In today's Gospel, Jesus is again tested by the Scribes and Pharasis when he is requested to judge the adulterous woman. The centre of this Gospel is not the woman or her sin of adultery, but a personal encounter with Jesus. Encountering Jesus always exposes the truth – both the woman and the crowd learn the truth about their own sin. They and we, are not that different: we are all sinners who need to encounter Jesus, ask the truth about ourselves and receive Jesus' mercy, deep down inside, too many fear their sin is bigger than God’s mercy. Jesus however, responds to profound sin with even more profound mercy. Consequently, our encounter with Jesus moves us to die, so that we gain Christ. Therein lies repentance.
ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY, KEILOR DOWNS CONFERENCE
MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Members of the SVDP Society are committed to helping men, women and families to break their cycle of poverty and disadvantage by responding to their calls for emergency aid. Home visitations are the core work of the society, and are carried out by local conferences. In addition to visitations, the Keilor Downs Conference is also involved in fundraising, participation in the annual Winter Appeal and Christmas Hamper Appeal.

We visit an average of 40 households per month as well as providing Christmas hampers, last Christmas we provided over 55 hampers to needy families.

We need more members to help carry out this important work. If you are interested in finding out more about the Society, please contact Armando (Conference President) on 0400 255 172, or Margo Harley (vice president) on 0425 850 824.

Parish Lenten Program - Final Week -
An array of interesting topics concerning the Mass?
Thursday, April 11th
7:30pm - 8:30pm followed by Supper
Multi-purpose Room, St Mary MacKillop School—Entry via Gate 6

Our very interesting and well-attended program on the Holy Mass concludes this week with some topics that have been registered as interesting, or worthy of attention, by the participants over the previous weeks. These topics include, but are not solely, the following:

- How did receiving Holy Communion on the hand come about?
- What does Mass ad orientem mean?
- What's the significance of making the Sign of the Cross at Holy Communion?
- How to reply to those Christians who say we worship statues?

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL MEETING
Please note the next meeting of the SVDP Keilor Downs Conference is this coming Monday April 8th, 7pm, at the St Mary of the Assumption Parish Centre.

PROJECT COMPASSION

Salma featured in Project Compassion 2013. At the time she was pregnant with her first child, sick and terribly frightened. In distress, she sought the help of a midwife trained by Caritas’ Safe Motherhood Program. Six years on, she’s now a healthy mother of two strong, happy children. Salma is committed to giving her children the education they need to provide them with the future she hoped for.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2019 and help reduce infant mortality rates in countries like Bangladesh and proved hope to pregnant women in remote communities for happy and healthy families. Lives change when we all give 100%. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

CHILDREN & YOUTH OF MARY

When: Every Friday during the School Term
Time: 4:45-6pm
Where: St Mary MacKillop’s Parish Office Building (Opposite the Church)

All Primary and Secondary School aged children are welcome
Pray the Rosary
Enjoy Games and Activities
Learn about the Catholic Faith
For more information contact Andrew and Tara Sciberras: 0403 100 733

In Remembrance...
Recently Deceased:
Rita Agius, Maria Reale & Joseph Borg.

Anniversaries:
Valda Siggins,
Charles & Mildred,
Domenic Quyen,
Mabel Gonsalves,
Alban Barwell,
John & Geswalda Borg,
Lawrence De Brincat,
Nicholas Attard,
Angelo Rapa,
Nico Borg,
Alistair Bosser,
Maria Pirotta, Peter Mascarenhas,
Francis Andrade.

LENT - 2019
GOOD FRIDAY IS A DAY OF FASTING & ABSTINENCE FROM MEAT
On all other Fridays, the law of the practice of penance is fulfilled by performing any one of the following:

(A) PRAYER - for example, Mass attendance; Family Prayer; A visit to a Church or Chapel; Reading the Bible; Making the Stations of the Cross; Praying the Rosary; or in other ways.

(B) SELF DENIAL - for example, Not eating meat; Not eating sweets or dessert; Giving up entertainment to spend time with the family; Limiting food and drink so as to give to the poor of one’s own country or elsewhere; or in other ways.

(C) HELPING OTHERS -example, Special attention to someone who is poor, sick, elderly, lonely, or over-burdened; or in other ways.

All who have completed their eighteenth year and have not yet begun their sixtieth year are bound to fast. All who have completed their fourteenth year are bound to abstain.

The season of Lent is a time of penance. During this season the faithful are encouraged to devote themselves in a special manner to prayer, to engage in works of piety and charity, and to deny themselves. Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This percent must be fulfilled between Ash Wednesday, 6th March and Trinity Sunday, 16th June 2019 unless for a good reason it is fulfilled at another time during the year. All faithful are bound faithfully to confess their grave sins in the Sacrament of Penance at least once a year.
PALMS AND OLIVE BRANCHES
NEEDED FOR PALM SUNDAY
Could those who normally provide palms and olive branches please bring them to the church this week so that we can arrange for extra branches if needed. Thank you.

CHOIR PRACTICE
in preparation for Holy Week and Easter will be held on the following Monday evenings at St Mary MacKillop Church commencing at 7PM: 8th, 15th April. An Easter Folder with all the music and an accompanying CD will be distributed at the first rehearsal to assist you with your practice. If you would like to be part of this beautiful ministry, please contact Rosanna on 0425 751 230. Thank you.

Divine Mercy Prayer Group at St Paul’s Church
Samoan Divine Mercy Prayer Group: Every Sunday 12pm-4pm. Also English Divine Mercy Prayer Group on every 4th Sunday of the month From 2.30pm - 4.00pm (includes Exposition of Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet, Rosary, Praise and Worship followed by Fellowship). Please call Deacon David on 0451240713 (Samoan Service Enquiries), Rita D’Souza (0435956226) and Angela D’Souza (0413605420) (for English Service 4th Sunday’s).

ADORATION & STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Every Friday during Lent (except Good Friday) there will be Adoration and Stations of the Cross at 7.00 p.m.

PARISH CHORUS
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

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 MARY MACKILLOP GROUP
Monday 8th April
10.30am Prayer Group
7.00pm St. Vincent de Paul
This Week in the Parish ....

ST PAUL’S MUSIC GROUP
To be advised

Feast Days
Thursday, 11th April
St. Stanislaus
Saturday, 13th April
St. Martin I

ST. PAUL’S ROSTER WEEKEND 13TH & 14TH APRIL
SAT 13TH APRIL 6.30PM
R Marita Tobin
Special Ministers
D. Agius.

SUN 14TH APRIL 10AM
R Jean Falcoa
Special Ministers
C. Pirotta, J. Zahra.

ST MARY MACKILLOP ROSTER WEEKEND 13TH & 14TH APRIL
SAT 13TH APRIL 5PM
R Zbig Piorkowski
Special Ministers
Laurie Xerri, Michael Vytilingam, Zbig Piorkowski.

SUN 14TH APRIL 9AM
R Christina Santalucia
Special Ministers
Mim Caruso, Wayne Harrison, Hilda D’Souza.

SUN 14TH APRIL 5.30PM
R Brian Lobo
Special Ministers
Frank Lee, Georgina Sant, Kimberley D’Cruz.

PRAYER GROUPS
MONDAY MORNING
Following 9.30am Mass
10am Fellowship
10.30am – 11.30am Devotions
Join us in praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet 10am—10.30am

WEDNESDAY EVENING
ST PAUL’S CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP
Wednesday, 10th April
Join us in this Lenten Season walking the journey to Calvary, through prayer on the Stations of the Cross!
7pm Rosary. 7.30pm Praise & Worship followed by Stations of the Cross. Concludes at 9pm with fellowship
For more information call Doris: 9367 4126

SUNDAY AFTERNOON
Samoan Divine Mercy Prayer Group
Samoan Divine Mercy Prayer Group – at St Paul’s Church every Sunday at 12pm–4pm. Info: Deacon David 0451240713

ST MARY MACKILLOP EVENING PRAYER GROUP
Thursday, 11th April
7.30pm Lenten Program
Meet in multi purpose room in St. Mary MacKillop School, All Welcome
Enquiries: Christina 0431 955 975

Catholic Pages
Every day, every hour, every moment have been blessed by the strength of God's love. At the turn of each tide God is there at my side, with a touch that is gentle as silence.

There've been times when I've turned from your presence, and I've walked other paths, other ways. But I've called on your name in the dark of my shame, and your mercy was gentle as silence.

Communion:
Your eye is on the sparrow And Your hand, it comforts me From the ends of the Earth to the depth of my heart Let Your mercy and strength be seen You call me to Your purpose As angels understand For Your glory, may You draw me on As Your love and grace demands.

Refrain:
And I will run to You To Your words of truth Not by might, not by power But by the Spirit of God Yes, I will run the race Till I see Your face Oh let me live in the glory of Your grace.

You call me to Your purpose As angels understand For Your glory, may You draw me on As Your love and grace demands

Recessional:
Refrain:
Create a new heart, Holy Lord. Beckon our lives through your word. Open our eyes to your call, United as one for your world. Heighten our minds to your thoughts. Heal us of pride and of hurt. May we go forth in your name. We pray our hearts change.

The heart of the cross lowly and poor, calls us on. Lord, it is you promising hope, Promising truth.  

Refrain:

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FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Entrance:
Amazing Grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see.

’Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears relieved
The hour I first believed!

Thru’ many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come; ’Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

Responsorial Psalm:
The Lord has done great things for us. We are filled with joy.
We are filled with joy.

Gospel Acclamation:
Return to God, with all your heart,
Gospel Acclamation:
We are filled with joy.
The Lord has done great things for us.
Responsorial Psalm:
and grace will lead me home.
’Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
Thru’ many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
I once was lost but now am found,
Yes, I will run the race
But by the Spirit of God
Not by might, not by power
For Your glory, may You draw me on
As angels understand
As Your love and grace demands.
Refrain:
And I will run to You
To Your words of truth
Not by might, not by power
But by the Spirit of God
Yes, I will run the race
Till I see Your face
Oh let me live in the glory of Your grace.

You call me to Your purpose
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Recessional:
Refrain:
Create a new heart, Holy Lord. Beckon our lives through your word. Open our eyes to your call, United as one for your world. Heighten our minds to your thoughts. Heal us of pride and of hurt. May we go forth in your name. We pray our hearts change.

The heart of the cross
lowly and poor, calls us on.
Lord, it is you promising hope, Promising truth.

Refrain:

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