



St Mary of the Cross Catholic Parish

EMBODYING CHRIST'S LOVE

Parish Priest: Fr Michael Kong
Deacon: George Piech-Meat

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time 11 October 2026

Readings for Year A Isaiah 25:6-10 Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20 Matthew 22:1-14



*"Invite everyone you can
to the wedding"*

A wedding is a time of joy and completion after long preparation, a time of love and of complete satisfaction.

In Judaism at the time of Jesus the coming of the Messiah is often compared to a wedding-feast. The marriage-feast at Cana must have been some party! At Mary's request Jesus produced 200 gallons of wine.

The Letter to the Ephesians teaches that the love in a human wedding is only a pale shadow of Christ's love for his bride, the Church.

In this story of the royal wedding, however, two things go drastically wrong. First, the original wedding-guests refuse to come. Not only do they refuse, but they brutally maltreat the innocent messengers, and the king (who must stand for God) relentlessly burns down their city.

This must be an adjustment to Jesus' story, applying it to the Sack of Jerusalem, captured and burnt by the Romans in 70AD, a few years before Matthew was writing. Secondly, the man who has no wedding-garment is slung out. A wedding-garment is a standard Jewish image for works of generosity expected of every faithful Jew. For us Christians, too, the story constitutes a double warning.

We are reminded that while many are invited to the kingdom of heaven, not all are able to meet its requirements. God invites us to his feast, giving us his salvation. Yet he asks us to repent for our sins.

Loyola Press



Our Parish Ministry and Service Groups

Sacramental Preparation & Faith Formation

Baptism Preparation Team: In the spirit of *Lumen Gentium's* call to welcome new members into the Body of Christ, this team meets with families on the last Wednesday of each month for a brief educational session preparing them for their child's Baptism. Ministers assist with the practical details of the celebration and, whenever possible, attend the Baptism itself to support the priest and welcome the newly baptised into our parish family.

Children's Catechist Program – Sacrament Preparation: Rooted in the Church's mission to hand on the faith from one generation to the next, ministers prepare children from local schools to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation. Volunteer catechists walk alongside families, guiding both children and parents through this formative journey.

Children's Liturgy (KIDZ ZONE): Guided by the principles of the Directory for Masses with Children, this ministry helps our youngest parishioners, children aged 4 – 12, encounter Sacred Scripture during the 6pm Saturday, 9.30am and 11am Sunday Masses on the last weekend of the month. By adapting the Liturgy of the Word into an engaging, age-appropriate format, catechists nurture the spiritual growth of children from an early age.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults): Embodying the Church's missionary call to invite all people to encounter Christ, this group accompanies adults preparing to receive Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist. Catechists offer faith formation and sacramental catechesis, guiding candidates step by step into full communion with the Catholic Church.

Small groups: "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them" (Matthew 18:20). Small Groups bring a few parishioners together to reflect on the Gospel, share their journey of faith and support one another in prayer. If you would like to join a group, please contact the Parish Office.

Scripture and friendship group: Over a cuppa, members reflect on the weekend Mass readings, share in friendly discussion and close in prayer. Members meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month, 10am-11.30am, in a parishioner's home, with the location listed in the Sunday Bulletin.

Men's fellowship group: This inclusive, community-minded group welcomes all the men of our parish, including single men, school dads and the young at heart. Since June 2023, members have met monthly at 7.30pm at St Louis' to reflect on faith in a warm, non-judgemental setting. Members also host speaker nights and social gatherings, help with parish and school events, and run fundraisers that fund two awards for our Year 6 students each year. Please check the parish website and Sunday Bulletin for the next meeting.

If you are interested in learning more about any of these groups or becoming involved, please feel free to contact the parish office by email.

We will also be inviting the various groups to come together in the near future, providing an opportunity to share information, exchange ideas and keep one another updated. We hope that this will help more parishioners discover the many ways they can share their gifts and become more actively involved in the life and mission of our parish.

News and Announcements

Month of the Rosary



October is dedicated in the Catholic Church as the Month of the Most Holy Rosary, with October 7 celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary earlier in the week. Pope Leo has urged Catholics worldwide to pray the daily Rosary throughout October, to seek the Virgin Mary's intercession for an end to global conflicts and for world peace. Pope Leo emphasised that the millions of "Hail Marys" offered globally must be accompanied by good deeds, love, and daily acts of reconciliation.

Scripture and Friendship Group Tuesday 13 October

Our Parish Scripture & Friendship group is on this coming Tuesday 13 October at Ann's home, 47 Gothic Road Aspendale. We begin at 10am and will finish at about 11am for a cuppa.

This group is open for anyone - we discuss the coming Sunday's Gospel, sharing our thoughts, questions or just listening. A great way to meet people in our Parish.

For any queries contact Ann on 0425 712 741 or Carmel 0425 773 608

Upcoming Parish Meetings

JAG Meeting meeting on Wednesday 14th October 7.30pm in St Louis Meeting Room

Men's Fellowship meeting on Thursday 15th October 7.30pm in St Louis Meeting Room

Children's liturgy (Kidz Zone) next weekend

Calling all children 4 - 12 years old. Join our Kidz Zone leaders at our 6pm, 9.30am and 11am masses.

Activities based on the Gospel reading of the day help our children to explore and grow in their relationship with Jesus.

Parish Pilgrimage at 9am on Saturday 31st October

Join us as we culminate the Month of the Rosary with a peaceful morning at

Our Lady of La Vang Shrine, 225 Hutton Road, Keysborough VIC 3225.

We will begin with the Rosary followed by Holy Mass, celebrated by Fr. Michael.

Please feel free to bring a small plate to share for morning tea after mass. We look forward to praying, meditating and growing together with each of you.

Please register using the QR code or sign up on the sheets at the welcome Desk and let us know if you need help with transport. For more information call 0456 000 317



Refugee family looking for work

Do you have any work for a local refugee family living in Bonbeach and being supported by BASP. The husband and wife are career professionals but are unable to practice in this country. They will take any kind of work to support their family - cleaning, gardening, maintenance etc.

Please contact John Meyer if you can help 0418 597 750.

Fr Michael's upcoming time away

Please note that Fr Michael will be away from 18th to 26th October, participating in a World Youth Day Familiarisation Trip in Korea, organised by Harvest Journeys. During this period, weekday Masses will be replaced by Holy Communion services, while the weekend Masses will continue as usual with visiting priests.

Fr Michael will also be away from 2nd to 27th November for his annual leave, which will include participation in an AI Forum in Rome. During this period, weekday Masses from Monday to Thursday will be replaced by a Holy Communion service, but the Friday Masses will take place with a visiting priest.

Our weekend Masses will continue as usual with visiting priests.



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Forming Catholics for Life.

An Ardent Heart

This film tells the dramatic story of Lupe Vaides, a best-selling writer who investigates the apparitions of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in search of inspiration for her next novel.

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.

NEXT WEEK'S SERVE MINISTERS ROSTER - 29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 17/18 OCTOBER 26

17/18 Oct 26	29th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) Isaiah 45:1, 4-6 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5 Matthew 22:15-21						
	Reader	Commentator	Special Minister	Special Minister	Special Minister	Welcomer	Welcomer
6pm (A)	Joanne Partleton	Jenny Ford	Volunteer	Carmel Barker	Michael Barker	Blessen Mathai	Danny Carey
8.00am (M)	Paula Rodrigues	Celine George	Chris McAleer	Krystyna Wrzesinski	Joan Healy	Odette Budge	Carole Guthrie
9.30am (A)	Lisa Tuke	Gerard Wagstaff	Ron Schneider-Loos	Elizabeth Newington	Mary Nayna	Jon Searle	Norma Taylor
11.00am (M)	Melwyn D'Mello	Adam Whatmore	Peter Wain	Gail Bell	Philippa Pecora	Volunteer	Robyn Worsnop
Counters	Group 5	Anthony & Julie Barnhoorn	Aileen Dynes				

Recently deceased: Henricus (Henk) Overberg (Mordialloc), Timothy Plant

Anniversaries: Dexter Anthony Waters, Nancy Ryan, Gwen Dundon, Clemence Edward Crummer, Sarah Collins, Isabella Pereira, Hans Schultz, Eva Kendrick, Sarala Mammen, Allie Renwick, Len Carlon, Augusto Buensalida, Yati Haryanto, Mary Sherlock, Fr Roger Ryan, Ingrid Vass, Joan Sullivan, Rosa Favaloro, Felix Fernandes, Nancy Platt, Ronald Hale, Thomas O'Farrell, Blanche Vella, Sam Rizzo, Pat Cooney, Nelita Tabaranza, Cathy Kinsey, Neuta Tabarana, Cathy Dellie, John Fawaz, Giuseppina Giuliano, Denise Loretta Chesters.

Praying for healing and the sick: Maureen McKeown, Jan Mitula, Steve Osboldstone, Maree Wiltshire, Sammy Dahalid, Kathie Martin, Mim Rodolico, Michael Albert, Fr Terry Keane, Luis, Julie Griffiths, Rita Popley, Steve Govac, Chris Wardle, Deborah Joseph, Chris Doran, Ruben David, Vasilos Garavelis, Sophia Bicos, Mary Agiropoulos, Prunella Julien, Maree Wesols, Peter Waltho, Jeffrey Sellar, Noleen Dunn, Brilliant boys, John Catalano, Damian Haggerty, Alasdair Hughes, Andrea Williams.

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](http://catholicmassstmaryofthecross.com)

WEEKDAY MASSES

St Louis' Mon 9.15am Communion Service
St Louis' Tue 9.15am
St Brigid's Wed 10am
St Louis' Thur 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

Growing in community & belonging at St Mary of the Cross



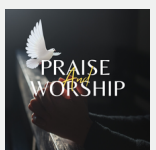
Children's Liturgy

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

Pastoral care

If you would like a pastoral visit, we have volunteers 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 Bunurong 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.

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
Deacon George 9580 7981
Trish 0421 604 849
Joe 0407 354 568
Helen 0498 178 899
Robyn 0412 814 592