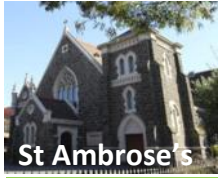


# BRUNSWICK MORELAND CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



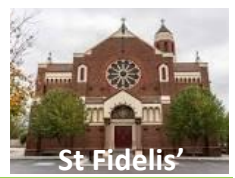
St Ambrose's



OLHC



St Joseph's



St Fidelis'

**SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C**

**23 FEBRUARY, 2025**

### SUNDAY

#### MASS TIMES

OUR LADY HELP OF  
CHRISTIANS

Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm  
Sunday 9:00 am

ST AMBROSE'S  
Sunday 10:30 am

ST JOSEPH'S  
Sunday 9:00 am & 5:00 pm

ST FIDELIS'  
Saturday Vigil 6:00 pm  
Sunday 11:00 am

Italian Mass:  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday 9:30 am

#### WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

OUR LADY HELP OF  
CHRISTIANS  
Friday 10:00 am

ST AMBROSE'S  
Thursday 10:00 am

ST JOSEPH'S  
Wednesday 10:00 am

ST FIDELIS'  
Tuesday 9:15 am  
Friday 9:15 am

#### COMMUNION SERVICE

OUR LADY HELP OF  
CHRISTIANS  
Wednesday 10:00 am

ST AMBROSE'S  
Tuesday 10:00 am

#### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

OUR LADY HELP OF  
CHRISTIANS  
First Saturday:  
10:30 am-11:00 am

ST AMBROSE'S  
Second Saturday  
10:30 am-11:00 am

ST JOSEPH'S  
Third Saturday  
10:30 am-11:00 am

ST FIDELIS'  
Fourth Saturday  
10:30 am-11:00 am

## LOVE YOUR ENEMIES, PRAY FOR YOUR PERSECUTORS

“Love your enemies, and do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly.” These are the opening words of the Gospel of Luke for this Sunday. And they are possibly the most challenging verses in the entire Gospel.

It is interesting to note that across the country at the moment, at both state and federal level, there is a move to legislate against hate speech and conduct. And there is something right about that – even though there is a lot of politics in the detail. In a civil society, difference and dialogue should be a respectful mark of the way in which people live together. At the same time, there should be no room for Xenophobia, homophobia, or ideological indoctrination (religious or other). There is no place for any form of violence and abuse.

The gospel wants to take us even further. As well as the prohibition of violence (thou shalt not kill), the Gospel challenges us to actually love and pray for those who we consider our enemies. Hatred and bitterness and the desire for revenge are the things that start wars and violence. To pray for those for whom we harbour such feelings can actually change us and can change the outcome of our actions.

For Pope Francis, this is why we must pray always for the grace not to hold grudges and for "the grace to pray for our enemies, to pray for the people that do not love us, the grace of peace." If we make this our daily prayer, says Pope Francis, even just praying one prayer a day for our enemies, this is how we will "win" and make progress "on the path of holiness and perfection."

We certainly cannot tolerate violence in our world. And sometimes it seems an overwhelming task to know where to begin to end hatred and war. This week's gospel is an invitation to start simply. One prayer a day, in love, for the next week for those for whom we would normally consider an enemy.

Fr Brendan J Reed

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Psalm 12:6

O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.  
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.  
I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

## FIRST READING

1 Samuel 26:2. 7-9. 12-13. 22-23

A reading from the first book of Samuel

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph.

So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him.

Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice. David answered Abishai, Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them.

David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 102:1-4. 8. 10. 12-13.

R. v.8

**(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.**

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord,  
all my being, bless his holy name.  
My soul, give thanks to the Lord  
and never forget all his blessings. **(R.)**
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt,  
who heals every one of your ills,  
who redeems your life from the grave,  
who crowns you with love and compassion. **(R.)**

3. The Lord is compassion and love,  
slow to anger and rich in mercy.  
He does not treat us according to our sins  
nor repay us according to our faults. **(R.)**
4. As far as the east is from the west  
so far does he remove our sins.  
As a father has compassion on his sons,  
the Lord has pity on those who fear him. **(R.)**

## SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:45-49

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

## GOSPEL

Acclamation John 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment;  
love one another as I have loved you.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

Luke 6:27-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

## BMCC UPCOMING MEETINGS

### RCIA (RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS)

Date: Every Wednesday from February to Easter

Time: 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Location: St. Ambrose's Community Centre

## BMCC UPCOMING EVENTS

### WEDDINGS

The Brunswick Moreland Catholic Community sincerely congratulates **Stephanie and Stephen** as they celebrate the sacrament of Marriage this weekend at St Ambrose's Church.

### BAPTISMS

The Brunswick Moreland Catholic Community joyfully welcomes **Vera and Hugo** through the sacrament of Baptism this weekend at St. Ambrose's Church.

### JOIN US FOR A CUPPA

Sunday, 2nd March, is the first Sunday of the month Cuppa at St. Ambrose's. All are welcome to join us after the 10:30 am Mass.

### DIVINE MERCY PRAYER

You are invited to join us at St. Joseph's for a Holy hour, every Friday at 3:00 pm.

### ST. JOSEPH'S BLESSED SACRAMENTAL CHAPEL

24 hour access is available by arrangement upon request.

## BMCC UPCOMING EVENTS

### ROSARY GROUP AND ADORATION

The Rosary Prayer Group and Adoration will meet weekly at St. Joseph's on Saturdays at 12:00 pm. Please enter through the church side door. Everyone is welcome!

### POSITIONS VACANT

Brunswick Moreland Catholic Community is seeking a Stewardship Coordinator/Finance Coordinator. This is a 0.6 Full Time Equivalent position. The person will work closely with Fr Brendan, the Parish Staff and the BMCC Stewardship Council to oversee the finances and physical resources of the Parishes. This is a great opportunity to be part of a growing team in a supportive environment, directing our resources to the mission of the Brunswick Moreland Catholic Community. Further details can be obtained from Fr Brendan or from the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne Human Resources Team. Visit:

<https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies/stewardship-coordinator-brunswick-moreland-catholic-community-2>

### VOLUNTEERS FOR PARISH MINISTRY

Thanks to those who have come forward to assist with the various ministries and activities across our parishes over the last few weeks. We are currently looking for one or two young families or individuals who can accompany a female teenager who has recently been baptised in the Church. Please contact Fr Brendan or Fr Tien if you think you can assist us.

### GIVING

We would like to thank the many people who contribute to the financial support of our BMCC parishes and our priests. Your support enables us to provide the services and pastoral care that are so important to the life of our parish.

As well as giving via our Sunday Collection, you may wish to give via EFT (please include your name and Thanksgiving number if you are a registered giver):

#### 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

## LENTEN MUSIC AND PRAYER

You're warmly invited to a special evening of music, singing, and prayer as we prepare for the season of Lent and Holy Week.

**When:** Monday, March 3rd, 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm

**Where:** Marist Centre Melbourne, 1 Dawson Street, Brunswick

**Parking:** Ample free parking available (enter via Dawson or Michael Street, Brunswick)

**Presenter:** Br. Michael Herry (Marist Brother) and Friends

### Featuring:

- A music preview of the 2025 Parish Lenten Hymn Booklet
- Music for Ash Wednesday (from the booklet)
- The new "Pilgrims of Hope" hymns (yes, two of them!)
- Responsorial Psalms for the Sundays of Lent and how to use Psalm tones
- Hymns for our combined liturgies, including Holy Thursday
- Other beautiful hymns and Lenten liturgy chants
- A new Mass setting for Lent

Join us for an inspiring and uplifting evening as we prepare our hearts for the sacred season ahead.

## CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE & BEYOND

### 2025 Lent Virtual Series: 4 March to 8 April

Once again, a series of virtual Lent talks will be presented by three Australian biblical scholars from Yarra Theological Union, a College of the University of Divinity. Each week, these accomplished guides will explore the readings for the week.

Speaking to us from their own area of expertise will be:

- Prof Mary Coloe PBVM
- Dr Mary Reaburn NDS
- Dr Chris Monaghan CP

This is a perfect opportunity to enrich your Lenten journey.

For more information, including details on accreditation for teachers seeking professional development hours, please see our website.

For those not seeking accreditation, the events remain FREE of charge.

Registration covers all 6 sessions.

**Date:** Tuesday 4 March 2025 7:00 pm - Tuesday 8 April 2025 8:00 pm

Sessions will be held on Tuesdays – 4, 11, 18, 25 March & 1 and 8 April 2025 from 7.00 pm – 8.00 pm AEDT\*

**Location:** Online event access details will be provided by the event organizer.

**Registration Visit :** <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1356503>

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**ASSISTANT PRIEST**  
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Parish Secretary

Jenny Di Valentino  
Finance Administrator

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183 Hope Street,  
West Brunswick 3055

**ST FIDELIS'**  
49 Clarendon Street,  
Coburg 3058

**ST AMBROSE'S**  
287 Sydney Road,  
Brunswick 3056

**OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS**  
49 Nicholson Street,  
East Brunswick 3055

## PRAYERS OF INTENTION

	ST AMBROSE'S	OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS	ST FIDELIS'	ST JOSEPH'S
RECENTLY DEC'D			Philip Giarracca Teresa Long	
ANNIVERSARIES	Betty Bennett		Bruno Alessio	Val O'Donnell

**Please Note:** We encourage all parishioners to access the newsletter on our website at <https://bmcatholiccommunity.org.au/parish-newsletter>.

*We hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and all vulnerable people, as a central and fundamental responsibility, of our parishes. The Parish Statement of Commitment and the Reporting Process, are on display in all churches, and all Parish Policies are available, on the website: [bmcatholiccommunity.org.au](https://bmcatholiccommunity.org.au)*