

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS) DAY: YEAR A

# The Tidings

25TH DECEMBER 2022



Celebrating 50 years as a parish 1972-2022

## 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 SECRETARY:** Margaret Cassar

**POSTAL ADDRESS** — PO BOX 96, Melton, 3337

☎: 9743 6515 | ✉: melton@cam.org.au |

🌐: pol.org.au/melton

**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

REFER TO SUMMER TIMETABLE ON PAGE 3

### SACRAMENT OF PENANCE:

Please contact the Parish Office.

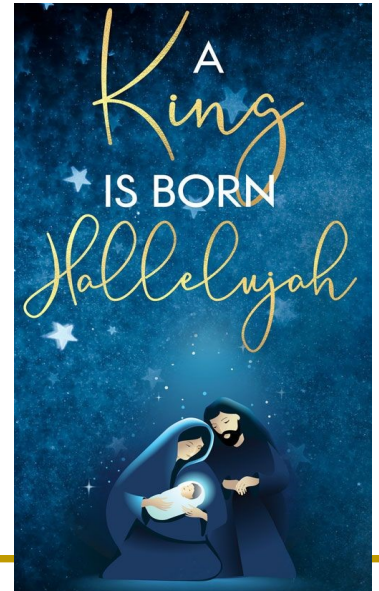
### St Dominic's Church

Church Street, Melton

REFER TO SUMMER TIMETABLE ON PAGE 3

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

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



## MESSAGE FROM FR MICHAEL

A child is born—during this season we celebrate the birth of Christ. The One the prophets spoke about to our ancestors. Each year we reflect on the birth of Christ and the image of him laying in a manger. Our Gospel begins with the words “In the beginning was the Word; the Word was with God and the Word was God.” This reading talks of the word of God that became flesh and dwelt among us, and that we saw his glory. It is easy to be soothed into seeing the image of the Holy family in a tired, cliched way. If we were to put ourselves in this story, how different the image would be. The reason Mary and Joseph were so far away from their family and birth support team was because Caesar Augustus called a census! Mary and Joseph travelled for approximately a week to Joseph’s ancestral home—the city of David, Bethlehem. There was no internet so they could not pre-book accommodation or find an Airbnb. Instead they had to rely on each other and on God. When the couple arrived, there was no room in the inn and they were turned away from any form of decent accommodation. Instead they were offered accommodation in an area that normally housed animals. The smell would not have been pleasant or the surroundings very hygienic. It is a far cry from our modern hospitals. Yet it was there that God chose for His son to be born. The miracle of birth would have been amplified not just because of WHO was being born but HOW He was born. No modern birthing apparatus, no midwife—just a couple experiencing childbirth of their first child in a space that was not designed for human babies to be born in. If something went wrong, who would assist? Their faith would have needed to be huge. While the angels, shepherds, and wisemen came for a visit, they were basically a young couple with a new baby. A baby they knew would fulfil the scriptures. Both Mary and Joseph would have both studied these sacred texts—the birth of THIS child would have been an intimidating task even for the bravest of the brave! No doubt they had the usual first time parent worries but this added pressure would have tested many. While I was born in a taxi outside Kardinia Park, I think this couple had it worse! What so you think?...

Please note that this will be the last issue of The Tidings for 2022. The parish office will be closed from Friday 23 December 2022 and re-open on 3 January 2023. The office will also be closed during the latter part of January—it will be closed from 17 January 2023 and reopen 31 January 2023. We would like to wish you all a safe festive season and a wonderful New year! - Merry Christmas—*Fr. Michael Moody.*

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



First Aid & Defibrillator is located in the Lay-Sacristy.

## THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES SENT OUT

Thanksgiving envelopes that were not picked up from the gathering area have been sent out **via mail**. Please keep an eye on the mailbox for your envelopes.

## LITURGY ROSTER

The new liturgy roster will be sent out in the new year. If you have changed your contact details, please remember to let the parish office know so we can update our system.

## THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to all those that have volunteered during the year in all our ministries. We would not be able to celebrate Mass or function in the way we do without the dedication of those that provide their gifts and talents on a regular basis. Thank you so much & Merry Christmas.

## ARCHBISHOP COMENSOLI'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE 2022

On Christmas eve a link to Archbishop Comensoli's Christmas message 2022 will be placed on our Facebook page [facebook.com/catholicparishmelton]. Be sure to have look and remember to follow us so that you can see our posts in your social media feed.

## CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE

Looking for a new job? Why not look at the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne website for new jobs that may suit your gifts and talents.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies>

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The parish is calling for volunteers. We need people for the following ministries:

- ◆ Baptism Preparations Team (AKA Baptism Angels)
- ◆ Counters

If you are interested any of these ministries be sure to pick up a volunteer pack from the foyer of the church or speak to the Parish Office during the week. A reminder that Working with Children Checks are required for both ministries and a police check will be required for the counters ministry. Do you hear the call???

## 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.

### ANNIVERSARIES:

24<sup>th</sup> December -6<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Laurie Mc Knight, Joan Curtin, Cefferina Porcalla, William Leaupepe, Elina Jazz, Sonila Vague, Bill Winter, Patrick Conway, Rogelio Oropesa, John Douglas Anderson, Catherine Hanrahan, Geoffrey Barker, Darren Frain, Charlu Sr., Chua, Teodorico Ventura, Franz Buttigieg, Mary O'Leary, Mary Hickie, Bishop Joe Grech, Ernesto Claneza Snr, Darren Frain, Leah Abraham, Marcella Bacchilega, Helena Borg, Maria Avellino, Veronica Lane, Mary Bugeja, Florence Byfieldt, Olive Hanney, Moussa Moussa, George Mencl, Jack Mc Callum, Michael Angelo Gatt, John Villarba, Maria Camilleri, Cecilio Bazar, Sandra Cooper, Constance Wheelahan, Jim Dillon, Margaret Doherty, Maria Gnacinski, Cecil Heyu, Aurlher Ferdinaiy, Therese Sloupe, Tarin Gomez, Marija Vogranič, William Skilbeck, Anthony Mendis, Vincent Barbara, Tony Bartolo, Lino Bartolo, Edward O'Rourke, Bill Hilbert, Colin Thomson, Christine Penza, Ron Lundberg, Lovett Remedios, Rita Camilleri, Alma Halliana, George Laffin, Kathleen O'Rourke, Joseph James Dean, Pauline Camilleri, Lashan Abeygoonawardena, Peter Todd, Jack Coburn, Mario Vannuccini, Peter Paul Mifsud, Elaine Turner, Jean Moran, Eliz Xerri, James Wotton, Micha Calleja, Lovely Dumapias.

### PRAYER FOR THE SICK

Jenny Brown, Guy Tomassi



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# Summer Mass Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
12/12/2022	13/12/2022	14/12/2022	15/12/2022	16/12/2022	17/12/2022	18/12/2022
			Christmas Novena Mass - 8pm St Catherine of Siena Church	Christmas Novena Mass - 8pm St Catherine of Siena Church	6pm Mass St Catherine of Siena Church <b>Christmas Novena Mass - 8pm</b>	9am, 11am & 5pm St Catherine of Siena Church <b>Christmas Novena Mass - 8pm</b>
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
19/12/2022	20/12/2022	21/12/2022	22/12/2022	23/12/2022	24/12/2022	25/12/2022
Christmas Novena Mass - 8pm St Catherine of Siena Church	Christmas Novena Mass - 8pm St Catherine of Siena Church	Christmas Novena Mass - 8pm St Catherine of Siena Church	Christmas Novena Mass - 8pm St Catherine of Siena Church	Christmas Novena Mass - 8pm St Catherine of Siena Church	CHRISTMAS EVE 6pm, 8pm & 10pm Mass St Catherine of Siena Church	CHRISTMAS DAY 9am & 11am St Catherine of Siena Church
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
26/12/2022	27/12/2022	28/12/2022	29/12/2022	30/12/2022	31/12/2022	1/01/2023
No Mass	No Mass	No Mass	No Mass	No Mass	6pm Mass St Catherine of Siena Church	9am, 11am & 5pm St Catherine of Siena Church
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
26/12/2022	27/12/2022	28/12/2022	29/12/2022	30/12/2022	31/12/2022	1/01/2023
No Mass	No Mass	9.30am Mass St Catherine of Siena Church	9.15am Mass St Dominic's Church	9.15am Mass St Dominic's Church	6pm Mass St Catherine of Siena Church	9am, 11am & 5pm St Catherine of Siena Church
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
2/01/2022	3/01/2022	4/01/2022	5/01/2022	6/01/2022	7/01/2022	8/01/2022
No Mass	No Mass	9.30am Mass St Catherine of Siena Church	9.15am Mass St Dominic's Church	9.15am Mass St Dominic's Church	6pm Mass St Catherine of Siena Church	9am, 11am & 5pm St Catherine of Siena Church
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
9/01/2022	10/01/2022	11/01/2022	12/01/2022	13/01/2022	14/01/2022	15/01/2022
No Mass	No Mass	9.30am Mass St Catherine of Siena Church	9.15am Mass St Dominic's Church	9.15am Mass St Dominic's Church	6pm Mass St Catherine of Siena Church	9am, 11am & 5pm St Catherine of Siena Church
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
16/01/2022	17/01/2022	18/01/2022	19/01/2022	20/01/2022	21/01/2022	22/01/2022
No Mass	No Mass	9.30am Mass St Catherine of Siena Church	9.15am Mass St Dominic's Church	9.15am Mass St Dominic's Church	6pm Mass St Catherine of Siena Church	9am, 11am & 5pm St Catherine of Siena Church
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
23/01/2022	24/01/2022	25/01/2022	26/01/2022	27/01/2022	28/01/2022	29/01/2022
No Mass	No Mass	9.30am Mass St Catherine of Siena Church	<b>AUSTRALIA DAY</b> No Mass	9.15am Mass St Dominic's Church	6pm Mass St Catherine of Siena Church	9am, 11am & 5pm St Catherine of Siena Church



## Children's Liturgy & Nativity Activity

Children's Liturgy Sheets are available from the foyer of the Church.

Encourage your little ones to take one and have a go!

**A create your own nativity scene activity is available in the hall.**



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# A New Year's Prayer

Lord,

We ask you to be with us during this new year. Give us the strength, wisdom, courage, hope and love to face all this new year brings.

Let nothing happen this year that we cannot handle together.

May we always feel your presence and remember to call on you.

AMEN

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD Year A		SATURDAY 24/12/22 & SUNDAY 25/12/22		
MINISTERS OF:	6 PM	9 AM	11 AM	5 PM
Welcome				
The Word	<b>SIGN UP SHEETS</b>	<b>FOR CHRISTMAS</b>	<b>MASSES</b>	
Responder				
Presentation of Gifts				
Holy Communion				
PowerPoint Operator				
Gift Shop				
Counters	Elizabeth Marshall, Jennifer Peters			
SOLEMNITY OF MARY. THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD Year A		SATURDAY 31/12/22 & SUNDAY 01/01/23		
MINISTERS OF:	6 PM	9 AM	11 AM	5 PM
Welcome	Margaret Richards	Karl Metha	Liz Coustley	Frank Unferdorben
The Word	Daniel Walters	Vickie Cassar	Liza Fernandes	Ismael Sosa-Sanchez
Responder	Tetchie Hadfield	Alzira Mascarenhas	Stephen Fernandes	Lesley Sosa-Ritchie
Presentation of Gifts	Leny Obtinalla	Josephine Xuereb	Bruna Tomassi	Josephine Krajina
Holy Communion	Sally Grero	Asther Creo	Lea Jacuta	Josephine Krajina
PowerPoint Operator	Robert Obinalla	Sanyata Creo	Lalia Marinjira	Daniella Ahmet
Gift Shop	Veronica Milburn	Graham Dempsey	Lea Jacuta	Frank Unferdorben
Counters	Leslie Gordon, Elaine Neely, John Woof			

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