

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / A

3 MAY 2026

I AM THE WAY. In every age there are people who claim to know the way to a full and happy life. Often their ideas flourish for a while and then fade. But there is one way to the fullness of life that has stood the test of time – and that way is Jesus. If we follow Jesus, the Way, we will come to the fullness of life and truth, and communicate this life to others.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON *cf. Ps 97:1-2*
O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

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. You were sent to heal the contrite of heart: Lord, have mercy.
R. Lord, have mercy.
 P. You came to call sinners: Christ, have mercy.
R. Christ, have mercy.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us: 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

Glorry 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. Almighty ever-living God, constantly accomplish the paschal Mystery within us, that those you were pleased to make new in Holy Baptism may, under your protective

care, bear much fruit and come to the joys of life eternal. 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

Acts 6:1-7

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
They elected seven men filled with the Spirit and wisdom.

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Pamenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

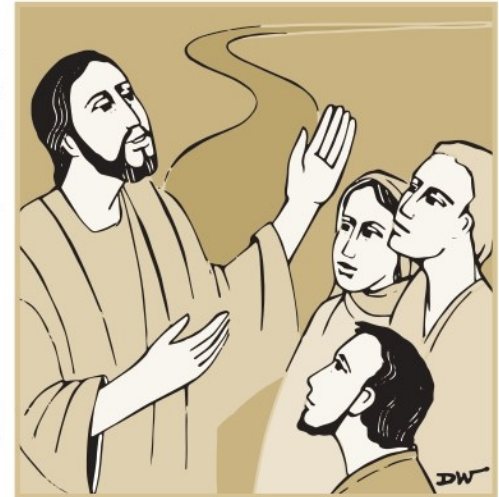
The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM *Ps 32:1-2, 4-5, 18-19. R. v. 22*

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you. (or Alleluia!)

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; / for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. / Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp, / with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. **R.**
2. For the word of the Lord is faithful / and all his works to be trusted. / The Lord loves justice and right / and fills the earth with his love. **R.**
3. The Lord looks on those who revere him, / on those who hope in his love, / to rescue their souls from death, / to keep them alive in famine. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Pet 2:4-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter
You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia! / I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; / no one comes to the Father, except through me. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 14:1-12

P. The Lord be with you.
R. And with your spirit.
 P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.
R. Glory to you, O Lord.
I am the way, the truth, and the life.
 Jesus said to his disciples:
 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house;

if there were not, I should have told you. I am now going to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said:

'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.

No one can come to the Father except through me.

If you know me, you know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen him.'

Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me?

'To have seen me is to have seen the Father, so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?

The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself:

it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work.

You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me;

believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason.

'I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father.'

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. O God, who by the wonderful exchange effected in this sacrifice have made us partakers of the one supreme Godhead, grant, we pray, that, as we have come to know your truth, we may make it ours by a worthy way of life. 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-V OF EASTER

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.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON *cf. Jn 15:1, 5*

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Graciously be present to your people, we pray, O Lord, and lead those you have imbued with heavenly mysteries to pass from former ways to newness of life. 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 in peace.

R. Thanks be to God.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

TRUST IN GOD

We all worry from time to time. Worry is one of the great social concerns that surround us. We worry about so much: our families and loved ones, our health, what is going on in the world, finances... and the list is endless. It is into this situation that Jesus speaks to us today. 'Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God and trust in me.' These words get to the heart of our lives. Jesus invites us to trust in him and his God, despite all that surrounds us. While such an invitation flies in the face of much that distracts us, the Gospel invites us into a space, 'a place', where we can rest with God. Jesus assures John's audience, and us, that he has already prepared this place. It awaits us—and we don't have to wait until death to enjoy it—we can allow ourselves to draw close to Jesus and be with him now.

This is the sense behind Jesus' reassurance to Thomas who questions Jesus about where he is going and how to be where he is. The response is clear: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.' These words are clearly important for us to enjoy and relish as our celebration of Easter continues. Jesus offers us companionship ('the Way'), leads us into ultimate communion with God ('the Truth') and brings us into a sense of complete wholeness ('the Life'). The final part of today's Gospel reaffirms Jesus' communion with his Father and that our communion and trust in Jesus leads us into ultimate communion with God. Everything in this Gospel invites us to trust Jesus' words and let go, perhaps just a little, of our worries.

FR MICHAEL TRAINOR

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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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

COLLECTIONS

Commencing from the weekend of 6/7 June 2026 we will have two collections at all Masses. This is in conformity with the Archdiocese of Melbourne regulations.

1ST COLLECTION - PRESBYTERY OFFERING (after the Homily)
This collection is to:

- To support the Priests of this Parish & meet normal household expenses.
- To support sick & retired Priests in the Archdiocese.
- To support Priests in needy Parishes.
- To support the Archbishop.

2ND COLLECTION – THANKSGIVING OFFERING (during the Offertory)
This collection is to:

- To pay our Parish operating costs such as gas, electricity, printing, church supplies, wages etc.
- To subsidise Catholic Education in the Parish.
- To provide repairs & maintenance of the church, parish office & presbytery.
- To support the growth of Parish & Diocesan services.
- To provide charitable works.

HOW WILL IT WORK
If you are in the envelope system, please tear the envelope at the perforation and place the “Presbytery Offering” section along with your donation into the 1st collection basket. Then place the “Thanksgiving Offering” section along with your donation into the 2nd collection basket.

If you are not in the envelope system, please place a donation in both collection baskets.
We thank you for your co-operation and continued support to our Parish.

ST MARY’S PARISH DANDENONG INVITE YOU TO PLEASE COME AT ANYTIME AND BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND PRAY AS OUR LADY OF FATIMA REQUESTED FOR WORLD PEACE WEDNESDAY 13TH MAY 2026 WE WILL HAVE OUR LADY OF FATIMA STATUE FROM PORTUGAL

- 9:15AM—HOLY MASS
- 10:00 AM TO 6:00 PM (EACH HOUR) ROSARY RECITED IN DIFFERENT LANGUAGES BY VARIOUS GROUPS)
- 6:30 PM PROCESSION (WEATHER PERMITING)
- 7 :00 PM HOLY MASS

AFTER MASS A CELEBRATION FOR OUR LADY OF FATIMA - PLEASE BRING A PLATE TO SHARE

ST MARY’S PARISH DANDENONG

PRESBYTERY OFFERING

- To support the Priests of this Parish and meet normal household expenses.
- To support sick and retired priests.
- To support Priests in needy Parishes.
- To support the Archbishop.

Amount \$.....

ST MARY’S PARISH DANDENONG

THANKSGIVING OFFERING

- To pay our Parish operating costs (including debt repayment)
- To subsidise Catholic Education in the Parish
- To support the growth of Parish and Diocesan services.
- To provide for charitable works.

Amount \$.....

ST MARY’S PARISH DANDENONG INVITE YOU TO PLEASE COME AT ANYTIME AND BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND PRAY AS OUR LADY OF FATIMA REQUESTED FOR WORLD PEACE WEDNESDAY 13TH MAY 2026 WE WILL HAVE OUR LADY OF FATIMA STATUE FROM PORTUGAL

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- 7 :00 PM HOLY MASS

AFTER MASS A CELEBRATION FOR OUR LADY OF FATIMA - PLEASE BRING A PLATE TO SHARE

Our Lady of Fatima

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Recently Deceased: Robyn Hearl

Anniversaries: Joseph Torelli, Reuben Jacob

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, Rita Breen, 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, Gervais Tourmentin, Ashleigh Wills, Anthony Morri, Lyma Payne, Eva Salvacion Satuito, Fr Michael Willemssen, Vreni Bien, Robyn Campbell, Rosario Giaquinta, Joanna Van Der Ven, Ricky (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)**

6TH NATIONAL COUNT OF ATTENDANCE MASS COUNT – MAY 2026 The 6th National Count of Attendance at Mass and Other (Sunday) Assemblies will take place here over the next four weekends of 2nd - 3rd May, 9th – 10th May, 16th – 17th May and 23rd - 24th May .

Save the Date – Feast of Pentecost The Feast of Pentecost is celebrated on **Sunday, 24 May 2026**. All are warmly invited to attend the **10:30 am special Mass**. We encourage everyone to come dressed in **national costume** representing your country of origin. The celebration will be followed by a **sausage sizzle** after Mass. If you are willing to participate by doing a **reading** or a **Prayer of the Faithful** in your mother tongue, please contact Geraldine via phone or SMS on **0434 877 730**. More details will be shared soon—stay tuned!
Next Meeting: Thursday, 7 May at 7:00 pm in the parish office.

God and Beer Monday 11th May—A Man For All Seasons: Remembering George Cardinal Pell
Cardinal George Pell was a significant figure in Australian public life and in the life of the Catholic Church from the time of his appointment to the episcopacy in the 1980s until his death in 2023. His imprisonment for some 404 days for a crime he did not commit was one of the greatest miscarriages of justice in Australian legal history. Tracey Rowland, a friend of the cardinal's and one of the premiere theologians in the world today, has compiled the stories of people who knew the cardinal well into a new book. Among the contributors are Cardinal Gerhard Müller, George Weigel, Joanna Bogle, Andrew Bolt, Bishop Peter Elliott, Cardinal Timothy Dolan, Sister Mary Grace, S.V., Canon Alexander Sherbrooke, Rev. Jerome Santamaria, and many more. Professor Rowland will share some of the highlights of book in this talk. This promises to be an evening of good conversation, fellowship, and faith. We hope you’ll join us!
Buy the book: Remembering George Cardinal Pell - Recollections of a Great Man of the Church.
More about [Professor Tracey Rowland](#) **Topic:** A Man For All Seasons: Remembering George Cardinal Pell **Speaker:** Tracey Rowland
Date: Monday 11th May **Time:** 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start
Venue: St Gerard's Catholic Church - Parish Hall, 71 Gladstone Rd, Dandenong North (behind the church).

SEMINARY ENQUIRY DAY—The annual **Seminary Enquiry Day** at Corpus Christi College is on **Saturday 23 May 2026**. If you are a young man considering a priestly vocation and would like an invitation to attend, please email Deacon Rhys. Rhys.Lowther@cam.org.au

St Mary's Social Club Invite you for a social gathering of meet and greet with live music & lunch Every 2nd Thursday of the Month **From:** 11.30am to 2.30pm. Lunch served at 12.30pm Donations welcome. Please inform early of your attendance To assist with catering. **RSVP** - Brian David 0430 076 691 Esmenia- 0452025453 Bernard Barr- 0412372566

A representative from CDF will be present and speaking at all Masses on Sunday 17th May 2026

CDF

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PARISH SYNOD CORNER
Synodality is about mission
The purpose of synodality is not internal reform for its own sake. Its goal is evangelisation—helping the Church become more faithful, more welcoming, and more effective in proclaiming the Gospel to today’s world.
What synodality is NOT
Synodality is not about changing doctrine according to popular opinion. The faith handed down through the centuries is not negotiable. What synodality seeks to renew is how we live, communicate, and embody that faith in changing times.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Thanksgiving: \$997.40 **Presbytery** \$740.00 **Loose Collection:** \$834.00

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