

**Parish Priest Fr. Nhân Le**  
**St Martin de Porres Parish**

158 Military Rd, Avondale Heights Vic 3034  
Website: [www.cam.org.au/avondaleheights](http://www.cam.org.au/avondaleheights)

Parish Secretary: Paula McKernan  
Pastoral Associate: Sr. Cres Villas, asjm  
Sr. Connie Mamo, asjm (Vol)  
Phone: 9337 6016  
Fax: 9337 1943  
E-mail: [avondaleheights@cam.org.au](mailto:avondaleheights@cam.org.au)

**St Martin de Porres School**

Principal: Stefanie Harvey  
Secretaries: Mary Carmuciano & Maria Aloe  
Phone: 9331 9000  
E-mail: [principal@smavondaleheights.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@smavondaleheights.catholic.edu.au)  
Website: [www.smavondaleheights.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smavondaleheights.catholic.edu.au)

**Weekend Masses** Saturday Vigil 6:00pm  
**Sunday** English 8:00am & 9:30am  
Italian 11:00am  
Vietnamese 12:30pm

**Weekday Masses** Tuesday - Friday 9:15am  
**Adoration & Benediction** Wed after Mass  
**Stations of the Cross** - After Mass

Vietnamese Mothers' Group Thursday  
English Friday  
**Reconciliation** Wednesday 9:45am  
Saturday 5:30pm

**St. John Bosco's Parish**

29 Muriel Street, Niddrie 3042

**Priest in Residence: Fr Thomas Toretkiu**

Parish Secretary: Faye Colaco  
Phone: 9337 9994  
E-mail: [niddrie@cam.org.au](mailto:niddrie@cam.org.au)

**St. John Bosco's School**

6 Teague Street, Niddrie 3042

Principal: Peter Monaghan  
Phone: 9337 2314  
E-mail: [principal@sjbiddrie.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@sjbiddrie.catholic.edu.au)

**Weekend Masses** Saturday Vigil 6:00pm  
**Sunday** 8:30am & 10:30am  
**Weekday Masses** Tuesday - Thursday 9:00am  
Friday 9:15am

**Stations of the Cross** Friday 7:00pm  
**Reconciliation** Saturday 5:30pm

**The Augustinian Sisters**

Convent: 2 Venice Court, Avondale Heights  
Phone: 9337 4595  
E-mail: [spinelli@bigpond.net.au](mailto:spinelli@bigpond.net.au)  
Website: [www.asjmoz.org](http://www.asjmoz.org)

**IN OUR PRAYERS**

**Sick:** Veronica Dovey; Liz Miller; Sandi O'Sullivan; Catherine Barrett; Marion Julien; Mary Frewen; Verna Nigli; Dennis O'Sullivan; Lidija Dugandzic; Joe Doran; Sharon Leach; Nancy Green; Eva Abramovic; Marko Samarzija; Linda Piccardini; Joslyn D'Silva.

**Recently Deceased:**

Gabriele Di Martino; Nayara Ramos Gonzaga (Brazil); Frank Testa; Larry Paulusz; Frank De Giorgio; Sr Carmelina Borg asjm; Sr Nancy Bezzina asjm; Pasqualina Rocca (Italy); Rocco Frachea.

**Anniversaries and Remembrances:**

Frank Cugliari (1st); Saveria & Gregorio Asta; Aldo Asta; Leonardo Strano; Alfia Di Mauro; Filippa Caruso; Rosa & Sebastiano Caruso; Marguerita Barra; Callum Fox; Patricia Crawford; Roshan Mendoza; Marlene Allen; Francis, Bernarda, Joseph & Maria Consiglia Grima; Emmanuel, Teresa, Filomenu Sammut; Carmelo & Rita Debono; Emmanuel & Nazzarena Farrugia; Dominic Cumbo; Charlie Sciberras; Tonina Darmanin.

**ST JOHN BOSCO'S INFORMATION**

**Collections:**

Thanksgiving \$544 Loose: \$840  
Presbytery: \$244 Credit Card: \$765

**Position Vacant – Parish Secretary Niddrie**

An opportunity for a part time position (approx. 24 hrs /week) is available at St John Bosco, Niddrie. For further information and a copy of the Position Description contact Fr Thomas Toretkiu or Paula McKernan at [avondaleheights@cam.org.au](mailto:avondaleheights@cam.org.au)

**Bible Study Group**

Exploring the wonders of God's word through the guidance of the Holy Spirit will truly enlighten and uplift our hearts.

Please make a note of this year's meetings which are held at 4pm in the presbytery.

24 February; No March meeting due to Easter;  
6 April; 27 April; 25 May; 29 June; 27 July;  
24 August; 21 September; 26 October; and  
30 November which is the final meeting for 2024.  
God Bless and in Christ from Pan Giannenas.

**Communion to the Sick and Elderly**

Please contact the office on 9337 9994 if you could help in taking Communion to those unable to attend Mass.

**Statue of Our Lady**

Please contact the office if you wish to have the Statue of Our Lady in your home for one week,

**ST MARTIN DE PORRES INFORMATION**

**Collections: Parish Support Programme:**

Pledge: \$2,588 Received: \$1,894 Shortfall: \$694  
Loose: \$864 Presbytery: \$1,723

**Instructions for Baptism Starting Soon**

Anyone who would like to become a Catholic please contact the Parish Office.



**Christian Meditation**

**Maranatha ... Come Lord Jesus**

All welcome: Mondays 10 - 11am  
in the Church Parent's Room.  
February 19; March 4 & 18



**Devotion to Divine Mercy**

Mondays 2:30pm in the church.  
All Welcome!



**St Martin's Prep Enrolments for 2025**

**Applications Now Open**

Please apply at the School Office or  
phone 9331 9000.

**Lenten Programme**

**Reflection Sessions with Sr. Connie**

Tuesdays after Mass in the Pastoral  
Centre Meeting Room. Commencing  
13th February. All welcome.



**Lenten Faith & Fellowship**

Lent is a time of great graces! As Catholics, we often wonder 'How does it all fit together?' & 'What difference does it make to our lives?'

This Lent the Parish is presenting 4 stunning episodes of Augustine Institute's "Symbolon - the Catholic Faith Explained" over 4 Tuesdays at 7pm starting Tuesday 27th February in St Martin's Parish Hall. (Discussion Guides & Refreshments provided). Register online: <https://bit.ly/3Sq8Kjk> or email: [rosecalandra22@gmail.com](mailto:rosecalandra22@gmail.com) or call 0411 040 669

**Lenten Regulations from the Archdiocese**

Copies in the foyer of the church.

**St Martin's Parish Picnic**

Sunday 17 March. Keep the date free. Venue to be confirmed.



**First Sunday of Lent 17/18 February**

This year, Project Compassion brings you the stories of three resilient women: Ronita from the Philippines, Leaia from Samoa and Memory from Malawi. While from three different corners of the world and facing vastly different challenges, they are all united by one dream: to create a better world for all future generations.

**Please donate to Project Compassion**

through Project Compassion boxes & envelopes, by scanning the barcode, by calling 1800 024 413 or go to [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion)



**Project Compassion Prayer 2024**

God of all hope,  
we pray for our world with all its beauty and need.  
We thank you for the love in our lives that is a mirror  
of your unending love.

May all creation know your compassion this Lent  
and may we take courage to share it,  
especially with those who don't  
have what they need.

In our time, we hear the same words you spoke to  
Moses:

'I will be with you,'

when you ask us to do courageous things.

Through our prayer, fasting and almsgiving,  
move us to act in the company of your Spirit,  
showing compassion and acting for justice  
to renew the face of the Earth,  
now and for all future generations.

We ask this in the name of Christ.

*Amen*

**St Monica's Charismatic Prayer Meeting**

Extends a warm welcome to you to praise and  
worship God our Father through Jesus in the power of  
the Holy Spirit. Your musical talents are especially  
welcome. Contact Gerald 9337 0475.

Thursdays 7:30pm Symons Centre, Mt Alexander Rd.

**Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility.**

The Parishes of St Martin de Porres and St John Bosco,  
and the Archdiocese of Melbourne are committed to  
the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young  
people and vulnerable people in our community. Child  
protection and the dignity of every person is the  
responsibility of everyone.

**NEW PARISHIONERS**

We welcome you and ask that you make yourself  
known to us by completing this form and leaving it  
in the collection basket.

Parish of: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

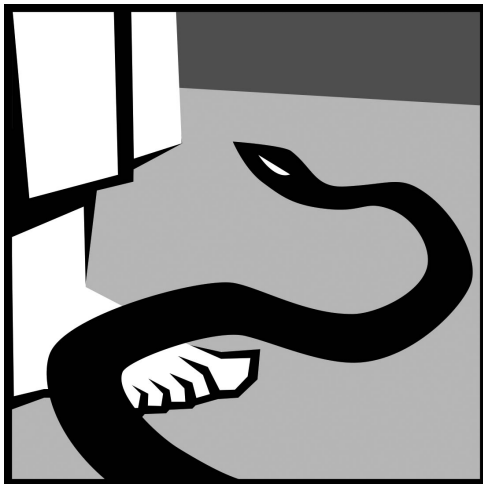
Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**PARISH SUPPORT PROGRAMME**

We encourage you to join our programme.  
Please ring the Parish Office or visit our website.



## Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Today's readings show us that Lent is a time for us to receive God's grace. We are not the ones who, through our penance, are meant to accomplish great things. Rather, it is God who acts; it is God who makes the sacrifice; it is God who accomplishes great things for us.

Each reading describes a different kind of conflict within which we might find ourselves: a world-wrenching upheaval, such as happens during social discord, war or natural disaster; the struggle between right and wrong, between fidelity and disobedience; the struggle with temptation. In the midst of the conflicts of life, God initiates a covenant with us. God saves the world from the chaos into which it was thrown, makes a covenant with all living things and with the earth, and sets a bow in the heavens as a perpetual reminder of the covenant. Christ dies for sinners, and offers them baptism that will save them from the chaos of their lives. The Spirit drives Jesus into the desert, there to be tested, but to emerge triumphant. His victory is not for him alone, but for all who will heed his words and follow his example.

The bow in the sky is a sign of the good news of the covenant; baptism is both the good news of salvation for us and our pledge of fidelity to God; Jesus' proclamation is that the reign of God is at hand. With the psalmist we praise God for inviting us into this covenant relationship.

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### Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:4

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,  
king of endless glory!*

*No one lives on bread alone,  
but on every word that comes from  
the mouth of God.*

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,  
king of endless glory!*

### Gospel Mk 1:12-15

**A reading from the holy Gospel  
according to Mark**

*He was tempted by Satan, and the angels  
looked after him.*

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**



## ST MARTIN DE PORRES & ST JOHN BOSCO'S Catholic Parishes Avondale Heights & Niddrie



**1st Sunday of Lent, Year B**

**18 February 2024**

### First Reading Gen 9:8-15

**A reading from the book of Genesis**

*I will recall the covenant between myself and you...the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.*

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

**The word of the Lord.**

**Thanks be to God.**

### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 24:4-9. R. see v.10

**(R.) Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.**

1. Lord, make me know your ways.

Lord, teach me your paths.

Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour. (R.)

2. Remember your mercy, Lord, and the love you have shown from of old. In your love remember me, because of your goodness, O Lord. (R.)

3. The Lord is good and upright. He shows the path to those who stray, he guides the humble in the right path; he teaches his way to the poor. (R.)

### Second Reading 1 Pt 3:18-22

**A reading from the first letter of St Peter**

*The water of the flood is a type of the baptism which saves you now.*

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

**The word of the Lord.**

**Thanks be to God.**