

# THE PAULINE AND OLIVERIAN

## COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Fifth Sunday of Lent Year A

22<sup>st</sup> March 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: [northmelbourncatholic.org.au](http://northmelbourncatholic.org.au)

School Principal: Delfina Pieri

### MASS TIMES

Tuesday & Thursday 10:00am

Saturday 5:00pm (Vigil)

Sunday 8:45am & 10:30am

FAMILY MASS – 1<sup>ST</sup> 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: [northmelbourncatholic.org.au](http://northmelbourncatholic.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 – 2<sup>ND</sup> WEEKEND EACH MONTH

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 7:15pm

FACEBOOK PAGE:

PASCOE VALE & COBURG

[facebook.com/pascoealecoburg](https://facebook.com/pascoealecoburg)

## SACRED SPACE



As a metaphor, death can stand for many things. The prophet Ezekiel witnessed the death of the nation. The gospel reports the death of Lazarus. Although Paul refers to the mortal character of our physical bodies, he is more concerned with spiritual life and death. Death attacks each one of us in all three of these ways. We are all mortal and subject to physical death; we are all sinners and must deal with the implications of spiritual death; we are all subject to the consequences of social sins such as terrorism, violence, group hatred, greed and ecological exploitation. The question before us is whether or not we are going to allow death to reign in our lives and in our communities. All three readings for this Sunday, as well as the psalm response, point out our inability to raise ourselves out of the deaths that afflict us. In the passage from Ezekiel, it is God who promises to open the graves of the people; the people are helpless to do anything. The psalmist cries to God from out of the depths of pain and helplessness. Acknowledging human propensity to sin, Paul credits the Spirit of God with transforming death into life. Finally, it is Jesus who calls Lazarus out of the grave and returns him to his life. We can see that God does not leave us to languish in our various deaths. Instead, God offers us new life out of the tombs. All of this is accomplished through the mercy and compassion of God. (by Dianne Bergant)

## HEALING MASS & ANNOINTING OF THE SICK

St Paul's: Wed 25<sup>th</sup> March 10am

St Oliver's Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> March 10am

## CONFESSIONS BEFORE HOLY WEEK

St Oliver's: Sat 28<sup>th</sup> Mar 10.00 am

St Paul's: Fri 27 Mar 10.30am

Sat 28<sup>th</sup> Mar 7.15pm



## PALM SUNDAY – 29<sup>th</sup> March 2026

### ST PAUL'S COBURG:

8.30am: Blessing of Palms

8.50am: Procession into the church

Refreshments in hall after 9am mass

### ST OLIVER PLUNKETT'S PASCOE VALE:

Procession 10 minutes before Sat 5pm

and Sunday 10.30am mass



**EASTER RAFFLE** – Thankyou to everyone who kindly donated towards the Easter Raffle. Please note no more donations after this weekend. Tickets are on sale **this weekend** and winners will be drawn on Palm Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> April, after the 10.30am Mass at St Olivers. Please support this Raffle as proceeds go towards hosting ALPHA. **One ticket for \$3 or three tickets for \$5.**

**SAUSAGE SIZZLE** at St Oliver's, next Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March after

the 10.30am Mass, held at the front of the Church. We are

raising funds for the ALPHA Course beginning on Wed 15<sup>th</sup>

April. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

**Sausage in bread \$3 each.**



## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### FIRST READING

*Ezekiel 37:12-14*

*A reading from the prophet Ezekiel*

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

**The Word of the Lord.**

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Ps 129. R. v.7*

**R. With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.**

1. Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord, Lord, hear my voice!  
O let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleading. (R.)
2. If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive?  
But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you. (R.)
3. My soul is waiting for the Lord, I count on his word.  
My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak. (Let the watchman count on daybreak and Israel on the Lord.). (R.)
4. Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption, Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity. (R.)

### SECOND READING

*Romans 8:8-11*

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

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

**The word of the Lord.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *See John 11:25. 26*

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will not die for ever.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

### GOSPEL

*John 11:3-7. 17. 20-27. 33-45*

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

The sisters Martha and Mary sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.'

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said: 'I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?'

'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.' Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus

lifted up his eyes and said: 'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.'

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.' Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in 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:

**Anniversaries:** Fabian, Salud, Rodulpo Mangao, Paul John Gites, Antonio Vescio, Antonio Nicolaci (1 year), Gwen Henger, Maria Cavalieri, Modesta Wilkin

**Those who are ill:** 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, Anna

### READERS 21 / 22 Mar 28 / 29 Mar

**Sat 5:00pm** A. Taglieri (L) & C. Rowland (R) C. Rowland (L) & L. Teoh (R)

**Sun 8:45am** M. Carabott (L) & L. Di Nicola (R) M. Tamayo (L) & M. Ziccone (R)

**10:30am** S. Harrison (L) & R. Cassidy (R) S. Bennardo (L) & O. Aquino (R)

### EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

**Sat 5:00pm** Angela Taglieri Rosemary Paligaru

**Sun 8:45am** Marta Tamayo Lina Di Nicola

**10:30am** Daniela Petrocco Anna Cocomello

## ST PAUL'S PARISH NEWS

### WE PRAY FOR:

**Those who have died:** Francesco Inturrisi, Mario Pellizzer, Carmel Veneziano, Rosa Bagnato, Teresa Di Toro, Antonio Guzzardi

**Anniversaries:** Phil Chalmers, Gregoria Grillo, Francesco Carnovale

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

### READERS: 21 / 22 Mar 28 / 29 Mar

**Sat 6:30pm** Paul Kennedy Tamesha Raj

**Sun 9:00am** A. Barnes & P. Kardas Angela Greig & Patricia Wright

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

### EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

**Sat 6:30pm** Mary De Marco Alfred Meilak

**Sun 9:00am** Warren Power Rosa Touma

**10:30am** Laura Scherma Giuseppe Schiavello

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



ALPHA starts in our parish on Wednesday 15th April, in St Oliver's Parish Centre, Pascoe Vale at 6.30pm. It is a series of videos and conversations focused on the questions of life, faith and meaning. It is a non-judgemental and open environment where it's easy for anyone who is simply curious about faith to explore questions of life with new friends. After a successful ALPHA program last year, we are pleased to be able to offer it again this year. Registrations begin this weekend and each weekend leading to Easter. Please fill in registration sheet provided at the back of the church.

### CHRISM MASS AT ST PATRICKS CATHEDRAL

**Tues 31st Mar 2026 10am-12pm** - In this ancient and beautiful liturgy, Archbishop Peter A Comensoli, together with all of Melbourne's priests, will bless the oils being used in the sacraments for the year ahead. **NB: There will be a communion service at St Oliver's 10am mass.**

### CONFIRMATION & COMMUNION CANDIDATES

Please keep the St Paul's and St Oliver's School children celebrating their First Holy Communion and Confirmation over this next week in your Prayers, that the Lord will bless them and guide them in their faith journey.

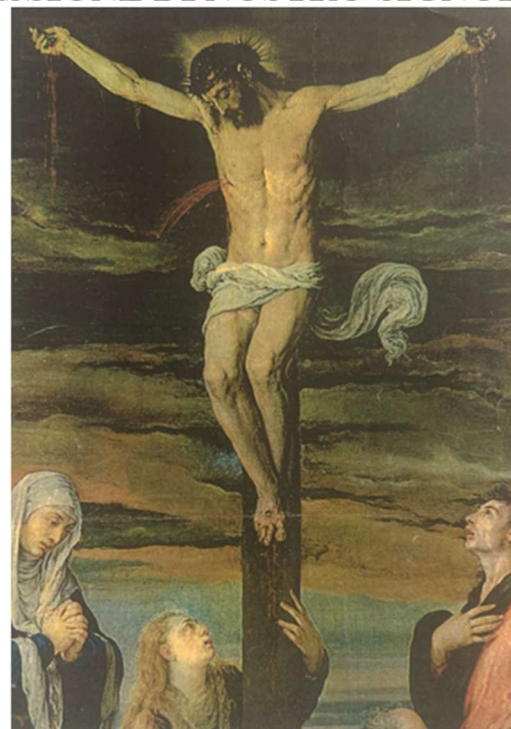
**A Reflective Call to Prayer for Parish Council Nominations** As we approach Palm Sunday, the final day for nominations for our Parish Pastoral Council (PPC), we invite you to reflect on the Lenten Gospels to guide your prayers and discernment. Each week we have been reminded of Jesus' transformative encounters— From his call to courage in the desert, to his life-giving conversation with the Samaritan woman, his healing of the blind man, and his grief for Lazarus, we see how Jesus brings hope, renewal, and new beginnings. These Lenten Gospel reflections support our prayer and discernment by inviting us to deeply engage with the transformative encounters of Jesus. Each Gospel story highlights themes such as courage, renewal, healing, and hope; offering spiritual insights that resonate with our personal experiences. Reflecting on these stories helps us to connect our own lives to the message of Jesus, fostering a deeper understanding of God's call and purpose. These stories invite us also to reflect on how Jesus has rolled away the stones in our own lives, calling us to live in faith and share his love with others.

We ask you to prayerfully consider this call to service. Use these Lenten reflections to guide your discernment, as together we look forward with all other Melbourne parishes to exploring more about missionary leadership, young discipleship, and formation and participation. Pray for those who may be called to serve and reflect on whether you, or someone you know, might be ready to answer this invitation to bring hope, renewal and new beginnings to our parish.

**Nomination Forms are available in the Church or on the website.**

Fr. James Puppady

### SOLENNE LITURGIA PASSIONE DI NOSTRO SIGNORE



**VENERDI' SANTO 2026**

**7.00PM CHIESA DI SAN PAOLO  
562 SYDNEY ROAD, COBURG**

# 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:** 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

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

**FAMILY MASS:** 1<sup>st</sup> Weekend of the Month  
5pm & 10.30am mass.

**CUPPA IN PARISH CENTRE:** 1<sup>st</sup> 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 \$ 1285.40

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection** Presbytery \$ 509.15

**Direct debits February** \$2971.75

#### 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:

**1<sup>st</sup> Collection** Sacrificial \$ 647.70

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection** Presbytery \$ 300.00

**Direct debits February** \$ 895.00

**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](http://cam.org.au/Coburg)