

Nazareth Parish Bulletin

A vibrant community, journeying with Jesus.

Parish office: 9412 8444
grovedale@cam.org.au
www.tagparish.com.au



Nazareth Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Nazareth Parish acknowledges the Wadawurrung people who are the traditional custodians of this land and we pay respect to the Elders past and present and emerging.

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

St Christopher's Church,
Bingley Pde, Anglesea
Saturday 6pm
Tuesday 9.30am

St Therese Church,
Surfcoast Hwy, Torquay
Sunday 9am
Sunday 5pm
Wednesday *Rosary* 9am
Wednesday 9.30am
Friday 9.30am

Nazareth Church,
Griffith St, Grovedale
Sunday 11am
Thursday 9.30am

HOME VISITS

If there are any parishioners who are sick or housebound and would like to receive communion or a home visit please make contact with the parish office: 9412 8444

POPE'S MONTHLY INTENTIONS

For families in crisis

Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

Dear parishioners,

Join in the chorus! I don't think I got as many messages of congratulations after my ordination to the priesthood as I did from people last Sunday when North Melbourne belted the Demons by 10 goals. It was a day of rejoicing. When Pope Francis declared Hope as the theme for this Jubilee year of mercy, he must have had the boys from Arden Street in mind. Jokes aside, the shinboner spirit seems alive and well in our Holy Father, who keeps bouncing back from serious illness. Do continue to pray for him.

It was good to see though. Watching the replay of us run away with the win in the last quarter took me back to the 90s when this would happen on a regular basis. Great memories. That was then though and this is now. I hope we back it up this week with a solid effort against the Crows on their home deck. It will provide a real test to prove it wasn't a flash-in-the-pan performance.

It's this "backing it up" that we're called to in the spiritual life. One could get the impression that the season of Lent is that few weeks of the year when we make a handful of gestures at being holy before resuming the regular program after Easter. Which is better than nothing I suppose, but misses the point. The prayers of the mass these past days had me being reminded of what the purpose of this season is and what we should all be aiming for: life with God.

As the church celebrates Laetare Sunday this weekend – roughly the halfway mark of Lent - it's a good time to be reminded of this. Not so much to simply hang in there until it's over but rather to order ourselves on the path that leads to heaven. To not simply endure and put up with our existence here but to "...so deal with the things of this passing world as to hold rather to the things that eternally endure" (Preface II of Lent). If the Kangas go on to get soundly beaten in their next four games, our effort last week will be more an insult than something to be encouraged by. Likewise, if our Lenten observances don't ultimately encourage us to live more for God and others and less for ourselves, spiritually and ultimately it won't amount to much.

My prayers go with you!

Fr Joel.



4th Sunday of Lent Year C 30th March 2025

Nazareth Parish Year of Jubilee 2025

Thank you so much for all your generous donations. More bags of clothes were left at the Church here in Torquay ready to be sorted and taken to Vinnies and to Food Aid Torquay. More vouchers were collected and will be given to St Vincent de Paul's. We are certainly living out our mission of a vibrant community, journeying with Jesus, and heeding the call of the Catholic Social Teachings. This Appeal will continue till Easter, and then we will revisit the appeal during Advent. Thankyou.



Anglesea Combined Churches Service 30th March 2025 @ 9.00am

On behalf of the Anglesea Association of Christian Churches, the Anglican Church of the Transfiguration is hosting the Catholic, Baptist and Uniting congregations at their Sunday service on 30th March at 9.00am. Please come along and share our common faith and belief. We look forward to seeing you at the Anglican Church in Camp Road opposite the Anglesea Hotel.

Following on after this church service, you are all invited to share in an Inter Church BBQ Lunch and fellowship at the Uniting Church in Murch Crescent. When: Sunday 30th March, 11.30am for 12noon lunch. Even if you cannot make it to the church service you are still welcome to join the BBQ lunch. Everything supplied and ALL welcome.

Sign up sheets for Holy Week Ceremonies

Urgent... this is the last Sunday for volunteers and ministers to fill in their availability on the sign-up sheets for assisting with the parish Easter ceremonies at St Therese Church on 17th, 18th & 19th April 2025. The sheets are displayed in our three community churches. Each Community has been allocated a share in the roles that are needed.

After Sunday the names will be allocated to the various roles. The Parishioners involved will be notified and given any resource material that may be required for them to carry out their role. With grateful thanks, Marg O'Byrne For Parish Liturgy Team

Volunteer Gardener at Rice Village, Marshall

Are looking for a volunteer gardener for the general gardens around the village. Please contact Sally Doodt on 52472202 if your able to assist.

Choir Practice

Once again we are welcoming singers and musicians from all parish communities to join the Combined Nazareth Parish Choir to help make the Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil) a sacred and special time.



Choir Practices will be as follows. **All at St. Therese Church Torquay**
Wednesday April 9th 3:30PM (for Holy Thursday)
Wednesday April 16th 3:30PM (for Good Friday)
Friday April 18th 5PM (for the Easter Vigil)

Any queries please contact Sherry Watson Ph: 0417 259 735. shezzawatto@gmail.com

Olive branches

As we prepare for Palm Sunday weekend Masses on April 12th and 13th, we kindly ask you to bring small olive branches to share with our community.

These branches are a beautiful symbol of peace and will enhance our celebration.



Notice from the liturgy meeting

Following the Minister's in-service held on 19th March, extraordinary ministers of the Holy Eucharist are to now come forward *after* the Priest has received Communion and moves towards the Tabernacle to collect the ciborium.

This is in accord with item 162 of *The General Instruction Of The Roman Missal* which states: *"extraordinary ministers should not approach the Altar before the Priest has received Communion, and they are always to receive from the hands of the Priest Celebrant the vessel containing the species of the Most Holy Eucharist for distribution to the faithful"*.

'Beyond the Vows' | One-day Catholic Marriage Retreat

Join us on Saturday, April 12, 2025, at St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church, Caroline Springs. Through inspiring talks, prayer, and meaningful conversations, this retreat is designed to help married couples deepen intimacy, reconnect with God, and renew their commitment. 9:45 AM – 5:00 PM | \$50 per couple. For more information and to register, scan the QR code or visit: beyondthevows.site

Unpacking Catholic Social Teaching – Week 10 - Principle 9: Participation

This Sunday's Gospel from Luke 15:1-3, 11-32 tells of the Parable of the Prodigal Son. Comparing Catholic Social Teaching of Participation involves understanding the themes of mercy, inclusion, and active engagement in the community.

The parable highlights God's mercy and forgiveness through the father welcoming back his lost son. The elder son's reaction represents exclusion and resentment, showing a struggle with justice and fairness. Jesus tells this story in response to Pharisees criticising Him for associating with sinners, emphasising God's desire for all to be included in His love.

Catholic Social Teaching of Participation means people have a right and duty to participate in society, seeking together the common good and well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable. It encourages active involvement in family, community, and societal structures and calls for inclusivity, justice, and reconciliation in decision-making processes.

The prodigal son is welcomed back into the family, mirroring the emphasis on including all people in community life. The elder son resists participation, much like societies that exclude certain individuals from decision-making.

The father's act of reinstating the prodigal son mirrors the call for reconciliation and reintegration of marginalised individuals. True participation means allowing people a second chance to contribute to society.

Catholic Social Teaching emphasises mutual responsibility for the common good. The father invites both sons to share in the family's joy, just as do the calls all people to engage actively in social, economic, and political life.

In society, barriers (like poverty, discrimination, and injustice) prevent people from participating fully, just as the elder son wanted to exclude his younger brother.

Like the father's unconditional love, Catholic Social Teaching calls us to build structures that allow everyone to engage and contribute to the community. All people have a right to participate in the economic, political, and cultural life of society. It is a fundamental demand of justice and a requirement for human dignity that all people be assured a minimum level of participation in the community. It is wrong for a person, or a group, to be excluded unfairly or to be unable to participate in society.

Other References:

It is impossible to imagine a future for society without the active participation of great majorities as protagonists, and such proactive participation

overflows the logical procedures of formal democracy. Moving towards a world of lasting peace and justice calls us to go beyond paternalistic forms of assistance; it calls us to create new forms of participation that include popular movements and invigorate local, national and international governing structures with that torrent of moral energy that springs from including the excluded in the building of a common destiny. And all this with a constructive spirit, without resentment, with love. (Pope Francis, World Meeting of Popular Movements, 2014)

When people can participate and feel like protagonists, they are able to help write the story of God's work for justice in our world.

How can I participate to ensure a just world?

~ Parish Leadership Team

Parish Lenten Reconciliation

On Tuesday 8th April 7pm at St Therese Church, Torquay, we invite you to participate in our Lenten Reconciliation service. This is a special time for reflection, prayer and healing. All welcome.

Nazareth Catholic Parish

HOLY WEEK 2025

APRIL 17 - 7.30PM

HOLY THURSDAY

The Lord's Supper
St Therese Church, Torquay

APRIL 18 - 10AM

GOOD FRIDAY

Stations of the Cross
Nazareth Church, Grovedale

APRIL 18 - 3PM

GOOD FRIDAY

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
St Therese Church, Torquay

APRIL 19 - 8PM

HOLY SATURDAY

Easter Vigil
St Therese Church, Torquay

APRIL 20

EASTER SUNDAY

9am - St Therese Church, Torquay
10.30am - St Christopher's Church, Angelsea
11am - Nazareth Church, Grovedale





**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

Fourth Sunday of Lent 29th and 30th of March 2025

Irene lives in a remote village in the Kongolo Region in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Life hasn't been easy for Irene. After losing her father in a war, Irene and her family were forced to flee their home. Life became even more challenging when her husband left, leaving Irene to raise her 2 children alone. Without finishing her education and with few job opportunities in her village, she struggled to provide even the basics for her family.

Things began to change when Irene joined the Youth Capacity Strengthening Program (YCSP), run by Caritas Kongolo with the support of Caritas Australia. Through the program, Irene learned sewing skills and was provided with a sewing machine and fabric. Irene also gained farming skills. Now, she grows enough food to feed her family and even shares her sewing knowledge by mentoring other women in her community.



Photo credit: Arlette Bashizi/Caritas Australia

Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above.

Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion

Or by calling: 1800 024 413



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Children's Liturgy

During Sunday Morning Mass

St Therese Church
1st Sunday of the month

Nazareth Church
1st & 3rd Sunday of the month

First Reading: Joshua 5:9-12

Responsorial Psalm:

Taste and see the goodness of the lord.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Gospel Acclamation:

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

I will rise and go to my Father and tell him:

Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel: Luke 15:1-3. 11-32

Click the link to be directed to the reading of the day, scroll down or on the right to select a different day



DAILY READINGS

PRAYING FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

Recent deaths: *Nunziata Ravnik*

Anniversaries who are at this time:

PRAYING FOR THE SICK IN OUR COMMUNITY

Our thoughts are with those who are unwell at this time.

Please submit a consent form to have a loved one prayed for.



Parish Priest

Fr Joel Peart: joel.peart@cam.org.au

Parish Staff:

Tracy Ford: tracy.ford@cam.org.au

Brian McMahon brian.mcmahon@cam.org.au

grovedale.liturgy@cam.org.au

Leadership team leadershipteam.grovedale@cam.org.au

Parish Office

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Email: grovedale@cam.org.au

Parish Presbytery

72 Marine Drive, Torquay Vic 3228

For any urgent pastoral need outside of office hours please call the presbytery on 03 9412 8443

Office Hours

Our hours are:- **Tuesday - Friday, 9am - 3pm.**

Outside of these hours, please leave a message and one of the staff will contact you when they are next in the office.

Office is Closed on Public Holidays

Bulletin Notices

Please submit them by Thursday mornings.

Email: grovedale@cam.org.au

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