

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.stmaryswilliamstown.org.au

12th December, 2021

ROSTERS FOR MASS THIS WEEKEND 11th & 12th DECEMBER, 2021

Counting Team No. 3	Ian Veal, Frances Maloney, Tony Cutroni
Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Maria Laudato, Larry Rigoni 8.30am Gerard Colla, Karen Colla 10.30am Mimma Cutroni
Mass Readers	6.00pm Josie Penna 8.30am Charles Hili 10.30am Kate Arnold

ROSTERS FOR MASS THE WEEKEND OF 18th & 19th December, 2021

Counting Team No. 4	Glen McKinney, David Jamieson, Bob Paz
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 Frank Schobben 8.30am Anthony Verhoef 10.30am Anne Cooper



IN OUR PRAYERS

We pray for Leo O'Brien, Haizil Joseph, Santhi Komatineni, Kevin Murphy, Sarah Rodgers, Cathy Reid, Assunta Delgrosso.

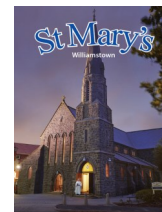
RECENTLY DECEASED & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for Sr. Margaret Barry rsj.who passed away recently and Doris Mifsud, Maria Elia, Kevin Jenkinson, Marie Kosowski, Sr. Eileen McHugh, Stephen Rush, Mladenka Obradovic, Mollie Maine, Dr. John Anchen, Ignazio Kucich, Teresa Rimbaldo, Dan Buckley, Ellen Croke, Gary Metcalf, Guiseppe 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, Luiza Kucich, Emmanuel and Rosaria Raffaele, Albert, Celestina, Ersilia and Rosaria Mangion, Carmelo and Rita Consolandi, Francesco and Lorenza Camilleri, Mario Camilleri, Annie Taliana, Leslie Carlon, Babara Sawyer and Patricia McBride; whose anniversaries are at this time.

"Love you past the moon,
miss you beyond the stars."

ATTENTION!!! Don't Forget to Save Your Seat At Mass

As there is a maximum on the number of Mass attendees, please ensure that you register to book your (free) ticket to Mass. This can be done via our website: stmaryswilliamstown.org.au under the heading: **SIGN UP TO ATTEND MASS** or by accessing the link: signupgenius.com/go/stmarys



STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES

Please collect your stewardship envelope from the back table after Mass today.
All are filed in alphabetical order. Thank You.



Columban Calendars 2022

Are available for sale at the conclusion of Mass from the rear of the Church for \$10.00.



There are copies of 'The Swag' available on the back table. Please feel free to help yourself.



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR C

FIRST READING:

A reading from the book of the prophet Zephaniah. 3:14-18

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Cry out with joy and gladness:
for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

SECOND READING:

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Philippians. 4:4-7

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

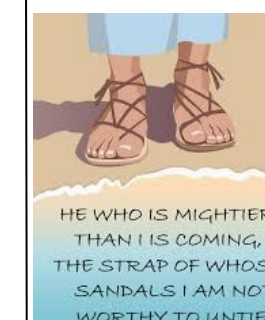
The Spirit of the Lord now upon me
has sent me to bring good news to the poor.

GOSPEL: LUKE 3:10-18

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" He said to them in reply, "Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized and they said to him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He answered them, "Stop collecting more than what is prescribed." Soldiers also asked him, "And what is it that we should do?" He told them, "Do not practice extortion, do not falsely accuse anyone, and be satisfied with your wages."



Now the people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Messiah. John answered them all,



saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Exhorting them in many other ways, he preached good news to the people.

Parish Priest

(Fr.) Greg Trythall
PH: 9397 6066
MO: 0400 524 363
Email: greg.trythall@cam.org.au

Pastoral Associate

Monique Julian
0450 789 951
Monday, Tuesday

Parish Office Manager-Secretary

Heidi Zahra
Tuesday 8:30am - 4pm
Thursday 8:30am - 4pm
Friday 8:30am - 4pm

Wednesday Secretary

Kylie Skinner
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.

Baptism 12:30am Sunday

Tuesday 14th December	9.15am Mass at St. Mary's Church.
Wednesday 15th December	9.30am Slightly later Mass at St Mary's Church. (Christian Leadership awards being presented at the school before.)
Thursday 16th December	9.15am Mass at St. Mary's Church.
Friday 17th December	9.15am Mass at St. Mary's Church.
Saturday 18th December	5.30pm Christmas Reconciliation Service-Rite 11-forgiveness of Sins 6.00pm Mass at St Mary's Church.

Dear Parishioners and Visitors.

Well, we finally finished the mainly grade 5 children for 1st Eucharist in the four Masses we celebrated last weekend! As stated beforehand it was our 7th attempt at a prior date set and finally it worked out and was very much appreciated by all involved. I thank those musicians and singers who helped the celebrations to be very meaningful. I was particularly impressed with the five St Mary's teachers who turned up at all the four Masses and the help of our Parish Pastoral Associate, Monique Julian to support in music and background instruction the non-St Mary's school students but still very much parishioners of ours. The next group of overdue present grade four children will have the sacrament of the Eucharist for the first time in middle February 2022.

Now that we have arrived to Gaudete Sunday, always the 3rd Sunday of Advent we are reminded that the joy of Christmas is not far away. Obviously, there are many people who are having a difficult time finding joy in our world these days. With continuing corruption and disruption in governments around the world; with increasing effects of climate change; the impact of Covid-19, it may be hard to feel any real joy. This should lead us to ask ourselves where the source of Christian joy is to be found. It is not in pleasant circumstances or fortunate events, but in the love of God for us that transcends human limitations and sin. Can we lament the state of the world and find joy in God's love at the same time? Let us hope so, lest we all curl up in a ball in despair. Our faith calls us to be people of hope, not because the world offers us solid grounds for hope but because God's love and power will certainly be victorious in the end.

I thought I would leave up the **small biography of Tom Christie** from last weekend on our parish bulletin as I noticed several of our locals were absent last weekend. For those who are unaware of it, a 7th year seminarian, Tom Christie will join me as of Monday evening for the next few months. His placement with me is to help him have hopefully some positive experiences of diocesan priesthood in a parish before he gets ordained a deacon in February and then a priest probably some time in 2022. When Tom is probably seen at all Masses next weekend, please don't ask what Order he is from!! Like me and more than half the priests of the Catholic Church in the world he is not from any Order of priests! Simply put a person like me from the local Melbourne suburb of Footscray believed that I was not meant to join a Religious Order but work as a general practitioner. Accordingly, one signs on for a diocese of one's choice usually where one has grown up in, like me in Melbourne Archdiocese. I had grown up and felt more comfortable in working within this archdiocese for the rest of my life. I did not possess any particular talents with different languages; therefore, I did not feel the call to go Overseas and join some Order like the Divine Word Missionaries or the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart I did not feel I had the interest or talent to be a teacher in a secondary school or in a University like the Jesuits which was founded by St Ignatius Loyola in 1540 at Rome. I liked the diocesan priesthood as I appreciate the variety of work. Accordingly, I did not want to join the Dominicans- the Order of Preachers which was founded by St Dominic in 1216 at Toulouse, France. Men or women join these quite varied religious orders, due to the fact that most of these Orders have some specific purpose like working with the homeless, poor, being a teacher or working in a hospital situation. I did not feel the call to join any of these Religious Orders as mainly I thought I was more suited to the incredible variety of work within a parish whether that be to perform marriages or funerals, or be seen at the primary or secondary school, or go to the nearby hospital, prison etc etc. I also felt I understood the culture of the Melbourne archdiocesan scene and it was where God wanted me to stay, whereas people who join a Religious Order know that they will work in common with several others and be placed anywhere in the world where that Order needs them. I have felt blessed with my personal decision and I am very satisfied that I made the right choice for diocesan priesthood rather than a specialised religious order and I hope by the end of his life Tom Christie will feel the same. To work in a parish is a real privilege and to be its Parish Priest is a big responsibility. It is no bed of roses but the peace one experiences and the relationships one builds up is worth more than a ton of gold.

I will be celebrating **Marriages Anniversaries at the 10:30am Mass next Sunday - renewal of vows** - please let me know on 0400 524 363 or by my personal email if you wish to join a few other people who will be celebrating their wedding anniversary next weekend. I am happy to show the format to anyone beforehand so they feel comfortable with it.

Welcome back for the 4th continuous weekend to our normal faithful parishioners- we are still on a roll! Make yourself at home.

Yours 'in Christ' Fr Greg 8/12/21

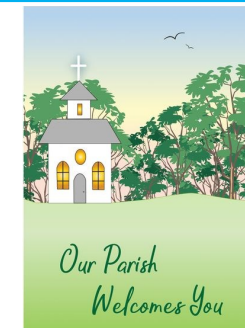
Tom Christie Short Biography

When I got told I would be spending a few months at Saint Mary's parish, I immediately thought of my parish priest I was lucky enough to have when I was growing up in West Essendon. The late Fr John Spillane was a Williamstown boy in his formative years before entering the seminary, and he often made fond references to his time here in this parish during the post-World War I era. As you would all agree, the world is a much different place nowadays, however through this connection, I can see God's providential hand at work. I'm sure there will be many more graces in store throughout my short stay here in this parish.

I entered the seminary in 2015, after thinking about the priesthood since my senior high school years at St Bernard's College, Essendon. My sense of a priestly vocation was not especially strong as a teenager, however being introduced to the rich tradition of the Church during religious education classes really sparked something within me. I am now very grateful to a couple of my teachers for being so passionate about their Catholic faith. Looking back, it did leave a lasting impression on me. In the immediate years before entering the seminary, I worked as a podiatrist in private practice. I was largely motivated to enter into this field due to my passion for sport. I played local football and cricket up until my early twenties, and I thoroughly enjoyed helping patients get back out onto the sporting field. An unexpected job I did as a podiatrist was working in nursing homes. This exposed me to the vulnerabilities and frailties of the human condition, as I witnessed patients enduring terminable illnesses, requiring the care of a team of doctors and nurses.

While there were many good times during my five years working as a podiatrist, I slowly began to recognise a growing intuition or a hunch that I should give this priesthood idea a try. The last seven years in formation at Corpus Christi College, Carlton, have included more time in prayer, formal study at university, as well as placements in Italy, Sri Lanka and other parishes in Melbourne. There have been many joys and challenges throughout this time, however there has been an abiding peace that only comes from doing what God has called you to be.

I'm due to be ordained a transitional deacon early next year, which is the final office one receives before becoming a priest. I will also be continuing my full-time theological studies while I am in residence with Fr Greg at the presbytery. I look forward to being of service to the Saint Mary's parish throughout my time here. See you soon. **God bless, Tom Christie.**



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES 2021 AT ST MARY'S

Please note Bookings are required at all Masses. To book your attendance go to signupgenius.com/go/stmary's. All attendees must be fully vaccinated.

Let us — "Love our neighbor and be vexed."

Christmas Eve

Friday 24th December

6.00pm Mass at St Mary's (200 capacity)

9.00pm Mass at St Mary's (200 capacity)

Sunday 26th December

Sunday 26th December

Christmas Day

Saturday 25th December

8.30am Mass at St Mary's Church (200 capacity)

10.30am Mass at St Mary's Church (200 capacity)

8.30am Mass at St Mary's

10.30am Mass at St Mary's

