ST PATRICK'S, ST JOHN VIANNEY'S, STELLA MARIS & ST JOSEPH'S

Partnered Parishes of Mentone-Parkdale and Ricketts Point (Beaumaris & Black Rock)

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 8TH NOVEMBER 2026

St Patrick's, 10 Rogers St, Mentone

St John Vianney's, Cnr Warren Rd & Brisbane Tce, Parkdale

Stella Maris, 2 Charlotte Rd, Beaumaris

St Joseph's, 542 Balcombe Rd, Black Rock

SUNDAY MASS

Saturday Vigil:	6:00pm *(Mentone)*
Sunday:	8:00am *(Black Rock)*
Sunday:	9:00am *(Parkdale)*
Sunday:	10:30am *(Beaumaris)*
Sunday:	11:00am *(Mentone)*
Sunday:	5:00pm *(Mentone)*

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Justin Ford
Partnered Parishes – Main Office: 3 Mitchell St, Mentone 3194 **Office hours:** 9am-5pm (Mon, Tue & Thu)
Phone: 9583 2103 **Email:** *mentoneparkdaleeast@cam.org.au* **Website:** *www.sspjv.org*

'Stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour.' (*Mt* 25:13)

Towards the end of Matthew's gospel is a series of parables in which Jesus reminds us that hearing the proclamation of the Good News of the Kingdom also brings with it responsibility: we are free either to accept or to reject the life and happiness that God is offering, and at some point, the time for making our decision will come to an end.

Today's Gospel story of the five wise and five foolish bridesmaids is one of these parables. We find a number of times in the New Testament the image of Christ as the bridegroom, the Church as his bride, and heaven as a marriage feast. So the parable of the five wise and five foolish bridesmaids questions us about our own response to Christ's invitation.

When we were baptised, God gave us the gift of his grace, the seed of divine life in our souls, destined to blossom into eternal life with him. Or, to use the image from the parable of the bridesmaids: this sanctifying grace is like the oil in our lamps that keeps them burning.

When we meet the bridegroom at the end of our lives, if we have oil in our lamps – supernatural grace, faith and charity alive in our souls – then we can be sure that we will be admitted to the wedding feast. But just as no one knows when Christ is going to come again in glory, no one really knows when their own life will come to an end.

If we are living in God's grace as best we can, we do not need to deeply fear death. We live in confidence and trust that however and whenever it comes, death will be the gateway to eternal happiness. But if we turn away from God by deliberate serious sin, we say 'no' to God's love, and block the influx of grace and charity into our souls. And should we die thus lacking the divine life of grace, we simply lack the power to live the life of heaven. God's love never changes, but we have closed ourselves off from receiving it.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation puts the oil back in our lamps if we lose it by mortal sin. It can make up for some of what is lacking in our dispositions. Outside the sacrament, perfect contrition (motivated by love of God above all things) is needed, and the intention to confess as soon as possible. But in the actual sacrament, imperfect contrition (motivated by fear of punishment after death, or by the ugliness of sin) is enough.

There are people who count on making a death-bed conversion – and by a miracle of God's mercy, it can happen. But maybe more normally, the way people live is the way they die. Death comes suddenly, with no chance for repentance; or when the time comes, they have drifted far from faith, or from any interest in spiritual things. They are not really sorry for how they have lived. They do not call for the priest at the end.

Jesus urgently calls us *here and now*. If someone goes for days, months, even years, living in a way that they know in their hearts is not according to God's law; if someone is always thinking, 'I'll change, I'll repent…but not yet' – they very much need to hear his warning: 'Stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour.'

WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon 9th Nov ***Feast:*** **The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica**
11:00am *(Mentone)*

Tue 10th Nov **St Leo the Great**
9:15am *(Mentone)*

Wed 11th Nov **St Martin of Tours**
9:15am *(Mentone & Black Rock)*

Thu 12th Nov **St Josaphat**
9:15am *(Mentone)*
9:15am *(Beaumaris) (Class Mass)*

Fri 13th Nov 9:15am *(Mentone & Black Rock)*

Sat 14th Nov 9:15am *(Beaumaris)*

NO SATURDAY MORNING MASS AT MENTONE UNTIL 12 DECEMBER.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St Patrick's Mentone every Friday following 9:15am Mass until 4:30 Benediction.

Exposition at Stella Maris Beaumaris every Saturday 9:45-10:15am.

RECONCILIATION/CONFESSION

Wednesdays following 9:15am Mass *(Mentone)*, **Saturdays** following 9:15am Mass *(Beaumaris)* and at 5:15pm *(Mentone)*

NO SATURDAY MORNING CONFESSIONS AT MENTONE UNTIL 12 DECEMBER

Recently Deceased: Fr Brendan Lane

Anniversaries: Kath & Harry Conrad, Tom Hogan, Ligaya Santos, Leo Bloink

We pray for those who are sick:

Ching Price, Nick Bond, Francis Archer, Jim Lacey, Janis Williams, Alan Laver, Michael Papworth, Kaye McCall, Mirella Townsend, Aliai Coyle-Madut, Albert Ricardo, Barry Martin, Dean Bevis, Amelia Martin, Michael Hannan, Mavis De Silva, Christl Commins, Kathy Miljko

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BANKING DETAILS For direct credit to parish accounts

Presbytery:	083347 6808 76937
Mentone-Parkdale - Church:	083347 6815 62913
Nazareth Parish - Church:	083347 6864 78067

Our Parishes are committed to the safety, well-being and dignity of all persons. A copy of our Child Safety policy is on the noticeboard in our churches and on our website ***www.sspjv.org***

ROSTERS 14/15 NOV 2026

St Patrick's - Mentone		
6:00pm	**Commentator / Reader**	K Ady
	Extraordinary Minister	J Stoppa
11:00am	**Commentator / Reader**	K Phillips
	Extraordinary Minister	S Mathias
5:00pm	**Commentator / Reader**	J Renden
	Extraordinary Minister	C Giosis
St Joseph's - Black Rock		
8:00am	**Reader / Commentator**	L Brick/ J Shannon
	Extraordinary Minister	T Papworth
St John Vianney's - Parkdale		
9:00am	**Reader**	B Fitchet
	Commentator	P Edkins
	Extraordinary Minister	M Webster
	Extraordinary Minister to the Sick	B Fitchet
	Flowers	K Lowe
	Pilgrim Statue	S Rodrigo
Stella Maris - Beaumaris		
10:30am	**Commentator / Reader**	M Link
	Extraordinary Minister	F Winkelman

Readings *next* week: 33rd week OT Year A
Proverbs 31: 10-13, 19-20, 30-31
1 Thessalonians 5: 1-6
Matthew 25: 14-30



Our **Mentone Piety Stall** is now selling **2027 Columban Art Calendars**, $11 each. Also available, a selection of Christmas Cards and gifts. Located between the school and St Patrick's church, open Sundays following 11am Mass.

ST PATRICK'S PARISH GARDENS WORKING BEE
This Saturday 14th November10am – 12 noon.
Meet at the Parish Centre, 3 Mitchell St.
BYO hat, gloves and water bottle. **ALL WELCOME.**

St Vincent De Paul Soup Van Christmas Hampers

We are underway once again to prepare 400 Christmas Hampers for the St Vincent de Paul Soup Van and our local people in need. Hampers will be packed on Saturday 12 December in the Narthex at Stella Maris.

Michele McNamara will speak at the Masses at St Josephs and Stella Maris today, Sunday 8 November, with a special collection taken up. Donations can also be made directly into the Christmas Hampers bank account:
BSB 083 347 Account No. 24967 2590

Rally Against Free Abortion, 6pm sharp, this Tuesday 10th November, outside Victorian Parliament, Spring St.

In Victoria, abortion is legal throughout all 40 weeks of pregnancy. We believe it is more important than ever for people of faith to raise their voices in defence of unborn children and to advocate for a culture that values every human life.

From Church teaching: Vatican II – 'Watch constantly'

'Basing itself on Scripture and tradition, the Council teaches that the Church, a pilgrim now on earth, is necessary for salvation… Hence they could not be saved who, knowing that the Catholic Church was founded as necessary by God through Christ, would refuse either to enter it or to remain in it…'

'He is not saved, however, who, though part of the body of the Church, does not persevere in charity. He remains indeed in the bosom of the Church, but, as it were, only in a "bodily" manner…not "in his heart."'

'All the Church's children should remember that their exalted status is to be attributed not to their own merits but to the special grace of Christ. If they fail moreover to respond to that grace in thought, word and deed, not only shall they not be saved but they will be the more severely judged. (Cf. *Lk* 12:48 'Everyone to whom much is given, much will be required')'

Vatican II, Dogmatic Constitution on the Church (1964) 14

'We strive therefore to please God in all things (Cf. *2 Cor* 5:9) and we put on the armour of God, that we may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil and resist in the evil day. (Cf. *Eph* 6:11-13)'

'Since however we know neither the day nor the hour, we should follow the advice of the Lord and watch constantly so that, when the single course of our earthly life is completed, (Cf. *Heb* 9:27) we may merit to enter with Him into the marriage feast and be numbered among the blessed, (Cf. *Mt* 25:31-46) and not, like the wicked and slothful servants, (Cf. *Mt* 25:26) be ordered to depart into the eternal fire, (Cf. *Mt* 25:41) into the outer darkness where "men will weep and gnash their teeth." (*Mt* 22:13; 25:30)'

Vatican II, Dogmatic Constitution on the Church
***Lumen Gentium* 48**

From Church teaching: Catechism of the Catholic Church – Salvation hangs in the balance

1033 We cannot be united with God unless we freely choose to love him. But we cannot love God if we sin gravely against him, against our neighbour or against ourselves…To die in mortal sin without repenting and accepting God's merciful love means remaining separated from him for ever by our own free choice. This state of definitive self-exclusion from communion with God and the blessed is called "hell."

1034 Jesus often speaks of "Gehenna" of "the unquenchable fire" reserved for those who to the end of their lives refuse to believe and be converted, where both soul and body can be lost. (Cf. Mt 5:22; 10:28; 13:42, 50; Mk 9:43-48) Jesus solemnly proclaims that he "will send his angels, and they will gather…all evil doers, and throw them into the furnace of fire," (Mt 13:41-42) and that he will pronounce the condemnation: "Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire!" (Mt 25:41)

1035 The teaching of the Church affirms the existence of hell and its eternity. Immediately after death the souls of those who die in a state of mortal sin descend into hell, where they suffer the punishments of hell, "eternal fire." The chief punishment of hell is eternal separation from God, in whom alone man can possess the life and happiness for which he was created and for which he longs.

1036 The affirmations of Sacred Scripture and the teachings of the Church on the subject of hell are a call to the responsibility incumbent upon man to make use of his freedom in view of his eternal destiny. They are at the same time an urgent call to conversion: "Enter by the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is easy, that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard, that leads to life, and those who find it are few." (Mt 7:13-14)

1861 Mortal sin is a radical possibility of human freedom, as is love itself. It results in the loss of charity and the privation of sanctifying grace, that is, of the state of grace. If it is not redeemed by repentance and God's forgiveness, it causes exclusion from Christ's kingdom and the eternal death of hell, for our freedom has the power to make choices for ever, with no turning back…

1857 For a sin to be mortal, three conditions must together be met: "Mortal sin is sin whose object is grave matter and which is also committed with full knowledge and deliberate consent."

1497 Individual and integral *[i.e. complete]* confession of grave sins followed by absolution remains the only ordinary means of reconciliation with God and with the Church.

***Catechism of the Catholic Church* (1992)**

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 8th November 2026

HYMNS:

Mentone 6pm Vigil Saturday

Parkdale 9am Sunday **Mentone 5pm**

Mass Setting: *Mass in Honour of St Ralph Sherwin*
Entrance: 643 Who Can Measure Heaven and Earth?
Offertory: Organ solo
Communion: 455 Be Thou My Vision
Recessional: 586 Praise To The Lord, The Almighty

Mentone 11am Sunday

Mass Setting: *Mass in Honour of St Ralph Sherwin*
Entrance: 643 Who Can Measure Heaven and Earth?
Offertory: Antiphon: *Gressus meos dirige* – chant
Communion: Motet: *The Lord Is My Shepherd* – J. Rutter
Recessional: 586 Praise To The Lord, The Almighty

Black Rock 8am Sunday

Entrance: 740 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
Offertory: 739 Lord Of Creation
Communion: 594 The Lord is My Light And My Salvation
Recessional: 840 This Day God Gives Me

Beaumaris 10:30am Sunday

Entrance: Christ Be Our Light
Offertory: Eye Has Not Seen
Communion: Hear, O Lord
Recessional: This Day God Gives Me

Readings *this* week: 32nd week OT Year A

Wisdom 6: 12-16
1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18
Matthew 25: 1-13

Responsorial Psalm: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Be watchful and ready;
you know not when the Son of Man is coming. Alleluia!

Priestly and Diaconal Ordinations

This Saturday 14 November at 10.00 am in St Patrick's Cathedral, Deacons Rhys Lowther and Dominic Lawes will be ordained to the Priesthood and Nicholas Calandra, Andrew Tran and Anthony Wright to the Transitional Diaconate. Bradley Proud, Francis Thomas, Ryan Martin **and** Peter Nguyen will be ordained to the Permanent Diaconate.

Please pray for them as they embark on their ministry in the service of the Archdiocese.

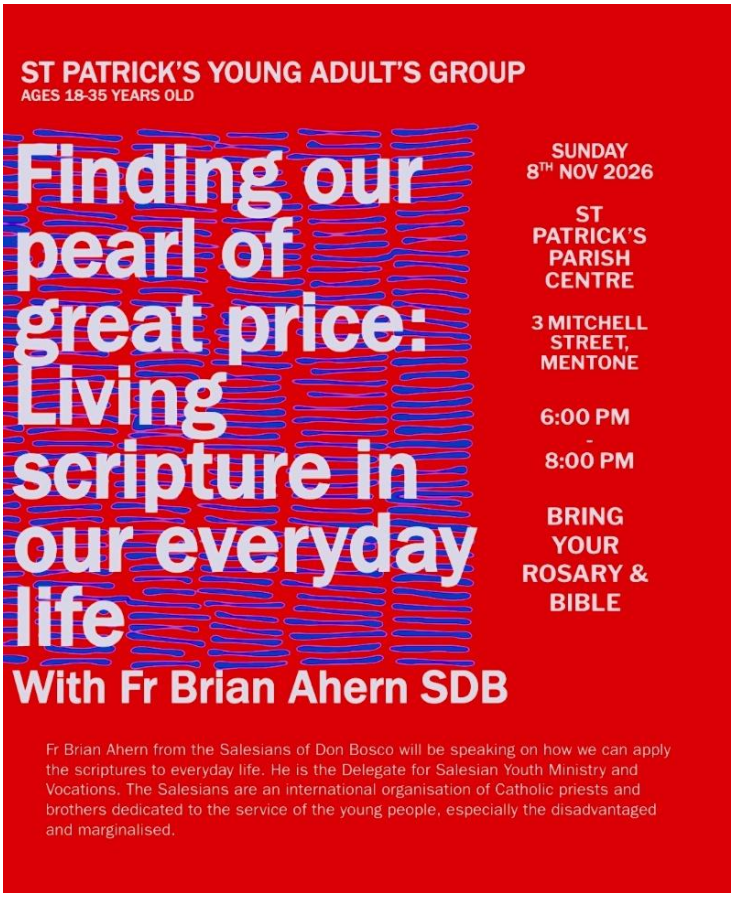
Serra International Invitation Mass and Dinner 25 November 2026

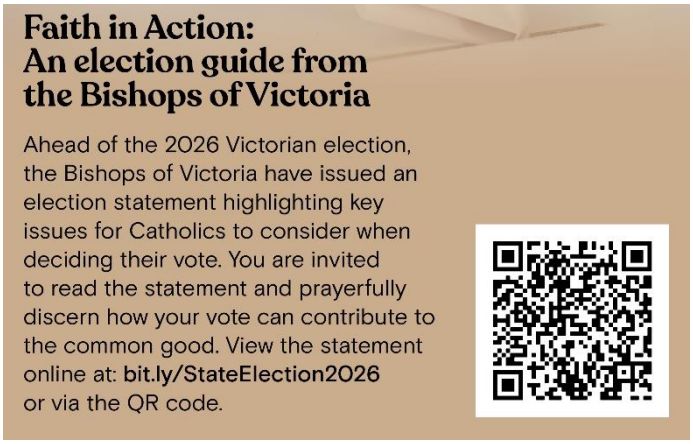
The Serra Club of Melbourne cordially invites parishioners of the Partnered Parishes of Mentone-Parkdale and Ricketts Point to the Club's Mass & Dinner, to be held at St Catherine's, Moorabbin, on Wednesday, 25 November.

The evening will commence with Rosary at 6.10pm followed by a concelebrated Mass and a catered 2-course meal and informal meeting. A number of priests, consecrated men and women and other guests will be in attendance together with members of the Melbourne and Oakleigh Deanery Clubs.

We will also celebrate Fr Barry Tobin who will retire from the role of Chaplain of the Serra Club of Melbourne and thank him for his dedicated 3 years of service in this position, his support of Serra International over many years and his direct support and mentoring of young men discerning a vocation to the priesthood or in formation. He also has a special birthday coming up at the beginning of December which we will celebrate.

For catering purposes, if you wish to attend please contact the Parish Office on 9583 2103 by 19 November.





The Election Guide is available at the doors of the churches, or view online at: bit.ly/StateElection2026 or by the QR Code.