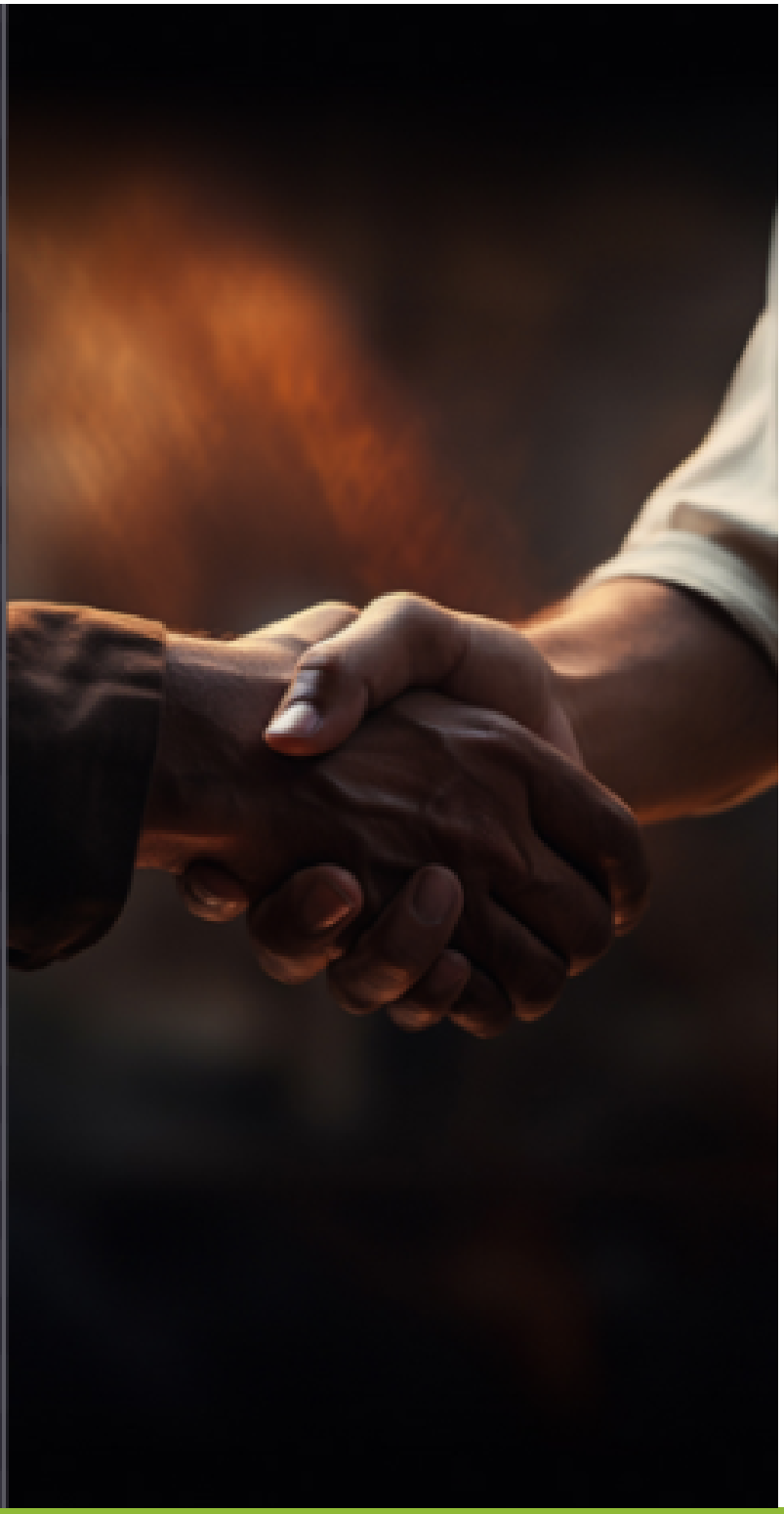
St Mary of the Cross Catholic Parish

EMBODYING CHRIST'S LOVE

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

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 15 November 2026

Readings for Year A Proverbs 31: 10-13,19-20,30-31 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-6 Matthew 25: 14-30



"God entrusts; we are called to respond"

In the parable of the talents, a master entrusts his wealth to his servants, each according to ability. Two servants put their talents to work, and both hear the same words; *"Well done, good and faithful servant"*. The third, guided by fear, buries his talent.

The talent in the story is money, but Pope Francis reminds us that Christ has entrusted us with much more: his love, the Eucharist, his Word, the Holy Spirit, the Church and the mission of living our faith. We might ask, "What has God placed in my care, and what am I doing with it?"

Pope Francis calls the third servant's failure an *omission* because he didn't do the good entrusted to him. Many of us know that feeling; our contribution seems too small, we're waiting until we're ready, or we're caught up in our own concerns. Yet St John Chrysostom reminds us that even 'but one talent' can serve others.

Life is full: work, study, sport, children, caring for others and the rhythm of our days all crowd out Sunday Mass. Yet that is where we encounter Christ, receive strength through the Eucharist and are renewed for the week ahead. Whatever has kept us away, there is a place for us.

Our choices matter, because one day we will stand before the Lord. He won't ask what we achieved, but whether he finds us with open hands, sharing what we've received, or holding on tightly to it. He looks for a faithful heart, willing to place his gifts at the service of others.

Tony Aloysious
Parishioner

News and Announcements

World Day of the Poor 15th November - The Lord is the refuge of the poor



In his message for the 10th World Day of the Poor, Pope Leo XIV reflects on God as "the refuge of the poor," urging Christians to rediscover the central place of the poor and examine our commitment to justice, solidarity, and human dignity. We must must not allow the cry of the poor to be silenced, as consequences of exclusion and injustice often fall first upon them. Watch Pope Leos' November intention video on "The Proper use of Wealth' at this link **Pope Leo's November Intention**

Men's Fellowship Group

Next monthly meeting is on **Thursday 19th November 7.30pm** at St Louis Church. All men welcome. Our Christmas gathering and last social get together for 2026 will be on **Friday 4th December,** 7pm at Chelsea Inn (Chinese), 232 Wells Road, Chelsea Heights. BYO Drinks.
All men of the parish & school community welcome. Please confirm your attendance by email to ajallday@optusnet.com.au or text 0411 075 631 by Monday 30th November.

2026 Advent Small Groups - Prepare the Way



Please sign up for one of our Advent groups at the Welcome Desk. There are 6 options - day, night and also on Zoom. Choose your preference and your leader will contact you. The groups look forward to the upcoming Sunday's Gospel, so the groups will begin meeting on the week starting 23 November, before the 1st Sunday of Advent.

Parish Office Update – Baptism and Funeral Enquiries

As our parish office is currently without administrative staff, responses to parish enquiries and requests may take longer than usual. We sincerely appreciate your patience and understanding while we work towards appointing a new parish administrator.
In the meantime, please refer to the following contacts for enquiries regarding baptisms and funerals.

Funeral Church Bookings

For enquiries about using our churches for funeral services, including arranging a suitable date and time, please contact the relevant sacristan:

- St Brigid's Church, Mordialloc: Glenice — glenicelaughlin@gmail.com
- St Louis de Montfort's Church, Aspendale: Susan — susandornom@gmail.com

Baptism Enquiries

For all enquiries regarding the Sacrament of Baptism, please contact our Baptism Coordinator, Deb, at debannp64@gmail.com.
For all other parish enquiries, please email the parish office. Fr Michael will respond as soon as practicable. Thank you for your patience, understanding and cooperation during this transition.

Thanksgiving Envelopes

Your Thanksgiving envelopes are ready for collection in the foyers. Please pick them up over the next 2 weeks to save on postage.

Columban Calendars and St Vincent de Paul Christmas Cards

Now available in both our Church Piety Stalls.
Columban Calendars are $10 and Christmas Cards are $4 for a pack of 5 cards.

Purchase a Caritas Australia Global Gift this Christmas

With Caritas Australia's Global Gifts, you can give a meaningful Christmas card that helps create lasting change for vulnerable communities around the world and continues to make a real difference long after Christmas Day. Each Global Gift card you buy helps make the world a little better every day. Give a gift this Christmas that reflects the true spirit of giving and makes a lasting impact.
Browse the full range of Global Gifts via the QR code or:
https://www.caritas.org.au/global-gifts

News and Announcements

Month of the Holy Souls



Throughout the month of November, the Church invites the faithful to pray in a special way for the Holy Souls in Purgatory. St Paul encourages us not to be uninformed about those who have fallen asleep, “that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope… For the Lord himself will descend from heaven… and the dead in Christ will rise first” (1 Thessalonians 4:13, 16). Our prayers, Masses, almsgiving, and acts of penance offered for the departed are a true act of charity.

Our memorial book will be on display throughout November and also our sandboxes will remain in place for those who wish to light a candle for those who have died after mass. There are paper slips to fill out in the foyer if you would like a loved one to be added to the book or anniversary list.

November Mass offering envelopes

November is the Month of the Holy Souls, a special time for us to remember and pray for our deceased family members, relatives and friends.Mass offering envelopes are available in the foyer of each church throughout November. If you would like to offer a Mass for your loved ones, please complete an envelope with your Mass intention and place it in either collection.

All intentions received will be gathered together, and after the end of November, Fr Michael will offer one Mass each day for the intentions submitted, remembering our deceased loved ones in prayer.

Thank you for your generosity and for keeping the faithful departed in your prayers.

John Paul College Van

Volunteers needed for **Thursday 19 November** to help distribute food and supplies and to have a chart to the homeless in Frankston. Meet in the St Louis carpark and depart at 4pm.

Contact Sandy if you can help 0412 057 177

Movember collection next weekend

Next weekend we will have an extra collecion for Movember. Mental Health, suicide prevention, prostate and testicular cancer are all funded by Movember. Since 2003, Movember has funded over 1,000 health projects around the world, shaking up men’s health research and transforming the way health services reach and support men.



Aspendale Vinnies ‘Let’s Do Christmas Lunch’ Tuesday, December 1st - 12pm to 2pm

Please join us in St Louis foyer for this celebration. The cost is a donation which will go towards providing goodies and vouchers for the Christmas Hampers for families in need in this area. Sign-up sheet will be on the Welcome Desk

Ordinations in the Archdiocese of Melbourne

On 14th November, the Archdiocese of Melbourne celebrated the ordination of two new priests and seven new deacons.

Please keep them in your prayers as they begin their ministries of service to the Church.

Let us also pray together that our parish may be blessed with future priestly vocations.



Happy 25th Wedding Anniversary to Michelle & Sean Nugara

May the blessings of the Holy Spirit continue to watch over you and bless you for many more years.

Scripture & Friendship Group

Scripture and Friendship group gathers this coming **Tuesday 17th November 11am to 1pm** to finish the year (before the Advent Groups begin). Please join us for a time of reflecting and then enjoy a light lunch and friendship at Ann’s home **47 Gothic Rd, Aspendale.** Please bring a small plate to share.

Ann 0424 712 741 Carmel 0425 773 608



The Hour of our Death - Eternal Rest - Episode 3

formed™ Forming Catholics for Life.

The anointing of the sick is one of the seven sacraments of the Church. This session, we discover the role of this sacramental anointing in the spiritual struggle during serious illness, the final stage of our temporal life, and the hour of our death.

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 - SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING - 22 NOV 26

21/22 Nov 26	Christ the King (Year A) Ezekiel 4: 11-12, 15-17 1 Corinthians 15: 20-29, 28 Matthew 25: 13-46						CUPPA
	Reader	Commentator	Special Minister	Special Minister	Special Minister	Welcomer	Welcomer
6pm (A)	Marg De Vries	Bernie Stuart	Christine Kwok	Volunteer	Sonia Williams	Ann Brennan	Blessen Mathai
8.00am (M)	Frances North	Celine George	Marlene Tangso	Joan Healy	Carole Guthrie	Angela Meo	Joey Virginie
9.30am (A)	Phillip Morris	Gerard Wagstaff	Elizabeth Newington	Ron Schneider-Loos	Felice Cortese	Niko Tovia	Volunteer
11.00am (M)	Gail Bell	Melwyn D'Mello	Volunteer	Louise Breslin	Juan Wilson	Patricia Chaves	Volunteer
Counters	Group 5	Anthony & Julie Barnhoorn		Aileen Dynes			

Recently deceased:

Anniversaries: Paul O'Toole, Leslie Laughlin, Harry Bugden, Alan Lee, Barbara M Hall, Kenneth Osborne, Ellen Dowling, Clare Lang, Frank Arundell, Concetta Rizzo, Marie Evans, Margaret Mellan, Barry Rainer, Alfred Ellul, Margaret Booth, Savier Camilleri, Jack Greene, Herbert Nam, Mary Bernadette Tyndal, Nella Costanzo, Arthur Griffith, Antonio Paola, Sarina Paola, Eucaristica Borg, Pina Merlo, Lorraine Iwanow, Maria Mota, Bill Whyte, Terry Sier, George Dowker, Bernadette De Maskens, Sue Kelly, James Moloney, Guy Anquetil, Tammy Sullivan, Albert Weiss, Barry William Brown, Johanna (Joan) Jones, Colin Smith, Joyce Greene, Clemy Alphonso , Val Dickinson, Ellen Francis Jones, John Layton Jones, Gert Marshall

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

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: TBA
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.

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

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

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION AND HOLY ROSARY
St Brigid's every Fri 10.30am
St Louis' 1st Sat of the month 4.30pm

EUCHARISTIC 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

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