



# St Mary's Parish

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

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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

Dear parishioners,

Pentecost is here and we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit to us all. The Holy Spirit is the love and power of God—an unseen force like a wind, and the warmth of the love of God—like a fire. The Holy Spirit appeared to the apostles as fire and wind. The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity—the Father, Son and Holy Spirit—the Lover, the Beloved and the Love. So it is through the Holy Spirit that God touches and influences us today.

The Holy Spirit has the power to change us, as he did to St. Paul, and St. Augustine and so many people throughout the ages. In 1902, a 20 year old Italian farmer, Alessandro Serenelli became infamous when he killed a beautiful young girl, Maria Goretti. He spent the next twenty-seven years in jail, and through her intercession, he turned his life around.

His mother Cecilia had mental health issues and tried to drown Alessandro in a well when he was a baby. He survived but life was hard for a poor family. At 13 he became a fisherman and he learnt the crude words and ways of fishermen. Later, he joined his father as a share farmer nearer Rome, and ended up living with the Goretti family of Luigi, Assunta and six children. Luigi died soon after from malaria.

Maria had a strong faith and love of Jesus. She looked after the children while her mother worked on the farm. The two families prayed the rosary and went to mass at the church 14 kilometres away. Alessandro was a loner. He stayed in his room and looked at pornography. He became lustful and violent and fixated on Maria, now 11 years old. He tried to force himself on her, but she resisted. This made him angry, and when she said no to his next advance he stabbed her 14 times, but before she died, she said "I forgive him and I want him with me in heaven". In prison, Alessandro showed no sorrow, and he became hardened, abusive and foulmouthed. But in 1908, Maria appeared to him in a dream, and gave him 14 lilies, for the 14 wounds. Alessandro changed. His anger went and his behaviour improved. He was released from prison, but still not free. He went to Assunta and asked for pardon. She said, "If God has forgiven you, do you think I will not?" He made a public apology at midnight mass. He ended his years working at a nearby Franciscan Capuchin friary where he did odd jobs. He was known as Uncle Alessandro to the local children—a kind and peaceful old man, serving the friars.

God's mercy came to him through his victim Maria, her mother and the Church. He changed and came to love the way of life and faith that Maria had embraced as a child, which he had once scorned. He died peacefully on May 6 1970 aged 87—now a holy man. What power the Holy Spirit has.

God bless you all,  
Fr. Brendan

## PARISH CALENDAR 2018

Date	Event
24th May	Biggest Morning Tea 9am-1pm
12th June	Baptism Meeting 7pm
13th June	Confirmation
20th June	Parish Council 7.30pm
6th July	Anointing Mass
10th July	Baptism Meeting 7pm

**PARISH PRIEST:** Fr. Brendan Lane  
**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:** 9.15am

**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:** Terry Gardiner

**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

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

If you belong to one of the following groups then you need to read the document, "Parish Community Child Safety Code of Conduct" and sign your name. This is in accordance with the **Victorian Government's Ministerial Order No.870** and defines expectations of staff and those in our parish community who may at times act as volunteers.

Parish Staff  
Parish Council  
Readers  
Eucharistic Ministers  
Sacristans  
Leaders of Children's Liturgy  
Music Ministry  
Outreach Group  
Communion to the Sick  
Youth Group  
St. Vinnies  
Piety Stall

Document folders will be kept in the parish office and the sacristy. Please make sure you read the document and sign as soon as possible.

## (LAST WEEKEND TO SIGNUP FOR)

### BIGGEST MORNING TEA



**When:** Thursday 24th May  
9.00am-1.00pm  
Guest Speaker—10.30am

**Where:** Marian Room

**Entry:** Gold Coin for cancer research

Bring your family and friends anytime during the morning and enjoy a cuppa for a good cause.

*Please sign up in the foyer if you intend to come.*

### CHAPLAINCY SUNDAY 2018

**Give hope by giving generously to Chaplaincy Sunday 2018, Sunday 20 May.**

The Melbourne Catholic Archbishop's Charitable Fund will be conducting its annual Chaplaincy Sunday Appeal in parishes to support the vital work of Catholic Chaplains in our community this Sunday 20 May.

Our focus for 2018 is Prison Chaplaincy. The relationship and collaboration between prisoners and Chaplains whilst they are in prison is vital to restoring them back onto the road again to re-join society:

with dignity and self-respect  
with a sense of hope and responsibility for new pathways  
with a sense of personal power and control over their own life, and hopefully with new skill sets and options.

**Donations raised each year are directed towards supporting Chaplains who work with:**

People who are in custody in prison  
Young people in youth justice facilities  
Patients and their families in public hospitals  
People living with HIV/AIDS.  
Seafarers.

**If you would like further information please contact the Office of Philanthropy: 9926 5731**

### Accommodation Required

Single gentleman with good references needs affordable, independent accommodation. A "Granny Flat" would be ideal. He can afford up to \$200 to \$220 per week in rental. Please contact Fr. Kevin Dillon at St. Simon's, Rowville if you can provide a "lead" or need further information: frkd@stsimonsparish.com.au or 0421 777 360

## The Regulars

**Daily Rosary:** After morning Mass (except Sunday)  
**Mondays:** **Monday Morning Helpers Group**  
**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  
**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:** Guilhermima J. Vicente, Antonio Meco, Rosa Meco De Costa

**Anniversaries:** Henry Fernandes, Annie Fernandes, Rudy Balzan. Corrie Van Boxtel

**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, Makerita Niupulusuleo, Norma Gray, Don Cantwell, Rita Sly, Leti Luki, Long Phan, Cheryl Barthelot

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

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.

## Collections

**Weekly** Thanksgiving: \$ 1193.45  
Presbytery: \$ 1,367.40  
Loose: \$ 2,326.90



### Catechetics Classes for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist

Classes will commence on Wednesday 30th May at 4pm in Parish Centre. Enrolment forms available in Parish Office.

### Enquiry Time For Adults Wishing to Become Catholic

If you know of anyone who is interested in knowing about the catholic faith, or thinking of becoming a catholic our enquiry time is commencing and you are asked to ring the parish office and make an appointment with Deacon George.