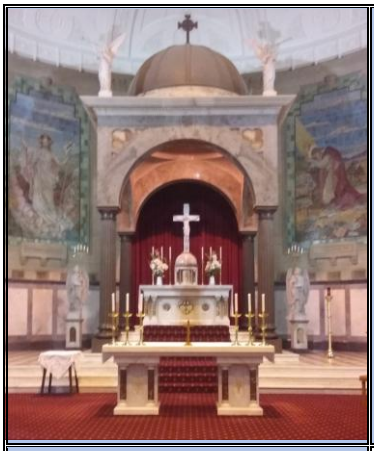


PARISH OF ASCOT VALE

ST MARY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

ST MARY'S CHURCH, 123 ST LEONARDS ROAD, ASCOT VALE

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Desmond J Moloney
Assistant Priest / Lithuanian Chaplain: Rev Fr Joseph Deveikis
Presbytery / Parish Office: 123 St Leonards Rd, Ascot Vale *(Postal: PO Box 468 Ascot Vale 3032)*
Telephone: 9370 6688
Website: www.melbcatholic.org/ascotvale
Email: ascotvale@cam.org.au
Office Hours: Tue – Thu 9.30am – 3.00pm *Secretary: Carmen D'Rosario*
Principal, St Mary's School: Mr Denis Johnstone T: 9370 1194
Principal, St Margaret's School: Mr John Rudd T: 9318 1339

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil:
6.00pm St Mary's

Sunday:
8.30am St Mary's
10.30am St Mary's
6.00pm St Mary's (Spanish)

Weekday Mass Times

Mon *10.00am St Mary's*
Tue *9.00am St Mary's*
Wed *9.00am St Mary's*
7.00pm St Mary's
Thu *9.00am St Mary's*
Fri *9.15am St Mary's*
Sat *9.30am St Mary's*

Reconciliation (Confession)

Saturday
10.00–10.30am St Mary's
5.30–5.45pm St Mary's

Eucharistic Adoration

Tue *9.30–10.30am St Mary's*
Sat *10.00–11.00am St Mary's*

Baptisms at St Mary's

Baptisms are celebrated on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of each month at 12:00 noon.

Baptism Information Sessions are held in St Mary's Church at 7:30 pm on the first Thursday of each month. Parents desiring the baptism of their child must attend one of these sessions.

Please Note: there will be no baptism preparation session or baptisms in January 2027.

1st Sunday of Advent – 29 November 2026



First Holy Communion

At the 6:00pm Vigil Mass, four children celebrate their First Holy Communion through the Parish programme. We keep these children and their families in our prayers at the time of this most sacred event.

School Family Masses this weekend

The 6.00pm Vigil Mass is the St Mary's School Family Mass. The 8.30am Mass this Sunday is the St Margaret's School Family Mass. We especially welcome students from Years Six and Foundation (Prep) and their families.

SENIOR PARISHIONERS' DAY – Friday, 11 December 2026

Warmly inviting the Senior Parishioners of our parish to this year's **Senior Parishioners' Day which will be held on Friday, 11 December 2025, with Mass commencing at 11.00am at St Mary's Church.**

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be conferred during Mass. Followed by a celebration luncheon in St Mary's School Hall from 12.00pm.

If you are able to attend, please either:

1. Complete the form and place it in the box at the Parish Office door or
2. Email the parish office at ascotvale@cam.org.au

RSVP requested by: Thursday, 3 December 2024 please (To finalise catering).

Assistance with setting up the Nativity Scene in church

Calling for youth and young adults to help set up the Nativity Set at St Mary's!

Dates:

November Saturday 28th (1:30PM - 3:00PM)
December Saturday 5th (12:00PM - 3:00PM)
December Saturday 12th (12:00PM - 3:00PM)

For those interested, contact Justine Escano justineescano19@gmail.com



ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – 5/6 DECEMBER 2026		
Parish Counters: V Colicchia; J Dawson		
Ministers of the Word		**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**
6.00 pm	R Boyer	F Pinto
8.30 am	S Varghese	J Gilmartin
10.30 am	A Fogarty	R Bonvino

Hymns: **Entrance:** CWBII 453
Offertory: CWBII 251
Communion: CWBII 240
Reflection: CWBII 552
Recessional: CWBII 453

Recently deceased: Maria Pansino; Ronel Quilla; Patricia Bosser

Anniversaries: Francesca Maria Mole; Edward O'Bryan; Nazzareno Conte

Feast Days: **30 Nov:** St Andrew
3 Dec: St Francis Xavier

Readings Next Week: 2nd Sunday of Advent Is 40:1-5,9-11; 2 Pet 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

Chairs of St. Margaret's Church

As mentioned last Sunday, there are seventy plain wooden chairs that are available to those who may have an interest in one or more.
Please contact Jofintha - 0414 280876 (call, text or WhatsApp)

Our Offertory donations report - NOVEMBER 2026

Church

Envelopes/Loose	$2366.00
Credit card	$ 2920.00
Direct debit	$ 2950.00
TOTAL	**$ 8236.00**

Presbytery $725.00

First Collection - Church Offering

- Pays Parish operating costs
- Supports the growth of Parish and Diocesan services

Second Collection - Presytery Offering

- Supports Priests in this Parish
- Supports sick and retired Priests
- Supports Priests in needy Parishes
- Supports the Archbishop

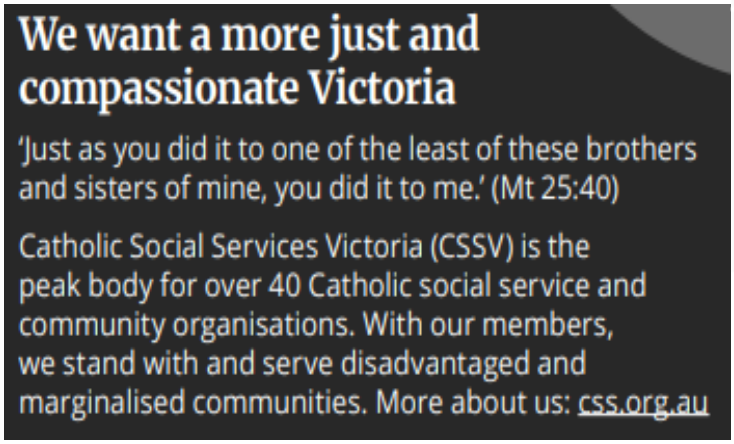
Please use the QR code and follow a few easy steps if you wish to contribute to our parish church.
Your generosity is much appreciated. Thank you.

Legion of Mary - For member enquiries and home visitations please contact: 9346 7900.
St Vincent de Paul Helpline: 1800 305 330, Monday – Friday, 10am – 3pm.

St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

St. Vincent de Paul and those it assists are always grateful for the strong support we get from the schools and congregations of our parish.
We ask for your help because it is always needed, in these times more than ever.
Supporting the poor is an expression of our Catholic faith, and what you give supports many around us struggling to provide for themselves and their families.
Anything you can give will help, the task is formidable; in this western region of St. Vincent de Paul the society spent over $750, 000 aiding more than 2,300 people from just October to December last year. There are envelopes at the church doors.

Catholic Social Services Victoria



"God has a special place in his heart for those who are discriminated against and oppressed, and he asks us, his Church, to make a decisive and radical choice in favour of the weakest."
Pope Leo, *Dilexi Te*, 16

Find out more
You can use this QR code to read *Dignity, hope and drawing closer to the margins: CSSV priorities for the 61st Parliament of Victoria*

Holding the Light – an ecumenical service of lament for victims of family violence.

Catholic Social Services Victoria invites you to attend Holding the Light, a moving and solemn service of lament to remember those killed as a result of family and domestic violence. It is an opportunity to take part in a ritual and reflect on the tragic results of violence, to stand in solidarity with all those impacted and in hope for a better future for our communities. This year the service will be held at St Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne or can also be attended online for those unable to be there in person.
Details: **Tuesday 1 December 2006, 5.10pm**
St Paul's Cathedral Melbourne – cnr Flinders St & Swanston St, Melbourne 3000 OR online (register to receive the link: https://www.trybooking.com/DRSXY).
More information at: https://css.org.au/events/holding-the-light-service-2026/

An invitation to pray and reflect during the Melbourne Synod

The Melbourne Synod—soon to take place from 4 to 6 December—is an important moment in the life of our local Church. While a limited number of people can take part directly in the synod, the prayers, wisdom and faith of the wider People of God remain essential to this journey, and every faith community, family and individual is invited to pray for the synod, reflect on the themes that will guide its discernment and join in seeking where the Holy Spirit is leading our Church.



1st Sunday of Advent

FIRST READING Isaiah 63:16-17,64:1,3-8

You, Lord, yourself are our Father,
'Our Redeemer' is your ancient name.
Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways
and harden our hearts against fearing you?
Return, for the sake of your servants,
the tribes of your inheritance.
Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down!
– at your Presence the mountains would melt.
No ear has heard, no eye has seen
any god but you act like this
for those who trust him.
You guide those who act with integrity
and keep your ways in mind.
You were angry when we were sinners;
we had long been rebels against you.
We were all like men unclean,
all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing.
We have all withered like leaves
and our sins blew us away like the wind.
No one invoked your name
or roused himself to catch hold of you.
For you hid your face from us
and gave us up to the power of our sins.
And yet, Lord, you are our Father;
we the clay, you the potter,
we are all the work of your hand.
The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 79

R. Lord, make us turn to you , let us see your face and we shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help. (R.)

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. (R.)

May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name.
(R.)

SECOND READING 1 Cor 1:3-9

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.
The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mk 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'
The Gospel of the Lord

