



St Mary of the Cross Catholic Parish

EMBODYING CHRIST'S LOVE

Parish Priest: Fr Michael Kong

Deacon: George Piech-Meat

3rd Sunday of Easter 19 April 2026

Readings for Year A Acts 2: 14, 22-33 1 Peter 1: 17-21 Luke 24: 13-35



*They recognised him
at the breaking of the bread*

In Luke 24, three days after Jesus' death, two disciples make their way to Emmaus carrying grief, confusion, and the weight of recent events. Their hearts are so weighed down that they do not recognise Jesus when He comes alongside them. In this day and age, we know that feeling quite well. Consumed by troubling news, personal pressures, and the burdens we carry, it can be easy to miss the quiet ways Christ draws near.

Their eyes finally open when Jesus breaks bread. In that simple, familiar act, hope returns. They turn back toward Jerusalem with renewed courage. This is the grace we receive at every Mass. Jesus meets us in our journey, speaks to us through the Scriptures, and reveals His presence in the Eucharist. He feeds us with His very life, restores our strength, and breathes hope into places within us that felt shut down. And like the disciples, we are sent back into the world with eyes opened and hearts awakened.

Christ is present in our own Emmaus moments - times of trauma, loss, or social disruption; even when He seems absent. He listens, walks with us, and gently opens our eyes in ways we do not expect. May we learn to recognise Him in the people and moments we often overlook; by being still, patient and truly present.

Josie Johnson
Parishioner



News and Announcements



Blessings Quarterly Parish Magazine

Our latest Blessings magazine is available this weekend. Featuring many stories and photos, including:

Our Easter Triduum celebrations; Palm Sunday Rally for Refugees; Lenten Retreat and Small Groups; News from our schools and much more.

Please pick up a copy in the church foyers or online with the Bulletin mailout or on our parish website.

Kidz Zone

Our youngest children (5-12 years) sing, play and use their imagination to hear stories about Jesus and begin what we pray is a relationship with their lifelong friend Jesus. Kidz Zone is on during our 6pm, 9.30am and 11am masses next weekend. We would love to offer Kidz Zone more than once a month. If you can help, please contact Sangeetha at nsangeethac7@gmail.com

Next Weekend

Please feel free to bring along a cake to share at our cuppa masses next weekend. It is also name tag Sunday, so please collect a nametag on your way into mass and remember to drop it in the box on your way out. It is also Prayer Ministry next weekend, so please come forward after Mass if you would like to have an intention you would like prayer for.



Good Shepherd Sunday

Next Sunday we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday – the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. During this coming week, perhaps you may like to make a prayer each day for more vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. Perhaps there is a young person you may know to pray for by name this week.

John Paul College Van

Volunteers are being called for the JPC van for **Thursday 23 April**. Volunteers meet in St Louis carpark at 4.15pm and return around 7pm. It's a great experience to help out and chat with the homeless and needy in the Frankston area. Please call Sandy if you can help 0412 057 177.



FORMED - Saint Mark the Evangelist

Just who is St Mark, the author of this short but action packed Gospel? Using outside sources, other books of the Bible, and the Gospel itself, this is a closeup look at St Mark and his connections with St Peter and the Christians of Rome.

Go to: <https://formed.org/signup> type in St Mary of the Cross Mordialloc and Aspendale, and enter your name and email address, for free access to this and much more great content.

Permanent Diaconate Information Session 2 May 2026

The annual May Information session has been scheduled. The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men, aged between 30 and the 50s, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. It is an ordained ministry of service. The information session is open to everyone interested in learning more about the permanent diaconate. If you have attended any previous session, you are also welcome to attend this session. It is an opportunity to further discern your vocation. Wives most welcome. The session will be on Saturday morning, 2nd May and will be in person. If you are interested email Deacon Kevin Pattison Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au with full name and parish, but if you forget, then just turn up on Saturday morning. All are welcome.

Event Date: Saturday 2 May 2025 10.00am-11.30am.

Venue: Catholic Theological College 278 Victoria Parade East Melbourne.

News and Announcements

Middle East Emergency Appeal – Aid to the Church in Need

Aid to the Church in Need is calling for urgent prayer and support for Christian communities affected by war in the Middle East.

Your help will provide emergency food packages, support parishes sheltering displaced families, keep schools running, and supply vital medical and pastoral care. To learn more or give today, please scan the QR code or visit

www.rebrand.ly/EmergencyAppeal



Mother's Day Cake Stall - save the date

We are now looking to help our friends at BASP with a fundraising Mother's Day Cake stall on the weekend of 9/10 May at all masses. Save the date to do some baking or save your cash to do some buying.



Fr Michael's Pilgrimage trip

Fr Michael will be away until 24 April while leading his Pilgrimage in Korea. We wish him and all the pilgrims every blessing on their journey. During this time Friday and weekend masses will be as normal. We are blessed to welcome back Fr Peter Matheson who will be presiding in place of Fr Michael. Thank you Fr Peter.

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning masses will be replaced with Communion Services.

Servant Leadership - One of our Parish Core Mission Anchors Serve Ministries - are you being called?

When we focus on helping others and honouring Christ, we soon discover that our needs are met far more deeply than we ever experienced otherwise. When you serve the parish, you serve God.

We have ministries in Children's liturgy, music, sacristan, flowers, readers, special ministers, welcomers and more.

Visit our parish [website](#) to find out more. Reach out to a member of our Parish Leadership Team or Parish Pastoral Council to learn more. You can also contact the parish office to express your interest at mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au



Earth Day Wednesday 22 April

The Earth Day 2026 theme is "Our Power, Our Planet," announced by EARTHDAY.ORG to highlight the collective impact of individual and community actions in combating climate change, regardless of political shifts. The campaign urges sustained environmental action, focusing on advocacy, sustainability, and holding leaders accountable.

Actions: plant a tree, pick up litter, reduce your plastic by using a reusable bag or coffee cup.



Building the Synodal Way Together

Preparations for a Synod to be held in the Archdiocese of Melbourne in 2026 are now underway. A synodal gathering is focused on pastoral renewal and can result in decrees or pastoral plans that guide the diocese in its planning.

Archbishop Peter A Comensoli has invited the community to focus on three key themes for the Synod:

- Young Discipleship
- Missionary Leadership
- Formation and Participation

The Synodal Way calls each of us—clergy, religious, and lay—to participate actively in discernment and dialogue, guided by the Holy Spirit.

If you would like to become involved in the preparation toward the Melbourne Synod please email:

Synod2026@cam.org.au

What is a Synod?

A Synod is a moment when the Church deliberately pauses to listen, pray and discern together. It is not simply a meeting or a conference, but a spiritual process rooted in faith that the Holy Spirit continues to guide the Church today. In a Synod, we ask not only "What do we think?" but more importantly, "What is God asking of us at this moment in our mission?"

NEXT WEEK'S SERVE MINISTERS ROSTER - 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER - 26TH APRIL 2026

25/26 April 2026 4th Sunday of Easter Readings (Year A) Acts 2: 14, 36-41 1 Peter 2: 20-25 John 10: 1-10 Cuppa and name tags

	Reader	Commentator	Special Minister	Special Minister	Special Minister	Welcomer	Welcomer	Prayer Ministers
6pm (A)	Michael Barker	Patrick Jurd	Volunteer	Carmel Barker	Sonia Williams	Bernie Stuart	John Bainbridge	Rob Ward Ann Brennan
8.00am (M)	Celine George	Krystyna Wrzesinski	Joan Healy	Marlene Tangso	Stephen Pooley	Paula Rodrigues	Wence Rodrigues	Connie Nicols Jack Meyer
9.30am (A)	Phillip Morris	Brenda O'Leary	Mary Nayna	Ron Schneider-Loos	Ann Furlong	Lex Miller	Rosemary Miller	Berna Wake Felice Cortese
11.00am (M)	Adam Whatmore	Peter Hannan	Peter Wain	Christine D'Cruze	Philippa Pecora	Mary Ann Farren	Helen Rocks	Nicky Winters Ellen Young
Counters	Group 5	Anthony & Julie Barnhoorn	Aileen Dynes					

Recently deceased:

Anniversaries: Thomas Brennan, Fr Gerard Briglia, Fr Maurice (Lou) Heriot, Pat O'Connor, Michael Anderson, Ronald Henessy, David Morris, Gaetano Iacono, Edgar Rogen, Rita Barnhoorn, Brian Boland, Fran Tobin, Frank Venezia, Joe Oliveri, Owen Man Yan, May de Monte, Maria Morris, Veronica O'Donnell, Marie Murphy, Janos (John) Marton, Mark Aspery, Juseppe Merlino, Peg Hayes, Ada Roberts, Fred McDonald, Mary Alger, Eustace Owen-Tucker, Albert Carrazzo, Val Jones, Myrtle Rose Strange, Jeff Elsbury, Ted Graham, Matthew Feehan, Edward Feehan, Mick Reed, Sophie Jekot, Mauricia Villamor, Edward (Ted) Maguire, Pauline Watts, Pam MacDonald, Donald Booth, Winifred Wraight, Letty Saddler, Agostina Covello, Mario Cortese, Colin Ferguson, Carlyn Quarrell, Maree O'Dwyer.

Praying for healing and the sick: Len Scott, Julie Buick, Deborah Joseph, Chris Doran, Ruben David, Vasilos Garavelis, Mary Agiroponlos, Luis, Marisa, Rita Popley, Prunella Julien, Maree Wesols, Sophia Bicos, Jeffrey Sellar, Peter Waltho, Damian Haggerty, Noleen Dunn, Alasdair Hughes, Harry Donohue, Stephen Hopkins, Stephen Oldboldstone, Brilliant boys, John Catalano, Andrea Williams.

Growing in community & belonging at St Mary of the Cross



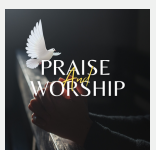
Children's Liturgy

5 - 12-year-olds.
4th weekend of the month. 6pm, 9:30am and 11am



Prayer Ministry

Intercessory prayer.
Last weekend of the month - all masses.



Praise & Worship

3rd Friday of month
7.30 - 8.30pm.
Alternates between each church.

Contact us

Parish Office: 03 9580 7981
OPEN Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday's 9am to 4.30pm
Parish Coordinator: Ann Fitzgerald
mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au

Parish House: 03 9412 8432

Pastoral care

If you would like a pastoral visit, Helen is available to drop by for a chat or to organise some help if required.
Please contact the office at
mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au

Baptism Coordinator

Debbie Poynton 0403 471 931

Our Parish acknowledges that we gather, pray and live on the land of the Bunorong People of the Kulin nation, and pay our respects to Elders, past, present and emerging. We recognise their continued connection to Country, and we thank them for their role in caring for, and maintaining Country and waterways, over thousands of generations.

WEEKEND MASSES

St Louis' Saturday 6pm
St Brigid's Sunday 8am
St Louis' Sunday 9.30am
St Brigid's Sunday 11am

Our 6pm Saturday Vigil & 8am Sunday Masses are live streamed and can be accessed at:
catholicmassstmaryofthecross

WEEKDAY MASSES

St Louis' Mon 9.15am Communion Service,
St Louis' Tues 9.15am,
St Brigid's Wed 10am,
St Louis' Thurs 9.15am,
St Brigid's Fri 11.30am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AND HOLY ROSARY

St Brigid's every Fri 10.30am
St Louis' 1st Sat of the month 4.30pm

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

St Louis' Monday's 7.30 - 8.30pm

RECONCILIATION

St Brigid's Fri after 11.30am Mass
St Louis' Sat 5.30pm before 6pm Mass

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Fr Michael, Trish Angliss, Berna Wake, John Field

Our Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and human dignity of children, young people & adults at risk in our community.

CHILD SAFEGUARDING TEAM:

Fr Michael Kong 9580 7981
Trish 0421 604 849
Joe 0407 354 568
Helen 0498 178 899
Anthony 0407 505 341
Robyn 0412 814 592
Denise 0412 926 752