

Priests on Call in Emergency

Fr Declan O'Brien—0457708586 - Parish Priest—Kyneton and Castlemaine:
Fr John Healey— 0439033750 - Parish Priest—Woodend Mission

First Week of Advent – Prayer for Hope



Heavenly Father,
as we light the first candle of Advent, we remember the gift of hope You bring into our lives.
May Your light shine in our hearts and dispel the darkness of fear and doubt.
Help us to place our trust in You and to wait patiently for the coming of our Savior. Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Last Working Bee for 2025 at St Mary's—6th December

Please join us at our LAST working Bee for 2025 at 10.30am on 6th December.

We desperately need help cleaning the area behind the tennis courts next to the Hall where people are illegally dumping used furniture. And dead animals.



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**

Wednesday

Communion Service:

Castlemaine **9.15am**

Rosary is prayed after Mass

Thursday

Rosary before Service

Communion Service:

Maldon **11.00am**

Friday

Mass: Castlemaine **9.15am**

Followed by Rosary

Second Sunday of the Month

Mass: Newstead **6.00pm**

Fourth Sunday of the Month

Mass: Sandon **6.00pm**

CONTACT DETAILS

Parish Priest

Fr Declan O'Brien (Pro -Tem)

Phone: (03) 54221261/ 0457708586

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

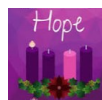
CATHOLIC PARISH OF CASTLEMAINE



- HOLY NAME OF MARY, CASTLEMAINE
- ST BRIGID'S, MALDON
- ST ANNE'S, NEWSTEAD
- ST LAURENCE O'TOOLE, SANDON

30th November 2025

First Sunday of Advent — Year A



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

Parish Priest: Fr. Declan O'Brien (Pro-Tem) **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.

First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 2:1-5

Romans 13: 11-14

Matthew 24:37-44



Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10

Romans 15:4-9

Matthew 3:1-12



Responsorial Psalm

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come." Matthew 24:42

Stewards who have had health issues or near-death experiences generally have a greater appreciation for each day being a gift from God. The rest of us usually take for granted that we will be around tomorrow. But when you start to look at each day as a gift, you realize all the little miracles that happen daily and you begin to see God's active presence in your life. You grow in gratitude, each day, for all that we have been given.
(camdendiocese.org)



Thank you to Fr. Aurelio AND our Christmas Get-Together

Saturday 6th December after Mass—Buckley Room, St.. Mary's
Everyone is very welcome to celebrate with Fr. Aurelio to thank him most sincerely for his presence, spiritual Blessings, and for being with us over these last few months. We will be sharing

Christmas togetherness and love at the beginning of this Advent Season. Please join us for a very happy evening. RSVP Marie McCallum 0434 678 765

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

Special Rosary at our Parish Grotto at St Mary's Castlemaine—

Led by Fr. Aurelio

Saturday 6th December @ 5:30p.m.

Sunday 7th December @10 o'clock

All are invited to come and pray the Rosary with Fr. Aurelio before our Masses on these dates. A wonderful celebration of prayer to begin the Season of Advent.



CatholicCare Victoria (CCV) has launched its Christmas Food Voucher Appeal.

This Christmas, give families and individuals the opportunity for a seat at the table. Give today and make twice the impact, helping families experience the joy and belonging that everyone deserves at Christmas. All donations to CatholicCare Victoria's Christmas Food Voucher Appeal go directly to providing food vouchers for people in need, not to administration or overhead costs. Thanks to the generous support of our partner, Catholic Development Fund (CDF), every donation you make will be matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$5,000.

To donate, visit www.catholiccarevic.org.au/foodvoucher.

Call: 1800 123 228



Monthly Rosary - First Saturday of the Month

Please join us in saying the Rosary in our beautiful Grotto at St Mary's Castlemaine on the 1st Saturday of every month at 10.00am.

Next Rosary will be held on Saturday 6th December all are welcome !



St Mary's School Nativity—15th December 2025



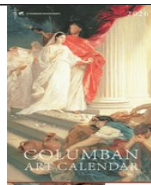
The children at St Mary's School will be holding their nativity play at 10.00am to 11.00am on Monday 15th December in St Mary's Church Castlemaine. All parishioners are invited to come and support, what is always a wonderful production by the children and their dedicated teachers.

Columban Art Calendar

The 2026 Columban Art Calendars will arrive within the next week or so.

Please contact the Parish Office if you require one of these.

Price - \$10.00 each. Tel: 54721900



MENAlive meeting—8th December 2025

The next MENAlive meeting will be held on the 8th December 2025. at 7.30pm in the Buckley Room. All men in the Parish are invited to attend what is understood to be a very informative and interesting evening.

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Recent Deaths: Msgr. Frank Marriott

Anniversary: Lilian Rieger, Robyn Buckley,

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

29th & 30th November

6.00pm Saturday—Castlemaine

Reader: Bernadette

Ext Min Com: Marie Mc

Sacristan: Liz

8.30am Sunday - Maldon - St Brigid's

Reader: Joanie Tolley

10.30am Sunday—Castlemaine

Reader: Catherine Young

Ext Min Com: Victor

Sacristan: Betty

Ministers for Next Week

6th and 7th December

6.00pm Saturday—Castlemaine

Reader: Bill

Ext Min Com: Bernadette

Sacristan: David

10.30am Sunday—Castlemaine

Reader: Justin

Ext Min Com: Julie

Sacristan: Christine

Linen Roster

December: Marie Mc

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 2nd December

4.15pm Legion of Mary—Buckley Room

Wednesday 3rd December

9.15am St Mary's Communion Service and Rosary

Thursday 4th December

10.30am St Brigid's Maldon—Rosary

11.00am St Brigid's Maldon—Com Service

Friday 5th December

9.15am Mass—St Mary's.

Saints of the Week

3rd Dec—St Francis Xavier

4th Dec—St John Damascene

Statue of Our Lady of Fatima

If you would like to have our Lady of Fatima in your home for two weeks, please contact Sebastian on 0439 847 894.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

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



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: Priest Living expenses, Priests retirement Fund, Priest Training and stipend.

Presbytery: \$662

Target: \$1000

2nd Collection: Upkeep & Maintenance of Parish Prop, Staff Salaries, Parish Utilities, Priest motor vehicle expenses. General Expenses

Parish: \$ 948

Weekly Target \$2000