



St Mary's Parish

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

(03) 9791 4611 (03) 9791 7119

dandenong@cam.org.au www.stmarysdandenong.com.au

"The Parish of Saint Mary's is committed to the safety, well being and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults".

"Though many we are one."

One in faith and one in the Gospel values of hospitality and welcome, compassion and justice.



From the desk of the Parish Priest Fr Brendan

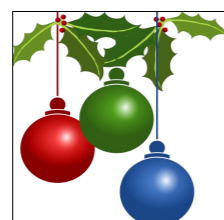
Dear Parishioners,

As I sit down to write this letter, news has come through about someone deliberately driving his car into people in a crowded street in the centre of Melbourne. Fourteen innocent people are injured, some seriously. What is going on? Why does he do this? We also hear about gangs at war in Melbourne. MTS—Menace to Society and the Apex gang are disturbing the peace. It seems that our society and world are becoming more unsafe and dangerous. South Sudan, which won independence, has descended into tribal warfare, and many have sought refuge with the old common enemy in Khartoum. Our government too, is bringing in more laws to legalise violence against the unborn and the elderly.

Violence and anger begin within us—in our hearts and minds. The answer to it is not more and more police, but to welcome Jesus the Saviour of the world to change our hearts and turn anger and violence into love and peace. That is what he did, and does today. But if we chase Jesus out of our society and government, we will lose love, peace, honesty, goodness, truth and mercy.

So it is important that we contemplate the wonder of the crib—a helpless baby has the answer to the problems of the world and the difficulties we all face in life. He is accessible to all of us. Let us welcome Him this Christmas.

Fr. Brendan



A big thankyou to all who have contributed so much to our Parish during 2017:

- Readers
- Eucharistic Ministers
- Sacristans
- Counters
- Altar Servers
- Choirs
- Those who helped with all our church events

Wishing you every blessing for a peaceful and joyous Christmas

From: Father Brendan, Deacon George, Father Emmanuel, Kathy, Franca, Maree, Josie and Kevin

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Brendan Lane
DEACON: Rev. George Piech Meat
PASTORAL ASSOCIATE: Kathy Gottliebse
PARISH SECRETARIES: Franca Van Boxtel & Maree Walker
FINANCE OFFICER: Ms Josie Ferraro
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: 9.15am

Saturday Evening: 6.00pm

Sunday: 8.30am, 10.30am and 5.30pm

WEEK DAY MASS TIME

Monday: 9.15am

Tuesday: 9.15am (11am Cardinal Knox)

Wednesday: 9.15am

Thursday: 9.15am (11.00am Cardinal Knox)

Friday: 9.15am (9.45am –12.30pm Followed by Exposition of Blessed Sacrament, concluding with Benediction at 12.30pm)

Last Friday of every month 9.15 am **Anointing Mass**

RECONCILIATION

Saturday after 9.15am 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. Brendan.

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

New St, Dandenong: Download brochure from www.stmarysdandenong.org

Monday Morning Helpers

We are starting a new group in the parish. If you would like to enjoy the company of other parishioners, you're invited to come along, have a cuppa, and help the parish with tasks as needed. The group will meet at 10am on a Monday. If you are interested, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the foyer of the Church and you will be contacted by the parish office in February.

Important Notices

ROSTERS

As we are preparing the rosters for next year please advise the Parish Office if you no longer wish to be a Minister (Eucharist or Reader).

NEW ROSTERS

Until new rosters are completed, would you please sign up at the mass you are attending if you are able to assist as either Reader or Eucharistic minister.

AUDIO/VISUAL TRAINING

The parish is looking for parishioners who would be interested in being trained in the use of the AV equipment in the Church to be available to help at weekly masses and funerals. Please contact the office if you are interested.

Accommodation Required: Deserving single man in early 40's is seeking accommodation in this area at \$200 per week or less. Granny flat would be ideal. Reference available. Further information from Fr Kevin Dillon—St Simon's, Rowville—0421 777 360 or frkd@stsimonsparish.com.au

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: Linda Mete, Douglas Thompson, Herald Alvares, Daniel Duchanne, Alcides Lopes, Gennaro Mastrogiovanni, Rosa Presti, James Edwards, Nazareth Johnson, Michael Ciccia

Sick: Bernadine Anthony, Melissa Warren, Hayley Pearson, Faye Cronin, Michael Kelly, Lemisio Nepa, Rosa Maria Santos, Mohammed Zohan, Kosmas Stefanidis, Janet Murray, Max Warner, Brian, Lorraine Wishart, Joyce Pieris, Michael Pieris, Bella Allan, Ushan, Henry Bangkal, Lili Tsim, Fleur Armstrong, Lidia Longo, Jim Wade, Venessa Lawrence, Jenny, Makerita Niu-pulusuleo, Norma Gray, Jack Kelly, Angie Calabarkis

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: \$ 1699.00

Presbytery: \$ 258.00

Loose money: \$ 1524.00

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 Brendan 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.

Office Hours for Christmas/January

Fri 29th December: 9.00am-1.00pm
Tue 2nd January: 9.00am-1.00pm
Fri 5th January: 9.00am-1.00pm
Mon 8th January: 9.00am-1.00pm
Fri 12th January: 9.00am-1.00pm
Mon 15th January: 9.00am-1.00pm
Fri 19th January: 9.00am-1.00pm
Mon 22nd January: 9.00am-1.00pm
Thurs 25th January: 9.00am-1.00pm

Mon 29th January 2018:
Normal office hours resume