



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

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

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year A - 21st December 2025

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)

The Names of the Saviour Today's Gospel tells us of two names of Our Lord: 'Jesus' and 'Emmanuel'.

He Who Is. (Ex 3:14) And *shua'* relates to 'save'. So the ultimate meaning of *Yehoshua'*, *Yeshua'* and *Jesus* is: 'God [Yahweh, He Who Is] saves' or 'Yahweh is salvation'.

Jesus This primary name of the Saviour was told both to Mary and to Joseph by their angelic visitors: 'You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus.' (Lk 1:31) 'She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' (Mt 1:21) (The name is then actually conferred at his circumcision, on the eighth day from his birth: 'They gave him the name Jesus, the name the angel had given him before his conception.' (Lk 2:21))

So the name Jesus (1) contains the **most proper name of God himself**, insofar as human beings can speak it: YHWH – most suitable to the One who truly was God-made-man; and (2) contains the **mission of Jesus: salvation**. In his action and his very identity, Jesus saves from sin (and from its consequences, death and hell) all those united to him.

The name comes from the Hebrew meaning 'God saves' (which explains the reason of the name that the angel tells Joseph: he 'is to save his people from their sins'). As with many names (e.g. *Mary* - *Maria* - *Marie*; *John* - *Giovanni* - *Juan*), there are legitimate different versions in various languages. Thus in English we say *Jesus*, but in Italian, *Gesù*. These come via the Latin *Iesus* from the Greek of the New Testament: *ĭēsous* (Ἰησοῦς). (In Greek capitals this is ΙΗΣΟΥΣ, the first three letters of which are made into the symbol for Our Lord, IHS.)

Emmanuel This name, coming from the prophecy that Matthew takes from Isaiah, was not of course used for Jesus during his earthly life. But like the name *Jesus*, it tells us the same deepest identity. Matthew writes: 'Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel", a name which means "God-is-with-us".' (Mt 1:22-23)

The actual original Hebrew, used by Jesus himself in Aramaic dialect, would be *Yeshua'* (ישוע). (The stress is on the second syllable, 'shu'; there is at the end a guttural consonant ' , named *ayin* (א) in Hebrew, a sound from the throat unfamiliar in English.) This name was not uncommon in the time of Jesus. It was a shortened form of the older *Yehoshua'* (the name, for example, of the successor of Moses, which we put in English as *Joshua*). This can be broken down into *Yeho* - *shua'*. *Yeho* is a form of *Yahu*, that derives from the most sacred divine name, which God revealed to Moses at the burning bush – YHWH – *Yahweh* – *I Am Who Am* –

He quotes here *Isaiah* 7:14 (using the Greek translation of the original Hebrew called the Septuagint, made by Jewish scholars in the 3rd / 2nd centuries BC). In Hebrew, *immanu* (עִמָּנוּ) means 'with us' and *El* (אֱלֹהִים) means 'God' or 'god': *Immanu-el*. (The initial 'i' sound became 'e' in Greek transliteration: *Emmanouēl*.) *El* is a more ancient name of God than YHWH, appearing in words like 'Israel'. Thus God tells Moses, 'To Abraham and Isaac and Jacob I appeared as *El Shaddai*.' (Ex 6:2; cf. *Gen* 17:1; 35:11)

God could not be more 'with us' than by actually becoming one of us: sharing our humanity, then even our suffering and death, so that we might share in his divinity. And Matthew's Gospel concludes with the One who is 'God-with-us' reassuring us that he is 'Emmanuel' forever: 'I Am-with-you always; yes, to the end of time.' (Mt 28:20)

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, Monday - Thursday.

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



CHRISTMAS 2025



CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

Wednesday 24th December

6:00pm	Stella Maris, Beaumaris (Carols from 5:45pm)
6:00pm	St Patrick's, Mentone
8:00pm	St John Vianney's, Parkdale (Carols from 7:30pm)
8:30pm	St Joseph's, Black Rock (Carols from 8:15pm)
12:00 Midnight	St Patrick's, Mentone (Carols from 11:15pm)

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

Thursday 25th December

10:00am	St Patrick's, Mentone
10:30am	Stella Maris, Beaumaris (Carols from 10:15am)

WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon 22nd Dec	11:00am (Mentone)
Tue 23rd Dec	9:15am (Mentone)
Wed 24th Dec	9:15am (Mentone & Black Rock)
Thu 25th Dec	(Christmas: See above)
Fri 26th Dec	Feast: St Stephen, the First Martyr 9:15am (Mentone & Black Rock)
Sat 27th Nov	Feast: St John, Apostle, Evangelist 9:15am (Mentone & Beaumaris)

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

at St Patrick's Mentone: over the summer holidays there is now a break in Friday Exposition. Exposition will resume at St Patrick's, 6th February 2026.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

at Stella Maris Beaumaris continues over the summer holidays 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).

Recently Deceased: John McMahon, John Nicholson

Anniversaries: Regino & Eliza Veridiano, Peter Walsh, Ann Finegan, Richard Bloink, Orazio Costanzo

We pray for those who are sick: Fr James Grant, Max Byers, Jim Lacey, Janis Williams, Mirella Townsend, Ching Price, Michael Papworth, Margaret Rose Durston, Alan Laver, Bernadette Chaplin, Peter & Kaye McCall

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 27/28 December 2025

St Patrick's - Mentone

6:00pm	Commentator/Reader	K Ady
	Extraordinary Minister	J Stoppa
11:00am	Commentator/Reader	L Freeman
	Extraordinary Minister	S Tobin
5:00pm	Commentator/Reader	N Sedich
	Extraordinary Minister	A Moore

St Joseph's - Black Rock

8:00am	Reader	T Warnock
	Commentator	J Short
	Extraordinary Minister	M Lindstrom

St John Vianney's - Parkdale

9:00am	Reader	R Tregonning
	Commentator	G Shea
	Extraordinary Minister	K Lowe
	Extraordinary Minister to the Sick	K Lowe
	Flowers	B McCann
	Pilgrim Statue	M Webster

Stella Maris - Beaumaris

10:30am	Reader	G Stockdale
	Commentator	C Sherman
	Extraordinary Minister	Sr Patricia

Readings next week: The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sirach :	3: 2-6, 12-14
Colossians:	3: 12-21
Matthew:	2: 13-15, 19-23

Parish Sacramental Program 2026

For Catholic children in our Partnered Parishes attending non-Catholic schools. Appointments can be made to come and register on the following **Sundays**:

18th January & 8th February, 10:30 am - 12:30 pm
in the Parish Centre, 3 Mitchell St Mentone.

Lessons are for children (from years 3-7) to receive 1st Reconciliation, 1st Holy Communion & Confirmation in 2026, and will commence mid **March 2026**.

Please contact the Parish on 9583 2103

or email mentoneparkdaleeast@cam.org.au

Staff will contact you to confirm an appointment time.

St Patrick's Mentone Piety Stall

Open after Sunday 11am Mass, selling a delightful range of Christmas cards and gifts. Located between St Patrick's Church and Primary School.

2026 Columban Calendars are still available **\$11**

The PARISH OFFICE, 3 Mitchell St Mentone will be closed from Friday 19th December, reopening Monday 5th January 2026.

Our number **9583 2103** and email mentoneparkdaleeast@cam.org.au remain regularly monitored.



**Telegram of the Holy Father, Monday 15 December,
to the Archbishop of Sydney, Most Rev Anthony Fisher**

Deeply saddened to learn of the horrific attack that occurred in Sydney, which claimed the lives of members of the Jewish community gathered for a Hanukkah celebration, His Holiness Pope Leo XIV offers the assurance of his spiritual closeness to all those affected by this senseless act of violence. With renewed hope that those tempted to violence will undergo conversion and seek the path of peace and solidarity, His Holiness prays for the healing of those

still recovering as well as consolation for those grieving the loss of a loved one. Commending the dead to the loving mercy of almighty God, the Holy Father invokes the divine blessings of peace and strength upon all Australians.

Words of Pope Leo XIV during Audience, 15 December

'I wish to entrust to the Lord the victims of yesterday's terrorist attack on the Jewish community in Sydney. Enough with these forms of anti-Semitic violence! We must eliminate hatred from our hearts.'

**Statement of the Archbishop of Melbourne, 15 December
Response to the events at Bondi Beach**

Yesterday, as a quiet summer evening was settling, and as the festival lights of Hanukkah were being lit, darkness enveloped our Jewish brothers and sisters in a targeted attack against them. Our nation is in shock, and a community of our nation has been devastated, by the violence that unfolded on Bondi Beach.

Today, we begin to name clearly the horror of what has occurred. This evil act of violence against our Jewish friends has deeply wounded our common humanity. What transpired was an overwhelming act of desecration. That this took place as families and friends gathered at Bondi to celebrate Hanukkah - a festival proclaiming light in the face of darkness - deepens the pain and outrage of this moment.

I stand in unequivocal solidarity with the Jewish community in Australia, and reach out in sorrow, friendship, and resolve. I call upon all people of good will to do the same. In the face of calculated hatred and terrifying violence, we must reject knowing silence and calculated indifference. We must choose to be present, to pray, and to stand in solidarity.

Together, we pray in grief and lament for those who have lost their lives. We pray for strength and healing for those who have been injured and traumatised. We pray for all

who carry the heavy burden of dread in the wake of this violence. We hear their cry, we see their fear, we share in their grief. We entrust our Jewish friends - our neighbours and fellow Australians - to the embrace of God.

Yet even in devastating darkness, there is light. Hanukkah proclaims that light cannot be extinguished by darkness. Our faith, too, calls us to be a light for the world - to resist despair, to name evil truthfully, and to move together from desolation toward hope.

The Archbishop invited 'all people of goodwill' to come to St Patrick's Cathedral the following day, Tuesday 16 December, for a Mass of Reconciliation - 'a moment of prayer, remembrance, and recommitment - a public act of turning again toward peace and the sanctity of life', with 'a particular invitation to our Jewish sisters and brothers, as a sign of shared sorrow and determined hope'. At our Parish Mass on Tuesday at Mentone, we united in spirit with this Mass of Reconciliation. Archbishop Comensoli concluded:

May the God of all humanity draw us from this darkness onto a path of light. May we be strengthened to stand together, to reject hatred in all its forms, and to bear witness - through prayer and action - to a future shaped not by fear, but by solidarity, justice, and peace.



St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal (Mentone-Parkdale)

As our 2025 Christmas Appeal concludes we thank you all for your amazing support and donations. Thank you to Fr Justin, Fr Joe and Fr Ramsay for your help and generous support of the Appeal. We thank our local schools, St John Vianney's, St Patrick's, St Bede's & Kilbreda. Students, teachers and families at these schools led a variety of charitable projects which contributed greatly to this year's Appeal.

We are truly grateful for the support of EVERYONE across our parish and school communities. Together we have helped make Christmas a season of **HOPE, PEACE, JOY and LOVE** for many in our community!

St Vincent De Paul - Christmas Hampers - Nazareth

**Thank you again to all who helped organise
our 400 Christmas hampers at Nazareth,
and all who generously donated!**



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year A - 21st December 2025

HYMNS: Mentone 6:00pm Vigil Saturday

Parkdale 9:00am Sunday Mentone 5:00pm Sunday

Mass Setting: Mass in Honour of St Ralph Sherwin
Entrance: 254 You Heavens, Sprinkle Dew From Above - (Rorate Caeli)
Offertory: Ave Maria - F. Schubert (Cantor solo)
Communion: 407 Gentle Virgin Mother
Recessional: 213 Tell Out My Soul

Mentone 11:00am Sunday Choral Mass

Mass Setting: Missa Emmanuel - R. Proulx
Entrance: 254 You Heavens, Sprinkle Dew From Above - (Rorate Caeli)
Offertory: Motet: Ave Maria - E. Elgar
Communion: Motet: Ecce virgo concipiet - J. J. Fux
407 Gentle Virgin Mother
Recessional: 213 Tell Out My Soul

Black Rock 8:00am Sunday

Entrance: 816 The Coming of Our Lord
Offertory: 815 The Angel Gabriel
Communion: 723 Immaculate Mary
Recessional: 763 O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Beaumaris 10:30am Sunday

Entrance: The Coming of Our Lord
Offertory: The Angel Gabriel
Communion: Immaculate Mary
Recessional: O Come, O Come Emmanuel



Responsorial Psalm: Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! A virgin will give birth to a son;
his name will be Emmanuel: God is with us. Alleluia!
Memorial Acclamation: Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

ACYF – Australian Catholic Youth Festival – Pilgrim Experience



Some of our pilgrims (L to R):

Jack, Tara-Tilly, Lola, Matt, Dollwia



Pilgrims processing with WYD



Adoration: 6000 people kneeling
in adoration before the Lord



Sr Mary Grace SV (Sisters of Life) - 'God is 100% for you. You showed up. God wants in on every part of your life. He cares for you ... You were never meant to live your life alone. You were called to the great adventure of love.'

3 Photo credits: Melbourne Catholic Archdiocese

From 30 November to 2 December, 13 young people of our Partnered Parishes journeyed together as pilgrims to the Australian Catholic Youth Festival in Melbourne.

This is one pilgrim's summary of her experience:

ACYF was an incredible and uplifting experience. It was a wonderful opportunity for us to share the same faith with over 6000 young people from all across Australia.

One of the most powerful moments for me was the time of adoration when the entire auditorium fell into silence. We could feel the presence of Jesus and the Holy Spirit moving among us. In that quiet moment, we reflected deeply on our lives and were reminded that although pain exists, with Jesus we can walk forward with courage and peace.

We also developed meaningful new friendships with other young people from our own parish. Sharing this journey together made me feel supported, confident, and part of something much bigger.

Throughout the festival, the music, praise and worship, and the variety of talks and conferences from bishops, nuns, and young speakers strengthened our understanding of Catholicism. Hearing relatable stories from other young people about their own struggles made a deep impact. Some spoke about facing illnesses, others shared their challenges with study pressure, comparison, and learning how to forgive. These honest stories helped us feel personally encouraged and reminded us that Jesus works in every part of our lives no matter how difficult.

ACYF was truly a spark in our journey and inspired us to keep growing in faith and to carry the joy of the experience into our everyday lives and communities.

Dollwia D'Souza – ACYF Pilgrim

All our pilgrims and the ACYF Team at the parish thank the Parishes for their generous contributions, spiritual and financial, that made ACYF possible for our pilgrims.

Next stop – World Youth Day Seoul 2027!