

Damascus Parish Bulletin

26th July 2026
17th Sunday of Ordinary Time

A vibrant community, journeying with Jesus

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Damascus Parish is a welcoming and inclusive community that is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Damascus Parish acknowledges the Wadawurrung people as the traditional custodians of this land, and we pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

St Christopher's Church

Saturday 6pm Vigil Mass
Tuesday 9.30am Mass

St Therese Church

Sunday 9am Mass
Sunday 5pm Mass
Wednesday 9am Rosary
Wednesday 9.30am Mass
Friday 9am Rosary
Friday 9.30am Mass
followed by prayers of adoration

Nazareth Church

Sunday 10.30am Rosary
Sunday 11am Mass
Thursday 9.30am

CONFESSION

St Christophers Church

Saturday 5.30pm–6pm

Nazareth Church

Sunday 10.30am–11am

St Therese Church

Sunday 4.30 pm–5pm

HOME VISITS

If there are any parishioners who are sick or housebound and would like to receive communion or a home visit please make contact with the parish office: 9412 8444



Synodality and joy

When people are invited to participate meaningfully, joy increases. A synodal Church is not weighed down by bureaucracy but energised by shared mission.



Repaid a thousandfold: Fr Brian Glasheen on the people who formed him

It is not uncommon to hear a priest say he has not retired, even after reaching the retirement age of 75. They are often to be found at churches around the Archdiocese or in chaplaincies, playing a vital role. Fr Brian Glasheen is one such priest.

He officially retired in 2017 but is still busy officiating at weddings and funerals, and is often the 'supply priest' on a Sunday. 'I do Villa Maria Catholic Homes Bundoora once a month. The Sundays I'm not on supply ... I usually join a priest somewhere. There are people still coming to me for counselling and all sorts of things,' he says.

'I may be officially retired, but I'm still living my priesthood and serving the people, doing my best to serve the Lord.'

All retired priests receive support from the Priests Retirement Foundation, which is a major beneficiary of the annual [Archbishop's Campaign](#) fundraiser. The campaign's theme this year is 'Courage! ... Do not be afraid' (Matthew 14:27), words that Jesus spoke to Peter when he called his apostle out onto the water.

Fr Brian grew up in post-WWII Melbourne in Preston. His family had a corner shop that sold lollies, groceries, school supplies and tobacco. They lived behind it, later moving a few doors down to the house he lives in today.

His father was heavily involved in harness racing, also known as trotting or 'the trots'. 'His father was an all-time great, was known [the] length and breadth of Australia and New Zealand, and Dad and his two brothers were trotting trainers and drivers, and they were well known too,' Fr Brian says.

The Young Christian Workers (YCW) was a big part of his teenage years, after he joined the Preston chapter. 'I was a handy footballer, and they wanted me, so I got sucked into the football team.' From there, he was put into the leaders' group and became secretary then president of Preston YCW, and later a regional organiser. He credits the group with some of his early faith formation, which eventually led to the priesthood.

To continue reading the article as published on the Archdiocese of Melbourne website click here: <https://melbournecatholic.org/news/repaid-a-thousandfold-fr-brian-glasheen-on-the-people-who-formed-him>



REACH Vietnam Kon Tum Appeal - This Weekend

This weekend we invite you to support our annual REACH Vietnam Kon Tum Appeal. In the coming week, we will transfer \$22,000 to Sr Nhung to support the boarding girls as they prepare for the new school year, which begins in September. In recognition of the increasing cost of living, it has been agreed to increase this year's contribution from \$18,000 to \$22,000.

Your generosity helps provide the girls with nutritious food, essential supplies and the support they need while attending school, giving them the opportunity to continue their education in a safe and caring environment.

You can contribute by using the QR code (select the *Reach Vietnam 2026* option), via BSB: 083 347

Account: 9470 66440, or by giving to the special collection at Masses this weekend.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support.



Welcome to our Enrolment Mass

This weekend we warmly welcome the families who are joining us for their child's Rite of Enrolment Mass as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in the coming weeks. This is a significant step in their journey of faith, and we hold them in our prayers as they continue to grow in the gifts of the Holy Spirit. May this time of preparation be one of grace, learning, and deepening relationship with God for all involved.

Faith and Light Geelong

Christian community for people with a disability, and Friends. All welcome next Tuesday July 28th for our Gathering at St. Marys Hibernian Hall, 1.30 to 4.30pm. Shared news, Gospel, prayer, music, fun, Afternoon tea. RSVP essential by 27th. Tricia 0414 672 267

First Reading:

1 Kings 3:5.7-12

Responsorial

Psalm:

Lord, I love your commands.

Second Reading:

Romans 8:28-30

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 13:44-52



Daily Readings

PRAYING FOR THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY

Recent deaths:

Anniversaries who are at this

time: Lil McMahon, Marie McMahon

PRAYING FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK IN OUR COMMUNITY

Our thoughts are with those who are unwell at this time.

Please submit a consent form to have a loved one prayed for.



Parish Presbytery

For any urgent pastoral need outside of office hours please call the presbytery on 9412 8443

Office Hours

Our hours are: **Tuesday - Friday, 9am - 3pm. Closed Public Holidays**

Outside of these hours, please leave a message and one of the staff will contact you when they are next in the office.

Bulletin Notices

Please submit them by Thursday mornings.

Sign up to receive the weekly bulletin via email by visiting our website damascusparish.com.au

Receive the Parish Bulletin by Email

Would you like to receive the parish bulletin electronically each week? Stay up to date with parish news, upcoming events and important notices by subscribing to our weekly digital bulletin.



Catholic Theological College will open its doors to the public as part of the 2026 Open House Melbourne Weekend

Date: Saturday, 25 July 2026
Location: Catholic Theological College, 278 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne
Time: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm






SJFNC

CARMODY ROUND LUNCH

Saturday 15 August | 12noon - 2.10pm
@ The Joeys Clubrooms

Drink on arrival | Lunch by 63degrees Tables of up to 10 available

MC Nick Maxwell, Former Collingwood Captain

Special Guests
TBC

Tickets \$40



Ticket price includes a donation to The Michael Carmody Foundation