

## 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 Priest: Fr. Nhân Le

Deacon: Cuong Dang

Secretary: Paula McKernan

Pastoral Assoc: 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)

☎ [www.smavondaleheights.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smavondaleheights.catholic.edu.au)

### Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil 6:00pm

Sunday 8:00am & 9:30am

Vietnamese 11:00am

### Weekday Masses

Tuesday to Friday 9:15am

Benediction Wednesday after Mass

Reconciliation Wednesday 10.00am

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.asjm.org](http://www.asjm.org)

### Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility.

The Parish of St Martin de Porres 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.

## IN OUR PRAYERS

### Sick:

Phyllis Xerri; Silvia Galic; Alexander, Felipe, Anne; Patrick & Norma Moore; Helen Borg; Peter Falzon; Frank Logha; Milvia Cutajar; Mary Jones.

### Recently Deceased:

Noel Navarro; Maria Merlino; Peter Lightfoot; Angelo Bonanno; Sylvio Jurisevic; Mario Di Pasquale; Kathleen O'Neill; Anna Di Sisto; Norman Martin; Sam Simon Casa; Hilda Marchena (Peru); Sue La Fontaine; Luigi Mosca; Rosamaria Gizzarelli (Italy); Giuseppina Usai; Pauline Clarke; Iolanda De Blasis; Mary Gallagher (Ireland); Antonio Genovese; Anton Franzoni; Gregorio Marazita; Sr Bernadetta Attard asjm;

### Anniversaries and Remembrances:

Eugenia De La Cruz; Tony Vella; Charlie Galea; Francis, Bernarda, Joseph & Maria Consiglia Grima; Dominic Cumbo; Emmanuel, Teresa, Filomenu Sammut; Carmelo & Rita Debono; Emmanuel & Nazzarena Farrugia; Victor Apap; Charlie Sciberras; Tonina Darmanin; Victor Micallef.

## COLLECTIONS

### Parish Support Programme:

Pledge: \$2,588 Received: \$1,806

Shortfall: \$782 Loose: \$718

Presbytery: \$1,382

Special Collection: To Present to Deacon Cuong on his Ordination Day



### Devotion to Divine Mercy

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



### Bible Sharing with Sr Mayla & Deacon Cuong

Wednesdays 10am in St Martin's Pastoral Centre. Ref. Matthew 23:27:32

### Christian Meditation



### Maranatha ... Come Lord Jesus

All welcome: Mondays 10 - 11am  
Parent's Room in the Church

Term 3: 26 August; 9 September.

## Congratulations to Fr Nhân

As he celebrated his 26th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> August. May he be blessed as he continues to labour in God's vineyard.

## Deacon Cuong Celebrations



### Sunday 8th September

Deacon Cuong will be Ordained in St Martin de Porres Church at 10am.

Followed by light refreshments under the school covered area.

Please bring a plate of food to share from your culture.

The 8am Mass will be celebrated as usual. No Vietnamese Mass at 11am.

### Sunday 15th September

Thanksgiving Mass celebrated by Fr Cuong followed by morning tea in the hall.

The 8 am Mass will be celebrated as usual. No Vietnamese Mass at 11 am.



## Online Information Session on the Permanent Diaconate

The permanent diaconate is open to single and married men, aged between 30 and 60 years, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. The information session is open to everyone interested in knowing more about the permanent diaconate.

Online Diaconate information ZOOM meeting Tuesday, 24 September / 19:30 - 21:00

Attendance will be by invitation. Express your interest by emailing Deacon Kevin Pattison [Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au](mailto:Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au)

## Archdiocese Vacancies

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced people for vacancies in the Archdiocese. Further details of positions can be found at: <https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies>

## The Passion of Saint John the Baptist

Memorial 29 August

Saint John the Baptist, you were given a holy mission and sanctified in the womb of your mother in preparation for that mission.

You never deviated from your calling and always pointed the way to Christ, the Savior of all.

Please pray for me, that I will have the same courage you had and the resolve to fulfil my duties, no matter the cost.

Saint John the Baptist, pray for me.

Jesus, I trust in You.

*Amen*

Source: My Catholic Life!



Altar Servers, Baptism Preparation Teams, Sacristy Teams, Computer Mass Presentation Operators, etc.

## 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.

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

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

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

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

## PARISH SUPPORT PROGRAMME

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

**Gospel Acclamation** See Jn 6:63. 68

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Your words, Lord, are spirit and life:  
you have the words of everlasting life.  
Alleluia!*

**Gospel** John 6:60-69

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

*Lord, whom shall we go to? You have the words of everlasting life.*

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before?'

'It is the spirit that gives life,  
the flesh has nothing to offer.

The words I have spoken to you are spirit  
and they are life.

'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him.

Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

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**Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA**

The decisions called for in today's readings are life decisions. The people at the time of Joshua had to decide which god they would worship. The disciples of Jesus had to decide if he was the one who would fulfill their messianic expectations. We have life decisions to make as well. How will we choose?

The choices we make determine the character of our union with God. God called us out of the slavery of sin and protected us throughout the journey of our lives. Jesus walked with us through the challenges of life and performed wonders for us. Why should we look elsewhere? Because we face new challenges. The new demands placed on us may be so great, or the commitment required of us may be so demanding that we feel that we can no longer walk with him. The church may be changing in ways we do not appreciate, or it may not be changing in the ways we believe it should, and so we may feel that we can walk with him no longer.

If we decide to commit ourselves, we will enter into a union with God that is deeper than anything we have previously known. However, this union will be based on faith. We may understand no more than we did in the past, things may be no more to our liking. But, 'to whom shall we go?' Jesus is God's holy one; he has the words of eternal life.



**ST MARTIN DE PORRES & ST JOHN BOSCO**

**Catholic Parishes**

**Avondale Heights & Niddrie**



**21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B**

**25 August 2024**

**First Reading** Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18

**A reading from the book of Joshua**

*We will serve the Lord God, because he is our God.*

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people: 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.'

The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord and serving other gods! Was it not the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

**The Word of the Lord.**

**Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 33:2-3. 16-23. R. v.9

**(R.) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.**

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,  
his praise always on my lips;  
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.  
The humble shall hear and be glad. (R.)
2. The Lord turns his face against the  
wicked  
to destroy their remembrance from the  
earth.  
The Lord turns his eyes to the just  
and his ears to their appeal. (R.)
3. They call and the Lord hears  
and rescues them in all their distress.

The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;  
those whose spirit is crushed he will save. (R)

4. Many are the trials of the just man  
but from them all the Lord will rescue him.  
He will keep guard over all his bones,  
not one of his bones shall be broken. (R.)
5. Evil brings death to the wicked;  
those who hate the good are doomed.  
The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.  
Those who hide in him shall not be  
condemned. (R.)

**Second Reading** Ephesians 5:21-32

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians**

*This is the great mystery, it applies to Christ and the Church.*

Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body – and we are its living parts. For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church.

**The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**