

St Mary's Parish

We proudly acknowledge the
Boonwurrung People of the
Kulin Nation as the Traditional
Owners and Custodians of
this land.

*A community where we bring
together our gifts and talents*

2nd August, 2026



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Parish Priest

(Fr.) Greg Trythall

0400 524 363

Email:

greg.trythall@cam.org.au

Parish Office Staff

Pastoral Associate & Parish Secretary

Monique Julian

9397 6066

Tuesday 9:00am – 3.00pm

Thursday 9:00am – 3.00pm

Friday 9:00am – 2.00pm
0450 789 951

Wednesday Parish Secretary

Kylie Skinner

9:30am–1:30pm

Safeguarding Officer

Frank Schobben

0427 416 184

St. Mary's School

Principal Anthony Hockey

Normal Mass Times

Consult bulletin inside for
any changes.

Saturday at 6:00pm

Sunday at 8:30am and
10:30am

Tuesday to Friday 9:15am

Reconciliation

Saturday 10:00am

Silent Adoration in Church

2:30pm – 3:30pm

Wednesday

Baptism Preparation Night

Third Thursday monthly
7.00pm at Parish Centre.
Baptism must be booked
prior to attending
Preparation Night.

Baptisms 12:30pm Sunday

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

FIRST READING:

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah. 55:1-3

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

You open your hand to feed us , Lord;
you answer all our needs.

SECOND READING:

The letter of Paul to the Romans. 8:35,37-39

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 14:13-21

When Jesus heard of it, he withdrew
in a boat to a deserted place by
himself. The crowds heard of this
and followed him on foot from their
towns. When he disembarked and
saw the vast crowd, his heart was



moved with pity for them, and he cured their sick. When it was evening,
the disciples approached him and said, "This is a deserted place and it
is already late; dismiss the crowds so that they can go to the villages
and buy food for themselves." But they said to him, "Five loaves and
two fish are all we have here." Then he said, "Bring them here to me,"
and he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five
loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he said the blessing,
broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, who in turn gave them



to the crowds. They all ate and were
satisfied, and they picked up the
fragments left over—twelve wicker
baskets full. Those who ate were
about five thousand men, not
counting women and children.

Tuesday 4th August	9.15am Mass at St Mary's Church. 10.30am Funeral prayers for Leon Fewster at St Mary's Church.
Wednesday 5th August	9.15am Mass at St Mary's Church. 2:30pm – 3:30pm Silent Hour of Adoration in Church.
Thursday 6th August	9.15am Mass at St Mary's Church. 6.30pm Parish Council Meeting at the Presbytery.
Friday 7th August	9:15am Mass-Feast of Mary Mackillop at St Mary's Church. Full school Mass 11:30am Seniors Mass (Healing Mass with Sacrament of the Sick offered) Followed by Seniors Luncheon afterwards. All Welcome.

Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

WAY OF THE WEST COLLECTION OF ITEMS:

Thanks to the many no doubt who have brought "Dried Food" for our first collection week. If you don't have a poster of the 4-week items, then there are spare sheets at one of the back tables detailing the needs of each week. It is a wonderful program initiated by our 'Way of the West' group which is our parishes response to helping both refugees and asylum seekers. Next week please if possible bring "Tinned Food". Tuna in oil, sardines or salmon, vegetables such as tomatoes, carrots, corn, dried or tinned legumes – yellow split peas, split red lentils, chickpeas, red kidney beans (not baked beans). Tomato paste, honey, long life full cream milk, coconut cream or milk, peanut butter, jam or tahini, and vegetable or olive oil.

COLLECTION FOR TIMOR LESTE SEMINARIANS:

I am delighted to state that \$2,500 was given last weekend for those 3 Timor Leste seminarians. I can't thank you enough to the many who donated at our collection last Sunday. I will be settling the books this Tuesday morning as we need to change the money into US dollars to give to Fr Michael Kalka to take to Timor Leste on August 10th as he presents it to their Rector on behalf of the Altona and Williamstown parishes. If someone else wishes to help with the education of those poor farmer sons, then please be quick! Anyway, when all is said and done it is more money than I expected from a single collection and those three seminarians will be delighted with their support from Australia. Their photos are on the back table as some many have missed seeing that nice photo of them all together.

CHANGE OF POLITICAL LEADERSHIP:

There has not only been a change in Premier this week in Victoria, but within the context of history, there has been a change in Prime Minister for the United Kingdom. What is most surprising is that a Catholic is now the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom! An unheard of situation for the last 500 years. Hundreds of years of restrictions following the English Reformation and institutional bias meant Catholics did not achieve high political offices until relatively recently, and the new Prime Minister, Andy Burnham's move into the role makes a new shift. Some may argue former prime ministers, such as Tony Blair beat Mr Burnham in this spot in history. But Mr Blair converted to Catholicism, the faith of his wife and children, after he left office. Several years ago, Andy Burnham recalled that the important influences on his life were, in order: the Everton FC soccer team, the Labour Party and the Catholic Church!

MELBOURNE SYNOD:

The Melbourne Synod has been on overdue occurrence in comparison to other dioceses in Australia. The Melbourne auxiliary bishop Rene, former parish priest of Maidstone, was appointed at the start of the year to lead the Synod on behalf of the Archdiocese. Unfortunately for this process there was a shakeup, quite unexpectantly as Bishop Rene shortly afterwards was appointed the new bishop of Sandhurst(Bendigo diocese). There was an unfortunate time gap before our western region bishop, Martin Ashe was made responsible for the next happenings. Although I knew that there needed to be the possibility of two lay representatives from each parish appointed for this important general assembly type situation in December, I was recently caught unawares with 10 days' notice to send our reps to a Western Region gathering of our archdiocese. Due to too much work on my plate at the time, I was only able to get around to asking two reps with only 3 days' notice, but they were already occupied with other work, which was not surprising. This was all unfortunate as there was no time given between our monthly meetings of our Parish Council for our members to choose what they believed were the most suitable candidates. Thus, I pray, hopefully with yourselves, that the lay reps from other parishes are good choices.

THE THREE MAIN FOCUSSES OF MELBOURNE SYNOD:

The archbishop chose 3 main concerns for the Archdiocese:

Formation, Missionary Leadership, Young Discipleship.

As our Youth Group of mainly 15 – 19-year-olds meets this weekend I thought I would see how we stand in this area, knowing full well that every Parish has the same similar concern on how we can help the spiritual growth of our younger personnel. In regards the theme of 'Young Discipleship' the preliminary material of the Archdiocese stated the following:

'The call to discipleship – to follow Jesus – is shaped by the Gospel. The Gospel invites every person to follow Jesus Christ and to share in the mission of building God's kingdom. Discipleship is a lifelong journey. It unfolds through the daily walk of lived experience in faith, in the sacramental life of the Church and with the support of a community that accompanies, nurtures and sustains.....At the heart of discipleship is a call to believe. Faith is more than an agreement with ideas; it is the discovery of being personally chosen and loved by God. True discipleship rests on three essential pillars:

- Encounter: meeting Jesus personally.
- Engage: a commitment to growing more deeply in faith.
- Embark: a commitment to living a life of mission.

I will pursue this much further next week but I can say this that our Youth Group Leaders especially Martin Briffa, his wife Branka and our safeguarding officer Frank Schobben are doing an excellent job as they themselves live in the first place those three above areas. They have their foundations in place which makes me confident that their being 'other Jesus' rubs off on our youth people. An example of the fruits of their spirit combined with the Holy Spirit means our monthly Saturday Night Youth Group has grown from five or six boys to around 9 boys and 11 girls in the first two years. It is a very constant group that is getting to know each other and enjoy each other's company within a very good program of spiritual formation, games and pizzas. I have very good reasons to believe that many of this group will not only stick with the Church but also be some of its finest leaders in the long-term future. I have much more to say about this next week as bulletin room and time do not provide me with anything more to say at this stage.

Yours 'in Christ' Fr Greg greg.trythall@cam.org.au 0400 524 363

COMBINED PARISHES YOUTH GATHERING

Our next Combined Parishes Youth Gathering will be held on

Saturday 1st August from 7:00pm–8:30pm,

St Mary's Church, Williamstown Parish Centre, 116 Cecil Street Williamstown.

We invite all Youth aged 13-19 years to come and join us for a fun evening with food/snacks, faith topic discussion, and games.

SAFEGUARDING - 'Safeguarding Essentials' group training session

Parish volunteers who have not yet undertaken the Safeguarding Essentials training module are requested to attend a group session on Thursday 20 August from 10:30 am - 12:00 noon in the Parish Centre. A PowerPoint version of the on-line training will be presented by Hailey Elkington (Safeguarding Officer, Western Region) and will include discussions.

The purpose of this mandatory training module is to provide simplified and streamlined information for all Church personnel in relation to safeguarding children, young people and adults at risk from abuse and harm. Frank Schobben will confirm volunteer attendance and arrange alternatives for those unable to attend on 20 August.

Rosters for this Week 1st & 2nd August 2026

Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Mary Soppitt 8.30am Eilin Taylor, Yoshua Yii 10.30am Eugene Yii
Mass Readers	6.00pm YOUTH GROUP 8.30am Jenny O'Sullivan 10.30am Mareena Peter
Welcomers	6.00pm Simon Pinzone 8.30am Maryanne Wenzel 10.30am Joe Covelli

Rosters for next Week 8th & 9th August 2026

Counting Team 1	Robyn Jones, Paul Francis, Kimberley Jones
Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Maylene Clayton 8.30am Peter Kirwan, Marisa Foroni 10.30am Maria Laudato
Mass Readers	6.00pm Josie Penna 8.30am Anthony Verhoef 10.30am Eilin Taylor
Welcomers	6.00pm Frank Schobben 8.30am Mary Frisby 10.30am Chantel Castelino

IN OUR PRAYERS

We pray for Yeme Reddy, Sarah Rodgers, David Hume, Finn Pennisi, Guiseppina Caputo

RECENTLY DECEASED & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for Leon Fewster who passed away recently and Agnes Harney, Denise Stewart, Eddie Gauci, Brigitta Johnson, Kevin Mahoney, Paul Cassar, Cliff Gibson, Tanya Travers, Val Hall, Fay Barlow, Peter Hoare, Margaret Flood, Les Elias, Keith Tyrrell, Claire Hindle, Nora Shepherd, Charles Axelson, Jack Dowling, Sandra Guilford, Arthur Mangan, Alma Hynes, Eliza Raponi, David Templeton, Mary Blenheim, Jim Railton, John Cassar and Concetta Gerovich whose anniversaries are at this time.

TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS—St MARYS

If anyone would like to make a tax-deductible donation to support the conservation of our Church you can now do so through the Give Now platform and the National Trust.

Through their external appeals program, The National Trust of Australia (Victoria) works to protect and conserve places of historical, cultural, and architectural significance for future generations.

By making a tax deductible donation through this platform we are able to raise funds for the conservation of St Mary's. **All support is welcomed.**



GREEN TEAM NEWS:

Parishioner Michael Iaccarino has written a short piece about his journey to installing solar on his house and some of the matters to consider. Part one is on the notice board at the church entrance (small foyer) and hard copies are available on the tables at the rear of the church.