

*St. Mary MacKillop
Church
Keilor Downs*



*St. Paul's
Church
Kealba*

PARISH OF ST MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Year B - 16th & 17th December, 2017

MASS TIMES

St Paul's
Wednesday 9.30am
Thursday 9.30am

Saturday 5:00 pm
(Latin)
6:30 pm

Sunday 8:00am
(Maltese)
10:00am

Reconciliation
Saturday 6:00pm

St Mary MacKillop
Monday 9.30am
Tuesday 9.30am
7.00pm—8.00pm Holy Hour
Friday 9.30am

Saturday 5:00pm
Sunday 9:00am
11:00am
5:30pm

Reconciliation
Saturday 4pm—4.50pm

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



"There was a man set from God."

In this man we see perhaps the only outstanding example among the multitudes, of the workings of God's providence among men. The conception, birth, hermitical life in the desert, and the role of precursor of the Messiah, are all the effects of God's intervention.

That man was St. John the Baptist, who was sent by God: 'to bear witness to the Light,' to tell the world that God's eternal plan for everyone was being implemented; that the incarnation of His divine Son had taken place.

St. John was the last of the great line of prophets, and he was the greatest of them all. He was surely a man sent from God.

Entrance Antiphon:

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! The Lord is near.

1st Reading:

Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11
Luke 1:46-50,53-54

Responsorial Psalm:

My soul rejoices in my God.

2nd Reading:

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.
Alleluia!

Gospel:

John 1:6-8,19-28

Before Communion:

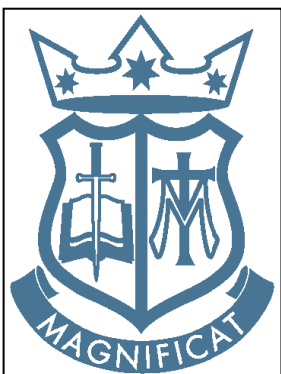
Lord, may the gift we offer in faith and love be a continual sacrifice in your honour and truly become our eucharist and our salvation.

Communion Antiphon:

Say to the anxious: be strong and fear not, our God will come to save us.

After Communion:

God of mercy, may this eucharist bring us your divine help, free us from our sins, and prepare us for the birthday of our Saviour, who is Lord for ever and ever.



ST. MARY MACKILLOP

'Be faithful and lose not one opportunity of merit that presents itself to you.'

ST. PAUL

'May you all be kept blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.'



Parish Priest: Rev. Monsignor Charles Portelli **In Residence:** Rev Gerard Johnson

Faith Development: Mr Joseph Zahra—St Paul's

St Mary MacKillop Church & Parish Office (both Churches):

152 Odessa Avenue, Keilor Downs, Victoria 3038

Office Hours: Mon—Fri 9am—1.30pm

Office Staff: Joseph Camenzuli & Melinda Xerri

Phone: 9364 0440 **Fax:** 9364 6913

Email: mgrcep@stma.com.au
reception@stma.com.au

St Paul's Church & Presbytery:

230 Sunshine Avenue, Kealba, Victoria 3021

Phone: 9366 4040 **Fax:** 9364 2706

Website: www.stmaryoftheassumption.org.au



CHOIR PRACTICE

MONDAY, 18TH DECEMBER
AT 7pm sharp to rehearse for Christmas.
Enquiries: Rosanna 0425 751 230



In Remembrance...

Recently Deceased:

Joseph Camilleri, Rosa Doria,
Romeo Alvarez.



Anniversaries:

Giuseppe & Gregoria Logiudice, Gregorio & Maria Ragusa, Vittorio Esposito, Emmanuel Cassar, Salvino Buzzanca, Antonietta, Maria, Gregory & Joseph Spiteri, Benito Maggiore, Mariano Felicia Fino, Joseph Sammut, Emmanuel Zarb, John Baldacchino, Peter Bachnik, Alousius Mary Rita, Andrien Bernard Kulas, Charles Mamo, Martin, Anda, Dinko, Pere, Dominovic, Jure, Boja, Augustine, Kazimir Boze, Ivan Carka, Marija Pleic, Thomas Pirotta, Jennifer Marie Pirotta, Pauline Adams, Constantino & Theresa Mifsud, Dominic Riga, Giuseppina Rando, Jessie Villar, Connie & Grezju Attard, Tarcisio Vella, John & Geswalda Borg, Lawrence DeBrincat, Nicholas Attard, Angelo Rapa, Antonia Spiteri, Maria Attard, Joseph Attard, Paul Bonnici.

We pray for all those who are sick especially, Stewart, Peter, Imalda & Placido.

CLEANERS REQUIRED



Cleaners for St Mary MacKillop Church **urgently needed**. If you are available for approximately 1 hour on a Friday morning (after Mass) to assist with the cleaning of the church, please contact the Parish Office on 9364 0440. Cleaners will be on a rostered basis. Light cleaning i.e. dusting, vacuuming and mopping/buffing only.

PILGRIMAGE OF THE TWO HEARTS MONDAY MORNINGS 10.30-11.30

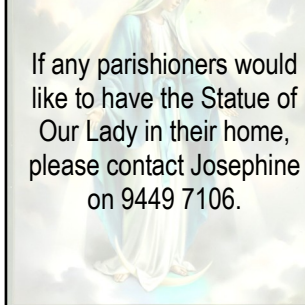
Two Hearts Prayer Group—Monday mornings will be having a break over the Christmas period and will be resuming on the 1st Monday in February.

We thank Monsignor Charles Portelli for his co-operation and wish him, Fr. Gerard and all the parishioners a very holy and blessed Christmas and a very prosperous and happy New Year 2018.

Enquiries: Mary 0402 385 473

STATUE OF OUR LADY

If any parishioners would like to have the Statue of Our Lady in their home, please contact Josephine on 9449 7106.



Christmas Timetable 2017

Mass Times

Saturday 23rd December

Fourth Sunday of Advent

5.00 pm St Mary MacKillop Church
5.00 pm St Paul's Church (Latin)
6.30 pm St Paul's Church

Sunday, 24th December

Fourth Sunday of Advent

8.00 am St Paul's Church (Maltese)
11.00 am St Mary MacKillop Church

Sunday, 24th December - Christmas Eve

5.00 pm St Mary MacKillop Church
6.30 pm St Paul's Church
8.00 pm St Mary MacKillop Church
9.00 pm St Paul's Church
12 Midnight St Mary MacKillop Church
(Carols at 11.30 pm)

Monday 25th December- Christmas Day

8.00 am St Paul's Church (Maltese)
9.00 am St Mary MacKillop Church
10.00 am St Paul's Church
11.00 am St Mary MacKillop Church

There will be **NO** evening Mass on Christmas Day

Monday 1st January, 2018 - New Year's Day

9.30 am St Paul's Church
11.00 am St Mary MacKillop Church

Confession Times

Tuesday 19th December 2017

10 am - 11 am St Mary MacKillop Church
7 pm - 8 pm St Mary MacKillop Church

Wednesday 20th December

10 am - 11 am St Paul's Church
7 pm - 8 pm St Paul's Church

Thursday 21st December

10 am - 11 am St Paul's Church
7 pm - 8 pm St Paul's Church

Friday 22nd December

10 am - 11 am St Mary MacKillop Church
7 pm - 8 pm St Mary MacKillop Church

Saturday 23rd December

11 am - 12 Noon St Paul's Church
4 pm - 4.50 pm St Mary MacKillop Church
6 pm - 6.20 pm St Paul's Church



LARRY'S STORY

I first met Larry at 3 am on a cold and wintry morning. A drug addict making a brave attempt to kick the habit, Larry had reached back to some vague memories of his Catholic upbringing, and knocked at the presbytery door where I was assistant priest. That was the beginning of our acquaintance as I walked with him for part of his precarious, yet somehow graced journey. From detox unit to the courts, from AA to the employment office, over time I saw this courageous man gradually recover his dignity and build a new life for himself. For one who had fallen so far and so often, I was surprised by his willingness to get up again and to keep trying. What struck me was that here was a man honestly trying to change. Inspiring, really. I see so many people who remain stuck in their ways because they are afraid to admit their mistakes and seek help; afraid to step out into the unknown. Larry was a great witness to me, simply because of his openness to change, his preparedness to 'make the move', and to keep on moving. (Paul)
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URGENTLY REQUIRED ST MARY MACKILLOP COUNTERS, READERS & SPECIAL MINISTERS

~ We need MORE help ~

If you are available to help with these vital ministries please contact the Parish Office on 9364 0440. All Counters, Readers and Special Ministers will be on a rostered basis.

PARISH CHOIRS

Parishioners are invited to join the Choirs at all masses to praise the Lord in song. If you would like to be involved in this vital Ministry, please contact :-

St Mary MacKillop Choir: Rosanna 0425 751 230
St Paul's Choir: Hung 0402 171 733

PRAYER GROUPS

MONDAY MORNING

Following 9.30am Mass
10am Fellowship

Join us in praying the **Divine Mercy Chaplet** 10am–10.30am

TUESDAY EVENING

SAMOAN DIVINE MERCY PRAYER GROUP

Samoan Divine Mercy Prayer Group – at St Pauls Church every Tuesday at 6pm and the 4th Sunday of the month at 3pm.
Info: Deacon David 0451240713

WEDNESDAY EVENING

ST PAUL'S CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

St. Paul's Charismatic Prayer Group would like to wish all a Blessed and Joyous Christmas with many blessings in the New Year.

We will resume meetings on 7th February, 2018.

For more information call Doris: 9367 4126

THURSDAY MORNING

ST MARY MACKILLOP MORNING PRAYER GROUP

We would like to wish all a Blessed Christmas and New Year.

We will resume in February.

Enquiries: Teresa 0411 233 625

THURSDAY EVENING

ST MARY MACKILLOP EVENING PRAYER GROUP

We are taking a break over the Christmas season, we will return on Thursday, 8th February, 7.30pm, and having worship, intercessory prayer and individual prayer ministry. Have a Blessed Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year.

Enquiries: Christina 0431 955 975

LEGION OF MARY

Wednesday 7.00pm in the Parish Meeting Room
All Welcome

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

EVERY TUESDAY 7:00pm–8:00pm
St Mary MacKillop Church

"Will you not stay with me one hour with me?"



ST. PAUL'S ROSTER WEEKEND 23RD & 24TH DEC

SAT 23RD DEC 6.30PM
R Doris Agius
Special Ministers

SUN 24TH DECEMBER 10AM
R No Mass
Special Ministers

St Mary MacKillop Cleaning

FRIDAY 22ND DECEMBER
Mary Formosa
Margo Harley
Pauline Portelli
Mary Xuereb

Counting Team

COUNTING TEAM NO. :
No Counting this weekend

ST. MARY MACKILLOP ROSTER WEEKEND 23RD & 24TH DEC

SAT 23RD DECEMBER 5PM
R Marcella Fandino
Special Ministers
Hank Bader, Kathy Lindsay, Zbig Piorkowski.

SUN 24TH DECEMBER 9AM
R No Mass
Special Ministers

SUN 24TH DECEMBER 11AM
R
Special Ministers

SUN 24TH DECEMBER 5.30PM
R No Mass
Special Ministers

Music Group Rehearsals

This Week in the Parish

ST MARY MACKILLOP GROUP
Monday, 18th Dec–7pm
ST PAUL'S MUSIC GROUP
To be advised

Tuesday, 19th December
7.00pm Eucharistic Adoration
- St. Mary MacKillop
6.00pm Samoan Prayer Group
- St. Paul's Church

Feast Days

Wednesday, 20th December
7.00pm Legion of Mary

Thursday, 21st December
St. Peter Canisius

Saturday, 23rd December
St. John of Kanty



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Entrance:

There was a man of God whose name was John

He came to speak for the light
The voice of one in the wilderness:
"Prepare the way of the Lord"

Refrain:

Prepare the way of the Lord
Prepare the way of the Lord
Prepare the way of the Lord
Prepare the way of the Lord

Mountains and hills shall be brought to the ground

The winding paths be straightened
And all on earth shall see his face;
Prepare the way of the Lord **Refrain**

Responsorial Psalm:

My soul rejoices in my God
in my God, my soul is glad.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
The spirit of the Lord is upon me;
He sent me to bring Good news to the poor
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Offertory:

Refrain:
Ready the way, ready the way,
ready the way of the Lord.
Ready the way, ready the way,
ready the way of the Lord.

Make straight the road,
raise the valleys, and mountains make low.
Turning from sin, let the broken be whole,
and ready the way of the Lord. **Refrain**

As we wait for you,
give us the strength to walk in your truth,
so we may love, more like you
and ready the way for you, Lord. **Refrain**

Let us see your face;
in our hearts we prepare a place.
Come bring this world
your mercy and grace,
as we ready the way for you, Lord. **Refrain**

Communion:

A ray of hope flickers in the sky,
A tiny star lights up, way up high.
All across the land
Dawns a brand new morn,
This comes to pass
When a child is born.

A silent wish sails the seven seas,
The winds of change whisper in the trees,
And the walls of doubt
Crumble – tossed and torn.
This comes to pass
When a child is born.

A rosy dawn settles all round,
You get the feel you're on solid ground,
For a spell or two,
No-one seems forlorn.
This comes to pass
When a child is born.

SPOKEN: And all of this happens
Because the world is waiting...
Waiting for one child – black... white...
yellow... no-one knows... But a child that
will grow up and turn tears to laughter,
hate to love, war to peace and ev'ry one to
ev'ryone's neighbour... and misery and
suffering will be words to be forgotten
forever.

It's all a dream, an illusion now,
It must come true – sometime soon somehow.
All across the land
Dawns a brand new morn'
This comes to pass
When a child is born.





Recessional:

Refrain
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ
Heaven and Earth await your truth
Glory to you, come quickly, Lord,
Your word alone brings life and love. (Repeat)

Praise be to you, word of the Father
You offer pardon, we seek your justice.
Now is our time to turn back to you
In you alone our hope and our joy
Amen, Alleluia **Refrain**

Praise be to you, heart of our Father
We are made whole by the blood of the cross
Brought to new life by your dying and rising
In you along our hope and our joy
Amen, Alleluia **Refrain**

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