# St Luke and St John Parish - Melbourne

386 Albert Street, Melbourne Vic 3000
Phone: (03) - 9588 1111



## 26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—YEAR A —27th SEPTEMBER 2026

### MASS TIMES

**St Luke's Church**

Weekday: Tuesday & Thursday - 9.30am
Saturday: 6.00pm
Sunday: 9.00am & 11.00am

**St John's Church**

Weekday: Wednesday & Friday - 9.30am
Saturday: 5.30pm
Sunday: 10.30am & 5.00pm

**Private Reconciliation**

St Luke's: 11.00am - Saturday
St John's: 9.00am - Saturday

### PARISH STAFF

***Parish Priest:***
Fr Hector Williams
***Business Manager:***
Mr Frances Potter
***Administration:***
Mrs Mary Jones - Tuesday & Wednesday
Mrs Jennifer Cooper - Thursday & Friday
***Pastoral Associate:***
Sr Margaret Mary
**Bookkeeper:**
Mr Jonathan Frakes

Phone: (03) 9588 111
Email: stlukeandjohn@cam.org.au

### CELEBRATING COMMUNITY

The coming together of people is often grounded in what we have in common. This weekend, thousands of AFL fans will come together to celebrate this wonderful event, proudly cheering on their team and hoping to see them crowned the 2026 Premiers.

Throughout history, religious communities have also gathered to celebrate and worship God and all that is sacred and holy. Christian communities have been coming together for more than 2,000 years, celebrating Jesus as the Son of God — a man who brought love, healing, compassion and acceptance to all those he encountered.

Jesus calls us to do the same: to build life-giving relationships that are grounded in respect, love, compassion and acceptance.

Next weekend, our parish communities invites us all to come together to celebrate the wonderful gift of our multicultural community. We will celebrate this gift through song and dance, while sharing the richness and diversity of our many cultures through food. Everyone is warmly welcome.

We will begin with a Welcome to Country and Grace, followed by an opportunity to come together, share a meal and stimulate our tastebuds with the delicious foods of the many wonderful cultures represented within our community.

As we celebrate our wonderful communities, let us give thanks to God for the beautiful gift of multiculturalism in our parishes and local district. May we continue to celebrate all that we have in common, while recognising and learning from our differences as a richness to be valued and respected. Let us embrace God's invitation to life — a life lived together in respect, love, compassion and unity. Let us celebrate community.

Let us celebrate diversity. Let us celebrate one another.

Blessings - Fr Hector Williams



*The parishes of St Luke and St John are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults. Safeguarding Essentials online training module can be completed anytime at: https://safeguarding.melbournecatholic.org. In the spirit of reconciliation we acknowledge the traditional custodians of country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to their elders past, present and future and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today*

# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR PARISHES

OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED

| EVENTS THIS WEEK | COMING UP FOR YOUR DIARY |
|---|---|
| **Mon, 28 Sept** - Tai Chi - St Luke's Parish Hall - 12.00noon<br>**Tues, 29 Sept -** Liturgy Meeting - St John's - 7.30pm<br>**Thurs, 1 Oct -** Combined Baptism Meeting - St Luke's - 7.00pm in the Parish Centre<br>**Fri, 2 Oct -** Combined Peace Mass - St John's - 6.00pm | **Sun, 4 Oct -** Community / International Kitchen day - St Luke's - after 11.am Mass.<br>**Mon, 5 Oct -** Tai Chi - St John's Parish Hall - 12.00 noon<br>**Wed, 7 Oct -** PPC Meeting - St Luke's Parish Centre - 7.00pm<br>**Thurs, 8 Oct -** Prayer Session - St John's - 6.00pm |

## ST LUKE'S & ST JOHN'S CHRISTMAS FAMILY MASSES

### CALLING YOUNG PARTICIPANTS!

Want to be part of our **Christmas Eve Family Mass** on **24 December 2026 at 5:30pm**?

We're looking for children and young people to join:
**The Nativity Play** (ages 6–13)
**The Kids Choir & Family Mass** (ages 6–18)

There'll be rehearsals, new friendships, plenty of fun, and a chance to help bring the Christmas story to life!

**Register in the Narthex by 27 September 2026 using the Sign Up fo**
For more information, **)enise Henson, Neil or Rac** ce.



## COLUMBAN CALENDARS

Orders are being taken for next year's calendar. The 105th edition.
Price - $10 per calendar.
Please write your details with the number of copies on the clipboard located in the Narthex.
Now available for collection.

## GOD'S WORD

Orders are being taken for next year's edition.
Previous editions are available for purchase. $20 per book.
Write your details on the clipboard available in the Narthex.

## Combined Parish Peace Mass – All Are Welcome

In a world longing for healing and hope, the communities of St Luke's and St John's come together as one family of faith to pray for peace in our homes, our parish and our world.

Please join us for our Combined Parish Peace Mass on Tuesday, 29 September at 7.00pm at St Luke's Church, as we unite our hearts in prayer and strengthen our commitment to being instruments of peace.




### Peace Mass Choir

Our combined choir is currently being formed, and all singers and musicians from both parishes are warmly invited to join us.
Choir Practice:
**Thursday, 24 September 2026**
**7.15pm**
**St Anthony's Church**
United in prayer and song, may we become builders of a more peaceful world.

## ST LUKE'S ROSTERS

Rosters are now available and have been emailed to all volunteers. If you would like a paper copy, please contact the Mass Co-ordinator.

A reminder that all volunteers must hold a valid Working with Children Check, complete the Safeguarding training and sign the Code of Conduct. Please contact the parish if you have any queries.




## PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY

**† …for those who are sick especially:**

(St Lukes) Elaine Jones, Maria Henderson, Andrew Smith, Paul Nguyen Le, Mary Le, Jennifer Carr, Des Moloney, Margaret Kinson, Rex Williams, Hilda Butera, Maree Bell, Neil Bell, Tracy Chen, Tamara Morgan, Gladys Powell, Gerard Turner, Maria Fabian, Lester Overlund, Emma Han, Kathy Martin, Rose Mulcair, Robin Heldt, John Kelly, Amy Fernando, Manuel Costa, Peter Clark, James D'Souza, Rosemary Fernandez, Baby Bobby Burns, Joy Koch, Gladys Zhang, Baby Blaze Raju, Paul Jacobs, Romaine Burns, Dominic Butera, Ngọc Minh, Jean Paul, Sandra Sidaway, Catherine Erispe, Molly Jones, Christine Williams, Flora Gill, Alex Gurry, Nicole Cameron.

**(St Johns)** Tony Spencer, Jose Rogers, Julie Bulner, Baby Max Williams, Sergio Dizon, Tilly Panek, Jean Graham, Marie Han, Audrey Glen, Robert Jacotine, Rebecca Smith, Arthur Jones, Joe Conway, George Solomons, Rhys Monagham, Marlene Keith, Charles McMahon, Gerard Vasile, Jim Rodrigo, Jean Rodrigo, Ivy Rodrigues, Robert Serpanchy.

**†…for those who have recently died especially: Jacqueline Jones, Mary Smith, Fiona Foreman**

**† …and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time:**
*Death Anniversary*: Robin Colbert, Marie Edwards, Shirley Mathew, Jennifer Francis, Josie Glen, Mary Hennequin, John Rizzo, Paul Jones, Cameron Smith, Carlos Pereira, Joe Shamus, Robert Martin, John Logan.

*Birthday Remembrance*: Irene Pereira, Neriza Siriwartne, Adrian D'Silva,

## MASS AND PRAYER SERVICES

| | St LUKE'S | St JOHN'S |
|---|---|---|
| Monday | Closed | Closed |
| Tuesday | 9.30am Mass | Prayer Service - 9.30am |
| Wednesday | Prayer Service - 9.30am | Mass - 9.30am |
| Thursday | Mass - 9.30am | Prayer Service - 9.30am |
| Friday | Prayer Service - 9.30am | Mass - 9.30am |
| Funeral Masses | Mr John Sebastian Smith<br>Thursday, 11.00am | |

### Catholic Social Services Victoria

You are warmly invited to Faith in Action:
The Radical Love Story of Dorothy Day delivered by:

**MARTHA HENNESSY**

**THURSDAY 8 OCTOBER 2026**
5.30pm - 8.00pm
Light refreshments will be served from 5.30pm
with the event commencing at 6.00pm
**ACU Mercy Lecture Theatre**
Building 404, Ground Floor, Room 9
115 Victoria Parade, Fitzroy VIC 3065
**RSVP**



**Free event but tickets are limited – registration essential.**

### VCE PRAYERS OF SUPPORT

Do you have a student in your family or friend doing their final year 12 exams. Each year we send a letter from the parish offering our prayers for them and any support we may be able to offer. Letters are either posted or emailed. If your student is overseas, we urge that you list an email address, so that we can email their letter to them. Alternatively list the name, address and phone number and we will send a printed copy.

### BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

If you wish your deceased loved one to be listed in our Remembrance book for the month of November, please enter their name via the links on the parish website. You can also fill in the forms located at the Church door entrances.
Names must be submitted no later than 25th October.

Please note, if you entered the names in previous years, they will already be recorded and don't need to be listed again.

# READINGS THIS WEEK

## *ENTRANCE ANTIPHON*

All that you have done to us, O Lord,
you have done with true judgement,
for we have sinned against you and not obeyed
your commandments.
But give glory to your name
and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

## *FIRST READING EZEKIEL 18:25-28*

*The sinner who decides to turn against sinfulness deserves to live.*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows:
'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust."
Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust?
Is it not what you do that is unjust?
When the upright man renounces his integrity
to commit sin and dies because of this,
he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed.
When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding
and honest, he deserves to live.
He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

## *RESPONSORIAL PSALM PS 144:2-3, 8-9, 17-18*

R. The Lord is near to all who call him.

I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever.
The Lord is great, highly to be praised,
his greatness cannot be measured. R.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. R.

The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts. R.

## *SECOND READING PHILIPPIANS 1:20-24, 27*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

For me to live is Christ. Christ will be glorified in my body,
whether by my life or by my death.
Life to me, of course, is Christ,
but then death would bring me something more;
but then again, if living in this body
means doing work which is having good results -
I do not know what I should choose.
I am caught in this dilemma:
I want to be gone and be with Christ,
which would be very much the better,
but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need
for your sake.
Avoid anything in your everyday lives
that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.



## *GOSPEL ACCLAMATION*

Alleluia, Alleluia
Open our hearts, O Lord,
To listen to the words of your Son.
Alleluia!

## *GOSPEL*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

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**The Kids Choir & Family Mass** (ages 6–18) There'll be rehearsals, new friendships, plenty of fun, and a chance to help bring the Christmas story to life! **Register in the Narthex by 27 September 2026 using the Sign Up form or the QR code** For more information, please contact **Tracy, Denise Henson, Neil or Rachael** via the Parish Office.