

## ROSTERS FOR MASS THE WEEKEND OF 20th & 21st NOVEMBER, 2021

Counting Team No. 8	Tracey Gregg, Leanne Spiteri
Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Larry Rigoni, John O'Keefe 8.30am Evol Farrelly, Peter Kirwan 10.30am Mimma Cutroni
Mass Readers	6.00pm Emma Pinzone 8.30am Anthony Verhoef 10.30am Jane McLaughlin

## ROSTERS FOR MASS THE WEEKEND OF 27th & 28th NOVEMBER, 2021

Counting Team No. 1	Frank Jones, Robyn Jones, Kimberley Jones
Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Mary Soppitt, Maria Laudato 8.30am Mary Debenham 10.30am Di Collins
Mass Readers	6.00pm Evol Farrelly 8.30am Christal Augustin 10.30am Richard van der Merwe

### IN OUR PRAYERS

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

### RECENTLY DECEASED & ANNIVERSARIES

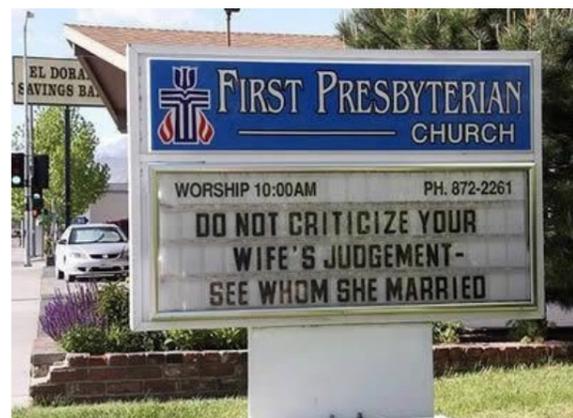
We pray for Ethel Rumble, Leo O'Brien, Sr. Henrica Jans, Sr. Sheila Edwards, Patrizia McBride, Doreen Rogers, Margaret Camilleri, Sr. Winifred Murphy, Luigi Vivona, Ignazio Kucic, Agostino, Margherita, Pasquale, Rita, Benedetto, Pietro, Ignazio and Guiseppina Saragozza, Maria Meloni, Alberto, Celestina, Emanuele, Giuseppe, Natalino, George, Ersilia, Carmelo and Margherita Mangion and Mario, Paula and Helmut Eckardt and Evelina Lugnani, whose anniversaries are at this time.



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

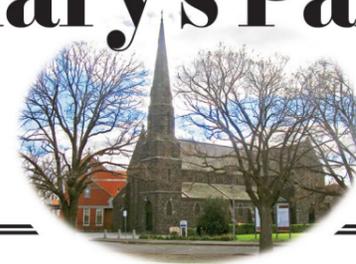
As there is a maximum on the number of Mass attendees, please ensure that you register to book your (free) ticket to Mass. This can be done via our website:

[stmaryswilliamstown.org.au](http://stmaryswilliamstown.org.au) under the heading: **SIGN UP TO ATTEND MASS** or by accessing the link: [signupgenius.com/go/stmarys](http://signupgenius.com/go/stmarys)



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

31st October, 2021

### Parish Priest

(Fr.) Greg Trythall  
PH: 9397 6066  
MO: 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-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

## THIRTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

### FIRST READING:

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy. 6:2-6

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

I love you, Lord, my strength.

### SECOND READING:

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews. 7:23-28

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.

### GOSPEL: MARK 12:28-34



One of the scribes, when he came forward and heard them disputing and saw how well he had answered them, asked him, "Which is the first of all the commandments?" Jesus replied, "The first is this: 'Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is Lord alone! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this:

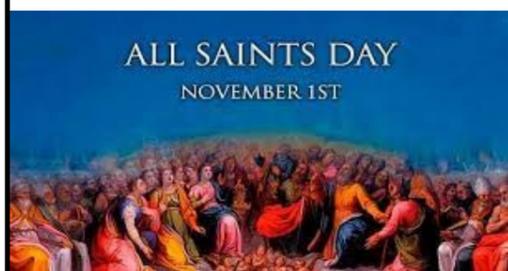
'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." The scribe said to him, "Well said, teacher. You are right in saying, 'He is One and there is no other than he.' And 'to love him with all your heart, with all your understanding, with all your strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself' is worth more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices." And when Jesus saw that he answered with understanding, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." And no one dared to ask him any more questions.



<b>Saturday 20th November</b>	10.00am – 10.30am Reconciliation Rite 1 (private confession) in St Mary's Church. 6.00pm Mass at St Mary's Church
<b>Sunday 21st November</b>	8.30am Mass at St Mary's Church. 10.30am Mass at St Mary's Church
<b>Tuesday 23rd November</b>	9.15am Mass at St. Mary's Church.
<b>Wednesday 24th November</b>	9.15am Mass at St. Mary's Church.
<b>Thursday 25th November</b>	9.15am Mass at St. Mary's Church.
<b>Friday 26th November</b>	9.15am Mass at St. Mary's Church.

Dear Parishioners

Although I am away on my annual holidays, as per usual at this time of the year, over the next 3 weeks I have left a sermon or a homily on the readings at this time, and I will be back in person from November 20<sup>th</sup> to celebrate Masses and weddings.



ALL SAINTS DAY  
NOVEMBER 1ST

**Monday November 1<sup>st</sup>** is one of my favorite days as it is a day when I remember those many in heaven who encourage me to live a better life. In the Catholic tradition we call it 'All Saints Day'. Even though I talk to God mostly, I still speak on friendly terms to my deceased parents and more and more to various men and women saints – I call them friends! After all, is that not part of our belief, and a belief that was enshrined in the most well-known Creed at Nicea in 325 AD, and completed fully at the Council of Constantinople in 381 AD where at the end of the Creed it mentions our belief in the "Communion of Saints".

The Saints mirrored what love of God and love of neighbor is all about. Of course, **the love of God is the first of all the commandments**- Jesus said so – that is good enough for me. It is the passage of Scripture given to us on this 31<sup>st</sup> Sunday Year B. Love makes the world go round as they say. The love of others is not left off the hook as a prime commandment, as Jesus states: **"The second is this: You must love your neighbor as yourself."**

Although the great Russian novelist, Dostoevsky did not always live the law of love of others, he of all people could identify and challenge others to live the love of neighbor. For instance, in his novel **'The Brothers Karamazov'** it tells the story of a selfish person who was almost spared hell because of an onion! She had been dispatched to Hell. An angel pleaded to God on her behalf." But, Lord, she once gave an onion to a beggar". God ordered that she be lifted out of hell by the onion. The woman was desperately clutching the onion, the small onion as she was being lifted out. People, as anxious to get out of hell as she was, tried to hold her legs. She kicked them off. "Just me", she shouted. As she spoke these words, her hands slipped off the onion. She fell back into hell. According to this Russian literary genius, Christ was not pulling our legs when he told us to love our neighbors even though they may be our enemy. "Spare me your sympathy", shouts the person in need, "and your prayers, lift me up". A religious sister took food to a starving family. The mother disappeared with the food and then returned with but half of it. She said, "Our neighbors are hungry too". Mother Teresa was correct. She said you can speak the Gospels in five words: "You did it for me". Talking about five words, the famous **Protestant Theologian Karl Barth** once stated after writing volumes of words about God, that God could be defined in five words: The One who loves me'. I personally liked that as it agrees with my thinking that God is the greatest of all lovers, and despite any wrongs I do in this life, He will still love me.



This brings me around to thinking of how difficult it is to love. On one hand I think if given the right example and with a good self-esteem it is not only good to love, but it is always possible. But on the other hand, one can understand what Psychiatrists testify that one reason we find it difficult to love is that we do not love our own selves! So, how can I love the person next to me if I do not appreciate myself. I believe in some ways we must learn to be our best fan. When Jesus spoke about loving others like we love ourselves, He I believe was speaking an ideal: that we can love ourselves, that we can appreciate ourselves, that we can mainly see goodness in ourselves rather than the opposite.

We can talk to when we are blue in the face about the importance of love of others, wife, husband, children, friends, neighbors and even enemies but how easily we can forget the answer Jesus gave to one of the Jewish scribes: **"This is the first: Listen Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength"**. Perhaps since I have taken a Russian novelist path with Dostoevsky, I can turn to a more recent and also very famous Russian novelist in Solzhenitsyn who died in 2008 in his native Russia after having exiled for several years. He received in 1970 the Nobel Prize for Literature. As a youth he was a fervent Communist, but his loyal service did not prevent him from becoming one of the many victims of that brutal regime. Solzhenitsyn exposed some of the brutality in his novels: **"One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich", 'The Gulag Archipelago' and 'Cancer Ward'**. Those novels made Russians and the rest of the world aware of the horror of the Soviet system. Later in his life Solzhenitsyn asked what went wrong. How could a country with such a magnificent cultural heritage fall into such wide scale barbarity? To find the answer Solzhenitsyn recalled the days when he was a youth. Everything seemed so hopeful after the Great Revolution of 1917, but some of the older people saw that things were not right. "A great disaster," they said, "had befallen Russia: Men have forgotten God; that's why all this has happened." Fifty years later Solzhenitsyn reflected on the bitter fruits of that disaster. "If I were called upon to identify briefly the principal trait of the entire twentieth century", he said. "I would be unable to find anything more precise and pithy than to repeat again: 'Men have forgotten God' ". I hope you will be there when we come **together again on the November 20/21<sup>st</sup> weekend** as we get another chance to express our love for God – **just sign up please** if not already done so on [signupgenius.com/go/stmarys](http://signupgenius.com/go/stmarys)

Yours 'in Christ' Fr Greg



Come lend a hand!

## PARISH GARDEN WORKING BEE

Saturday 20th November, 2021 9.00am–11.00am

**Come along and help the other workers (even if only for an hour) to help tidy up the Parish grounds. It would be much appreciated if you are able to bring your own tools/equipment.**

## Blessed—Daily Advent and Christmas Reflections 2021

**We have ordered some Advent Booklets which will be available on our first weekend back in Church on the 20th and 21st November 2021.**



**Blessed** is a 92-page pocket-size book containing short spiritually rich, yet accessible, daily reflections from the beginning of Advent (28 November 2021) through to the Baptism of the Lord (9 January 2022).

**Blessed also features beautiful religious artworks with enlightening reflections written by Monsignor Graham Schmitzer.**

As we countdown the days to Christmas we pray that by meditating on God's Word in these daily Advent and Christmas reflections, you may be graced with moments of silence to ponder in your heart the many "blessings" in your life—inspiring you in your call to "blessedness" where true happiness is gained.