



THE TIDINGS

SERVING THE AREAS OF MELTON, MELTON WEST, AINTREE, BONNIE BROOK,
GRANGEFIELDS, HARKNESS, KURUNJANG, PLUMPTON, ROCKBANK & TOOLERN VALE

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.

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD | February 2, 2025

CLERGY

Parish Priest: FR ALEX CLEMENTE, RCJ

Assistant Priest: FR WILFORD URMZA, 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 & 5pm
- Wednesday Mass 9.15am

St Dominic's Church, Melton

Church St, Melton, VIC 3337

- Thursday & Friday 9.15am

CONFESSION

St Catherine of Siena Church

Saturday: 5.45 pm | Sunday: 4.45pm

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT & ROSARY

St Dominic's Church

- Thursday following the 9.15am 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

The Word of God for Young and Old

In a time (in the Western world at least) when there seems to be a growing gap between the old and the young, it is good to reflect on this Gospel incident.

A young woman, still in her teens, a newly-wed cradling her newborn son in her arms, places that baby in the arms of a very old stranger who embraces her child with all the fervour of a *now* fulfilled hope.



Is this the model for overcoming the distance between young and old in our culture? Can the young, like Mary, listen to the wisdom of tradition from an elder? Can the old like Simeon still be open to a moment of serendipity mediated by the young?

The answer is: 'Yes, when young and old come together around Jesus.' As Pope Francis remarks of this encounter: 'Jesus is at the centre.' (Homily 2 Feb 2018)

At whatever age we find ourselves, Mary is only too willing to place Jesus in *our* arms to fulfil our hopes and our yearnings.

Perhaps we could pause for a moment to accept the gift of Jesus placed in our arms and hearts so that we can say with Simeon:

'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace...'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Who is this king of the glory? It is the Lord!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

This is the light of revelation to the nations,
and the glory of your people Israel.

Alleluia!

Today's Readings:

Mal 3:1-4 Heb 2:14-18 Luke 2:22-32

Next Week's Readings: Isaiah 6:1-8 1 Cor 15:1-11 Luke 5:1-11

Prayer Requests

For Healing

Oliver and James Mendis.

Death Anniversaries:

Fr William Casey, Charles Downie, Mick Reese, Phyllis Henderson, Joseph Vella, Josephine Vella, Stanislaw & Katarzyna Przybylowski, Stephania Przybylowska, Antonia Aguitong, Enoch Daniels, Sonia Parker, Ethel Cullis, Frank Mifsud, Simon Jacuta, Arthur O'Leary, Gerry Hishon, Cornelius Wheelahan, Betty Nolan, Errol Jouany, George Sciberras, Josephine Camenzuli, Nan Fitcher, Nellie Ward, Alan Verlander, Domenico Siciliano, Susan McIlroy, Raul Oropesa, Eugene Kwiecinski, Maurice Mascarenhas, Alfred Micallef, Elizabeth Henaghan, Fr. Pat Negri, Karen Roberts, Olive Dempsey, Kathy Vella, Margaret Skilbeck, Kathleen Donovan, Joseph Camilleri, Stan Sliwa, Carmela Farfalla

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

Reflection by Sr Mary Fermio RSJ...



We don't remember much about our own Baptism unless we were an adult, but for parents it is a proud day. One has only to be present at a child's

Baptism to see this. It is a day to celebrate as the child becomes a member of the faith community. Parents and friends hope only good things will happen to this child.

One can imagine, then, how Joseph and Mary felt as they presented their son to God, by taking Jesus to the Temple as the Law prescribed and making their offering. But how surprising it would be for them to have Simeon take Jesus into his arms and proclaim that he had now seen "the salvation which you have promised". They must have looked at each other in puzzlement, and maybe things began to fall into place. Like all parents they would have had expectations about the future of Jesus and what he would become. How precious this baby must have been to them, as they reflected and pondered on what had been said by Simeon and Anna.

Let us pray that, like them, we remain true to the God who loves us, despite the ups and downs we experience, remembering, Mary and Joseph also experienced the good and bad times, and ask them to walk with us.

First Reading Malachi 3:1-4

The Lord God says this: Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his temple; and the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire and the fuller's alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to the Lord as it should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will then be welcomed by the Lord as in former days, as in the years of old.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) *Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!*

1. O gates, lift up your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
et him enter, the king of glory! **(R.)**
2. Who is the king of glory?
The Lord, the mighty, the valiant,
the Lord, the valiant in war. **(R.)**
3. O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory! **(R.)**
4. Who is he, the king of glory?
He, the Lord of armies,
he is the king of glory. **(R.)**

Second Reading Hebrews 2:14-18

Since all the children share the same blood and flesh, Jesus too shared equally in it, so that by his death he could take away all the power of the devil, who had power over death, and set free all those who had been held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. For it was not the angels that he took to himself; he took to himself descent from Abraham. It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers so that he could be a compassionate and trustworthy high priest of God's religion, able to atone for human sins. That is, because he has himself been through temptation he is able to help others who are tempted.

Gospel Luke 2:22-32

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said:

'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace,
just as you promised;
because my eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared for all the nations to see,
a light to enlighten the pagans
and the glory of your people Israel.'

Communion Antiphon Luke 2:30-31

My eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples.



Pursuing a Lasting Love!
Celebrating Marriage Week

Marriage Week (7th-14th of Feb) is an important week to strategically think about how we can serve a significant portion of our parish congregation (those that are married).

This year's theme is: "Pursuing a Lasting Love."

In our SmartLoving programs we share skills that empower couples to continue to "pursue one another" no matter the length of time they have been married.

We have created a webpage with four resources for you to encourage couples to invest in their relationship:

- The Intentional Couple's Micro-Course (FREE)
 - St Valentine's Day Handout (FREE)
 - Marriage Enrichment - The Marriage Kit course
 - Support for Spouses in Troubled Marriages - The BreakThrough course
- Further info: E: info@marriageRC.org / T: +61 4 3434 6280 / www.marriagerc.org / www.smartloving.org

PARISH OFFERTORY GIVING

If you would like to make either a one-off donation or to set up recurring donations to the parish, please scan the QR code or head to our website:

TINYURL.COM/GIVEMELTON



SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.

In the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne, the safety and wellbeing of all persons is of highest priority.

THE SACRAMENTS OF PENANCE, EUCHARIST & CONFIRMATION 2025

An invitation is extended to join our partnered parishes of Melton and Melton South, after hours Sacrament Program called:

St Luke's Sacramental Program

for young people who do not attend a Catholic Primary School, or attend a Catholic Secondary School and are baptised, but *have not* received one or more of the above Sacraments.

We begin with an Information Night on Thursday, January 30, 2025 at 7pm sharp in St Dominic's Parish Hall - entry via the gate on Smith St, Melton.

Information and the application form for these programs is available online on our Parish website: www.melbcatholic.org/melton or in hard copy from the Gathering Area of St Catherine of Siena church.

Please complete the application form and either:

- Email it to the parish office at: melton@cam.org.au,
- Drop it off personally at the office between 9am and 3pm, or
- Place it into the return box in the Gathering Area of the church.



The Sacrament of Penance program begins on Thursday February 6, 2025.

Growing Together In Faith

LENTEN PROGRAM 2025

Check out next weekend's Tidings for information on the upcoming Lenten Program in our Parish:

Metanoia

PLEASE RING THE MASS MANAGER IF UNABLE TO ATTEND:

6 pm	Tania Walters	0492 952 478	11am	Liz Coustley	0490 885 515
9 am	Theo Franken	0411 040 897	5 pm	Josephine Krajina	0407 042 133

The Presentation of the Lord			Saturday & Sunday February 1&2, 2025	
MINISTERS OF:	6 PM	9 AM	11 AM	5 PM
Welcome	Bill McGuiness	Theo Franken	Liz Coustley	Frank Unferdorben
The Word	Tetchie Hadfield	Vickie Cassar	Cira Cleary	Josephine Krajina
Responder	Tania Walters	Jennifer Peters	Lea Jacuta	Lesley Sosa-Ritchie
Presentation of Gifts	Leny Obtinalla	Faith Tuputala	Chelsea Amato	Elainne de los Santos
Holy Communion	Kate Mulholland	Asther Creo	Liz Coustley	Ismael Sosa-Sanchez
PowerPoint Operator	James Taniman	Karl Metha	Daniella Ahmet	Nina Ahmet
Gift Shop	Margaret Richards	Graham Dempsey	Lea Jacuta	Frank Unferdorben
Choir	Divine Mercy	Veneration Choir	Veritas Choir	Tongan Choir
Counters	Maria Abela, Tania Walters			

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time			Saturday & Sunday February 8&9, 2025	
MINISTERS OF:	6 PM	9 AM	11 AM	5 PM
Welcomer	Kate Mulholland	Maureen Mohr	Lea Jacuta	Josephine Krajina
The Word	Manoj D'Silva	Sanghaya Creo	Liza Fernandes	Lesley Sosa-Ritchie
Responder	Tetchie Hadfield	Alzira Mascarenhas	Cira Cleary	Ismael Sosa-Sanchez
Presentation of Gifts	Tania Walters	Karl Metha	Lea Jacuta	Josephine Krajina
Holy Communion	Tania Walters	Theo Franken	Liz Coustley	Lesley Sosa-Ritchie
PowerPoint Operator	James Taniman	Sanyata Creo	Choir	Nina Ahmet
Gift Shop	Margaret Richards	Maureen Mohr	Lea Jacuta	Frank Unferdorben
Choir	Divine Mercy	Veneration Choir	St Anuarite Choir	
Counters	Karl Metha, Anne Stokie, Maureen Mohr			



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



The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the *faith* you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of *charity* enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed *hope*
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the
seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within
both humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen.

Franciscus

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

FEBRUARY

Wednesday, 5th	Mass at St Catherine's Church 9.15am Whole school Mass for the opening of the St Catherine's Primary School year
Thursday 6th	*Mass: 9.15 am St Dominic's Hall: Whole school Mass for the opening of St Dominic's Primary School year *St Luke's Penance Sacramental Program begins @ 7 pm in St Dominic's Hall
Wednesday 12th	*Mass: St Catherine's Church 9.15 am St Catherine's Year 6 students to attend *Baptism Information Night @ 7.30pm St Catherine of Siena Church
Thursday 13th	Mass: St Dominic's Church 9.15 am
Friday 14th	Mass: St Dominic's Church 9.15am: St Dominic's Year 6 students to attend
Saturday 15th	Baptisms @ 11am & 12.15pm
Saturday & Sunday 15th @ 6 pm or 16th @ 11am	Presentation Weekend for St Luke's Penance Sacramental Program
Wednesday 19th	Mass: St Catherine's Church 9.15 am: St Catherine's Year 5 students to attend
Thursday 20th	Mass: St Dominic's Church 9.15 am
Friday, 21st	Mass: St Dominic's Church 9.15am: St Dominic's Year 4 students to attend

HOME VISITATION & BLESSING REQUESTS

For Home Visitation & Blessing requests, please speak to
one of our priests after Mass or fill out the online request
form: [TINYURL.COM/HBLESSING](https://tinyurl.com/HBLESSING)



Soup Van

VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION

Do you:

- Have a passion for giving a 'hand up' to individuals experiencing food and financial insecurity?
- Love giving back to your local community?
- Enjoy engaging with people from all walks of life?

What could I be doing on the Soup Vans?

Preparing and packing food, assisting with loading the Soup Vans, distributing food on a 'Soup Van Run' and assisting in cleaning up the kitchen and soup van vehicle as a team.



Sign up now using our QR code!



VINNIES SOUP VANS STREET SERVICE MELTON



Soup Vans will continue its Street Service
around Melton as follows:

Tuesday 6.00-6.30pm

Melton Town Centre Amphitheatre
Palmerston St, Melton

Tuesday 7.00-7.30pm

Melton Station Square Shopping Centre
11-25 Station St, Melton Sth

Thursday (new stop) 6.00-7.00pm **Melton
Town Centre Amphitheatre**
Palmerston St, Melton

- Non-perishable pantry items
- Toiletries Soup,
- Sandwiches, hot food

Would you like to receive The Tidings before the weekend?

Head to our website to subscribe to The Tidings or simply scan the QR code to enter your email to receive a digital copy.

You will then receive a verification link via email to confirm your subscription.



Parish Offertory Giving December Update

Pledged:
\$6,428.69
Actual: \$5,198.35

Thank You

PARISH BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Announcements & Notices: Please submit your announcement or notices no later than 5pm 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.



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