



# ST CHRISTOPHER'S PARISH

34 Roberts Road, Airport West

Phone: 9338 3793

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<b>Our Churches:</b>	<b>St Christopher's Church</b> 34 Roberts Road, Airport West	<b>St Augustine's Church</b> 100 Harrick Road, Keilor Park
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<b>Parish Priest:</b> Fr Peter Hoang Email: <a href="mailto:airportwest@cam.org.au">airportwest@cam.org.au</a>	<b>Primary Schools</b> <b>St Christopher's Primary School</b> 34 Roberts Road, Airport West <b>Principal:</b> Adrian Glasby <b>Phone:</b> 9338 3591	<b>St Augustine's Primary School</b> Augustine's Way, Keilor <b>Principal:</b> Catherine Steere <b>Phone:</b> 9336 4294
<b>Parish Secretary:</b> Emilia Balkan (Tuesday – Friday)		

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



## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent (Year B)

23 / 24 December 2023

**Please note:**  
Weekend Masses will be as normal at both St Christopher's & St Augustine's Churches.  
From Tuesday 2 January to Friday 26 January morning weekday Masses will be ONLY on Wednesdays & Fridays.  
Normal weekday Masses will resume on Tuesday 30 January 2024.

**Worship Timetable**

**WEDNESDAY**  
Holy Rosary 9.00am  
Mass 9.30am

**FRIDAY**  
Holy Rosary 9.00am  
Mass 9.30am

**SATURDAY**  
Mass (*Vigil*) 5.00pm

**SUNDAY**  
Mass (*Italian*) 8.30am  
Mass 10.30am  
Mass (*St Augustine's Church*) 9.00am

**Parish Office:**  
Please note our office will be closed from Tuesday 26 December 2023 until Monday 5 February 2024.  
Please contact 9338 3793 to leave a message for urgent matters only and we will contact you as soon as possible.

**Baptisms** (*bookings only*)

- Twice a month on Saturday at 11.00am at St Christopher's Church
- Twice a month on Sunday at St Christopher's Church
- Once a month on 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:**



**Recently deceased:**  
Corrado Malandrino  
(Rosary 27/12/23, 11am / Funeral 27/12/23 11.15am at St Christopher's)

**All anniversaries that occur at this time, especially:**  
Frank & Maria Siciliano

**FIRST READING***2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14,16****A reading from the second book of Samuel.***

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.'

But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan:

'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me; if he does evil, I will punish him with the rod such as men use, with strokes such as mankind gives. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever.'"'

***The word of the Lord.***

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

***Response:***

***For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.***

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;  
through all ages my mouth will proclaim  
your truth.

Of this I am sure,  
that your love lasts for ever,  
that your truth is firmly established  
as the heavens. **R.**

'I have made a covenant  
with my chosen one;  
I have sworn to David my servant:  
I will establish your dynasty for ever  
and set up your throne through all ages.' **R.**

He will say to me: 'You are my father,  
my God, the rock who saves me.'  
I will keep my love for him always;  
for him my covenant shall endure. **R.**

**SECOND READING***Romans 16:25-27****A Reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.***

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

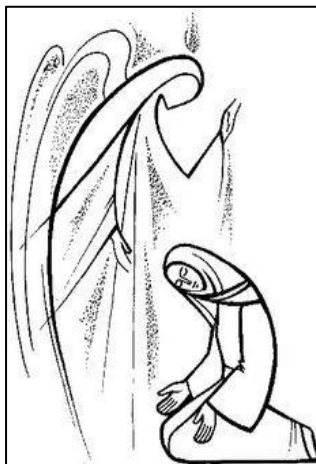
***The word of the Lord.***

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord:  
may his will for me be done.

Alleluia!

**GOSPEL***Luke 1:26-38****A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.***

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words

and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most

High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

***The word of the Lord.***



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



In response to the continued conflict in Ukraine, Archbishop Peter A Comensoli is launching a special Advent appeal, the proceeds of which will go towards providing aid and practical assistance to those who have been displaced and are without basic supplies, especially as winter approaches.

'There are no winners in war, only families torn apart. Sadly, this is the painful reality facing so many at this time,' Archbishop Comensoli reflected.

'I'm inviting the faithful of Melbourne to offer whatever they can at this time. And I pray that, together, we can be a sign of God's nearness to those who need it most.'

Cards and envelopes are available in the church foyer.

### **Christmas Raffle**

We thank Corrina Gaudencio for organising and donating prizes for the St Christopher's Church Christmas Raffle. A total of \$335 was raised for our Church.

Congratulations to our 3 winners, Mary Chiodo Jennings, Maria Itala and Ruffo. If you have not collected your prize please contact the Parish Office.

### **Volunteers needed.**

The Airport West Conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society assists people in need who live within the boundary of St Christopher's Parish. We are fortunate that since the first Conference was established in 1968 there have been enough members to carry out this work.

Unfortunately, this is no longer the case. We desperately need new members to enable us to continue in our work of assisting the most vulnerable people in our community.

If you are interested in obtaining further information on the role of a Conference Member, please call Michael on 0425 775 690.

### **Feast of the Infant Jesus of Prague**

**Sunday 14 January 2024**

**1.40pm–3.40pm**

**Church of the Good Shepherd Parish, 88 South Circular Road, Gladstone Park**

The Good Shepherd Parish Novena group and the Disciples of the Infant Jesus of Prague invite you to the 21st annual feast of the Holy Infant Jesus of Prague at the Church of the Good Shepherd Parish. The celebration will begin with Rosary novena prayers and chaplet at 1:40pm. Holy Mass will start at 2:40pm.

For further information, call Gary or Dalrene on 9335 4742 or 0404 009 326.

### **Order of Malta Lourdes Day Mass**

**Saturday 10 February 2024**

**10.30am–11.30am**

**St Patrick's Cathedral, 1 Cathedral Place, East Melbourne**

The Order of Malta invites you to the annual Lourdes Day Mass to provide an opportunity to pray for the sick and infirm, particularly those who would not otherwise have the possibility of visiting Lourdes.

The Mass will take place at St Patrick's Cathedral, with Archbishop Peter A Comensoli as the principal celebrant.

For further information, please call Sauro Antonelli on 0411 250 288.

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# Christmas Mass Schedule

## Christmas Eve

Sunday 24th December 2023

### St Christopher's Church:

4.30pm (*Carols*)

5.00pm (*Family Mass*)

9.30pm (*Vigil Mass*)

### St Augustine's Church:

7.00pm

## Christmas Day

Monday 25th December 2023

### St Christopher's Church:

8.45am (*Mass in Italian*)

10.30am (*Mass in English*)

### PARISH FINANCES (weekending 17 December 2023)

<u>Thanksgiving:</u>	\$375.00
<u>Presbytery:</u>	\$139.00
<u>Melbourne Overseas Mission</u>	\$565.85
<u>Advent Appeal for Ukraine</u>	\$920.00
<u>St Christopher's Church Christmas Raffle</u>	\$335.00

Thank You for your Support!!