



THE TIDINGS

SERVING THE AREAS OF MELTON, WEST MELTON, HARKNESS, KURUNJANG, TOOLERN VALE, PLUMPTON, GRANGEFIELDS, BONNIE BROOK (WEST), ROCKBANK (WEST).



We are committed to upholding the safety and wellbeing of each child and young person, and endeavour to provide a caring and supportive environment in our Church.

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A - September 13, 2026

CLERGY

Parish Priest: FR ALEX CLEMENTE, RCJ

Assistant Priest: FR WILFORD URMZA, RCJ

Assistant Priest: FR JEFFREY SALVADOR, RCJ

Parish Deacon: DCN CRIS CREO

Email: Cristopher.Creo@cam.org.au

OFFICE

10 Unitt Street, MELTON, VIC 3337

Postal Address: PO Box 96, MELTON, VIC 3337

Phone: 03 9743 6515

Email: melton@cam.org.au

Website: melbcatholic.org/melton

Facebook: facebook.com/catholicparishmelton

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9.15am - 4.45pm

We are **closed** on Mondays, weekends and public holidays.

STAFF & SAFEGUARDING COORDINATOR

Parish Secretary: WILMA CHUA (Tues - Fri)

Finance Manager: LORRAINE STAFFORD (Mon & Tues)

Email: finance.melton@cam.org.au

Safeguarding Coordinator: LIZ COUSTLEY

Mobile: 0490 885 515 | **Email:** cso.melton@gmail.com

MASS CENTRES & MASS TIMES

St Catherine of Siena Church, Melton West

108 Bulmans Road, Melton West, VIC 3337

- **Saturday** 6pm (Vigil Mass)
- **Sunday** 9am, 11am & 5 pm
- **Wednesday Mass** 9.15 am
(no Mass during school holidays at St Catherine's Church)

St Dominic's Church, Melton

Church St, Melton, VIC 3337

- **Thursday & Friday** 9.15 am
(no Mass on public holidays)

CONFESSION

St Catherine of Siena Church

Saturday: 5.45 pm | Sunday: 10:30-10:50am/4.45 pm

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED

SACRAMENT & ROSARY

St Dominic's Church

- **Thursday** following the 9.15 am Mass

SCHOOLS IN OUR PARISH

ST DOMINIC'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Address: Church Street, Melton, VIC 3337

+61 3 9743 6225 | enquiries@sdmelton.catholic.edu.au

ST CATHERINE OF SIENA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Address: 108 Bulmans Road, Melton West, VIC 3337

+61 3 9743 2166 | info@scmeltonwest.catholic.edu.au

ST FRANCIS CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Melton West Campus (Year 7-12): 109-141 Bulmans Rd, Melton West

Cobblebank Campus (Year 7-9): Bridge Rd, Cobblebank
+61 3 8099 6000 | info@sfcc.vic.edu.au

Reflection by Fr. Jeffrey Salvador, RCJ

This Sunday's Gospel places before us one of the most challenging yet essential teachings of Jesus: forgiveness. Peter asks Jesus how many times he should forgive someone who sins against him. Peter suggests seven times, perhaps thinking that this is already a generous number. Jesus responds, "Not seven times, but seventy-seven times," reminding us that forgiveness is not something to be counted or measured.

Jesus then tells the parable of the unforgiving servant. A servant owes his master an enormous debt and begs for mercy. The master, moved with compassion, forgives the entire debt. Yet the same servant later refuses to forgive another person who owes him far less.

The story invites us to look honestly at our own lives. We often ask God for understanding, mercy, and another chance. We trust that God will forgive our sins and weaknesses. But when someone hurts, disappoints, or offends us, we can find it difficult to offer the same mercy.

Forgiveness does not mean pretending that nothing happened. It does not excuse wrongdoing or remove the need for justice and healthy boundaries. It also does not mean that painful memories disappear immediately. Healing often takes time. Forgiveness is the decision not to allow bitterness, resentment, or revenge to take possession of our hearts.

The deeper question is not simply, "Does this person deserve my forgiveness?" Rather, we are invited to ask, "How much mercy have I already received from God?"

Every time we pray the Our Father, we ask God to "forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us."

This Sunday, may we remember that God's mercy is never meant to stop with us. The mercy we receive is meant to become the mercy we share.



Next Week's Readings:

Isaiah 55:6-9 | Philippians 1:20-24, 27 | Matthew 20:1-16

Death Anniversaries:

Rodney Bonnici, Ted Kasprzak, Michael Williams, Tony Kidman, Benny Roche, Mary Tolhurst, Lorraine Gabor, Pocholo Viray, Denice Mc Fadden, Paul Quinsee, Simeon Obtinalla, Peter Dempsey, Maria Xuereb, Grezju Caruana, Jessica Sud, George Vella, Leanne Morhun, Moya Drew, Charles Bubeck, Maria Grech, Francesco Tomassi, Maria Xuereb, Gerard Williams, Sam Bonello, Olga DeZilwa, Joan McLeish, Llama DeSoyza, Jon-André Solheim Nedreb, Francis Wade, Keaton Spear, Noleen Dormer, Margaret Dickie, Tiberio Guido, Stella Borg, Elias Moussa, Umberto Asciak, Leslie Bockman, Leo Tarleton, Edith Carag, Jennifer Simbulan, Antonia Cutajar, George Cassar, Bill Rayner, Rexle Nathaniel Obtinalla, Freda Ferraro, Tuilemofua Tuii, Pat Dean, Mira Jakobovic, Garang Kule Tong Deng

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In case of urgent situations, sickness etc. in the parish please call 0422 869 646

Entrance Antiphon

Cf Sirach 36:18

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true.

First Reading

Sirach 27:30 – 28:7

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

*Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray,
your sins will be forgiven.*

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner. He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin.

Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord?

Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins? Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his sins? Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments.

Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 102:1-4, 9-12. R. v.8

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful;
slow to anger and rich in compassion.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. (R.)
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion. (R.)
3. His wrath will come to an end;
he will not be angry for ever.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults. (R.)
4. For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins. (R.)

Second Reading

Romans 14:7-9

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

Gospel Acclamation

John 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 18:21-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times seven.

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.'

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time," he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt.

Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me", he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him.

Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said. "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

Prayer for Vocations

O Jesus' gentle heart, in your entire mortal life you sought always the glory of Your Father. Deign to send to Your Holy Church good and evangelical workers, who will incessantly glorify Your Father who is in heaven with the holiness of their life and apostolic work.
Send of Lord, Holy Apostles into Your Church.



**'I cancelled all that debt of yours
when you appealed to me.
Were you not bound, then,
to have pity on your fellow servant
just as I had pity on you?'**

Matthew 18:35

Dinner with the Archbishop

Organised by: Knights of the Southern Cross

Friday 16th October 2026 at 7.00 pm

Grand star Reception convention centre Altona North

Speaker: Peta Credlin AO

Guest of Honour :

Melbourne Archbishop Peter Comensoli

Cost: \$170 per person

Proceeds will support the education of clergy in Victoria

For enquiries contact Lawrence: Ph 0448398344



First Aid & Defibrillator is located in the Lay-Sacristy.

Safeguarding Sunday, September 13, 2026

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE SAFEGUARDING UNIT MELBOURNE ARCHDIOCESE

National Child Protection Week is an important opportunity for us all to renew our commitment to creating safe, welcoming and respectful environments where every child and young person is valued, heard and protected.

Safeguarding is a shared responsibility and a shared mission, which at its core is central to Catholic teachings. It is reflected not only in our policies and procedures, but in the everyday actions of our parishes, ministries, and communities. It is demonstrated in how we listen to children, respond to concerns, and ensure that their safety, wellbeing and inherent dignity remain at the heart of all we do.

This Child Protection Week, we invite everyone across our Archdiocese to reflect on how we can each contribute to making our Church a safer place for children and young people, and work to centre their voice in the conversation.

I would also like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank everyone across our parishes who contribute to this important work. To our parish safeguarding representatives, clergy, staff, volunteers and community members; thank you for the time, care and commitment you give to strengthening safeguarding and helping create safe environments for children and young people.

Together, we can help create communities where every child feels safe, respected and supported.



Rachel Averbukh
Director
Safeguarding Unit



eSafety News

Brand-new Online Safety Guide now available.

Helping children and young people navigate the online world can be challenging. That's why we're thrilled to launch the [Online Safety Guide](https://www.esafety.gov.au), a practical guide designed to help parents and carers better understand the online environments young people use every day.

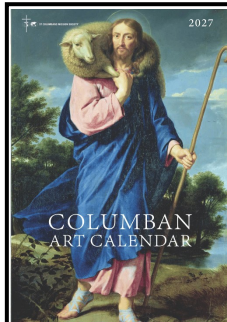
It covers key online safety topics – from gaming and social media, to cyberbullying and AI-generated content – and provides practical ways to support your child to have more positive online experiences.

You can start with a section or topic that seems relevant right now, or dip in and out as needed. Either way, it will help you:

- ☐ understand common online risks and issues
- ☐ learn what helps in different scenarios
- ☐ talk with your child about what they do online
- ☐ know how to respond if something goes wrong.

There is also a guide for grandparents and carers.

For more information go to:
www.esafety.gov.au



The 2027 Columban Calendar
is now available for purchase
at our Piety Stall
Cost: \$11

**PLEASE RING MASS MANAGER IF UNABLE TO
ATTEND AND PERFORM YOUR ROSTERED DUTY**

➡ 6pm—Tania Walters 0492 952 478 11am— Lea Jacuta 0414 390 151
9am Theo Franken 0411 040 897 5pm - Josephine Krajina 0407 042 133

Twenty-Fourth Sunday Ordinary Time		Saturday & Sunday September 12 & 13, 2026		
MINISTERS OF:	6 PM	9 AM	11 AM	5 PM
WELCOMER	Maria Alvarado	Anne Stokie	Chelsea Amato	Josephine Krajina
THE WORD	Tetchie Hadfield	Jennifer Peters	Chelsea Amato	Lesley Sosa-Ritchie
RESPONDER	Maria Prasetyono	Vickie Cassar	Lea Jacuta	Ismael Sosa-Sanchez
PRESENTATION OF GIFTS	Gail Vas	Karl Metha	Chelsea Amato	Elainne de los Santos
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	Kate Mulholland Tania Walters	Theo Franken Charlu Chua	Liz Coustley Lea Jacuta	Josephine Krajina Lesley Sosa-Ritchie
POWERPOINT OPERATOR	James Taniman	Marissa Tuason		Daniella Ahmet
GIFT SHOP	Tania Walters	Anne Stokie	Lea Jacuta	Janet Estrada
CHOIR	Divine Mercy	Veneration	Veritas	No choir
COUNTERS	John Woof, Leslie Gordon			

Twenty-Fifth Sunday Ordinary Time		Saturday & Sunday September 19 & 20, 2026		
Ministers of:	6 PM	9 AM	11 AM	5 PM
Welcome	Tania Walters	Charlu Chua	Liz Coustley	Frank Unferdorben
The Word	Tania Walters	Alzira Mascarenhas	Cira Cleary	Ismael Sosa-Sanchez
Responder	Tania Walters	Jennifer Peters	Liz Coustley	Frank Unferdorben
Presentation of Gifts	Tetchie Hadfield	Kamelie Lole	Lea Jacuta	Josephine Krajina
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Tania Walters Maria Alvarado	Anne Stokie Vickie Cassar	Lea Jacuta Liz Coustley	Lesley Sosa-Ritchie Ismael Sosa-Sanchez
PowerPoint Operator	Kate Mulholland	Marissa Tuason		Nina Ahmet
Gift Shop	Kate Mulholland	Vickie Cassar	Lea Jacuta	Josephine Krajina
Choir	Divine Mercy	Samoan	No Choir	Tongan
Counters	Anne Stokie, Karl Metha, Elizabeth Marshall			



First Aid & Defibrillator is located in the Lay-Sacristy.

**Weekend Mass Times: Saturday 6pm
Sunday 9am, 11am & 5pm**

SEPTEMBER

Saturday 12th	11am / 12:15pm—Baptisms St Catherine of Siena Church
Wednesday, 16th	9:15am Mass: St Catherine of Siena Church End of Term - whole school
Thursday, 17th	9:15am Mass: St Dominics Church
Friday, 18th	9:15am Mass: St Dominics Church - Prep
Wednesday, 23rd	9:15am NO Mass: St Catherine of Siena Church
Thursday, 24th	9:15am Mass: St Dominics Church
Friday, 25th <i>Public Holiday</i>	9:15am NO Mass: St Dominics Church
Wednesday, 30th	9:15am NO Mass: St Catherine of Siena Church

OCTOBER

Thursday, 1st	9:15am Mass: St Dominics Church
Friday, 2nd	9:15am Mass: St Dominics Church
Wednesday, 5th	9:15am Mass: St Catherine of Siena Church Yr 5 to attend

SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY
In the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne, the safety and wellbeing of all persons is of highest priority.

Melbourne Synod 2026

"journeying together," reflecting the Church's commitment to collaboration and shared decision-making.



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE

**PARISH OFFERTORY
GIVING 2026**

August Update

Pledged: \$6,135.77

Actual: \$4,563.42

If you would like to:

- Make a **one-off donation**
- Set up **recurring donations** to the parish
- Or **request a payment report**

please scan the QR code or head to our website: [TINYURL.COM/GIVEMELTON](https://tinyurl.com/GivEMELTON)

A smart terminal is situated on the table by the wall in the Gathering Area of the church. You can tap & give with your card or smart device to support the Parish too.

Parishioners can download and use the **Parousya Faith** app to automatically check-in when they arrive at their parish, receive the Day's Readings, and make a quick, simple, secure and anonymous donation using their Apple Wallet, all without registering an account.



Thank You

**2026 FRANCISCAN PILGRIMAGE OF THE PARTNERED
PARISHES OF MELTON SOUTH AND MELTON**

On Saturday, 10 October 2026, our Partnered Parishes will travel by bus on a special pilgrimage to St Anthony's Church Capuchin Friary, Hawthorn, and St Francis of Assisi Church, Mill Park.

Itinerary 8.30am: Depart Melton/Melton South

9.30am: Arrive at St Anthony's Capuchin Friary Church, Hawthorn

12.00pm: Shared picnic lunch (BYO) at Mill Park

2.00pm: Proceed to St Francis of Assisi, Mill Park

3.00pm: Holy Mass

4.00pm – Depart for Melton/Melton Sth

Three buses have been booked. The cost is \$55 per person, which includes travel, a snack, and a Pilgrimage Kit.

Please scan the QR code to book and pay for the pilgrimage. For those who need assistance with the QR code, please see our volunteers after Mass or contact the Parish Office during the week.



PRIME TIMERS

Our Tuesday 29th September 12 o'clock lunch will be to The Bacchus Marsh Golf Clubhouse, Links Road, Darley.

A Senior two course meal is available for \$23.00

Please RSVP by Friday 25th so I can confirm numbers with the venue.

Enquiries please contact Ineke on 0400120402 or ineke49@yahoo.com

St. Bernadette's Parish

70th Anniversary Celebration Mass

**SUNDAY
27TH SEPTEMBER 2026
10:30 AM**

Presided by Bishop Martin Ashe

Refreshments to follow after Mass

RSVPs through trybooking required
by Sunday 20th September 2026

through link or QR code below
<https://www.trybooking.com/au/event/1644772>

TryBooking QR Code

All are welcome to attend!



Please call the Parish office on 9311 2977
for more information or to RSVP.

St. Bernadette's Parish, 59C Westmoreland Rd., Sunshine North

PARISH BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Announcements & Notices: Please submit your announcement or notices no later than 9am every Wednesday. Bulletin notices are normally retained in *The Tidings* for two weekends. Notices and announcements submitted after the deadline will be considered for publication on the following weekend. All subject to approval.



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