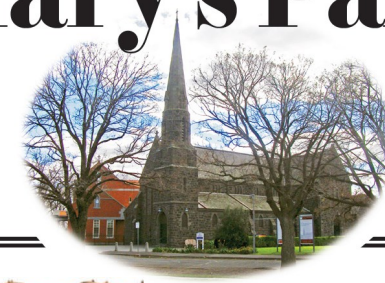


St Mary's Parish

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

28th February, 2021

ROSTERS FOR MASS THIS WEEKEND 27th & 28th February, 2021

Counting Team No. 2	Mary Forster, Marguerite Buckley, Lauren Dittmar
Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm John O'Keefe/Beata Ocampo 8.30am Mary Frisby/Jeanette Thompson 10.30am Mimma Cutroni
Mass Readers	6.00pm Daniel Corcoran 8.30am Stephen Littleton 10.30am Richard van der Merwe

Rosters for weekend 6th & 7th March, 2021

Counting Team No. 3	Ian Veal, Frances Maloney, Tony Cutroni
Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Larry Rigoni, Maria Laudato 8.30am Ivonne Cram, Mary Debenham 10.30am Di Collins
Mass Readers	6.00pm Evol Farrelly 8.30am Christal Augustin 10.30am Anne Cooper

IN OUR PRAYERS

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



RECENTLY DECEASED & ANNIVERSARIES



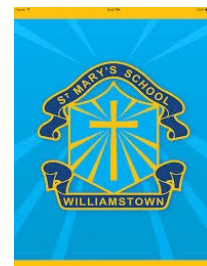
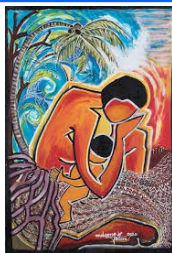
We pray for Antonio Acquaro who died recently and Philip Webb, Lisa Di Donato, Stephen Kelly, John Paul Camilleri, Luigina Frlan, Mario Frlan, Ignazio Kucich, Elaine Jones, June Dibbs, Marie Anderson, John Brennock, Rosario Guastalegname, Rita Sargasso, Robert Morton, Kate Dawes, Marie Farrelly, Joso Djuric, Steven Drozdek, Frank Galli, Veronica Knight, Peter Black, Robert Barry, Rita Holdworth, Brian Williams, Joseph Maguire, John O'Grady, Ivy Shields, Alan Urban, Lena Cassar, Frank Woodruff, Mary McLinden, Mary Dyson, Michael Frawley, Agnes McDonagh, Joyce Zammit, Kay Green, Peggy Price and Laura Palumbo, whose anniversaries are at this time.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2021:

PRAY FOR VANUATU

FRIDAY MARCH 5th at 2.00pm

Uniting Church, 36 Electra St, Williamstown



ST. MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, WILLIAMSTOWN

Prep Enrolments for 2022

Application forms for enrolment in 2022 are now available at the school office. Applications close Monday 3rd May, 2021.

Children who turn 5 years on or before 30th April, 2022 are eligible for enrolment



SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR B

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.

FIRST READING:

A reading from the book of Genesis. 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

SECOND READING:

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Romans. 8:31-34.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:

This is my beloved Son, hear him.

GOSPEL: MARK 9:2-10

After six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes

became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them

along with Moses, and they were conversing

with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply,

"Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make

three tents: one for you,

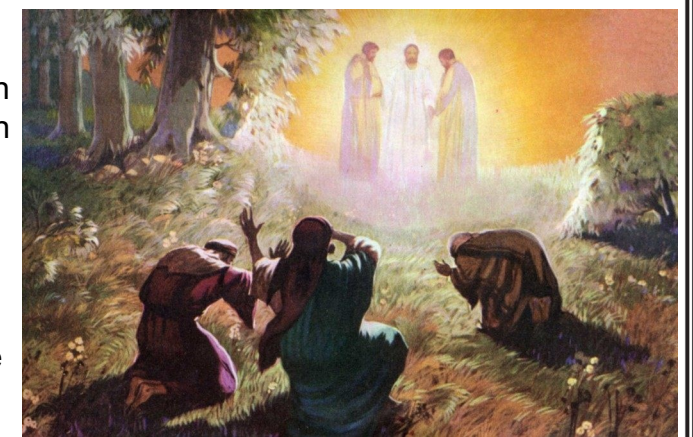
one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them;

then from the cloud came a voice,

"This is my beloved Son. Listen to him."

Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them.

As they were coming down the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant.



Tuesday 2nd March	9.15am Mass at St Mary's Church. 7.00pm St Vincent de Paul meeting in the Parish Centre.
Wednesday 3rd March	9.15am Mass at St. Mary's Church.
Thursday 4th March	<u>No Mass.</u> Fr Greg and staff of St Mary's school attending professional development day at 'St Joseph's by the Sea.' 6.30pm Parish Council meeting in the presbytery.
Friday 5th March	11.30am Seniors' Mass at St. Mary's Church followed by luncheon in the Parish Centre. 6.30pm Stations of the Cross at St Mary's Church.

Dear Parishioners,

Another big weekend no doubt with many big weekends this year. Besides 3 marriages this week, and 3 normal weekend Masses this weekend, there is the Confirmation this Saturday night at 7:30pm for mainly children who are now enrolled in a variety of other schools besides St Mary's. On the Sunday we also have the pleasure of the grade 2 families from St Mary's school for a Year level Family Mass. All are welcome of course.

It will be a privilege to celebrate our **First Seniors Mass this Friday** at St Mary's and join with you afterwards for the luncheon.

It is commonplace in our Catholic Traditions to speak of Abraham as **'the Father of all believers'**! Indeed, in his letter to the Romans – nearly 2000 years after Abraham's existence, St Paul describes Abraham as truly **'our father in faith.'**

What is a father? Simply put a father is one who transmits life in all its forms. Accordingly, we can pray that like Abraham mentioned in our first reading at Mass this weekend : that we might be like him: a father in faith – passing on to others that precious gift. Abraham is first presented to us in the simple, direct call of God. **"Leave your country, your family and your father's house for a land I will show you."** Like everyone else in his tribe and country they had many odd religious convictions and a host of pagan gods. **But what Abraham gained was the insight to know that there was only one true God.** Although he was an exceptional man of great integrity, it was ultimately God who showed the initiative to Abraham and it was he who responded in a positive way. In other words, God proposes and the person of faith responds. Belief is only possible in our willingness to listen and then respond. **This is why faith is always susceptible to growth.** If we wish to renew our faith, there must be always a deepening of our eagerness to hear and to answer. When we let God be God in us, our life is never shriveled or stifled. Faith is a risk and some will not take it as they are afraid to pray like the great Charles de Foucauld: "do with me whatever you want". They are mainly afraid because they are afraid if they made this surrender, they might find God stripping them of what they hold dear: their desires or being ultimately in control. Yet God is our creator, the one who has given us life in the first place, whose one desire for us is that His faith life in us will grow and increase to the full. As appropriate to state on this Confirmation weekend in the parish: the call of God will always make more of ourselves or as St Paul calls it – **we will increase in the fruits of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness and self-control.** Maybe the right question to be asked this Lent is – are those fruits of the Spirit becoming more effective in me and if not, what is holding me back? The sign that I am truly following the path of God is that there will be a genuine growth in the fruits of the Spirit. Faith is a continuous growing in that history we experience with God: gradually for each of us that little word called 'God' is transformed into a name meaningful for us, but the transformation is achieved only on a long and arduous journey. Abraham made that journey and now we can also make that journey and maybe ask His help along the way as he is 'our father in faith'.

Just a reminder that last Dec 8th, Pope Francis decreed a **special year dedicated to St Joseph for the global church.** This special year coincides with the 150th anniversary of the 1870 naming of St Joseph as patron of the universal church and it will run through to Dec 8th 2021. Pope Francis said that he had been thinking about the move for some time but the desire to create the special year "increased" as the pandemic unfolded. The Pope compared Joseph, Jesus' foster father to the many unheralded essential workers keeping society afloat in times of social distancing and remote work.

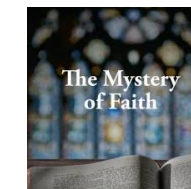
"Each of us can discover in Joseph – the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence – an intercessor, a support and guide in times of trouble."

Yours 'in Christ' Fr Greg 26/2/2021



Mystery of Faith to learn for Lent

*Save us, Saviour of the world,
For by your cross and Resurrection
You have set us free.*



**Second Sunday of Lent
28th February 2021**



Margret, 39, is a teacher at a vocational school for deaf students in the Solomon Islands. She was born deaf, so she knows the challenges it poses to education and employment. The school faced water shortages for about half the year. Staff and students would walk for up to half an hour to collect water for drinking, cooking, washing and growing vegetables. Then in April 2020, amidst the threat of COVID-19, Tropical Cyclone Harold struck, damaging school buildings and its vegetable garden.



With Caritas Australia's support, Margret's school installed eight large water tanks and provided cyclone-proof materials to repair the damage. It also helped the school to implement COVID-19 prevention measures, providing fabric for students to make face masks.

Margret's school now has enough safe water to supply the school's population of 150 and has the capacity to cater for more students. It plans to boost food security, by increasing its agricultural production. This will improve nutrition and boost the school's income, while building resilience to future disasters.

Margret hopes that the school can aspire to 'Be More'.

"I am proud that our school community works together with Caritas Australia as our partner in ensuring that we live in a healthier environment," Margret says.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting: www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION ST MARY'S PARISH 2021



Parents of Parish Children who do not attend St. Mary's School and would like to be part of our Reconciliation Program in 2021 please contact Monique Julian (Pastoral Associate) Monique.Julian@cam.org.au

The program will be held at the Parish Center from 6.30pm - 7.30pm on the following Monday evenings: 1/3, 15/3, 22/3 with reconciliations between 23 March and 26th March.

- FIRST COMMUNION (2020 and 2021 Candidates)** 6.30 -7.30 on the following Monday evenings: 3/5, 10/5, 17/5, 24/5 with communion Masses on the weekend of 29/30th May.
- CONFIRMATION (2021 Candidates)** 6.30 -7.30 on the following Monday evenings 21/06, 12/7, 19/7, 26/7 with confirmation Masses scheduled for 27/7-29/7.

SENIORS' MASS AND LUNCHEON

The next senior's Mass will be held this Friday **5th March at 11.30am** Followed by lunch in the Parish Centre **All Welcome.**



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED CHILDREN'S LITURGY-SUNDAY 8.30AM MASS

The Parish is in need of someone to co-ordinate and plan each week's children's liturgy. Volunteers are also needed to join the roster for the children's liturgy at 8.30am.

Please contact Heidi Zahra on 9397 6066 or email williamstown@cam.org.au for further details.

