

THE PAULINE AND OLIVERIAN

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

First Sunday of Lent Year A

22nd Feb 2026

PARISH PRIEST:

Fr. James Puppady

Parish Secretary:

Mrs Loretta Meilak

Parish Coordinator

Mr Truc Nguyen



St Oliver Plunkett's Pascoe Vale

1 Landells Rd, PO Box 567, Pascoe Vale

Ph: 9354-1564

E: pascoevale@cam.org.au

Office: 562 Sydney Rd, Coburg

Mon 8:30am—11:30am

Tue — Fri 9:00am—3:00pm

W: northmelbournecatholic.org.au

School Principal: Delfina Pieri

MASS TIMES

Tuesday & Thursday 10:00am

Saturday 5:00pm (Vigil)

Sunday 8:45am & 10:30am

FAMILY MASS – 1ST WEEKEND EACH MONTH

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 10:00am to 10:30am



St Paul's Parish Coburg

562 Sydney Road, Coburg

Ph: 9354-1564

E: coburg@cam.org.au

Mon 8:30am—11:30am

Tue — Fri 9:00am—3:00pm

W: northmelbournecatholic.org.au

School Principal: Maria Mercuri

Ph: 9354-8970

MASS TIMES

Wednesday & Friday 10:00am

Saturday: 6:30pm (Vigil)

8:00pm (Neocatechumenal way.

All welcome)

Sunday 9:00am (English)

10:30am (Italian)

FAMILY MASS – 2ND WEEKEND EACH MONTH

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 7:15pm

FACEBOOK PAGE:

PASCOE VALE & COBURG

facebook.com/pascoealecoburg

SACRED SPACE



The readings for the First Sunday of Lent act as a kind of overture to the entire season. They enable us to engage in a double confession: a confession of sin and the repentance which follows; and a confession of praise for the mercy of God which is shown us in spite of our sin. The very first reading reminds us of our fragility. We are made of the dust of the ground, the very stuff that represents death and decay. We were reminded of this when ashes were used to sign us on Ash Wednesday. At the beginning of Lent we are invited to acknowledge honestly and realistically our fundamental human weakness. Despite our weaknesses, the situation within which we find ourselves is not hopeless. Somewhere deep within ourselves we know that we are not helpless prisoners of our limitations. God has not deserted us to our guilt. The form that God's compassion takes is outlined in the reading from Romans. It is in the death and resurrection of Jesus that we see the extent of this divine compassion. Its scope is first measured by the yardstick of human sinfulness, and then it outstrips those dimensions. God's gracious gift far exceeds the effects of human transgression.

The gospel reading moves us from both the anthropological and the theological considerations to the crowning Christological reflections. As we look to Jesus, we see humanity at its best, tempted but not overcome. There will certainly always be human limitations, human weaknesses that will open the door to temptation. But Jesus shows us that we are not thereby doomed. Jesus is a model for our own journey to new life. *(by Dianne Bergant CSA)*



Join the movement. Believe.

Be part of Eucharist28.

The national journey towards the **International Eucharistic Congress 2028 (Eucharist28)** with Pope Leo has officially begun! Marking 100 years since the 1928 International Eucharistic Congress in Sydney, Eucharist28 is more than a single event. It is a multi-year national pilgrimage of prayer, formation and renewal, inviting Catholics

Across Australia, Oceania and beyond to rediscover the transforming power of the Eucharist. **As part of the preparation, all parishes are invited to participate in a nationwide Eucharistic adoration Holy Hour on Sunday 1 March 2026 after mass** marking the beginning of a Year of Prayer and uniting Catholics across the country in prayer for renewal. Eucharist28 will gather pilgrims from around the world in Sydney, but its vision reaches far beyond one city or one week — seeking to deepen Eucharistic faith, strengthen prayer and renew the missionary spirit of the Church in Australia for years to come.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION HOLY HOUR TIMES

ST OLIVERS PASCOE VALE: Sun 1st March 11.30-12.30pm

ST PAULS COBURG: Sun 8th March 11.30am-12.30pm

(After 10.30am morning masses)



THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7

A reading from the book of Genesis.

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being.

The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden.

The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death".' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 50:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. see v.3

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin. (R.)
2. My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned; what is evil in your sight I have done. (R.)
3. A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me.

Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit. (R.)

4. Give me again the joy of your help; with a spirit of fervour sustain me.
O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare your praise.
(R.)

SECOND READING

Romans 5:12, 17-19

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 4:4

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL

Matthew 4:1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says:

Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says:
He will put you in his angels' charge, and

they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says:

You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.'

Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
(All bow during these two lines)
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

PARISH PRAYER

God our Father, bless this parish that we may love you more. Bless us in ways that you know best and form us into a true community of worship and love. Deepen our understanding of your message today. Give us especially your spirit of love, so that it may touch all people with whom we come into contact. Encircle our families with your loving care and assist parents in their role as leaders in faith. To the sick grant health, to the aged bring serenity and peace, and to those in sadness joy. May we grow stronger in faith and our love for one another become deeper in our daily living. Amen.

ST OLIVER PLUNKETT'S PARISH NEWS

WE PRAY FOR:

Those who have died: Claudio Gonzalez, Paola Lenares, Kistama Naidoo

Anniversaries: Dominic Salzone, Pasquale Kaia, Dawn Coots, Simon Peter Chin, Govanna De Fazio

Those who are ill: Daniel Dowling, Keith Redman, Mary Mobbs, Fiona Edwards, John Moore, Justin & Family, Irene Mary Wymer, Anna Alessi, Trish Lee, John Griffin, Marie Comer, Gim, Anthony, Milana, Carmelo family, Ardith Dowling, Joe Mobbs, Greg Patterson, Alan Holman, Diana Ferrantino, Lorraine Punch, Paul Winston, Charles, Letizia Lauria, Katie Fields, Nunziatina, Anna Nicolazzo, LiRosi family members

READERS 21/22 Feb 28 Feb / 1 Mar

Sat 5:00pm J. Pertile (L) & C. Rowland (R) Mia & Ada (Family Mass)

Sun 8:45am M. Ziccone (L) & B. Messina (R) (R) M. Tamayo (L) C. D'Orazio (R)

10:30am L. Willason (L) & O. Aquino (R) Panos (Family Mass)

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Sat 5:00pm Christine Rowland Lucy Teoh

Sun 8:45am Marta Tamayo Josephine Mokbel

10:30am Daniela Petrocco Nat Palmieri

STATIONS OF THE CROSS – DURING LENT

(commencing Thurs 19th Feb 2026)

St Oliver's Pascoe Vale: 9.30am Tues & Thurs

St Pauls Coburg: Wed's 9.30am (English), Fridays 9.15am (Italian) & 7pm (English)

St Pauls Coburg: Morning Prayer; 6am weekdays during lent



Stations of the Cross



ALPHA MEETING A reminder to all who volunteered to help with Alpha 2026, a meeting in the Parish Centre will be held on Wed the 25th of Feb at 7pm. Ph: Marthese 0421 815 369.



First Sunday of Lent 21–22 February 2026

Project Compassion 2026 shares four stories from around the world. We'll meet Sisilia from Tanzania, Monoranjon from Bangladesh, Manaini from Fiji and Ahmad from Gaza.

Each of this year's stories highlights unique challenges, yet they are united by the determination to rise above adversity and to build brighter, more hopeful futures for themselves, their families and their communities.



UNITE AGAINST POVERTY
this Lent

Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

Or online at: www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate
Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent.*

ST PAUL'S PARISH NEWS

WE PRAY FOR:

Those who have died: Veronika Jancic

Anniversaries: Francesco Paolo Flammea, Antonia De Fusco, Carmelo Malivindi, Filippo Dell Universita (1 yr), Antonio Dell Universita (19 yrs), Maura Pomazan, Eleonora Lanza, Placidia Garonzi, Elizabeth Bugija

Those Who are ill: Alice, Mark, Luke & Kate, Andrew Cassidy, Christine Reid, Maria Ambesi, Nissen Saba, John Saba, Derrick Tailford, Carmel Veneziano, Sebastiana De Pietro, Malissa Randich, Millie, Paschaline Mmadike, Mia, Frank Veneziano, Sabello Family, Charles, Maureen McLure, Mary

READERS: 21/22 Feb 28 Feb / 1 Mar

Sat 6:30pm William Kennedy Phillip Scardilli

Sun 9:00am G.Baviera & T. Pugliano B. Greig & Dylan Greig

10:30am R. Oppendisano (SP) & A D'Amato (L) Rita Luci (SP) & R. Oppendisano (L)

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Sat 6:30pm Mary De Marco Alfred Meilak

Sun 9:00am Annette Barnes Angela Greig

10:30am Laura Scherma Giuseppe Schiavello

ST PAULS 2026 THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES AVAILABLE AT THE REAR OF THE CHURCH

SPECIAL MINISTER OF COMMUNION Any

parishioner who would like to become a Eucharistic Minister, please contact the office on 9354-1564 or email coburg@cam.org.au within the next two weeks.

Lenten Regulations 2026 – Information for Parishioners

The Lenten season has a twofold character:

1. It recalls baptism or prepares for it;
2. It stresses a penitential spirit.

By these means especially, Lent readies the faithful for celebrating the paschal mystery after a period of closer attention to the Word of God, and more ardent prayer.

Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, Vatican II

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of Fasting and Abstinence for meat.

On all other Fridays, except solemnities, the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled by performing any one of the following:

- a) Prayer** – E.g. 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** – E.g. 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. Project Compassion is a major means of expressing our self-denial in Australia.
- c) Helping Others** – E.g. special attention to someone who is poor, sick, elderly, lonely or over-burdened; or in other ways.

The wonderful gift of the Lord's merciful love is offered in a special way in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Lent is a most appropriate time to receive this Sacrament. All the faithful who have reached the age of discretion are bound faithfully to confess their grave sins at least once a year.

Very Reverend Anthony Kerin JCL VG
VICAR GENERAL

ST PAUL'S & ST OLIVER'S WELCOMES YOU TO

HOLY TRIDUUM 2026



Way of the Cross
St Paul's Coburg

Weekdays During Lent
Wed's 9.30am (English),
Fridays 9.15am (Italian) & 7pm (English)
Morning Prayer: 6am weekdays

St Oliver's Pascoe Vale

Tuesdays & Thursdays 9.30am

Holy Thursday April 2
St Paul's & St Oliver's

7.00pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper
followed by Adoration at the
Altar of Repose until 10.00 pm

Good Friday April 3
St Paul's

9.15am [no Mass] *Fast and Abstinence*
10.00am Way of the Cross in Italian
Morning Prayer
11.00am Way of the Cross in English
3.00pm Solemn celebration of the Lord's Passion
7.00pm Italian Celebration of the Lord's Passion

St Oliver's

11.00am Way of the Cross
3.00pm Solemn celebration of the Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday
St Paul's

April 4 10.00am [no Confessions]
Morning Prayer

Easter Vigil
St Oliver's
St Paul's

April 4 5.00pm Mass of the Resurrection
6.30pm Mass of the Resurrection

Easter Sunday April 5
St Oliver's

8.45am Easter Mass
10.30am Easter Mass

St Paul's

9.00am Easter Mass English
10.30am Easter Mass Italian



PROGRAMS

ST PAULS PARISH

ADORATION:

First Friday of the month: 10.30am-12:00pm

BAPTISMS:

Sundays at 12:00pm by appointment

FAMILY MASS: 2nd Weekend of the Month

COMMUNION TO SICK:

Thursdays & Fridays

ANOINTING OF THE SICK:

2 times a year (Lent & Advent).

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sundays 10:00am

BIBLE STUDY: Mon 11:00am

ITALIAN PRAYER GROUP: Wed 10:30am

Legion of Mary: Monday mornings at 10:30am

ANNUAL ITALIAN FEASTS: 2026

Feast of St Anthony 14 June 10:30am

Feast of the Madonna 16 Aug 2026 2:00pm

St Lucy Feast Day 13 Dec 2026 2:00pm

ST OLIVER PLUNKETT'S PARISH

BAPTISMS:

Saturdays 12:00pm (By Appointment)

MARRIAGES:

By appointment at least 6 months' notice

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

1st Sundays of the month 10:30am Mass
(except during school holidays)

FAMILY MASS: 1st Weekend of the Month
5pm & 10.30am mass.

CUPPA IN PARISH CENTRE: 1st weekend of the
month after 5pm & 10.30am mass. Library
open for borrowing

PARISH ACTIVITIES:

MONDAY:

Christian Meditation- Chris Rowland

7:00pm-8:00pm Parish Centre – 0411 440 746

TUESDAY: Italian Ladies Prayer Group

10:00am Meeting Room

St Vincent de Paul

4:00pm Parish Centre

(Last Tuesday of the month)

Charismatic Prayer Group

Tuesday 7:30pm Parish Centre

WEDNESDAY: Drop-In Centre

1:00pm-3:00pm Church/Parish Centre

A WARM WELCOME TO NEW PARISHIONERS

Please let us know that you have joined our
community and if there is anything we can do for you.
Are you new to our Parish? _____

Need Thanksgiving envelopes? _____

Would like a home visit and house blessing? _____

Please complete the details below and place in the
collection plate at Mass or send to the Parish office.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

To existing parishioners: if you would like to
contribute on a regular basis using the envelopes,
please complete the above. Thank you.

CASHLESS PAYMENTS St Oliver's

Online Offerings: ST OLIVERS

<https://melbourne.cdfpay.org.au/details/?id=135>

OR DIRECT DEPOSIT:

St Olivers Church A/C:

BSB: 083-347 ACC: 55158 7979

Presbytery A/C:

BSB: 083-347 ACC: 53102 0158



LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION:

Collection Thanksgiving \$ 1372.45

2nd Collection Presbytery \$ 500.00

Direct debits January \$2647.45

CASHLESS PAYMENTS St Paul's

Online Offerings ST PAULS

<https://melbourne.cdfpay.org.au/details/?id=154>

OR DIRECT DEPOSIT:

St Paul's Church A/C

BSB: 083-347

Acc.: 67541 0884

Presbytery A/C

BSB: 083-347

Acc: 5310 20158



LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION:

1st Collection Sacrificial \$

2nd Collection Presbytery \$

Direct debits January \$859.00

Safety of Children & all Vulnerable People. We hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and all vulnerable people, as a central and fundamental responsibility, of our parishes. The Parish Statement of Commitment and the Reporting Process, are on display in all churches, and all Parish Policies are available, on the website: cam.org.au/Coburg