

ST PATRICK'S, ST JOHN VIANNEY'S,

STELLA MARIS & ST JOSEPH'S

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

3rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 25th January 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)

Year A – The Gospel According to St Matthew

It being Year A of the 3-year liturgical cycle, our Gospel Readings this year will be principally from St Matthew's Gospel. We can be attentive to its main themes as we hear the Gospel readings over the course of the year.

EVANGELION = GOOD NEWS = GOSPEL

- The four Gospels are our main sources for the life and ministry of Jesus. For some decades after Jesus' Death and Resurrection (most likely in AD 33) his life and teaching were especially communicated by the oral preaching and teaching of the disciples, but gradually this was also given written form.
- Our word 'gospel' is from Old English 'god-spell', that simply means 'Good News'. This translates the Greek word *evangelion* (*eu* = 'good', *angelion* = 'message').
- This word originally referred, not to the four accounts by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, but to the whole message and salvation that Jesus brought. Thus, in today's reading we hear that Jesus was 'proclaiming the Good News (*evangelion*) of the kingdom'. (*Mt* 4:23) Similarly, Jesus is reported by Mark as 'proclaiming the Good News of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent and believe in the Good News (*evangelio*)"'. (*Mk* 1:14-15) St Paul's letters have a similar usage.
- It is in the 2nd century that we find the term being applied also to the actual writings of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, whom today we term 'evangelists'.

AUTHORSHIP

- None of the four canonical Gospels actually names in its text who its own author is. Our source for this information is the testimony of the early Church.
- The earliest written testimony that we know of that St Matthew, the tax collector and one of the Twelve Apostles, is the author of the Gospel we now ascribe to him, is from St Papias, bishop of Hierapolis [*Pamukkale in modern Turkey; cf. Col 4:13*], about AD 125.

LANGUAGE

- Whereas Jesus himself spoke in Aramaic, the Gospels, like all of the New Testament, are in Greek, the *lingua franca* of the eastern parts of the Roman Empire.
- However, St Papias, St Irenaeus, Origen, Eusebius and St Jerome in the early Church stated that St Matthew's original text had been in Hebrew (not meaning the classical Hebrew, but again, the Aramaic which by that time was the everyday language of the people). The Greek form of Matthew's Gospel that we possess (and which is what the Church names as divinely inspired Scripture) is, from this account, identical at least in substance to the Aramaic original from which it was derived.

RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE GOSPELS

- The literary relationships between the four Gospels are much debated – in particular the connections between the three 'synoptic' gospels (*Matthew, Mark and Luke*), that are broadly similar, with considerable shared material. (This is in contrast to [continued p. 3])

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 26 Jan	Australia Day 11:00am (<i>Mentone</i>)
Tue 27 Jan	Memorial: Sts Timothy & Titus 9:15am (<i>Mentone</i>)
Wed 28 Jan	Memorial: St Thomas Aquinas 9:15am (<i>Mentone & Black Rock</i>)
Thu 29 Jan	9:15 (<i>Mentone & Beaumaris</i>)
Fri 30 Jan	9:15am (<i>Mentone & Black Rock</i>)
Sat 31 Jan	Memorial: St John Bosco 9:15am (<i>Mentone & Beaumaris</i>)

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 on 6th February.

Exposition 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:

Jason Rooney, Mervyn Martin, Margaret Ashe,
Dorothy Tailby



Anniversaries:

Peg Libbis, Naju Clifton, Joan McCarthy, Basil Short

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, Florence Dunn,
Bernadette Chaplin, Peter & Kaye McCall, Nick Bond

Baptism Program

Our next Baptism preparation session is
Tuesday 3rd February.
Please contact the parish office for information,
registration forms and bookings.
9583 2103 mentoneparkdaleeast@cam.org.au

Parish Sacramental Program 2026

For Catholic children in our Partnered Parishes attending non-Catholic schools. Appointments can be made to come and register on **Sunday 8th February 10:30am - 12:30pm, Parish Centre, 3 Mitchell St**. Lessons are for children (years 3-7) to receive First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion & Confirmation in 2026, and will begin **mid-March 2026**.

Please contact the Parish, and staff will contact you to confirm an appointment time: **(P) 9583 2103 or (E) mentoneparkdaleeast@cam.org.au**

ROSTERS 31 Jan/1 Feb

St Patrick's - Mentone		
6:00pm	Commentator/Reader	P Mount
	Extraordinary Minister	J Mount
11:00am	Commentator/Reader	R Smith
	Extraordinary Minister	S Tobin
5:00pm	Commentator/Reader	J Hughes
	Extraordinary Minister	C Giosis

St Joseph's - Black Rock		
8:00am	Reader	A Traeger
	Commentator	W Maher
	Extraordinary Minister	M Shannon

St John Vianney's - Parkdale		
9:00am	Reader	C Beck
	Commentator	K Lowe
	Extraordinary Minister	R Tregonning
	Extraordinary Minister to the Sick	N Perazzo
	Flowers	K Lowe
	Pilgrim Statue	G Constanzo

Stella Maris - Beaumaris		
10:30am	Reader	F Yu
	Commentator	M Chenhall
	Extraordinary Minister	F Winkelmann

Readings next week: 4th Sunday Ordinary Time - Yr A

Zephaniah:	2: 3; 3: 12-13
1 Corinthians:	1: 26-31
Matthew:	5: 1-12

Thank you Morning Tea, St Joseph's Church next Sunday 1st February

In gratitude for the years of service of Eddie De Corrado as Sacristan at St Joseph's Church, a Morning Tea will be held after 8am Mass on next Sunday 1st February. All welcome.

The St Vincent de Paul - East Parkdale Conference invites you to join with them for Morning Tea at St John Vianney's, following 9:00am Mass next Sunday, 1st February.

Morning Tea at Stella Maris in February will be held on **Sunday 8th February**, following our welcome Mass for Grade 6 and Grade Prep families on that day.

Morning Tea at St Patrick's

2nd Sunday of the month, following 11:00am Mass.

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

[continued from p. 1] the *Gospel of John*, held to have been the last written, and which is more distinctive in structure and content).

- Since the second century, Matthew's Gospel has traditionally been held as the first Gospel to be written. Modern scholars have generally favoured that Mark's was in fact the first, and that Matthew's Gospel makes use of Mark's (which is shorter). However, scholarly debate continues.
- A possibility that harmonises the majority scholarly view with the traditional ordering is that the Aramaic original composed by St Matthew was indeed first, but that the *Gospel of Mark* influenced aspects of the final canonical Greek version of *Matthew*.
- The relationship of *Matthew* and *Luke* is also debated; they share a notable amount of material that *Mark* does not contain. Scholars discuss whether this is because one drew from the other, or because both drew from a third source or sources, oral or written.

DATE OF COMPOSITION

- Many scholars date the canonical Greek *Gospel of Matthew* to the 80s of the first century. However, this estimate is influenced by various assumptions, and other scholars give good reasons for preferring an

earlier dating. There is no definitively accepted conclusion.

MATTHEW: SOME DISTINCTIVE ASPECTS

- As with all the Gospels, the central theme of *Matthew* is of course Jesus, Son of God made man, who brings salvation from sin by his Death and Resurrection. But each Gospel gives its own unique perspective on him.
- The intended audience of *Matthew* seems to be Christians of Jewish background, with the Gospel containing considerable material positioning Christian faith relative to ongoing Judaism. (In view of this, Syria or Palestine is a likely place of composition.)
- *Matthew* highlights continuity with, and fulfilment of, the Old Testament, with many quotations of fulfilled prophecies, and sayings of Jesus emphasising the theme that he has come not to abolish the Law but to fulfil it. (cf. *Mt* 5:17)
- More than the other gospels, *Matthew* emphasises 'the Kingdom'. (We can note that *Matthew* mainly uses the expression 'Kingdom of heaven', whereas *Mark* and *Luke* use 'Kingdom of God' - possibly because Matthew, writing for an audience with Jewish background, avoids the holy name of God.)

Narrative episodes unique to St Matthew's Gospel:

Infancy narrative (with the dreams of St Joseph, the coming of the Magi, the slaughter of the innocents and the flight into Egypt) (1:18-25, 2:1-23); Peter walks on water (14:28-33); Judas' remorse, suicide, purchase of Field of Blood (27:3-10); Dream of Pilate's wife (27:19); Pilate washes his hands (27:24-25); Opening of tombs of patriarchs at crucifixion (27:52-53); Guarding of Jesus' tomb (27:62-66); Bribery of guards to ensure their silence (28:11-15); Appearance of the Risen Lord to the eleven Apostles on the mountain (28:16-20).

Parables unique to St Matthew's Gospel:

Kingdom of Heaven likened to field sown with weeds (13:24-30); Interpretation of the same parable (13:36-43); Net that gathered fish of all kinds (13:47-50); Treasure hidden in field, pearl of great price (13:44-46); The unforgiving servant (18:23-35); The labourers in the vineyard (20: 1-16); The two sons (21:28-32); The wise and the foolish virgins (25:1-13).

<http://oldsite.english.ucsb.edu/faculty/oconnell/newtestament/matthewunique.html>

Foundations of Faith: A Journey through the Catechism of the Catholic Church

We all have questions about our faith - and sometimes it's hard to know where to find the answers. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* seeks to answer one key question - **What do Catholics believe?**

There is a small group planning to begin the 'Foundations of Faith - A Journey through the Catechism of the Catholic Church' - a study of the teachings of the Catholic Church and how to live them in your everyday life. Whether you are a new explorer to the faith or wanting to go deeper in your knowledge - come join us!

Where: Mostly in person (**Upper Room, St Brigid's Mordialloc**) with some sessions online (via Google Meets).

When: 6:45 PM Tuesdays weekly (with breaks) (3rd February to Early August). **How much:** Free! BYO Snacks.

How to Join: Register by contacting Emily Wisniewski (emwisnie@gmail.com).

Scan for more details:



3rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 25th January 2026

HYMNS: Mentone 6pm Vigil Saturday
Parkdale 9am Sunday Mentone 5pm Sunday
Mass Setting: Mass in Honour of St Ralph Sherwin
Entrance: 497 God Has Spoken By His Prophets
Offertory: *Elevation Op.2 - M. Dupre*
Communion: 467 Christ Is The World's Light
Recessional: 584 Praise The One Who Breaks The Darkness

Mentone 11am Sunday

Mass Setting: Mass in Honour of St Ralph Sherwin
Entrance: 497 God Has Spoken By His Prophets
Offertory: *Elevation Op.2 - M. Dupre*
Communion: 467 Christ Is The World's Light
Recessional: 584 Praise The One Who Breaks The Darkness
Postlude: Trumpet Tune - D. German

Black Rock 8am Sunday

Entrance: 789 Praise My Soul the King of Heaven
Offertory: 742 Christ Is Our Lord
Communion: 739 Lord of Creation
Recessional: 690 Go Now, You Are Sent Forth

Beaumaris 10:30am Sunday

Entrance: All The Ends of the Earth
Offertory: May God Grant Us
Communion: The Summons
Recessional: Create A New Heart



Readings today: 3rd OT Year A

Isaiah : 8: 23 - 9: 3
1 Corinthians : 1: 10-13, 17
Matthew : 4: 12-23

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is my light and my salvation.
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! Jesus preached the Good News of the Kingdom, and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!

Sacrament of Baptism for Older Children

Classes for children 7 years and older requesting the Sacrament of Baptism commence on Sunday 15 February.

We welcome any families with older children to register.

For registration forms or for more information please contact:
Lisa on 0402 480 224; or Joanne at the Parish Office -
(P) 9583 2103 (E) mentoneparkdaleeast@cam.org.au

The Bayside Atrium — Enrolments for 2026 are Open

Enrolments are now open for children aged 3 - 9 years old.

The Bayside Atrium offers children the opportunity to grow in their love and knowledge of God using the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program. The program develops the whole child with tailored programs to develop their physical, emotional and spiritual aspects.

The Bayside Atrium is open Saturday mornings 9.30 - 11.30am with classes commencing on 14th February.

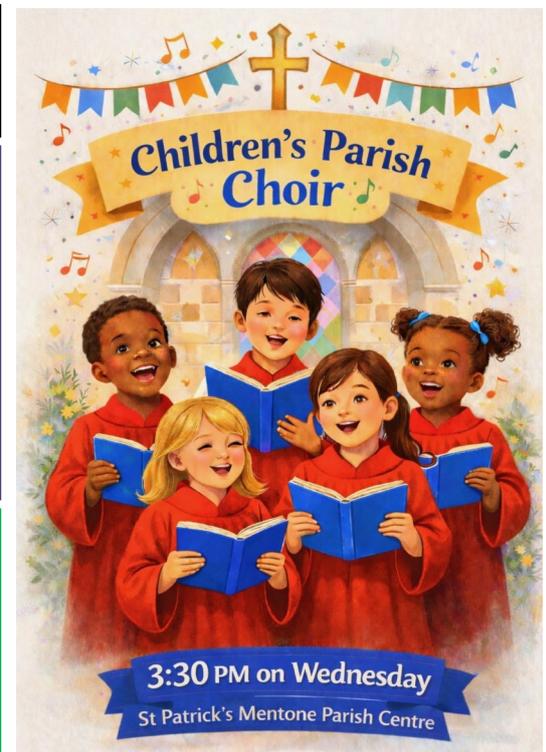
For more information or to arrange a visit please contact Lisa on 0402 480 224 or email: baysideatrium@gmail.com or visit the Atrium page on our parish website, www.sspjv.org

Have you ever wanted to read St Thomas Aquinas?

St Thomas Aquinas is considered the pre-eminent theologian and philosopher of the Catholic Church. The Melbourne Thomistic Institute at St Dominic's in Camberwell is again offering a series of short modules designed to introduce you to his thought, and gradually take you through his *Summa Theologiae*.

The series will start with an essential introductory 2-week module, **this Wednesday, 28th January, and Wednesday 4th February, at 6:45pm.**

For more information, pick up a leaflet at any of our churches, or go to www.mti.op.org.au



ST PATRICK'S MENTONE

YOUTH RETREAT

AGES 13-30

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS
ACYF EXPERIENCES • YOUTH SPEAKERS • VOCATIONAL TALKS •
GAMES • FOOD • Q&A • GROUP DISCUSSIONS

DATE EVENT
7 FEB 2026
START FROM 11AM - 5:45PM
ST PAT'S PARISH CENTRE

Scan below to RSVP

GUEST SPEAKERS:
FR CHRIS & SISTER MARY JOSEPH