

SUNDAY, 27TH SEPTEMBER 2026
TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

Parish of The Holy Spirit and St. Francis

St Mary's

Immaculate Heart of Mary

Sacred Heart

Dear Parishioners,

I hope this message finds you well and enjoying the gentle rain that is refreshing our gardens and bringing new life to the earth. By the time you read this bulletin, the 2026 AFL Grand Final will have come and gone, and may the best team truly have been victorious. To those who support the winning side, congratulations on the joy and excitement of your team's achievement. And for those whose team came second, let us remember that sport is not only about competition, but also about perseverance, teamwork, and good sportsmanship. This doesn't take away the disappointment of coming second, but it reminds us that every experience – positive or negative – is an opportunity to grow stronger, more resilient, and more grounded in who we are becoming. This way of thinking also speaks deeply to our faith. Christ's suffering was real, painful, and at times seemed like defeat. Yet it was through that very suffering that the glory of the Resurrection emerged – the triumph of love, the victory of hope, and the gift of new life for all. Just as sport teaches us to rise after a loss, our faith teaches us that God works through every moment, shaping us through challenge and joy alike. In Christ, even what feels like "second place" becomes a path toward renewal, strength, and grace.



Our Parish Afternoon Tea is fast approaching, and we warmly invite everyone to come and celebrate together. If you are unable to bring food, please know that this is absolutely fine – your presence is what matters most. Come, meet others, learn some new names, and enjoy being part of our parish community. If you haven't yet responded, please fill in a yellow form or email the parish office. Your participation helps us prepare well for this joyful gathering.

One important aspect of our Christian life is being prepared, and with this in mind it is worth noting that Christmas is now only 90 days away. This means we are just 64 days from the beginning of the Season of Advent. As we draw closer, I would like to help our parish prepare for our Advent Prayer Groups. These small gatherings are a wonderful opportunity to deepen our faith, reflect on the coming of Christ, and share prayerful companionship with others. I invite you to consider what part you might like to play in these groups. Each gathering needs someone to facilitate – this could be one person for all four weeks, or the role could be shared among different people each week. You may prefer simply to come along, listen, and share your wisdom and experiences with the group. Every contribution enriches our parish and strengthens our shared journey of faith. More information will be available soon regarding the days, times, venues, and the cost of the Advent book we will be using. May this season of preparation draw us closer to Christ and to one another.



Our parish is truly blessed by the presence of our young children. At times their little voices, movements, or moments of restlessness may distract us, yet they are also beautiful signs of life, hope, and the future of our faith community. Children learn to belong to the Church by being welcomed into it, and Sunday Mass is one of the places where they gradually discover that this is their spiritual home. I encourage us all to be patient, understanding, and generous towards parents who are doing their best to bring their children to worship. Rather than seeing a restless child as an interruption, let us see a family choosing to be with us and a young person learning, little by little, what it means to belong to God's family. A parish filled with the sounds of children is a parish filled with life – and for this we should be deeply grateful.

Finally, Daylight saving time in Victoria begins next weekend, on **Sunday, 4 October 2026**, when clocks move forward from 2:00 am to 3:00 am. With this change, please note that our **Saturday evening Mass at St Mary's** will move to **6:00 pm** starting from **Saturday, 10th October 2026**. Thank you for your attention to this adjustment, and please remind each other.



Jesus said,
"Let the little children come to me,
and do not hinder them, for the
kingdom of heaven
belongs to such as these."
Matthew 19:14

*Have a great week.
God bless, Fr Martin.*

WE PRAY FOR...

ILLNESS:

Rosa Nistico, Elizabeth Kiernikowski, Maria Reilly, Nancy Camera, Lucy Finnegan, Ebony McDonald, Teresa Stynes, Oliver & James Mendis, Mary Ryan, Sunny & Hunter Drew, Joseph Galekovic, Clive O'Connor, Rita Spinella, Kerstin Thomas, Marie Northey, Martin Patane, Shane Cowie, Anna Slawek, Melita Lambiris, Malcom Keys, Carmel Finley, M.S., Barry Martin, Vera Molloy, Claire Lawrence, Tom Fischer, Joan Tranter, Stella Noal, Peter Teasdale, Paul Kennedy, Vlad, Antonio Salas, Prue Turner, Anna, Colin Lewin, Peter Robertson

ANNIVERSARIES:

Mary Simm, Ruby Stoppa
Sr Paschal
Raymon Grimmer
Sr Josephine O'Donnell,
Peter Longshaw
Nata Caputa

SACRAMENTS 2026



FIRST RECONCILIATION

TERM 4

Tues 10,17 & 24 Nov 5:30 pm

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Semester 1: 2027

CONFIRMATION

Thu 3 Sept to 19 Nov 5 pm

Information & bookings at
sandringham@cam.org.au

PLEASE NOTE.

Parish Afternoon Tea set-up is **Saturday 3 October at 9.30am**, NOT Friday 2 October at 9.30am, as stated on the invitation. Apologies for the confusion. Peta Wassell

VIGIL MASS TIME CHANGE

The Vigil Mass will be celebrated **at 6.00pm from Saturday 10th October**. Please note the new time from this date.

Entrance Antiphon Daniel 3:31,29,30,43,42

All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments.

But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

First Reading Ezekiel 18:25-28

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Ps 24:4-9. R. v.6

(R.)Remember your mercies, O Lord.

1. Lord, make me know your ways.

Lord, teach me your paths.

Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. (R)

2. Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord. (R.)

3. The Lord is good and upright.

He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor. (R.)

Second Reading Philippians 2:1-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

"Which of the two did the father's will?"
Matthew 21:31

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil

5 pm St Mary's

59 Holyrood St, Hampton

Sunday Morning

9 am Sunday - Sacred Heart

13 Fernhill Rd, Sandringham

10:30 am Immaculate Heart

441 Bluff Rd, Hampton East

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Mon 9:15 am Immaculate Heart

Tue 9:15am Sacred Heart

Wed 9:15am Sacred Heart

Thur 9:15am St Mary's

CONFESSION TIMES

Sat. 4:45 pm St Mary's

Sun. 8:45 am Sacred Heart

PRAYER & ADORATION

All are welcome!

Rosary & Prayers

Sun, 10 am Immaculate Heart

Mon, 8:50 & 9:50 am Immaculate

Heart

Tue, 8:45 am Sacred Heart *New Time!!*

Wed, 8:20 am Sacred Heart

Thu, 8:45 am St Mary's *New Time!!*

Adoration

Wed, 8:45-9:10am Sacred Heart

EMERGENCIES

For anointing of the sick please
call 7036 9381 and dial 3

His state was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross.

But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation John 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;

I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 21:28-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir," but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Communion Antiphon Psalm 118:4-5

Remember your word to your servant, O Lord,
by which you have given me hope.

This is my comfort when I am brought low.

**PLEASE TAKE
ME HOME
FOR FURTHER
REFLECTION.**



POPE'S INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER: FOR THE CARE OF WATER.

Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

PARISH CELEBRATION – FEAST OF ST FRANCIS

Sunday 4th October 2026 2pm

PARISH LUNCH: Please clearly label ingredients on the plate you are bringing and cut all food into “finger” pieces. There are some blank ingredient lists in RSVP box if this assists. Please write name under plate. Set up, this will be happening at **9:30 am on Saturday 3rd October**

Any queries please contact:

St Mary's: Jennifer Withecomb, Michele Connell, Angelina Robinson

Immaculate Heart: Angelina Robinson, Cheryl Juelg, Rick Thomas

Sacred Heart: Sue Thorp, Heather McGrath, Mark Shannon

BITE SIZE THOUGHTS BY GREG SUNTER

LIVING THE GOSPEL – SAYING ‘YES!’

In many ways, it is easy to say ‘Yes’ and not really mean it. Some people do it all the time in their lives. They say ‘Yes’ when they have no intention at all of following through on their commitment. It’s easy to say ‘Yes’ and not mean it when it comes to faith as well. It’s pretty easy to turn up at Church on a Sunday and be seen to be doing the ‘right’ thing. But if our faith doesn’t change the way we live, then maybe we’re really saying ‘No’ to God.

TURN UNWANTED FOREIGN CURRENCY INTO A GIFT!

Have foreign coins or banknotes from past holidays? Donate them as part of our Parish Spring Clean!

Current banknotes will be exchanged for Australian Dollars and donated to our Scholarship Appeal in Remexio, Timor-Leste. Coins & obsolete currency will be donated through Travel Money Oz to UNICEF.

Collection boxes will be in each church foyer and will be collected weekly or give directly to your local contact. For more information, speak to your parish contact (see poster) or visit: www.travelmoneyoz.com/donate-foreign-coin

PARISH DINNER – SATURDAY 10 OCTOBER

Our Parish Dinner is usually held on the first Saturday of the month. However, due to our Parish Celebration next month, the dinner will be held on **Saturday 10 October at 7 pm, following the 6.00pm Vigil Mass, at Hampton RSL. We look forward to seeing everyone ! Please book early. Contact Michele: 0427 508 003.**



SYNODALITY IS NOT UNIFORMITY

Different cultures, communities, and parishes will live synodality in different ways. Unity does not require sameness.

BASP ONLINE TRIVIA NIGHT IS BACK 9 OCTOBER 2026

Supporting the Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project (basp.org.au).

Invite a team to your place or co-operate with a distributed team.

Details and booking at cohdig.au/trivia,

Email enquiries basptrivia@gmail.com.

Community
Cuppa

Sundays After 9:00 am Mass, Sacred Heart.
Sundays After 10:30 am Mass, Immaculate Heart.
Wednesdays After 9:15 am Mass, Sacred Heart.

Monthly Dinner

1st Saturday of the month after 6 pm Mass.
Contact Michele: 0427 508 003.

SUPPORT YOUR PARISH COLLECTIONS

Please note that at our Masses there are two collections:

- The First collection is for priest and retired priests
- The Second collection helps support the day-to-day expenses of the parish.

If you would prefer to give by card, tap machines are available in the foyers of the churches.

DIRECT DEBIT

Parish of The Holy Spirit & St Francis

BSB: 083 347

Acc. Num: 646745079

Presbytery Account

BSB: 083 347

Acc. Num: 646741705

ON LINE DONATIONS

at our [website](#) or using your phone to read our QR code



Thank you for your generosity to help us continue our ministry.

Donations to SH Social Justice Group

Sacred Heart Parish SJG East
Timor Project

BSB: 083347

Acc: 250540755

or through Return-It Vic!

Parishioners returning bottles and cans at refund points operated by CDS Vic East can now donate their refund directly to the Parish Social Justice Group by using the Parish Donation Partner ID C2000075764



Parish Priest: Fr. Martin Tanti martin.tanti@cam.org.au

Parish Secretary: Maria Jesus de Santisteban

Parish Office 13 Fernhill Rd, Sandringham VIC 3191

sandringham@cam.org.au Tel.7036 9381

Tue to Fri - 9:00 am to 3:30 pm

www.melbcatholic.org/holyspiritstfrancis