

ST PATRICK'S, ST JOHN VIANNEY'S, STELLA MARIS & ST JOSEPH'S

Partnered Parishes of Mentone-Parkdale and Ricketts Point (Beaumaris & Black Rock)

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 12th July 2026

St Patrick's, 10 Rogers St, Mentone

St John Vianney's, Cnr Warren Rd & Brisbane Tce, Parkdale

Stella Maris, 2 Charlotte Rd, Beaumaris

St Joseph's, 542 Balcombe Rd, Black Rock

SUNDAY MASS

Saturday Vigil: 6:00pm (*Mentone*)

Sunday: 8:00am (*Black Rock*)

Sunday: 9:00am (*Parkdale*)

Sunday: 10:30am (*Beaumaris*)

Sunday: 11:00am (*Mentone*)

Sunday: 5:00pm (*Mentone*)

Today's gospel of the 'Parable of the Sower' has an interlude in which Jesus explains to the disciples why he speaks in parables in the first place. Yet the explanation at first sight seems as difficult to understand as some of the parables themselves: 'The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding.' (Mt 13:13)

Does Jesus not want the people to understand? But when we reflect, part of the meaning is that the parables give people a choice. Because their meaning is not obvious, people can either take the trouble to look deeper and discover the inner truth; or they can turn away, pretending that no deeper issues of truth are present.

Faced with a doubt about right and wrong, will I listen to the prompting of conscience and seek the truth about what is really in accordance with God's law? Or will I 'shut my eyes' – pretend not to know, and tell myself there is no issue here needing further investigation?

This potentially fatal state of soul is identified by Jesus in the Gospel when he quotes Isaiah: 'They have shut their eyes, for fear they should see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their heart, and be converted and be healed by me.' (Mt 13:15; cf. Is 6:9-10)

The theological tradition of the Church identifies different kinds of ignorance when it comes to our knowledge of right and wrong, our knowledge of moral truth. First is '**invincible ignorance**': ignorance we could not reasonably be expected to overcome, and that we are therefore not responsible for. God does not hold us to blame for what we could not have any idea was wrong.

A simple example: even though in principle, all people are obliged to have faith in Christ, those who have never even

heard of Christ (to take the extreme case) are not held responsible by God for not having this explicit faith.

But then there is '**vincible ignorance**': ignorance that we could overcome if we made a reasonable effort – if we cared enough about the truth about right and wrong to actually find out. This has degrees – we might make some effort, but not enough in the circumstances, or we might make no effort at all.

Worst of all is '**affected ignorance**': where we suspect that something we are doing is wrong, but deliberately avoid finding out, precisely so that we can (we wrongly think!) sin and 'get away with it'. But 'vincible ignorance' does not actually excuse us from sin, or at least not fully; and 'affected ignorance' does not excuse us at all. In those cases, we are responsible for our own ignorance, and for the wrong actions that result.

Pope St John Paul II warns of this in his great encyclical on the foundations of the Church's moral teaching: 'Before feeling easily justified in the name of our conscience, we should reflect on the words of the Psalm: "Who can discern his errors? Clear me from hidden faults" (Ps 19:12). There are faults which we fail to see but which nevertheless remain faults, because we have refused to walk towards the light (cf. Jn 9:39-41).' (Encyclical Letter *Veritatis Splendor* ('The Splendour of Truth') (1993) 63)

Often we resist 'walking towards the light'. But when we ask God for courage, and trust him enough to come into the light, we receive what Jesus promises: to 'be converted and be healed' by him. And we find that 'the truth' we were afraid of, turns out to be our true happiness and fulfilment – as God's law always is.

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Justin Ford **Assistant Priest:** Rev Fr Joseph Nguyen

Presbytery: 10 Rogers St, Mentone 3194 **Office:** 3 Mitchell St, Mentone 3194 **Office hours:** 9am-5pm (Mon, Tues and Thurs)

Phone: 9583 2103 **Email:** mentoneparkdaleeast@cam.org.au **Website:** www.sspjv.org

WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon 13th July	10:00am (<i>Beaumaris</i>) Funeral: Geoff Stockdale 11:00am (<i>Mentone</i>) St Henry
Tue 14th July	9:15am (<i>Mentone</i>) St Camillus
Wed 15th July	St Bonaventure 9:15am (<i>Mentone & Black Rock</i>) 11:00am (<i>Mentone</i>) Funeral: Nanette Woodbridge
Thu 16th July	Our Lady of Mount Carmel 9:15am (<i>Mentone</i>) 9:15am (<i>Beaumaris</i>) (<i>Class Mass</i>)
Fri 17th July	9:15am (<i>Mentone & Black Rock</i>)
Sat 18th July	9:15am (<i>Mentone & Beaumaris</i>)

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
at **St Patrick's Mentone** every Friday
following 9:15am Mass until 4:30 Benediction.

Exposition at Stella Maris Beaumaris
every Saturday 9:45-10:15am.

RECONCILIATION / CONFESSION

Wednesdays following 9:15am Mass (*Mentone*),
Saturdays following 9:15am Mass
(*Mentone & Beaumaris*) and at 5:15pm (*Mentone*).

Funeral Mass for Geoff Stockdale - Change in details

This Funeral Mass will now be open for all to attend:
Stella Maris Church, 10:00 am, Monday 13th July.
Refreshments will follow at the Victoria Golf Club,
Cheltenham, from 1:00 pm. To help with catering for
refreshments, you may wish to RSVP to:
emeliasferrazza@gmail.com or 0423 560 494.

Recently Deceased: Fr Tadeusz Ziolkowski SChr

Anniversaries: Mary Valastro, Bartola Valastro,
Ethel Tregonning, Reg Curry, Rajah John, Yesid Toledo

We pray for those who are sick: Vern Morgan,
Ching Price, Nick Bond, Francis Archer, Jim Lacey,
Janis Williams, Alan Laver, Michael Papworth,
Kaye McCall, Mirella Townsend, Aliai Coyle-Madut,
Albert Ricardo, Barry Martin, Dean Bevis

BANKING DETAILS For direct credit to Parish accounts:

Presbytery:	083347 6808 76937
Mentone-Parkdale - Church:	083347 6815 62913
Nazareth Parish - Church:	083347 6864 78067

*Our Parishes are committed to the safety, well-being and dignity
of all persons. A copy of our Child Safety policy is on the
noticeboard in our churches and on our website www.sspjv.org*

ROSTERS 18/19 July 2026

St Patrick's - Mentone

6:00pm	Commentator/Reader	K Ady
	Extraordinary Minister	A Earle
11:00am	Commentator/Reader	K Mooney
	Extraordinary Minister	S Mathias
5:00pm	Commentator/Reader	N Sedich
	Extraordinary Minister	

St Joseph's - Black Rock

8:00am	Reader/ Commentator	A Trajer
	Extraordinary Minister	M Shannon

St John Vianney's - Parkdale

9:00am	Reader	B Fitchet
	Commentator	P Edkins
	Extraordinary Minister	R Tregonning
	Extraordinary Minister to the Sick	K Lowe
	Flowers	B McCann
	Pilgrim Statue	S Rodrigo

Stella Maris - Beaumaris

10:30am	Commentator/Reader	L Beech/M Droege
	Extraordinary Minister	H Graham

Readings next week: 16th Sunday OT - Year A

Wisdom: 12: 13, 16-19

Romans: 8: 6-27

Matthew: 13: 24-43

St Patrick & the Holy Angels 2026 Organ Series

Music Inspired by Gregorian Chant

3.30PM SUNDAYS

21ST JUNE:

REUBEN JOHNSON (NEWMAN COLLEGE)

19TH JULY:

RHYS ARVIDSON (ST PETER'S EASTERN HILL)

16TH AUGUST:

DION HENMAN (ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL)

20TH SEPTEMBER:

DR ALAN COOK (DIRECTOR OF MUSIC ST PATRICK'S MENTONE)

FREE ENTRY

(DONATIONS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED) - NO BOOKINGS REQUIRED

The second of our four **FREE** concerts is next
Sunday 19th July, at St Patrick's Mentone, by organist
RHYS ARVIDSON 3.30pm, donations accepted on entry.

The annual **Catholic Mission Propagation of the Faith Appeal** will be taken up at all Masses this weekend. Envelopes available in all our churches.



This week, you are invited to partner with Catholic Mission and the Church in Malawi as we support families rebuilding after devastating floods and help children access education close to home.

Through projects like St Peter's Nyamikuta Primary School, the Church is creating a place where children can learn, be nourished, and grow with dignity, regardless of their background or beliefs.



Join with us in celebration and action by supporting this work with a compassionate gift. Use the provided appeal envelope, scan the QR code, or visit catholicmission.org.au/united to make a difference today. (Freecall: 1800 257 296)

The 'Care for Our Common Home' Group of Christ Our Light Catholic Parish (Highbury / Cheltenham) is holding an Information Session on **Saving Money on Home Energy Bills**, Monday 27 July at 7:00 pm at Our Lady of the Assumption Church, 9 Centre Dandenong Rd, Cheltenham.

The presenters are from **Solar Savers**, a council-led program to help households access vetted suppliers and trusted information to make improvements to the energy efficiency of their homes. All welcome! *More information: Phillip Steele 0419 311 583.*

TODAY IS MARRIAGE AND FAMILY SUNDAY

What is the plan of God regarding man and woman?

God who is love and who created man and woman for love has called them to love. By creating man and woman he called them to an intimate communion of life and of love in marriage: 'So that they are no longer two, but one flesh' (Mt 19:6). God said to them in blessing 'Be fruitful and multiply' (Gen 1:28).

For what ends has God instituted Matrimony?

The marital union of man and woman, which is founded and endowed with its own proper laws by the Creator, is by its very nature ordered to the communion and good of the couple and to the generation and education of children. According to the original divine plan this conjugal union is indissoluble, as Jesus Christ affirmed: 'What God has joined together, let no man put asunder' (Mk 10:9).

Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church 337-338

From Church teaching

Conscience, ignorance and the search for truth

1790 A human being must always obey the certain judgment of his conscience. If he were deliberately to act against it, he would condemn himself. Yet it can happen that moral conscience remains in ignorance and makes erroneous judgments about acts to be performed or already committed.

1791 This ignorance can often be imputed to personal responsibility. This is the case when a man 'takes little trouble to find out what is true and good, or when conscience is by degrees almost blinded through the habit of committing sin' (Vatican II, *Gaudium et Spes*). In such cases, the person is culpable for the evil he commits.

1792 Ignorance of Christ and his Gospel, bad example given by others, enslavement to one's passions, assertion of a mistaken notion of autonomy of conscience, rejection of the Church's authority and her teaching, lack of conversion and of charity: these can be at the source of errors of judgment in moral conduct.

1793 If – on the contrary – the ignorance is invincible, or the moral subject is not responsible for his erroneous judgment, the evil committed by the person cannot be imputed to him. It remains no less an evil, a privation, a disorder. One must therefore work to correct the errors of moral conscience.

1794 A good and pure conscience is enlightened by true faith, for charity proceeds at the same time 'from a pure heart and a good conscience and sincere faith' (1 Tim 1:5).

The more a correct conscience prevails, the more do persons and groups turn aside from blind choice and try to be guided by objective standards of moral conduct. (Vatican II, *Gaudium et Spes*)

Catechism of the Catholic Church (1992)

Please note:
NO Cuppa 'n Chat at Mentone this month, resuming Sunday 9 August after 11am Mass.



LEGION OF MARY

Our Lady of Lourdes
Bayside Curia

ANNUAL RETREAT

Begins with
Mass at 9:30am
Followed by:
Prayers, Benediction
Retreat talk
& group discussion
Finishes 12:30pm
With refreshments

AT ST ANNE'S CHURCH
84 AUSTIN RD SEAFORD
SATURDAY 18TH JULY



Contact Sue
0408 547 791

HYMNS: Mentone 6pm Vigil Saturday**Parkdale 9am Sunday Mentone 5pm**

Mass Setting: *Mass of Our Lady, Help of Christians*
Entrance: 457 Blessed Jesus At Your Word
Offertory: *organ solo*
Communion: 408 Hail, Queen of Heaven
Recessional: 497 God Has Spoken By His Prophets

Mentone 11am Sunday

Mass Setting: *Mass of Our Lady, Help of Christians*
Entrance: 457 Blessed Jesus At Your Word
Offertory: Organ solo
Communion: 406 Salve Regina
Recessional: 497 God Has Spoken By His Prophets

Black Rock 8am Sunday

Entrance: 792 Praise To The Lord, The Almighty
Offertory: 850 To you, O Lord, I Lift My Soul
Communion: 811 Soul Of My Saviour
Recessional: 690 Go Now, You Are Sent Forth

Beaumaris 10:30am Sunday

Entrance: Praise To The Lord, The Almighty
Offertory: To you, O Lord, I Lift My Soul
Communion: Soul Of My Saviour
Recessional: Go Now, You Are Sent Forth

Readings this week: 15th Sunday OT - Yr A

Isaiah 55:10-11 Romans 8:18-23 Matthew 13:1-23

Responsorial Psalm: The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;
all who come to him will live for ever. Alleluia!

Knights of the Southern Cross Victoria (Mentone)

wish to thank the **Parish Community** for the support of their fundraising efforts at the **Sausage Sizzle** at **Bunnings** last Saturday. The support shown by many familiar faces was much appreciated.

PARISH YOUNG PEOPLE'S CHOIR

Term 3 rehearsals commence **Wednesday 15th July**, 3:30pm in the **Parish Choir Room**, Mitchell St, Mentone. It is free to join and new members from Year 3 & above are most welcome.

Prayer for the Synod***Adsumus, Sancte Spiritus***

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd - The Bayside Atrium

Term 3 starts this Saturday 18th July. For Children 3 – 9 yrs old

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (COGS) is an internationally acclaimed Montessori-based children's program. The program comprises two levels, 3-6yrs and 6-9 yrs, and provides a sacred space for your child for explore and discover God's love through the life of Jesus in scripture and the liturgy. They learn many skills through carefully developed hands-on works - a perfect program to enhance their faith education.



The Bayside Atrium of the COGS is held at **Stella Maris Church, 2 Charlotte Rd, Beaumaris, Atrium Room. Saturday Mornings 9.30am - 11.30am**

If you would like to visit, or for more information, please email: baysideatrium@gmail.com, or phone Lisa: 0402 480 224.

Facebook or Instagram Bayside Atrium.

Visit the Australian website of COGS at <https://cgsaust.org.au/> or see the Parish website <https://www.sspjv.org/>

Under the Mantle of Our Lady of Guadalupe

We invite you to pray for the unborn in the womb
THURSDAY 23 JULY
FROM 4PM TO 6PM

We will pray the Scriptural Rosary (head by head)
And The Flame of Love Rosary
At: St Patrick's Church Mentone

**St Patrick's Young Adults Gathering**
Tonight, Sunday 12th July

6:00pm (after 5pm Mass), second Sunday of each month. St Patrick's Parish Centre, 3 Mitchell St, Mentone. Enter via gate next to church. Open to young adults 18 & over. Rosary, faith discussions & supper. stpatrickycg@gmail.com

Visit us to discover why so many families are choosing Kilbreda.**Open Mornings**

- Wednesday 15 July 2026
- Thursday 6 August 2026

Talk & Tour with the Principal

- Thursday 30 July 2026

Register Now**Strong Kind Kilbreda**