



ST CHRISTOPHER'S PARISH

34 Roberts Road, Airport West

Phone: 9338 3793

Email: airportwest@cam.org.au

Website: <http://pol.org.au/airportwest>

Our Churches:

St Christopher's Church

34 Roberts Road, Airport West

St Augustine's Church

100 Harrick Road, Keilor Park

Parish Priest:

Fr Peter Hoang

Email: airportwest@cam.org.au

Parish Secretary:

Emilia Balkan

(Tuesday – Friday)

Primary Schools

St Christopher's Primary School

34 Roberts Road, Airport West

Principal: Adrian Glasby

Phone: 9338 3591

St Augustine's Primary School

Augustine's Way, Keilor

Principal: Catherine Steere

Phone: 9336 4294

May our
children flourish

ENSURING THE SAFETY AND WELLBEING OF CHILDREN IN OUR CARE

St Christopher's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.



Fourth Sunday of Advent Year A

17 / 18 December 2022

WORSHIP TIMETABLE

St Christopher's Church

MONDAY

Holy Rosary 9.00am
Communion Service 9.30am
Italian Charismatic Prayer Group *(after Mass)*

TUESDAY

Holy Rosary 9.00am
Mass 9.30am
Italian Rosary *(after Mass)*

WEDNESDAY

Holy Rosary 9.00am
Mass 9.30am

THURSDAY

Holy Rosary 9.00am
Mass 9.30am

FRIDAY

Holy Rosary 9.00am
Mass 9.30am

SATURDAY

Mass 5.00pm

SUNDAY

Mass *(Italian)* 8.30am
Mass *(English)* 10.30am

St Augustine's Church

SUNDAY

Mass 9.00am

Baptisms *(bookings only)*

- Every second, third and fourth Saturday at 11.00am at St Christopher's Church
- Every second and fourth Sunday at St Christopher's Church
- Every third Sunday at St Augustine's Church
- Baptism Welcomes every first Sunday.

Parish Sacramental Program

For school aged children attending a non - catholic school. Please contact the Parish Office for further information.

Weddings *(at least 6 months in advance)*

Please contact parish office.

Reconciliations

Every Friday after 9.30am Mass.

Anointing of the sick

As requested.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:



All anniversaries that occur at this time, especially:

Philip Demaria, Rosa Cummaudo, Nicola Anna Crivelli, Michele Mollica, Umberto Mollica, Elisa Sementilli, Giuseppe Monterleone, Leo Demaria, Maria Antonia Rullo

FIRST READING

Isaiah 7:10-14

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No,' Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.'

Then Isaiah said:

'Listen now, House of David: are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men without trying the patience of my God, too?

The Lord himself, therefore, will give you a sign.

It is this: the maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call Immanuel, a name which means "God-is-with-us."

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response:

Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.

It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm. **R.**

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?

Who shall stand in his holy place?

The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things. **R.**

He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.

Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob. **R.**



SECOND READING

Romans 1:1-7

A Reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures.

This news is about the Son of God who, according to the human nature he took was a descendant of

David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

A virgin will give birth to a son;

His name will be Emmanuel: God is with us.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 1:18-24

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph; being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son
and they will call him Emmanuel,

a name which means 'God-is-with-us.' When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

The Gospel of the Lord.





**Prayers of the
Faithful Response:**
Lord, hear our prayer!

Exploring the Word

In Palestine, the betrothal period was akin to our period of engagement but was somewhat more binding. The couple are considered married but have not yet come to live together. An indiscretion of the nature described by Matthew requires a formal divorce and thus public knowledge. Joseph seeks to spare Mary this public disgrace, but God intercedes and alerts Joseph to the real identity of this child, which is in her 'by the Holy Spirit'. For Matthew, this is the most important point of his infancy narrative. The child Jesus is the fulfillment of the ancient prophecy that the maiden will conceive 'God-with-us'. God has freely chosen to come among people. The second important point in this text is Joseph's response. The anguish and turmoil he must have felt is overcome by his trust in God's ways, and he obeys. He simply 'did what the angel told him to do'. Through his trust and acceptance of God's will, human history will never be the same because 'God-is-with-us'.

- You could tell something of the story of King Ahaz (featured in the first reading) and his disregard of God's commands and compare this with the response of Joseph.
- What does this convey of the nature of faith?



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

Christmas Appeal 2022

This year's Christmas Appeal is being held in the parish churches on this weekend of 17/18 December 2022. The money raised will be used to purchase Woolworths Grocery Gift Cards to give to the many families in our local community who needed assistance during 2022.

It was not surprising that the number of requests for help from the St Vincent de Paul Society increased considerably this year due to the financial difficulties being experienced by so many people. Your donation to support us to make their Christmas a happier one would be very much appreciated.



Columban Art Calendars 2023
On sale now.
\$10 each



Your assistance needed!

We require someone to operate the overhead powerpoint for our 9.30pm Christmas Eve Mass and 10.30am Christmas Morning Mass. If you are attending either of these masses and can assist please contact the parish office. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated.

That Catholic Shop

Christmas orders from Aid to the Church in Need's online store – That Catholic Shop – can still be made all the way up to 19 December! Choose from our broad range of religious gifts and receive free shipping for orders over \$100. Peruse our Christmas range at www.thatcatholicshop.com



Aid to the
Church in Need

ACN AUSTRALIA

Announcing the Damascus Spiritual Leaders Program!

Part-time in Feb-Nov 2023 - either in person or online - through Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation. This program is designed for people in various positions of leadership, spiritual formation and parish or outreach ministries. It will equip individuals to lead with integrity, vulnerability and resilience, and will focus on the inner spiritual journey in order to create fully-formed leaders who listen, learn and accompany others with strength and sensitivity. 'Damascus' can be studied as a Graduate Certificate in Divinity through the University of Divinity (Yarra Theological Union/Catholic Theological College), or as an audit student to receive a Certificate in Spiritual Leadership from Heart of Life. Attendance on Monday mornings and some Saturdays. Read more about the program on the Heart of Life website or contact us on (03) 9890 1101. Applications close on 6/1/23.

Please support these Australian owned businesses that support our Parish



Steve Demos

info@fastactioncleaning.com.au

0412 106 316

Cullie Plumbing

John
0478 943 649
john@cullieplumbing.com.au

License Number: 45531
ABN: 77372349503

Residential & Commercial
Plumbing
Burst pipes
Hot water service repairs and installation
Blocked & broken drains
Storm water repairs
Leaking taps & showers
Gutter & roof repairs & renewals
Underground bursts
Bathroom/Kitchen plumbing services & renovations
All general plumbing

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve

Saturday 24th December 2022

St Christopher's Church:

5.00pm (*Family Mass*)

9.30pm (*Vigil Mass*)

St Augustine's Church:

7.00pm (*Family Mass*)

Christmas Day

Sunday 25th December 2022

St Christopher's Church:

8.30am (*Mass in Italian*)

10.30am (*Mass in English*)

St Augustine's Church:

9.00am



PARISH FINANCES (weekending 11 December 2022)

Thanksgiving: \$418.75
Presbytery: \$380.25

Thank You for your Support!!