



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 Peter 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

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.

PARISH OF HOLY SPIRIT & ST ANTHONY'S

45 Railway Pl, Alphington VIC 3078

Principals: Rob Costin, Holy Spirit Primary School,
197 Clarendon Street, Thornbury East | Ph: 9480 0391

James Casey, St Anthony's Primary School,
Tania Bennett, Acting Principal
52 Austin Street, Alphington | Ph: 9489 7936

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

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram



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

Dec 8: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Solemnity)

Recently Deceased

George Brian Bibby

Anniversaries

Venancio Jardim 1 mth,
John Fanning 2yrs, John Walter Scott,
Yousif Mansoor 19 yrs, Mary Egan,
Henry Restall 32 Yrs, Joe Bugeja,
Melita Bugeja, Pat Foster, Tessie Craig,
Most Rev Joseph Angelo Grech,
Maria Consiglio, Charlie Restall White,
Emidia Micallef, Chamis Quinn,
Neil Banks, Bernard Righetti,
George K Kairouz, Sirhan H T Taouk,
Fayez T Taouk, Hanna Lahoud D Taouk,
Jalil Wakim, Therese A Fakhry and
Clare Santinon.

To update parish details,
please visit our official



Second Sunday of Advent—Year A

6-7 Dec 2025



Waiting in Hope, Peace, Joy & Love

Week 3-Reconciliation - 2nd Rite
Thursday 18 December - 7:30pm
St Joseph's Church - Northcote

Weekly Advent Reflection Groups
Reflecting on "In Holy Stillness"

Wednesday Group: 7:30 pm @ John & Anne's Home
Thursday Group: 10:30 am @ Holy Spirit Church
Led by John Samana

Thank you and Farewell Fr Peter

With grateful hearts, we thank you, Father Peter, for your ministry. We will miss your presence, but we trust that the Lord will bless you abundantly in the journey ahead. Go with our love, prayers, and deepest gratitude.

Sign a card for Fr Peter at the back of all the churches this weekend.

Farewell Gift for Fr Peter: The parish will be giving Fr peter a gift. if you would like to contribute, please put money in an envelope, and drop into the collection basket.

Welcome Fr Tuong



We warmly welcome Fr Tuong as our new Assistant Priest in our partnered parishes. As he joins our communities, we assure him of our prayerful support. May the Lord bless Fr Tuong and guide him in his new journey among us, that it may be good and happy.

Our Partnership Parishes have a commitment to ensuring the safety of children and vulnerable people in our community.

First Reading *Isaiah 11:1-10*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse,
a scion thrusts from his roots:
on him the spirit of the Lord rests,
a spirit of wisdom and insight,
a spirit of counsel and power,
a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.
(The fear of the Lord is his breath.)
He does not judge by appearances,
he gives no verdict on hearsay,
but judges the wretched with integrity,
and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land.
His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless;
his sentences bring death to the wicked.
Integrity is the loincloth round his waist,
faithfulness the belt about his hips.
The wolf lives with the lamb,
the panther lies down with the kid,
calf and lion cub feed together with a little boy to lead them.
The cow and the bear make friends, their young lie down together.
The lion eats straw like the ox.
The infant plays over the cobra's hole;
into the viper's lair the young child puts his hand.
They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy mountain,
for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters swell the sea.
That day, the root of Jesse
shall stand as a signal to the peoples.
It will be sought out by the nations
and its home will be glorious.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17*

R *Justice shall flourish in his time,
and fullness of peace for ever.*

L O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement. **R.**

L In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails:
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to earth's bounds. **R.**

L For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor. **R.**

L May his name be blessed for ever
and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,
all nations bless his name. **R.**

Second Reading *Romans 15:4-9*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing your name.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation *Luke 3:4, 6*

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.*

Alleluia!

Gospel of *Matthew 3:1-12*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet spoke of when he said:

A voice cries in the wilderness:

Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight.

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Readings **Next Week—3rd Sun of Advent—14 Dec 2025**

1st Rdg: Isaiah 35:1-6, 10

2nd Rdg: Ps 145:6-10

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

Prima lettura Is 11,1-10

Dal libro del profeta Isaia

In quel giorno, un germoglio spunterà dal tronco di Iesse, un virgulto germoglierà dalle sue radici. Su di lui si poserà lo spirito del Signore, spirito di sapienza e d'intelligenza, spirito di consiglio e di forza, spirito di conoscenza e di timore del Signore. Si compiacerà del timore del Signore. Non giudicherà secondo le apparenze e non prenderà decisioni per sentito dire; ma giudicherà con giustizia i miseri e prenderà decisioni eque per gli umili della terra. Percuoterà il violento con la verga della sua bocca, con il soffio delle sue labbra ucciderà l'empio. La giustizia sarà fascia dei suoi lombi e la fedeltà cintura dei suoi fianchi. Il lupo dimorerà insieme con l'agnello; il leopardo si sdraierà accanto al capretto; il vitello e il leoncello pascoleranno insieme e un piccolo fanciullo li guiderà. La mucca e l'orsa pascoleranno insieme; i loro piccoli si sdraieranno insieme. Il leone si ciberà di paglia, come il bue. Il lattante si trastullerà sulla buca della vipera; il bambino metterà la mano nel covo del serpente velenoso. Non agiranno più iniquamente né saccheggeranno in tutto il mio santo monte, perché la conoscenza del Signore riempirà la terra come le acque ricoprono il mare. In quel giorno avverrà che la radice di Iesse si leverà a vessillo per i popoli. Le nazioni la cercheranno con ansia. La sua dimora sarà gloriosa.

Parola di Dio

Tutti: Rendiamo grazie a Dio.

Salmo responsoriale Sal 71

Rit. _ Vieni, Signore, re di giustizia e di pace.

L._ O Dio, affida al re il tuo diritto, al figlio di re la tua giustizia; egli giudichi il tuo popolo secondo giustizia e i tuoi poveri secondo il diritto. **Rit.**

L._ Nei suoi giorni fiorisca il giusto e abbondi la pace, finché non si spenga la luna. E d'omini da mare a mare, dal fiume sino ai confini della terra. **Rit.**

L._ Perché egli libererà il misero che invoca e il povero che non trova aiuto. Abbia pietà del debole e del misero e salvi la vita dei miseri. **Rit.**

L._ Il suo nome duri in eterno, davanti al sole germogli il suo nome. In lui siano benedette tutte le stirpi della terra e tutte le genti lo dicano beato. **Rit.**

Seconda lettura Rm 15,4-9

Dalla lettera di san Paolo apostolo ai Romani

Fratelli, tutto ciò che è stato scritto prima di noi, è stato scritto per nostra istruzione, perché, in virtù della perseveranza e della consolazione che provengono dalle Scritture, teniamo viva la speranza. E il Dio della perseveranza e della consolazione vi conceda di avere gli uni verso gli altri gli stessi sentimenti, sull'esempio di Cristo Gesù, perché con un solo animo e una voce sola rendiate gloria a Dio, Padre del Signore nostro Gesù Cristo. Accoglietevi perciò gli uni gli altri come anche Cristo accolse voi, per la gloria di Dio. Dico infatti che Cristo è diventato servitore dei circoncisi per mostrare la fedeltà di Dio nel compiere le promesse dei padri; le genti invece glorificano Dio per la sua misericordia, come sta scritto: «Per questo ti loderò fra le genti e canterò inni al tuo nome».

Parola di Dio

Tutti: Rendiamo grazie a Dio.

Canto al Vangelo Lc 3,4-6

Alleluia, alleluia.

Preparate la via del Signore, raddrizzate i suoi sentieri!

Ogni uomo vedrà la salvezza di Dio!

Alleluia.

Vangelo Mt 3,1-12

Dal Vangelo secondo Matteo

In quei giorni, venne Giovanni il Battista e predicava nel deserto della Giudea dicendo: «Convertitevi, perché il regno dei cieli è vicino!». Egli infatti è colui del quale aveva parlato il profeta Isaia quando disse: «Voce di uno che grida nel deserto: Preparate la via del Signore, raddrizzate i suoi sentieri!». E lui, Giovanni, portava un vestito di peli di cammello e una cintura di pelle attorno ai fianchi; il suo cibo erano cavallette e miele selvatico. Allora Gerusalemme, tutta la Giudea e tutta la zona lungo il Giordano accorrevano a lui e si facevano battezzare da lui nel fiume Giordano, confessando i loro peccati.

Vedendo molti farisei e sadducei venire al suo battesimo, disse loro: «Razza di vipere! Chi vi ha fatto credere di poter sfuggire all'ira imminente? Fate dunque un frutto degno della conversione, e non crediate di poter dire dentro di voi: "Abbiamo Abramo per padre!". Perché io vi dico che da queste pietre Dio può suscitare figli ad Abramo. Già la scure è posta alla radice degli alberi; perciò ogni albero che non dà buon frutto viene tagliato e gettato nel fuoco. Io vi battezzo nell'acqua per la conversione; ma colui che viene dopo di me è più forte di me e io non sono degno di portargli i sandali; egli vi battezzerà in Spirito Santo e fuoco. Tiene in mano la pala e pulirà la sua aia e raccoglierà il suo frumento nel granaio, ma brucerà la paglia con un fuoco inestinguibile».

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.

Christian Fakhri, Michael Rudov, Rony & family, Phoenix Toma, Onyx Toma, Wafa Ibrahim, Suhaila Yousef

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 Peter.

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-Fakhri

Parish Notices

2026 Columban Calendars available for Purchase at the back of the church—\$10.

Rite of Acceptance: Today we welcome Lucy at St Joseph's 5:30pm, Kyle and Caitlin at St Mary's 10 am, and Max at St Joseph's 11am, and their sponsors to each of the Faith Communities as they begin their journey to become Catholic at Easter. Through the Rite of Acceptance, they affirm their desire to learn more about Jesus and grow closer to God as they continue the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM



We welcome into the Christian Community **Olivia, Sebastian** and **Alfie** who are presented for their baptism by their parents **Louai & Zoe, Alejandro & Hannah** and **Nathan & Anna** at **St Mary's** on Sunday. We congratulate the children and their family and pray for their spiritual growth and wellbeing in the Lord.



Rob Costin, Principal of Holy Spirit School, and **Anne Vernal**, Deputy Principal are retiring. A Farewell Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday, **9 December at 5pm** at Holy Spirit Church. Light refreshments will follow in the Holy Spirit Parish Hall.



St Joseph's Christmas Mass and Lunch—Friday 12th December 2025 11.00am In the Parish Centre
\$25.00 **Signup sheets at the back door of St Joseph's**

Pilgrimage to St. Patrick's Cathedral—Mass—Saturday 13 December, 9.30 am—St Patrick's Cathedral, After Mass, join us for a private tour of the Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre—Cost is \$10 pp with optional coffee/biscuit for an additional \$5. **CASH only.** Arrange your own transport | **RSVP** on the sheets at the church entrance.

Youth Mass—Sunday 14 December at St Mary's at 5:30pm.

ASYLUM SEEKER SUPPORT GROUP CHRISTMAS GIFT BAGS: St Anthony's

ONLY: On Sale Sunday 7 & 14 December: As we plan our own festive activities and gift-giving, let's plan for those who look to us for support. Working with the Brigidine Asylum Seeker Project team, Christmas Gift Bags have been prepared and are on sale in the foyer for \$20. Our Gift Bags include shampoo, bath soap, tooth-paste, toothbrush, razors, shaving foam, socks and deodorant. Pay for a bag, and sign a card, if you like. See Geraldine in the foyer: You can pay with cash or Tap & Go options. Thank you for your generosity.



ST VINCENT DE PAUL (VINNIES) - ST MARYS & HOLY SPIRIT—GIVING TREE – PROVIDING CHRISTMAS HAMPERS TO THE NEEDY OF THORNBURY

The Giving Tree is again in the Churches of Holy Spirit and St Mary's with symbols showing required items. Please take any number, purchase the items, and place them under the tree by 20–21 December. (No gift wrapping needed.)

Cash or gift voucher donations may be placed in the collection plates. For donations via bank transfers please direct to: Account Name: **St Vincent de Paul Society Victoria** BSB: **063000** Account Number: **10317778** Agent Number: **946** (if not prompted for an Agent number please include **'946 Thornbury'** in the transaction description). Thank you for your generosity. **** This applies to St Marys & Holy Spirit churches only ****

Instrumental Musicians needed for Christmas Eve 5pm Mass. Join the Holy Spirit orchestra—contact John via Parish Office .



Earthcare group launched - now planning events for 2026.
Still keen to join? please contact John via the parish office.