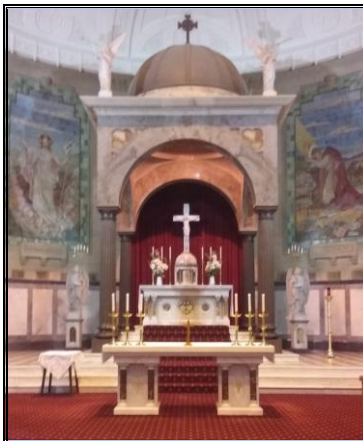




PARISH OF ASCOT VALE

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 <i>Secretary: Carmen D’Rosario</i>
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.

The Ascension of The Lord – 17 May 2026

In 2025 Archbishop Comensoli called a gathering of Aboriginal Catholics in the Archdiocese of Melbourne to listen, pray and together share hopes for the future.

The Archbishop has sent a letter to those who attended, and we thought you may be interested to also receive a copy of this communication. The Archbishop would be grateful if you can please consider an appropriate way of sharing this within your community. All Aboriginal Catholics in the Archdiocese are invited to be part of the ongoing discernment of the next phase for Aboriginal Catholic Ministry.

Excerpts from the Archbishop’s letter:

As a Church, we acknowledge with humility the history we share. We recognise the deep wounds experienced by so many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities. I also acknowledge that the Church has been part of this history. For this, we seek forgiveness, and commit ourselves anew to the path of healing and right relationship.

At the same time, we give thanks for the enduring faith, resilience, and spiritual richness of Aboriginal Catholic people.

The Aboriginal Catholic Ministry of Victoria (ACM) stands as a profound sign of hope – a ministry shaped by Aboriginal Catholics, for Aboriginal Catholics, and gifted to the wider Church. Since its beginnings in 1987, born from the vision and determination of Aboriginal leaders seeking a place of belonging, prayer, and formation, ACM has been a sacred space of memory and hope.

With every blessing, I entrust you, your families, and your communities to the loving care of God.

Archbishop Peter A Comensoli

Seminary Enquiry Day 2026

Saturday 23 May 2026, 10.45am – 3.30pm

Corpus Christi is the place where young men discern and study for the priesthood. You are invited because you may like to hear more about a vocation. For catering purposes, please RSVP by Tuesday 19 May via vocations@cam.org.au.

If you have questions, the Vocation Director, Father Dishan Candappa, would be pleased to assist you. Please be in touch via vocations@cam.org.au.

Confirmation of St Mary’s and St Margaret’s Year Six candidates

Fr Desmond Moloney will confer the Sacrament of Confirmation next weekend at 4.30pm and the 6:00pm Saturday Vigil Mass, 21 May, on Year Six children from our parish schools and on children from our Parish Catechetics class. Please keep in prayer all those being confirmed and their families.

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – 23/24 MAY 2026

Parish Counters: J & S Crooks; T Peters

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		P Barbaro	
8.30 am		M Zoleta		R Turnbull
10.30 am	R Macwan		R Bonvino	

Hymns:

Entrance: CWBII 372

Offertory: CWBII 443

Communion: CWBII 579

Reflection: CWBII 550

Recessional: CWBII 543

Anniversaries:

Martina Carreon; Lucita Bunque; Michael & Maria Giampino; George & Rose Glover

Readings Next Week: Pentecost Sunday: Acts 2:1-11; 1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13; Jn 20:19-23

The Melbourne Corpus Christi Procession 2026

Sunday 7 June 2026 begins at 2.00pm at St Patrick's Cathedral

On the solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi), parishes, communities, families and all are invited to join Archbishop Peter A Comensoli at the annual Melbourne Corpus Christi Procession as the Archdiocese of Melbourne publicly and joyfully journeys with Christ in the Blessed Sacrament.

The procession will begin with a gathering at St Patrick's Cathedral at 2pm, walk through the streets of Melbourne's CBD, and conclude at Federation Square. All welcome.



Australian Catholic Safeguarding Limited (ACSL)

The recent audit conducted affirmed the Archdiocese as a mature and effective safeguarding environment with 91% of indicators either fully or substantially embedded. They also serve as a timely reminder that our commitment to safeguarding must remain active and vigilant.

Some specific findings, that were identified during the audit of our parishes, include:

"All but one parish displayed or have publicly available (i.e. on website and in the parish newsletter) easy to read/understand safeguarding information within the Church."

"Comprehensive Parish Risk Management Plans include safeguarding risks, assessments and mitigations. In most cases, Risk Management Plans exist for each ministry within the parish."

"Several parishes have developed creative and child friendly resources, including a range of posters and promotional material as well as videos, featuring children and young people, raising awareness about child safeguarding."



36. Synodality is a long journey

A Synod is not a one-time event. Synodality is a way of life that unfolds over time.

37. Synodality and renewal

Renewal does not come from programs alone but from transformed relationships. Synodality nurtures those relationships.

38. Synodality and mercy

Listening with compassion reflects the mercy of Christ, who always began with encounter.

Have you been Encountered?

Marriage Encounter is coming to Melton.



Every married couple deserves this very special weekend. Time-out to nurture your most precious relationship away from daily distractions. While the weekend is based around Catholic values, couples of all faiths are welcome. No group sharing is required.

Come along and experience your special weekend at:

St Dominic's Parish Melton

When: June 26 – 28th 2026

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

On your weekend, a team of 3 married couples and a priest will share their personal stories, their ups and downs, in ways that are very relatable. You are drawn to reflecting on your own relationship, learn new ways of deeply communicating and rekindle the spark! No matter how good things are in your relationship currently, a Marriage Encounter experience is for the two of you. For further details, please contact: Mercy & James Bvirakare Ph: 0409 183 676

Email vicbookings@wwme.org.au / Visit wwme.org.au

FRANCISCUS: Celebrating 800 Years of St Francis of Assisi!

The Capuchin Franciscan Friars are hosting a 2-day Conference at St Anthony's, Hawthorn on the weekend of 30th-31st May to celebrate this Jubilee Year of St Francis of Assisi; to reflect upon and share about the amazing life and enduring legacy of this great saint. Each day will commence with registration at 8:30am and a 9am talk; each day concluding at 5pm. Across the 2 days, there will be six talks, a workshop, a Q&A Panel, as well as daily Mass and concluding each day with Evening Prayer. Light lunch provided. No registration fee but there will be the opportunity to donate to support the running of the Conference. For more details, and to Register:

<https://www.trybooking.com/DMBUF>



Please use the QR code if you wish to contribute to our parish church.
Your generosity is much appreciated. Thank you.

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.

The Ascension of the Lord

FIRST READING

Acts 1:1-11

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 46

**R: God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.**

All peoples, clap your hands, cry to God with shouts of joy! For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, great king over all the earth. (R.)

God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast. Sing praise for God, sing praise, sing praise to our king, sing praise. (R.)

God is king of all the earth. Sing praise with all your skill. God is king over the nations; God reigns on his holy throne. (R.)

SECOND READING

Eph 1:17-23

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named not only in this age but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matt 28:16-20

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

'The Gospel of the Lord

