

WELCOME TO THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF ST AMBROSE WOODEND, ST AMBROSE RIDDELLS CREEK, ST BRIGID'S GISBORNE, ST MARY'S LANCEFIELD & ROMSEY & ST PATRICK'S MACEDON

First Sunday of Advent, Year A

30th November, 2025



ST AMBROSE 18 Templeton Street
Woodend



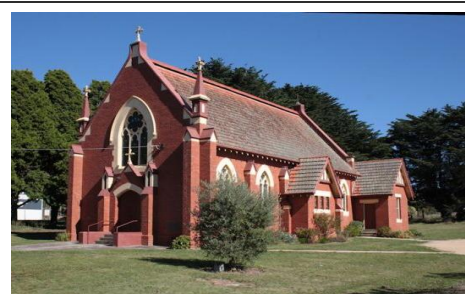
ST AMBROSE 10 Sutherland Street
Riddells Creek



ST BRIGID'S 66 Aitken Street
Gisborne



ST MARY'S (Our Lady of Lourdes)
27 Chauncey St Lancefield



ST MARY'S (Immaculate Conception)
85 Main St Romsey



ST PATRICK'S Victoria Street
Macedon

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday - 5pm Woodend, 6pm Gisborne, 6.30pm Lancefield

Sunday - 8am Riddells Creek, 9am 1st & 3rd Romsey, 2nd, 4th & 5th Lancefield, 9.30am Macedon, 11am Woodend & Gisborne

Weekday Mass Times

Tuesday - 5pm Gisborne, 6pm Woodend followed by the Rosary

Wednesday - 9.15am Gisborne, 9.30am Woodend; **Thursday** - 9.15am Gisborne, 9.30am Romsey

Friday - 9.15am Gisborne, 9.30am Lancefield, **Anointing Mass Romsey:** 1st Saturday of the month 10.30am

Reconciliation

Woodend: 2nd Saturday of the month 10am-10.30am, Gisborne 3rd Saturday of the month 10am- 10.30,
Lancefield: 4th Saturday of the month 10am-10.30am

Parish Staff

Parish Priest: Fr John Healy PO Box 397, 47 Urquhart St Woodend. Mobile: 0439 033 750 john.healy@cam.org.au

Assistant Priest: Fr Wahid Riad 66 Aitken Street, Gisborne Mobile: 0419 511 064 wahid.riad@cam.org.au

Parish Secretary Woodend: Bernadette Petruccelli PO Box 397, 47 Urquhart St Woodend. Ph: 03 54272690

Email: bernadette.petruccelli@cam.org.au **Website Woodend:** www.stambrosewoodend.com.au

Parish Secretary Lancefield: Tammie Dagleish 27 Chauncey Lancefield. Ph 03 54292130

Email: lancefield@cam.org.au **Website Lancefield:** www.melbcatholic.org/s/lancefield

Parish Secretary Gisborne: Tammie Dagleish 66 Aitken Street Gisborne. Ph 03 54282591

Email: gisborne@cam.org.au **Website Gisborne:** www.melbcatholic.org/s/gisborne

Office Hours

Woodend Monday 9am - 4pm & Friday 9am - 4pm **Email:** woodend@cam.org.au

Lancefield Wednesday 8am - 5pm & Friday 8am - 5pm **Email:** lancefield@cam.org.au

Gisborne Tuesday 9am -5pm & Thursday 9am-5pm **Email:** gisborne@cam.org.au

School Communities

St Ambrose Woodend Principal: Bronwyn Phillips Ph 03 54271285

Email office@sawoodend.catholic.edu.au **Website:** www.sawoodend.catholic.edu.au

St Mary's Lancefield Principal: Gabe Agius Ph 03 54291359

Email office@smlancefield.catholic.edu.au **Website:** www.smlancefield.catholic.edu.au

St Brigid's Catholic Primary School: Principal: Melanie Daly Ph 03 54282220

Email: office@sbgisborne.catholic.edu.au **Website:** www.sbgisborne.edu.au

Holy Cross New Gisborne principal: Eloise Meyer Ph 03 54208100

Email: holycross@hcnewgisborne.catholic.edu.au **Website:** www.hcnewgisborne.catholic.edu.au

The Living Word

First Sunday of Advent, Year A

30 November 2025

First Reading Is 2:1-5

The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God.

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz,
concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In the days to come
the mountain of the Temple of the Lord
shall tower above the mountains
and be lifted higher than the hills.
All the nations will stream to it,
peoples without number will come to it;
and they will say:

‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of
the Lord,
to the Temple of the God of Jacob
that he may teach us his ways
so that we may walk in his paths;
since the Law will go out from Zion,
and the oracle of the Lord from
Jerusalem.’

He will wield authority over the nations
and adjudicate between many peoples;
these will hammer their swords into
ploughshares,
their spears into sickles.
Nation will not lift sword against nation,
there will be no more training for war.
O House of Jacob, come,
let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 121:1-2. 4-5. 6-9. R. see v.1.

*(R.) Let us go rejoicing to the house
of the Lord.*

1. I rejoiced when I heard them say:
‘Let us go to God’s house.’
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem. *(R.)*
2. It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord.
For Israel’s law it is,
there to praise the Lord’s name.
There were set the thrones of
judgement
of the house of David. *(R.)*
3. For the peace of Jerusalem pray:
‘Peace be to your homes!
May peace reign in your walls,
in your palaces, peace!’ *(R.)*
4. For love of my brethren and friends
I say: ‘Peace upon you!’
For love of the house of the Lord
I will ask for your good. *(R.)*

Second Reading Rom 13:11-14

The time has come, our salvation is near.

You know ‘the time’ has come: you must
wake up now: our salvation is even nearer
than it was when we were converted. The
night is almost over, it will be daylight soon
– let us give up all the things we prefer
to do under the cover of the dark; let us
arm ourselves and appear in the light.
Let us live decently as people do in the
daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity
or licentiousness, and no wrangling or
jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus
Christ.

Gospel Acclamation Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.*

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 24:37-44

Stay awake, you must be ready.

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘As it was in
Noah’s day, so will it be when the Son of
Man comes. For in those days before the
Flood people were eating, drinking, taking
wives, taking husbands, right up to the day
Noah went into the ark, and they suspected
nothing till the Flood came and swept all
away. It will be like this when the Son of
Man comes. Then of two men in the fields
one is taken, one left; of two women at the
millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

‘So stay awake, because you do not know
the day when your master is coming.
You may be quite sure of this that if the
householder had known at what time of
the night the burglar would come, he would
have stayed awake and would not have
allowed anyone to break through the wall
of his house. Therefore, you too must stand
ready because the Son of Man is coming at
an hour you do not expect.’



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Our Lord loved to unfurl the scroll
of the Prophet Isaiah in his local
synagogue. The poetic image of
swords being hammered into
ploughshares reverberated into his
renouncing violence against the
Roman occupying army in his own
time. When will this picture come
true for all human beings for all
time?

Only God knows! We don’t know
any more than we know when a
burglar might target our home. But
our ignorance of God’s timetable is
no excuse for being fatalistic and
sleepy. We have our own span of
life providing the timetable for our
own contribution to the hammering
of swords into ploughshares.

Recent Popes, especially St John
Paul II, have taken up this theme
for our times, teaching more
restrictive criteria for using armed
force, even dropping the term ‘just
war’ to very small print in the
Catechism.

We could pause for a moment to
pray to be awake to our
opportunities to shape society in
the light of the vision of Isaiah and
the practice of Jesus the Prince of
Peace.

mtate@bigpond.com

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Rosters & Events

Ministers for next weekend's Masses

2nd Sunday of Advent – Year A

6th & 7th December, 2025

6:00pm Mass	St. Brigid's	8:00am Mass	St. Ambrose's	Flowers: M. Clifford & W. Kays 
Reader:	T. Wilson	Welcomer:	L. Saunders	
Eucharist:	L. Wilson	Reader:	P. Lawry	
9:30am Mass	St. Patrick's	11:00am Mass	St. Brigid's	
Reader:	B. O'Callaghan	Reader:	D. Egan	
Eucharist:	J. O'Callaghan	Eucharist:	K. Page	

Upcoming Parish Masses & Events

Sat 29/11/25	6pm Mass – Gisborne	MF
Sun 30/11/25	Normal Sunday Masses	JH
Tue 02/12/25	NO Weekday Mass	
Tue 02/12/25	Holy Cross Graduation Mass & Dinner	
Wed 03/12/25	9:15am – Weekday Mass - Gisborne	WR
Thu 04/12/25	9:15am – Weekday Mass – Gisborne	JH
Thu 04/12/25	Sacred Heart Yr 7-11 End of Year Mass	
Thu 04/12/25	7pm – Liturgy Meeting – Parish Office	
Fri 05/12/25	9:15am – Weekday Mass – Gisborne	JH
Fri 05/12/25	7pm – Holy Hour – Romsey	WR
Sat 06/12/25	10:30am – Anointing Mass – Romsey	WR
Sat 06/12/25	6pm Mass – Gisborne	WR
Sun 07/12/25	Normal Sunday Masses	WR
Sun 07/12/25	2-4pm Carols in the Hall	

Collections at Sunday Mass.

Please note recent changes to our collection process. Effective now, as per Archdiocese Policy, our collections will be in the order of:

1st Collection – Priest & Presbytery

2nd Collection – Thanksgiving & Church.

SATURDAY MASS – 29/11/25

We Welcome

Fr. Martin Fleming

who will celebrate the Vigil Mass with us this weekend.



Next weeks readings: Isaiah 11:1-10,
Romans 15:4-9, Matthew 3:1-12

CONTINUING PRAYER LIST:

Please pray for those who are in ill health:

Eileen S, Corrine V, Anthony S,

Fran S, Helen K, Diane M, Marg P,

Zoe F, Beth T, Willow O & Steve O.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL – RESPONSE: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

R: We pray for ourselves and the special needs of all in our parish community. We pray for those who are sick, those on our parish prayer list – the frail, and for all who care for them. For the faithful departed: for those who have died recently and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially *Mitchell Phelan, Lucy Sullivan & Armando Aprile.* ☩

Please join in the parish Prayer.

ST. BRIGID'S GISBORNE PARISH PRAYER

God our Father, we thank you for all the blessings we enjoy in our parish family of St. Brigid's Gisborne.

Many have laboured to build our parish. May we all work together and hand in hand stand together.

May our parish be filled with holiness and prayer, faith and love.

May all who come here find a welcoming home, comfort in their needs and strength for their journey.

St. Brigid, St. Patrick, St. Ambrose and St. Colmcille watch over us always we pray, that with faith we grow and learn.

We make our prayer in Jesus name. Amen.

Giving Tree 2025

The St. Brigid's Parish Giving Tree will support the Gisborne branch of St. Vincent de Paul.

They are asking for donations of Food Gift Cards, which can be purchased from Foodworks, IGA, Coles & Aldi in Gisborne and Foodworks in Riddells Creek to any value. Also included is a "Pennies from Heaven" option, and any monies collected will be used to purchase Gift Cards.

The Gift Cards will be used to support families in need over the Christmas period. All donations will be greatly appreciated. The Giving Tree program will commence on the first week of Advent – 29th / 30th November. Could donations please be returned no later than Sunday 14th December, so the Gift Cards can be distributed to families for Christmas. Gift cards can be returned at any Mass, the Parish Office and both Schools.

ADVENT A TIME OF PRAYER & REFLECTION



During the season of

Advent, we are invited to be families and men and women of prayer as we await once again the coming of our saviour born in a stable in Bethlehem.

Below are two prayers that may help your Advent journey.

Advent Family Prayer

God of Love, Your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us.

He is a sign of your love. Help us walk in that love during the weeks of Advent, as we wait and prepare for his coming.

We pray in the name of Jesus, our Saviour.

Author Unknown

An Advent Prayer

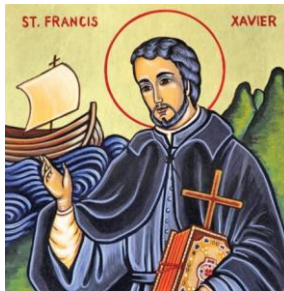
Lord God, we adore you because you have come to us in the past. You have spoken to us in the Law of Israel. You have challenged us in the words of the prophets. You have shown us in Jesus what you are really like.

Lord God, we adore you because you still come to us now. You come to us through other people and their love and concern for us. You come to us through men and women who need our help. You come to us as we worship you with your people.

Lord God, we adore you because you will come to us at the end. You will be with us at the hour of death. You will still reign supreme when all human institutions fail. You will still be God when our history has run its course.

We welcome you, the God who comes. Come to us now in the power of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Caryl Micklem, "Contemporary Prayers for Public Worship"



Feast Day this Week

Wednesday 3rd December: St Francis Xavier

Born in 1506 in Spain and died on this day in 1552. Met St. Ignatius of Loyola and became one of the first Jesuits and went to Goa in India as a missionary. He travelled extensively through southeast Asia to Japan, winning many converts to the faith and leaving behind organized Christian communities. Remembered for the witness of his poverty and his tireless efforts as a Missionary.

Anointing Mass – St. Mary's Romsey Church

All are invited to the Anointing Mass at Romsey on Saturday 6th December at 10.30am.

2025 Christmas Services

Advent Communal Service of Forgiveness

Thursday 18 December – 7pm – Gisborne

Christmas Eve Family Mass

Wednesday 24 December – 6pm – Gisborne

Christmas Eve Mass with Carols

7:45pm – carols, 8:30pm – Mass – Macedon

Christmas Eve Mass with Carols

10:30pm – carols, 11pm – Mass – Gisborne

Christmas Day Mass

Thursday 25 December – 8:30am – Riddells Creek

Thursday 25 December – 10:30am – Gisborne

Christmas Carols @ St Brigid's Hall

Sunday 7th December

2:00 to 4:00pm

Musicians welcome to participate:

Contact Kevin or Gerard
to book a spot on the Mic
Ph: 54261354

ALL WELCOME! Bring a plate to share!

No Hot food please as reheating is not available



**HOLY
HOUR**

HOLY HOUR – 05/12/25

To be celebrated at Romsey **7pm – 8pm**.
Beginning with exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament, Evening Prayer, Quiet time,
concluding with Benediction. **All are invited.**

WEEKLY SOCIAL CARDS NIGHT

St. Brigid's Hall – Tuesday 7:30pm start -
Entry \$10 per player
Light supper served on completion of play
EVERYONE WELCOME

OPEN HOUSE

Meet after 11am Sunday Mass at the
Kaffeine Bar for a coffee and chat.
Everyone Welcome!

KARATE CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

Thursday evenings 6pm - 1st **TWO**
lessons free then \$5 per class
No term commitment required;
pay as you come.

SCRIPTURE STUDIES

Thursday – 10am
For all enquiries please contact
Bernie 0414 890 377

Collections last week

Presbytery \$695

1st collection: Presbytery & Priest

Thanksgiving \$1055

2nd collection: Thanksgiving (envelope)

CHILD PROTECTION is **everyone's** responsibility

The St. Brigid's Safeguarding
Children and Young People
Policy can be found on the Parish
Website or via the parish office.

*All children leaving the church
during Mass must be
accompanied by a parent.*

Baptism

As arranged with the Parish
Secretary on the 4th Sunday
of the month.

Marriages

Arranged by appointment with
at least 6 months' notice.
Please contact parish office.

Funerals

Contact Fr. John directly.

Thanksgiving

Any parishioner wishing to join
the Thanksgiving program is
invited to contact Tammie at the
parish office to arrange some
Thanksgiving envelopes.
Thanksgiving contributions by
Direct Debit or Credit Card
welcome.

Therefore be you also ready:
for in such an hour as you think
not the Son of man comes.

Matthew 24:44

PRIEST & PRESBYTERY BY DIRECT DEBIT

If you would like to contribute to the
Priest & Presbytery expenses, you
may do so by direct debit to the acct
below:

**St. Brigid's Presbytery Account
NAB**

BSB: 083 347

Acct: 6672 72303

Please use your surname as the
reference.

THANKSGIVING BY DIRECT DEBIT

If you would like to contribute to the
Thanksgiving Program, you may do so
by direct debit to the acct below:

**St. Brigid's Church Account
NAB**

BSB: 083 347

Acct: 6742 95773

Please use your surname and your TG
number as the reference.