



# St Mary of the Cross Catholic Parish

EMBODYING CHRIST'S LOVE

Parish Priest: Fr Michael Kong

Deacon: George Piech-Meat

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time 8 February 2026

Readings for Year A Isaiah 58: 7-10 1 Corinthians 2: 1-5 Matthew 5: 13-16

*"Your light must shine  
in the sight of men"*

This Gospel is straight after the Beatitudes and Jesus is speaking to his disciples. As his current disciples, Jesus is also speaking to each of us. Thus we are each meant to be 'salt of the earth' and 'light of the world'.

As 'salt of the earth', we are to add that needed 'flavour'. Possibly, the 'flavours' of the Beatitudes e.g. merciful, peacemaker, clean of heart? Such 'flavours' are needed in our world but are not common. What 'flavours' might I share this week?

As 'light of the world', we are each meant to shine light in the darkness. One way might be to share our faith with those who have none - 'they will know we are Christians by our love'. Also, God is present through the love we share by caring for family or friends who are in need. Such faith-filled love helps to dispel their darkness

**Patrick Jurd**  
Parishioner



[m.stmaryofthecross.com](http://m.stmaryofthecross.com)



[m.stmaryofthecross.com/facebook](https://www.facebook.com/m.stmaryofthecross)



[catholicmassstmaryofthecross](https://www.youtube.com/catholicmassstmaryofthecross)

# News and Announcements



## A reminder that Lent is early this year

Lent is a season of preparation for Easter, mirroring Jesus' forty days in the desert and also anticipating his passion, death, and triumphant resurrection.

### Ash Wednesday 18 February.

**10am Mass at St Brigid's and 7pm Mass at St Louis.**

### Lenten Retreat Saturday 14 February 9am to 12pm at St Brigid's church

An opportunity for a peaceful and prayerful time of reflection led by **Jacqui Giuliano from the Melbourne Archdiocese Proclaim Office.**

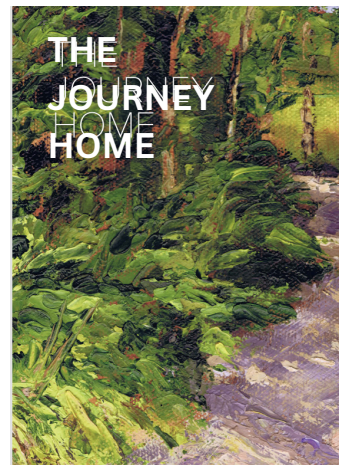
Jacqui will lead us into Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Lenten Season. **Sign up sheet on the Welcome Desk.**

## Lenten Small Groups

We warmly invite you to join one of our upcoming Lenten small groups, a six-week program of reflection and discussion entitled ***The Journey Home***. The Journey Home reminds us that Lent is not merely a period of sacrifice or reflection; it is a pilgrimage. Our Lenten Small Groups aim to draw us together as companions on the road, renewed in faith and strengthened in love, as we follow Jesus towards the promise of our true home.

Groups will be available in person or via Zoom, making it easy for everyone to take part.

**Sign up sheets are on the Welcome Desks.** Please consider joining a group for a wonderful experience of journeying together through Lent with a small group.



## JAG Meeting Wednesday 11 February 7.30 - 9pm in St Louis meeting room

The JAG vision is to follow Jesus' example to hear and respond to issues of social justice including family violence, human trafficking, refugees and asylum seekers, people experiencing homelessness, First Nations people and the protection of the environment. If you have an interest in these areas, please do come to our monthly meeting on Wednesday 11 February from 7.30-9pm at St Louis' Church. All welcome.

## Foundation (Prep) mass 10.30am in St Louis School Hall Sunday 22 February.

### 9.30am and 11am masses cancelled on Sunday 22 February

As we are now a one priest parish (and we were unable to find a replacement priest on short notice) and due to this being an important mass for the school community, we need to **cancel the the 9.30am and 11am masses** on that weekend. **Saturday 6pm and Sunday 8am will be as normal.**

Please come along and join the new school families and welcome them into our community. It's an opportunity to show our great community spirit. Everyone is welcome to join our school families for a picnic lunch (BYO lunch) after mass.

## St Louis Gardening on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> Feb from 10am.

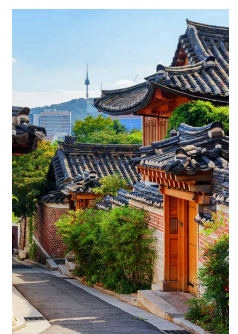
All welcome to assist with some gardening jobs at St Louis Church Garden. Bring your own gloves, tools provided. Look forward to seeing you there. For more information contact Sandy 0412057177.

## Pilgrimage to South Korea with Father Michael

### Begins on Wednesday 8 April - 11 days/ 10 nights

Walk the path of the early Korean martyrs and saints as we journey from the cradle of Korean Catholicism in Seoul to the southern shores of Busan. Through shrines, sacred villages, monasteries and modern memorials, we will encounter the profound story of a Church built on the blood of martyrs and the resilience of faith through persecution, war, and renewal.

Fr Michael will be happy to chat if you are interested or follow the link or QR Code for more details. **Wonders of South Korea**



# News and Announcements



## Happy Birthday Edie

Happy 80th birthday to Edie Aspery on 11 February! May God continue to watch over you and protect you. May the Holy Spirit send his blessings and love down upon you.

## GROW DEEPER IN FAITH

### Parish Talk - The Gospel of Matthew presented by Patrick Jurd - All invited.

Patrick's second session last Tuesday focused on the Sermon on the Mount and was very informative and entertaining. If you can make it, you are warmly invited to join the third and last session on **10 February from 7.30-8.30pm at St Brigid's**. Each session helps to better understand the Gospel of Matthew and may also foster your faith and suggest how you might better live it.

### Men's Fellowship is back on Thursday 19 February

Men of the parish are all invited to attend our next meeting scheduled for **Thursday 19 February at 7.30pm** at St Louis Church Meeting room. Come along into this safe space to talk about faith and enjoy some new friendships. New members are very welcome.

## **Volunteer with IMPACT** Develop sustained self-reliant futures in overseas communities

Join Palms International Volunteering online in this special session where you'll learn about our diverse assignments suited to your qualifications. hear from past palm volunteers how skill-exchange makes a lasting impact in communities and changes lives.

Register at **Palms Events** or scan the QR code for our online information night on **Thursday 19 February 7pm to 8.30pm**. Call **02 9560 5333** for more information



## Project Compassion Donation Envelopes: How do I use them?

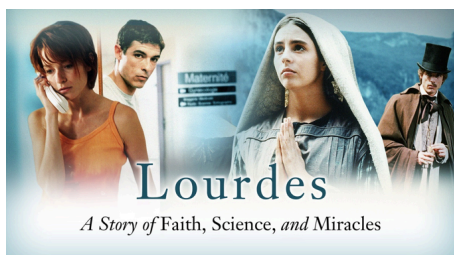
This Lent, like we did in 2025, there is a single Project Compassion donation envelope – rather than the six weekly envelopes used in previous years. This change was made to reduce waste and support our shared commitment to caring for our common home.

You can still give weekly by taking several envelopes at once or simply make your offering when you're ready. Thank you for *Uniting Against Poverty* with us this Lent.



## **formed™** Formed - Catholic videos, audio, books. It's like Netflix for Catholics

There are a range of excellent resources on FORMED, and we have purchased a subscription for all our parishioners.



### Featured this week

#### Lourdes: Story of Faith, Science and Miracles

The film follows a journalist, his ancestor who met Bernadette at Lourdes, and the story of a woman healed by Lourdes' waters, tracing three lives

For access, go to: <https://formed.org/signup>

Search for St Mary of the Cross Mordialloc and Aspendale.

Enter your name and email address.

## Accompanying children and families in sacrament preparation

Our parish offers sacramental preparation for Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation for baptised catholic children from non-catholic schools and others who request the Catholic Sacraments for their children.

Our sacramental programs are designed as a journey of accompaniment for children and their parents to take together, gently guided by our facilitators. They are intimate encounters with Christ, not drive through transactions, or something to check off.

Generally, the length of the programs are 6 weeks, beginning with a parent's dinner. The 2026 dates and details will be advised in due course once you register. All sessions occur on Tuesday afternoons from 4-5pm at St Louis de Montfort - 37 Dolphin St Aspendale. If you have family and friends with children who may be interested, please register interest at this link: <https://forms.gle/yJuqKFVWorgVeT7TA>



14/15 Feb 2026	6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) Sirach 15: 15-20 1 Corinthians 2: 6-10 Matthew 5: 17-37						
	Reader	Commentator	Special Minister	Special Minister	Special Minister	Welcomer	Welcomer
6pm (A)	Joanne Partleton	Jennifer Ford	Marg De Vries	Bernie Stuart	Ann Furlong	Gail Hamilton	Annette Brilliant
8.00am (M)	Chris McAleer	Krystyna Wrzesinski	Jack Meyer	Carole Guthrie	Marlene Tangso	Jack Guthrie	Joan Healy
9.30am (A)	Maureen Wraight	Irene Crowe	Elizabeth Newington	Martin Newington	Volunteer	Rosemary Miller	Lex Miller
11.00am (M)	Michelle Campbell	Dianne Wain	Philippa Pecora	Gail Bell	Juan Wilson	Helen Rocks	Vanessa Fernandes
Counters	Group 5	Anthony & Julie Barnhoorn	Aileen Dynes				

**Recently deceased:** Joan Baxter. Fernanda Barbarino's funeral will be held on Thursday 12 February at 11am at St Brigid's, preceded by Holy Rosary at 10.30am.

**Anniversaries:** John Smith, Peter Kelly, Peter Hodgkinson, Anka Mihaljevic, Caterina Vinci, Lily D'Silva, Lesley Buicke, Quentin Navarro, Sophy Cherian, Eleanor Burns, Antonia Attar, Arthur Malone, John Tuagalu, Olive Bellamy, Margaret (Anne) Cox, Emanuele Tovia, Francisca Diaz Amaya, Sofia Tovia, Paul Brennan, John Earp, Jenny Harston, Judex Neeamuthkhan, Bruce Lionel Reid, Carmel Franklin, Mary Foley, Aileen O'Donnell, Faye Mattea, Tom Walker, Andrew Jones, Eric Dart, Edna Bryant, Jack Kennedy, Margaret Fitzgerald, Josephine Tranter.

**Healing & Sick List Refresh - Please note we have refreshed this list. If you would like your loved one to be on the list, please email the parish office.**

**Praying for healing and the sick:** Carol Dickinson, Cam Nascello, Sophia Bicos Jeffrey Sellar, Damian Haggerty, Noleen Dunn, Therese Lee, Alasdair Hughes, Harry Donohue, Stephen Hopkins, Stephen Oldboldstone, Brilliant boys, John Catalano,

## 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, **(recommences 2 February)**  
St Louis Tuesday 9.15am,  
St Brigid's Wed 10am,  
St Louis Thurs 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 Friday's 12.30pm  
St Louis Saturday's 5.30pm

## PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Fr Michael, Trish Angliss, Berna Wake, John Field

**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  
Trish 0421 604 849  
Joe 0407 354 568  
Helen 0498 178 899  
Anthony 0407 505 341  
Robyn 0412 814 592  
Denise 0412 926 752

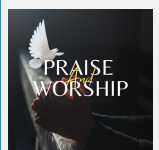
## Growing in community & belonging at St Mary of the Cross



**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](mailto:mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au)  
Parish House: 03 9412 8432

**Pastoral care**  
If you would like a pastoral visit, Helen is available to drop by for a chat or to organise some help if required. Please contact the office at  
[mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au](mailto: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.