

Rosters for This Week 3rd & 4th December

Counting Team No. 6	Jim Farrelly, Tim Kennedy, Evol Farrelly
Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm John O'Keefe, Gail Tull 8.30am Mary Frisby, Stephen Littleton 10.30am Alison Silke
Mass Readers	6.00pm Daniel Corcoran 8.30am Christal Augustin 10.30am Jane McLaughlin
Children's Liturgy	8.30am Rachelle Pantalleresco

Rosters for Next Week 10th & 11th December

Counting Team No. 7	Mary Ward, Jean McCutcheon, Greg Morgan
Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Larry Rigoni 8.30am Doreen Mitchell, Ivonne Cram 10.30am Richard van der Merwe
Mass Readers	6.00pm Evol Farrelly 8.30am Chris Maine 10.30am Herb Zimmer
Children's Liturgy	8.30am Joe Covelli, Mariza O'Keefe

IN OUR PRAYERS

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

RECENTLY DECEASED & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for Jack Fitzgerald who passed away recently and Petar Fiamengo, Mary Martin, Arthur Jones, Frank Cini, Brendan Harkin, Maria Napoli, Norma Arnold, Josie Wilde, Nora Doig, Stan Woodruff, Eric Flackhlam, Maria De Grassi, Merle O'Keefe, Marion Lorient, Libero Costanzo, Andrej Edovic, Giuseppe Pecora, Ersilia Portelli, Carmela Pisano, Nunzio Ficarra, Joseph Sammut, Eugena Fewster, John Wilson and Michele Cafagna; whose anniversaries are at this time.

Those we love don't
go away, they walk
beside us every day.
Unseen, unheard, but
always near, still
loved, still missed
and very dear

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES 2022 ST MARY'S CHURCH WILLIAMSTOWN

Christmas Eve Saturday 24th December Christmas Day Sunday 25th December

6.00pm Family Mass and Pageant at St Mary's

8.30pm Carols

9.00pm Mass at St Mary's

8.30am Mass at St Mary's Church

10.30am Mass at St Mary's Church



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



116 Cecil Street, Williamstown 3016
Telephone: 9397 6066

Email: williamstown@cam.org.au
Web: www.stmaryswilliamstown.org.au

4th December, 2022

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.

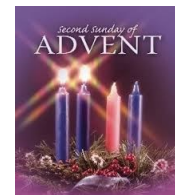
Baptism must be booked

prior to attending

Preparation Night.

Baptisms 12:30pm Sunday

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT — YEAR A



FIRST READING:

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah. 11:1-10

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Justice shall flourish in his time,
and fullness of peace for ever.

SECOND READING:

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans. 15:4-9

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!” It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said:

“A voice of one crying out in the desert,

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths.’”

John wore clothing made of camel's hair and had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. At that time Jerusalem, all Judea, and the whole region around the Jordan were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins.

When he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from

the coming wrath? Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you, God can raise up children to Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe lies at the root of the tress. Therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. I am baptizing you with water, for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand. He will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”



Tuesday 6th December	9.15am	Communion Service at St. Mary's Church. (Fr Greg celebrating end of year mass at Emmanuel College, Altona)
	7.00pm	Continuation of Catholic Faith at the Presbytery with Fr. Greg. All welcome especially those who desire deeper faith.
Wednesday 7th December	9.15am	Mass at St. Mary's Church.
	7.00pm	Parish Finance Team meeting and end of year dinner.
Thursday 8th December	9.15am	Parish Feast Day, Mary of the Immaculate Conception, whole school Mass at St. Mary's Church.
Friday 9th December	9.15am	Mass at St. Mary's Church.

Dear Parishioners

Thanks for your efforts to "Staying Awake" and "Preparing the Way of the Lord" during this Advent Season. Accordingly, I hope those 90 booklets parishioners chose to take last weekend titled **'INCARNATE – Advent and Christmas Daily Reflections 2022'** have proved helpful – I hope so. If others want a copy our pastoral associate Monique Julian has copied the appropriate pages from this weekend onward if anyone requests them from me after Mass today. As regards the 'INCARNATE' little booklet I loved that Caravaggio painting – although Caravaggio was somewhat of a scoundrel in his day he had a deep knowledge of human nature and could paint it so magnificently on canvas. In regards that particular painting I liked the way Monseigneur Graham Schmitzer challenges us from it to respond when Christ calls and not lose those opportunities. He further stated in a nicely put way: 'While Christ's message reveals that we cannot be fully happy in this life, it also reveals that while we are within this world, we must be fully committed to it.we are to show the world that the following of Christ not only makes us more holy, but more human. Advent will give us plenty to think about if we seriously accept its message'.



Regarding the readings for this weekend: the reign of King David was the high point in the history of Israel – God's people. But his successors failed wretchedly. Still, the hope remained that a future king would succeed where his predecessors failed. Isaiah in the first reading foretells that even though the family tree of Jesse (David's father) has been reduced to a mere stump, nevertheless, from that stump a new shoot (a new king) will spring. He goes on to sketch a portrait of the true king. He will be filled with 'a spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit of counsel and power, a spirit of knowledge.....'

Isaiah's vision corresponds to the deepest longings of the human heart, and points to God's ultimate goal for humanity. It is a blueprint of what can be achieved by the grace of God, given so lavishly in Christ. Then the Gospel writer Matthew portrays Jesus as the one who fulfills the Old Testament promises. Here he introduces us to John the Baptist and his mission. He has John preaching in the wilderness as Isaiah had foretold, and baptising with water in anticipation of the one who would baptise with the Holy Spirit.

ROSTERS

We have numerous rosters and the working with and for that particular ministry is very important in a parish setting. It also helps us to carry the load in a parish and use our God given gifts for God's kingdom. In a real sense we all take part in 'mission'. Normally we just hope parishioners will stay on the same roster for at least a few years. Anyway, if you are a reading roster, special minister roster, counting roster could you get in touch with the parish on email: williamstown@cam.or.au if you wish to change from your roster, go on another roster or start being on one of those three rosters. This needs to be done this week for any changes to take place. Due to some difficulties with our banking through the National Bank it has been decided by our Parish Finance Team that we will do the counting every 2nd week and not every week starting February next year. Also if you wish to help on a laundry roster (small articles of cloth that get put on altar) in 2023 that will also be helpful on the same email or ring our Parish Office during Office Hours (front of bulletin) on 9397 6066. I need a few extra people to do the lawn rosters around Parish. I can supply a mower for them if anyone wants to do a month roster or even two. Can ring me personally if you like on 0400 524 363. ...Continued

DEACON TOM CHRISTIE

In case you were away last weekend newly ordained deacon Tom Christie will be moving on in late January. He has been assigned to my former parish of Grovedale/Torquay and Anglesea which has grown considerably since I left there 12 years ago. There are four Catholic schools in the parish now instead of two and several thousands of people have shifted into the Armstrong's Creek area between Grovedale and Torquay. There will no lack of baptisms for Tom to perform as well as funerals outside a Mass. He will be ordained a priest probably around midyear or maybe even a few months later and then he will be able to celebrate Masses and take Reconciliation Services as well as of course Marriage and Funeral (Requiem) Masses at some future assigned parish within the Melbourne Archdiocese. It is good that Tom can be with us for Christmas and the New Year as he has been with us all the year.

CECIL STREET ROAD UPGRADE

Some positive things have been accomplished but not positively sure what Council are up to on this one during December – just hoping contractors are coming back to tidy a few other things before Christmas. However, one of the workers informed me yesterday that the contractors will not be finishing the bitumising of the road until week beginning 9th January, 2023. I have spoken to the engineer and he has assured me that the potential spots for tripping outside the Church will be attended to before this weekend.

"THE SWAG" – QUARTERLY MAGAZINE

I knew "The Swag" magazine editor Fr Peter Maher has had a serious cancer for the last few years, yet he has soldiered on, but I did not expect his eventual death to come so sudden as the cancer was probably worse than he let on in the end. Some of his last typed words on page 4 of the magazine can still be read. Peter should be proud of his last words as they are very nicely composed in regards to the importance of prayerful meditation in a busy world.

My own fear is that no one will be available to take Fr Peter Maher's place and help to facilitate a magazine although meant for mainly priests it is a magazine that also provides a broad voice for many laypeople as well as religious generally. We can all go back to a magazine that says all is well in the Church and the World! However, all is not well and we need to keep progressing the Kingdom of God for especially many of the lost, the last and the least. We don't always have to agree on how to go about that but at least dialogue should be kept open rather than a closed shop. Free copies are available of "The Swag" after Mass today.

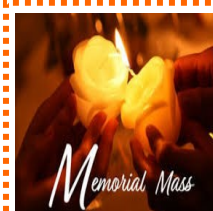
God bless you all at this time.

Yours 'in Christ'

Fr Greg - 2/12/2022



The 16 Days campaign against gender-based violence concludes this week on 10th December, *Human Rights Day*. Part of the work of campaigning against human trafficking in Australia and overseas, is ACRATH's awareness raising. Each year we produce a calendar which is filled with information about what human trafficking looks like, in Australia and globally, and what ACRATH does to combat this. To do this work, we desperately need your support. Buying a calendar is one form of supporting the work. **A calendar costs \$10 and will be on sale after Mass this weekend.**



Memorial Mass

All are welcome to attend a Memorial Mass on **Sunday 4th December at 6.00pm** at St Mary's Church for recently deceased parishioners and family. There will be light refreshments following Mass in Parish Centre.



Good News
St Mary's School Fair has a New Date and Time
Friday 9th December 3.45pm–8.00pm

