

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 prevents isolation

When leaders and communities walk together, no one carries the burden alone. Synodality builds shared responsibility.



Dear Parishioners,

A couple of weeks ago I touched on this issue in my sermon, in light of Christ's words to "Render unto Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's". It set the frame for our understanding of the relationship between the church and the state. The Church is not there to officially run civic institutions and form political parties, but guides us in the spiritual and moral life which then informs the way in which participate in society.

With state elections looming, the four dioceses of Melbourne, Ballarat, Sandhurst and Sale have put together a guide for us as Catholics to assist us in deciding who we place our vote for.

Faith in action: An election guide from the CATHOLIC BISHOPS OF VICTORIA.

There is no Catholic political party, nor one required way for Catholics to vote. In making a decision, we may consider the record, policies and guiding values of candidates and political parties. Our faith calls us to support those who seek to govern in ways that advance the common good, protect the vulnerable and build a just society in which all people can truly flourish.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

Respect for God's creation, including respect for the dignity and worth of every human being, stands at the heart of our Catholic faith. Every person is uniquely created in the image of God and is loved by God.

As members of one human family, we are bound to one another in mutual responsibility and love. We are called to seek not only our own good but the good of others and of society as a whole. Catholic Social Teaching offers four key principles to guide our discernment of the choices before us: human dignity, the common good, subsidiarity and solidarity.

As we discern between the policies of political parties and candidates to assist us in informing our vote, we might ask:

- How do they uphold the human dignity of every person?
- How do they promote and advance the common good?
- How do they support subsidiarity, enabling communities and local institutions to participate in decisions that affect them?
- How do they foster solidarity, especially with those who are vulnerable, disadvantaged or excluded?

In Christ,

Fr Joel.

Parish news

Massive Charity Sale - Anglesea

Come along to the Massive Charity Sale at St Christopher's Church Hall, Anglesea, with all proceeds going to the Barwon Health Cancer Centre. There will be plenty of bargains to discover, including books, bric-a-brac, kitchenware, homewares, records, children's toys and games, new Christmas decorations and much more! There's something for everyone, so come along, browse the treasures and make a reasonable offer.

Sale Dates and Times:

Saturday 31 October - 8.30am-4.00pm

Sunday 1 & Monday 2 November - 8.30am-4.00pm

Tuesday 3 November - 10.00am-4.00pm

Where: St Christopher's Church Hall, 74 Bingley Parade, Anglesea.

Cash and EFTPOS accepted. Come along, grab a bargain and support a great cause!

Acacia Passionist Family Group Grovedale

Melbourne Cup day luncheon is at Pam & Terry Fletcher's.

50 Meadowvale Dr Grovedale. A finger food lunch will be provided at a cost of \$5. Bring your own drinks and pocket money for the Sweep. Looking forward to seeing you in your finery. (hats, etc).

Starting at 11:30am Tuesday 3rd November, for catering purposes please ring Pam on 0409380785 by 1st November.

Geelong Catholic Diners Club

You are warmly invited to join us for a social get-together for food and friends for our dinner for November.

Date: Tuesday November 10, 2026

Time: 6.00 PM

Venue: Great Western Hotel

Corner Aberdeen St & Shannon Ave, Newtown

Cost: Purchase of meals and drinks at your own cost.

If you do wish to come to the dinner, please phone or text

Joan 0429215111 or Michael 0431959584 by Friday November 6.

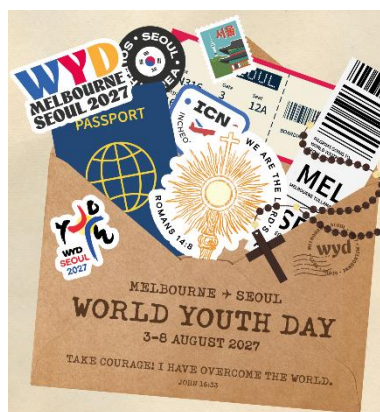
We need to know numbers for our booking.

Thankyou, Joan & Michael Belleville

World Youth Day Seoul 2027

Information Sessions World Youth Day 2027 will take place in Seoul, South Korea from August 3 to August 8 2027. We invite you an information sessions where we will unpack the three pilgrimage options (direct to Seoul, via Incheon, or via Japan) along with costs, what to expect, past pilgrim stories and an opportunity to ask questions. Wednesday 4 November 2026 7pm - 9pm St Christopher's Church in Syndal. Register your interest or for more information head to:

<https://youth.melbournecatholic.org/wyd27>



St Therese Church usually has a few pyx available in the sacristy for the purpose to carry the consecrated Eucharist following the Mass to visit a the sick, elderly or homebound members who cannot attend. If you have borrowed one of our pyx please ensure it is returned. If there is anybody who might have one that they no longer require and would like to donate please drop it into the office.

Important Parish Dates

Monday 2nd November - 9.30am Mass at St Therese Church for All Souls Day

Friday 6th November - No 9.30am Mass at St Therese Church

First Reading:

Revelation 7:2-4. 9-14

Responsorial

Psalm:

Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

Second Reading:

1 John 3:1-3

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12



Daily Readings

PRAYING FOR THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY

Recent deaths: Rosa Cotruzzola
Anniversaries who are at this time:

PRAYING FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK IN OUR COMMUNITY

Fr Kerry Cronan, Ian Dunne, Luke Strain, Rosemary Kelleher (Fr Kerry's sister)

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.