

Simcha Fisher (Catholic Weekly)

Suggestions for Lent you may not have considered

Give up, or at least cast a critical eye on, doing things that will score us points with our crowd

That’s one of the worst and most perilous reasons to do or believe something: For applause. Our foundational ideas can so easily shift along with the crowd without us even realising it, and the crowd tends to demand more and more debasement. Times like these are a wonderful opportunity to halt, assess what our core values are, and ask ourselves: Why am I doing this? Why am I saying this? Why am I speaking to or about this person this way? Just check in and see if anything has shifted in your heart since last year, or since a few years ago; and, if it has, consider whether our new personal standards make us a better witness to the Gospel, or worse.

WORSHIP TIMETABLE



Saturday

Reconciliation Castlemaine **5.15pm**

Vigil Mass: Castlemaine **6.00pm**

Rosary is prayed before Mass

Sunday

Reconciliation: Maldon **8.15am**

Mass: Maldon **8.30am**

Mass: Castlemaine **10.30am**

Tuesday

Mass: Castlemaine **6.00pm**

Wednesday

Mass: Castlemaine **9.15am**

Rosary is prayed after Mass

Thursday

Rosary before Mass

Mass: Maldon **11.00am.**

Friday

Mass: Castlemaine **9.15am**

Followed by Adoration.

Second Sunday of the Month

Mass: Newstead **6.00pm**

Fourth Sunday of the Month

Mass: Sandon **6.00pm**

CONTACT DETAILS

Parish Priest

Rev Wahid Riad PP

Phone: (03) 5472 1900

Mobile: 0419 511 064

St Mary’s

Primary School

Principal: Anushka Vaz

Phone: (03) 5472 2270

Parish Secretary

Eva Jansen

10 am to 4pm - Tuesday to Thursday

Phone: (03) 5472 1900/0413940216

Baptisms, Marriages

Pastoral Care of the Sick

For details regarding the celebration of these sacraments, please contact the Parish Priest.

St Brigid’s Hall

Bookings for St. Brigid’s Hall through

Elaine Lacey on:- 0448 009 945.

St Mary’s Hall

Bookings for St. Mary’s Hall through

Parish Office on: 5472 1900

CATHOLIC PARISH OF CASTLEMAINE



- HOLY NAME OF MARY, CASTLEMAINE • ST BRIGID’S, MALDON
- ST ANNE’S, NEWSTEAD • ST LAURENCE’S SANDON

23rd March 2025

Third Sunday of Lent—Year C

Presbytery: 76 Hargraves Street / PO Box 151, Castlemaine 3450

Parish Priest: Rev Fr. Wahid Riad **Web:** www.stmaryscastlemaine.org.au

Ph: (03) 5472 1900

Email: castlemaine@cam.org.au

We are proud to acknowledge the Dja Dja Wurrung people as the traditional owners of this land.

3rd Sunday of Lent—23rd March

Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15
1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12
Luke 13:1-9

4th Sunday of Lent—30th Sunday March

Joshua 5:9-12
2 Corinthians 5:17-21
Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Responsorial Psalm

The Lord is kind and merciful.

Gospel Acclamation

**Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
Repent, says the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is at hand.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!**

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

“He said to the gardener, ‘For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none.’” - LUKE 13:7

We can all be like the barren fig tree at times. Do you cling to what you have, or do you generously share with others? How will you respond when God asks you what you have done with all the gifts He has given you? Remember, not only are we called to be generous; we are called to develop and nurture our gifts as **Stewards**; and return them with increase. We are called to be generous with all of gifts; especially the one that means the most to you.

RCIA for 2025

RCIA stands for *Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults*.

We have so many young adults that God has brought to us who would love to join the Catholic Community here at St Mary’s. We welcome them very warmly and any others searching for a faith community. We need sponsors to join us on the journey and parishioners who would love to share their faith with them. We began on Thursday 6th February at 7.00pm in the Buckley Room. All Welcome

The Catholic Parish of Castlemaine is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and the vulnerable.

Stations of the Cross at St Mary's

A great devotion during the Season of Lent will be on Fridays after the Morning Mass at 9.45am. We start on Friday 7th March in St Mary's Church Castlemaine. All Welcome.

Mass at Thompson House

Our next monthly Mass at Thompson House will be on Wednesday 2nd April at 11:00am. All family members are very welcome to pray with us at this celebration for all the residents and the whole of the Castlemaine Health.

Mass on 1st Saturday of the Month

We invite all parishioners to celebrate Mass on this special day at 10.00am beginning on Saturday 5th April. Confession will be at 9.30am followed by Mass and **Rosary at the Grotto.** All Welcome.

Mass at Arcare Castlemaine

Our next monthly Mass will be on Wednesday 2nd April at 1:30pm. This is a Healing Mass with the Anointing of the Sick. All family members are welcome to join us and receive all the blessings of this Lenten Season and the power of the Mass.

Mass of the Oils

All parishioners are very warmly invited to celebrate the annual Mass of the Oils on Tuesday 15th April at 10:00am in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne. The Oils that we use during the year are blessed at this celebration and all the priests of the Archdiocese of Melbourne renew their Priestly vows. All welcome!

Parish Finance Council

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 16th April at 1:00pm in the presbytery.

Parish Pastoral Council

Our next Parish Council meeting will be on Wednesday 9th April at 7:00pm in the Presbytery.

Monthly Working Bee at St Mary's

We need your help in keeping St Mary's Parish complex looking beautiful and tidy. We plan to have a monthly Working Bee on the 1st Saturday of the Month after the Rosary at the Grotto from 11.00am - 1.00pm. Please bring any tools of the trade with you. Many Thanks in anticipation. We finish with refreshments in the Buckley Room.

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Recent Deaths: Bruno Siketa

Anniversary:

Let us pray for all those who are sick and suffering serious illness, and for their families and loved ones who care for them.



LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

22nd March and 23rd March

6.00pm Saturday—Castlemaine

Reader: David

Ext Min Com: Chris T & Marie Mc

Sacristan: Marie

8.30am Sunday - Maldon - St Brigid's

Reader: Jacqui Wiltshire

Ext Min Com: Pam Fitzpatrick

10.30am Sunday—Castlemaine

Reader: Jenny Howe

Ext Min Com: Betty & Mary H

Sacristan: Betty

Ministers for Next Week

29th March and 30th March

6.00pm Saturday—Castlemaine

Reader: David

Ext Min Com: Chris T & Marie Mc

Sacristan: Marie

10.30am Sunday—Castlemaine

Reader: Justin

Ext Min Com: Christine & Victor

Sacristan: Christine

Linen Roster

March: Hazel

ONLINE GIVING

To contribute to our Thanksgiving by Direct Debit, our Catholic Development Fund account details are as follows:

CHURCH

BSB 083-347

Account No. 636 421 759

Acc. Name Castlemaine Parish
Church Account

PRESBYTERY

BSB 083-347

Account No. 635 910 163

Acc. Name Castlemaine Parish
Presbytery Account

PARISH DIARY

▪ **Tuesday 25th March**

4.15pm Legion of Mary—Buckley Room

6.00pm St Mary's Mass

▪ **Wednesday 26th March**

9.15am St Mary's Mass and Rosary

▪ **Thursday 27th March**

10.30am Rosary - Brigid's

11.00am St Brigid's - Mass

7.00pm RCIA—Buckley Room

▪ **Friday 28th March**

9.15am St Mary's Mass and Stations of the Cross

Saints of the Week

25th—The Annunciation of the Lord

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Please remember to leave your donation for SVDP in the basket provided in the church. Thank you and God Bless!



Statue of Our Lady of Fatima

Our Lady of Fatima is available to visit your home! If you would like to have her with you for two weeks, please contact Sebastian on 0439 847 894 to arrange her visit!

THANKSGIVING

Thank you for your generous Offerings and every blessing for your Contribution.

Please put your surname and number on the envelope as a reference. This will help us keep our records up to date! Many Thanks.

1st Collection:

Presbytery: \$ 990

Target: \$1000

2nd Collection

Parish: \$ 865

Weekly Target \$2000