Week

Vocations come from families, communities and parishes. Strong families and communities are the place where vocations are first nurtured. In this National Vocations Awareness Week, let us pray for all families in our parish, and for those preparing for marriage. Let us also pray that our parish community may always be welcoming and encouraging of vocations to marriage, priesthood and consecrated life.

May priests, deacons and lay ministers generously feed the faithful with the word that sustains and the bread that gives life.

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – 8/9 AUGUST 2026

Parish Counters: R Aparo; B Toomey

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	N Familiari		P Barbaro	
8.30 am		M Zoleta		A Laughton
10.30 am	R Wiatrowski		M Andronaco	

Hymns:

Entrance: CWBII 451

Offertory: CWBII 549

Communion: CWBII 459

Reflection: CWBII 552

Recessional: CWBII 520

Recently Deceased:

Ramon Masalonga

Anniversaries:

Maria Nasimento; Les Culliver; Charles Zammit

Feast Days:

3 Aug: St Dominic

4 Aug: St John Vianney

6 Aug: The Transfiguration of the Lord

8 Aug: St Mary of the Cross

Readings Next Week:

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time Vigil: 1 Cor 11:23-25

1 Kg 19:9, 11-13; Rom 9:1-5; Mt 14:22-33

First Holy Communion

At the 6:00 Saturday Vigil Masses this weekend and next week (1 August, 8 August) Year 4 students from St Mary's and St Margaret's Schools will receive their First Holy Communion. We keep all these children in our prayers.

Archbishop's Campaign 2026

The Archbishop's Campaign will commence next weekend. You are invited to reflect on what a vibrant faith community means for you and your family, and to consider making a personal, recurring monthly gift in support of the vital ministries that serve our Archdiocese.

CDF Community Fund

Next weekend on Sunday 9 August at the 8.30am & 10.30am Masses we will have a visit from the CDF team.

Help fund projects across Catholic organisations, with a CDF Community Fund savings account.

With competitive interest rates, it's a greater reward than money alone.

Visit www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund or call our team on 1800 134 135 for more information.

Save for a greater reward 

5.50% p.a.

12-month Term Investment with CDF Community Fund

catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund/offer

*Rate subject to change. Interest paid at maturity. Visit our website to open an account and view the disclosure statement.



Parish Rosters

The next set of parish rosters for September – December are being prepared and will be sent out in the middle of August. Please advise the parish office if you require any changes.

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.



Missionary Leadership

INTRODUCTION

This paper has been prepared to assist with reflection on the theme of Missionary Leadership. As we reflect on this theme, we are encouraged to ponder: Where is the Holy Spirit

leading our Archdiocese at this time? Whom are we being called to accompany in faith more intentionally? How might we reflect the face of Christ more clearly in our local Church? This paper aims to foster a spirit of hope and imagination—trusting that, as we walk together, God is calling us into a future marked by faithfulness, renewal and deeper communion.

MISSION BELONGS TO THE WHOLE PEOPLE OF GOD The mission of the Church belongs to the whole People of God. By virtue of baptism, every Christian is called to participate in the mission of Christ and his Church. Mission is not the responsibility of a few, nor is leadership reserved only for those who hold formal positions of authority. The call to missionary leadership belongs to all the baptised. By baptism, each person is part of the Body of Christ and shares in his priestly, prophetic and kingly mission. Every baptised person is entrusted with gifts and charisms for the building up of the Church and the transformation of the world. Missionary leadership therefore begins with baptismal identity. Leadership is exercised whenever people: • live the Gospel authentically • accompany others in faith • witness to Christ in everyday life. This understanding fosters a culture of co-responsibility, where clergy, religious and lay faithful work together in service of the Gospel. It reflects the heart of a synodal Church: walking, listening, discerning and participating together in Christ's mission.



Shape the Future: Be Counted as Catholic this Census

Australia's national Census will be held on 11 August 2026. Catholics are encouraged to mark "Catholic" in the question on religion. In a time when some would seek to diminish the importance of faith, it is vital that the Catholic community be represented in our national statistics. Census data supports Church pastoral planning and contributes to government decision-making on health, education, infrastructure, and social services – guiding resource and funding allocations across Australia. By identifying as Catholic, you can help ensure that the contribution and needs of faith communities are properly recognised and considered in future planning and policy decisions.

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

FIRST READING

Is 55:1-3

Thus says the Lord:

Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty;
though you have no money, come!

Buy corn without money, and eat,
and, at no cost, wine and milk.

Why spend money on what is not bread,
your wages on what fails to satisfy?

Listen, listen to me and you will have good
things to eat

and rich food to enjoy.

Pay attention, come to me;
listen, and your soul will live.

With you I will make an everlasting covenant
out of the favours promised to David.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 144

**R. The hand of the Lord feeds us:
he answers all our needs.**

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.

How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. (R.)

The eyes of all creatures look to you
and you give them their food in due time.
You open wide your hand,
grant the desires of all who live. (R.)

The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
call on him from their hearts. (R.)

SECOND READING

Rom 8:35. 37-39

Nothing can come between us and the love of
Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, or
being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or
being threatened or even attacked. These are
the trials through which we triumph, by the
power of him who loved us.

For I am certain of this: neither death nor life,
no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing
still to come, not any power, or height or depth,
nor any created thing, can ever come between
us and the love of God made visible in Christ
Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth
of God. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 14:13-21

When Jesus received the news of John the
Baptist's death he withdrew by boat to a lonely
place where they could be by themselves. But
the people heard of this and, leaving the towns,
went after him on foot. So as he stepped ashore
he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them
and healed their sick.

When evening came, the disciples went to him
and said, 'This is a lonely place, and the time
has slipped by; so send the people away, and
they can go to the villages to buy themselves
some food.' Jesus replied, 'There is no need for
them to go: give them something to eat
yourselves.' But they answered, 'All we have
with us is five loaves and two fish.' 'Bring them
here to me,' he said. He gave orders that the
people were to sit down on the grass; then he
took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his
eyes to heaven and said the blessing. And
breaking the loaves he handed them to his
disciples who gave them to the crowds. They all
ate as much as they wanted, and they collected
the scraps remaining, twelve baskets full. Those
who ate numbered about five thousand men, to
say nothing of women and children.

The Gospel of the Lord

