

ST. MARY'S PARISH

LANCEFIELD & ROMSEY

Fourth Sunday of Lent - Year A

19th March, 2023

Lancefield Church
29 Chauncey Street
Lancefield



Romsey Church
85 Main Street
Romsey



NO CURRENT MASS RESTRICTIONS – ALL WELCOME

Ministry Roster	19/03/23	26/03/23	01/04/23	02/04/23
Musician	Christine	Agnes	-----	Christine
Power Point	Margaret	<i>Vol. required</i>	-----	Margaret
Reader	John H	Rosemary D	Betty	Leanne
Collector	<i>Vol required</i>	Joe L	-----	<i>Vol required</i>
Cleaner	Monica	Eva	-----	Loretta
Location	Romsey	Lancefield	Romsey	Romsey

Could those listed on the roster please advise if you are unavailable.

CONTINUING PRAYER LIST:

Please pray also for the following who are in continuing need of our prayers:

Jesse Hogan, Cheryl Horan, Marg Redmond, Rita Shannon, Merle Trembath, Christine Cheney, Isabelle Fleming, Kath Ireland, Noel Doolan, Vittoria Cafari, Val Carr, Gwen DeCarolis, John Alford & Michael Grelis.

EASTER RAFFLE

Easter Raffle tickets now available at Mass

Raffle to be drawn after 9am Mass in Romsey Sunday April 2nd

Tickets \$2 each or 3 for \$5

1st Prize - \$300 cash 2nd Prize - \$100 cash
3rd Prize - Easter gift pack 4th Prize - Easter gift pack

Enquiries: Betty Peacock

Special Collection through Lent - Caritas - Project Compassion

22 February – 8 April

Mite boxes and Collection envelopes are now available in both churches.

PRAYER

We pray for those who live in confusion and doubt. May we try to support positive approaches to even the most difficult problems, such as the partnerships created by Caritas Australia through Project Compassion.

EASTER MASSES

Fr. Arnold will join us to celebrate Easter Masses this year.

Wed March 29th - 7pm - Lenten Reconciliation – Romsey

Wed April 5th – 7:30pm – Lenten Reconciliation – Woodend

Both Lenten Reconciliation Services will be with Fr. Martin

Thur April 6th – 7pm Holy Thursday – Romsey

Frid April 7th – 3pm Passion of the Lord – Romsey

Sat April 8th – 7pm Easter Vigil – Lancefield

Sun April 9th – 9am Easter Sunday Mass – Lancefield

Holy Thursday to Easter Sunday Masses with Fr. Arnold

Parish Priest

Fr Martin Fleming
47 Urquhart Street
PO Box 397
Woodend Vic 3442
Ph: 5427 2690

Parish Secretary

Tammie Dalglish
C/- Presbytery
27 Chauncey Street
Lancefield Vic 3435
Ph: 5429 2130

Parish Email

lancefield@cam.org.au

Parish Website

<http://pol.org.au/lancefield/Home.aspx>

Secretary Hours

Wednesday & Friday
8:00am – 5:00pm

St Mary's Primary School

Principal - Julie McDougall
T: 5429 1359

office@smlancefield.catholic.edu.au

School Website

www.smlancefield.catholic.edu.au

CHILD PROTECTION is **everyone's** responsibility

Safety of Children and All Vulnerable People

We hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and all vulnerable people as a central and fundamental responsibility for our community. The St. Mary's Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy is on display on the church noticeboards or via the parish office.

Diocesan Policies available at
<https://www.melbournecatholic.org>

All children leaving the church during Mass must be accompanied by a parent.

Child Safety Committee

Fr. Martin Fleming
Tammie Dalglish
Michael Mooney
Monica Tomlinson

The Living Word

Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year A

19 March 2023

First Reading 1 Sm 16:1, 6-7, 10-13

In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel.

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 22 R. v.1

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. (R.)
2. He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your
staff;
with these you give me comfort. (R.)
3. You have prepared a banquet for me
In the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
My cup is overflowing. (R.)
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall
follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. (R.)

Second Reading Eph 5:8-14

Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep,
rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 8:12

*Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!*

Gospel Jn 9:1-41

The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.'

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Our Lord, by the power of his word alone, could have healed the disease of this man, blind since birth. Yet, he made a paste with spittle and put it over the eyes of the blind man. Just as God would have moistened the dust of the earth to shape the first human being, for the blind man, it was as though he had been created anew.

God rarely works by telepathy but has a preferred way of working through the elements of creation, especially in the Sacraments. So, with the Anointing of the Sick, pressing olive oil onto the forehead and hands of the sick or dying symbolises the Holy Spirit entering the very pores of the sick person, relieving that person of undue anxiety and giving strength for the next stage of life.

This sacrament is a formal ritual of healing by the Church. But there are a million informal ways, such as putting one's arm around someone who is lonely or unwell, which are sacramental to the world.

We could pause for a moment that we might go into the world like the man healed by Jesus, eyes wide open to see where we might exercise the healing power of the Lord of the Gospel.

mtate@bigpond.com

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MYSTERY OF FAITH

Save us, Saviour of the world,
for by your Cross and Resurrection
you have set us free.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Fr: Let us open our hearts in prayer for all those who seek God's goodness and kindness in their lives.

R: We pray for Pope Francis and all church leaders. May they proclaim fully the light of the Gospel to the world.

We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

R: Jesus Christ, you travelled through towns and villages "curing every disease and illness." At your command, the sick were made well. Come to the aid now, of all those who need your healing love.

We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

R: We pray for the physically blind and those who minister to and work with them. May they be filled with the light of God's love.

We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

R: We pray for the spiritually blind, those people who have closed their hearts to Jesus' word. May their faith be reignited so that they will grow in love for Our Lord.

We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

R: We pray for the sick members of our parish that they may draw closer to Christ. We pray for those who have died recently and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially Wal & Isa Connors. May they be raised with Christ and may his light shine with them forever.

We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

All HAIL MARY

Fr: O God of light, receive our prayers that the darkness within us may give way to the light of your righteousness and truth. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

Amen

Collections last week Presbytery \$259 Thanksgiving \$568
1st collection: Presbytery & Priest 2nd collection: Thanksgiving (envelope)

Readings next week Ezekiel 37:12-14 Romans 8:8-11 John 11:1-45

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Please join us at the Romsey Church each Friday leading into Lent at 3pm.
All welcome

CHRISM MASS - ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

Saturday April 1st, 2023 - 10am to 12noon

Archbishop Peter Comensoli has extended an invitation to all parishioners to attend this years' Chrism Mass.

If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Tam and car pooling may be arranged.

GOOD FRIDAY WALK OF WITNESS / STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Uniting, Anglican and Catholic Churches of Lancefield & Romsey will again be participating in the "Way of the Cross" this year on Good Friday.

The walk will start at 10:30am at the Romsey Uniting Church.

The endeavour is to make the stops accessible to those who may require to be driven around.



WEEKLY MASS TIMES

St. Mary's Parish

Sunday's at 9:00am

19/03/23 – Romsey
26/03/23 – Lancefield
02/04/23 – Romsey
09/04/23 – Lancefield
16/04/23 – Romsey
23/04/23 – Lancefield

HEALING MASS

1st Saturday at 10:00am

01/04/23 – Romsey
06/05/23 – Romsey

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

St. Ambrose Parish - Woodend

Saturday 6:00pm
Sunday 11:00am
Wednesday, Thursday
& Friday 9:30am

Baptism

As arranged with the Parish Secretary usually the 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month

Marriages

Arranged by appointment with Fr. Martin at least 6 months in advance.

Funerals

Contact Fr. Martin directly.

Reconciliation

By appointment only
Please contact Fr. Martin
5427 2690

Thanksgiving

Any parishioner wishing to join the Thanksgiving program is invited to contact Tammie at the parish office to arrange some Thanksgiving envelopes. Thanksgiving contributions by Direct Debit or Credit Card welcome.

Welcome

St. Mary's Parish community warmly welcomes visitors and new parishioners. We invite new parishioners to introduce yourself to Fr. Martin, fill in a census card located in the church foyer and place in either collection or contact Tammie directly at the parish office.

Volunteering Ministries

A current Working with Children Check is required to volunteer within the parish.

Help is always welcome!

Reader of the Word
Church Cleaning
Gardening

POSITIONS VACANT

Applications are invited from suitably qualified & experienced people for the positions of:

Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne

- Retail Shop Assistant – St Patricks Cathedral Shop

Catholic Development Fund

- Finance, Risk & Administration Officer
- Data Analyst
- Senior Data Engineer

Other Positions

Digital Marketing and Fundraising Contractor - Carmel Impact

Maintenance Officer - Corpus Christi

Parish Positions

- Parish Secretary – St Dominic's Parish, Melton
- Parish Secretary – Parishes of Frankston
- Pastoral Worker – St Peter and Paul's Parish, Doncaster East
- Parish Administrative Coordinator - St Patrick's and St Kevin's Parishes, Murrumbeena

Further details of the above positions can be found on the Archdiocese website at: <https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies>

Parishioners are encouraged to forward this information to family or friends they may have living in the areas mentioned.

FITA - A weekend of Prayer - Friday 24 March - Sunday 26 March 2023

Archbishop Peter A Comensoli has invited the Archdiocese of Melbourne to unite for a weekend of prayer from Friday 24 March to Sunday 26 March 2023. Parishes, communities and movements will be hosting hours of prayer across the Archdiocese, meditating on Mary's fiat, her total 'yes'.

You can view the full schedule at bit.ly/fiat-prayer-weekend

If you would like to form a prayer group for St. Mary's Parish please advise Tam and a suitable time can be arranged.

A pivotal moment in the history of salvation occurred when a young woman, Mary, listened to God's call and then gave a free and wholehearted 'yes' to the Lord and his mission, and to his gift of salvation.

We too are assured of new life in Jesus Christ. We are asked to pray and reflect on what Mary's example means for us as individuals, as local communities of grace and as a local Church of Melbourne.

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Director – Tim McCarthy

0403 036 654 or tim@sagegroup.com.au



SACRAMENT PROGRAM 2023

If you have a family member or friend who doesn't attend St. Mary's School but would like to receive a Sacrament this year, please have them contact Tam at lancefield@cam.org for more details.

Eucharist – Yr 4 & above
Confirmation – Yr 6 & above.



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Andrew Baddeley | Podiatrist

ROMSEY | 5429 5254 | 99 Main St

RIDDELLS CREEK | 5428 7591 | 9 Station St

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR MARCH

For Parishes:

We pray for those who have suffered harm from a member of the church, may they find within the church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.