**Immaculate Heart of Mary Church**

441 Bluff Road, East Hampton. VIC 3188 Australia

Parish Priest: Fr. Vittorio Ricciardi

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**SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.**

**We consider the safety and wellbeing of all persons to be our highest priority.**

We too acknowledge that children, young people and adults at risk may require additional safeguards to promote their participation, wellbeing and safety.

Clergy, employees and volunteers are committed to upholding the right to safety of all persons. They must participate in creating a culture of safety supported by policies, practices and procedures that strive to prevent abuse in the first instance and to respond appropriately and effectively if abuse does occur. We respect the human dignity of each person and strive to create an inclusive and welcoming Church that enables its people to grow and develop in their faith freely and in a caring and supportive environment.

**Mass Times**

**Sunday:** 9.00 am and 10.30 am

**Saturday:** 6.00 pm & 8.00 pm **(Vigil)**

**Daily Mass:** 9.00 am **(Mon – Fri)**

**First Friday:** 9.00 am **(Mass & Anointing of the Sick)**

**Reconciliation:** 10.30 am – 11.00am **(Sat or on request)**

**Rosary:** Mon-Fri after 9.00 am Mass

**Benediction and Rosary:** Fri after 9.00 am Mass till 10.45am

**Neocatechumenal Way:** Tues, Wed & Thurs 8 pm, and Saturday 8 pm

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| **4th Sun of Lent 27/03/22** | **6.00 pm Mass** | **9.00 am Mass**  | **10.30 am Mass**  |
| **Lector** | Angelina Robinson | It will be nominated | It will be nominated |
| **Music ministry**  | Volunteers  | Mary Rose | Marylou James |
| **Minister of Communion** | Fr Vittoriosomeone will be nominated | Fr Vittoriosomeone will be nominated | Fr VittorioSomeone will be nominated |
| **Offertory Procession** | Volunteers  | Volunteers  | Volunteers |
| **5th Sun of Lent 3/04/22** | **6.00 pm Mass**  | **9.00 am Mass**  | **10.30 am Mass**  |
| **Lector** | Angelina Robinson | Rick Thomas | Chanelle Lobo |
| **Music ministry**  | Volunteers | Mary Rose | Marylou James |
| **Minister of Communion** | Fr Stephensomeone will be nominated | Fr Stephensomeone will be nominated | Fr StephenSomeone will be nominated |
| **Offertory Procession** | Volunteers | Volunteers  | Volunteers |

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK**

Angelo Molino; Chiara Mazzeo; Christian James; Filippo and Sara, Sophia, Daniel Rivalland, Georgette Kheir, Christine Banerjee, Ettore Poletta, Francesco Paolo Ricciardi; Millie D’Alton, Claire Posten, James Morrison, Catalina Morrison, Rosa Maria Santos, Ben, Mary Muscat, Patrick Lakagreagrow, Brian Tierney, Carmel Kanci, Jo Arena, Pam Montgomery, Helen Mille; Jason Denis;; Rosa Nistico, Margaret Denis; Arthur Astarlis, , Lourenca Fernandes, Prithie Pereira, Madison Kelly, Pat Flarve.

**SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED**

**Anthony Devola,** **Doreen New, Norma Moloney,** Mary Westhead**,** Conrad Lobo; Benedict Banerjee; Marie Perez; Fr James Early; Michael Wiscki, John allan & Marcia Barry; Lynette Maher; Giovanni Lentini; John McLean**;**: Mickey Mascarenhas**;** Vincent & Tina Giglio; Louisette Harris; Nelson Trapani; Jim Walsh; Miriam Proctor; Elva Ebdon, John Rivalland, Marie Rivalland, Douglas Gonsalves, Charlotte Godfrey, Linda D’Souza; Felix Lobo, Margaret Herbstreit; Trevor Anthony Fernandez, Pauline Burke, Sandra Highland, Rudolph D’Souza, Michelle Fowler, Sam Molino, Margherita M. La Macchia, Joan Elliot, Archimede Camba, Denzel D’Souza, Melissa D’Souza John Noal, Lorraine Thompson, Peg Smith, Gladys DeRosario, Molly Wintle, Florencio David Sr, Kathy Taranto, Maureen Collins, John Palamara, May Ray, Milan Lozo, Albert & Hillary D’Souza; Shannon Baker; Margaret Dowsey, Janine Capiron; George Tickner; Jack Foley; Sheila McKenna; Peter Dunne; Tony Molloy; Dulcie Jopling; Gerard Bourke, Alfred Foster, Joan Mealing; Judith Buckley; Genevieve Rodrigues Jean Allday; Gloria James; Earnie Breznik; Margaret Daveron; Patrick & Maurice Kelly; Edward Majda; Elizabeth Mary McKay; John H. Moloney; +Fr. Frank Maher; +Fr. Victor Crennan.

**Thanksgiving Collection Weekend: 20/3/2022 – to be counted**

**Loose Money: 20/3/2021 – to be counted**

**My dear Parishioner, once again, thank you for your generosity.**

**Mon: 28th March St. TutiloEnda**

**March is the month of**

**St Joseph**

**Tue: 29th March St. Gladys**

**Wed: 30th March St. Fergus**

**Thu: 31st March St. Benjamin**

**Pray the Rosary Daily**

**Fri: 1st April St. Ludovic Pavoni**

**Sat: 2nd April St. Francis of Paola**

**OUR LENT PREPARATION CONTINUES WITH PRAYER AND FASTING**

****Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. Fasting is obligatory from age 18 until age 59. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members from age 14.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS WILL BE HELD DURING THE SEASON OF LENT EVERY FRIDAY AT 7.00PM IN THE CHURCH**

As a preparatory time for Lent, the brothers and sisters of the Neocatechumenal Way in our Parish will be praying **the Morning Prayer of the Church every morning from Monday to Friday at 6.00 am in our Church.** This communitarian prayer is extended to all the parishioners of Immaculate Heart of Mary.

**PROJECT COMPASSION**

From her life as a child soldier in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rosalie is a now a business owner, a community leader and a role model for other ex-combatants seeking to readjust to civilian life.

**Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 to help young people succeed in the future and bring stability to vulnerable youth like Janice.**

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting lent.caritas.org.au, or by calling 1800 024 413.

**PROFESSION OF FAITH OF FR VITTORIO IN ITALY**

Dear parishioners,

It is my turn to profess my faith in my parish back home: I will give reason of my belief before many people. The same will be for my brother, my father, and my mother.

God has a language which we can learn. At Evening Prayer, in my church back home the Church will invite us to celebrate singing the Psalms and listening to the Word of God. And there is more because we know that God speaks in the events of our lives: we can hear something as old as the Church herself which is the solemn Profession of Faith. We know this was done in the time of St Paul and today it is equally important for Christians to be witnesses. Together with my brothers and sisters of my community back home, we can say “I believe” because we have facts in our lives: the bare bones of the Creed have taken on flesh! Or in other words, God has acted in our history. We are witnesses that IN OUR LIVES the Creed has proved to be true: Jesus Christ is risen and reveals the living God to us, truly bringing to life those who were dead!

So at this stage, I will stay in Italy only for two weeks, **from the 29th of March to the 12th of April.**

Fr Stephen Hamilton (ph. 0407 201 474) will celebrate all weekend Masses and weekday Masses, Station of the Cross. He will celebrate also **Palms Sunday on Saturday 9 April at 6.00 pm, and on Sunday 10 April at 8.30 am. Fr Crispin will celebrate Palm Sunday on Sunday 10 April at 10.30 am, with procession at 10.00 am.**

 **FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT - A REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL – Luke 15:1-3.11-32**

Our familiarity with today's parable risks dulling us to its tremendously powerful message. We call this the parable of the lost son or the prodigal son. Any focus on the younger son, however, must also be balanced by an examination of the unusual behavior of the father.

First we must imagine our first response to the audacity of a son who asks for his inheritance before his father has died. Indignation would certainly be a justifiable response to such a request. Yet the father in this parable agrees to honor the son's request and divides his property among his two sons. How might we describe such a father? Foolish comes to mind, but so does trusting. Without property of his own, the father must rely upon his sons to provide for his well-being.

The younger son takes his inheritance and leaves home. The older son remains, continuing to provide for the father and the household. Having been disgraced by the younger son, the father spends some time watching the road for the return of the lost son. When he eventually sees his wayward son returning, the father not only welcomes him but also runs out to greet him and then honors him with a party. We say that this father is loving and forgiving. Yet these adjectives only begin to describe the depth of love and mercy that characterize the father.

We find no surprise in the anger of the older son. Yet the father appears sad and even confused by the older son's indignation. He says in reply that they should celebrate because the lost son had returned. The father is filled with gratitude and love for the older son's faithfulness. This love is in no way diminished by the father's rejoicing at the return of the younger son. Yet the older son's jealousy reveals his limited understanding of the depth of his father's love.

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is traditionally called Laetare Sunday. Laetare is a Latin word that means “rejoice.” Today's Gospel describes the reason for our joy: God's great love for us has been revealed in Jesus. Through his Passion, Death, and Resurrection, Christ has reconciled us with God and one another.