



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

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

16th August, 2026

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

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

Sunday - 8am Riddells Creek, 9am Romsey, 11am Woodend and Gisborne

PLEASE NOTE: St. PATRICK'S MACEDON CLOSED FOR STORM DAMAGE REPAIRS

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Please see the Mass schedule below

ANointing MASS – 1st Saturday of the month 10.30am St Mary's Romsey

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

HOLY HOUR AND EVENING PRAYER 7pm – 8pm 1st Friday of the month. See Mass schedule for church

PARISH STAFF

Parish Priest: Fr John Healy, 0439 033 750, john.healy@cam.org.au

Assistant Priest: Fr Zaher Al Mhanna, Zaher.Almhanna@cam.org.au

WOODEND: Secretary Bernadette Petruccelli, PO Box 347, 47 Urquhart St Woodend. Ph: 0409 436 441, bernadette.petruccelli@cam.org.au

LANCEFIELD: Secretary Tammie Dalglish, 27 Chauncey Lancefield. Ph: 03 54292130, lancefield@cam.org.au

GISBORNE: Secretary Tammie Dalglish, PO Box 467, 66 Aitken St Gisborne. Ph: 03 54282591, gisborne@cam.org.au

OFFICE HOURS

Woodend: Monday and Friday 9am – 4pm, **Lancefield:** Wednesday and Friday 8am – 5pm,

Gisborne: Tuesday and Thursday 8am – 5pm

PARISH WEBSITES

Woodend: www.stambrosewoodend.com.au

Lancefield: www.melbcatholic.org/s/lancefield

Gisborne: www.melbcatholic.org/s/gisborne

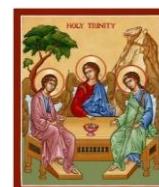
SCHOOL COMMUNITIES St Ambrose Woodend: www.sawoodend.catholic.edu.au , St Mary's Lancefield: www.smlancefield.catholic.edu.au , St Brigid's Gisborne: www.sbgisborne.catholic.edu.au , Holy Cross New Gisborne: www.hcnewgisborne.catholic.edu.au

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

There are limited Masses this week.

Tuesday 18th	5pm Mass Woodend	
Wednesday 19th	10am BUPA Woodend	11am Funeral Gisborne (Raymond Barden)
Thursday 20th	9.15am Holy Cross School New Gisborne	
Friday 21st	9.15am Mass Gisborne – (senior class attending)	11am Funeral Gisborne (Wilma Saunders)
Saturday 22nd	9.30am Lancefield	10am Reconciliation Lancefield

During 2026 our focus as a community of faith will be based on the image of the Trinity. An image reflecting the community of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, calling us to be community of
WELCOME and HOSPITALITY.



The Living Word

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

16 August 2026

First Reading Is 56:1-7

I will lead the foreigners to my holy mountain.

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest.

Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 66:2-3 5-6. 8. R. v.4

(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!

1. O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help.
(R.)
2. Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth. *(R.)*
3. Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him. *(R.)*

Second Reading Rom 11:13-15. 29-32

The gifts and call of God are irrevocable.

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice.

Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the

mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Jesus preached the Good News
of the kingdom*

and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 15:21-28

Woman, you have great faith.

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

A pagan woman approaches a Jewish man and she begs Jesus to heal her daughter.

Jesus gives a dismissive answer to the woman: 'It is not fair to take the children's bread and throw it to the house dogs.' The children are obviously the Jewish people.

This remarkable pagan woman stands her ground and engages in a verbal joust with Jesus! She argues: 'Yes, Lord, but even the house dogs get the crumbs that fall from their master's table.'

Jesus recognises her faith and the daughter was healed. This story was put in the Gospels to show how Jesus extended his saving mission to non-Jews in Pagan territory.

That is Good News for billions of non-Jewish people over the course of history since then and into the future. That is why we are truly 'Catholic', which, as you know, is the Greek for 'world-wide'.

We could pause for a moment to celebrate this Canaanite woman as the first 'Catholic'!

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EVERYONE WELCOME				ST PATRICK'S CHURCH MACEDON		CHILD PROTECTION is <u>everyone's</u> responsibility The St. Brigids 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. Child Safety Committee Fr. John Healy Fr. Zaher Al Mhanna Tammie Dalgleish			
Ministry	15/08/26 6pm	16/08/26 8am	16/08/26 11am						
Reader	B. Floreani	P. Sammut	K. Page	will be closed until further notice for repairs.		COLLECTIONS AT MASS		1 st Collection – Priest & Presbytery 2 nd Collection – Thanksgiving & Church.	
Spec Min	L. Scott	-----	D. Egan						
Flowers	J. Shumack	-----	-----						
Location	Gisb	R/Creek	Gisb						
Ministry	22/08/26 6pm	23/08/26 8am	23/08/26 11am						
Reader	K. Aprile	P. Lacy	J. & C. Holmes						
Spec Min	N. Spiers	-----	K. Page						
Flowers	M. Clifford & W. Kays	-----	-----						
Location	Gisb	R/Creek	Gisb						
Could those listed on the roster please advise if you are unavailable.									
CONTINUING PRAYER LIST: Please pray for the following who are in continuing need of our prayers: Eileen S, Corrine V, Anthony S, Fran S, Jonathan S, Helen K, Diane M, Marg P, Beth T, Willow O, Fleur H, Thomas C & Michael W. 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 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 John Smith & Philomena Fewkes. ✠ CELEBRANT We bring our prayers to a close as we pray, All GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, AND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT. AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING, IS NOW, AND EVER SHALL BE, WORLD WITHOUT END. AMEN. Collections last week Presbytery \$546 Thanksgiving \$1510 1 st collection: Presbytery & Priest 2 nd collection: Thanksgiving (envelope)									
Welcome Fr. Martin Fleming We welcome and thank Fr. Martin Fleming who will be celebrating the Gisborne Masses this weekend.									
What's happening this week in the Parish Fr Zaher will be away on sick leave for the next week. Please check the bulletin as there will be changes to where weekday Mass will be celebrated. 20/08/26 7pm – 2 nd Eucharist Family meeting – Lancefield 22/08/26 10am Reconciliation – Lancefield 23/08/26 12pm Baptism's - Gisborne Note: See front page of bulletin for Mass times.									
MINISTRY FORMATION We give thanks to all those who have volunteered for various ministries across our Parishes. It is good to gather every now and then to celebrate the gift of your ministry and do some formation. The following formation meetings have been scheduled across our three parishes. Those who are currently involved in these ministries, as well new volunteers are invited to attend. If you are unable to attend the one in your local parish community, you are encouraged to come to the meeting in one of the other parishes. Please call or email the parish office to register. READERS AND MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST Tuesday 18 th August 7pm St Mary's Church Lancefield. NURSING HOME AND HOME VISITATIONS Please note change of dates from original dates given. Thursday 20 th August 10.30am St. Brigids Parish House Gisborne Due to some recently arranged funerals, the meeting for Lancefield has been changed. We will meet after the Mass at Romsey Aged Care on: Thursday 27 th August Mass is at 10.30am.									
FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK Wednesday 19 th : St John Eudes Thursday 20 th : St Bernard Friday 21 st : St Pius X Saturday 21 st : Our Lady, Queen of Heaven									

Becoming Catholic

RCIA

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Our first information evening for those interested in becoming a Catholic will be held on Tuesday August 25th at St Ambrose Presbytery – 47 Urquhart St Woodend at 7pm.
Please contact the parish office if you are interested in attending.
This meeting will look at what is involved in this program.

ARCHBISHOPS APPEAL

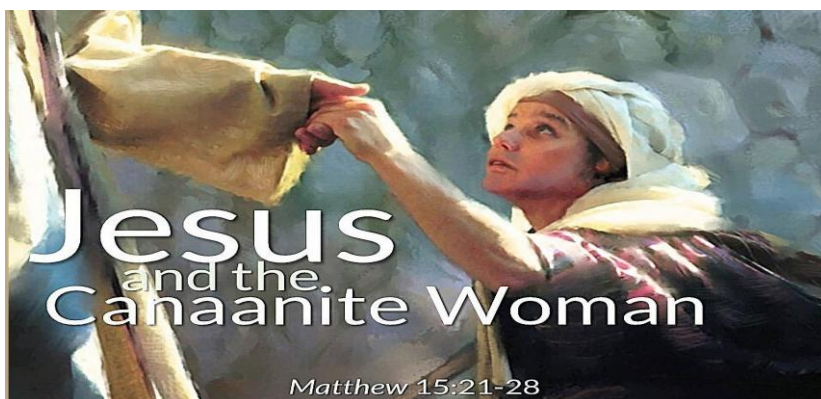
During the month of August we are invited to support the 2026 Archbishops Campaign.

By supporting this campaign, you help sustain ministries that accompany those in need, strengthen our parish communities, and bring Christ's love to others. Thank you for answering this call with courage and generosity.

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli

Tax deductible gifts Priests Retirement Foundation
Corpus Christi College Building Fund
CatholicCare Victoria – Chaplaincy Program
Melbourne Overseas Missions
John Pierce Centre
University of Divinity for the Catholic Theological College
Annual grants to Catholic community agencies and community service organisations.

Non-deductible gifts Archbishop's evangelisation initiatives
Seminar education



CENSUS CARDS

It is not too late to fill out a census card to register your details with the parish. If you are new to the parish or have been here for years and just haven't had a chance yet, please see your Sacristan for a card or find one at the church entrance. Completed cards can be returned via the collection bags. Thank you.

WEEKLY SOCIAL CARDS NIGHT

St. Brigids Parish House – Tuesday
7:30pm start - Entry \$10 per player
Light supper served on completion of play
EVERYONE WELCOME

SCRIPTURE STUDIES

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

KARATE CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

Thursday evenings 6pm - 1st TWO lessons free then \$5 per class
No term commitment required;
pay as you come.
Enq: Kathryn Aprile—0404 340 892

OPEN HOUSE

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



The Feast of the Assumption celebrates the belief that the body and soul of the Blessed Virgin Mary was taken into heaven after the end of her earthly life. Mary's assumption into heaven is seen by many as a fulfilment of Jesus' promise to all faithful servants; that they too will be received into the kingdom of God. Mary is seen as the first disciple of Jesus and a model for all disciples; it is fitting that she receive the gift of discipleship first of all.

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.