

ST. MARY'S PARISH

LANCEFIELD & ROMSEY

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

17th September, 2023

Lancefield Church
27 Chauncey Street
Lancefield



Romsey Church
85 Main Street
Romsey



EVERYONE WELCOME

Ministry Roster	17/09/23	24/09/23	01/10/23	07/10/23
Musician	Christine	Agnes	Christine	-----
Reader	Anne B	Judith	Betty	Anne B
Collector	Rob	Barry	Rob	-----
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, Rita Shannon, Merle Trembath, Christine Cheney,
Isabelle Fleming, Kath Ireland, Noel Doolan, Vittoria Cafari, Val Carr, Gwen DeCarolis,
John Alford, Rita Tully, Damien Martin, Brendan Coburn & Isla Foy.

St. Mary's Church Romsey will celebrate **100 years** in September 2024!
Centenary of Romsey Church.

Everyone welcome to contribute idea's for the celebration.

Please forward by email to lancefield@cam.org.au

CSSV – SOCIAL SERVICES SUNDAY

Sunday 17 September 2023, marks Social Services Sunday within the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne.

On this day we give thanks to the dedicated work of the thousands of staff and volunteers who serve the poor, disadvantaged and marginalised. We acknowledge with gratitude Catholic Social Service Victoria's 40 member organisations, their 8,000 staff and 17,000 volunteers, who work together to serve and support over 211,000 people.

Catholic social services hold a unique position in social services because they serve and are part of an established, connected community of people sharing in the social mission of the Church.

We thank parishes for often being at the forefront of providing services to members of their community in need. In this challenging time of a cost of living and housing crisis, the Gospel message of love, care and welcome is needed more than ever.

On this day we consider how we all have a role to play. How might we be more involved in achieving justice in our own communities? How can we advocate for structural changes to build a more equitable society where no one is pushed to the margins, and all can prosper?

SECRETARY REDUCED HOURS DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

For the school holiday period I will only be working 12noon to 4pm on Wednesday's and Friday's. It seems the phone answering service is having a minor meltdown so the best way to contact me is via email, thank you.

Parish Priest

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

Parish Secretary

Tammie Dalgleish
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 Dalgleish
Michael Mooney
Monica Tomlinson

The Living Word

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

17 September 2023

First Reading Sir 27:30–28:7

Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner.

He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin.

Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord?

Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins?

Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment;

who will forgive him his sins?

Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments.

Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will;

remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 102:1-4. 9-12. R. v.8

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. (R.)
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. (R.)
3. His wrath will come to an end; he will not be angry for ever. He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults (R.)
4. For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 14:7-9

Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment:

love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 18:21-35

I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times seven.

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.'

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time," he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me", he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said. "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

I don't like the phrase: 'Forgive and forget'. Remembering can be an important part of healing. Forgiving is about giving up the desire 'to get even', making sure that the 'punishment fits the crime'. It is that sort of forgiveness which we dare to ask of God for ourselves. But here's the catch: it is that sort of forgiveness which we must practise towards others.

When we don't, we are like the principal debtor in Jesus' story. In harshly dealing with a minor debtor, he refused to share his king's quality of forgiveness. If we don't pass on this aspect of God's life to others, then we are warned that we will end up in a hellish situation unable to share in the fullness of Divine life.

It is easy to talk 'Big Picture' forgiveness. It is much harder within the family or circle of acquaintances. It seems impossible to simply will it. But we have to ask for the grace to do it.

We could pause for a moment to pray:

'Our Father who art in Heaven . . . forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.'

mtate@bigpond.com

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COLUMBAN PARTNERSHIP FUNDRAISER OCTOBER 8

“Sounds of Freedom” – Reading Theatre Sunbury
Fr Robert McCullough’s recent visit to the region reminded those who heard him preach of his support of St Elizabeth’s Hospital in Hyderabad, Pakistan. The Gisborne Columban Partnership Program are hoping with this fundraiser to contribute towards the cost of the theatre lights in the new orthopaedic ward.

We are invited to join them on **Sunday, 8th October**, for a screening of the movie **"Sound of Freedom"** at Reading Cinemas in Sunbury. Pre-show nibbles and accompanying wine/soft-drink/tea/coffee, all included in the **price of \$25**.

The function room has been booked for a **2.00pm start with the movie to be screened at 3.00pm**.

If interested in purchasing a ticket/s, please contact Marcia (0400 261 979) or Bill (0497 991 226).

Feel free to promote this event with your family/friends.

Thanks for considering and hope you can join us.

Should you wish to attend this event, please let Tam know so car pooling can be arranged if required.

POSITIONS VACANT

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

Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne

- Discipleship Specialist - Marriage and Family Accompaniment – East Melbourne

Parish Positions

- Parish Secretary-Our Lady of Southern Cross Parish, Clifton Hill

Others Positions

- Administration Manager – The Redemptorist Community, Kew
- Expression of Interest (EOI) – Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Victoria (ACMV) Coordinator - Thornbury

Catholic Development Fund

- Product Support, CDF pay – East Melb Kew

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.

Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation – series of contemplation and reflection

Waiting at the Well - 4x Thu, 5, 12, 19 & 26 Oct, 10am–12.30pm (in-person event)

Carole Carmody rsm, Julie Adam

This series offers an opportunity for those waiting to have their thirst quenched at the Well of Life to explore the depths of wisdom in their own heart, to recognise wisdom in the encounter with another, and to dwell in the Heart of Contemplation.

Places limited. Bookings via <https://www.heartoflife.melbourne/events/waiting-at-the-well-series/> or email info@heartoflife.melbourne. Cost \$100 for the series or \$30 per session.



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VIC 3434

find us on facebook
and
instagram

Joel Caspersz
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0425 854 370

joel@measuredjoinery.com.au
admin@measuredjoinery.com.au

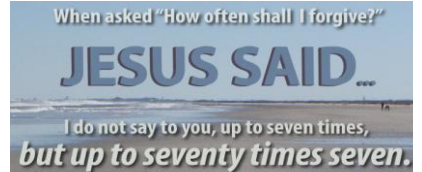
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Director – Tim McCarthy

0403 036 654 or tim@sagegroup.com.au



Easy to understand advice, that works!



PRIEST & PRESBYTERY BY DIRECT DEBIT

Anyone not already contributing to the Priest & Presbytery expenses who would like to contribute may do so by direct debit to the acct below:

**St. Mary's Presbytery Account
NAB**

BSB: 083 347

Acct: 64151 8467

Please use your surname as the reference.

TJ Scott & Son Funeral Directors

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THANKSGIVING BY DIRECT DEBIT

Anyone not already on the Thanksgiving Program who would like to contribute to the Church may do so by direct debit to the acct below:

**St. Mary's Church Account
NAB**

BSB: 083 347

Acct: 64150 3257

Please use your surname and TG number as the reference.

**Do you have foot
problems?**



Andrew Baddeley | Podiatrist

ROMSEY | 5429 5254 | 99 Main St

RIDDELLS CREEK | 5428 7591 | 9 Station St