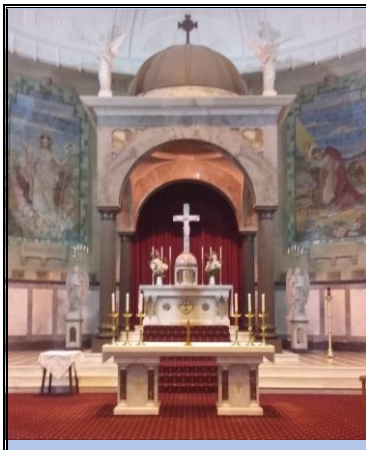




PARISH OF ASCOT VALE

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.stmaryschurch.org.au
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: Ms Vicky Augello (Acting) 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.

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time – 14 July 2024

Matters of Concern

I feel confident it will be remembered that in the past year a limited number of projects have been carried out in the Presbytery (for example, the carpet in poorest condition was removed and replaced). It has been important, from my perspective, to exercise restraint regarding any internal improvements because I have always borne in mind the “big picture”/ the need for a masterplan, which is likely have significant impact on the Presbytery. So, as the saying goes, I have not wanted to throw good money after bad! Nonetheless, with support, I have decided to have my bathroom renovated. Rather than wait whatever time it may take for a masterplan to come to light, I have felt driven to this decision by the presence of mould, which I suspect has affected my health this year.

Parish RCIA highpoint

On the coming Sunday at the 10.30am Mass, Dylan Arora and Matthew Ohlson will celebrate the Sacraments that will bring them into the Church and make them one with us at the Table of the Lord. We can be grateful for the work of Ana Loughton and Tony Higgins for coordinating this particular RCIA process. Grateful acknowledgement is also made of Matthew Kenny’s support of this year’s RCIA. Also, in the same Mass, Valeska Piotrowski, in Grade 6 at St. Margaret’s, will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Last Saturday’s Soup Night

Our thanks to the **Community Group** for organising the Soup Night! The soups were enjoyed, and it was well attended in the Presbytery. What was provided has been described as “warming and delicious”!

Fr Desmond J Moloney

Parish Sacramental Program

Our Sacramental Program for **1st Reconciliation (Grade 3) and Holy Communion (Grade 4)**, will be commencing during the school term on Tuesday, 23rd July 2024. Classes will run after school, at St Mary’s school. Anyone with eligible children who have been validly baptised or knows others with primary school children, who have yet to receive the Sacraments, this is such an opportune time to reach out to us!

Contact the parish office **Tuesday – Thursday** on 9370 6688 or via email at ascotvale@cam.org.au or alternatively email rosecalandra22@gmail.com.

Our Catechist will then be in contact with you personally, to ascertain your child’s availability and provide more information.

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

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – 20/21 July 2024

Parish Counters: J & S Crooks; J Balzan

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 Bonnici	
8.30 am		N Vaz		A Laughton
10.30 am	J Regan		M Bonnici	

Hymns:

Entrance: CWBII 566

Offertory: CWBII 549

Communion: CWBII 484

Reflection: CWBII 389

Recessional: CWBII 494

Recently Deceased:

Giovanna Presti

Anniversaries:

Domenico Agresta; Anh Thi; Louis Menezes; Fay Kendall; Gabino Ramos

Feast Days:

15 July: St Bonaventure

Readings Next Week:

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Jer 23:1-6; Eph 2:13-18; Mk 6:30-34

Baptisms

We warmly welcome the children being baptised this Sunday at our parish.

Olivia Gwen Letcher

Ruby Nicole Letcher

Indie Thel-Rose Horne

Charlie David Smith

Eloise Spinella

Friday Mass returns to St Margaret's

With school returning this week, 9:15am Friday Mass will return to St Margaret's.

History Group Meeting

The next meeting of our History Group will be Thursday 25th July at 2.00pm. Same location as last time. All welcome, In the shadows of World War One we meet the remarkable Father Bakker, our second Parish Priest. For more information contact Gerald Kearney 0431570067
gckkearney@gmail.com <mailto:gckkearney@gmail.com>

Stella Maris – Sea Sunday

Next week is Sea Sunday, when the church prays for all those who live and work at sea. There will be an Appeal for Stella Maris, Apostleship of the Sea, the official maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church. Funds collected will be used to provide practical and spiritual support to seafarers visiting our ports. As it is dependent on voluntary donations, please give generously. To donate or for more information, visit: www.stellamarisaustralia.org



Open House Melbourne: Catholic Theological College

Saturday 27 July 2024, 11.00am–3.00pm

278 Victoria Parade East Melbourne VIC 3002

Catholic Theological College will open for self-guided tours as part of the popular Open House Melbourne weekend.

Journey Through Sadness Morning Tea

The Essendon Parishes Journey Through Sadness group was formed with the aim of supporting parishioners through the different forms of sadness and loss. Our parishes would like to offer some gatherings that could help us open up this subject and perhaps find support in each other. You are welcomed for the second gathering of the group for morning tea in PACE, 48C Lincoln Road, Essendon on Wednesday 24 July at 10:30am. Friends are most welcome.



Join Our Maltese Language Classes!

Registrations are now open for Maltese language classes for both adults and children.

Learn to speak, read, and write in Maltese while exploring the rich cultural heritage of Malta. Whether you're a beginner or looking to improve your skills, our classes are tailored to meet your needs.

Visit our website <https://mccv.org.au/services/language/> to register and for more information.

'God is hidden in the dark corners of life and of our cities.' – Pope Francis

'God's infinity is concealed in human misery, the Lord stirs and becomes present, he becomes a friendly presence precisely in the wounded flesh of the least, the forgotten and the discarded,' he said.

In his homily, published by the Vatican, the Pope reflected on the day's gospel reading (Mark 6:1–6), which described people's reaction to hearing Jesus teach in the synagogue: many were shocked and offended that a simple man—the son of a carpenter—could possess such wisdom and perform miracles.

Their taking offense and experiencing 'scandal' refers to their encountering a kind of 'stumbling block, an obstacle, something that hinders and prevents you from going further' and truly believing in Jesus, the Pope said.

That obstacle, he said, was Jesus' humanity, because 'how can God, the Almighty, reveal himself in the fragility of human flesh?'

However, 'what is the obstacle that prevents believing in Jesus' today, the Pope asked.

The 'scandal' or stumbling block today, he said, is believing that God truly cares for humanity and 'is moved by our wounds, who takes on our weariness, who for us is broken like bread.'

In a world where people face so many challenges, struggles and social and political issues, there needs to be 'a faith that awakens consciences from lethargy, that puts its finger in the wounds, in the wounds of society, and there are many,' he said.

This kind of faith is 'restless,' it moves 'from heart to heart' and it is moved by concrete problems in society, he said. It is a faith 'that becomes a thorn in the flesh of a society often anesthetised and dazed by consumerism.'

from Melbourne Catholic

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

FIRST READING

Amos 7:12–15

Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, said to Amos, 'Go away, seer; get back to the land of Judah; earn your bread there, do your prophesying there. We want no more prophesying in Bethel; this is the royal sanctuary, the national temple.' 'I was no prophet, neither did I belong to any of the brotherhoods of prophets.' Amos replied to Amaziah, 'I was a shepherd, and looked after sycamores: but it was the Lord who took me from herding the flock, and the Lord who said, "Go, prophesy to my people Israel."'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 84:9–14

R. Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace,
peace for his people.

His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land. (R.)

Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven. (R.)

The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps. (R.)

SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:3–14

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of heaven in Christ. Before the world was made, he chose us, chose us in Christ, to be holy and spotless, and to live through love in his presence, determined that we should become his adopted sons, through Jesus Christ for his own kind purposes, to make us praise the glory of his grace, his free gift to us in the Beloved in whom, through his blood, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins. Such is the richness of the grace which he has showered on us in all wisdom and insight. He has let us know the mystery of his

purpose, the hidden plan he so kindly made in Christ from the beginning to act upon when the times had run their course to the end: that he would bring everything together under Christ, as head, everything in the heavens and everything on earth. And it is in him that we were claimed as God's own, chosen from the beginning, under the predetermined plan of the one who guides all things as he decides by his own will; chosen to be, for his greater glory, the people who would put their hopes in Christ before he came. Now you too, in him, have heard the message of the truth and the good news of your salvation, and have believed it: and you have been stamped with the seal of the Holy Spirit of the Promise, the pledge of our inheritance which brings freedom for those whom God has taken for his own, to make his glory praised.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf Eph 1:17-18

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our heart that we might
see how great is the hope to which we are
called. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mk 6:7-13

Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out in pairs giving them authority over the unclean spirits. And he instructed them to take nothing for the journey except a staff - no bread, no haversack, no coppers for their purses. They were to wear sandals, but, he added, 'Do not take a spare tunic.' And he said to them, 'If you enter a house anywhere, stay there until you leave the district. And if any place does not welcome you and people refuse to listen to you, as you walk away shake off the dust from under your feet as a sign to them.' So they set off to preach repentance; and they cast out many devils, and anointed many sick people with oil and cured them.

The Gospel of the Lord.