



# BRUNSWICK MORELAND CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Incorporating the Parishes of St Fidelis' (Moreland), St Joseph's (West Brunswick),  
St Ambrose's, and Our Lady Help of Christians (Brunswick & Brunswick East)

**The Most Holy Trinity Year A**

**Sunday, 31 May 2026**

### **The Reintroduction of Communion Under Both Kinds** **Part II: Take, eat and drink**

As we prepare to celebrate the Feast of Corpus Christi and to reintroduce the reception of Communion drinking from the chalice next Sunday, we continue our reflection on the action of the Eucharist.

The action of the Mass, particularly the Liturgy of the Eucharist, follows the pattern of Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples: we do what Jesus did. The high point of the Eucharistic Prayer is the Words of Institution, where we hear again what Jesus said as he took bread: *"Take this, all of you, and eat of it, for this is my body, which will be given up for you."* He then took the cup filled with wine and gave it to them, saying: *"Take this, all of you, and drink from it, for this is the chalice of my blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant, which will be poured out for you and for all... Do this in memory of me."* These words are central, because they reveal not only what the Eucharist is, but also what we are invited to do: to eat and to drink.

St Augustine famously said, *"We are what we eat."* This insight speaks profoundly to our Eucharistic life. What we take into ourselves shapes who we become. In the Eucharist, we are not simply nourished physically or even symbolically but we are transformed by what we receive.

As mentioned last week, bread represents what sustains us in our daily life. We know its importance most clearly when it is absent: hunger is the experience of lacking what sustains life. The Gospel story of the feeding of the five thousand (recorded in all four Gospels) highlights this deep human need for nourishment, both physical and spiritual.

Wine, on the other hand, is associated with joy, celebration, and the uplift of the human spirit. The story of the wedding at Cana (John 2:1-11) reminds us what happens when the wine runs out - the celebration falters. Wine has the symbolic power to gladden the heart and bring people into a spirit of festivity and communion.

When we eat bread and drink wine, then, our bodies are nourished and our spirits are lifted. Yet in the Eucharist, this experience is deepened beyond measure. What we receive is not merely bread and wine, but the body and blood of Christ. In biblical understanding, flesh and blood signify the whole person. Therefore, when we eat and drink at the Eucharist, we receive the whole of Christ - his life, his teaching, his love, and his self-giving sacrifice. We remember not only what Jesus said and did, but how he loved *"to the end,"* giving his life completely for others. His life was always a life *for us*.

Having listened to the Word of God and offered our prayers, we are then fed, not with food that perishes, but with the Bread and Cup of Life that endures to eternal life. By eating and drinking at the Eucharist, we are filled with the very life and Spirit of Christ.

Thus, the act of eating and drinking in the Eucharist is never passive; it is deeply transformative. We become what we receive. Nourished by Christ, we are sent forth to live as Christ in our daily lives, bringing his self-giving love and presence into the world, until the day when we shall eat and drink with him in the fullness of God's Kingdom.

Fr Tien

*We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people as the traditional custodians of the land upon which our three parishes stand.*

## First Reading

Exodus 34:4-6. 8-9

With the two tablets of stone in his hands, Moses went up the mountain of Sinai in the early morning as the Lord had commanded him. And the Lord descended in the form of a cloud, and Moses stood with him there.

He called on the name of the Lord. The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, 'Lord, Lord, a God of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in kindness and faithfulness.' And Moses bowed down to the ground at once and worshipped. 'If I have indeed won your favour, Lord,' he said, 'let my Lord come with us, I beg. True, they are a headstrong people, but forgive us our faults and our sins, and adopt us as your heritage.'

## Responsorial Psalm

Dn 3:52-56. R. v.52

### (R.) Glory and praise for ever!

1. You are blest, Lord God of our fathers. (R.)  
Blest your glorious holy name. (R.)
2. You are blest in the temple of your glory. (R.)  
You are blest on the throne of your kingdom. (R.)
3. You are blest who gaze into the depths. (R.)  
You are blest in the firmament of heaven. (R.)

## Second Reading

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Brothers, we wish you happiness; try to grow perfect; help one another. Be united; live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you.

Greet one another with the holy kiss. All the saints send you greetings.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

## Gospel Acclamation

See Apocalypse 1:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit:  
to God who is, who was, and who is to come.  
Alleluia!

## Gospel

John 3:16-18

Jesus said to Nicodemus,

'God loved the world so much  
that he gave his only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost  
but may have eternal life.  
For God sent his Son into the world  
not to condemn the world,  
but so that through him the world might be saved.  
No one who believes in him will be condemned;  
but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already,  
because he has refused to believe in the name of  
God's only Son.'

## Our Churches and Chapels

The Brunswick Moreland Catholic Community is blessed with several beautiful churches that host the major feasts and seasons of the liturgical year. Across these parishes, more than 100 funerals, 100 baptisms, and up to 30 weddings are celebrated annually. The parish school communities—around 700 students—also gather regularly for Masses, sacraments of initiation, graduations, and other significant events.

The churches serve as places of public worship, designed for communal liturgy and celebration. They also offer quiet spaces for personal prayer, reflection, and connection with the wider faith community. Their architecture, artwork, and the lingering presence of prayer and Eucharistic devotion make them places of stillness, beauty, and encounter with God.

In addition to the main churches, several after-hours chapels have existed at St Fidelis, Our Lady Help of Christians, and St Joseph's. As the parishes move toward becoming the unified Emmaus Parish, Brunswick Moreland, access to churches and chapels outside public liturgies has been reviewed. It is not possible to keep all sites open continuously.

Currently, all churches open for weekend Masses. St Ambrose is open Tuesday to Friday during office hours, supported by onsite staff for safety. St Fidelis is open most weekdays and Saturdays due to its proximity to the school and presbytery. St Joseph's opens for Wednesday Mass and for devotions on Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings.

Because of safeguarding and security concerns, the after-hours chapels at St Fidelis and Our Lady Help of Christians—closed since 2019—will remain closed. The new parish will maintain one after-hours chapel at St Joseph's West Brunswick, with weekly advertised devotions. The St Fidelis chapel will be refurbished for school music and children's liturgical formation, supporting the development of a parish children's choir. The chapel at Our Lady Help of Christians will be repurposed as plans progress for a youth hub.

The parish values these sacred spaces and is committed to ensuring they remain accessible with appropriate security and safeguarding.

## A Flame in Music, A Feast in Spirit

Pentecost Sunday featured inspiring liturgy and music, especially the 5pm Mass at St Joseph's with St Joseph's Collegium led by Dr Anthony Halliday. Music from *Mass for Humanity* (2026) by Anthony Shafton reflects Christ's universal welcome. Its music moves from supplication and joy to dramatic Eucharistic expression, blending rich harmonies, symbolic imagery, and moments of deep longing, culminating in a transcendent affirmation of faith.

## Safeguarding Training Workshop

Close to 30 volunteers from BMCC attended the safeguarding training on Tuesday 26 May. The session offered space for reflection and practical guidance, especially on safeguarding vulnerable adults. It emphasised the need for vigilance and care in all ministry. As Pope Leo recently reminds us, safeguarding is integral to the Church's life, helping us grow into a more faithful, authentic, and Christ-centred community.

## Three winter nights with Matthew

To be held on **2, 9 and 16 June** from **7.30 pm – 8.45 pm** at the **Luby Centre, St Ambrose's**.

**Session 1 – Tuesday 2 June:** *Background to Matthew's Gospel*

**Session 2 – Tuesday 9 June:** *Matthew's Gospel – the Text*

**Session 3 – Tuesday 16 June:** *Praying Matthew's Gospel*

These evenings will offer an opportunity to deepen our understanding of Scripture and reflect together on its meaning for our lives today.

All are welcome.

To indicate your intention to come, please complete registration via link <https://tinyurl.com/32se8xn8> or QR code:



## St Vincent de Paul Society

### Winter Appeal 2026

The Winter Appeal invites us to respond to homelessness and hardship in our community, and to the importance of ensuring that everyone has a place to call home, especially during the colder months.

It is our annual St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal. As we know, times are difficult for many, especially those on the margins of our community. Through your generosity, St Vincent de Paul assists individuals and families with supermarket vouchers and vouchers for St Vinnies shops, offering practical support and dignity when it is most needed.

A second collection will be held at all Sunday Masses on 13 and 14 June. A St Vincent de Paul representative will speak and be available to answer questions.

## BMCC Meeting

On Thursday 4 June, the BMCC Evangelisation Council will meet at 7.00pm at St Ambrose, Luby Centre.

## Magnifica Humanitas

This week there has been much attention given to the new and first encyclical of Pope Leo XIV. *Magnifica Humanitas* is subtitled, *On Safeguarding the Human Person in the time of Artificial Intelligence*. The subtitle gives the clue as to what is at stake in this document. We will learn more about the safeguarding of the human person than about artificial intelligence.

The document reminds us that "The Church is present in the world as a sign of unity for the entire human family. She recognises today's questions and challenges as the current setting in which to carry out her particular vocation of listening, dialogue and service, and of being responsive to everything concerning the lives of contemporary men and women. This involvement in people's lives helps the Church understand ever more clearly that her mission has a historical scope and entails a responsibility for the way in which social relations are built. For this reason, she cannot consider herself a stranger to the forces shaping society. On the contrary, the Church actively participates in the processes by which society grows and is organized, and she offers her own contribution to the creation of a more just and fraternal society. (MH 19).

In the light of this statement Pope Leo has called for a disarmament of Artificial Intelligence whenever human dignity, solidarity or full participation in work and life is diminished.

In relation to war, Pope Leo states clearly that the disproportionate harm done by the use of AI weaponry had rendered any just war obsolete: "Today, more than ever, without prejudice to the right to self-defense in the strictest sense, it is important to reaffirm that the "just war" theory, which has all too often been used to justify any kind of war, is now outdated." (MA192)

I am sure we will see and hear much more about this Encyclical as it comes to be known as the Church's twenty-first century *magna carta* on the protection of human beings in light of Artificial Intelligence. The full *Encyclical* can be found at the website of the Holy See: [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va)

Fr Brendan

## BMCC NEWS AND EVENTS

### BMCC Parish Dinner

All parishioners are invited to the BMCC Parish Dinner hosted by parishioners from Our Lady Help of Christians on Saturday 27 June from 6.30pm at The Lomond Hotel, 225 Nicholson Street, East Brunswick. Join fellow parishioners for an enjoyable evening of good food and conversation. RSVP to Lina Ventura & Grace Apa on 0414 371 962 or via email at [Lina.Ventura@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Lina.Ventura@education.vic.gov.au).

### Baptism

The Brunswick Moreland Catholic Community joyfully celebrates the Sacrament of Baptism for **Chol Peter Deng** and **Yom Angok** at Our Lady Help of Christians Church this Sunday, 31 May.

Next Sunday 7 June, **the Rite of Welcome** for baptisms in the coming month will be celebrated during the 10.30 am Mass at St Ambrose's Brunswick.

### Recently Deceased and Anniversaries

Please pray for those recently deceased, and let us keep their families in our thoughts and prayers, especially for:

**Rosario Ursino** : funeral was held on Friday 29 May at St Fidelis'

**Armando Cavaggion**: funeral will be held on 3 June at 11 am at Our Lady Help of Christians

**Matteo La Barbera**: funeral will be held on 4 June at 10.30 am at Our Lady Help of Christians

We also remember in prayer those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time: **Carmela Petruolo, Augusta Cecchin, Maria Cipollone**

## BMCC AMALGAMATION—EMMAUS PARISH

### EMMAUS PRAYER

Lord Jesus,

you walked with the disciples on the road to Emmaus  
when their hearts were uncertain and their hope unclear.

Walk with us now, as we journey together as the  
Brunswick Moreland Catholic Community.

Open our ears to listen deeply, our hearts to trust your presence,  
and our minds to understand where you are leading us.

As we discern the call to become one parish, help us recognise you in our  
shared stories, in prayerful conversation, and in the breaking of the bread.

Give us courage to let go of what has been,  
grace to honour all that has shaped us,

and hope to embrace the future you are unfolding among us.

May your Spirit unite us in mission, so that, journeying together, we may bear  
witness to your love and justice in our world.

We ask this in your name. Amen.

### Thanksgiving via EFT

**St. Joseph's Parish, West Brunswick** : BSB: 083-347 Church Account: 455 199 263

**St. Fidelis' Parish, Moreland**: BSB: 083-347 Church Account: 665 217 159

**Catholic Parish Brunswick & Brunswick East ( St. Ambrose & Our Lady Help of Christians )**: BSB: 083 347 Church Account: 245 201 273

**To support your Priests: Brunswick Moreland Presbytery Account**

BSB: 083 347 Account: 664 716 706

### PARISH WEBSITE

[bmcatholiccommunity.org.au](http://bmcatholiccommunity.org.au)

### PARISH OFFICE

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### OFFICE STAFF

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### CHURCHES & MASS TIMES

#### Our Lady Help of Christians

49 Nicholson Street, East  
Brunswick 3057

Friday 9:15am

Saturday Vigil 5:00pm

Sunday 9:00am

#### St Ambrose's

287 Sydney Road,  
Brunswick 3056

Tuesday 9:15am

Saturday 10:00am

Sunday 10:30am

#### St Joseph's

183 Hope Street,

West Brunswick 3055

Wednesday 9:15am

Sunday 9:00am & 5:00pm

#### St Fidelis'

49 Clarendon Street, Coburg 3058

Thursday 9:15am

Saturday Vigil 6:00pm

Sunday 11:00am

#### Confessions

St Ambrose's

Every Saturday at 10:30am