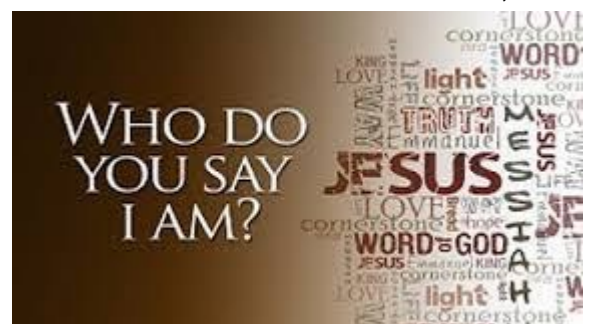


We proudly acknowledge the Boonwurrung People of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land.

www.melbcatholic.org/s/williamstown

Then Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” They replied, “Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter said in reply, “ You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” Jesus said to him in reply, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” Then he strictly ordered his disciples to tell no one that he was the Messiah.



Tuesday 25th August	9.15am Mass at St Mary's Church.
Wednesday 26th August	9.15am Mass at St Mary's Church. 2:30pm – 3:30pm Silent Hour of Adoration in Church.
Thursday 27th August	9.15am Mass at St Mary's Church.
Friday 28th August	9:15am Mass at St Mary's Church 7.00pm Continuation of Rite of Christian Initiation of adults at the presbytery.

Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

WAY OF THE WEST COLLECTION OF ITEMS:

This is the end of the collection of the 4 weeks – **thanks so much everyone** – a splendid job for providing food and living essentials collection for refugee and asylum seeker families.

NEW PARISHIONERS LUNCHEON:

Please note new parishioners of the Parish over the last 18 months that we always have a new parishioner's luncheon. You are welcome to join myself and our Parish Council members at a luncheon immediately **after 10:30am Mass on Sunday September 13th at the Parish Centre – next to Church**. There is a need to put your names down at back table so that we can know how many to cater for.

Make and Bake position available

Our weekly Sunday morning tea group would appreciate more help to bake the occasional cake on a rostered monthly or bimonthly basis. Attendance at the morning tea is not required. Your contribution can be dropped off at the Parish Centre any time before the 8.30am Mass. If you are interested, please contact Ivonne Cram 0400 005 937

MELBOURNE SYNOD:

THE THREE MAIN FOCUSSES OF MELBOURNE SYNOD:

The archbishop chose 3 main concerns for the Archdiocese in the Synod in December which will have many lay representatives besides the bishops, priests and religious. We pray for their deliberations which will centre on these main themes chosen by our Archbishop:

Formation, Missionary Leadership, Young Discipleship.

This week I would like to centre on Missionary Leadership

Missionary Leadership

The last two weeks I have focussed on Youth Discipleship and Formation, and this week I wanted to proceed with Missionary Leadership as per the guidelines from the Archdiocese mainly in regards to preparation for its general Synod in December. Unfortunately, my selection of two of our best lay reps were at the wrong time for them. The purpose of this synod for three days in early December is to help shape our evangelical and missionary priorities for the years ahead.

The mission of the Church belongs to the whole people of God. By virtue of baptism, every Christian is called to participate in the mission of Christ and his Church. Mission is not the responsibility of a few, nor is leadership reserved only for those who hold formal positions of authority. The call to missionary leadership belongs to all the baptised.

By baptism, each person is part of the Body of Christ. Every baptised person is entrusted with gifts and charisms for the building up of the Church and the transformation of the world. Missionary leadership therefore begins with baptismal identity.

- Leadership is exercised whenever people:
- Live the Gospel authentically
- Accompany others in faith
- Witness to Christ in everyday life.

This understanding fosters a culture of co-responsibility, where clergy, religious and lay faithful work together in service of the Gospel. It reflects the heart of a synodal Church: walking, listening, discerning and participating together in Christ's mission.

ANNUAL CLERGY CONFERENCE AT CAPE SCHANK

170 priests (and deacons) met with the Archbishop to take part in a synodal type of discussion and listening way for 5 days the previous week, August 10th – 14th. Our professional development and understandings were helped by a French bishop from Amiens, a theologian who thankfully spent his first ten years in America and possessed perfect English skills. He was up to recently a Professor at the Gregorian University in Rome. Although he was an academic with a doctorate in philosophy and theology, Etienne was very much down to earth and all the priests appreciated his insights and wisdom. Similarly, the French Church confronts much of what we confront from a secular society he had informed us. However, he was saying that there is an emergence in France of older teenagers and adults who have had not much to do with the Church in the past yet are coming, so to speak out of the woodwork and seeking baptism! By chance I was lucky to be seated next to this French bishop at dinner one evening. I spoke to him about my walking travels through France in 2010 and 2019, plus luckily I had walked into his Cathedral at Reims many years before that. This was where the French kings were crowned for 1000 years. It is indeed a magnificent building. During the Conference I was invited to give the toast to the Golden jubilarians. I was lucky to hit the mark and had most of the room laughing on a few occasions as I knew well those who were in the seminary one year ahead of me. The archbishop later came up to me and said “that was great” referring to what I had said or stated during the toast to these other fellow priests of my archdiocese. Maybe an example will do from the toast to 4 seminarians who had their golden jubilees, from my speech on the night.

Incidentally, in explanation, Brendan Noddy Hayes joined the seminary about 1965 straight from school, but he decided to leave after about a year and completed a 4 year degree at Melbourne University majoring in arts and history, before retracing his steps back to the seminary. Here is the main content of my toast as he was part of the year in front of me at college who were celebrating their golden jubilees. After talking about another jubilarian I stated on the night of August 13th :

“Now onto Brendan Noddy Hayes. Noddy in former literature was a fictional toy character who had a wonderful childlike view of the world. While today many confuse Brendan with Santa Claus (guys laughed as he does look like Fr Christmas with a full grey beard) – one of his new year mates at Werribee, an older guy named him the wonderful name of Noddy and it has stuck for all these 50 yearsBrendan Noddy Hayes reminded me of a cross between an English Lord of Parliament and an Irish Leprechaun (guys laughed). On one hand he could be one of the greatest prose raconteurs of our Archdiocese over the last 50 years, but there was also inside him what we term a leprechaun, a so called diminutive (he is small) supernatural being in Irish folklore usually depicted as a little bearded man who would partake in mischief. That WAS, IS Brendan, a mischief-making erudite leprechaun with a sophisticated English accent, and a wonderful turn of phrase.....”

BIBLES: Most seminaries throughout the world would use the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible. It is a beautiful translation using inclusive language. As the St Paul's bookstore in Camberwell presented a whole arrange of books for purchase at our Clergy Conference last week, I decided to purchase 15 copies of the New Revised Standard Version at \$20 each and a really nice upmarket one with tags for each book of the bible, which is \$40 for those who wish the fancy looking version. Please place your money in tin at back if you want one of those bibles or use the tap and go and take one of those bibles for yourself or your family.

Yours 'in Christ'

Fr Greg

greg.trythall@cam.org.au 0400 524 363

ST MARY'S PRAYER

Nature Walk



PRESENT TO GOD IN NATURE: Walk through the beauty of Williamstown Esplanade and connect to faith. Lead by Anne Slingo you will be guided to reflect upon the nature that surrounds us and connects us to God.

**SEPTEMBER 12TH 10:15AM-12:00PM MEETING AT:
ST JOSEPH'S BY THE SEA 16 ESPLANADE WILLIAMSTOWN**

PROVISION TO BE SEATED WILL BE MADE FOR THOSE WITH LIMITED MOBILITY

COST: Suggested donation amount
\$15 or what you can afford

BOOKINGS AT:

www.trybooking.com/DOOQN



FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT CHRIS LONGMAN 0411483571 OR MONIQUE IN THE OFFICE 93976066

Rosters for this Week 22nd & 23rd August 2026

Counting Team 2	David Jamieson, Marguerite Buckley, Bob Paz, Lauren Dittmar
Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Josie Penna 8.30am Doreen Mitchell, William Mitchell 10.30am Alison Silke, Di Collins
Mass Readers	6.00pm Daniel Corcoran 8.30am Chris Maine, Jan Maine 10.30am Cindy Kotevski, Charlize Kotevski
Welcomers	6.00pm Imma Marguglio 8.30am Stephen Littleton 10.30am Herb Zimmer

Rosters for next Week 29th & 30th August 2026

Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Beata Sicat 8.30am Karen Colla, Gerard Colla 10.30am Eugene Yii
Mass Readers	6.00pm Frank Schobben 8.30am Christal Augustin 10.30am Kevin Perera
Welcomers	6.00pm Simon Pinzone 8.30am Jenny O'Sullivan 10.30am Joe Covelli

IN OUR PRAYERS

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

RECENTLY DECEASED & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for James Patrick Augustin, Arnold Cabansag, Giovanni Meilak, Bishop Peter Elliott, Anne Ward, Barbara Poliness, Maureen Fitzgerald (Ward), Ray Horsburgh, Olga Cutajar, Angelo Di Battista, Betty Donald, Clare Twomey, Vincent Boseley, Pauline Conway, Pina Laudato, Kathleen Featherston, Lawrence Galea, William Dillon, Caterina Politi, Maria Pos, Nicholas Kurkowski Senior, Mr & Mrs Lomakin, Ronald Purcell, Maureen Haughey, Shirley Dervan, Kevin Doohan, Anna Dubiel, Martino Doria, Lucia Caputo, Mick Spiller, George Francis, Rene Norton, Betty O'Rourke, Myra Matthews, Anne Kenny, Jo Schobben, Lloyd Molineux, Patrick O'Brien, Peter Warr, George Cassar, Edward Armstrong, Stasha Bajsuk, Beryl Saidy, Pasqualina Fabbro, Peter Spurling, Rose Achkar, Giuseppe Sokolic, Mamie Fitzpatrick, Allan Sargeant, Constantino Sammut, Jacob Van Liith, Jason Medlicott, Paolo Pecora, Angelina and Natalino Meilak, Joan Spiteri, Michael Meilak, Carmela Sammut, Nunzio Ficcarra, Blondina and Lawrence Sammut, Maria Cassar, , Lucia D'elia, and Michael Paicquadio; whose anniversaries are at this time.

