

Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. ‘Heaven preserve you, Lord,’ he said. ‘This must not happen to you.’ But he turned and said to Peter, ‘Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God’s way but man’s.’

Then Jesus said to his disciples, ‘If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?’

‘For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.’

The Gospel of the Lord.
R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

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. May this sacred offering, O Lord, confer on us always the blessing of salvation, that what it celebrates in mystery it may accomplish in power. 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: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

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 30:20

How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Renewed by this bread from the heavenly table, we beseech you, Lord, that, being the food of charity, it may confirm our hearts and stir us to serve you in our neighbour. 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

GENUINE DISCIPLESHIP

Today’s Gospel follows on immediately from last Sunday’s Gospel and the question posed to Jesus’ disciples in Matthew’s day, and to us, about his identity. Jesus then outlines what awaits him in Jerusalem—his suffering, death and resurrection. These words seem either incomprehensible to his disciples, represented by Peter, or are rejected.

Whatever the reason for Peter’s reaction, following God’s anointed one on a path of suffering, death and resurrection is unfathomable. The disciples imagine a triumphant, powerful figure who will overcome Roman opposition. Success and status are their vision for the future of discipleship!

Today’s Gospel is a sobering reminder that suffering is not excluded from discipleship. Life’s tragedies and concerns are not the opposite of following Jesus; they can be authentic expressions of it. Disciples are not called to seek suffering nor to become victims. Rather, suffering can be integrated into genuine discipleship. These are important insights especially for some who think that they must ‘prove’ their loyalty to Jesus by seeking out further pain or suffering. We know that suffering is part of life; we need not look for it further. We are surrounded by a world of suffering.

Today we acknowledge the sufferings of those who gather with us in our Assembly, especially those borne silently or through violence, including domestic violence.

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

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

30 AUGUST 2026

‘YOU HAVE SEDUCED ME, LORD!’ The prophet Jeremiah was captivated by God. His attachment meant that he suffered greatly at the hands of God’s enemies but he also experienced a fire within, lit by God’s love, that urged him on. We too can follow Jesus wholeheartedly only if we are captivated by him. Like Peter, we may remonstrate with Jesus as we struggle to understand his ways, but we will follow him faithfully along the way of the cross to the fullness of life.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ps 85:3, 5

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

GREETING

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

R. Amen.

P. The Lord be with you.

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. Lord Jesus, you are the image of the unseen God: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You are the first born of all creation: Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

P. You are the head of the body, the Church: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

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

R. Amen.

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.

COLLECT

P. God of might, giver of every good gift, put into our hearts the love of your name, so that, by deepening our sense of reverence, you may nurture in us what is good and, by your watchful care, keep safe what you have nurtured. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Jer 20:7-9

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah
The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced; you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.

I am a daily laughing-stock, everybody’s butt.

Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: ‘Violence and ruin!’ The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long.

I used to say, ‘I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more.’

Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones.

The effort to restrain it wearied me, I could not bear it.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM

Ps 62:2-6, 8-9. R. v. 2

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

- O God, you are my God, for you I long; / for you my soul is thirsting. / My body pines for you / like a dry, weary land without water. **R.**
- So I gaze on you in the sanctuary / to see your strength and your glory. / For your love is better than life, / my lips will speak your praise. **R.**
- So I will bless you all my life, / in your name I will lift up my hands. / My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, / my mouth shall praise you with joy. **R.**



- For you have been my help; / in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. / My soul clings to you; / your right hand holds me fast. **R.**

SECOND READING

Rom 12:1-2

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans
May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice. Think of God’s mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

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

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

Mt 16:21-27

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.

Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day.

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

ARCHBISHOP'S CAMPAIGN 2026



Thank you to everyone who has so generously already made a pledge or gift to the 2026 Archbishop's Campaign. Every gift, large or small, is greatly appreciated! If you are yet to make a gift, you can still do so. This campaign supports the vital ministries of the Church in our Archdiocese. Online (direct debit or credit card) donations are the most secure and preferred method of donating, or you can use the campaign envelopes with tear-off pledge cards.

CALLED AND GIFTED DISCERNMENT PROCESS

How is God calling you to serve? The Archdiocese of Melbourne's Called & Gifted Discernment Process invites Catholics to discover and discern the spiritual gifts, or charisms, that God has given them through the Holy Spirit. Through a workshop held on Friday 11 and Saturday 12 September, followed by a personal gifts interview and small-group discernment, participants will explore over the next few months how their unique gifts can be used to serve others and contribute to the mission of the Church. Speak to the Parish Priest about how this process and how you can register and discover how the Holy Spirit has gifted you for mission. Discover more: QR Code



YOUNG ADULTS

Cordis - A Night for Young Adults-Sunday 13 September 2026, 6.30pm-9.30pm Symons Centre, St Monica's Parish, Moonee Ponds
Join young adults from across the Archdiocese of Melbourne for an evening of good food, meaningful conversation with a guest speaker, prayer and community. Guest Speaker: Fr Rest, receive and discover the heart of the Gospel. Register now: QR Code



FIRST FRIDAY—4TH SEPTEMBER 2026 ADORATION & MASS

6:30pm Rosary, 7:00pm Adoration & Mass

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS OUR LADY OF FATIMA FIFTH OF THE FIVE SATURDAYS -5TH SEPTEMBER 2026

8.00am Adoration followed by Rosary
9.15am Mass (Followed by procession)

MARCH FOR THE BABIES 2026

Saturday, 10th October 2026, 1pm Treasury Gardens, (Crn Spring Street & Wellington Parade)
A free bus is available for this event from St Mary's Parish, Dandenong for anyone wanting to attend and return free of cost.

As seats are limited, please register on a **first-come, first-served basis**. To reserve and confirm your seat, please send your **name and phone number via SMS to Geraldine Gonsalvez on 0434 877 730**.



PLEASE PRAY FOR

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries: Carmelo Natoli, Eugenie Agullo

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, Audrey, 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, Vreni Bien, Rosario Giaquinta, Joanna Van Der Ven, Ricky, John Caron, Robyn Campbell, Tayla Fredericks (**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)**

KSC INFORMATION NIGHT The Knights of the Southern Cross are hosting an Information Evening for any Catholic gentlemen wishing to learn about their role within the Church, with an interest in joining. The information evening will take place on Wednesday September 9. Please contact Carmine Miranda at 0412 817 995 or carminemiranda5@gmail.com for further information.

KSC ARCHBISHOP'S DINNER- FRIDAY OCTOBER 16, 2026

The 26th Knights of the Southern Cross Archbishop's Dinner for the Priests Support and Education Fund will feature guest speaker Peta Credlin AO (News 24 Presenter and Herald Sun Columnist) and will be a great opportunity to meet Archbishop Comensoli, while contributing to the education of Victoria's seminarians. To be held at Grand Star Reception and Convention Centre Altona North on Friday October 16, anyone interested in attending, would like more information, or make a donation to the Fund to assist our seminarians should contact Andrew Vaccaro at avaccaro@internode.on.net, or 0404 390 824 by Friday September 11. For further details, refer to the advertisement on the Bulletin Boards.

CHOSEN 2026 – A CATHOLIC CONFERENCE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE-CHOSEN 2026 is a four-day National Catholic Conference for young Australians, happening **19–22 November 2026 at La Trobe University, Bundoora**. This weekend, members of **Jesus Youth Australia** will be joining us at **each Mass** to briefly share about Chosen and invite the young people of our parish to be part of this special gathering.

The conference will be a wonderful opportunity to **encounter Christ, grow in faith, and connect with young Catholics from across Australia**, through Mass, Adoration, inspiring talks, music, workshops, testimonies and fellowship. We warmly encourage our young people to come along and experience **Chosen 2026!**

NOVENA IN HONOUR OF THE BIRTHDAY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Sunday 30 August – Tuesday 8 September

The **Novena** begins on **Sunday, 30 August 5:30pm**, in preparation for the **Feast Day and Birthday of Our Lady on Tuesday, 8 September. Monday, 31 August – Tuesday, 8 September 8:30 am** Rosary & Novena **9:15 am** – Holy Mass All parishioners are warmly invited to join us in prayer and devotion as we prepare to celebrate the Birthday of Our Blessed Virgin Mary

PILGRIMAGE-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 Cappadcia. 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

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST-PILGRIMAGE – SAINTS OF INDIA & GOLDEN TRIANGLE

5 January – 23 January 2027

An opportunity to join this special pilgrimage exploring the **Saints of India and the Golden Triangle**. If you are interested, please contact the **Parish Office: Phone:** 9791 4611 **Email:** dandenong@cam.org.au

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Thanksgiving: \$1717.50 **Loose Collection:** \$ 1080.15 **Presbytery Envelopes:** \$1092.00 **Presbytery Loose:** \$1329.85
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 adults