



**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**

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

23rd 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 *As Fr. Zaher is on sick leave there is a reduced Mass schedule this week.*

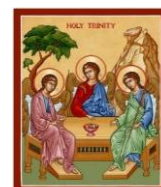
Tuesday 25th 5pm Mass **Gisborne**

Wednesday 26th 9:30am Mass **Woodend**

Thursday 27th 10:30am Romsey Aged Care **Romsey**

Friday 28th 8:30am Mass Assumption College **Kilmore** **NO Mass 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

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

23 August 2026

First Reading Is 22:19-23

I place the key of the House of David upon his shoulder.

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace:

I dismiss you from your office,
I remove you from your post,
and the same day I call on my servant
Eliakim son of Hilkiah.
I invest him with your robe,
gird him with your sash,
entrust him with your authority;
and he shall be a father
to the inhabitants of Jerusalem
and to the House of Judah.
I place the key of the House of David
on his shoulder;
should he open, no one shall close,
should he close, no one shall open.
I drive him like a peg
into a firm place;
he will become a throne of glory
for his father's house.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 137:1-3. 6. 8. R. v.8

*(R.) Lord, your love is eternal;
do not forsake the work of your hands.*

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.
Before the angels I will bless you.
I will adore before your holy temple. *(R.)*
2. I thank you for your faithfulness and
love
which excel all we ever knew of you.
On the day I called, you answered;
you increased the strength of my soul. *(R.)*
3. The Lord is high yet he looks on the
lowly
and the haughty he knows from afar.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands. *(R.)*

Second Reading Rom 11:33-36

From him, through him, and in him are all things.

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give

him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 16:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

*You are Peter, the rock on which I will
build my Church;*

*the gates of hell will not hold out
against it.*

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 16:13-20

You are Peter, to you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Jesus had a sense of humour! Simon, son of Jonah, was far from being a rock solid supporter of Jesus. So Jesus gave him the nickname 'Rocky' which in the Greek is Petros.

Jesus puns with the nickname: 'You are Rocky and upon this rock I will build my church.' The natural personality of shifting sands was being transformed by the blessing just given (the only blessing bestowed upon an apostle by Jesus).

Notice that Jesus only makes promises about 'my church', not a church shaped by human imagination, e.g. modes of Roman Imperial rule or with a Eurocentric mindset.

We could pause for a moment to pray that the Risen Lord showers the successor of St Peter with every blessing so that the Church of Jesus the Christ continues to prevail over the forces of death which threaten humanity.

mtate@bigpond.com

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EVERYONE WELCOME

Ministry	22/08/26	23/08/26	23/08/26
	6pm	8am	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
Ministry	29/08/26	30/08/26	30/08/26
	6pm	8am	11am
Reader	F. Murone	A. Dewar	B. Myers
Spec Min	K. Aprile	-----	T. Armstrong
Flowers	T. Armstrong	-----	-----
Location	Gisb	R/Creek	Gisb

Could those listed on the roster please advise if you are unavailable.

ST PATRICK'S CHURCH MACEDON

will be closed until further notice for repairs.

COLLECTIONS AT MASS

1st Collection –
Priest & Presbytery
2nd Collection –
Thanksgiving &
Church.

CHILD PROTECTION

is everyone's 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

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. Thanksgiving contributions by envelopes, Direct Debit or Credit Card welcome.

Welcome

St. Brigids Parish community warmly welcomes visitors and new parishioners. We invite new parishioners to introduce yourself to Fr. John, fill in a census card located in the church foyer and place in either collection or contact Tam directly at the parish office.

Volunteering Ministries

A current Working with Children Check is required to volunteer within the parish.

Help is always welcome!

Power Point operator
Reader of the Word
Special Minister
Church Cleaning & Gardening

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,
Fleur H, Michael W & Janine S.**

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 **Victor Gauci, Felicia Spano, Elsie Ryan & Giuseppe Spano.** †

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 \$460 Thanksgiving \$1718
1st collection: Presbytery & Priest 2nd collection: Thanksgiving (envelope)

Welcome Fr. Martin Fleming

We welcome and thank Fr. Martin Fleming who will be celebrating the 6pm Mass in Gisborne & the 11am Mass in Woodend 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.

Tuesday 25/08/26 7pm – RCIA Introduction meeting – **Woodend Presbytery**

Thursday 27/08/26 7pm – PPC meeting – **Gisborne Parish House**

Note: See front page of bulletin for Mass times.

MINISTRY FORMATION

NURSING HOME AND HOME VISITATIONS

Please note change of dates from original dates given.

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 27th August Mass is at 10.30am.



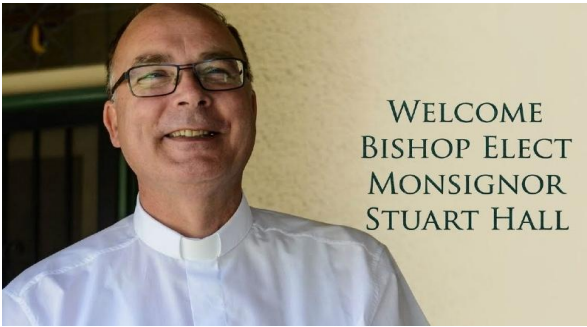
Our first information evening for those interested in becoming a Catholic will be held on Tuesday August 25th at St Ambrose Presbytery – 47 Urquhart St Woodend at 7pm.

Please contact the parish office if you are interested in attending. This meeting will look at what is involved in this program.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Monday 24 th	St Bartholomew
Thursday 27 th	St Monica
Friday 28 th	St Augustine
Saturday 29 th	The Beheading of St John the Baptist

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS



WELCOME
BISHOP ELECT
MONSIGNOR
STUART HALL

The Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne warmly welcomes the appointment by Pope Leo XIV of Mgr Stuart Hall, Dean of St. Patrick's Cathedral Melbourne as Bishop of the Military Ordinariate of Australia.

A priest of the Archdiocese of Melbourne since his ordination at St Patrick's Cathedral in 1987, Bishop-elect Hall has served in parish ministry, spent more than two decades as a chaplain in the Royal Australian Navy—including operational deployments to Timor-Leste and the Middle East.

He returned to Melbourne in 2017 before being appointed Dean of St Patrick's Cathedral in 2023. He also serves as parish priest of St Augustine's Parish, Melbourne.

Bishop-elect Hall succeeds Archbishop Christopher Prowse, who has served as Apostolic Administrator of the Military Ordinariate.

The ordination as Bishop will take place on Saturday 29th August in St. Patrick's Cathedral.

ST ELIZABETH HOSPITAL SUPPORT GROUP

Fr John has invited Fr Robert to visit our parish community with the intention that we will join in the support of his work in Pakistan, making this an outreach project to a community in need by the Parishes of the Macedon Ranges. Fr Robert McCulloch will be speaking at the Masses in Woodend, Lancefield and Romsey next weekend about St Elizabeth Support Group. St Elizabeth Hospital is in Hyderabad Pakistan and has been helped by the St Elizabeth Support Group which was began by parishioners in Gisborne, Macedon and Riddells Creek in 2015 to equip the hospital as it serves people in great need. St Elizabeth is a 100-bed hospital with a speciality in Mother and Childcare and has a mobile medical outreach which provides free primary care to over 50,000 impoverished people in rural settlements every year. It provides free home-based palliative care nursing to 35 terminally ill cancer patients and has the only palliative care day centre in Pakistan. Fr Robert McCulloch is a Columban missionary priest from Melbourne. He has worked in Pakistan since 1978 and has been connected with St Elizabeth Hospital since 2001. He is the chairman of the hospital's Board. He will return to Pakistan on September 6.

A Message of Thanks – re: Willow O'Callaghan

The O'Callaghan family are most grateful for the prayers and support we have received, over the period of Willow's illness. She is now in remission from her Acute Myeloid Leukaemia and also from the aggressive, fungal infection that attacked her organs and almost took her life.

We offer our heartfelt thanks for all who kept us in their prayers. May God bless you.

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

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
Kaffeine Bar for a coffee and chat.
Everyone Welcome!

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.