

Rosters for This Week 31st December 2022 & 1st January 2023

Counting Team No. 2	Mary Forster, Marguerite Buckley, Lauren Dittmar
Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Gail Tull, John O'Keefe 8.30am Ivonne Cram, Jeanette Thompson 10.30am Di Collins
Mass Readers	6.00pm Evol Farrelly 8.30am Stephen Littleton 10.30am Olga Reginato
Children's Liturgy	8.30am No Children's Liturgy

Rosters for Next Week 7th & 8th January 2023

Counting Team No. 3	Ian Veal, Frances Maloney, Tony Cutroni
Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Larry Rigoni 8.30am Mary Frisby 10.30am Di Collins
Mass Readers	6.00pm Emma Pinzone 8.30am Christal Augustin 10.30am Joe Covelli
Children's Liturgy	8.30am No Children's Liturgy

IN OUR PRAYERS

We pray for Haizil Joseph, Santhi Komatineni, Kevin Murphy, Sarah Rodgers, Cathy Reid, Assunta Delgrosso, Yemme Reddy, Mary Debenham, Peter Conroy and Joseph Falzon.



RECENTLY DECEASED & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for Rose Harkin, Jo Bruchhaus, Marietta Ginevra, Frank Humphries, Lily Nuzzo, Jack Sheedy, Carmine Nave, Betty Duncan, Domenico Sabateno, Winston Galea, Br Fabian Dennehy, Nina Putognano, Mary Stephens, Anna Lee, William Webb, Honora, Richard & Ray Featherston, Alan Jackson, Mary Hernan, Hugh Coyne, Brian Lang, Tom Sirgiovanni, Paul Gerada, Joe & Mary Libreri, James Ritchie, Mariantonia Mifsud, Giuse Quynh, Frank Schobben Sr. and Jose Gales whose anniversaries are at this time.



NEW YEAR PRAYER:

Thank You Lord for giving me
The brand new year ahead.
Help me live the way I should
As each new day I tread.
Give me gentle wisdom
That I might help a friend,
Give me strength and courage
So a shoulder I might lend.
The year ahead is empty,
Help me fill it with good things
Each new day filled with joy
And happiness it brings.
Amen.

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



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1st January, 2023

Parish Priest
(Fr.) Greg Trythall
0400 524 363
Email: greg.trythall@cam.org.au

Pastoral Associate
Monique Julian
0450 789 951
Monday, Tuesday

Parish Office Manager
Heidi Zahra
Tuesday 8:30am - 4.00pm
Thursday 8:30am - 4.00pm

Parish Secretary
Kylie Skinner-Wednesday
8.30am-3.30pm
Sheridan McCutcheon-Friday
8.30am-3.30pm

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

MARY, the Holy MOTHER OF GOD—YEAR A



FIRST READING:

A reading from the book of Numbers:- 6:22-27

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

May God bless us in his mercy.

SECOND READING:

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians:- 4:4-7

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; now God speaks to us through the Son.

GOSPEL: LUKE 2:16-21

So they went in haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child.

All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds. And Mary kept all these things, pondering on them in her heart. Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told to them.

When eight days were completed for his circumcision, he was named Jesus, the name given him by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.



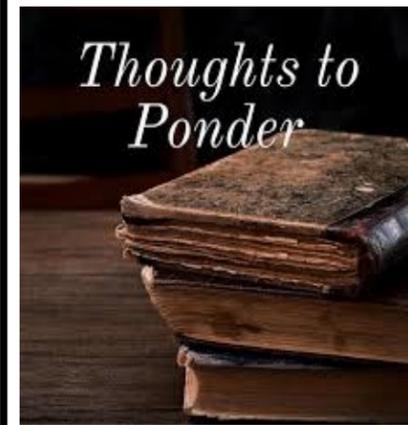
Tuesday 3rd January	9.15am Mass at St. Mary's Church.
Wednesday 4th January	9.15am Mass at St. Mary's Church. . 9.45am—10.00am Reconciliation Rite 1—individual in Church.
Thursday 5th January	9.15am Mass at St Mary's Church.
Friday 6th January	9.15am Mass at St. Mary's Church. .
Saturday 7th January	10.00am—10.15am Reconciliation Rite 1—individual in Church. 6.00pm Feast of 'the Epiphany' - the 3 Wise Men Mass at St Mary's Church.
Sunday 8th January	8.30am Feast of 'the Epiphany' - the 3 Wise Men Mass at St Mary's Church. 10.30am Feast of 'the Epiphany' - the 3 Wise Men Mass at St Mary's Church.

Dear Parishioners

"As for Mary she treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart".....

Although for my first sabbatical leave after 26 years of priesthood in 2003 I had requested that I be given the time to visit the footsteps of Jesus, the footsteps of St Paul and the footsteps of the Australian soldier in France, Egypt and Turkey I was informed by the archbishop if taking sabbatical leave, I needed to engage in some serious theological studies as well! Given not much option I chose a well recommended study course at the Vatican 11 Institute in San Francisco for those 3 months extra leave. I arrived in San Francisco on September 9th 2003 where I met 26 other priests from the rest of the globe for our engagement in 'clergy formation'. Within a month of the course starting, I had given the 26 priests all nicknames – true to my own Aussie background!!

I only wish to mention two of those nicknames for reasons which will become obvious. There were two Bobs on the course. One was from the diocese of Juliet, near Chicago in Illinois and the other one was from Santa Fe in New Mexico. The latter Bob I named the "Bobby Dazzler", which he appreciated very much as he had never heard the term before. He sparked up when I passed him at odd times and stated 'how's the Dazzler'? The other one had a goatee beard and I called him "Buffalo Bob"! They were just the loveliest of guys in their warmth, and I think I know why. "Buffalo Bob" to the surprise of his mates left secondary school and became "Brother Bob", a Trappist monk for 11 years, before being persuaded to become a diocesan priest and soon after Parish Priest. Likewise, the "Bobby Dazzler" had also joined the Trappists, but straight from school, and the getting up at 2:30am in the morning for their first prayer session of the day caused him to become very sick and he was in bed for a year with something like rheumatic or glandular fever. The "Bobby Dazzler" left the Trappists and after a break joined the diocesan priesthood and became also a Parish Priest. Simply two wonderful men and I think I know their secret. They learned to pray and they obviously practised the self-discipline of prayer on a regular basis. Both dynamic men of great warmth: you would love them. Like the Virgin Mary they also learned to ponder! Today Holy Scripture states concerning Mary that 'she pondered all these things in her heart'. Maybe at the start of this New Year Of 2023 we can be challenged to be more pondering! To me the word 'ponder' means to take time to reflect on the day or spiritual journey of life: to see God more in how our days unfold, the people, the events, the beauty of nature and thus be much more open to give thanks. It is good to be able to nurture our thankfulness. Pondering to me also means to put some time aside to be by ourself in one's own thoughts. It also means for me a chance to say something to God – to express one's thoughts/feelings and indeed one's anxieties. It somehow means to me to reach a greater trust in the Divine's desire for us to have a successful earthly journey and to gain a deeper hope in Jesus Christ as the Son of the living God. Is not His friendship worth so much more than gold or diamonds or money in the bank and the ability to be open to His and the Father's Holy Spirit much more than money can buy. Let us ponder!



..Continued

Continuing on from the two movies I showed just before Christmas I thought in what I have spoken about above, it seems appropriate that I show another **55-minute mini movie (with no adds!) on this Tuesday 3rd January entitled "Trappist"**. It is a wonderful presentation and quite inspiring although meant for a minority of us. The Trappists officially known as the Order of Cistercians of the Strict Observance are a Catholic religious order of cloistered monastics that branched off from the Cistercians officially in 1892. They live in centres of great learning, several prayer periods at set times and devote a few hours working most days in order to sustain their communities financially. In the particular community of Trappists that I will be showing on film this Tuesday night they discovered while trying to maintain at least a basic financial base to pay the bills for their community of monks, that their small group of chickens were a Godsend. Then as this was their most successful product, they branched out with mainly just the eggs from the chickens! Through their now big number of well cared for chickens they make available on average 30,000 eggs a day for the bigger supermarkets and stores who demand the highest quality eggs. The customers say "the Trappist Eggs" are the best eggs of all! Cunningly they get quite a bit of extra profit from the manure from the chickens which they put in special packs for their customers gardens! Again, some very happy customers as it helps to produce great quality vegetables. Anyway, if you wish to see this mini movie in our large dining room at the presbytery on this **Tuesday night at 7pm please ring me or text me on 0400524363** in order that I know how many chairs to put out. As per the other movies before Christmas I will provide some more cheese and biscuits and if you want to bring your own medicine you are more than welcome to do so to relax and look.

Just two days before Christmas the parish had a surprise Christmas present. Our former Parish Priest Fr Noel Oliver, although having a rather small nest egg(!) as a Will has left the Parish of St Mary's Williamstown \$30,000 in his Will. Thank you, Noel! – it will be used wisely.

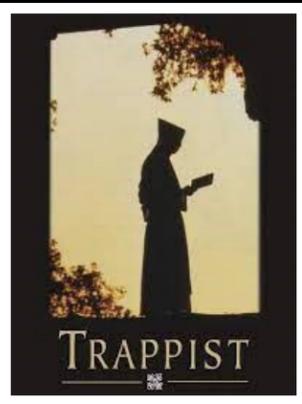
The **'Send off ' for Deacon Tom will be on Sunday January 29th after the 10:30am Mass** in the Parish Centre. All are welcome. Then Tom will be off to get wider pastoral experience as a Deacon to Grovedale, Torquay and Anglesea before priesthood ordination sometime in 2023.

Thank you to all who helped our Christmas celebrations whether as reader, special minister, collector, sacristan, bulletin welcomer, cleaner of Church, lawn mowing outside, musicians or singer. It was also a minor miracle that we could provide good music over the whole four Christmas Masses and I can't thank enough singers Amellie, Monique, Martin, Matthew, Jan, Kevin, and their support choirs besides the terrific backing from fellow musicians or organist. Due to a glorious Christmas Eve night, I thought it provided an incredible atmosphere to such beautiful liturgies before we were able to celebrate well liturgically the following day on Christmas Day.

Counting Team members please remember to meet at the Parish Centre on **Wednesday 1st February** for new counting team instructions.

Wishing you all a very happy New Year and may 2023 be kind to you and your family.

Yours 'in Christ'
Fr Greg - 30/12/2022



Senior's Mass & Luncheons 2023

Please put in your diary the following dates for **Seniors' Mass at **11.30am****

- Friday February 3rd
- Friday March 3rd
- Friday March 31st
- Friday May 5th
- Friday June 2nd

- Friday July 7th School Holidays
- Friday August 4th
- Friday September 1st
- Friday October 6th
- Friday December 1st