105 Greaves Street Nth.
P.O. Box 872
WERRIBEE VIC 3030
ABN No. 28681862552
Email: werribee@cam.org.au
www.melbcatholic.org/s/werribee

Tel: 9741 4144
Fax: 9741 4433

ST. ANDREW'S PARISH

Incorporating the Communities of
Werribee Central, Wyndham Vale, Werribee South,
Werribee North,
Tarneit West, Upper Point Cook
and Little River

PARISH TEAMS

Clergy
Fr. Albert Yogarajah PP
Fr. James Baptist
Fr. Martin Adichilamackal

Rev. Deacon William Daw

Pastoral Worker
Kemp Vinson

Home Based RE Coordinator
Benita Ediriwickrema

Finance:
Natascha Eve Klein

Administration:
Cora Ilagan

Tamil Chaplain
Fr. Anton Aseervathampillai

South Sudanese Chaplain
Fr. Stephen Kumyangi

Assistant Chaplain
Rev. Deacon William Daw
9741 4144

PARISH SCHOOLS

St. Andrew's Primary School – Ph. 9741 3686
Principal: Melissa Evgeniadis

Corpus Christi Primary School – Ph. 9741 8440
Principal: Adele Vesty

Bethany Primary School – Ph. 9742 9800
Principal: Joanne Webster

Our Lady of the Southern Cross Primary School – Ph. 9974 8500
Principal: Justin Hilton

St. John the Apostle PS Tarneit West - Ph. 8754 4300
Principal: Simon Dundon

St. Joseph Primary School – 8742 3381
Principal: Troy Rickard

MacKillop Catholic Regional College – Ph. 8734 5200
Principal: Chris Caldow

Thomas Carr Catholic Regional College - Ph. 8734 2444
Principal: Rose Connolly

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A – 21ST AND 22ND FEBRUARY 2026

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we stand, the Wathaurong People. We pay our respects to them for their care of the land. May we walk gently and respectfully upon the land.

FIRST READING: *A reading from the book of Genesis (Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7)*
The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being. The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden. The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death". 'Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So, she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So, they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loincloths. **THE WORD OF THE LORD.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *Psalm 50:3-6. 12-14. 17*
Response: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.
Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my offence. O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin.

My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned; what is evil in your sight I have done.

A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit.

Give me again the joy of your help; with a spirit of fervour sustain me. O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare your praise.
Response: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

SECOND READING: *A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans (Romans 5:12-19)*
Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law. Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift. The results of the gift also outweigh the results of one man's sin: for after one single fall came judgement with a verdict of condemnation, now after many falls comes grace with its verdict of acquittal. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.
THE WORD OF THE LORD.

St. Andrew's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL: *A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (Matthew 4:1-11)*
Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.' The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says: He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.' Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God and serve him alone.' Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him. **THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD**

GOSPEL REFLECTION: In today's Liturgy, the destiny of the human race is told as the tale of two "types" of men the first man, Adam, and the new Adam, Jesus (see 1 Corinthians 15:21–22; 45–59). Paul's argument in the Epistle is built on a series of contrasts between "one" or "one person" and "the many" or "all." By one person's disobedience, sin and condemnation entered the world, and death came to reign overall. By the obedience of another one, grace abounded, all were justified, and life came to reign for all. This is the drama that unfolds in today's First Reading and Gospel. Formed from the clay of the ground and filled with the breath of God's own Spirit, Adam was a son of God (see Luke 3:38), created in His image (see Genesis 5:1–3). Crowned with glory, he was given dominion over the world and the protection of His angels (see Psalms 8:6–8; 91:11–13). He was made to worship God to live not by bread alone but in obedience to every word that comes from the mouth of the Father. Adam, however, put the Lord his God to the test. He gave in to the serpent's temptation, trying to seize for himself all that God had already promised him. But in His hour of temptation, Jesus prevailed where Adam failed and drove the devil away. Still, we sin after the pattern of Adam's transgression. Like Adam, we let sin in the door (see Genesis 4:7) when we entertain doubts about God's promises, when we forget to call on Him in our hours of temptation. But the grace won for us by Christ's obedience means that sin is no longer our master. As we begin this season of repentance, we can be confident in His compassion, that He will create in us a new heart (see Romans 5:5; Hebrews 8:10). As we do in today's Psalm, we can sing joyfully of our salvation, renewed in His presence. ***Scott Hahn***

PRAYER AT HOME: Again, today's entrance antiphon makes a suitable prayer for this week: ***O Lord, I trust in your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful to me .***

VOCATION VIEW: Lent is a season of renewal, of spiritual growth. These forty penitential days invite us to strive for our true calling.

RECENT DEATH: Boy and Emilu Acaso

DEATH ANNIVERSARY: Anna Trifilo and Giovanni Trifilo, Salvatore Piccolo, Katarina and Annetto Mangion, Benny Camilleri, Censino Cauchi, Thelma Grace Fernandes, Rosaria Burgio, Maryse Sawmy and Marc Burzoo, Joyce Bugeja, Tonina Demicoli and all the deceased members of Bugeja, Demicoli and Ancilleri family, Pietro D'Alessandro, Lloyd Ediriwickrema

PRAYER FOR THE SICK: Nimal Pandithakoralege, Yvan

To add or renew names for the Prayer for the Sick, please complete a Mass offering envelope and return it to the parish office. Envelopes are available in the church brochure racks or at the parish office. Names will be kept on the list for two months.

REMINDER: Parishioners are asked to note that requests for Recently Deceased, Anniversaries, and similar intentions to be included in the Prayers of the Faithful must clearly indicate the date and time of the Mass you will be attending for the name to be mentioned. All requests must be received at the Parish Office no later than Wednesday afternoon, and Mass offering envelopes should be addressed to Administration. Envelopes are available in the church brochure racks or at the parish office

WEEKDAY LITURGY (23RD to 28th February 2026)

Mon: *No Mass and No Communion Service*
Tues: *9.00am Mass*
Wed: *9.00am Mass*
Thurs: *9.00am Mass*
Fri: *9.00am Mass followed by Stations of the Cross*
7.00pm Stations of the Cross followed by Mass
Sat: *9.00am Mass*

WEEKEND MASSES (28th February and 1st March 2026)

Sat: *6.00pm Vigil Mass*
Sun: *8.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am and 5pm Mass*
2.00pm Karenni Community Mass – Penola Hub
5.00pm Tamil Community Mass – Penola Hub

Mary Magdalene – The Musical

An uplifting Lenten production retelling the journey of Mary Magdalene through music and story.
Presented by **COG Theatre Group** and directed by **Beth Mondragon Williams**, this moving work reflects on redemption, grace, and hope.

When: Fri & Sat 13–14 March, 7:00 pm
Sat & Sun 14–15 March, 1:00 pm

Where: Renaissance Theatre, High Street, Kew

Tickets: trybooking.com/DHZPD

For more information: Please see flyers on notice board

CALLING ALL NEW AND EXISTING LECTORS AND EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS - There will be a training session to held on Tuesday 24th February 2026 at 7.30pm and on Saturday 28th February 2026 at 10.30am in St. Andrew's Church. You are expected to attend the training session for you to be added on the July 2026 parish rosters. Anyone interested, please register by calling the Parish Office on 9741 4144. Thank you for your generous support to St. Andrews Parish.

ST. ANDREW'S PARISH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) will be held on March in the Penola Hub. we are asking all Parish Groups to submit a report on year 2025 activities (one A4 page as a guideline) to be included in the AGM Booklet, as part of Parish accountability to one another. To enable the Parish Office staff to collate the reports and produce the booklet, **PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR GROUP'S REPORT NO LATER THAN Friday, *27th February 2026***. Please email your report, if possible, to werribee@cam.org.au or drop it into the Parish Office. We are hoping to see at least two representatives of your group attending the AGM. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance. Exact date and time of the AGM will be confirmed later date.

ROSTERS FOR THE WEEK 15th to 23rd February 2026

	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am	11.00am	5.00pm
LECTORS 28th Feb / 1 Mar	Thilosini Perera	Peter Walters	Lea Arida	Titus Lizardo	Stephen Hart
MUSIC 28th Feb / 1 Mar	Joyful Voices Choir	St. Anthony's Choir	Sariling Tinig Choir	Ensemble of Faith	King Jesus Praise and Worship Choir
Communion Minister 28th Feb / 1 Mar	Ann-Marie Palmer Thiloshini Perera	Anna Obieta Alfred Obieta Laura Chamberlain	Jen Climie Charles Emmanuel	Dominic Thiep Dennis Vanspall Sheridan Fevaleaki	Gennie Katrine Canet Nadia Richards
COMMUNION SERVICE (MONDAY)		This week: Next week:	Mon 23 Feb: No Communion Service Mon 2 Mar: S. Raphael		
CLEANER		Cleaning: Vacuuming:	Mon 23 Feb: Z. Prasad Fri 27 Feb: P. Palamara Mon 23 Feb: Volunteer		
ALTAR CLOTH		This week: Next week:	Sun 22 Feb: C. Demate Sun 1 Mar: J. Francisco		
OUR LADY'S STATUE		This week: Next week:	Sun 22 Feb: C. Ilagan Sun 1 Mar: Volunteer		

MASS AT THE HOSPITAL AND NURSING HOMES

We focus on parishioners who are ill or elderly. Please let us know if you or your loved ones are in hospital or at home. Please be informed that we have Masses in our hospital and in all our nursing homes.

Estia Health Werribee
1st Wednesday at 10.30am

Baptcare Wyndham Lodge Community
1st Thursday at 11.00am

Uniting AgeWell Manor Lakes Community
2nd Wednesday at 11.00am

Werribee Mercy Hospital
2nd Thursday at 2.30pm

Mercy Place Wyndham
3rd Tuesday at 11.00am

Manor Court Werribee Aged Care
4th Thursday at 10.30am

St. Vincent's Aged Care
1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Friday at 2.00pm

FOR MORE INFORMATION OF WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE PARISH, PLEASE SEE FLYERS ON THE NOTICE BOARD.

EL SHADDAI PRAYER GROUP - for the coming weeks from Tuesday 24h February to Tuesday 31st March, El Shaddai Prayer Group is running a LENTEN program. We will be reflecting on the Sunday scripture readings, using an excellent resources put out annually by the Diocese of Woolongong. Lenten Program – Catholic Diocese of Wollongong Booklets are provided. All are welcome to join us. TUESDAYS 1pm - 2:30pm followed by tea and coffee. Penola Hub 33 Mortimer St, Werribee.

RINNOVAMENTO NELLO SPIRITO SANTO: ricorda che il nostro gruppo di preghiera continua ogni Mercoledi` dalle ore 10am alle 12.00pm nella Penola Hub, 33 Mortimer Street, Werribee. Tutti benvenuti.

LIVE YOUR BEST LIFE IN LOVE...

A MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND IS A GIFT FOR EVERY MARRIED COUPLE

Every married couple deserves this very special weekend. Time-out for the two of you to focus on your most precious relationship. You will come away feeling more deeply connected and with tools to help keep your renewed intimacy alive. No group sharing is required. The weekend is based on Catholic values and couples of all faiths are very welcome.

We are currently offering 2 weekends in 2026.
Please check our website for more details and to book your special weekend:

April 24 - 26th
St Paul's Retreat Centre, Wantirna South.

November 6 - 8th
St Paul's Retreat Centre, Wantirna South
Starts Friday evening at 7pm and finishes Sunday afternoon around 4:30pm

Information/Bookings:
Please phone Mercy & James 0409 183 676 or
email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au
Website: wwme.org.au

THE JOURNEY HOME
DAILY REFLECTIONS FOR LENT
YEAR A

DAILY REFLECTIONS FOR LENT

Lent starts this 18th of February, Ash Wednesday.
Our parish has a few copies of "The Journey Home" daily reflections for Lent that are available for interested parishioners.

Limited copies are available for $5. If you're interested, please advise the Parish Office.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VISIT OF SAINT JOHN PAUL II TO ST LEO THE GREAT PARISH AND SCHOOL - St Leo the Great Parish in collaboration with our primary school will begin a Monthly Novena to St John Paul II to commemorate his visit to our parish and school in 1986. The Novena will be held on the 28th day of every month, beginning in February. Each celebration will include Holy Mass, the Novena prayers, and Benediction, followed by a time of fellowship. Everyone is invited to participate and bring your families and friends to take part in this special novena of prayer. The followings are the date, time and names of the celebrant who will be leading the Novena Mass at St Leo the Great Church (389 Mason St, Altona North VIC 3025). For enquires please contact Parish Office via AltonaNorth@cam.org.au or 03 9391 7111. ***For more information, please see flyers on the notice board.***

PRAYER OF WELCOME BEFORE BAPTISM - Dear Parents, as you prepare for your child's Baptism, the people of St. Andrew's rejoice that you have chosen to baptize your child, and we pray that in the coming years you and your family will continue to know and grow in the love of God that is everlasting.

We now have an official parish Facebook page: St. Andrew's Catholic Parish, Werribee. This will be used to post announcements and other events in our parish. Please like and share our page.

St. Andrew's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.