

Damascus Parish Bulletin

27th September 2026
26th 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 is not uniformity

Different cultures, communities, and parishes will live synodality in different ways. Unity does not require sameness.



Dear Parishioners,

The last Saturday in September is upon us. Grand final week always produces a buzz around Melbourne and I love it. The preliminary finals were unbelievable spectacles and I'm hoping the last game of the season is more of the same. A few people got into me about my tips for last weekend. In fairness, I wasn't far off. At 3 qtr time of the Swans game and half way through the last quarter of the match at the MCG I thought I was a genius going with the underdogs. But not to be. When it comes to football tipping, feel free to never take my advice!

What was far more successful was our working bee last Saturday. A great number of helpers turned up with trailers and tools and we tidied up the back section of the church beautifully. A huge thank you to all who turned up and contributed so generously. A marvellous effort.

As you may know, the work done on Saturday is to make way for a memorial garden and columbarium. The setting will provide a beautiful space to pray both for us parishioners and our visitors. It also grants the opportunity for people to be laid to rest alongside the house of God and be prayed for especially and often. I'm sure it will be a wonderful addition to our community. Add to that the plans well underway for the resurfacing and improvement of the car park at St Therese, the restoring and improvements made at St Christopher's and Nazareth churches in recent weeks and there is a lot to be excited about for the future of our parish. God bless those who have contributed so generously financially and with their time and expertise to make these projects a reality.

Faithfully in Christ,

Fr Joel.

PS. My tip for this weekend - aka the kiss of death - is for Brisbane to win by 8 goals.

St Therese Feast Day Mass

On Thursday, 1 October, we will come together as a parish community to celebrate the Feast Day of St Therese of Lisieux with Mass at St Therese Church at 7:00pm.

All parishioners are warmly invited to join us as we gather in prayer and thanksgiving to celebrate our patron saint and this special occasion.

Acacia Passionist Family Group Grovedale

Our next outing has been changed and will now be a luncheon at The Sphinx, 2 Thompsons Road, North Geelong, on Thursday 1 October at 12 noon. For catering purposes, please advise Maureen on 0419 117 974 or Jenny/Lynette on 0404 255 041 by Monday 28 September.

Working Bee

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped with our recent working bee. Your time, energy and willingness to lend a hand are greatly appreciated.

Faith and Light Geelong

Christian community for people with a disability, family and friends. All welcome to our next monthly Meeting. Prayer, Music, Sharing time.

Creation Theme: Water is life.

Venue: St Mary's Hibernian Hall, 150 Yarra Street, Geelong.

Tuesday September 29th. Start: Gather @ 1.30 for 2pm. Shared Fiesta

Afternoon Tea, Birthdays: Close 4.30 pm.

RSVP /Enquiries by 28/9 to Tricia O'Keeffe 0414672267

Christian Meditation Group

Interested in exploring Christian Meditation? A new four-week Christian Meditation group is commencing at St Mary's Parish, Geelong. The sessions will provide an opportunity to learn about and practise Christian Meditation in a welcoming setting.

Sessions commence Wednesday 23 September at 6.00pm in the Pioneer Room, 150 Yarra Street, Geelong. There is no cost.

Damascus Parishioners are warmly invited to attend. To reserve a place, please contact the St Mary's Parish Office on 03 5222 1977.

Real Caring - Supporting You to Age Well

Real Caring is a locally owned and operated provider of tailored, in-home care services for older people across the Geelong, Bellarine, Surf Coast and Golden Plains regions. Their compassionate approach is designed to support safety, independence, dignity and quality of life, helping older people remain living comfortably in their own homes and connected with their community. For more information or to enquire about support, visit realcaring.com.au

First Reading:

Ezekiel 18: 25-28

Responsorial

Psalm:

Remember your mercies, O Lord

Second Reading:

Philippians 2:1-11

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 21: 28-32



Daily Readings

PRAYING FOR THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY

Recent deaths:

Anniversaries who are at this time: *Hec Dickie*

PRAYING FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK IN OUR COMMUNITY

Fr Kerry Cronan, Ian Dunne

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

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF St Therese School

You're Invited

We are excited to invite all current and past families and staff to join us at this celebration.

We hope you can join us as we celebrate 40 years of St Therese Primary School.

celebrate40@sttorquay.catholic.edu.au

Honouring the past. Celebrating the future.

FRIDAY 16 OCTOBER 2026
PAST & CURRENT FAMILIES AND STAFF

9.30 AM
MASS

11.15 AM - 12.50 PM
OPEN DAY

2.15 PM
ASSEMBLY IN THE HALL

Join us for Mass in the school hall. All are welcome.

Visit classrooms and explore our school. A wonderful opportunity to reconnect, look back and see what's new!

In the afternoon, join us for an assembly in the hall featuring guest speakers and student presentations.

Morning tea will be supplied on the day.

SATURDAY 17 OCTOBER 2026
OFFSITE CELEBRATION FOR ADULTS

7.00 PM
TORQUAY BOWLS CLUB

We invite you to join us for an evening of celebration, connection and memories.

- ♥ Finger food included.
- ♥ There will be a DJ and a band to entertain us.
- ♥ All current and past staff and parents are invited.

Tickets are now available
<https://www.trybooking.com/DOXED>