



St Mary of the Cross Catholic Parish

EMBODYING CHRIST'S LOVE

Parish Priest: Fr Michael Kong
Deacon: George Piech-Meat

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time 4 October 2026

Readings for Year A Isaiah 5:1-7 Philippians 4:6-9 Matthew 21:33-43



"...the
kingdom of
God
will be taken
away from
you and
given to a
people who
will produce
its fruit."

MATTHEW 21:43

Faith That Bears Fruit:

Responding to God's Call in Everyday Life

Jesus' parable of the wicked tenants reminds us how easily we can forget that what God has entrusted to us comes with responsibility. Like the tenants, we can become focused on ourselves and what we feel entitled to, forgetting the One who has given us our lives, relationships, responsibilities and the people around us. The tenants reject the owner's servants and even kill his son, showing how far we can go when we close ourselves to God.

Faith calls us to put what we have received into action and to bear fruit. That fruit will look different for each of us because our callings are different. Some may lead or teach, while others serve through prayer, encouragement, compassion or simply being there for someone.

Jesus speaks of the rejected stone becoming the cornerstone. We may sometimes feel ordinary or unnoticed, but a small act of kindness, a patient word, a quiet prayer or an act of service can have a lasting impact on someone's life. We may never know what that small act has meant to another person.

The challenge is to recognise when God is calling us through Scripture, through others, through our circumstances or through the quiet prompting of the Holy Spirit. Our faith journey is not one we walk alone. When we remain open to God and willing to respond, our lives can bear fruit in ways that reflect the love of Jesus.

Josie Johnson
Parishioner



Our Parish Ministry and Service Groups

Pastoral Care & Outreach Ministries

Communion at Nursing Homes and to the Housebound: This team brings Communion services to five local nursing homes within our parish boundaries, and visit parishioners who are unable to attend Mass. Their faithful visits help our elderly and frail brothers and sisters remain closely united to the life of the parish. They also coordinate with the Parish Priest whenever the Anointing of the Sick is needed.

Monday Communion Service: Led by dedicated lay volunteers with the Parish Priest's approval, this ministry offers a weekly Communion service every Monday. It gives the faithful an additional opportunity to receive the Eucharist and to gather in prayer during the week.

Funeral Planning & Bereavement Outreach: Practicing the Spiritual Work of Mercy of comforting the sorrowful, this group assists grieving families in planning the funeral liturgy for their loved ones. Ministers also offer a compassionate, supportive presence and practical assistance during the funeral itself.

JAG (Justice Action Group): JAG promotes peace, human dignity and care for the vulnerable, putting the Gospel's call to justice and charity into concrete, everyday action. Members learn about and act on issues such as asylum seekers and refugees, domestic violence and homelessness, care for creation, First Nations Peoples and human trafficking. The meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm at St Louis', and everyone is warmly welcome.

SVDP: The St Vincent de Paul Society is a lay Catholic organisation that seeks to live the Gospel by recognising Christ in those who are poor and serving them with love, respect, justice, hope and joy. Vinnies Aspendale Conference meets on the 2nd & 4th Monday of the month at 4pm at St Louis', and Vinnies Mordialloc Conference meets on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7pm at St Brigid's. New members are always welcome. Contact Aspendale President: Joanne Partleton 0413 133184, Mordialloc President: Robyn Worsnop 0412 814 592

Food for Friends: Food for Friends Team create delicious home-cooked meals for people in our community who at times of need might appreciate the thoughtfulness of a meal made with Love. Meals are cooked at home or together in the St Louis' parish kitchen, then frozen and shared whenever a need arises. To learn more, please contact the Parish Office.

St Louis Tennis club: Founded and funded by parishioners in 1975, the club offers four courts and clubrooms behind St Louis' Church. It is a place where fellowship, friendship and healthy recreation help build up our parish family. Players of all abilities are welcome, and coaching is available for juniors and seniors at very reasonable rates. To join, contact our coach, Trish Angliss, on 0421 604 849.

Prayer Ministers: On the last weekend of each month prayer ministers are available at weekend Masses to pray with anyone who would like it. Anonymous prayer intentions may be left in the St Mary MacKillop box in our churches.

Join us for the Rosary and Eucharistic Adoration every Friday from 10.30am at St Brigid's, and on the first Saturday of each month from 4.30pm at St Louis'.

If you are interested in learning more about any of these groups or becoming involved, please feel free to contact the parish office by email.

We will also be inviting the various groups to come together in the near future, providing an opportunity to share information, exchange ideas and keep one another updated. We hope that this will help more parishioners discover the many ways they can share their gifts and become more actively involved in the life and mission of our parish.

News and Announcements

Season of Creation 1 September to 4 October



Living Water
Season of Creation 2026

Each year from September 1 to October 4, the Christian family unites for this worldwide celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home. It is a special season where we celebrate God as Creator, and acknowledge Creation as the divine continuing act that summons us as collaborators to love and care for the gift of all that is created.

The Feast of St Francis of Assisi is celebrated on 4 October and also ends the Season of Creation. This year we commemorate 800 years since his death. As the patron saint of animals and the environment, he embraced poverty, renounced his worldly possessions and began living a life of simplicity and of service to the poor. May we also learn to live a more simple life and listen to the cry of the poor and of the earth as custodians of this precious land on which we live.

Baptisms this Sunday

We welcome into our parish family **Lucas Vincenzo, Isla Aimee, Zachary Shane**

God has you in his hands on this special day. With every step you take, he guides you on your way.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) Information Night

Thursday 8th October at 7.30pm at St Louis Church, Aspendale

If you or someone you know is beginning to explore the Catholic faith or asking deeper questions about God, you are welcome to attend. For more information contact: mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au

Children's Liturgy Team (KIDZ ZONE) Meeting

Next Thursday, **8th October at 6 pm**, we will have a meeting at the St Louis Meeting Room to discuss Children's Liturgy in our parish. The purpose of this gathering is to discuss how we can develop and support faith formation for children during our Sunday Masses. If you would like to join the Children's Liturgy Team (KIDZ ZONE) and contribute to the faith formation of our children as a catechist, your presence would be greatly appreciated and would be a valuable part of the discussion.

Our children are the future of our Church, and as a parish community, we are committed to doing all we can to help them grow in faith and mature as members of our Christian community.

We ask for your continued prayers and support.

Weekday Masses at St Brigid's Next Week

There are funeral Masses scheduled at St Brigid's Church next Wednesday and Friday.

Therefore, the 10 am Mass on Wednesday, 7th October, will be cancelled and replaced by an 11 am funeral Mass.

The 11.30 am Mass on Friday, 9th October, will also be celebrated as a funeral Mass. If you are available, we warmly encourage you to join us and offer your prayers and support to the bereaved families.

Fr Michael's upcoming time away

Please note that Fr Michael will be away from 18th to 26th October, participating in a World Youth Day Familiarisation Trip organised by Harvest Journeys.

During this period, weekday Masses will be replaced by Holy Communion services, while the weekend Masses will continue as usual with visiting priests.

Fr Michael will also be away from 2nd to 27th November for his annual leave, which will include participation in an AI Forum in Rome.

During this period, weekday Masses from Monday to Thursday will be replaced by a Holy Communion service, but the Friday Masses will take place with a visiting priest.

Our weekend Masses will continue as usual with visiting priests.



formed
Forming Catholics for Life.

Brother Francis. The Barefoot saint of Assisi

In this 10 part audio drama, listeners can dive into the life of St Francis of Assisi as he goes from being a son of wealth and privilege to a man who gave up everything for the sake of Christ.

Go to: <https://formed.org/signup> type in St Mary of the Cross Mordialloc and Aspendale, and enter your name and email address, for free access to this and much more great content.

NEXT WEEK'S SERVE MINISTERS ROSTER - 28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 10/11 OCTOBER 26

10/11 Oct 26	28 th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) Isaiah 25: 6-10 Philippians 4: 12-14, 19-20 Matthew 22: 15-21 CUPPA						
	Reader	Commentator	Special Minister	Special Minister	Special Minister	Welcomer	Welcomer
6pm (A)	Julie Barnhoorn	Julie Buick	Sonia Williams	Adrienne Kennedy	Volunteer	Carmel Barker	Ann Brennan
8.00am (M)	Krystyna Wrzesinski	Chris McAleer	John Meyer	Marlene Tangso	Jack Meyer	Joey Virginie	Joan Healy
9.30am (A)	Phillip Morris	Helen Healy	Ron Schneider-Loos	Martin Newington	Elizabeth Newington	Eddie Joseph	Niko Tovia
11.00am (M)	Mark Carazzo	Dianne Wain	Peter Hannan	Christine D'Cruz	Volunteer	Patricia Chaves	Volunteer
Counters	Group 1	Joanne & Gary Partleton	Ronald Soares				

Recently deceased: Laurience Vaughan, Salvatore Finocchiaro

Anniversaries: Vanessa Mary Davies, Maud Erbs, Gordon White, James Cooke, Max Braganza, Elisabetta Condo, Bette McLaughlin, Edmund Partleton, Joe Cerritelli, Stanley Amos Wagstaff, Mary D'Souza, Megan O'Keeffe, Fr Luke Newington OFM, Pat MacDonald, Carmel Kennan, Kathleen Richards, Mary Ellen Doherty, Luis Barriga, Violet Waltho/Larter, Neil Noonan, James Creaney, Mary Nicholson, Nancy Stott, Terry O'Brien, James Exton, Julie Cafaino, Brian Gleeson, Helen Milne, Amanda McKirdy, Harry Kennan, John C LeClercq, William Velten, Vanessa Gapiside, Jean Hall, Eileen Mary Keane, Julian Francis Gurrieri, Josephine Lindfield, Nancy Scott, Gerald Edward Fitzgerald, Kevin Davies, Maureen Connolly, Enid Curtain, Hazel Archer, Julia Reading, Amy Heffernan, Bill Heffernan, Hector Laws, Francisco Garcia, Elisea Garcia

Praying for healing and the sick: Maureen McKeown, Steve Osboldstone, Maree Wiltshire, Sammy Dahalid, Kathie Martin, Edith Venton, Jan Mitula, Mim Rodolico, Michael Albert, Fr Terry Keane, Luis, Julie Griffiths, Rita Popley, Steve Govac, Chris Wardle, Deborah Joseph, Chris Doran, Ruben David, Vasilos Garavelis, Sophia Bicos, Mary Agiropoulos, Prunella Julien, Maree Wesols, Peter Waltho, Jeffrey Sellar, Noleen Dunn, Brilliant boys, John Catalano, Damian Haggerty, Alasdair Hughes, Andrea Williams .

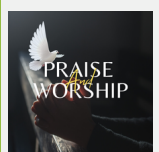
Growing in community & belonging at St Mary of the Cross



Children's Liturgy
5 - 12-year-olds.
4th weekend of the month. 6pm, 9:30am and 11am



Prayer Ministry
Intercessory prayer.
Last weekend of the month - all masses.



Praise & Worship
3rd Friday of month
7.30 - 8.30pm.
Alternates between each church.

Our Parish acknowledges that we gather, pray and live on the land of the Bunurong People of the Kulin nation, and pay our respects to Elders, past, present and emerging. We recognise their continued connection to Country, and we thank them for their role in caring for, and maintaining Country and waterways, over thousands of generations.

Contact us
Parish Office: 03 9580 7981
OPEN Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday's 9am to 4.30pm
Parish Coordinator: Ann Fitzgerald
mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au

Pastoral care
If you would like a pastoral visit, we have volunteers available to drop by for a chat or to organise some help if required. Please contact the office at
mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au

Baptism Coordinator
Debbie Poynton 0403 471 931

WEEKEND MASSES

St Louis' Saturday 6pm
St Brigid's Sunday 8am
St Louis' Sunday 9.30am
St Brigid's Sunday 11am

Our 6pm Saturday Vigil & 8am Sunday Masses are live streamed and can be accessed at:
[catholicmassstmaryofthecross](http://catholicmassstmaryofthecross.com)

WEEKDAY MASSES

St Louis' Mon 9.15am Communion Service,
St Louis' Tue 9.15am
St Brigid's Wed 10am
St Louis' Thur 9.15am
St Brigid's Fri 11.30am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AND HOLY ROSARY

St Brigid's every Fri 10.30am
St Louis' 1st Sat of the month 4.30pm

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

St Louis' Monday's 7.30 - 8.30pm

RECONCILIATION

St Brigid's Fri after 11.30am Mass
St Louis' Sat 5.30pm before 6pm Mass

Our Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and human dignity of children, young people & adults at risk in our community.

CHILD SAFEGUARDING TEAM:

Fr Michael Kong 9580 7981
Deacon George 9580 7981
Trish 0421 604 849
Joe 0407 354 568
Helen 0498 178 899
Robyn 0412 814 592