

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*

22nd March, 2026



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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 LENT YEAR A

FIRST READING:

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel 37:12-14.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

SECOND READING:

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans 8:8-11

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will not die for ever.

GOSPEL: JOHN 11:1-45.

Now a man was ill, Lazarus from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. (...continued...) When Jesus arrived, he found Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, only about two miles away. And many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him; but Mary sat at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise." Martha said to him, "I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. (...continued).



Tuesday 24th March	9.15am	Mass at St Mary's Church.
Wednesday 25th March	9.15am	Communion Service at St Mary's Church. (Fr. Greg taking Mass at St Paul's Secondary College.)
	2:30pm – 3:30pm	Silent Hour of Adoration in Church.
Thursday 26th March	9.15am	Mass at St Mary's Church.
	6:30pm	Parish Council at St Mary's presbytery.
Friday 27th March	9.15am	Mass at St Mary's Church.
	6.30pm	Stations of the Cross at Newport, Newcastle Street.

Dear Parishioners,

LENT & LAZARUS :

It's been nice to see a few different faces offering to do our longer Year A weekend bible readings, especially a few new people of a Sunday morning.

Now onto the 5th Sunday of Lent and Lazarus! He must have been a good, wise and intelligent man as Jesus liked to visit him and his two lovely sisters.

The raising of Lazarus constituted a mighty deed. On witnessing it, many of the Jews believed in Jesus. But what are we to make of it? And how are we to understand it?

We can take it on two levels – a superficial level and a deeper level. If taken on a superficial level what does the miracle amount to? Just a once-off wonder performed for the benefit of one individual, Lazarus. In which case it would have no meaning for us. All it would mean is that Lazarus got a few more years added to his earthly life.

But Jesus didn't come into this world to add a few more years to our earthly existence. Fortunately, we can do this for ourselves. It happens regularly in our hospitals. There, people are brought back from the brink of death, and in some cases even resuscitated.

But this is not what the miracle is about. The miracle has a deeper and broader meaning, one valid for all time. The story is about another kind of life, a life no doctor can give, but that Jesus can give, namely eternal life.

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

EASTER SERVICES AT ST MARY'S WILLIAMSTOWN 2026

HOLY THURSDAY	April 2 nd at 7pm	HOLY SATURDAY	April 4 th at 7pm
GOOD FRIDAY STATIONS	April 3 rd at 10:00am	EASTER SUNDAY	April 5 th at 8:30am
GOOD FRIDAY MAIN CEREMONY	April 3 rd at 3pm	EASTER SUNDAY	April 5 th at 10:30am

COMMUNION FROM THE CHALICE:

Within the next month or two I am hoping that we can reintroduce Communion from the Chalice. If you receive Jesus from either the host or the chalice it is still Jesus, but the ideal we believe from Jesus' command was to "take and eat, take and drink". The session for the Western suburbs will be held at St James the Apostle Church at 336 Derrimut Road, Hoppers Crossing North on Friday April 17th from 6pm–9pm. There is a fair bit of input on the night on eucharistic theology and the practical side of administering holy communion from the Cup. If you are able to attend, please contact Fr Greg so he can put in the nomination form for the evening.

What is a Synod:

A Synod is a moment when the Church deliberately pauses to listen, pray and discern together. It is not simply a meeting or a conference, but a spiritual process rooted in faith that the Holy Spirit continues to guide the Church today. In a Synod, we ask not only "What do we think?" but more importantly. "What is God asking of us at this moment in our mission?"

PROJECT COMPASSION LENTEN PRAYER:

God of all love, we remember that on the night before he died your son,
Jesus, prayed that his friends 'may all be one'.

Yet we see so much division in the world.

War, conflict, violence and hatred must all distress you.

Millions of people suffer when they don't have peace and respect.
They lack the necessities of life: food, water, health, education and security.

We pray that we may all **Unite Against Poverty this Lent.**

May our support for Project Compassion be a sign to ourselves and others,
of our hope for a better world.

SACRAMENT PROGRAM AT ST MARY'S

For children who do not attend St Mary's school and are in the Parish area who would like to receive their Sacraments in 2026 please contact Monique Julian:

monique.julian@cam.org.au to request an enrolment form. Dates for 2026 are:

FIRST COMMUNION: 27th April, 4th May and 11th May 2026 - 7.00pm in the Parish Centre.
Communion Masses on the weekend of 16th and 17th May

CONFIRMATION: 17th August, 24th August and 31st August 2026 - 7:00pm in the Parish Centre. Confirmation Masses TBC but likely the first week September.

READERS/ LECTORS:

Could all our present Lectors on rosters please meet for 45 minutes on Wednesday April 8th at 7pm in St Mary's Church. We need to tweak a few things, provide some background and correct some ways of doing things for the future so that the Word of God is proclaimed in the best possible manner. If that evening does not suit for some, then another meeting will be arranged for those particular Readers/ Lectors. Thanks, in anticipation. (Fr Greg)

ACRATH EASTER CHOCOLATE



Would you like to ensure that your chocolate consumption over Easter is slavery free? ACRATH's *Choose Chocolate Free from Labour Exploitation* campaign offers helpful information, including a 3 min film clip telling the harsh story of one child in the Cote d'Ivoire. Posters on the back tables

have a QR code you can scan for more information about this campaign as well as resources and statistics. Alternatively go to **www.acrath.org.au**



JOIN US FOR A CUPPA

Please join us in the Parish Centre for
Morning Tea following the 8.30am
Sunday Mass. All welcome

RECONCILIATION RITE 2:

Our normal forgiveness of sins will take place
a week before Easter,
Saturday March 28th at 5:15pm – 5:45pm
All sinners welcome !

Rosters for this Week 21st & 22nd March 2026

Counting Team 3	Ian Veal, Frances Moloney, Larry Rigoni, Susan Jamieson
Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Gail Tull 8.30am Peter Kirwan 10.30am Alison Silke, Di Collins
Mass Readers	6.00pm Marcia Schobben 8.30am Jenny O'Sullivan 10.30am Herb Zimmer
Welcomers	6.00pm Imma Marguglio 8.30am Mary Frisby 10.30am Herb Zimmer

Rosters for next Week 28th & 29th March 2026

Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Larry Rigoni 8.30am Doreen Mitchell, Evol Farrelly 10.30am Eugene Yi
Mass Readers	6.00pm Emma Pinzone 8.30am Anthony Verhoef 10.30am Cecilia Balson
Welcomers	6.00pm Simon Pinzone 8.30am Teofila Hunt 10.30am Joe Covelli

IN OUR PRAYERS

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

RECENTLY DECEASED & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for Monique Simonides who passed away recently and Domenico & Maria Ulcigrai, Giacomo, Caterina & Lino Lugnani, Trish Charles, Dolores Farrugia, Dorothy Murphy, Frank Zahra, Margarita Renzi, Rosaria Laudato, Lachlan Sagona, Giovanni Raunik, Peter Wentworth, Brendan Rooney, Kevin Hynes, Francis Spira, John Bartolo, Marcelle Michaud, Sr. Mary Byrne, Win Kelly, Jim Houlahan, Antonio Fernandes, Kevin Creaney, Terrence Duffy, Carmel Johnson, Cynthia Frawley, Harry Orr, Norma Ranson, Des Driscoll, Noreen Hunter, Geoff Hopkins, Kevin Grace, Giuseppe Nardo, William Spurling, William Dorgan, Lou Hindle, Charles Little, Fran Mannix, Michael McGrath, Kevin Walsh, Ted Leterski, Margaret Mangion, Len Owens, Gordon Barnes, Edward Maguire, Mary Zahra, Gertrude Embach, Andrew Murphy, Robert Telfer, Win Hogan, Les Williams, Severina Ordinario, John Smith, Giovanni Radoicovic, Robert James Burke, Chahady Yacoub, Samia Yacoub, Piore Soussan, Cecilia Buckley and Nancy McCrae; whose anniversaries are at this time.

A Community Initiative - Qigong Shibashi Tai Chi Exercises



A new initiative at St Joseph's by The Sea, 16 Esplanade, Williamstown.
An introduction to Tai Chi exercises through form, posture and breathing.

With these three together, we have Qigong Shibashi exercises.

Come and experience, starting Term 2. Just turn up. Casual attendance welcome.

Day: Every Wednesday beginning 22nd April 2026

Time: 7.30am – 8.30am **Cost:** \$10 per person