

‘Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

‘Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

‘Have you understood all this?’ They said, ‘Yes.’ And he said to them, ‘Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Shorter form 13:44-46.

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH (Nicene Creed)

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

After the priest raises the paten with the bread and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to each prayer:

R. Blessed be God for ever.

P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P. Accept, O Lord, we pray, the offerings which we bring from the abundance of your gifts, that through the powerful working of your grace these most sacred mysteries may sanctify our present way of life and lead us to eternal gladness. Through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Lift up your hearts.

R. We lift them up to the Lord.

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R. It is right and just.

PREFACE I-VIII OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

After the Preface, we sing or say:

All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P. The mystery of faith.

All: Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

COMMUNION RITE

P. At the Saviour’s command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven ...

P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray...

All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said...

R. Amen.

P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

All exchange a sign of peace

LAMB OF GOD

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Ps 102:2

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his benefits.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. We have consumed, O Lord, this divine Sacrament, the perpetual memorial of the Passion of your Son; grant, we pray, that this gift, which he himself gave us with love beyond all telling, may profit us for salvation. Through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. Go forth, the Mass is ended.

R. Thanks be to God.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

COMMUNION WITH GOD

Today we continue to hear from the central chapter in Matthew’s Gospel, Jesus’ parable teaching about the kin-dom of God. Over the past Sundays we have been hearing parables concerned with sowed seed (15th Sunday) and the mystery of the damel sown among the wheat (last Sunday). Today we hear that the kin-dom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, a common banking technique by peasant farmers to protect their most valuable possessions. Someone discovers this treasure; hides it again and then sells every possession to buy the field and claim the treasure. Between the discovery and the purchase, the finder goes off “happy”. The overwhelming joy of the discovery leads the merchant to sell everything to buy the field. This is an image of the disciple, of us, in discovering that the true encounter with God, the experience of the kin-dom, is most precious. Nothing can substitute it.

The second parable that concludes today’s Gospel is like the first. It is about a merchant’s search for valuable pearls and, in finding one, sells everything to have the pearl. In the ancient world, in the time of Jesus and Matthew, the pearl represented purity, beauty, power, wealth, even divinity. The discovery of the pearl by the parable’s merchant leads, as in the first parable, to the selling of everything possessed to gain the pearl.

Both parables speak into our desire for ultimate and intimate communion with the God revealed through Jesus. When we experience such communion, we realise how valuable it is; nothing can compare to it. Intimate communion with God cannot be bought nor can anything else in human existence substitute for it. This communion is deepened in every celebration of the Eucharist.

FR MICHAEL TRAINOR

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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ST MARY’S PARISH, DANDENONG—160 FOSTER STREET, DANDENONG

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

TEL: 9791-4611/OFFICE HOURS 9AM-3PM TUESDAY-FRIDAY/EMAIL: dandenong@cam.org.au

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

26 JULY 2026

FINDING A TREASURE. A treasure is not something we earn but something we find. We can spend a lot of our lives wishing and hoping that some treasure will come our way. We can forget that we already possess a wonderful treasure in our loved ones and in the gift of life itself. And the greatest treasure of all is the kingdom of heaven which Jesus freely offers to us. May we have the wisdom to seek our treasure in God, and not in the glittering goods of a passing world.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ps 67:6-7, 36

God is in his holy place, / God who unites those who dwell in his house; / he himself gives might and strength to his people.

GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

R. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries. P. Have mercy on us, O Lord.

R. For we have sinned against you.

P. Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

R. And grant us your salvation.

P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

R. Amen.

V. Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

V. Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

V. Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, / and on earth peace to people of good will. / We praise you, / we bless you, / we adore you, / we glorify you, / we give you thanks for your great glory, / Lord God, heavenly King, / O God, almighty Father. / Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, / Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, / you take away the sins of the world, / have mercy on us; / you take away the sins of the world, / receive our prayer; / you are seated at the right hand of the Father, / have mercy on us. / For you alone are the Holy One, / you alone are the Lord, / you alone are the Most High, / Jesus Christ, / with the Holy Spirit, / in the glory of God the Father. / Amen.



3. That is why I love your commands / more than finest gold. / That is why I rule my life by your precepts: / I hate false ways. **R.**
4. Your will is wonderful indeed; / therefore I obey it. / The unfolding of your word gives light / and teaches the simple. **R.**

SECOND READING

Rom 8:28-30

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

He predestined us to become true images of his Son.

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

The word of the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Mt 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia! / Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, / you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 13:44-52

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

Jesus said to the crowds, ‘The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

ST MARY'S PARISH, DANDENONG

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Sebastian Arockia **ASSISTANT PRIEST:** Fr. Vincent Nguyen
Parish Website: <https://melbcatholic.org/s/dandenong> **Facebook:** St Mary's Parish Dandenong
Parish Phone: 9791-4611 **Email:** dandenong@cam.org.au **Address:** 160 Foster Street, Dandenong
PARISH SECRETARY: Franca Van Boxtel **FINANCE OFFICER:** Deslene de Niese
Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday 9:00am-3:00pm **(MONDAYS OFFICE CLOSED)**
PARISH COMMUNITY CENTRE MANAGER: Mr. Miguel Matamala
St. Mary's Community Centre Tel: 7064 3928 or 0402 155 192



St. Mary's Primary School Phone: 9791 7650, New St, Dandenong. **Principal:** Terry Gardiner
St. John's Regional College Phone: 8793 2000, Caroline St, Dandenong. **Principal:** Timothy Hogan

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday Morning: 9.15am
Saturday Evening: 6.00pm
Sunday: 8.30am, 10.30am and 5.30pm

WEEK DAY MASS TIMES

Monday to Friday: 9.15am
Friday (9.45am – 12.30pm Exposition of Blessed Sacrament, concluding with Benediction at 12.30pm)

ANNOINTING MASS

Last Friday of every month 9.15 am

DAILY ROSARY

After morning Mass Mon-Sat (Fridays will be before Mass)

RECONCILIATION

Saturday after 9.15am or upon request

BAPTISM, MARRIAGE OR HOUSE BLESSING

Please contact the Parish Centre on 9791 4611

COMMUNION AND ANOINTING OF SICK

Please inform the Parish Office on 9791-4611 if a sick person is seriously ill, homebound or hospitalised and wants to receive Holy Communion or the Sacrament of Anointing.

REGULAR GROUP MEETING ST MARY'S PARISH

LEGION OF MARY:

Saturday mornings after 9:15am mass in the Fellowship Room followed by Rosary

SPANISH PRAYER GROUP :

Wednesday evenings at 7pm in the church

ST MARY'S FRIENDSHIP CLUB:

3rd Wednesday of month lunch meet at Dandenong RSL.12pm

BINGO AT ST MARY'S

St. Mary's Bingo is on Tuesdays at 12noon & Saturdays at 6.30pm in St Mary's Community Centre, New St, Dandenong

SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR CATHOLIC MISSION WILL TAKE PLACE THIS WEEKEND OF 25TH & 26TH JULY 2026

This year marks 100 years of World Mission Day, a time in which the global Church celebrates God's mission through prayer and generosity. Today, that mission continues, where communities are rebuilding after devastating floods and families are striving to create a future for their children. To learn more about Catholic Mission and their work, please go to catholicmission.org.au/united.
Archbishop Peter Comensoli's message: https://youtu.be/K_JbH-7AQuM. Fr Brendan Lane's reflection from his missionary experience in Africa: https://youtu.be/y3OCR_Wcwdo.

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING—All current servers and those wishing to become servers are invited to a training session at St Mary's Dandenong on **Sunday 2 August 2026 after the 10.30am Mass (11.30am – 12.30pm).**

"To be Christ's page at the Altar, to serve Him freely there.
Where even the Angels falter, bowed low in reverent prayer.
To touch the throne most holy, To hand the gifts for the feast,
To see Him meekly, lowly, Descend at the word of the priest."
St John Berchmans, *Poem to an Altar Server.*



**God bless,
Deacon Rhys.**

WE ARE *Called* **VOCATIONS EXPO**

ACU Campus Ministry and Vocations Melbourne invite you to come and explore what life looks like in Catholic Religious Orders, Diocesan Priesthood, and Married life. Hear from speakers who will share what answering a call looks like, what challenges lie ahead and the many joys you find along the way.

SATURDAY 1 AUGUST

9AM-1PM

**GREG CRAVEN CENTRE,
LEVEL 7, ST TERESA OF KOLKATA BUILDING,
ACU MELBOURNE**



*with Archbishop
Peter Comensoli*



**Free event
Book via - trybooking.com/DNKHK**

Campus
Ministry



ACU

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Recently Deceased: Domingas Lopes Soares

Anniversaries: Elizabeth Bala, Doreen Warren, Concetta Natoli

Sick: Rosa Maria Santos, Long Phan, Ush Henry Bangkal, Leti Luki, Kathleen Nelson, Jim Lynch, Bernardo, Ray Gilligan, Frank Pezzaro, Janet Augustine, Bridget Phyland, Solofuti, Samantha Vasanthy, Kevin, Maria Perez, Angela Anthony, Ray Simmons, Frank Camara, Tasileta Lolesio, Jim, Lucia Germano, Imelda Quatre-bornes, Sandra Wills, Maddie, Herve, Asis Zullah, Nacera Burekovic, Charlie Mastrogiovanni, Carla Lunardi, Russell D'Costa, Satty Lee, Ping Lo, Robyn, Fr Brendan Lane, Anne Richards, Ashleigh Wills, Anthony Morri, Lyma Payne, Eva Salvacion Satuito, Fr Michael Willemsen, Vreni Bien, Rosario Giaquinta, Joanna Van Der Ven, Ricky Robyn Campbell (*The privacy legislation requires us to have written permission by an authorised person before any name can be printed in the Marian.* (IF THERE ARE ANY NAMES THAT NEED TO COME OFF THE SICK LIST PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE))

ST MARY'S SOCIAL CLUB,

St Mary's Community Centre, 26 New Street, Dandenong

Every 2nd Thursday of the Month (next 13th Aug) 11:30am-2:30pm Please write your name on sign up sheet in church foyer for catering purposes Or contact **Bernard on 0412 372 566 or Brian on 0430 076 691**



Our Parish Joyfully Welcomes

VIOLET GRACE & ROEN JUDE

who will be baptised this weekend. We keep them in our prayers and ask that they together with their family, continue to grow in faith and in the love of God.

SAVE THE DATE

FATHER'S DAY DINNER DANCE FRIDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER
MELBOURNE CUP DINNER DANCE FRIDAY 30TH OCTOBER
NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER DANCE THURSDAY 31ST DECEMBER



Vincent de Paul & Parish Bingo Volunteers are needed.

If you can help, please contact

Jim Houlahan

on 0425 789 455.



PARISH FUNERAL

FIORINA MIRANDA

TUESDAY 28TH JULY AT 11AM
(10:30AM ROSARY)

PILGRIMAGES

Saints of Italy (2nd - 16th October 2026)

Fr Franco Filipetto from St. Mary's Parish in Warrick, invites you on a 14-day pilgrimage to Milan, Padua, Florence, Assisi, San Giovanni Rotondo, and Rome, walking in the footsteps of the saints. All-inclusive price: \$9,990 (20+ pilgrims).



Footsteps of St Paul (5th –19th October 2026) Fr Sebastian A.M from St. Mary's Parish, Dandenong invites you on a 15-day pilgrimage to Greece and Turkey, visiting Athens, Corinth, Meteora, Thessaloniki, Philippi, Gallipoli, Ephesus, Istanbul and Cappadocia. All-inclusive price: \$9,790 (20+ pilgrims).

The tour cost includes return economy airfares, local transfers in deluxe coaches, accommodation in 4-star premium hotels, daily meals, English-speaking professional guides, and entrance fees.

Enquiries: 03 8839 6615 | pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Please note that Confession **WILL NOT** be heard before the 6:00pm Saturday evening Mass. Confession times are **Saturday:** After the 9:15am Mass **Weekdays (Tuesday–Friday):** After the 9:15am Mass, upon request Parishioners are kindly invited to approach the priest after Mass if they wish to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Thanksgiving: \$1229.75 **Loose Collection:** \$ 1058.00 **Presbytery Envelopes:** 660.50 **Presbytery Loose:** \$ 1530.00
Support our Parish If you would like to make direct payments to our bank accounts, the details are:
St Mary's General Account: (Thanksgiving & Donations) NAB BSB: 083 347 ACC. No. 483196852
For contributions to support our priests and the Archdiocese:
Presbytery Account: NAB BSB: 083 347 ACC. No. 460761193

St. Mary's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people and vulnerable adult