

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 DesmondJ 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: <https://www.melb catholic.org/ascotvale>
Email: ascotvale@cam.org.au
Office Hours: Tue – Thu 9.30am – 3.00pm
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. **There will not be a baptism information in November.**

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time – 6 September 2026

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – 12/13 SEPT 2026

Parish Counters: V Colicchia; 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	J Escano		P Barbaro	
8.30 am		M Zoleta		J Gilmartin
10.30 am	A Fogarty		R Bonvino	

Hymns:

Entrance: CWBII 535

Offertory: CWBII 593

Communion: CWBII 459

Reflection: CWBII 582

Recessional: CWBII 503

Feast Days:

8 September: The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Readings Next Week: 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sirach 27:30–28:7; Rom 14:7–9; Mt 18:21–35

PLEASE NOTE

No 10.00am Mass at St Mary's Church on Monday, 7 September & 14 September 2026.

New Parishioners' Morning Tea

There will be morning tea at St. Mary's after 10.30am Mass next Sunday, 13th September.

New parishioners are especially invited to come and meet fellow parishioners. Everyone else is also invited. Please come along and meet and chat with the people we see at Mass, but may not have spoken to before –or just catch up with others. We hope many of you attend.

If anyone would like to bring a plate of food for the morning tea, please do so and we will be very grateful!

Sacramental Program

The 1st Reconciliation /Holy Communion Sacramental Program will be offered for children in **Grade 4 and above** who have not yet prepared for these Sacraments.

Classes: Thursdays, 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Commencing: 10th September (8–week program during the school term)

Date for 1st Holy Communion: Saturday, 28th November, at St Mary's Church, 6:00 pm Vigil Mass.

To register your child or for further information, please contact Rose, m: 0411 040 669 or email: catechistrc@gmail.com

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.

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

FIRST READING

Ez 33:7-9

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 94

**R. O that today you would listen to his voice!
Harden not your hearts.**

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.

Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. (R.)

Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. (R.)

O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my
work.' (R.)

SECOND READING

Rom 13:8-10

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing

that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 18:15-20

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

The Gospel of the Lord.





Two Committees

Two Committees arose from the second Gathering at St. Margaret's School and are currently in the process of being convened:

- **History Committee:** the work of this committee is to consider what of the life and story of St. Margaret's Church, the Mass community, is to be held onto and honoured? How will this be done?

Adam Bui is the contact and leader -

adam.tbui@outlook.com

Phone: 0469 583 228

- **Final Mass Committee:** the work of this committee is to plan the liturgy and what might follow the Mass.

Richard Turnbull is the contact and leader -

janandrichardturnbull@gmail.com

Phone: 0438 377510

A Task Force or two to help with the practical hands on work and assignment to agreed locations may be needed.

You may express your interest via feedback.stmargarets@gmail.com.

The Letter of Petition was recently forwarded to the Archbishop for his response. The petition, in terms related to canon law, calls for the permanent closure of St. Margaret's Church, Maribyrnong, and relegation of the building to profane and not sordid use (*Can. 1222 §1.*). The conclusion of this petition letter states that advice received from the *Insurance and Risk Lead* of the Archdiocese was presented and accepted at the second Gathering.

The letter also communicated:

- the closure of the church paves the way for demolition and thereby avoids the potential for significant, possibly catastrophic, internal structural failure; not forgetting the potentially dangerous presence of asbestos in the roof and walls of the building, and
- for the Parish as a whole the deficits are clear: no gathering space, no suitable meeting rooms, and a presbytery in poor condition containing the parish office.

It is understood that following the closure of St. Margaret's Church the insurer would request:

- the church is secured behind fencing and no longer occupied
- the contents of the church removed
- the site is subject to a minimum weekly inspection or weekly security patrol

The letter stated:

The Parish intends to act to demolish the church as expeditiously as possible and, given the issue of asbestos, this would occur during school holidays, possibly in January, 2027; the preferred date for the final Mass being Sunday, 25th October.

This, of course, depends on the Archbishop's decision and a workable timeline.