



Parish Priest: Fr Shabin Kaniampuram IVDei
 Parish Secretary: Fran Adamopoulos (Tue-Thu 9am-2pm)
 Financial Administrator: Margaret Harrington (Mon/Fri 9-2pm)

Assistant Priest: Fr Tuong Nguyen
 Pastoral Worker: Pauline Egan
 Email: adminANT@cam.org.au

Supporting Priests: Fr Brendan Hayes
 Email: financeANT@cam.org.au

ST MARY'S THORNBURY

1 Rossmoyne Street, Thornbury 3071
 Principal: Mary Kearney | Ph: 9484 5333

ST JOSEPH'S NORTHCOTE

140 Westbourne Grove, Northcote 3070
 Principal: Mary Kearney | Ph: 9481 7166

PARISH OF HOLY SPIRIT & ST ANTHONY'S

45 Railway Pl, Alphington VIC 3078
 Principals: Noelene Hussey, Acting Principal for Term 1,
 Holy Spirit Primary School,
 197 Clarendon Street, Thornbury East | Ph: 9480 0391
 James Casey, St Anthony's Primary School,
 Tania Bennett, Acting Principal

Partnership Parish Office Address

45 Railway Place Alphington
 P.O.Box 85 Fairfield 3078
Office Number: 9484 2907
Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-2pm
Email: adminANT@cam.org.au
www.melbcatholic.org/s/hosan



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Mission Prayer: Loving God, guide us as we build a joyful and inclusive community. May your Holy Spirit lead and inspire us to be the Good News of Jesus Christ by serving others and caring for all. Amen.

Reconciliation Times

10.30am Saturdays — St Mary's
 4.30pm Saturdays — Holy Spirit
 5.00pm Saturdays — St Joseph's

MASS TIMES

St Mary's Thornbury

Sunday: 10:00am English/Italian
 5:30pm
Weekday: Wednesday, 9:15am
 English/Italian

St Joseph's Northcote

Saturday: 5:30pm
Sunday: 11:00am
Weekday: Tuesday, 9:15am

Holy Spirit Thornbury East

Saturday: 5:00pm
Sunday: 9:30am
Weekday: Thursday, 9:15am
 English/Italian

St Anthony's Alphington

Sunday: 10:30am, English/Italian
Weekday: Friday, 9:15am

FEAST DAYS IN THE WEEK

18 Feb: Ash Wednesday

Recently Deceased

Edmond Egan, Marie T. Norris,
 Michael Davoine, Lucia Tabone,
 Henry Nance.

Anniversaries

Lorenzo De Marco, Aldo Melone,
 Charlie De Lorenzo, Mary Argenzio,
 Margaret Tobin, Annie Halson,
 Roberta Sia Uy (1 Yr), Bernie Dalton,
 Therese Butros Taouk,
 Youssef Moussa El Fahkri,
 Edward A. Walsh, Mansour E. Taouk,
 Shirley Thomson,
 Ann Elizabeth Fakhry and
 Samia Younan Istefo.

To update parish details, please visit our
 official parish website:
www.melbcatholic.org/s/hosan



Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time —Year A

14—15 Feb 2026

Ash Wednesday 18th February—Lent 2026

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a season that gently calls us back to what matters most. It reminds us of our baptismal journey and invites us to renew it with sincerity of heart. By listening more deeply to the Word of God and giving time to prayer—together with the simple practices of fasting and almsgiving—we allow God to draw us closer: to Himself, to one another, and to all creation. In this spirit of conversion and hope, we prepare to enter the Paschal Mystery with renewed faith and gratitude.

On Ash Wednesday, the priest marks our foreheads with a cross of ashes during Mass. All are welcome to receive them. These blessed ashes remind us to begin Lent with humility, repentance, and a spirit of sacrifice.

Ash Wednesday (February 18) and Good Friday (April 3) are days of fasting and abstinence from meat. Those aged 18 to 59 are bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Those aged 14 and older are bound to abstain from meat on these days (Canon 1252).

All Fridays of Lent (except solemnities) are days of penance, observed through: Prayer, Self denial: limiting entertainment or reducing food and drink and Helping those in need. For more information: see our Parish website or refer to the article [Lent: A guide for the perplexed](#), from the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

Ash Wednesday—18th February 2026 —School & Parish Masses

9:15 am School Mass (with parish attendance): St Anthony's Alphington
9:15 am School Mass (with parish attendance): St Mary's Thornbury
11:30 am School Mass (with parish attendance): St Joseph's Northcote
11:30 am School Mass (with parish attendance): Holy Spirit Thornbury E
7:30pm Evening Parish Mass: Holy Spirit Thornbury East (English)

Two Weekly Lenten Reflection Groups on Wednesdays & Thursdays:



There will be 2 weekly Lenten Reflection groups using The **Compassio** Lenten Program from the Archdiocese. of Wollongong.
Thursday Group: Begins Thursday 19 February – 10:30 am at Holy Spirit Church.
Wednesday Group: Begins the week after, on Wednesday 25 February, 7:30pm at John & Anne's Home.
*The **Compassio** Lenten Booklets can be purchased for private reflection—From the church foyer - cost \$5.*

If your children do not attend our parish primary schools and you would like them to receive the Sacraments in 2026—Please contact the Parish Office ASAP by 18 February. Sacrament of Reconciliation for Year 3 and above will be celebrated before Easter. Sacrament of confirmation for Year 6 and above will be held on 15 August. Sacrament of First Eucharist for Year 4 and above will be held in late May.

First Reading *Sirach 15:15-20***A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus**

If you wish, you can keep the commandments,
to behave faithfully is within your power.
He has set fire and water before you;
put out your hand to whichever you prefer.
Man has life and death before him;
whichever a man likes better will be given him.
For vast is the wisdom of the Lord;
he is almighty and all-seeing.
His eyes are on those who fear him,
he notes every action of man.
He never commanded anyone to be godless,
he has given no one permission to sin.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm *118:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34*

R *Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!*

L They are happy whose life is blameless,
who follow God's law!

They are happy those who do his will,
seeking him with all their hearts. **R.**

L You have laid down your precepts
to be obeyed with care.

May my footsteps be firm
to obey your statutes. **R.**

L Bless your servant and I shall live
and obey your word.

Open my eyes that I may consider
the wonders of your law. **R.**

L Teach me the demands of your statutes
and I will keep them to the end.

Train me to observe your law,
to keep it with my heart. **R.**

Second Reading *1 Corinthians 2:6-10***A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians**

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him.

These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation *cf Matthew 11:25*

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.*
Alleluia!

Gospel of Matthew 5:17-37**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

Jesus said to his disciples: ' Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish them but to complete them. I tell you solemnly, till heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, one little stroke, shall disappear from the Law until its purpose is achieved. Therefore, the man who infringes even one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven; but the man who keeps them and teaches them will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven.

'For I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court; if a man calls his brother "Fool" he will answer for it before the Sanhedrin; and if a man calls him "Renegade" he will answer for it in hell fire. So then, if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, go and be reconciled with your brother first, and then come back and present your offering. Come to terms with your opponent in good time while you are still on the way to the court with him, or he may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. I tell you solemnly, you will not get out till you have paid the last penny.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye should cause you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body thrown into hell. And if your right hand should cause you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body go to hell.

'It has also been said: Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a writ of dismissal. But I say this to you: everyone who divorces his wife, except for the case of fornication, makes her an adulteress; and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Readings Next Week—1st Sun of Lent Year A—22 Feb 2026

1st Rdg: Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7

2nd Rdg: Romans 5:12, 17-19

Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

Prima lettura Sir 15,16-21**Dal libro del Siràcide**

Se vuoi osservare i suoi comandamenti, essi ti custodiranno; se hai fiducia in lui, anche tu vivrai.

Egli ti ha posto davanti fuoco e acqua:

là dove vuoi tendi la tua mano.

Davanti agli uomini stanno la vita e la morte, il bene e il male:

a ognuno sarà dato ciò che a lui piacerà.

Grande infatti è la sapienza del Signore;

forte e potente, egli vede ogni cosa.

I suoi occhi sono su coloro che lo temono,

egli conosce ogni opera degli uomini.

A nessuno ha comandato di essere empio

e a nessuno ha dato il permesso di peccare.

Parola di Dio

Tutti: Rendiamo grazie a Dio.

Salmo responsoriale Sal 118

Rit. *Beato chi cammina nella legge del Signore.*

L. Beato chi è integro nella sua via

e cammina nella legge del Signore.

Beato chi custodisce i suoi insegnamenti

e lo cerca con tutto il cuore. **Rit.**

L. Tu hai promulgato i tuoi precetti

perché siano osservati interamente.

Siano stabili le mie vie nel custodire i tuoi decreti. **Rit.**

L. Sii benevolo con il tuo servo e avrò vita,

osserverò la tua parola.

Aprimi gli occhi perché io consideri

le meraviglie della tua legge. **Rit.**

L. Insegnami, Signore, la via dei tuoi decreti

e la custodirò sino alla fine.

Dammi intelligenza, perché io custodisca la tua legge e la

osservi con tutto il cuore. **Rit.**

Seconda lettura 1Cor 2,6-10

Dalla prima lettera di san Paolo apostolo ai Corinzi

Fratelli, tra coloro che sono perfetti parliamo, sì, di sapienza, ma di una sapienza che non è di questo mondo, né dei dominatori di questo mondo, che vengono ridotti al nulla. Parliamo invece della sapienza di Dio, che è nel mistero, che è rimasta nascosta e che Dio ha stabilito prima dei secoli per la nostra gloria.

Nessuno dei dominatori di questo mondo l'ha conosciuta; se l'avessero conosciuta, non avrebbero crocifisso il Signore della gloria.

Ma, come sta scritto:

«Quelle cose che occhio non vide, né orecchio udì, né mai entrarono in cuore di uomo,

Dio le ha preparate per coloro che lo amano».

Ma a noi Dio le ha rivelate per mezzo dello Spirito; lo Spirito infatti conosce bene ogni cosa, anche le profondità di Dio.

Parola di Dio

Tutti: Rendiamo grazie a Dio.

Canto al Vangelo Mt 11,25

Alleluia, alleluia.

Ti rendo lode, Padre, Signore del cielo e della terra, perché ai piccoli hai rivelato i misteri del Regno.

Alleluia.

Vangelo Mt 5,17-37**Dal Vangelo secondo Matteo**

In quel tempo, Gesù disse ai suoi discepoli:

«Non crediate che io sia venuto ad abolire la Legge o i Profeti; non sono venuto ad abolire, ma a dare pieno compimento. In verità io vi dico: finché non siano passati il cielo e la terra, non passerà un solo iota o un solo trattino della Legge, senza che tutto sia avvenuto. Chi dunque trasgredirà uno solo di questi minimi precetti e insegnerà agli altri a fare altrettanto, sarà considerato minimo nel regno dei cieli. Chi invece li osserverà e li insegnerà, sarà considerato grande nel regno dei cieli.

Io vi dico infatti: se la vostra giustizia non supererà quella degli scribi e dei farisei, non entrerete nel regno dei cieli.

Avete inteso che fu detto agli antichi: “Non ucciderai; chi avrà ucciso dovrà essere sottoposto al giudizio”. Ma io vi dico: chiunque si adira con il proprio fratello dovrà essere sottoposto al giudizio. Chi poi dice al fratello: “Stupido”, dovrà essere sottoposto al sinedrio; e chi gli dice: “Pazzo”, sarà destinato al fuoco della Geènna.

Se dunque tu presenti la tua offerta all'altare e lì ti ricordi che tuo fratello ha qualche cosa contro di te, lascia lì il tuo dono davanti all'altare, va' prima a riconciliarti con il tuo fratello e poi torna a offrire il tuo dono.

Mettiti presto d'accordo con il tuo avversario mentre sei in cammino con lui, perché l'avversario non ti consegni al giudice e il giudice alla guardia, e tu venga gettato in prigione. In verità io ti dico: non uscirai di là finché non avrai pagato fino all'ultimo spicciolo!

Avete inteso che fu detto: “Non commetterai adulterio”. Ma io vi dico: chiunque guarda una donna per desiderarla, ha già commesso adulterio con lei nel proprio cuore.

Se il tuo occhio destro ti è motivo di scandalo, cavalo e gettalo via da te: ti conviene infatti perdere una delle tue membra, piuttosto che tutto il tuo corpo venga gettato nella Geènna. E se la tua mano destra ti è motivo di scandalo, tagliala e gettala via da te: ti conviene infatti perdere una delle tue membra, piuttosto che tutto il tuo corpo vada a finire nella Geènna.

Fu pure detto: “Chi ripudia la propria moglie, le dia l'atto del ripudio”. Ma io vi dico: chiunque ripudia la propria moglie, eccetto il caso di unione illegittima, la espone all'adulterio, e chiunque sposa una ripudiata, commette adulterio.

Avete anche inteso che fu detto agli antichi: “Non giurerai il falso, ma adempirai verso il Signore i tuoi giuramenti”. Ma io vi dico: non giurate affatto, né per il cielo, perché è il trono di Dio, né per la terra, perché è lo sgabello dei suoi piedi, né per Gerusalemme, perché è la città del grande Re. Non giurare neppure per la tua testa, perché non hai il potere di rendere bianco o nero un solo capello. Sia invece il vostro parlare: “sì, sì”, “no, no”; il di più viene dal Maligno».

Parola del Signore

Tutti: Lode a Te O Cristo.

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Names will remain for 2 weeks, then a new request is required.

Tony Ghribeh, Tina Marangoni, Everly Grace (1 wk old), Rita Ljubetic, Julie Spitere, Mary English, Kelly Jennings.

HOUSE VISITATIONS

Do you or someone you know require any of the following:

- Annual House Visits
- Visits to the Sick
- Anointing of the Sick

Please contact the Parish Office on 9484 2907 to arrange a time with Fr Shabin or Fr Tuong.

SICK OR HOUSEBOUND / MALATI O CONFINATI A CASA

Se conoscete persone che sono malate o confinate a casa e vorrebbero ricevere visite o la comunione a casa siete pregati di mettervi in contatto Parish Office **9484 2907**

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Christian Meditation on Thursdays at 10:30am at Holy Spirit Parish. ALL WELCOME.

BAPTISMS: By Appointment Only

1st Sunday of the month—St Mary's

2nd Sunday of the month—Holy Spirit

3rd Sunday of the month—St Anthony's

4th Sunday of the month—St Joseph's

Please call the Parish Office 9484 2907 or go to our website at

<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/hosan>

SENIORS

After the Thursday 9:15am Mass at Holy Spirit Parish Hall.

- Dopo messa Bingo e carte nella sala, si offre caffè e biscotti. Tutti benvenuti.

After Mass, bingo and cards in the hall, with coffee and biscuits offered. All Welcome.

Last Friday of the month

St Joseph's Seniors Mass every last Friday of the Month at 10:30am in the church.

Parrocchiani anziani di San Giuseppe sono invitati a partecipare alla **Santa Messa ultimo Venerdì del mese alle 10:30am.**

Mass of Anointing of the Sick

9:15am Mass of Anointing of the Sick will take place on the first Friday of the month at St Anthony's Alphington.

"Telephone Prayer meeting"

When: Every Tuesday at 11:30am

Dial: **07- 5660 6012** (call from home)

Access code: **722762 #**

Cost: Cost of a local call. Open to all.

Catholic Religious Education Classes for children attending government schools in preparation for the Sacraments

Please call the Parish Office 9484 2907 or go to our website at

<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/hosan>

Safeguarding Children, Young

People and Vulnerable People Committee

Contact Person via the Parish Office:

Moses El-Fahkri

Parish Notices

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM



We welcome into the Christian Community **Lara** and **Livia Marie** who are presented for their baptism by their parents **Matthew & Raquel, and Shano & Stephanie** at **St Anthony's** this Sunday. We congratulate the children and their family and pray for their spiritual growth and wellbeing in the Lord.



Happy Feast Day St Mary's Parish

Congratulations to St Mary's community on their feast Day. We welcome all the Staff, Students and Families from St Mary's School as well as new parishioners and visitors to St Mary's church.

Our Lady of Lourdes, gentle mother and healer, look with love upon us and all who suffer. Lead us to your Son, Jesus, that we may find strength, peace, and the grace to trust in God's care. Pray for us now and always. Amen.

Session 4: What does it mean to be a Human Being?

What does it mean to have a soul? We are eternal beings, destined to be joined eternally with God. The Zoom meeting is on Tuesday, February **17**, at **7:00 PM**. Meeting ID: 848 1143 9966. Email Parish Office to request Zoom meeting link.

The **Face-to-Face** Discussion of the same topic will be held at **St Anthony's** Alphington Parish **Meeting Room** on Sunday, **22** February, at **12:00 PM**.

ST ANTHONY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL TWILIGHT FAIR FRIDAY 27th FEBRUARY 3:30PM To 8:30PM | 52 Austin St, Alphington



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Caring for our Earth: The parish Earth Care group would like to invite parishioners to attend Clean Up Australia Day at **Darebin Parklands** on Sunday **1st March** from **9 – 11 am**. If you'd like to walk, a group will leave Holy Spirit Church at 8.20 am. Otherwise, meet at the Separation Street entrance to Darebin Parklands at 9 am. Gloves and bags will be provided. Contact parish office for more information.



Asylum Seeker Support Group Alphington, Fairfield, Northcote & Thornbury Presents ... A Taste of India—Fundraising Dinner for Asylum Seekers

21 March 2026, 7-11pm | Holy Spirit Hall, 197 Clarendon St,

Thornbury East | **Entertainment: Jhoom Bollywood Dance Company**

Introducing: Eve Watt Comedian

Tickets \$ 75 available via Humanitix: <https://events.humanitix.com/indiadinner> |