


**Rosters for this Week 18th & 19th March 2023**

Counting Team No. 4	Leanne Spiteri, Greg Morgan, Mary Ward, Jean McCutcheon, Ted Kennedy
Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Larry Rigoni 8.30am Jeanette Thompson, Peter Kirwan 10.30am Di Collins
Mass Readers	6.00pm Marcia Schobben 8.30am Stephen Littleton 10.30am
Children's Liturgy	8.30am James McCutcheon, Eilin Taylor

**Rosters for next Week 25th & 26th March 2023**

Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Gail Tull, Mary Soppitt 8.30am Karen Colla/Mary Frisby 10.30am Maria Laudato
Mass Readers	6.00pm Josie Penna 8.30am Chris Maine 10.30am Herb Zimmer
Children's Liturgy	8.30am Rachele Pantalleresco, Ros Jacklin



**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 Patrick Barry and Elaine (Mud) Harvey who passed away recently and Pearl Wells, Lynette McCann (Lily), Giovanni Raunik, Peter Wentworth, Brendan Rooney, Kevin Hynes, Zaren Bartolo, Francis Spira, John Bartolo, Marcelle Michaud, Sr. Mary Byrne, Brendan Rooney, Win Kelly, Czeslaw Pleban, Jim Houlahan, Terrence Mahoney, Bessie Wood, Isabella Belmonts, Antonio Fernandes, Kevin Creaney, Terrence Duffy, Carmel Johnson, Cynthia Frawley, Harry Orr, Norma Ranson, Des O'Driscoll, Noreen Hunter, Geoff Hopkins, Kevin Grace, Giuseppe Nardo, William Spurling, William Dorgan, Lou Hindle, Charles Little, Fran Mannix, Michael McGrath, Kevin Walsh, Ted Literski, Margaret Mangion, Len Owens, Gordon Barnes, Edward Maguire, Mary Zahra, Baskal Farrugia, Gertrude Embach, Andrew Murphy, Robert Telfer, Win Hogan, Les Williams, Severina Ordinario, John Smith, Giovanni Radoicovic, Robert James Burke, Nancy McCrae, Marie Richardson, Domenico & Maria Ulcigrai, Giacomo, Caterina & Lino Lugnani, Carlo Falzon, Jessie Mifsud, Teresa Mifsud, Johnny Cutajar and Shirley Barclay, whose anniversaries are at this time.



**Catholic Earthcare program**

Would you like to help the parish with the Catholic Earthcare program, help promote and explain energy saving actions to parishioners and help reduce climate change? The StMarys Green Team would like you to join us. Come and check it out at our next meeting on Mon 20th March at 7.30pm. Contact Anthony Verhoef on 0466 489 439.



# 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](mailto:williamstown@cam.org.au)  
Web: [www.stmaryswilliamstown.org.au](http://www.stmaryswilliamstown.org.au)

19th March, 2023

- Parish Priest**  
(Fr.) Greg Trythall  
0400 524 363  
Email: [greg.trythall@cam.org.au](mailto: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

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A



**FIRST READING:**

Samuel 16.1b, 6-7, 10-13

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

**SECOND READING:**

Letter of Paul to the Ephesians 5.8-14

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

**GOSPEL: JOHN 9:1-41.**



As he passed by he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him. We have to do the works of the one who sent me while it is day.

Night is coming when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him, "Go wash in the Pool of Siloam (which means Sent). So he went and washed, and came back able to see. ....continued .....

When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered and said, "Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "I do believe, Lord," and he worshipped him. Then Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see might see, and those who do see might become blind."

<b>Tuesday 21st March</b>	9.15am Mass at St. Mary's Church. 7.00pm Continuation of Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults at Presbytery with Fr. Greg. All welcome especially those who desire deeper faith.
<b>Wednesday 22nd March</b>	9.15am Mass at St. Mary's Church. Whole school Mass celebrating Feast Of St Joseph due to time restraints this week. 7.30pm Way of the West meeting at the Presbytery.
<b>Thursday 23rd March</b>	9.15am Mass at St. Mary's Church.
<b>Friday 24th March</b>	9.15am Mass at St. Mary's Church. 6.30pm Stations of the Cross at St Mary's Church.

Dear Parishioners,  
 In the Gospel readings of Year, A there are further pearls of wisdom presented to us on this 4th Sunday of Lent with the curing by Jesus of the blind Man.

**The "Swag" magazine is available on the back table** for those who wish to take a free copy. The editor Peter Maher contracted cancer and died only recently. Fr Peter Matheson recently retired, and the former very capable Parish Priest of Cheltenham put up his generous hand as the new editor which was gratefully received. In summary:

- **P 3** Chairperson of NCP welcomes Fr. Peter Matheson.
- **P 4** New editor gives a good overview of articles in this publication.
- **P 5** A close friend extolls the virtues of recently deceased Pater Maher.
- **P 6** One can state that editor Peter Maher was towards the left of the scales and his former Archbishop/Cardinal was towards the right of the scales! Part of the anger in the article comes through at the real restriction of certain music at Peter's funeral. There is little flexibility in Sydney Archdiocese as present Archbishop there was a Cardinal Pell appointment!
- **P 7** The angst gets even louder with another friend speaking about the funeral! Common sense should prevail at times.
- **P 7** Also the writer is the quite famous lawyer and Jesuit priest, Fr Frank Brennan who I believe gives a very balanced view of the recent passing of Cardinal George Pell. I could not but notice though a few words Fr Frank Brennan used during the article about Cardinal George: "an old-style Churchman with strong opinions..... he saw his role and solemn duty to be an enforcer. It was also noted that due to his normal form in Australia Cardinal Pell tried to manipulate a mindset among his likeminded that the next Pope needs to be conservative like himself rather than take the progressive route of Pope Francis.
- **P 9** The wonderful bishop of Parramatta writes well again. He states that although the recent general meeting of Australian leadership comprised of bishops, priests, women religious, laywomen and laymen in 2022 was not perfect it seemed a good stepping stone to those dioceses who are willing to move forward into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It is a worthwhile article on the value of the Plenary Council, 2022.
- **P 11** Naturally as a former priest and a bit of fire under his belly the next writer John Warhurst offers both good and bad about the Plenary Council. It was interesting that he stated: "For all its limitations the Plenary Council exercise empowered many lay Catholics."
- **P 12** Like Fr Frank Brennan the writer and former head of the Jesuits in Australia, Fr. Bill Uren is a very impressive and highly intelligent person. Although it is hard term to summarise "synodality" it is a way of moving forward with others in order not only to try and achieve consensus but under the Holy Spirit progress the truth, although it does mention the German bishops probably progressing too far too quickly under this model. Fr Bill Uren details that the Church is confronting some very challenging issues such as at the end of column one of page 12, he so rightly sees the opportunity under Pope Francis for a more open inclusive Church.
- **P 13**- Four women of our Archdiocese note among other things that there is a greater need for Catholic women to be valued first and foremost as baptised and equal members of the People of God.
- **P 15-17** bit of a rambling and long article.
- **P 17 -18** Tom Gleeson expresses some important and beautiful insights on our need for greater recognition of our 'First Peoples'.



- **P 19** Francis Sullivan as one of the most impressive lay leaders of the last decade in Australia states that we should "back the Voice".
  - **P 20** Again Fr Bill Uren tackles a minefield: a catch 22 situation as I know we want to see less abortions (or ideally no abortions) but it is a very complicated issue and although I may seem naïve in saying it 'conscience is our ultimate test before God' even though it may be an erroneous conscience.
  - **P 21** I would agree with the writer quoting the son of the former head of the High Court, Fr Frank Brennan in stating that Cardinal George Pell came across "shoddy work" from a Royal Commission. Anyway it is almost inconceivable in my mind and many priests mind (knowing the openness of the Cathedral sacristy) that Cardinal Pell made some unwanted advances to altar servers! I can only think of Cardinal George as very old fashioned and somewhat of a bully in getting his own way, but I do not believe the main accusations against him 'assault wise' are credible but he did make many enemies who were probably out to get a man who polarised people both in the Church and outside the Church.
  - **P 22 & 27** I don't know this Marist Father from Queensland but I think Scripture scholars with knowledge of the original Greek and Aramaic may disagree with him. It is also important for anyone to realise that the term 'brother and sister' can mean in many contexts just your relations like a cousin.
  - **P 23 - 26** Ordination Anniveraries. When I was celebrating on March 1<sup>st</sup> the 100 years of the Seminary at Werribee two weeks ago, with fellow year mates I came across two of the three oldest ordained priests in Australia, Chris Bakker 73 years ordained and Mgr Frank Hickey 72 years ordained.
  - **P 28** As I stated Cardinal Pell had many detractors. Although the writer, previous priest Michael Morwood was generally doing good work as a priest he was probably as far left as Cardinal Pell was far right. Unfortunately for him Archbishop Pell at the time was his boss and he probably was right in bringing Michael Morwood into headquarters for some of his semi heretical ideas, but the sledgehammer was used on him and he obviously is still angry. No, I would not agree with Michael Morwood's theology but a softer approach could have been used for the good of Michael long run both personally and professionally.
  - **P 29-31** Another wonderful priest and good scripture scholar Missionary of the Sacred Heart Michael Fallon has talked the area of 'homosexuality in the Scriptures'. The article is very worth reading even though most of us priests would stick clear of the subject as it is such a complex area.
  - **P 31** A year mate of mine and a fine pastor allowed his homily to be used on the centenary of St Therese's Parish in Essendon -nice insights.
  - **P 33** another close priest friend of mine writes about the Floods in his former parish of Echuca as he now enjoys retirement!
  - **P 34** Passionist Priest writes some beautiful stuff about our friend Jesus and his desire to set us free through reconciliation.
  - **P 35** The article about the value of the Swag speaks for itself
  - **P 36- 37** Challenging and thought-provoking article.
  - **P 44-47** In the obituaries two of those priests William Melican and Tao Xuan Pham who suffered incredibly would be considered Saints by many. Both outstanding in their own ways.
- Yours 'in Christ' Fr Greg 15/3/2023

**Reconciliation, Easter and Holy Week**

Saturday 1st April	5.00pm	Reconciliation Service Rite 2. Before 6pm Mass
Holy Thursday 6th April	7.00pm	Mass at St Mary's Church
Good Friday 7th April	10.00am	Stations of the Cross at St Mary's Church
	3.00pm	Good Friday main service at St Mary's Church
Holy Saturday 8th April	7.00pm	Mass at St Mary's Church
Easter Sunday 9th April	8.30am	Mass at St Mary's Church
	10.30am	