



# Mary, Mother of God

## FIRST READING

**A reading from the book of Numbers**

**6 : 22 – 27**

The Lord spoke to Moses and said, ‘Say this to Aaron and his sons: “This is how you are to bless the sons of Israel. You shall say to them:

May the Lord bless you and keep you.  
May the Lord let his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
May the Lord uncover his face to you and bring you peace.”

This is how they are to call down my name on the sons of Israel, and I will bless them.’

**The word of the Lord.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R/ May God bless us in his mercy.**

1. God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us. So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help.  
R/
2. Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice. With fairness you rule the peoples. You guide the nations on earth.  
R/
3. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. May God still give us his blessing till the ends of the earth revere him. R/



"The shepherds hurried away to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger."

Luke 2:16

## SECOND READING

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

**4 : 4 – 7**

When the appointed time came, God sent his Son, born of woman, born a subject of the Law, to redeem the subjects of the Law and to enable us to be adopted as sons. The proof that you are sons is that God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts: the Spirit that cries, ‘Abba, Father’, and it is this that makes you a son, you are not a slave any more; and if God has made you son, then he has made you heir.

**The word of the Lord.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; now he speaks to us through his Son.**

**Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.**

**2 : 16 – 21**

The shepherds hurried away to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. When they saw the child they repeated what they had been told about him, and everyone who heard it was astonished at what the shepherds had to say. As for Mary, she treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds went back glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen; it was exactly as they had been told.

When the eighth day came and the child was to be circumcised, they gave him the name Jesus, the name the angel had given him before his conception.

**This is the Gospel of the Lord.**



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## PARISH PRIEST:

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## FAITH DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATOR

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## PARISH OFFICE:

9758 1029  
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## PLEASE NOTE: there will be no weekday Mass :

from Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026 til Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> Jan 2026  
REGULAR MASS TIMES resume: Fri 9<sup>th</sup> January.

Saturday Vigil Emerald and FTG 6:00 pm  
Sunday Belgrave 8.30am FTG 10.30am  
..... Gembrook 9.00am and Monbulk 11.00am

## Weekday Mass Times

Tuesday. Belgrave 9am FTG 7.00pm  
Wed Belgrave 9am FTG 9.15am  
Thurs Belgrave 9am FTG 9.15am  
Friday Belgrave 9am FTG 11.00 am  
Saturday Belgrave 9am Reconciliation Belg 9.45am

RECONCILIATION: FTG Saturdays 5.15 pm



## PARISH OFFICE HOURS THROUGHOUT THE CHRISTMAS / JANUARY HOLIDAYS.

The Parish Office will be closed from:

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec 2025

Normal offices hours resume

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2026 is a public holiday,

for Australia Day, so the Parish office will be closed.



**The CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP** Thank you for another wonderful year. We will break now over Christmas, resuming the 1st Tues in February 2026.

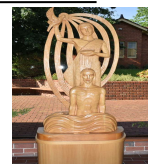
**FRIENDSHIP GATHERING** Thank you everyone for a fun filled 2025. See you in the New Year, 15th Jan 2026

**PARENTS AND KIDS GROUP** is now on Christmas break, we look forward to seeing you in the new year.

**YOUTH GROUP** will meet Sat 17<sup>th</sup> Jan 2026 in the Parish Community Centre at 12pm-4pm.

**SAVE THE DATE** This year marks the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Presentation Sisters in our parish and the opening of St John the Baptist primary school. There will be a special Mass at 10.30am on **Sunday 1st February** followed by light refreshments in the hall

**ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH**  
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Website: [www.stjohnthebaptist.net.au](http://www.stjohnthebaptist.net.au)



O God,  
Your days are without beginning  
and without end.  
We dedicate this coming year to you.  
Give us such prosperity as you know is  
good for us,  
and make us abound in doing whatever is  
pleasing to You,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**AUSTRALIAN NATIVITY SCENE (ANS) 2025** Experience Australia's largest and most renowned traditional nativity scene, now in its 22nd year, on display at **St Elizabeth's Parish, Dandenong North**. The Australian Nativity Scene (ANS) has become a beloved tradition, growing each year and gaining recognition as one of the best nativity scenes in the country. This display is free and open to all ages, providing a magical experience for families, parishioners and visitors alike. Wilson Fernandez, the designer, creator and artist behind this annual display, has crafted a scene that continues to captivate the community. Visitors from near and far arrive early to secure their spot to witness this beautiful Christmas tradition. Open from **Mon 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 2025 – Fri 9<sup>th</sup> Jan 2026** After Mass Services or by appointment : Call Wilson - PH 0428 927 110 **Archdiocese of Melb**

## POSITIONS VACANT: Applications are currently open for the following positions: Archdiocese of Melbourne Parishes

- Finance Officer, Our Lady of Pentecost, Balwyn
  - Parish Property Coordinator, Our Lady of Pentecost, Balwyn
  - Pastoral Worker, St Andrew's Parish, Clayton South
  - Youth Worker, St Macartan's Parish, Mornington
- Executive Director, Finance and Admin – Newman College  
[Job vacancies | Melbourne Catholic](#)

[Current Job Vacancies - CatholicCare Victoria](#)  
go to [catholiccarevic.org.au/vacancies](http://catholiccarevic.org.au/vacancies)

VMCH Search Jobs:

<https://careers.vmch.com.au/jobs/search>

Or

Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS)

<https://www.macs.vic.edu.au/Working-in-our-schools/Job-Search.aspx>