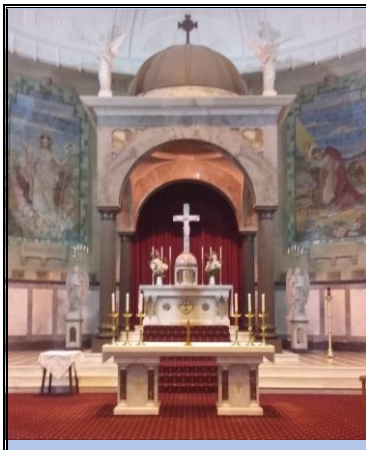




PARISH OF ASCOT VALE

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.

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time – 25 August 2024

Training and Renewal for Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

For ministers of the Word and Communion ministers in St. Mary’s Parish there will be an evening opportunity as well as a day opportunity to engage in training for ministry (*those who are new*) or renewal (*those who are experienced*). There are several parishioners who are newly undertaking one or both liturgical ministries. It is important parishioners with an interest in one or more ministries that they communicate their interest directly with me. Also, it is expected that those involved in either or both ministries (Reader/ Communion) will attend one of the upcoming Sessions. If for some reason this will not be possible please communicate by email (or phone) to the Parish Office.

Session 1: Friday 13th September at 7.00pm

Session 2: Saturday 14th September at 11.30am

Concreting Job – coming late September!

I bring you news of great joy – I think! Two areas of concrete external to St. Mary’s Church will, at last, be renewed at the end of September. It is crucial from a health and safety perspective that the concrete, most cracked and uneven, will be “made safe”. It has not been forgotten that Italians of St. Mary’s held a fundraising dinner dance and raised \$13245 to be put towards renewal of the concrete. Thank you!

Fr Desmond J Moloney

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has released the Social Justice Statement for 2024–25, entitled *Truth and Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World.*

‘Words are never enough to make peace—action is required,’ writes Australian Catholic Bishops Conference President Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB in the foreword to the statement.

‘Words such as those found in this statement can help us understand the current situation and how we might work together to create a world which better matches both human desire and the divine plan.’

A copy of the 2024 statement can be found here.

<https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2024/07/25/social-justice-statement-2024-25/>

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

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – 31 Aug/1 Sept 2024

Parish Counters: T Peters; 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	F Pinto		P Stanley	
8.30 am		G Hatch		A Laughton
10.30 am	G Kearney		M DeMaria	

Hymns:

Entrance: CWBII 647

Offertory: CWBII 549

Communion: CWBII 454

Reflection: CWBII 548

Recessional: CWBII 550

Recently Deceased:

Giovanni Iermano; Anthony Gracie; Giovanna Amato

Anniversaries:

Emilio Sessarego; John Fogarty; Rocco Conte; Lidia Oppedisano; Maria Presti

Feast Days:

27 Aug: St Monica

28 Aug: St Augustine

29 Aug: The Passion of St John the Baptist

Readings Next Week:

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time:

Deut 4:1-2. 6-8; James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27; Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Baptisms

We warmly welcome **Chloe Ho** being baptised this weekend at our parish.

New Rosters (September-December): Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Lectors, Welcomers, Counters

The next roster for St Mary's & St Margaret's commencing September 2024 to December 2024 is ready and has been emailed to you this week. Thank you to all who are part of these ministries.

First Reconciliation

Last Thursday, Year Three children from St Margaret's School celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time, and this coming Thursday, Year Three students from St Mary's will do the same. We keep them all in our prayers.

History Group Afternoon Tea

The next afternoon tea hosted by the History Group will be Thursday 29th August at the usual place! Come along and share a story about the earlier days of our Parish or just enjoy the company of fellow Parishioners. Phone Gerald on 0431 570067 if you are new to the group.

Meditation & Mindfulness in the Christian Tradition

10 x Thursday, 12 Sept – 14 Nov 2024, 11am–12pm

(in-person event) Roland Ashby

This series offers a beautiful space to stop for an hour to explore the ancient way of contemplation and tap into a deep spring of love, joy, peace and compassion at the centre of being.

Bookings via <https://www.heartoflife.melbourne/events/meditation-mindfulness-in-the-christian-tradition-sem2/?> or email info@heartoflife.melbourne. Cost \$100 for the series.



ONLINE INFORMATION SESSION ON THE PERMANENT DIACONATE

The permanent diaconate is open to single and married men, aged between 30 and 60 years, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. The information session is open to everyone interested in knowing more about the permanent diaconate.

Online Diaconate information meeting Tuesday, 24 September / 19:30 – 21:00 Location: via ZOOM Attendance will be by invitation. Express your interest by emailing Deacon Kevin Pattison Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au

In the week before the session the ZOOM link will be sent to those who have expressed interest.

The Archbishop's Campaign 2024

Come, follow me

As the first disciples responded to Jesus' invitation to 'Come, follow me' so too are we called to continue this vital and life giving work today.

To do this we have streamlined our approach to fundraising by moving to just one annual campaign for the purposes of the Archdiocese.

Your contribution to the Archbishop's Campaign supports the vital ministries that serve all in our Archdiocese and helps build the community of faith of the future.



The 2024 Archbishop's Campaign is now underway, and we ask everyone to consider a pledge to support the vital ministries of our Archdiocese. These ministries are outlined in the Campaign brochure which you will find on entry tables in your church today. Gifts of \$2 or more are tax deductible. Tax-deductible donations go to the Archbishop's Charitable Fund which supports the Corpus Christi College Building Fund, the Priests Retirement Foundation, John Pierce Centre, Melbourne Overseas Mission, University of Divinity Building Fund as well as Catholic community agencies and service organisations through annual grants. Non-tax-deductible donations go to the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne Religious Projects Fund and support seminarian formation and evangelisation ministries. Please review the campaign material and prayerfully consider pledging a recurring monthly gift to help us continue to strengthen the Christian faith and address the needs of God's people. Tear-off pledge cards are attached to the campaign envelopes in the church. You can also make a gift online at melbournecatholic.org/archbishopscampaign or via the QR codes on the campaign materials. I invite you to give generously to this important campaign.

Archbishop Peter A Comensoli

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

FIRST READING Joshua 24:1–2, 15-18

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people: 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.'

The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 33

R. Let us taste and see, the goodness of the Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. (R.)

The Lord turns his face against the wicked
to destroy their remembrance from the earth.
The Lord turns his eyes to the just
and his ears to their appeal. (R.)

They call and the Lord hears
and rescues them in all their distress.
The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;
those whose spirit is crushed he will save. (R.)

Many are the trials of the just man
but from them all the Lord will rescue him.
He will keep guard over all his bones,
not one of his bones shall be broken. (R.)

Evil brings death to the wicked;
those who hate the good are doomed.
The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.
Those who hide in him shall not be condemned.
(R.)

SECOND READING Ephesians 5:21-32

Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the

Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives submit to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body - and we are its living parts. For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Jn 6:63,68

Alleluia, alleluia! Your words, Lord, are spirit and life: you have the words of everlasting life. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Jn 6:60-69

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before?

'It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh has nothing to offer. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.

'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him.

Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.