



# St Mary of the Cross Catholic Parish

EMBODYING CHRIST'S LOVE

Parish Priest: Fr Michael Kong

Deacon: George Piech-Meat

**6th Sunday of Easter 10 May 2026**

Readings for Year A Acts 8: 14-17 1 Peter 3: 15-18 John 14: 15-21



## *The promise of the Holy Spirit*

Jesus is preparing His disciples for events that are yet to come on their faith journey.

Their reactions to the events of the past month would suggest that many were feeling rather fragile faithwise. However, unknown to them more revelations and challenges were in the offing, viz. the Ascension and Pentecost. Jesus assures them He will not leave them untended. He explains that the Father will give them an Advocate, the Holy Spirit, to be with them always. He is preparing them for His physical departure. He assures them that the Holy Spirit will be a guiding and binding influence individually and collectively.

This is the same Spirit we receive at Baptism, and strengthened at Confirmation. The gifts of the spirit are wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and awe. Which of these Gifts most help you to live as a follower of Jesus? Which of these Gifts do you need to increase so as to face life's challenges? How do you experience the presence of the Holy Spirit in your life? Jesus reassures His disciples that God is always near!

**Chris Comas**  
**Parishioner**



[m.stmaryofthecross.com](http://m.stmaryofthecross.com)



[m.stmaryofthecross.com/facebook](https://www.facebook.com/m.stmaryofthecross)



[catholicmassstmaryofthecross](https://www.youtube.com/catholicmassstmaryofthecross)

# News and Announcements

Heavenly Father,

We thank You for the gift of mothers and motherly figures, for their love that reflects Your own, for their patience, strength, and gentle guidance.

Bless all mothers and those who play a motherly role today and everyday—those who cradle little ones in their arms those who guide grown children with wisdom, and those who hold their children in prayer from afar.

Grant them courage in trials, joy in the everyday moments, and peace in knowing they are never alone.

May the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of our Lord, intercede for them and keep them under her mantle of protection. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.



## Breast Cancer Mother's Day Appeal 3<sup>rd</sup> collection

This Mother's Day, you can help mums - and daughters, aunts, sisters, grandmas and cherished friends – survive breast cancer. This Mother's Day, your gift directly funds the clinical trials research working to change that – for all women effected. Breast Cancer Trials (BCT) is a group of world-leading breast cancer doctors and researchers based in Australia and New Zealand with a commitment to exploring and finding better treatments for people affected by breast cancer. **♥ Donate to Help Mums Survive ♥**

## New Parishioner Morning Tea Saturday 23 May



Are you a new or relatively new parishioner?

You are invited to come along to a morning tea **on Saturday 23 May, 10am to 11am** in the foyer of our church at St Louis' (37

Dolphin Street, Aspendale). Our Parish Leadership Team, and other members of the Parish Pastoral Council would love to say hello. You will get to meet other new parishioners and learn a little more about your new parish. Please let us know you will be joining us by signing up at the Welcome Desk.

## Caritas Australia Lebanon Emergency Appeal

The situation in Lebanon remains extremely fragile, and civilians urgently need humanitarian support. More than 2,000 people have been killed and over 1.1 million people displaced nationwide, including more than 390,000 children. Our partners Caritas Lebanon continue to deliver emergency food, water, shelter and health support across the country, maintaining humanitarian convoys to hard-to-reach areas in southern Lebanon. Stand with the people of Lebanon today. Learn more or make a donation today at [www.caritas.org.au/lebanon](http://www.caritas.org.au/lebanon) or via the QR code.



## Laudatio Si' week 16 - 24 May From Hope to Action

Laudatio Si' Week is an annual global Catholic celebration marking the anniversary of Pope Francis' 2015 Encyclical **Laudato Si' (Praise be to you)** on 'Care for Our Common Home'. It promotes ecological conversion through prayer, reflection and concrete action, encouraging communities to address climate change, consumerism and the cries of the poor.

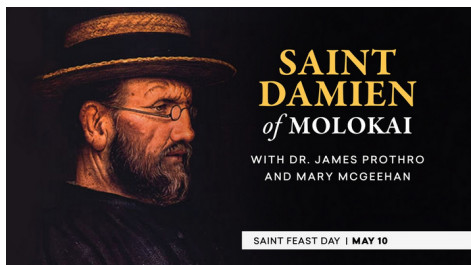
We are asking for one action in one week from the ideas list as part of a Global Catholic Response. Your Parish Earthcare Team [www.caritas.org.au/catholic-earthcare](http://www.caritas.org.au/catholic-earthcare)

### Ideas for Laudatio Si' Week

- Plant trees or pollinator plants.
- Support your local charity winter appeal.
- Buy second hand or upcycle.
- Reuse single-use plastics. BYO containers.

## National Count of Weekend Mass Attendance 2026

This count will be taken at our masses over 4 weekends during the month of May. As this is a more comprehensive survey than previous years, we thank you for your cooperation.



## FORMED - St Damien of Molokai

St Damien was born in Belgium but spent most of his life ministering to lepers in Molokai, Hawaii. An incredible example of holiness, he dedicated his whole life to spreading the Gospel.

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.

# News and Announcements

## Sacramental Journey towards First Reconciliation

Please keep in your prayers the five children who accompanied by their parents have begun the journey towards the Sacrament of First Reconciliation. Our friends are Hunter, Lyla, Mateo, Natalie and Angelique.

We welcome the children and their families as they attend our 9.30am Mass this Sunday at St Louis' as part of their journey towards the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Please welcome them and have a cuppa with the families after mass.

## Scripture and Friendship Group Tuesday 12 May

Our Parish Scripture & Friendship group is on this coming **Tuesday 12 May at Ann's home, 47 Gothic Road Aspendale**. We begin at 10am and will finish at about 11am for a cuppa.

This group is open for anyone - we discuss the coming Sunday's Gospel, sharing our thoughts, questions or just listening. A great way to meet people in our Parish.

For any queries contact Ann on 0425 712 741 or Carmel 0425773608.



## JAG Meeting Wednesday 13 May

The JAG vision is to follow Jesus' example to hear and respond to issues of social justice including family violence, human trafficking, refugees and asylum seekers, people experiencing homelessness, First Nations

people and the protection of the environment. If you have an interest in these areas, please do come to our monthly meeting at St Louis' Church. It is on **Wednesday 13 May from 7.30-9pm** at St Louis' in Aspendale. All welcome.



## Food for Friends

Are you able to cook a meal for our freezers at St Louis and St Brigid's? Stocks are getting low. Containers and labels for ingredients are available to be picked up from both churches. Or do you know someone who could benefit from our Food for Friends that is struggling or in need of assistance?

Please let Ann Brennan know on 0425 712 741.



## Praise and Worship Friday 15 May 7.30pm

Please join us on **Friday 15 May at St Brigid's Church** for Praise and Worship from 7.30 to 8.30pm, with a cuppa afterwards.

Come along to pray, sing and worship among friends.



## Building the Synodal Way Together

Preparations for a Synod to be held in the Archdiocese of Melbourne in 2026 are now underway. A synodal gathering is focused on pastoral renewal and can result in decrees or pastoral plans that guide the diocese in its planning.

In our parish we will pray together the Synod Prayer that the Holy Spirit will guide conversations and action.

## Who participates in a Synod?

A Synod involves the whole People of God: bishops, priests, deacons, religious and lay faithful. Each has a distinct role, but all share responsibility for the Church's mission. Synodality does not blur roles - it helps each vocation flourish in service of the Gospel.

## Synodality is about mission

The purpose of synodality is not internal reform for its own sake. It's goal is evangelisation - helping the Church become more faithful, more welcoming and more effective in proclaiming the Gospel to today's world.

If you would like to become involved in the preparation toward the Melbourne Synod please email: [Synod2026@cam.org.au](mailto:Synod2026@cam.org.au)

## NEW YOUTH GROUP @ ST PATS!

6:00-7:30PM  
SUNDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> MAY

Contact Emily for more information  
[emwisnie@gmail.com](mailto:emwisnie@gmail.com)

\* FOOD  
\* FORMATION  
\* FRIENDSHIP  
\* PRAYER

\* FOR TEENS (YR 7- YR 12)

ST PATRICK'S  
MENTONE PARISH  
CENTRE



# NEXT WEEK'S SERVE MINISTERS ROSTER - THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD - 17TH MAY 2026

| 16/17 May 2026 | The Ascension of the Lord (Year A) Acts 1: 1-11 Ephesians 1: 17-23 Matthew 28: 16-20 |                  |                    |                  |                  |               |                   |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|-------------------|
|                | Reader                                                                               | Commentator      | Special Minister   | Special Minister | Special Minister | Welcomer      | Welcomer          |
| 6pm (A)        | Marie Seddon                                                                         | <b>Volunteer</b> | Bernie Stuart      | Marg De Vries    | <b>Volunteer</b> | Julie Buick   | Annette Brilliant |
| 8.00am (M)     | Krystyna Wrzesinski                                                                  | Chris McAleer    | Jack Meyer         | Joan Healy       | Stephen Pooley   | Joey Virginie | Josie Johnson     |
| 9.30am (A)     | Maureen Wraight                                                                      | Phillip Morris   | Ron Schneider-Loos | Mary Nayna       | Felice Cortese   | Berna Wake    | Norma Taylor      |
| 11.00am (M)    | Melwyn D'Mello                                                                       | Gail Bell        | Helen Rocks        | Peter Wain       | Peter Hannan     | Monique Bruce | Patricia Chaves   |
| Counters       | Group 3                                                                              | Joe Corda        | Deborah Joseph     | Nelson Popley    |                  |               |                   |

**Recently deceased:** Norma Hogan (Mordialloc - Aunt of Helen Rocks)

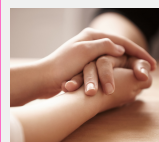
**Anniversaries:** Tom Wain, William O'Brien, Patricia O'Leary, Frank Jones, John Popley, Virginia Popley, Eugen Vitulic, Wayne Williams, Jan Clark, Steve Coultas, , Patricia Joy Ellis, Ted Newton, Ruth D'Cruz, Joan Hopkins, Len Hopkins, Marlene Stockdale, Inez Garlick, Barry Hirning, Stella Freis, Vito Giarratana, Christine de Niese, Beryl Lomas, Samuel Dornom, Terry Feely, Margaret Maley, Norm McCloud, Terry McCloud, Joe Curtain, William Doherty, Michael Cleary, Rodney Aldridge, Guiseppe Favola, Rhys Gillard, , Maisie Slattery, Maria Godeassi, Rachael McCarthy, John Neal, Yvonne Neal.

**Praying for healing and the sick:** Chris Wardle, Adrienne Kennedy, Len Scott, Deborah Joseph, Chris Doran, Ruben David, Vasilos Garavelis, Mary Agiropoulos, Luis, Marisa, Rita Popley, Prunella Julien, Sophia Bicos, Maree Wesols, Jeffrey Sellar, Peter Waltho, Noleen Dunn, John Catalano, Damian Haggerty, Alasdair Hughes, Harry Donohue, Stephen Hopkins, Andrea Williams, Stephen Oldboldstone, Brilliant boys.

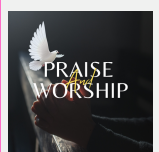
## Growing in community & belonging at St Mary of the Cross



**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.

**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](mailto:mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au)  
Parish House: 03 9412 8432

**Pastoral care**  
If you would like a pastoral visit, Helen is available to drop by for a chat or to organise some help if required.  
Please contact the office at  
[mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au](mailto:mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au)

**Baptism Coordinator**  
Debbie Poynton 0403 471 931

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.

## 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.au)

## WEEKDAY MASSES

St Louis' Mon 9.15am Communion Service,  
St Louis' Tues 9.15am,  
St Brigid's Wed 10am,  
St Louis' Thurs 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

## PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Fr Michael, Trish Angliss, Berna Wake, John Field

**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  
Trish 0421 604 849  
Joe 0407 354 568  
Helen 0498 178 899  
Anthony 0407 505 341  
Robyn 0412 814 592  
Denise 0412 926 752