



The Partnered Parishes of  
**Our Lady of Lourdes** & **St Peter's**  
**Armadales Toorak**

## PARISH NEWSLETTER

**17<sup>th</sup> March 2024: Fifth Sunday of Lent**

### PASTORAL TEAM

**Parish Priest**

Father Brendan Hayes

**Parish Secretary**

Madeline Dimasi

**Assistant Secretary**

Carmel Negline

**Pastoral Associate**

Delisa Gonsalves

**Business Manager**

Frank Glynn

**St Peter's Organist & Director of Music:**

Conrad Helfrich

**Organist:**

Danuta Southern

**Our Lady of Lourdes Organist:**

Phillip Byrnes

**Cantor at both churches:**

Kristian Gregory

**Parish Office**

583 Toorak Rd  
Toorak 3142

**Office Hours**

Tues- Fri 10.00am-3.30pm  
Tel: 9068 8600

**Presbytery**

631 High Street  
Prahran 3181

**Tel:** A/H 9510 5042

**Email** [armadale.toorak@cam.org.au](mailto:armadale.toorak@cam.org.au)

**Parish Website**

[armadaletoorak.org.au](http://armadaletoorak.org.au)

**Instagram**

[www.instagram.com/armadale\\_toorakpartneredparish/](https://www.instagram.com/armadale_toorakpartneredparish/)

**Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School**

**Principal**

Mr Adrian McAlister

**Tel:** 9510 6688

[www.ololprimary.com.au/](http://www.ololprimary.com.au/)

**St Peter's Early Learning Centre**

**Director:** Mrs Kathleen Brohier

**Tel:** 9856 3380

[www.stpeterselc.vic.edu.au/](http://www.stpeterselc.vic.edu.au/)

### A THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

*".....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." Jn. 12:24 today's Gospel*

In John's Gospel we often come across the inversion of reality: what seems to matter most may have no real value; what gives meaning to the great issues of life is hidden from careless eyes. Sometimes we wonder about the purpose or value of what we do. We think our daily lives are humdrum. Will our families, will our friends remember our thoughts and actions; and what we have tried to teach them?

Faced with these questions I do believe that Lent is a graced time to think about the direction of our lives and to renew the generosity of spirit which gives more than it receives. Can I die to self to yield a rich harvest?

*Fr Hayes*

### COMMUNION REFLECTION

Each of us is like a grain of wheat planted by the heavenly Father. That grain must die if it is to produce a harvest. This dying to self is a gradual process and happens in very ordinary ways.

Every act of kindness involves dying to meanness.  
Every act of love involves dying to selfishness.  
Every act of humility involves dying to pride.  
Every act of courage involves dying to cowardice.  
Every act of forgiveness involves dying to bitterness.

When a person's life is producing a rich harvest of such acts, it means that the grain of wheat has well and truly died. The false self is dying, and the true self, made in God's image, is slowly being born.

It is the true self alone that will inherit eternal life, for there is no place for what is false in the presence of God. It would melt like snow before the sun.

**Flor McCarthy SDB, Sunday & Holy Day Liturgies p.56&57**



### WEEKEND MASS TIMES

**St Peters**

**Saturday Vigil** 6.00pm  
**Sunday** 9.30am

**Our Lady of Lourdes**

**Sunday** 11.15am

### WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

**Our Lady of Lourdes**

**Tuesday** 9.30am  
**Wednesday:** **NOT THIS WEEK**

**St Peter's**

**Thursday:** 9.30am  
**Friday** 11.30am

### RECONCILIATION

**St Peter's** Saturdays 5.15pm  
**LOL** Tuesdays before Mass

**BAPTISMS – MARRIAGES – FUNERALS**

**Please ring the Parish Secretaries to make arrangements**

## PLEASE PRAY FOR

### THE SICK

Jane Mooney Bongiorno (in USA), Patricia Webb, Margaret Daniels, Marianne Parisi, Sam Osborne, Noela and John Gibb, Gary Woodruff, Dymrna Brady, Brendan O'Donnell, Mohan Paul, Ranjan Gregory, Anna Rallistan

*If you would like to add names to the list, please ring Delisa at the parish office.*

*P.N. The privacy legislation requires us to have permission from an authorized person before any sick person's name can be included in this section.*

### RECENTLY DECEASED

Carmel Nelson, Leonie Larmer, Peter Vaughan, Rex Clark, Anne Smith (parishioner of Toorak Uniting Church) and Isuzu Nishimura  
*(Isuzu Nishimura is the mother of Katsuya. She died recently in Japan. Please keep her in your prayers. Katsuya is in Ireland and sends his regards.)*

### ANNIVERSARIES

Elizabeth Mary Negline (4<sup>th</sup>), Dora O'Sullivan, Val Gillman (2<sup>nd</sup>) and Linda Kathleen Bergin

### ROSTERS

#### ST PETER'S 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> March 2024

**Lectors:** 6.00pm – Mary Andamon  
9.30am – Anthony Muir

#### Special Ministers:

6.00pm Sandra Ficarra  
9.30am Carol Kelly

#### OLOL 17<sup>th</sup> March 2024

**Lector:** 11.15am Thomas Willis

#### READINGS – 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> March: Palm Sunday

First reading: [Isaiah 50:4-7](#)  
Psalm: [Ps 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24, R. v.2](#)  
Second Reading: [Philippians 2:6-11](#)  
Gospel: [Mark 14:1 – 15:47](#)

### COLLECTION SUMMARY

Thanksgiving	St Peter's	OLOL
2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection	Env \$565	\$80
10 <sup>th</sup> March	Cash \$377	\$56

#### Presbytery (for Clergy)

1 <sup>st</sup> Collection		
10 <sup>th</sup> March	\$1,143	\$209

Mass Count	143	30
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### HOLY WEEK & EASTER TIMETABLE

**Reminder: Next Sunday is Palm Sunday.**

The Holy Week Timetable is now available. Please take a copy from the tables at the back of both churches.

**N.B. 9.30am Mass: Blessing of Palms in the courtyard beside the church then the Procession into the church.**

## SACRAMENTAL AND OTHER RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

At St Peter's, Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March – commencing 10.45am. All very welcome.

### BAPTISM AT OUR LADY OF LOURDES

Congratulations to **Alaric Robert Gregory-Holmlund** and to his parents.

### TOORAK ECUMENICAL COVENANT

#### Prayers for Christian Unity

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March – 10am at the Swedish Church. All welcome. Refreshments will follow.

### DEATH OF CARMEL NELSON

Carmel died Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March. She was a highly respected and well-known parishioner of Our Lady of Lourdes for many years where she also acted very faithfully as Sacristan. Many parishioners of St Peter's also knew and respected her. Funeral details to be advised in The Herald Sun. Please keep Carmel in your prayers and also her surviving sisters and their families.

### TOORAK ECUMENICAL COVENANT LENTEN STUDIES

The TEC Lenten Studies continue at 10.30am.

**Holy Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March – St John's Anglican Church**

**The study book is *The Love that is God: An Invitation to Christian Faith* by F.C.Bauerschmidt.**

Please see link below to the book.

<https://www.amazon.com.au/Love-That-God-Invitation-Christian/dp/0802877958>



Caritas Australia partners with the Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ) to support communities living in urban slums in the Philippines. FCJ runs a number of programs that include house renovating, food processing, basic

literacy skills, urban gardening, upcycling and income generating activities. They also have a clinic visited weekly by a doctor and community nurse.

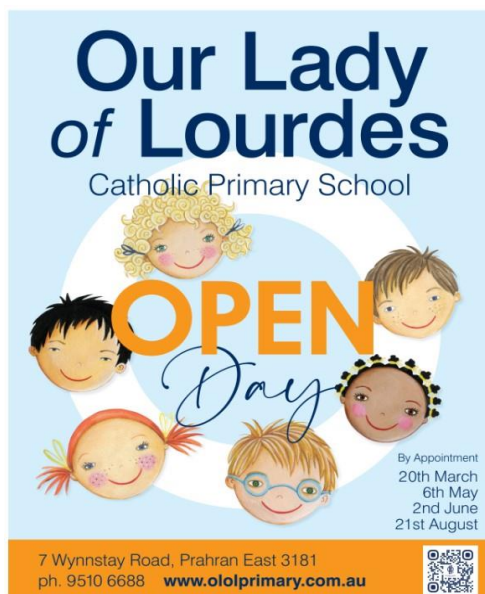
Caritas Australia partners with Caritas Samoa to assist communities to have increased access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene to ensure human health and well-being by providing water tanks and sanitation facilities.

Caritas Australia partners with the Catholic Development Commission in Malawi through the A+ program. Since 2016, the A+ program has helped 7,397 families across Malawi improve their food security, access to basic water and sanitation, boost women's income generation and strengthen child protection

**Donation boxes and envelopes available from the tables at the back of each church, or by calling 1800 024 413 or [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](https://caritas.org.au/project-compassion)**

## WHAT'S ON IN THE PARISH

### PARISH ACTIVITIES FOR MARCH



### EXERCISE CLASSES

A chair-based exercise class is held **Every Thursday** at 10.30am in St Peter's Parish Centre. \$5 per person, payable on the day.

### Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne Parish Positions

- Ministry Coordinator, St Scholastica's Parish, Bennettswood
- The Parish School Liaison, St. Clement of Rome, Bulleen
- Parish Secretary, St John Vianney's Parish, Springvale North

### TUESDAY 19th March: Solemnity of St Joseph, foster-father of Our Lord and Patron Saint of the Universal Church.

Wednesday: 20<sup>th</sup> March: 10.30am

Mass of the Chrism in the Cathedral.

**(N.B. NO MASS AT OLOL)**

### HEART OF LIFE

#### Centre for Spiritual and Pastoral Formation

For all forthcoming events please see:

[Reflection Events | Heart of Life](#)

- **HYMNS THIS WEEK**
- No. 291: Grant to us O Lord
- No. 296: O God Creator of us all

## WHAT'S ON IN THE COMMUNITY AND IN THE ARCHDIOCESE

### SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION CLASSES FOR 2024.

Preparation for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation will commence on **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 4:30pm** at St Peter's Parish Centre.

Enrolments close Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 5:00pm.

The Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist are open for all children in Year 3 and above.

Please Note: Sacramental Preparation Classes are open to any child, in Year 3 and above, who attend any Government or Private school and live within our Partnered Parishes.

Children who haven't participated in the Sacrament of Reconciliation prior to First Eucharist, will be unable to participate in the First Eucharist program.

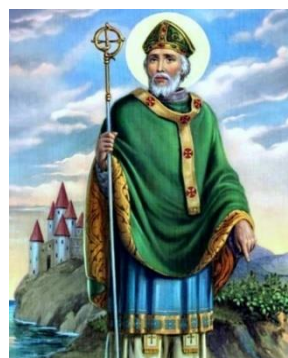
Please contact **Delisa** on (03) 9068 8602 or [delisa.gonsalves@cam.org.au](mailto:delisa.gonsalves@cam.org.au)

### Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March: (transferred from Sunday) Solemnity of St Patrick: Patron of Ireland, Principal Patron of the Cathedral and Archdiocese

St Patrick, born in Roman Britain of a Christian family, probably in the late 4<sup>th</sup> century, was abducted as a youth by pirates and taken to Ireland where he worked as a slave, tending cattle. After six years he managed to escape or was freed and eventually found his way back to his family – a much-changed man. He took his family's Christian faith seriously, was baptized and after some study was ordained priest.

Then, as a missionary bishop he returned to Ireland where he preached the gospel for the last twenty-five years of his life. (He died about 461). Patrick is venerated not only in Ireland but also in many areas of Europe, as well as in the United States and Australia where many Irish people settled after the Famine years of 1840s. Thanks to the vision of the first bishop of Melbourne, James Alipius Gould OSA, our Cathedral was designed by the famous architect William Wardell and dedicated in honour of St Patrick.

Let us always be grateful to God for our ancestors in faith.



### POINT OF INTEREST

*In the Sacred Heart Chapel of Our Lady of Lourdes Church there is a lovely pair of windows depicting St Patrick and St Brigid.*



## FIRST READING Jeremiah 31:31-34

*A reading from the prophet Jeremiah*

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.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

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

*Create a clean heart in me, O God.*

## SECOND READING Hebrews 5:7-9

*A reading from the letter to the Hebrews*

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.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION John 12:20-33

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to John*

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.

## “Holy Land Collection more vital than ever as conflict continues”, commissary says

Two years ago, when Friar Bernie Thomas OFM, Commissary of the Holy Land (Australia), wrote to the people of the Church in Australia to promote the annual Holy Land Collection, it was the global COVID pandemic that was, he says, ‘causing havoc for the people in the Holy Land’. Now, though, ‘there is a new and more dangerous threat through the ongoing conflict, which may last for quite some time,’ he says.

‘Just when pilgrims were starting to return, the Sacred Places of our Christian Faith are once again closed to pilgrims,’ he says in this year’s letter, referring to the war between Israel and Hamas that has been raging since October last year, and appealing for the continued and generous support of Australian Catholics through the annual collection.

**Melbourne Catholic, 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

**To read full story go to:**

<https://Melbournecatholic.org>

