

Rosters for This Week 30th November & 1st December

Counting Team No. 1	Frank Jones, Robyn Jones, Kimberley Jones
Ministers of the Eucharist	5.30pm Larry Rigoni, John O'Keefe 8.30am Evol Farrelly, Peter Kirwan 10.30am Justine Brogna
Mass Readers	5.30pm Ashleigh Fulcher 8.30am Chris Maine 10.30am Jane McLaughlin
Children's Liturgy	8.30am No Children's Liturgy—Prep Mass and Parish BBQ 10.30am No Children's Liturgy—Prep Mass and Parish BBQ

Rosters for Next Week 7th & 8th December

Counting Team No. 2	Mary Forster, Marguerite Buckley, Lauren Dittmar
Ministers of the Eucharist	6.30pm Mary Soppitt, Maria Laudato 8.30am Mary Debenham 10.30am Richard van der Merwe
Mass Readers	6.30pm Elizabeth O'Keefe 8.30am Stephen Littleton 10.30am Anne Cooper
Children's Liturgy	8.30am Eilin Taylor, Lisa Rogers 10.30am No Children's Liturgy

IN OUR PRAYERS

We pray for Leo O'Brien, Haizil Joseph, Santhi Komatineni, Barrie Poulton.

RECENTLY DECEASED & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for Marie Kosowski, Sr. Eileen McHugh, Stephen Rush, Mladenka Obradovic, Mollie Maine, Dr. John Anchen, Ignazio Kucich, Teresa Rimbaldo, Dan Buckley, Ellen Croke, Gary Metcalf, Guiseppa Pecora, Maria Ivelja, Michael Hctor, Graeme Bloedorn, Patrick Kirley, Carmelo Pagliaro, Kath Allman, Joel Finn, Cecilia Penn, Edward Maguire, Roland Zammit, Francesca Oliveri, Margherita Mangion, Peter Wenzel, Cath and Ray Willmott, Pam Neely, Luiza Kucich and Emanuel and Rosaria Raffaele, whose anniversaries are at this time.



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR A MANAGER AT JOSEPH'S CORNER
Joseph's Corner is a charitable work of the Westgate Deanery providing free counselling to families of substance abusers. During 2020, Sr. Jeanne, rsj who founded Joseph's Corner in 2000, will transition out of her managerial position.

If you have an interest in taking on part or all of the managerial workload required to run Joseph's Corner as an effective and viable charity, please contact us in confidence. We are interested in hearing from people who want to do volunteer work in a managerial role as well as people wanting a part-time paid managerial position. This is not a job advertisement as Sr. Jeanne and the Board of Joseph's Corner are still in the early stages of planning Sr. Jeanne's transition.

Contact: Sr. Jeanne Dwyer: jeanne@josephscorner.org or 9315 2680.



2020 PREPARATION CLASSES FOR THE SACRAMENTS

Enrolment due by 20th December for children who do not attend St. Mary's School. Please email: patricia.stone@sosj.org.au. Term 1: Reconciliation (Year 3+) Term 2: First Eucharist (Year 4+) Term 3: Confirmation (Year 6+ only—28th July, 3rd and 5th August 2020).

St Mary's Parish

A community where we bring together our gifts and talents



116 Cecil Street, Williamstown 3016
Telephone: 9397 6066
Email: williamstown@cam.org.au
Web: www.cam.org.au/williamstown

1st December, 2019

Parish Priest

(Fr.) Greg Trythall
PH: 9397 6066
MO: 0400 524 363
Email:

greg.trythall@cam.org.au

Pastoral Associate

(Sr.) Patricia Stone
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
Email:
patricia.stone@sosj.org.au

Parish Office Manager

Heidi Zahra
Tuesday 8:30am – 4.00pm
Thursday 8:30am – 4.00pm
Friday 8:30am – 4.00pm

Parish Secretary

Kylie Skinner
Wednesday
8.30am—3.30pm

St. Mary's School

Principal
Anthony Hockey

Normal Mass Times

Consult bulletin inside for any changes.
Saturday at 6:30pm
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.

Baptism 11:30am Sunday

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

FIRST READING:

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah. 2:1-5

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

SECOND READING:

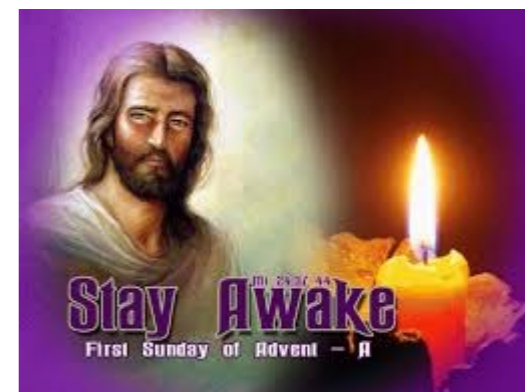
A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans. 13:11-14

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 24:37-44

For as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. In those days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day that Noah entered the ark. They did not know until the flood came and carried them all away. So will it be also at the coming of the Son of Man. Two men will be out in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left. Therefore stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come. Be sure of this: if the master of the house had known the hour of night when the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and not let his house be broken into. So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.



Sunday 1st December	8.30am Mass at St. Mary's Church. 10.30am New prep students Mass at St. Mary's Church followed by the Parish barbecue. 2pm Baptisms: Huw Hudson, Leo Clifford, Mase Morsello
Tuesday 3rd December	9.15am Mass at St. Mary's Church. 7.30pm Continuation of program for those interested in Catholic Faith at the Presbytery. Further enquiries Fr. Greg.
Wednesday 4th December	9.15am Mass at St. Mary's Church.
Thursday 5th December	9.15am Mass at St. Mary's Church. 6.30pm Parish Council meeting at the Presbytery.
Friday 6th December	9.15am Whole school Mass at St. Mary's Church. Celebration of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. 11.30am Seniors' Mass and Anointing of the sick. 12.00pm Followed immediately by Christmas luncheon in the Parish Centre.

Dear Parishioners

As I return this weekend from Sabbatical Leave, it would be remiss of me not to thank the many involved in various ministries in the Parish while I have been away recharging the batteries for the next few years of Parish work. Where do we start: it would be a long list but know that I feel blessed, not only to be in this wonderful parish of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, but blessed to have you as fellow parishioners. The use of your gifts cannot be underestimated in the life of the Parish and the Church.

It would also be remiss of me not to welcome the prep families of 2019 and 2020. I hope to see you, if you have the time, after the 10:30am Mass and enjoy your company at the social activity in the Parish Centre next to the Church. Our St. Mary's Parish Council have gone to a great deal of effort to provide food and refreshments to both yourselves and fellow Parishioners. May you feel a real sense of belonging in our Parish and in our school.

I will continue my 'Travel Diary' in another part of this Bulletin.

Yours 'in appreciation and thankfulness'

Fr. Greg

PLEASE JOIN OUR CHRISTMAS DAY CAROLS CHOIR

We will sing Carols on Christmas Day from 9.00am until Mass time – rejoicing in the Birth of Jesus with all who come to Mass on Christmas Morning. Kevin and Susan will hold a Choir Practice for all who would like to join our choir.

Practice will be held **on Wednesday 18th December at 7.30pm in the Church.** Please complete a slip on one of the clipboards which are on the tables at the front and rear of the church. Or email Sr. Patricia: patricia.stone@sosj.org.au

Take the opportunity to bring the gift of song to our Christmas community and lighten all our hearts.



FR. GREG'S TRAVEL DIARY

I expected my final leg of walking the 995 kilometres from Vezelay to St. Jean Pied de Port to be a long day of walking but without too many hassles! However, trouble was waiting just around the corner. Due to the higher hills near the Pyrenees Mountains, most choose to only go about 20-25 kilometres that last day, but I thought I could achieve the 33 kilometres from Saint-Palais to the French/Spanish border at St. Jean Pied de Port. **An added incentive was that there were two other strong walkers about 20 years younger than me** staying at Saint-Palais as their last base to finish their own long distance walking. One had come from an even longer route than myself. I decided to go off early and hopefully give them a run for their money that last day. But, **pride often follows a fall!**

Although I had asked for directions the previous evening, the direction was not completely clear and some older signage had not been replaced by newer signage. I headed off in the half dark and followed what turned out to be older signage, yet I made some very good headway, travelling five kilometres up hill in just over an hour. Nevertheless, I felt a bit confused at one point but seemed to be going towards my objective, until I came across a highway and could not work out if I was needing to go left or right, as normally the pilgrimage routes avoided major roads. Anyway, I noticed two ladies talking to each other inside a garage nearby. They both informed me that I had taken a variant of the old route and the only way to reach my objective was to **completely retrace my steps!** I left at 7:10am and I was back in the same town, Saint-Palais just before 10am!! Luckily, energy came my way as always was the case under greater difficulties during this longer than monthly walk. **No doubt my prayers to God, and my favourite saints gave me strength and peace of mind.** Along the right path some kilometres later and up a steeper hill I came across 24 Belgium walkers. As a walking group, they have walked part of a pilgrimage route every year. They were very friendly to the lone Australian, if not a bit curious. One told me that a special Belgian beer was waiting for me at the next town and that it was his shout! Fortunately or unfortunately, I needed to keep walking faster than this group and I never saw them again. Around lunchtime, I came into a town called Ostabat about 22 kilometres from my final destination and I remember it distinctly as I had accommodation lined up one kilometre past that town nine years before, when I walked the 800 kilometre Le Puy en Velay route. That last time I had walked about 40 kilometres and was just really hankering to get an evening meal and some sleep. **However, I came across two very vicious dogs and felt very thankful to get past them as they were not chained or behind a fence. Lo and behold, nine years later there were two aggressive dogs in Ostabat as I walked through there and I was thinking these must be the son or daughter of those same nasty beasts!** Somehow I was able to maintain my pace and I got into St. Jean Pied de Port at 6.20pm after probably 10 1/2 hours taken up by the walking and some more than difficult hills. **There I was thinking I could achieve the 33 kilometres but through my own stupidity it ended up being 43 kilometres!** One of the original walkers I had tried to beat told me later that he only arrived just an hour before me! I was able to raise my hands in triumph as I marched through the UNESCO HERITAGE GATES of St. Jean Pied de Port. Tired but not defeated! 995 kilometres later....I made conversation with this lovely couple next to my dinner table that night and they asked me to join them. This was not an untypical day of the trip - **some real difficulties, but people, especially the French country people being more than lovely to you with their hospitality and often a needed sensitivity to an Australian man who sometimes was out of his depth or had nearly gone a bridge too far.** We all need some kindness and hospitality!

SR. PATRICIA'S THANK YOU - 8TH DECEMBER.

Everyone is welcome to join us for a cup of tea and cake in the Parish Centre following the 8.30am Mass to say a big thank you to Sr. Patricia for her wonderful work during her time at St. Mary's.



CELEBRATING A SIGNIFICANT WEDDING ANNIVERSARY DURING 2019???

St. Mary's Parish Annual Mass & Renewal of Vows will be celebrated during Weekend Masses on **14th/15th December 2019.** Complete a Registration slip from the table at the rear of the Church and post it in the box provided, speak to Sr. Patricia or Email: patricia.stone@sosj.org.au
You are invited to register, even if you are unable to attend.



2019 CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve - Tuesday 24th December

- 6.30pm Family Mass & Children's Pageant
- 8.30pm Christmas Carols
- 9.00pm Christmas Eve Mass

Christmas Day Wednesday 25th December

- 9.00am Christmas Carols
- 9.30am Christmas Day Mass
- (NB: One Mass only)**

