



# St Mary's Parish

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*"Though many we are one."  
One in faith and one in the  
Gospel values  
of hospitality and welcome,  
compassion and justice.*

## History of the Eucharist

### People excluded (part 1)

Many people could no longer understand the mass regardless of whether it was in Greek and Latin, so singing became popular. In time, choirs took over singing the 'Kyrie' and such acclamations while the priest who was at the other end of the Basilica (without microphones) began to speak quietly since he could not be heard anyway. In time theologians came to rationalise this by suggesting the priest was in this 'holy place' where reverence was demanded. This silent prayer remained until 1965.

The priest was praying silently usually in a foreign language, with his back to the people who had ceased to be participants. In time statues and devotional prayers like the rosary helped people pray during the Mass. Following the Arian heresy and the developing notion that man is a sinner and God an almighty judge, it began to be questioned 'how is Jesus present?' One teacher suggested that it was symbolic presence and that the body of Jesus was obviously not a real corporal body, yet he was present. The students of Realism said in response 'if He isn't present in human form He must be present as judge'. This affected how people participated in the meal.

Prior to this development everybody shared in the meal—even babies. If God was judge of the world (with the obvious overtones of man being sinful) how would he judge the baby who could not keep down the bread? It was ordered that there must be a knowledge of what one is doing—an 'age of reason' for receiving Eucharist, which came to be 18-24 years of age. In furthering the idea of being worthy to receive this almighty judge, one suggestion was made that confession was necessary prior to receiving communion. At this time penances were extreme and confession was received only once in a life time, so many waited until they through death was near before making their confession in order to avoid the harsh penances. This meant that they could not take part in communion.

In some places people were encouraged to receive communion either before or after Mass, but only the priest received communion during the Mass. This meant that the original sharing meal had become a meal for one person! The use of a foreign language prevented people's involvement in the Mass. In this worship, the priest 'says' Mass, the people 'follow' 'attend' 'hear' or 'go to' Mass. None of this language denoted sharing as central to what was happening. People went about 'saying their prayers' while the priest prayed the Mass. There was no sign of a meal. (continued next week)

Dear Parishioners,  
I am truly grateful to all the wonderful parishioners, who are still collecting stamps for our Solomon Island missions. The sale of these helps educate children, who would not be able to afford post primary schooling. Thank you and God bless you.  
Sr Margaret Fields OP

### Euthanasia in Victoria?

Many of you will have seen the recent pastoral letter from the Bishops of Victoria expressing their concern at the prospect of euthanasia and assisted suicide being legalised in Victoria. To help people better understanding of the issue, the serious risk that these proposals pose and what you can do about it, you are invited to attend an information session.

**7:00 – 8:30 PM Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June**  
**Parish Support Centre, St Michael's Catholic Church**  
**121-123 High St, Berwick.**

The session will be presented by Paul Russell, Director of HOPE, an anti-euthanasia advocacy group, and Matthew MacDonald, Director of the Life, Marriage & Family Office of the Melbourne Archdiocese and is open to anyone interested in attending. To assist with preparation for the evening, we ask that you RSVP [secretary@stmichaelsparish.org.au](mailto:secretary@stmichaelsparish.org.au) phone 9707 1355.

## Important Meeting for All Readers

Current readers and those who wish to be readers need to attend a meeting on **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July at 7:30pm** in the church.

"All experienced and new readers, no matter how well educated or trained, can benefit from formation in the ministry of proclaiming the word." (Archbishop's Office for Evangelisation.)

## The Regulars

- Daily Rosary:** After morning Mass (except Sunday)
- Tuesdays:** Centering prayer meditation at The Open Door, 7pm
- 3rd Wednesday: Friendship Club** lunch at Dandenong RSL
- 1st Sunday:** Hospitality Sunday ~Cuppa's (Commencing February)
- 3rd Sunday:** Presentation of Baptism candidates at 10.30am Mass
- Youth Group** after 5.30 Mass
- 4th Sunday:** Baptism at 10.30 Mass

\*The Open Door is part of the St John of God Ministries, 110 Ann Street Dandenong 9791 8664

## This weekend we pray for

**Recently Deceased:** Salvatore Gatto

**Anniversaries:** Dwight Beare, Baldassare & Maddalena Caron, Giovanni Donazzan, Luke Simonetti, Carmelo Marcuccio, Rafael Santin

**Sick:** Sharon Rozario, Ryan Robinson, Col Cormick, Tyrone De Silva, Margaret Deegan, Jenny Stivic, Ruth Caia, Michael Kelly, Daren Vukmirovic, Bernadine Anthony, Melissa Warren, Hayley Pearson, Faye Cronin, Angie Calabarkis, Lemisio Nepa, Rosa Maria Santos, Mohammed Zohan, Kosmas Stefanidis, Francis Lesoy, Janet Murray, Max Warner, Gordon Fonca, Brian, Lance Minus

The privacy legislation requires us to have written permission by an authorised person before any name can be printed in the Marian.

## Collections for last weekend...

Thanksgiving: \$ 1114.50  
Presbytery: \$ 394.30  
Loose money: \$ 1432.95

If any Parishioner would like their house to be blessed, please contact Franca or Maree at the Parish office on 9791-4611 to make a booking with either Father Declan or Deacon George.

Please inform the Parish Office on 9791-4611 if a sick person is seriously ill, homebound or hospitalised and wants to receive Holy Communion or the Sacrament of Anointing.

## From the desk of the Parish Priest Fr Declan



Over the past century much debate has centred on the thought of three outstanding figures, Charles Darwin, Sigmund Freud and Karl Marx, whom some have called "the unholy trinity." They pushed us into the modern world, often in spite of our protests. Darwin's theory of evolution was greeted with howls of derision by the established churches, and had to battle for recognition. Freud opened up the universe of the unconscious and profoundly affected conventional attitudes. The social theories of Karl Marx have dominated almost half the world and considerably influenced the other half. Of the three, only Darwin's theory of evolution remains fairly intact. The developed world has largely discredited Marx and the theories of Freud are more and more contested. Time has taken its toll of "the unholy trinity."

The Holy Trinity, whose feast we celebrate today, is outside the reach of time and beyond the grasp of human reasoning. It is a mystery of our faith. We can only fumble in the dark in search of glimmers of light. "Two is company, three is a crowd" is a popular expression. The gospel would have it otherwise. There, the figure three symbolises completeness and perfect symmetry, and re-appears at all the key moments of the Christ story.

The life of Christ constantly reflected the Trinity. Three figures make up the nativity scene in Bethlehem — the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Their first visitors were the three wise men. Later, in the desert preparing to begin his public life, Jesus was tempted three times by the devil. A good story should have a beginning, a middle and an end. Christ was a storyteller par excellence and three figures prominently in his parables. The Prodigal Son is about a father and his two sons; the Good Samaritan tells of the three passers-by, the priest, the Levite and the Samaritan; the sower sowed his seed in three kinds of soil, yielding three kinds of harvest. The crucifixion scene has three figures, Christ between two thieves. Before his resurrection, he spent three days in the tomb.

God is love. There are Three Persons in the Trinity, the Father the Son and the Holy Spirit. Together they represent the fullness of love. The Father loves the Son, the Son loves the Father. The Holy Spirit is their love for each other. We are made in the image of a triune God. God the Father, who created us, his Son who saved us, and the Holy Spirit who continues to guide us. Our lives should reflect the Trinity. We should be always creative like the Father, compassionate like his Son, and dispose our talents in the service of others like the Holy Spirit...

## Parish Calendar 2017

Tuesday, 13 <sup>th</sup> June	Baptism Meeting
Thursday, 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Information Night – Confirmation
Saturday, 17 <sup>th</sup> June	Propagation of the Faith – Catholic Care
Wednesday, 21 <sup>st</sup> June	Parish Council—7.30pm
Thursday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Reflection Day Confirmation
Tuesday, 27 <sup>th</sup> June	Meeting Ministers of Communion
Tuesday 27th June	Outreach Meeting-6.30pm

**PARISH PRIEST:** Fr. Declan O'Brien

**DEACON:** Rev. George Piech Meat

**PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:** Kathy Gottliebson

**PARISH SECRETARIES:** Franca Van Boxtel & Maree Walker

**FINANCE OFFICER:** Ms Josie Ferarro

**GARDENER/CARETAKER:** Mr. Kevin McLaren

**CENTRE MANAGER:** Mr. Miguel Matamala

**CATECHETICS CO-ORDINATOR:** Ms Marilyn Cuddihy

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday : 9.00am-3.00pm

**New Parishioners Book:** If you are a new parishioner to St Mary's, could you please sign our Parishioners Book in the church foyer.

If you urgently need a priest please call 9791 4611, if Father does not answer, please leave a message and he will call you back.

### WEEKEND MASS TIME

**Saturday Morning:** 9.00am

**Saturday Evening:** 6.00pm

**Sunday:** 8.30am, 10.30am and 5.30pm

### WEEK DAY MASS TIME

**Monday:** 9.00am (Word and Communion)

**Tuesday:** 9.00am (Except during School Terms mass will be 9.15am)

**Wednesday, Thursday:** 9.00am

**Thursday:** 11.00am (Cardinal Knox)

**Friday:** 11.00am (Followed by Exposition of Blessed Sacrament 3.00pm(Benediction))

(Last Friday of every month **Anointing Mass**)

### RECONCILIATION

Saturday after 9am Mass and 5pm to 5.45pm before 6pm Mass or upon request

### BAPTISM

Please contact the Parish Centre on 9791 4611

### MARRIAGE

Please book the Church at the same time as you book your venue.

As marriage preparation is an essential condition of marriage, you must book your preparation course at least 4 months prior to the wedding. Further details can be obtained from Fr. O'Brien.

**St. Mary's Primary School** Phone: 9791 7650  
New St, Dandenong.

**Principal:** Mr. Greg White

**St. John's Regional College** Phone 9791 3366

Caroline St, Dandenong.

**Principal:** Timothy Hogan

**St. Mary's Community Centre** 9792 4884