



St Mary of the Cross Catholic Parish

EMBODYING CHRIST'S LOVE

Parish Priest: Fr Michael Kong

Deacon: George Piech-Meat

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time 2 August 2026

Readings for Year A Isaiah 55: 1-3 Romans 8: 35, 37-39 Matthew 14: 13-21



“We then allow him to provide”

This passage from Matthew’s Gospel speaks of the abundance that our God wishes us to enjoy. It reveals the humanity, sensitivity and compassion of Jesus.

Jesus withdrew as He was grieving the loss of John the Baptist, but took pity on those in need, especially those who were sick. He then acted with authority when interceding for the needs of others to His Father.

The invitation to followers of Jesus is stated in His response: “There is no need for them to go. Give them something to eat yourselves”.

For us, it is a reminder that miracles still happen today. We give the Lord the little we have, or the best we have, or all that we have - as we are led. We then allow him to provide.

As we grow in faith we have moments when we see the Lord provide for our needs. The challenge is to seek him constantly so that we do not forget when we experience the times that are more challenging.

‘O Lord, increase our faith!’

***Jenny Ford
Parishioner***



News and Announcements

National Vocations Awareness Week – 2 to 9 August 2026

Vocations come from families, communities and parishes. Strong families and communities are the place where vocations are first nurtured. In this National Vocations Awareness Week, let us pray for all families in our parish, and for those preparing for marriage. Let us also pray that our parish community may always be welcoming and encouraging of vocations to marriage, priesthood and consecrated life.

St Mary MacKillop Feast Day 8 August

A poster for the Feast of Saint Mary MacKillop. It features a stylized, colorful portrait of Saint Mary MacKillop on the right. The background is blue. Text on the left includes: "Be **Fierce** for **Fair**", "Feast of Saint Mary MacKillop", "8 August", "This August, let's honour Australia's first saint by speaking out against injustice wherever it appears.", "Your generosity is changing lives, giving children, families, and communities the tools, skills and opportunities to thrive.", a QR code, and a "Donate" button with an arrow. A small logo at the bottom left says "MARY MACKILLOP today".

Be **Fierce** for **Fair**

Feast of Saint Mary MacKillop

8 August

This August, let's honour Australia's first saint by speaking out against injustice wherever it appears.

Your generosity is changing lives, giving children, families, and communities the tools, skills and opportunities to thrive.

MARY MACKILLOP today

Donate ➔

Please bring a plate along to share after mass with our cuppa next weekend to celebrate the Feast day of our patron saint, St Mary MacKillop.

Ways to be Fierce for Fair

Say it out loud - If you see an injustice, especially regarding education, write a letter, naming it clearly, specifically and without softening the edges. Talk about it with family and friends.

Give with intention - Small gifts given consistently - that is what makes change possible.

Follow one organisation - such as **Mary MacKillop Today**, who are working on education equity in Australia and overseas. Let the stories inform your understanding.

Fr Michael away - 10th - 14th August

Fr Michael will be attending the Archdiocesan Clergy Conference during this week. As a result, all weekday Masses from 10th to 14th August will be replaced with Communion Services. Thank you for your understanding.

Saturday 15th August – Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

This is a Holy Day of Obligation for Catholics. To mark this important feast, there will be Rosary and the Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10.30 am, followed by Mass at 11 am at St Brigid's Church.

All parishioners are warmly encouraged to attend.

Roster

The office is organising the next roster. Please let Ann know if you will be away or unavailable from September to December.

A poster for a Holy Mass Healing Service with Adoration. It features a portrait of Rev. Fr. Prasad Harshana. The background is golden with religious imagery. Text includes: "AUSTRALIA 2026", "HOLY MASS Healing Service with ADORATION", "DATE 7TH AUGUST", "DAY FRIDAY", "TIME 7:00 PM", "IN ENGLISH", "Rev. Fr. PRASAD HARSHANA", "ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH", "362 Station St, Chelsea", "MORE INFORMATION 0492 803 501", and "Come and Experience His Healing Presence". At the bottom, it says "+ HOLY MASS | + HEALING | + ADORATION | + BLESSINGS".

AUSTRALIA 2026

HOLY MASS
Healing Service
with
ADORATION

DATE **7TH** AUGUST | DAY **FRIDAY**
TIME **7:00 PM**
IN ENGLISH

Rev. Fr. **PRASAD HARSHANA**

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
362 Station St, Chelsea

MORE INFORMATION
0492 803 501

Come and Experience His Healing Presence

+ HOLY MASS | + HEALING | + ADORATION | + BLESSINGS

News and Announcements



Sacrament of Confirmation

Please pray for our St Brigid's, St Louis' and Catechist children who will be confirmed over the next week. May the Holy Spirit continue to be an important presence in their lives.

Thanks so much to all the teachers and catechist leaders for preparing the children for the sacrament of Confirmation.

Brian Grace Funeral details

The Requiem Mass for Brian Grace will be held at 11 am at St Joseph's, Chelsea, on Wednesday 12th August.

Justice Action Group Activities

John Paul College Companion Van - Thursday 13 August

We are calling for food for the volunteers to take along on the night - **Small tuna cans, two fruit tubs/cups, juice boxes (small prima size), noodle cups/packs, packets of sweet/savory biscuits.** Please leave your donations in the boxes provided in the foyers over the next 2 weekends.

Brigidine Asylum Seekers Fundraising Raffle Results

Thanks to all those who supported the raffle. \$1,142 was raised for BASP.

Winners were: First prize Elinor, second prize Ana, third prize Rachel, fourth prize Gene.

Baptisms this weekend

We welcome into our parish family - **Stella, Mackenzie June, Xavier Hart, Hailey Mae, Tyler Jay, Tate Liam, Elijah John**
God has you in his hands on this special day. With every step you take, he guides you on your way.

Flower Ministry Volunteers

We are looking for new volunteers to help with flower arranging for our altars. If you have an interest in helping make our church a beautiful and welcoming place please let the parish office know.



Collect a Copy of the latest
**Australian Catholics
Spring Edition**

We have 10 copies to share around. Please return the magazine to the church foyer once you have read it for others to enjoy.
OR subscribe at -
www.australiancatholics.com.au



Formed - The Cure of Ars

The Church investigates the life of the Cure of Ars to see if he should become a saint. Will the evidence of his holiness pass the test?

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.



The website: MelbourneSynod2026.MelbourneCatholic is regularly updated with new information, so do please keep checking for updates.

Melbourne Synod 2026 – Theme Paper Release

The Synod theme papers are an important step in our journey of listening and discernment as we prepare for the Melbourne Synod. The papers aim to foster a spirit of hope and imagination—trusting that, as we walk together, God is calling us into a future marked by faithfulness, renewal, and deeper communion. The suggested reflection process is a 'Conversation in the Spirit' or a Spiritual Conversation. This method is based in prayer and allows people to come together to both speak and to listen. Different from a discussion, it is an attentive listening process that aims to discern where the Holy Spirit is leading us.

Click on the links below to read the three theme papers.

Formation and Participation and
Missionary Leadership and
Young Discipleship

NEXT WEEK'S SERVE MINISTERS ROSTER - 19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 8 & 9 AUGUST 2026

8/9 August 2026	19 th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) 1 Kings 19: 9, 11-13 Romans 9: 1-5 Matthew 14: 22-23						CUPPA
	Reader	Commentator	Special Minister	Special Minister	Special Minister	Welcomer	Welcomer
6pm (A)	Julie Buick	Marie Seddon	Volunteer	Marg De Vries	Sonia Williams	Bernie Stuart	Berna Wake
8.00am (M)	Celine George	Joan Healy	Jack Guthrie	Stephen Pooley	Jack Meyer	Tony Aloysious	Josie Johnson
9.30am (A)	Niko Tovia	Elizabeth Newington	Felice Cortese	Ron Schneider-Loos	Mary Nayna	Volunteer	Eddie Joseph
11.00am (M)	Gail Bell	Melwyn D'Mello	Louise Breslin	Peter Wain	Philippa Pecora	Patricia Chaves	Robyn Worsnop
Counters	Group 5	Aileen Dynes	Anthony & Julie Barnhoorn				

Recently deceased: Martina Maria Torpy, Frederick Quadros, Mario Dell'Aqua

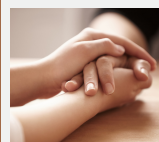
Anniversaries: Julio Muzlera, Airina Coutinho, Lyn Snellgrove, Kerrin White, Daniel Murray, Jean Joseph Sin Mew Cheung, Melissa Thorne, Chandramouli Lingadi, Omana Thomas, Loris Wilson, Veronica Marie Wesols, Kathleen O'Brien, Antonio Meneghin, Jim O'Donnell, Rachael Carrington, Vivienne Ryan, Gaetono Iacono, John Ahern, Colin Forrest, Winifred Turner, Myrna Bamba, Vito Troisi, Gaetano Furnari, Helen Townsend, Maureen Noonan, Frank Barber, Mary Agnes Angliss, Barbara (Helen) Beaman, Margaret Russell, Mick Sullivan, Macaria Gutierrez, Dorothy Williams, Mervat Marton, Helga Rabich, Patricia Kerr, Joseph Gauci, Helen Gauci, Thereza Vaz, Mary Sutherland, Gregorio Coutinho,

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

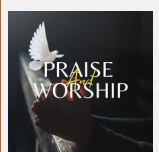
Growing in community & belonging at St Mary of the Cross



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
Parish House: 03 9412 8432

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](http://catholicmassstmaryofthecross.com)

WEEKDAY MASSES

St Louis' Mon 9.15am Communion Service,
St Louis' Tues 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 Fri after 11.30am Mass
St Louis' Sat 5.30pm before 6pm Mass

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
Robyn 0412 814 592
Deacon George 9580 7981