

Parish Priest Fr. Nhân Le
St Martin de Porres Parish

158 Military Rd, Avondale Heights Vic 3034
 Website: www.cam.org.au/avondaleheights

Deacon: Cuong Dang
 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 6:30pm
 Sunday 7:30am & 9:00am
 Vietnamese 11:00pm

Weekday Services

Mass Wednesday & Thursday 9:15am
Communion Service Tuesday & Friday 9:15am
Benediction Wednesday after Mass
Reconciliation Wednesday 9:45am
 Saturday 7:30pm

St. John Bosco's Parish

29 Muriel Street, Niddrie 3042

Parish Secretary: Charles Meneze
 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@sjbiddrie.catholic.edu.au

Weekend Masses Saturday Vigil 5:00pm
 Sunday 10:30am

Weekday Services

Mass Tuesday 9:00am
 Friday 9:15am
Communion Service Wednesday & Thursday 9:00am
Reconciliation Saturday 4:30pm

The Augustinian Sisters

Convent: 2 Venice Court, Avondale Heights
 Phone: 9337 4595
 E-mail: spinelli@bigpond.net.au
 Website: www.asjmooz.org

IN OUR PRAYERS

Sick: Marita Dizon; Peter Falzon; Frank Logha; Milvia Cutaja; Helen Borg; Mary Jones.

Recently Deceased:

Bill Harris; Scott Cain; *Joan Cafarella*; Phanxico Xavie Nguyen Hua; Pero Peter Romich; Sr Agnese Arcarese asjm (Italy); Daniela Di Clemente; Nunziato Trifiletti; Sr Loredana Camilleri asjm; Antonio Calidonna; Antonio Teixeira.

Anniversaries and Remembrances:

Giuseppe Piccolo (1st); Teresa Talia (1st); Angelo Michael Di Lisio; Anne & Angelo Scapin; Lorenza Dizon; Eric Hickey; Stefano & Caterina Dinami; Rocco & Agata Prochilo; Zoran Romich; *Ken, Kathleen & Gloria Pinto; Cyril Alexander James; Hector & Felicia Ragel; Fay Rayner*; Francis, Bernarda, Joseph & Maria Consiglia Grima; Emmanuel, Teresa, Filomena Sammut; Carmelo & Rita Debono; Emmanuel & Nazzarena Farrugia; Charlie Sciberras; Tonina Darmanin; Victor Apap; Dominic Cumbo; Victor Micallef.

SMdP & SJB INFORMATION

Message from Fr Thomas Toretkiu

He has reached his hometown safely and is enjoying time with his mum and family before he commences his placement. He thanks everyone for their blessings at his Farewell Mass, prayers, wishes and gifts and very much appreciates people who couldn't attend due to other commitments for their thoughts. He assures us of his humble prayers and to keep him in our grace.

ST JOHN BOSCO'S INFORMATION

Collections:

Thanksgiving: \$540 Presbytery: \$185
 Loose: \$715 Credit/Debit Cards: \$685

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 Saturday at 4pm in the Presbytery for our next meetings 25 May; 29 June.

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

Collections: Parish Support Programme:
 Pledge:\$2,588 Received:\$1,982 Shortfall:\$606
 Loose:\$757 Presbytery: \$1,420

Seminary Appeal: \$1,325 Thank You.

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEKEND

First Eucharist Children:

From St Martin's school will attend the 6.30pm & 9am Masses for Enrolment and Presentation in preparation for receiving the Sacrament.

Christian Meditation



Maranatha ... Come Lord Jesus

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

Term 2: 29 April; 13 & 27 May; 17 June



Devotion to Divine Mercy

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

St Martin's Prep Enrolments 2025



Applications Now Open

Please apply at the School Office
 or phone 9331 9000.

CatholicCare VICTORIA Appeal Next Weekend
 Strengthening families & communities

As the Catholic Church's mission in action, CatholicCare Victoria delivers programs & services to support families, children, young people & individuals to help everyone reach their full potential. The services include counselling and mental health services, specialised support for children & teens, refugee & asylum seeker help, pastoral care, support for separating families, social housing & homelessness support. Donations from our parish community help CatholicCare Victoria support the most vulnerable individuals & families in our community and empower everyone to live life to the full.

Please donate generously to CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal 4th/5th May.

Your support and generosity will help provide caring and compassionate support for struggling individuals and families in our community. You can donate using the appeal envelope available or call 9287 5513 or online at www.catholiccarevic.org.au. **Thankyou.**

Annual Mass Count

Will commence next weekend and continue throughout the month of May.

Diabetes Group Bus Outing

Monday 29th April - Those going, please board the bus at 8.30am in Templewood Cres. Kindly park your cars in Templewood Cres.

St Joseph the Worker

Feast 1st May

St. Joseph,
 by the work of your hands and the sweat of your brow you supported Jesus and Mary,
 and had the Son of God as your fellow worker.

Teach me to work as you did,
 with patience and perseverance,
 for God and for those whom God has given me to support.

Teach me to see in my fellow workers the Christ who desires to be in them,
 that I may always be charitable and forbearing towards all.



Amen

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 Acclamation Jn 15:4-5

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Live in me and let me live in you,
says the Lord;
my branches bear much fruit. Alleluia!*

Gospel Jn 15:1-8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

All who live in me, and I in them, bear much fruit.

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘I am the true vine,
and my Father is the vinedresser.
Every branch in me that bears no fruit
he cuts away,
and every branch that does bear fruit he
prunes
to make it bear even more.
You are pruned already,
by means of the word that I have spoken
to you.
Make your home in me, as I make mine
in you.

As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself,
but must remain part of the vine,
neither can you unless you remain in me.
I am the vine,
you are the branches.

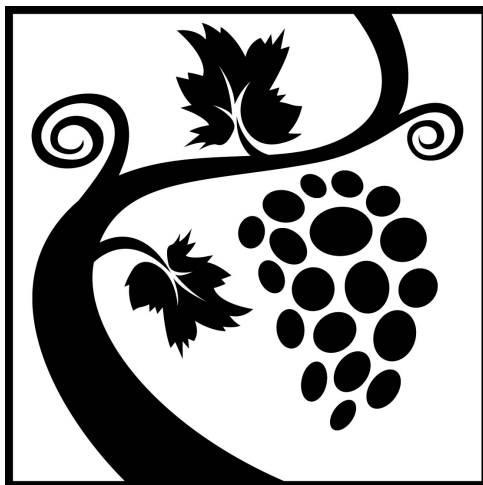
Whoever remains in me, with me in him,
bears fruit in plenty;
for cut off from me you can do nothing.
Anyone who does not remain in me
is like a branch that has been thrown away
– he withers;

these branches are collected and thrown
on the fire,
and they are burnt.
If you remain in me
and my words remain in you,
you may ask what you will
and you shall get it.

It is to the glory of my Father that you
should bear much fruit,
and then you will be my disciples.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

We are too familiar with today's gospel. Christ is the vine and we are the branches, sometimes in need of a good pruning. But God's purpose is not to produce a perfect vineyard. It is to produce a full-bodied wine at the end of history.

There is a foretaste of this at every Mass. The wine we offer – ‘fruit of the earth and work of human hands’ – becomes the spiritual drink which best serves the purpose of our Heavenly Father. How does this happen?

For the Jewish people observing an animal whose throat is cut, it is obvious that the life drains out with the blood. ‘Life’ and ‘blood’ became synonyms. So, when the Jewish Jesus says of the wine in the chalice at the Last Supper: ‘This is my blood’, amongst other things he is saying: ‘This is my life force, this is my very life given unreservedly for you.’

So, when we drink from the chalice at Holy Communion, the life of the Risen Lord courses through our bodies just as the sap of the vine courses through its branches. We share the same ultimate vitality so that our bodily existence builds into the Body of Christ. He becomes truly ‘full-bodied’ as the Divine Vignerone desires.

We could take a moment to pray that we respond to the pruning and the tending and the pressing by our Heavenly Father so as to contribute our distinctive character to the vintage at the end of history, the spiritual drink of the Kingdom of Heaven.



ST MARTIN DE PORRES & ST JOHN BOSCO

**Catholic Parishes
Avondale Heights & Niddrie**



5th Sunday of Easter, Year B

28 April 2024

First Reading Acts 9:26-31

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

He explained how the Lord appeared to Saul and spoke to him on his journey.

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The Churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 21:26-28. 30-32. R. v.26

**(R.) I will praise you, Lord,
in the assembly of your people.**

1. My vows I will pay before those who fear him.
The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.
They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him.
May their hearts live for ever and ever! (R.)
2. All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord,
all families of the nations worship before him.
They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust. (R.)

3. And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him.
They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come,
declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn:
‘These things the Lord has done.’ (R.)

Second Reading 1 Jn 3:18-24

A reading from the first letter of St John

His commandments are these: that we believe and that we love one another.

My children,
our love is not to be just words or mere talk,
but something real and active;
only by this can we be certain
that we are the children of the truth
and be able to quieten our conscience in
his presence,
whatever accusations it may raise against us,
because God is greater than our
conscience and he knows everything.
My dear people,
if we cannot be condemned by our own
conscience,
we need not be afraid in God's presence,
and whatever we ask him,
we shall receive,
because we keep his commandments
and live the kind of life that he wants.
His commandments are these:
that we believe in the name of his Son
Jesus Christ
and that we love one another
as he told us to.
Whoever keeps his commandments
lives in God and God lives in him.
We know that he lives in us
by the Spirit that he has given us.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

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