



# St Mary's Parish

160 Foster Street, Dandenong  
P.O Box 22, Dandenong  
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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.*

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

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**  
Monday to Friday : 9.00am-3.00pm

*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



## Archbishop's Message for Lent 2017

Dear Friends,

*"What are you giving up?"*

We all know Lent is approaching when we start to hear this question! This Lent let us all remember that Jesus challenges us personally in three special areas; **prayer, fasting and almsgiving.**

This Lent I recommend we all make some simple commitments.

**Prayer:** This Lent how can each of us strengthen our relationship with Christ? What will help us get to know the Lord better?"

One simple suggestion is to spend an extra fifteen minutes at night slowly reading, praying and reflecting on the daily Gospel. It isn't a great sacrifice but it really helps. Pope Francis reminds us that The Word is a gift" – he stresses prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Another simple practice is for each of us to seek forgiveness in the Sacrament of Penance. I encourage you all to make a good confession before Easter, even if it has been a long time. Rightly, the Pope says: "Sin blinds us."

In the early Church, they called confession the 'second conversion in tears.' Saint Peter wept in sorrow after denying Jesus, and in his mercy Christ spoke to him the tender words of his pardon and peace. In the sacrament, we too can hear these words of compassion for our sins.

And then there is **Fasting!** As we make our small acts of fasting and as we 'give up' food, drink or whatever, let us never forget it isn't all about what we do individually... Giving something up for Lent is not an end in itself. It should readily redirect our attention from ourselves toward others.

Saint Augustine commenting on fasting and mortification once said: "Don't believe that fasting suffices. Fasting punishes you, but it does not restore your brother. How many poor people could be nourished by the meal you did not take today?"

### Parish Calendar 2017

28th February 2017	Outreach Meeting 7pm
Sun 5th March 2017	Car Boot Sale/Community Day
18th-24th March	Parish Mission (Ray Sanchez)
28th March	Outreach Meeting 7pm
29th March	Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm

### IMPORTANT NOTICES

**Ash Wednesday** this year is on the 1st March, Mass times are 9.30am and 7.00pm.

**Parish Lenten Prayer-Stations of the Cross** starting on Friday, 3rd March at 7.30pm in the Church

**Project Compassion** — Please take home a box and/or envelopes & support Caritas Australia as we celebrate Love Your Neighbour. Help empower our most vulnerable neighbours worldwide to build a better future for their families and communities.

### Lenten Prayer

*God of all peoples and nations,  
You accompany us on our Lenten journey.  
Through the life and mission of Your son, You give us  
the gift of mercy.*

*May we learn to walk Your way of mercy and  
compassion with all Your people.*

*In a special way, we keep in mind our neighbours, the  
men, women and children around the world who are  
most vulnerable to extreme poverty and injustice.*

*Bless our prayers, our fasting and our Lenten gifts to  
Project Compassion. Through these actions, may our  
hearts be open to receive Your grace to love our  
neighbours as ourselves.*

*We ask this in the name of Jesus.  
Amen.*

### Luke's Gospel workshop

We invite you to join us as we follow scripture scholar Tom Wright's book 'Luke for Everyone'. We read the gospel Together, discuss its meaning and how it affects us in our everyday lives.

**When:** First Monday of the Month (6 March) 4.45pm-5.45pm

**Where:** The Open Door, 110 Ann St, Dandenong

A gold coin is welcome

More details call Trish or Jo on 9791 8664



St James Anglican Church Car Boot Sale on this weekend. Please support this fundraiser.

### Bingo

Bingo is in urgent need of volunteers for Tuesday and Saturday Night.



**Welcome to Ivy who is being baptised this Sunday. Please pray for her and her family.**

### Positions Vacant

Administration/Project and Property Coordinator, Aboriginal Catholic Ministry of Victoria, Thornbury

Payroll Officer, East Melbourne

Domestic Support - St Mary's Parish, East St Kilda

Organist - St Joseph's parish, Chelsea

Parish Secretary, Inner Eastern Suburbs

Assistant Editor, East Melbourne

Parish Secretary St. Scholastica's parish, Bennettswood

Ministry Coordinator / Pastoral Support, St Fidelis' - Moreland

### 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 :

**Anniversaries:** Modesta & Eduardo Booc, Eustaquia, Teodoro, Jovito SR & Miguela Villarente, Joseph Dinh, Maurice & Percy Fernandes, Georgio Franco, Eric Fernandes

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

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

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### Collections for last weekend...

Thanksgiving: \$ 1605.00

Presbytery: \$ 470.50

Loose money: \$ 1036.70

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*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.*

