OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE: YEAR C

The Tidings

20TH NOVEMBER 2022



Celebrating 50 years as a parish 1972-2022



RECENTLY DECEASED: Stella Sayers **ANNIVERSARIES:** 19th - 25th November Cattina Dimech, Virginia Fronda Bonaga, Pearl Grero, Peter Derksen, Rod Gray, Stanley Fernando, Rob Lynch, John & Margaret Pace, Miriam Borg, Roy Riseley, John Mc Glahan, Peg Sullivan, Pasquale Care, Wynn Onell, Petronio Huerto, Rev. Sr Priyani Perera, Dolores S Paguio, Domenica Bulik, Joyce Smith, Dulce Buckingham, Marie Camilleri, Crisostomo Santos, Kevin Hanarahan, Kingsley Gomesez, Carmello Micallef, Tom Mc Guane,

PRAYER FOR THE SICK Jenny Brown, Guy Tomassi

Kingsley Gomesz, Frank

O'Leary, Ida Hilbert, Jiju

Abraham, Geoff Arbuthnott, Tom Field, Betty Baker.

PARISH OF MELTON SERVING THE AREAS OF:

Melton, Melton West, Aintree, Boonie Brook, Harkness, Grangefields, Kurunjang, Plumpton, Rockbank, & Toolern Vale

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Michael Moody
DEACON—Rev Chris Creo

PARISH OFFICE — 10 Unitt St Melton

(if using Google Maps—20-22 Unitt St. Melton)

OFFICE HOURS — Tuesday - Friday 9am-3pm

PARISH SECRTARY: Margaret Cassar

POSTAL ADDRESS — PO BOX 96, Melton, 3337

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SAFEGUARDING CO-ORDINATOR: Liz Coustley Safeguarding Co-ordinator Phone— 0490 885 515

Safeguarding Co-ordinator Email— cso.melton@gmail.com

The Parish Office is not open Weekends or Public Holidays

MASS TIMES

St Catherine of Siena Church
108 Bulmans Road, Melton West

Wednesday | 9.30am Saturday 6pm | Sunday 9am, 11am & 5pm

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE:

Please contact the Parish Office.

St Dominic's Church

Church Street, Melton Thursday| 9.15am

No Friday Mass due to Funeral

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday following 9.15am Mass. Concludes at 10.30am—Includes rosary and prayers for our Parish.

INTRODUCTION

BEARING WITNESS TO THE TRUTH. With a wooden cross for a throne, at a place where thieves were crucified, the King of the Jews meted out a judgement to a common thief: 'this day you will be with me in paradise'. This king can still be found among the criminals and outcasts of our society, in the worst parts of our cities and towns. Worshipping him in the least of our brothers and sisters, we too will experience his compassionate judgement.



NOVEMBER | MASS FOR THE HOLY SOULS

During November we remember the souls of those that have passed away. Envelopes for this season are now available. All the names entered on these envelopes will be remembered in a presentation before Mass on the weekend of 26th/27th November 2022.

MESSAGE FROM FR. MICHAEL

Greeting! Apologies - this reflection will be a little longer than my usual messages!

This weekend we close out our liturgical year and we also close out our current liturgical cycle. Next weekend is our Catholic New Years Day! We once again commence our readings for Year A.

The last time we commenced a new cycle was in 2019/2020 – the year that COVID-19 visited humanity! For those that have forgotten in March 2020 we joined as a community to hear the Gospel reading about the woman at the well. In this reading, Jesus said to the Samaritan woman "if only you knew what God was offering you". The following weekend, here in Melbourne, all places of worship were shut! Our parish motto for that liturgical year (Year A) was 'Be not afraid'. When we introduced the motto in December 2019, we did not realise the significance it was to have on our faith community and the world. This year (Year C) we chose the parish theme of 'HOPE'. While we are always called by God to be people of hope, we are also called by Christ to be people of action, of love, of warmth and of affection. In these post-COVID-19 lockdown times we have seen not only in our communities but in our world, the polarity of LOVE versus DISSONANCE. We see it in the lack of peace in ourselves and the world through war, unrest, and disconnection.

In today's gospel, we are reminded of the final moments of Christ's earthly life. He was nailed to the cross with the inscription 'This is the King of the Jews' above his head on display for all to see. The One that was ridiculed and rejected by those that <u>SHOULD HAVE</u> known who he truly was. Those that knew the signs and wonders to look for to indicate that the Messiah had arrived. Yet these same people willingly closed their eyes and their hearts. In doing so, these leaders refused God's offering of love and mercy on their own behalf as well as for those that relied on their keen judgement and leadership.

During this time in Victoria, we are also in the midst of election season. The Bishops have provided a prayer for the election that can be found on the opposite page. We encourage you all to take this into your prayer life and to pray it regularly as we make our journey to the polls. We make this prayer so that we may elect those that can steward the way on a political front to close the gap between love and dissonance as well as heeding Christ's inspired call to right and just action.

As we would in our 'secular' New Year's Eve and New Year's Day celebrations, we take the time to take stock of what has been and what we envisage we would like to bring into fruition. Let us be open to God, his will and those that he places around us. During this year's Confirmation season, I spoke to the children of the parish about Superheroes. I spoke on how we are called to use our gifts, talents and our superpowers to be heroes in each other's lives. Let us use this imagery as we step forth this Catholic New Year's Eve! I encourage you to bloom where you are planted. To be the change you want to see but most of all remember we can all be someone's superhero in disguise. All you need is to choose to take up your mantle, your cross, just as Christ did.

Let us resolve to start this new liturgical year with the determination to be better, to do better and be the type of person that others want to emulate – not because of what you can take from others but what you can give. May your light be so strong that it diminishes the darkness and become a beacon for those languishing in the dissonance that occurs when we forget the way home. All you need is the love Christ offers – there is no need for ruby slippers and definitely 'no capes' (I have been informed that capes are an Occupational Health & Safety issue).

Wishing you all a Happy Catholic New Year's Eve! - Keep Safe - Fr Michael.

We acknowledge that Catholic Parishes in the Archdiocese of Melbourne are situated on the lands of the five language groups that make up the Kulin Nations, who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge their continued deep spiritual connection and relationship to Country. We pay respects to their Elders past, present & future.



PRAYER FOR THE ELECTION

Heavenly Father,

You are the source of goodness, justice and truth.

We thank you for the many freedoms we enjoy in Australia, including free and fair elections.

We entrust to you the State of Victoria and all who live within it.

We pray for the gift of wisdom ahead of the upcoming election.

Guide us in our deliberations, so we may seek to elect representatives who will work tirelessly to pursue the common good in all things.

We pray for all those standing for election and their families.

May all elected work diligently to build a more just society.

May our local community of Victoria be a place where peace and justice flourish, religious freedom is respected, and all people, especially the most vulnerable are valued, respected and cared for.

And may we each renew our commitment do the same ourselves – following the example of Your Son, Jesus Christ, in all things.

Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us.

Amen.

2023 PROVISIONAL BAPTISM SCHEDULE NOW AVAILABLE

Copies of the 2023 provisional baptism schedule is now available for those wishing to baptise their child in 2023. Please pick up a copy of the timetable from the Foyer.

2022 CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE NOW AVAILABLE

The 2022 Christmas Schedule can be found on the table in the Foyer. The Mass Times are as follows—

COLUMBAN CALENDARS NOW AVAILABLE IN THE PIETY STALL—\$10.00 EACH

The 2023 Columban calendar is now available from the piety stall. Next year's calendar has some amazing special features including a FREE online art guide resource - <u>Visio Divina</u>, a new colour code to highlight Solemnities, Feasts and Memorials and the inclusion of Peace, Ecology and Justice dates.

NO WEEKDAY MASS THIS FRIDAY 25 NOVEMBER AT 9.15AM.

Please note due to the funeral of Stella Sayers, there will be no 9.15am Mass at St Dominic's on Friday 25 November

2022 CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Share the Christmas spirit with those less fortunate...The Knights of the Southern Cross & St Vincent de Paul are collecting Christmas treats for their annual Christmas Hampers. Remember to pick up a ticket and drop off your special purchase in the hampers provided in the foyer of the Church.





The Parish of Melton is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults

