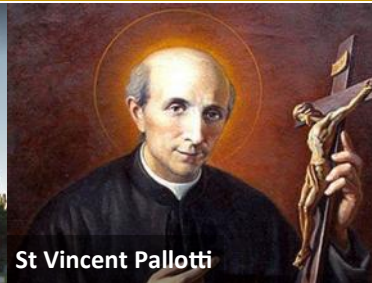


ST PATRICK'S AND ST KEVIN'S PARTNERED PARISHES

St Patrick's and St Kevin's Parishes are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people and vulnerable adults

The Ascension of the Lord Year A

Sunday 17th May, 2026



St Vincent Pallotti

Parish Priest
Rev Fr. Siby John SAC
E: siby.john@cam.org.au

Parish Co-ordinator
Mathew Sullivan
Wed-Fri 9am-2:30pm
E: murrumbeena@cam.org.au

Parish Finance Officer
Sue Leong
Tues 10am-3pm
E: murrumbeena@cam.org.au

Partnered Parish Office
6 Dalny Rd, Murrumbena, 3163
P: 9568 7365

Next weeks Mass Times

St Patrick's Murrumbena
234 Murrumbena Road,
Murrumbena, 3163
E: murrumbeena@cam.org.au
W: melbcatholic.org/s/murrumbena

This weeks Mass Times

Wed: 9:15am
Fri: 9:15am
Sat: 9:15am Mass and Benediction
and Confession
Sun: 9am and 4pm

St Kevin's Ormond
72 Glen Orme Ave,
Ormond, 3204
E: ormond@cam.org.au
W: melbcatholic.org/s/ormond

This weeks Mass Times

Tues: 9am
Thurs: 9am
Sat: 5pm (Confession at 4:30pm)
Sun: 10:30 am

THE SOLEMNITY OF ASCENSION OF THE LORD REFLECTION BY FR. NJOKU CANICE CHUKWUEMEKA

The Ascension is an important solemnity attesting to, and celebrating the reality of the God made man – Jesus' returning to the Father. Hence the Psalmist invites "all people to clap their hands and cry out with joy" because Our Lord "goes up with shouts of joy and with trumpet blast". Together with Christ's resurrection, it is also a clear manifestation of Jesus' Messiah-ship. It is a solemnity that lifts up and sustains the hope of Christians that one day we shall be where Christ is. It is the final battle blow of Jesus Christ against the devil.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church in teaching about this solemnity highlights the following three important theological points: Christ's Ascension marks the definitive entrance of Jesus' humanity into God's heavenly domain, (cf. Acts 1:11);...Jesus Christ, the head of the Church, precedes us into the Father's glorious kingdom so that we, the members of his Body, may live in the hope of one day being with him forever. Jesus Christ, having entered the sanctuary of heaven once and for all, intercedes constantly for us as the mediator who assures us of the permanent outpouring of the Holy Spirit (665-667). Ascension therefore, marks the beginning of the fulfillment of Christ's promise to send us the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. So, The Solemnity of Ascension sets us on a fast track to receive the Holy Spirit because, Jesus himself tells us: "If I do not go away the Counsellor will not come to you (Jn 16, 7).

In the second reading, Paul prays asking God to send us: "... a Spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed to bring you the full knowledge of him". This is because the Holy Spirit is the one who gives the knowledge, wisdom and understanding necessary for us to carry on after Jesus must have returned to the Father, and the one who directs all our missionary endeavours. That is why Jesus says: "He will teach you all things..."

In today's gospel Jesus before his Ascension, advised us to: "...stay in the city then, until you are clothed with the power from on high". This power from on high we must patiently and humbly seek if we must make any positive impact upon this world of ours. We must therefore pay attention to what Jesus tells us in today's gospel. As an experienced commander He knows the terrain we are about to launch into very well, and what it takes to be successful there. He knows how delicate and fragile the hearts of men and women of our age are. He knows that only the Holy Spirit can convince them. So as we celebrate the Solemnity of Ascension today, let us pray for the grace to patiently wait for the fulfilment of Jesus' promise to us on Pentecost day.

<https://frcanicenjoku.com/2013/05/08/homily-for-the-solemnity-of-ascension-of-the-lord-may-9-2013/>

NEXT WEEKEND WE CELEBRATE PENTECOST SUNDAY

Pentecost is widely celebrated as the "birthday of the Church" because it marks the day the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles in Jerusalem, empowering them to boldly preach the Gospel and launch the Church's global mission.



READERS AND TEA SERVICE VOLUNTEERING LIST

This weekend 16th and 17th May (week 3)

Next weekend 23rd and 24th May (week 4)

St Patrick's Readers	St Kevin's Readers
Sun. 9am: Des Morvell and Marisa Leon	Sat 5pm Vigil: David Zammit
Sun. 4pm: Pious Joseph and Leena Pious	Sun 10.30am: Caroline Gojak
Cuppa: Joan Krutli/ Cathie Nankervis / Marisa	

St Patrick's Readers	St Kevin's Readers
Sun. 9am: Kathleen Thompson & Marianne Somerville	Sat 5pm Vigil: Ray Hickey
Sun. 4pm: Maureen Medaris	Sun 10.30am: Nicole Vine
Cuppa: Jane Lama and Danielle Floros	



LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK

Julie Stapleton, Bill Huang, Mark Sulikowski, Gemma Wu, Sarah Gradhl, Ken, Sonia Treweek, Susie, Anne, Anna, Fr Maurice, Norberto Fuerzas, Peter Drabbant, Hugh McGill, Charles, Grant Wellington, Chris, Ken, Fr Stanley, Dorothy Edwards, Rosemary Jack, Nathan Cairns, Craig Smith, Irene Kobylarz, Obinna Okoye, Madeleine Fisher, Daniel Sullivan, Bryn, Chris, Sheree, Leigh Nichols, Loraine, and Royce Nancarrow

FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED

Theresa Wilma Moses

FOR THE DEATH MEMORIAL

Lina Raso, Josephine Raso, Bartolomeo Giuliano, Pope Francis, Marie Ellen Lusby, Josephine Raso, Frank Raso

THANKSGIVING	CATHOLIC CARE	CHURCH	PRESBYTERY
ST PATRICK'S	-	\$654.60	\$409.75
ST KEVIN'S	\$375.50	\$385.00	\$351.60



ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

**If you need assistance please call
1800 305 330** If someone needs help,
please give them this number.

VISIT TO VERA OBERZIG

Some parishioners visited Vera last week and sent her the love and well wishes from our Parish. Vera was a long time sacristan and volunteer at St Patrick's Church.

Please keep her and all the sick of our Parish in your prayers



Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver

ANNUAL MISSION DINNER

**Sunday 14th June
1.00 pm**

Tickets: \$50.00 per person.

The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver Hall,
154 Cotham Road, Kew.

Proceeds will assist the missions.

**Bookings close 5th June.
Bookings: Phone 9817 3715**

ST VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL

Funds raised through the Vinnies Winter Appeal will directly support our core programs, providing vital assistance to people experiencing or at risk of homelessness, poverty, and cost-of-living pressures.



SCAN TO DONATE

PLEASE GIVE TO THE VINNIES WINTER APPEAL TODAY

Call **13 18 12**, scan the QR code or go online at:
<https://donate.vinnies.org.au/winter-appeal>

JOIN US FOR OUR PARISH ROSARY

Tuesday Nights 7:30pm
St Patrick's Church, Murrumbena

FREE TRAINING ON AUTOMATIC DEFIBRILLATOR USE

Wednesday 20th May 7pm—9pm

Rovira House: 5 Dalny Road, Murrumbreena

Run by Community First Responders

Available to local residents and Parishioners.

An automatic defibrillator located at;

21 Beauville Avenue, Murrumbreena: Located near the front door



MANDATORY SAFEGUARDING REQUIREMENTS & TRAINING NIGHT

ATTENTION ALL VOLUNTEERS!

There will be a Safeguarding Essentials Training night for all volunteers to ensure our Parishes meets the new strict safeguarding guidelines set out by the Archdiocese.

Tuesday 26th May, 7.00-8.30pm at St Kevin's Church, Ormond

Tuesday 2nd June, 7.00-8.30pm at Rovira House, 5 Dalny Road, Murrumbreena

If you wish to do this yourself at home, please use the links below, however be advised:

We require the following 3 parts before September 2026 for ALL Parishioners

1. **A signed code of conduct form** (to be updated every 3 years)
2. **Safeguarding Essentials Training updated:** (to be updated every 3 years)
3. **A valid Working With Children Check, which is allocated to the Parish where you volunteer**
(Currently the majority of volunteers only have provided 1 or 2 of these: **we need all 3 please**)

Online safeguarding training link:

<https://melbournecatholic.org/safeguarding/safeguarding-training-and-upcoming-events/safeguarding-training-modules/>

(you will need your unique Working with Children Check ID/VIT ID number, an email address)

Upon registration you will be asked to identify your role within the parish i.e. volunteer.

Any current active volunteers who still have not applied for a **Working With Children Check WWCC**,

Can you please do this ASAP:

To do this in person at the Post Office please go to <https://www.vic.gov.au/person-applications>

or to apply online <https://service.vic.gov.au/services/working-with-children>

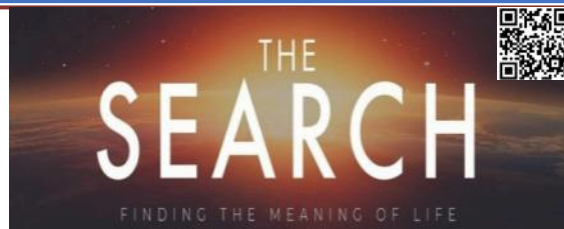
ALPHA CONNECT PRESENTS

THE SEARCH PROGRAM

10 June 2026 to 19 August 2026 (Wednesdays)

7:30 to 9:00 PM

Rovira House 5 Dalny Road, Murrumbreena



Ever wondered if there's more to life than the daily grind?

Whether you're a lifelong Catholic or just curious about the "big questions,"

The Search by the Augustine Institute is for you.

The team who runs the Alpha Connect is inviting you to join us for a compelling video series exploring life, death, and the journey in between. Everyone is welcome!

Each session will start with a simple dinner, a video and a discussion. Ask questions freely or simply listen.

Feel free to email the team at alphamurrumbreena@gmail.com if you have any questions.

We look forward to embarking on this journey with you!

GOD BLESS ALL THE MOTHERS IN OUR PARISH

With great joy we celebrated all the blessings received from all the mothers in our Partnered Parishes last weekend on Mothers Day. May God continue to bless, strengthen, guard and uphold them always. Fr Siby



Entrance Antiphon Acts of the Apostles 1:11 Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens? This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

First Reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11)

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.' Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.' As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 46:2-3. 6-9. R. v.6 (R.) God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians (Ephesians 1:17-23)

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 28:19. 20 Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (Matthew 28:16-20)

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commandments I gave to you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

Communion Antiphon Matthew 28:20 Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, alleluia.

PRAY FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS IN NIGERIA

Christians in Nigeria continue to suffer greatly for their faith, yet many persevere with deep trust in Christ and devotion to Our Lady. *Aid to the Church in Need* invites you to join with John, a Catholic farmer in Nigeria, in praying a decade of the Rosary this week for persecuted Christians and all who suffer for their faith.



ST VINCENT DE PAUL: CALLING NEW VOLUNTEERS



Murrumbeena Saint Vincent De Paul is calling for volunteers to help with our services.

We are a small group who serve within the St Kevin's and St Patrick's Parish boundaries.

People who work with us need to have a current Police check and a Working With Children Check, which can be arranged and paid for by St Vincent De Paul.

There is also a mandatory compliance training to be done, and again, this can be arranged for you.

If you have some spare time and are interested in learning more about our work, please contact us at

Email: svdp3163@hotmail.com

MELBOURNE CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER IS NOW AVAILABLE

Get your free copy of Melbourne Catholic in the Parish Foyer or subscribe online at: <https://melbournecatholic.org/campaign/subscribe>

