

# 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*

31st August, 2025



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[www.melbcatholic.org/s/williamstown](http://www.melbcatholic.org/s/williamstown)

## Parish Priest

(Fr.) Greg Trythall

0400 524 363

Email:

[greg.trythall@cam.org.au](mailto:greg.trythall@cam.org.au)

## Parish Office Staff

### Pastoral Associate & Parish Secretary

Monique Julian

9397 6066

Tuesday 9:00am – 3.00pm

Thursday 9:00am – 3.00pm

Friday 9:00am – 2.00pm  
0450 789 951

### Wednesday Parish Secretary

Kylie Skinner

9:30am–1:30pm

## Safeguarding Officer

Frank Schobben

0427 416 184

## 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

## TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—YEAR C

### FIRST READING:

A reading from the book of Sirach. 3:17-20, 28-29

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

God in your goodness,  
you have made a home for the poor.

### SECOND READING:

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews. 12:18-19, 22-24

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Take my yoke upon you; learn from me,  
for I am gentle and humble of heart.

### GOSPEL: LUKE 14:1,7-14

On a Sabbath he went to dine at the home of one of the leading Pharisees, and the people there were observing him carefully. He told a parable to those who had been invited, noticing how they were choosing the places of honour at the table. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not recline at table in the place of honour. A more distinguished guest than you may have been invited by him, and the host who invited both of you may approach you and say, 'Give your place to this man,' and then you would proceed with embarrassment to take the lowest place. Rather, when you are invited, go and take the lowest place so that when the host comes to you he may say, 'My friend, move up to higher a position.' Then you will enjoy the esteem of your companions at the table. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted." Then he said to the host who invited him, "When you hold a lunch or dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or your wealthy neighbors, in case they may invite you back and you have repayment. Rather, when you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of righteous."



<b>Tuesday 2nd September</b>	9.15am Mass at St Mary's Church. 7pm – 8pm Continuation of Rite of Christian Initiation at presbytery.
<b>Wednesday 3rd September</b>	9.15am Mass at St Mary's Church. 2:30pm – 3:30pm Silent Hour of Adoration in Church.
<b>Thursday 4th September</b>	9.15am Mass at St Mary's Church. 6:30pm Parish Council at Presbytery.
<b>Friday 5th September</b>	11:30am Seniors Mass at St Mary's Church. Followed by Luncheon in Parish Centre – all welcome. Church open for prayer – all afternoon. 5.00pm Stations of the Cross for any who wish to come.

Dear Parishioners,

The experience of people living with the challenges of homelessness and mental ill-health has been highlighted in the Australian Catholic Bishops Conferences 2025 Social Justice Statement for this the last Sunday in August. Each year since 1940, the Conference has released a statement for reflection and discussion ahead of Social Justice Sunday (August 31<sup>st</sup>) on a key issue in Australian society. This year's statement is 'Signs of Hope on the Edge: Serving Homeless People with Mental Ill-Health'.

Without necessarily reading the Statement it is certain that Australia is facing a deepening crisis. Over 273,000 people sought help from homelessness services last year, many also struggling with mental illness. Services are overstretched and many people are left without care, shelter or hope. Many who are homeless also live with serious mental health challenges. Services are overwhelmed, and too many people are left without the help they desperately need. This year's Social Justice Statement calls us to follow the example of Jesus, who always noticed, listened to, and cared for those on the edge of society. Just as Jesus healed the blind man Bartimaeus (Mark ch 10:46-52), we are called to see and respond to the needs of our sisters and brothers living in hardship.

#### SCRIPTURE READINGS:

- A) **FIRST READING: ( Ecclesiasticus)** One of the late books of the Old Testament and not to be confused with other Old Testament book Ecclesiastes. Ecclesiasticus is part of that is called Wisdom Literature.
- B) **SECOND READING: (HEBREWS)** Jesus is the mediator who brings a New Covenant with God's people not like the far from perfect Old Covenant, in which mainly only animals were sacrificed whereas Jesus is involved in the perfect sacrifice in his blood.
- C) **GOSPEL:** The parable is directed against the Pharisees who considered that they were entitled to the best places in the Kingdom. Jesus brings them down a peg or two!

#### PASSING OF FR CHRIS RILEY:

Not many Melbournians would know him, but he was hugely known in NSW and QLD. He was the founder of the non-profit youth services organisation 'Youth Off The Streets, Salesian priest Fr Chris Riley, who died August 1<sup>st</sup> aged 70. He was lauded for his relentless desire to help NSW and QLD children overcome their living conditions. The chairperson of his organisation, Anne Fitzgerald stated "Fr Riley was a tireless advocate for homeless and disadvantaged youth, and he inspired and changed thousands of young lives. Fr Riley will be remembered for his compassion, tenacity and unwavering belief that every young person deserves the chance to reach their full potential."

Fr Riley began in 1991 with a single food van delivering meals to young homeless people on the streets of Kings Cross. The charity expanded into QLD providing about 1,600 homeless youth with housing and about 1200 First Nations Australians with support each year.

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said Fr Riley had "a heart as big as the country he served.....He gave hope to young people doing it tough, and never gave up on anyone."

NSW Premier Chris Minns expressed "profound sadness " at the loss of the "visionary' Fr Riley.

#### WAY OF THE WEST:

**Four van full speaks of the generosity of our parishioners.** Please don't underestimate what this help will do for new refugees and asylum seekers from our 11<sup>th</sup> yearly drive all August.

## ARCHBISHOP CAMPAIGN:

We had the Archbishop Campaign last week and hopefully it was successful throughout the archdiocese. Unfortunately, as we keep on reading many of the needed social services have had money withdrawn from them in the last year or two. For instance, now the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne must fund its helpful chaplaincy services to prisons whereas in the past the Victorian Government was more than helpful in this space. For instance, the archbishop has to find ways to give money to some of these chaplaincy services for so many prisons in our Archdiocese, and providing that money probably means other services miss out. On a completely different financial need, I don't know how the archbishop is going to find the extra money needed to refurbish our biggest Church, St Patrick's Cathedral, as a lot of outside work needs to be done on it. That is something for the near future. The Federal Government has promised several million but the rest will not be easy to find. This will be another concern for Peter Comensoli. Incidentally, our Church had the same architect at around the same time as St Patrick's was being built but thankfully it's only a quarter of the outside of St Patrick's Cathedral.

## THE SEASON OF CREATION:

On the Catholic calendar it is appropriate that the Season of Creation ends with a man who greatly honoured creation, the great Francis of Assisi. Thus, this Season of Creation goes from September 1<sup>st</sup> to his feast day on October 4<sup>th</sup>.

Yours 'in Christ'

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

## **GREEN TEAM**

1. The Green Team will place two recycling bins at the rear of the church on the Sundays of 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> September to coincide with the Season of Creation. Parishioners are invited to place small recyclable items in the tubs and disposal will be arranged. (batteries, deidentified, x-ray films, CD'S medication blister packs etc).
2. The Green Team have been trying to settle on a vision statement. The following will be presented to our Parish Council this Thursday for its recommendation or debate: **'Fostering a Parish that respects the Mystery of Creation by raising ecological awareness and facilitating local response.'**
3. Our Green Team are hosting a special screening of the movie 'The Letter'. Pope Francis's Laudato Si – a letter to all people about caring for each other and caring for our planet. Thursday week 11<sup>th</sup> September at 7:30pm at St Josephs By the Sea 116 Esplanade Williamstown cnr Cole and Esplanade. Supper will be provided. All are welcome.
4. As a few different Sundays are taken up in the Parish calendar already it may be necessary to focus on the 'Season of Creation' for next Sunday in the liturgy.

## **JUBILEE PRAYER:**

*Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us  
In your son, Jesus, our brother,  
And the flame of charity enkindled  
In our hearts by the Holy Spirit,  
Reawaken in us the blessed hope  
For the coming of your Kingdom.  
May the grace of the Jubilee  
Reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,  
A Yearning for the treasures of heaven.  
May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer  
Throughout the earth.  
To you our God, eternally blessed.*



### Rosters for this Week 30th & 31st August 2025

Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Mary Soppitt 8.30am Stephen Littleton, Ivonne Cram 10.30am Maria Laudato, Eugene Yii
Mass Readers	6.00pm Frank Schobben 8.30am Anthony Verhoef 10.30am Eilin Taylor
Welcomers	6.00pm <b>Volunteer Needed</b> 8.30am Teofila Hunt 10.30am Mariza O'Keefe

### Rosters for next Week 6th and 7th of September 2025

Counting Team 1	Frank Jones, Robyn Jones, Kimberley Jones, Paul Francis
Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Gail Tull 8.30am Gerard Colla, Peter Kirwan 10.30am <b>Volunteer Needed</b>
Mass Readers	6.00pm Rosemarie Smith 8.30am Himali Peter 10.30am Olga Reginato
Welcomers	6.00pm Frank Schobben 8.30am Stephen Littleton 10.30am Herb Zimmer

### IN OUR PRAYERS

We pray for Finn Pennisi, Dominic Piccolo, Yeme Reddy, Sarah Rodgers, Assunta Delgrosso, Charlie Galea, Patrick Augustin.

### RECENTLY DECEASED & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for Kevin Murphy, Tony Buckley, Fr. Michael Bogusz, Henri Styzinski, Antonietta Kucich, Chris Salamone, Mary Cassar, Kathleen Featherston, Warwick Smith, Aurelio Sagona, Hugo Smith, Pat Smith, Christine House, (Sr.) Philomena, Peter Warr, Maureen Haughey, Shirley Dervan, Kevin Doohan, Anna Dubiel, Martino Doria, Pasquale Vivona, Lucia Caputo, Mick Spiller, George Francis, Ronald Purcell, Rene Norton, Betty O'Rourke, Myra Matthews, Anne Kenny, Jo Schobben, Lloyd Molineux, Patrick O'Brien, George Cassar, Jacob Van Lith, Edward Armstrong, Stasha Bajasuk, Maria Pos, Beryl Saidy, Pasqualina Fabbro, Peter Spurling, Rose Achkar, Giuseppe Sokolic, Mamie Fitzpatrick, Allan Sargeant, Constantino Sammut, Jason Medlicott, Michael Paicquadio, Angelina Meilak, Natalino Meilak, Michael Meilak, Joan Spiteri, Rosaria, Albert, Celestina, Ersilia, Guiseppe, Natalino, Margherita, Carmelo, Antonio Basilone, Maria Meloni, George and Emanuele Mangion, Agostino, Margherita, Pasquale, Rita, Pietro, Francesca, Benedetto, Ignazio and Angeolina Saragozza, Nickolas Dimeck, Spiro Grima, John Cassar, Les Sharp, Paul Gerada, Ivor Jones, Arthur Jones, Mario Camilleri, Emiglio Cini, Roland Zammit, Cristina Santucci, Blondina and Lawrence Sammut, whose anniversaries are at this time

### SAFEGUARDING - 'Volunteer Overview' & 'Activity Statement'

The 'Volunteer Overview' and 'Activity Statement' have now been emailed to all parish volunteers, requesting the signed **Volunteer Description Acknowledgment** (page 3) be returned to the parish office ASAP. Copies are also available in the church next to the parish bulletins on the rear table for volunteers to sign and place in the returns basket. Thank you for your cooperation.