

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

3rd May, 2026



116 Cecil Street, Williamstown 3016

Telephone: 9397 6066

Email: williamstown@cam.org.au

www.melbcatholic.org/s/williamstown

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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER — YEAR A

FIRST READING:

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles: 6.1-7

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

SECOND READING:

A reading from the First letter of Peter: 2.4-9

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me.

GOSPEL: JOHN 14.1-12

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be. Where I am going you know the way.” Thomas said to him, “Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, then you will also know my Father. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” Philip (pictured right) said to him, “Master, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you for so long a time and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on my own. The Father who dwells in me is doing his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else, believe because of the works themselves. Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater ones than these, because I am going to the Father.”



Tuesday 5th May	9.15am Communion Service at St Mary's Church.
Wednesday 6th May	9.15am Communion Service at St Mary's Church. (Fr Greg at Secondary School taking Mass) 2:30pm – 3:30pm Silent Hour of Adoration in Church. 7.00pm – Lectors/Readers last information session at St Mary's Church.
Thursday 7th May	9.15am Mass at St Mary's Church. 6:30pm Parish Council meeting at the Presbytery.
Friday 8th May	9.15am Mass at St Mary's Church. 7.00pm Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults session at the Presbytery.

Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

There are a huge variety of parishes within our Melbourne Archdiocese. Besides having lived in St John's West Footscray Parish, lived as a teenager in St Vincent's Strathmore Parish and later in St Patrick's Mentone Parish, I have been able to understand the variety as I have been posted as a priest to Seaford Parish (Carrum Downs and Frankston North), Cheltenham (now joined with Highett), Airport West (Keilor, Keilor Park and parts of Tullamarine), Bentleigh (now part of East Bentleigh and Moorabbin), Clayton, Grovedale Parish (now Armstrong Creek, Torquay, Anglesea and several smaller towns). Most of these places had a certain good quality of life about them and many willing parishioners. Also, there are parts of the archdiocese which are absolutely thriving with good priestly leadership and much support from parishioners, especially in the outer migrant areas. Yet most of you would know places where you go to Church and there are very few youth and not many people in their 40's, 50's and 60's. I don't think that will happen here and when you hear members of the Partnership Steering Committee speak this weekend you will know there is much wisdom existing within our parish congregation and that there is every reason to believe that the St Mary's Parish for many years to come should continue to be a vibrant, vital and viable parish in cooperation with other parishes around us. Our speakers will give you food for thought and hopefully you are able to go away and give our Partnership Steering Committee comprised from both St Joseph's Parish and ourselves some of your thoughts, ideas, queries, suggestions and any concerns you may have. **We invite your written feedback after these talks.** Please do so by emailing: williamstown@cam.org.au . **Could you head your email response ' Parish Partnership Feedback.'**

MOTHER CHURCH OF ARCHDIOCESE:

As others including our European born parishioners would testify to the many magnificent Cathedrals and churches from their places of birth, I think we can also be very proud of our Mother Church of the Archdiocese, **St Patrick's Cathedral**. However, since it was built around the same time as our St Mary's Church, **it needs significant restoration**. Our archbishop, Peter this week was stating that hunks of sandstone are starting to hit the roof coming from some of the massive spires above. As he stated to us priests there are 10,000 – 12,000 visitors there every week plus within a year there are more than a million people attending with state funerals, marriages, baptisms and so forth. There were 47 parish confirmations conducted there last year. Accordingly, he is naturally anxious that this wonderful William Wilkinson Wardell building be restored for coming generations to enjoy. In August there will be a major campaign throughout the archdiocese in a once in a generation capital campaign. Hopefully we can do our little bit, but not as much as the Federal Government which thankfully has promised a significant amount of money towards the restoration as one of Australia's most important buildings.

CARITAS AUSTRALIA:

Our many wonderful parishioners have responded magnificently to the Project Compassion campaign of Lent 2026. **We were able to send \$6,200 dollars to Caritas Australia this week** (including nearly \$1,000 from our school parents and children). Also, approximately \$1500 sent away to the Franciscan responsible authorities for the Good Friday annual appeal for the Holy Land. Thank you once again for so many of our parishioners responding to those both needs.

OLIVE TREE: Our massive Olive tree in front of Church seems to get bigger and bigger every year. There are now hundreds of ripe olives on it. Could someone pick those olives and use them for their families. Otherwise for the next month we will be squashing olives under our feet!

PRIESTLY SELECTION, FORMATION AND HAPPINESS

Although I reluctantly write articles for nationwide priestly journals, I believe I acted under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit to write recently an article on priestly (or religious) selection, formation and happiness. I believe the article hit the mark as several priests said what I stated was spot on – which was nice of them to say. Accordingly, as we ran out of the 75 copies of the Swag last week, I have taken some extra copies of my article which I have placed on the school side table at the back if anyone else would also like to read it.

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

WORKING BEE AROUND CHURCH GARDENS

SATURDAY May 16th 2026 – 9.00AM–11.00AM

Come along and help clean up our beautiful church gardens, even if it is only for an hour or two. If you could bring your own equipment, it would be greatly appreciated.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS:

There are half a dozen people coming along to the sessions on Catholicism every 2nd Friday night. There is another session this Friday 8th May at 7pm in the presbytery. Especially for people looking into the Catholic faith so far we in the last month or so we have covered the topics of *What is faith, who is Jesus Christ, the Holy Trinity, Divine Revelation and Your Prayer Life*. From this Friday night we will be covering such topics as *Catholic Prayers and Practices, the Mass, the Church's Calendar Year, Places of interest in Catholic Churches, Who Shepherds the Church, Mary, The Church as Community, the Saints, Eschatology, the Sacraments, Marriage, The People of God, The Early Church, Church History, Christian Moral Living, The Dignity of Life, a Constant Ethic of Life, Social Justice, Lent and so forth especially any topics raised by the group*.

The Catholic Church welcomes new members by information, material hand outs and discussion on above and other pertinent topics. It is mainly through a process called the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. No one has to sign on so to speak but if a person wants to follow it through it usually ends in being baptised (if not already baptised), confirmed and receiving 1st Eucharist at the Holy Saturday Easter Vigil each year.

If you wish to come to one of our sessions don't hesitate to be in contact with Fr Greg on 0400524363 or greg.trythall@cam.org.au

Jesuit and Ignatian Spirituality Australia

Jesuit and Ignatian Spirituality Australia (JISA) are conducting an on-line retreat over four weeks on Wednesday evenings to celebrate Laudato Si week: An Ignatian Journey from Contemplation to Action.

When: Wednesdays 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th May 2026, 7pm - 8.15pm AEST

Price: \$80 for all four sessions, incl. retreat facilitation & prayer materials.

If you are in financial difficulty, please contact the web address below to make alternative payment arrangements.

<https://jisa.org.au/retreat/an-ignatian-journey-from-contemplation-to-action/>

PARISHIONER'S HERB GARDEN

Parishioners are reminded they are welcome to pick herbs from the herb garden as they need. The entry to the right of the memorial wall in the garden behind the parish centre.

Rosters for this Week 2nd & 3rd May 2026

Counting Team 2	David Jamieson, Marguerite Buckley, Bob Paz, Lauren Dittmar
Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Larry Rigoni 8.30am Doreen Mitchell, Evol Farrelly 10.30am Maria Laudato
Mass Readers	6.00pm Youth Group 8.30am Stephen Littleton 10.30am Cindy Kotevski, Charlize Kotevski
Welcomers	6.00pm Frank Schobben 8.30am Mary Frisby 10.30am Chantel Castelino

Rosters for next Week 9th & 10th May 2026

Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Beata Sicat 8.30am Karen Colla, Gerard Colla 10.30am Eugene Yi
Mass Readers	6.00pm Frank Schobben 8.30am Jenny O'Sullivan 10.30am Kevin Perera
Welcomers	6.00pm Maylene Clayton 8.30am Teofila Hunt 10.30am Di Collins

IN OUR PRAYERS

We pray for Yeme Reddy, Sarah Rodgers, Charlie Galea, David Hume, Finn Pennisi

RECENTLY DECEASED & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for Pope Francis, Jim Allen, Kay Conlin, Philip Barclay, Ray Luttick, Eric Pinzone, Palmino Regini, Anthony Hynes, Hattie Zammit, Maurie Kirwan, Margaret Jones, Christine House, Emma Amati, Les Wishart, Charlie Broadfoot, Kath Kelly, Mick Nolan, James Wright, Kevin Reilly, Maria Taliana, Les Sharp, Nora Bloedorn, Charlie Axelson, Carmel Featherston, Laurel Bennett, Felice Lanzon, Carmela Darmanin, Jack Bevis, Allan Absalom, Anne Rogerson, Geoff Dooley, Winifred Graham, Rolly Butterworth, Alma Jenkins, Joseph Pace, Panusz Piahoviak, Lina Sharp, Rita Zahra, Carmen Stocks and Tom Verhoef, whose anniversaries are at this time.

