



# St Mary of the Cross Catholic Parish

EMBODYING CHRIST'S LOVE

## Parish Vision Statement:

*We are a faith community who gather to praise and worship God.  
We express Christ's presence among us by reaching out to those in need  
with Christ's message of love and forgiveness and the promise of justice and hope for all.*

## 6th Ordinary Sunday – 14th February 2021

Our readings are: : LEVITICUS 13: 1-2, 44-46; 1 CORINTHIANS 10:31 -11: 1; MARK 1: 40-45

### PARISH CHURCHES:

**St Brigid's,**  
520 Main St, Mordialloc  
& **St Louis de Montfort's,**  
37 Dolphin St, Aspendale

### PARISH PRIEST:

**Fr Andrew Jekot**

### PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:

**Bernadette Carr**

### PARISH SECRETARIES:

**Susan Dornom**

*Monday, Thursday & Friday*

**Ann Fitzgerald**

*Tuesday & Wednesday*

### PARISH HOUSE:

**9412 8432**

### PARISH OFFICE:

**9580 7981**

*Parish Office Hours:*

*Monday-Friday*

*9am-4.30pm*

### PARISH EMAIL:

**[mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au](mailto:mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au)**

### PARISH WEBSITE:

**[www.cam.org.au/mordiallocaspendale](http://www.cam.org.au/mordiallocaspendale)**



### Gospel Reflection:

Leprosy was a general term that covered a wide variety of chronic skin diseases. It caused skin to break thus exuding bodily fluids. The issue here is bodily boundaries, not hygiene. Those with skin ailments were deemed unclean, were banished from the community, and were required to keep their distance from others, for anyone who had direct contact with someone or something unclean was considered unclean. Note that any disfiguring skin disease or rash was called leprosy.

You can hear the desperation of the leper in need of Jesus' healing touch when he pleads, 'If you want to, you can cure me.' But deep down he wonders who would want to have anything to do with a leper. Lepers are outcasts, the disfigured castoffs of a society that only wants perfection. Because social and religious alienation was so severe, it was believed that the condition was brought on by some kind of sin. Such thinking did not prevent Jesus from showing compassion.

Jesus does respond in a way far beyond this man's hopes. He touches him. He doesn't step back and cure from a distance with words, but actually reaches out and places his hand on this wretched human body. In this touch more than physical healing is accomplished. He is no longer alienated but has been joined by another.

This encounter impacts also on Jesus. He now becomes the outcast as he is forced to stay outside the towns in places where no-one lives. The text doesn't tell us why this is and sometimes it is interpreted as if Jesus is so popular that he is besieged and so stays away from the villages. But it is also possible that the people are afraid of Jesus since he has had physical contact with a leper and so he is now considered diseased, and forced to live where lepers live.

Rather than physical leprosy, today's Gospel causes me to reflect on social and cultural leprosy. I think of those alienated from society today through mental illness, and our own ignorance and fear of such illness. I think of those who want to be part of our Australian community but we put up barriers because they are different – they are non-European, non-Christian, non-profitable. Even the COVID layer has created a social leprosy – no hugging, kissing or even hand shaking is allowed. Would Australia welcome Jesus? I suspect not. He comes from a Middle-Eastern country, has no financial backing or education, and has no essential trade qualification. If he managed to smuggle aboard a leaky boat seeking refugee status due to religious oppression, he would probably end up being processed off-shore or spending years in a detention centre.

In the reading today the leper says, 'If you want to, you can make me clean.' I think of the hundreds seeking asylum in this country saying to us, 'If you want to, you can help me.' But do we want to? How can we call ourselves Christians and not want to?

On a totally different and happier note we wish all members of the St Mary of the Cross a very happy Valentine's Day.

**Wendy Sullivan**



**CORONAVIRUS ADVICE:** In order to help prevent the spread of Corona Virus **ALL MASSES HAVE BEEN CANCELLED** for the next week. Recorded Masses will be available to view online via our Parish website [www.cam.org.au/mordiallocaspendale](http://www.cam.org.au/mordiallocaspendale)

## Parish Events

**Ash Wednesday:** Lent begins this week with Ash Wednesday on **Wed 17<sup>th</sup> February**. There will be no Masses available for people to attend but there will be a recorded Mass available to view from 10am Wednesday.

Go to <https://youtu.be/GogWWkFGeo4>



**Lenten Reflection Groups:** are being held in our Parish on **TUESDAYS at 10am at St Louis'** (starts 16<sup>th</sup> Fe – Shrove Tuesday) on **WEDNESDAYS at 10.30am at St Brigid's** (starts 17<sup>th</sup> Feb – Ash Wednesday)

This year the Lenten Reflection Groups will be using a Lenten Reflection Book created for our own Parish. Copies of this booklet are available on the website or from the Church when Masses resume.

**Start postponed**

**Project Compassion Boxes** are available in the Church foyer once the Church opens again. Please take one & help support the work of Caritas. The' theme this year is: **'Be More – aspire not to have more but to be more'**



**Scripture & Friendship Group:** In light of the Lenten program the Parish is offering for all of Lent, the Scripture and Friendship group will now resume after Easter.

**Farewell for Bernadette Carr:** There will be an Afternoon Tea to farewell Bernadette Carr on **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March from 2pm to 4pm at St Louis' Church**. Bernadette finished in her role as Pastoral Associate on 3<sup>rd</sup> March.



**Welcome to Hoang Dinh:** 'We welcome back **Deacon Hoang Dinh** who will be with us every second weekend as part of his final year pastoral placement. Hoang will be assisting with preaching, baptisms and other liturgies throughout the year leading up to his ordination to the priesthood in September. It is great to have you amongst us again, Hoang.' **Fr. Andrew**

## Special Events:

**Parish Outdoor Mass & Picnic** scheduled for 28th February at Braeside Park has been cancelled. Masses on 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> Feb will be our usual Mass times.



**World Day of Prayer - Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March:** World Day of Prayer is an annual event when Christians all around the world come together to pray for different countries. This year the featured country is Vanuatu the theme is: **'Build on a Strong Foundation'**. Come along to one of the services in our area and join with our inter faith friends. Excellent guest speakers.

The World Day of Prayer Special Ecumenical Service in Aspendale/Chelsea area at **11am on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March at St Joseph's Church, Station St, Chelsea**. Morning tea to follow service.



The service in the Mentone/Mordialloc area is at **2pm at St Nicholas Anglican Church, 9 Bear St. Mordialloc**. Light refreshments will be served.

**Bibles For Sale:** Do you need a Bible? Our Piety Stalls have multiple copies of second-hand Bibles (in excellent condition – they were School Class sets) for sale for only **\$5 each**.



# Parish Groups:

**CANCELLED**

**St Louis' Tennis Club: Annual Tennis Open Day** on this **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February** is cancelled.

**CANCELLED**



**JAG:** Last week's meeting for our **JAG** (Justice Action Group) was postponed and is now on this **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> Feb** at **7.30pm** and will be now be held via Zoom. All welcome. For more information contact **Sandy 0412 057 177**

**Catechist Program:** The start of our Parish Catechist Program will be delayed for at least a week due to lockdown and will now start on **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb**

This is a Religious Education Program for children not attending Catholic Schools and it helps prepare children for receiving the Sacraments.

It is run by a dedicated group of Parish volunteers and classes are held at St Louis' on Tuesday afternoons 4pm - 5pm. Families with children interested in joining the Catechist program in 2021 are asked to please contact: **Elizabeth 9512 1155** or the **Parish Office 9580 7981**



**Healing Liturgy:** All are welcome to attend a Healing Liturgy on **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March** at **7pm** in **St Brigid's Church, Mordialloc.**

Many in the church have been betrayed by the Church's lack of response to abuse, sexual or otherwise. If you have been or know someone that has been affected by a church representative, then you may wish to attend this liturgy. This will be a time to come together to acknowledge what had happened, to lament and to pray for healing.



## Next Week's Roster:

<b>FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT: 20<sup>th</sup> &amp; 21<sup>st</sup> February 2021:</b> <i>READERS - please see Father before Mass</i>			
Our readings for next week are: <b>GENESIS 9: 8-15; 1 PETER 3: 18-22: 1; MARK 1: 12-15</b>			
<b>6PM MASS</b>	<b>Reader</b> Michael Barker <b>Commentator</b> Carmel Barker <b>Special Minister</b> Marie Medicott <b>Welcomers:</b> Annette Brilliant, Deb Poynton	<b>8AM MASS</b>	<b>Reader</b> Graham Jones <b>Commentator</b> Joan Healy <b>Special Minister</b> Sr Deidre Malone <b>Welcomers:</b> Stefanie Carino, Anthony Antoniou
<b>9.30AM MASS</b>	<b>Reader</b> Martin Newington <b>Commentator</b> Elizabeth Newington <b>Special Minister</b> Mary Nayna <b>Welcomers:</b> Rosemary Miller, Maureen Wraight	<b>11AM MASS</b>	<b>Reader</b> Mary Tai Kie <b>Commentator</b> Dianne Wain <b>Special Minister</b> Sr Reba Woodwiss <b>Welcomers:</b> Christine & Les D'Cruze

**New Roster:** A new roster is being prepared for Readers, Special Ministers, Counters and Welcomers for the next few months. If anyone wishes to be added to or removed from the roster please contact the **Parish Office 9580 7981**

**Special Thanks** to our team of volunteer welcomers who are helping to ensure we are complying with all the current health regulations and keeping our Parish Covid Safe. **Would you like to help out with this important role?**



# **PLEASE NOTE** that all volunteers who do not have a current Working With Children Check will be omitted from this roster. Volunteers should also have read and signed a copy of our Child Safety Code of Conduct. Copies are available at the Church or on our website.

**Child Safeguarding Team:** meets regularly to ensure we are following all the Child Safety guidelines. See the posters on the wall in the Church foyers. If you have any concerns please contact our Child Safeguarding Team



<b>Fr Andrew Jekot 9412 8432</b>	<b>Susan Dornom 0413 979 049</b>	
<b>Trish Angliss 0421 604 849</b>	<b>Louise Breslin 0415 963 799</b>	<b>Judy Dickinson 0407 865 522</b>
<b>Joanne Partleton 0413 133 184</b>	<b>Deb Poynton 0403 471 931</b>	<b>Robyn Worsnop 0412 814 592</b>

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## 6th Ordinary Sunday:

**Recently Deceased:** Tony Martin (Aspendale)  
Claudia Crean (sister of Bonnie Wilkinson)



**Anniversaries:** Eric Dart, Margaret Fitzgerald, Jack Kennedy, Josephine Tranter, Patricia Atkins, Stan Davies, Cyril Nunn, Jean O'Toole, Betty Pike, Dorothy Rodriguez, Catherine Varney, Robert Whitehouse, Jean France Hennequin, Nicola Corda, Elizabeth Durham, Ron Jackson, Nan Plant, Arlene Roberts, Phyllis Cain, Greg Riordan, Brian Tobin, Bob Barker, Kevin Franklin, Carmen Maré, William Monaghan, Antonio Tenace, William Wilson, Ronald Wintle, Mary Graham, Domnick O'Donnell, Marie Berg, Josef Laude, Lily Lebler, Nicole Strickland, Eleanor Burns

**Healing Prayers Asked For:** Helen Pedrazzini, Peter Spencer, Salvatore (Sam) & Lilah Finocchiaro, Brian Smith.

*(If you know of anyone who needs prayers or a pastoral visit please contact the Parish Office.)*

**Baptisms:** The Baptisms scheduled for this Sunday have been postponed.



**Happy Birthday:** to **Edie Aspery** who celebrated her 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday recently and also to **Cath Hewitson** who recently celebrated her 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Congratulations to both of you.

**Valentine's Day:**  
**14<sup>th</sup> February**  
Happy Valentine's Day to everyone.



## Parish Masses:

**MASSES CANCELLED FOR THIS WEEK.**

Due to the state wide 5 day lockdown there will be no Masses this week. Mass will be livestreamed from **St Louis'** at **6pm** on **Saturday** and will be available to be viewed online from any time after this. Go to <https://youtu.be/rrGnl5tGIIdo> or to our website [www.cam.org.au/mordiallocaspendale](http://www.cam.org.au/mordiallocaspendale) or search You Tube for 'Catholic Mass with Fr Andrew'

*Ash Wednesday Mass will also be livestreamed.*

**Child Safety:** Our Parish is committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, and vulnerable people in our community.



We acknowledge the original owners of the land on which we gather and their leaders - past, present and emerging.



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Catholic Parish**  
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### PARISH MASS TIMES:

**WEEKENDS:** *(bookings essential)*

#### Saturday:

**6pm** (vigil) St Louis', Aspendale

#### Sunday:

**8am** - St Brigid's, Mordialloc

**9.30am** - St Louis', Aspendale

**11am** - St Louis', Mordialloc

#### WEEKDAYS:

Monday (Communion *led*)

9.15am - St Louis',

Tuesday 9.15am - St Louis',

Wednesday 10am - St Brigid's,

Thursday 9.15am - St Louis'

Friday 11.30am - St Brigid's

#### RECONCILIATION:

Friday 12noon - St Brigid's,

Saturday 5.30pm - St Louis'

**BAPTISM BOOKINGS  
through Parish Office  
9580 7981**

#### PARISH SCHOOLS:

**St Brigid's School,**

129 Albert St,

Mordialloc

**9580 4518**

[www.sbmord.catholic.edu.au](http://www.sbmord.catholic.edu.au)

**St Louis de Montfort's School,**

37 Dolphin St,

Aspendale

**9580 5169**

[www.stlouisaspendale.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stlouisaspendale.catholic.edu.au)

