

Parish Priest Fr. Nhân Le
St Martin de Porres Parish

158 Military Rd, Avondale Heights Vic 3034

Website: 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

St Martin de Porres School

Principal: Stefanie Harvey
Secretaries: Mary Carmuciano & Maria Aloe
Phone: 9331 9000
E-mail: principal@smavondaleheights.catholic.edu.au
Website: 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
Thursday Vietnamese Mothers' Group
Friday English

Reconciliation Wednesday 9:45am
Saturday 5:30pm

St. John Bosco's Parish

29 Muriel Street, Niddrie 3042

Priest in Residence: Fr Thomas Toretciu

Parish Secretary: Faye Colaco
Phone: 9337 9994
E-mail: niddrie@cam.org.au

St. John Bosco's School

6 Teague Street, Niddrie 3042

Principal: Peter Monaghan
Phone: 9337 2314
E-mail: principal@sjbniddrie.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
Website: www.asjmoz.org

IN OUR PRAYERS

Sick: Veronica Dovey; Peter Falzon.

Recently Deceased:

Antony Maugeri; Rob Brennan; Ron Munro; Mary Camilleri; Sr Rosanna Bonnici asjm; Sr Gisele Isp; Maria Antonia Romeo (Italy); Nella Salemi (Italy); Gabriele Di Martino; Nayara Ramos Gonzaga.

Anniversaries and Remembrances:

Ivana Barbis (1st); Maria Bonapat (1st); Domenico Franco Iacobucci (1st); Peter & Myles A'Hearn; Ana Dokmay Viraphon; Valda Cahir; Nikola Maglic; Desmond Slattery; Carl Mazzone; Mary Comerford; Francis, Bernarda, Joseph & Maria Consiglia Grima; Emmanuel, Teresa, Filomenu Sammut; Carmelo & Rita Debono; Emmanuel & Nazzarena Farrugia; Charlie Sciberras; Dominic Cumbo; Tonina Darmanin.

ST JOHN BOSCO'S INFORMATION

Collections:

Thanksgiving: \$264 Presbytery: \$150
Loose: \$894 Credit Cards: \$680

Bible Study Group

Exploring the wonders of God's word through the guidance of the Holy Spirit will truly enlighten and uplift our hearts. Join us at 4pm in the Presbytery for our next meetings on 6 April & 27 April.

Communion to the Sick and Elderly

Please ring the office on 9337 9994 if you could take 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

No Mass at 11am or 12.30pm this Sunday

Join us for our Annual Parish Picnic

11am Brimbank Park - Car Park A

Bring chairs, and food to share.

Activities provided for the kids.

Collections: Parish Support Programme:

Pledge: \$2,588 Received: \$1,853 Shortfall: \$735
Loose: \$678 Presbytery: \$1,392



Christian Meditation

Maranatha ... Come Lord Jesus

All welcome: Mondays 10 - 11am in the Church Parent's Room. March 18



St Martin's Prep Enrolments 2025

Please apply at the School Office or phone 9331 9000.

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEKEND

Baptism: James Malgioglio

First Reconciliation Children:

Year 3 Reconciliation children will recite the Penitential Act at the 6pm & 9.30am Masses.

Lenten Programme

Easter Reconciliation

Vietnamese Monday 18th March 7pm
English & Italian Tuesday 19th March 7pm

Easter Rosters in the Church Foyer

Please indicate where you can help.

Easter Cards at the back of the church

Please take some bundles to deliver this weekend or during the week to streets listed in the letter.

Palm Sunday: Needed Saturday 23 March

Please bring Cypress, Palms and Olive branches to the church by 10am.

We kindly need people to help from 10am to move chairs & decorate the church.



Reflection Sessions with Sr Connie

Tuesdays after Mass in the Pastoral Centre Meeting Room. All welcome.

Lenten Faith Film Nights in St Martin's Hall

Symbolon - the Catholic Faith Explained

7pm - Tuesdays 19th, 26th March.

Next episode - The Paschal Mystery. All Welcome!



Fifth Sunday of Lent 16/17 March

The work of Caritas Australia is only possible with generous supporters and the dedication, passion and tenacity of our local partners who implement the programs. They are the heroes on the ground working tirelessly behind-the-scenes every day to create a better future for their communities. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow for all future generations.

Please donate to Project Compassion

through Project Compassion boxes & envelopes, or call 1800 024 413 or go to caritas.org.au/project-compassion



New Life in God's Spirit

St. Monica's Prayer Group presents the opportunity to deepen your Baptismal Graces and increase the Gifts of the Holy Spirit conferred at Confirmation. The 8-week seminar begins Thursday 4th April 7-9pm Symons Centre Mt. Alexander Rd, Moonee Ponds. Contact Gerald 0415 275 446 or Frank 0415 144 916 or Adrian 0403 512 936.

Feast of St Joseph

19th March

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.
Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace,
mercy, and courage,
and defend us from
every evil.

Amen



Devotion to Divine Mercy

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

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.

Gospel John 12:20-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, 'Sir, we should like to see Jesus.' Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:

'Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life. If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too. If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him. Now my soul is troubled. What shall I say: Father, save me from this hour? But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name!'

A voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.'

People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, 'It was an angel speaking to him.' Jesus answered, 'It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.'

'Now sentence is being passed on this world; now the prince of this world is to be overthrown. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.'

By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.



**The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The moment of eschatological fulfilment gathers together the sense of the past ('the days when Christ was in the flesh'), the future ('the days are coming'), and the present ('the hour has come'). We live in the time when the past and the future are made present; we live in the 'already-but-not-yet' time of anticipation/fulfilment. This is a moment of great ambiguity, of fear and trepidation but of electric excitement. It is a moment of decision. We hover at the edge of dawn, weighing whether or not to step forward into the new day or to return to the darkness of night.

This 'hour' brings a new covenant, a deep interior relationship with God that is not based on law but which overflows from a commitment of the heart. It brings an abundant harvest that springs from a simple grain of wheat. It brings a promise from God's own Son that those who serve him will be honoured by God, and those who obey him will enjoy eternal life.

Although the 'hour' brings all of these blessings, it only does so with a price. The new covenant could only be written on new hearts; the abundant harvest sprang from the dying grain of wheat; eternal salvation was won at the price of Christ's blood. As challenging as the message of these readings may be, the last note is one of hope. It can overcome the demons that control us, because it is the power of the almighty God.



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



5th Sunday of Lent, Year B

17 March 2023

First Reading Jer 31:31-34

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

The days are coming when I will make a new covenant with Israel and I will forgive their iniquity.

See, the days are coming - it is the Lord who speaks - when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive - it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, 'Learn to know the Lord!' No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest - it is the Lord who speaks - since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

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

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 50:3-4. 12-15. R. v.12

(R.) Create a clean heart in me, O God.

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1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt,
and cleanse me from my sin. (R.)
2. A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. (R.)
3. Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,
that I may teach transgressors your ways
and sinners may return to you. (R.)

Second Reading Heb 5:7-9

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

He learnt to obey and became for all the source of eternal salvation.

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

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

Gospel Acclamation Jn 12:26

**Glory to you, Word of God,
Lord Jesus Christ!**

**If you serve me, follow me, says the
Lord; and where I am, my servant will
also be.**

**Glory to you, Word of God,
Lord Jesus Christ!**