

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

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

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

26 JANUARY 2025

Seeing that many others have undertaken to draw up accounts of the events that have taken place among us, exactly as these were handed down to us by those who from the outset were eye-witnesses and ministers of the word, I in my turn, after carefully going over the whole story from the beginning, have decided to write an ordered account for you, Theophilus, so that your Excellency may learn how well founded the teaching is that you have received.

Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout the countryside. He taught in their synagogues and everyone praised him.

He came to Nazara, where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read, and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written:

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has anointed me.

He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and to the blind new sight, to set the downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.

He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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.

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. Accept our offerings, O Lord, we pray, and in sanctifying them grant that they may profit us for salvation. 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

cf. Ps 33:6

Look toward the Lord and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Grant, we pray, almighty God, that, receiving the grace by which you bring us to new life, we may always glory in your gift. 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, glorifying the Lord by your life.

R. Thanks be to God.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

GOD'S SPIRIT-FILLED AGENT

This Sunday we read the opening four verses of Luke's Gospel (1:1-4), skip over Jesus' birth narrative (chapters 1 and 2), Luke's introduction of John the Baptist (3:1-20), Jesus' baptism (3:21-22), a genealogy (3:23-38) and Jesus' temptation (4:1-13)—stories which will emerge at various times during this year—and move to a defining moment set in Jesus' hometown synagogue in Nazareth (4:14-21).

This event lays out the full meaning of Jesus' future ministry in the Gospel. Luke presents Jesus, the faithful Jew, at his local synagogue for the Sabbath Scripture, choosing to read from the prophet Isaiah. Luke brings together two parts of Isaiah, edits them and rearranges them to have Jesus pronounce the two key messages the evangelist wants the Gospel audience to hear: that Jesus is God's Spirit-filled agent (confirming his status from earlier scenes) whose sole intent is to lead God's people, especially the poor, oppressed and spiritually blind, to freedom; and that the God of Jesus is not a God just for the Jews, but for all people irrespective of social or ethnic status.

It is this last point that attracts ire from his co-religionists and introduces a theme of opposition that will emerge as the Gospel unfolds. Evident in the Nazareth-event is Luke's freedom, clear from the opening verses of today's passage, to reshape the biblical tradition (Isaiah) and the story of Jesus to speak freshly to the Gospel's Greco-Roman audience. Luke thus provides a pattern for contemporary theological reflection and church teaching.

FR MICHAEL TRAINOR

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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THIS TEXT IS BEING FULFILLED TODAY. The Sacred Scriptures that are proclaimed at Mass recall incidents from the past and point to the future but most especially they affirm the presence of God among us now. This day we are called to bring Good News to the poor and freedom to all who are bound up in any way. Today we are called to be the Body of Christ in our world. The Sacred Scriptures have meaning when we can say with Jesus: 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.'

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ps 95:1, 6

O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place.

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. **All: I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, (striking the breast) through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

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



RESP PSALM Ps 18:8-10, 15. R. Jn 6:63

R. Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.

1. The law of the Lord is perfect, / it revives the soul. / The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, / it gives wisdom to the simple. **R.**
2. The precepts of the Lord are right, / they gladden the heart. / The command of the Lord is clear, / it gives light to the eyes. **R.**
3. The fear of the Lord is holy, / abiding for ever. / The decrees of the Lord are truth / and all of them just. **R.**
4. May the spoken words of my mouth, / the thoughts of my heart, / win favour in your sight, O Lord, / my rescuer, my rock! **R.**

SECOND READING 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians
Together you are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

Nor is the body to be identified with any one of its many parts.

Now you together are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Longer form, 1 Cor 12:12-30.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION cf. Lk 4:18

Alleluia, alleluia!
The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor and freedom to prisoners.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

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

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

The scriptures were fulfilled on this day.

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, direct our actions according to your good pleasure, that in the name of your beloved Son we may abound in good works. 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 Neh 8:2-6, 8-10

A reading from the book of Nehemiah
They read from the book of the Law and they understood what was read.

Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, consisting of men, women, and children old enough to understand. This was the first day of the seventh month. On the square before the Water Gate, in the presence of the men and women, and children old enough to understand, he read from the book from early morning till noon; all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden dais erected for the purpose. In full view of all the people – since he stood higher than all the people – Ezra opened the book; and when he opened it all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people raised their hands and answered, 'Amen! Amen!'; then they bowed down and, face to the ground, prostrated themselves before the Lord. And Ezra read from the Law of God, translating and giving the sense, so that the people understood what was read.

Then Nehemiah – His Excellency – and Ezra, priest and scribe (and the Levites who were instructing the people) said to all the people, 'This day is sacred to the Lord your God. Do not be mournful, do not weep.' For the people were all in tears as they listened to the words of the Law.

He then said, 'Go, eat the fat, drink the sweet wine, and send a portion to the man who has nothing prepared ready. For this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad: the joy of the Lord is your stronghold.'

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

PARISH WEBSITE

https://melbcatholic.org/s/dandenong

PARISH PRIEST:

Fr. Sebastian Arockia

PARISH SECRETARY:

Franca Van Boxtel

FINANCE OFFICER:

Deslene de Niese

PARISH CENTRE MANAGER:

Mr. Miguel Matamala

If you urgently need a priest please call 9791 4611, if Father does not answer, please leave a message and he will call you back.

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)

ANointing MASS

Last Friday of every month 9.15 am

DAILY ROSARY

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

RECONCILIATION

Saturday after 9.15am Mass and 5pm to 5.45pm before 6pm Mass or upon request

BAPTISM

Please contact the Parish Centre on 9791 4611

MARRIAGE

Please book the Church at the same time as you book your venue. As marriage preparation is an essential condition of marriage, you must book your preparation course at least 4 months prior to the wedding. Further details can be obtained from Fr. Sebastian

HOUSE BLESSING

If any Parishioner would like their house to be blessed, please contact Franca or at the Parish office on 9791-4611 to make a booking with either Fr Sebastian

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.

Any parishioners who take Communion to the sick, could you please put your name and the person you are taking Communion to, into the **Communion to the Sick** book. This book is kept in the sacristy.

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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

St. Mary’s Community Centre

7064 3928

Bookings: Miguel Matamala 0402 155 192

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

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

In both the reading from Nehemiah and the Gospel passage, we see the dynamic power of the word of God. Paul’s teaching originated as oral proclamation, and like the texts read by Ezra the priest and the one interpreted by Jesus himself, it was first proclaimed aloud. Only later were these proclamations written and handed down from one community to another, from one generation to the next.

The word of God elicits various responses. In the first reading, the people cried out in response: ‘Amen, amen! So be it! We hear and we will obey!’ From the verses contained in today’s gospel, we do not know how those who heard Jesus’ interpretation reacted to it. We do know that both audiences listened intently to the sacred words of Scripture. Can we do less? Are we eager to obey? Do we view the law as a treasure, as life-giving? Have we learned to live with each other as members of one body, each member being important and contributing to the total health of the entire body?

Both Ezra and Jesus proclaimed the word of God within the context of a liturgical celebration, a setting similar to the ones wherein most people today hear God’s word proclaimed. According to the teaching of Vatican II, the liturgy is described as the source and summit of our lives, and the liturgy of the word is an essential part of that celebration. With the people of Ezra, we are invited to respond: ‘Amen, amen! Thanks be to God!’

THERE WILL BE NO 9:15AM MORNING MASS ON SATURDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY.

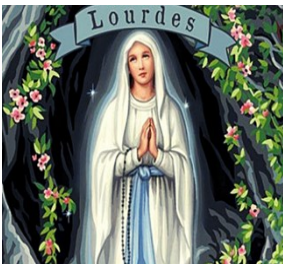
Fr Sebastian will be attending the Episcopal Consecration of Most Rev Rene Ramirez and Most Rev Thinh Nguyen as auxiliary bishops in the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

You are all most welcome to attend details are below

Event Date: Saturday 1 February 2025 10.00am–12.30pm

Venue: St Patrick’s Cathedral, 1 Cathedral Place, East Melbourne

Those unable to be at the Cathedral in person can watch online at the [Archdiocesan YouTube channel](#) and or on free-to-air TV via C31 (channel 44 on digital TV). Let us continue to pray for our two bishops-elect as they prepare to take up their new ministry in our Church!



The Order of Malta invites you to the annual Lourdes Day Mass—an opportunity to pray for the sick and infirm, particularly those who are not able to visit Lourdes. The Mass will take place at St Patrick’s Cathedral, with Archbishop Peter A Comensoli as the principal celebrant. Everybody attending will receive a gift pack containing water from the grotto at Lourdes, rosary beads and prayer material.

Date: Saturday 8th February 2025 10:30am-12noon

Venue: St Patrick’s Cathedral, 1 Cathedral Place, ast Melbourne

For more information, please contact Sauro Antonelli AM on 0411 250 288.

'Marriage' with Matt and Cameron Fradd @ ACU, Melbourne

Join internationally renowned speakers Matt and Cameron Fradd for an evening filled with inspiration, joy and practical wisdom on marriage. Whether you’re single, engaged, newly married, or have been together for decades, this event will provide insights, encouragement and laughs for everyone. The event begins at 6pm with live music and dinner in St Mary of the Cross Square followed by Matt and Cameron Fradd Venue: Cathedral Hall, ACU, Fitzroy

Date: 6pm-9.30pm Thur 6th Feb.

Tickets and Details: [GodandBeer.com.au](#)

Cost: \$30 adults / \$20 concession / Free for children under 10

Tickets include live music and simple dinner

Rosters are now completed please collect your copy from the table near the Priest Sacristy.

OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY 27TH JANUARY

Got a bit of time next month? Time to give blood and change lives? 1 in 3 people in Dandenong will need blood, and they need people like you to give it. We’re popping up in town from 3 to 7 February. Don’t forget to pre-book your spot at [lifeblood.com.au](#), on our app or on 13 14 95.

Dandenong Pop-up Blood Donor Centre

Monday 3 February 12:30 pm – 8 pm

Tuesday 4 February 12 noon - 8 pm

Wednesday 5 February 12 noon - 8 pm

Thursday 6 February 8 am – 3:30 pm

Friday 7 February 8 am - 3 pm

St Mary’s Community Centre

26 New Street

Dandenong VIC 3175

SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY 2ND FEBRUARY 2025

ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL STAFF & PARISH VOLUNTEERS `COMMISSIONING MASS'

On Sunday, 2nd February at the 10.30am Mass, we will be joined by the School Principal, Terry Gardiner, School Staff and Parish Volunteers, for their commissioning.

Please contact the parish office if you can help out with cuppas after the commissioning mass.



Australia Day Blessing

May God who formed our southern land be for you a rock of strength

May God who rules the great seas keep you safe in every storm

May God who made the skies above turn your darkness into light

St Mary’s Parish, Dandenong

Musical Club

St Mary’s Jazz Junction

To entertain people of all age groups on the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of every month Commencing on Thursdays

13th & 27th February 2025

Time: 12noon—2:30pm

Venue: St Mary’s Marian Room

Address: 26 New Street, Dandenong

No Tickets, ONLY DONATIONS accepted

Lunch will be provided

For further details please contact:-

Brian David (President on 0430 076 691)

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries:

Doreen McCabe, Joseph Torelli, Roberta Montecanas, Carmel Corera

Sick:

Rosa Maria Santos, Long Phan, Ush Henry Bangkal, Leti Luki, Kathleen Nelson, Jim Lynch , Bernardo, Ray Gilligan, Frank Pezzaro, Janet Augustine, Bridget Phyl-land, Desmond Hopper, Chris Grubb, Sol-ofuti, Samantha Vasanthy, Kevin, Maria Pe-rez, Alan John Borninkhof, Angela Anthony, Ray Simmons, Frank Camara, Rita Breen, Katrina, Tasileta Lolesio, Jim, Lucia Ger-mano, Imelda Quatre-bornes, Sandra Wills, Reuben Jacobs, Maddie, Herve, Asis Zullah, Nacera Burekovic, Charlie Mastrogiovanni, Carla Lunardi, Russell D’Costa, Satty Lee, Ping Lo, Dale Reynolds, Keith Reynolds

(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)

REGULAR GROUP MEETING

ST MARY’S PARISH

LEGION OF MARY:

Saturday afternoons 4.30pm-5.30pm in the Fellowship Room followed by Rosary before 6pm Mass

SPANISH PRAYER GROUP :

Wednesday evenings at 7pm in the church

AL-ANON : Tuesday evenings at 8pm in the Fellowship Room. For more information call 1300 252 666

VINCENTIAN RETREAT CENTRE:

Fridays Mass with healing prayer 7pm

ST EPHREM CHALDEAN CHURCH:

Sundays Mass (Arabic) 12.30pm

ST MARY’S FRIENDSHIP CLUB:

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

MENS GROUP

1st Thursday of month (Marian Room) 6pm

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP

1st Sunday of month (Parish Centre) 6:30pm

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Thanksgiving: \$.00

Presbytery \$.00 Loose: \$.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