

ST PATRICK'S, ST JOHN VIANNEY'S,

STELLA MARIS & ST JOSEPH'S

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

4th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 1st February 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 is of **the Beatitudes** (Mt 5:3-12) – from the opening of Christ's 'Sermon on the Mount', and at its spiritual heart. The word 'beatitude' comes from the word meaning 'blessed'. Whereas the Commandments outline the very least we must do to avoid the spiritual sickness and death of sin – the lowest limit of love – the Beatitudes orient us to always 'seek more' and 'look beyond'. Love has no maximum, no upper limit. Christ does not want us merely to avoid spiritual sickness, but to have genuine life to the full – in heaven indeed, but even in its beginnings here on earth.

1716 The Beatitudes are at the heart of Jesus' preaching. They take up the promises made to the chosen people since Abraham. The Beatitudes fulfil the promises by ordering them no longer merely to the possession of a territory, but to the Kingdom of heaven:

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.

1717 The Beatitudes depict the countenance of Jesus Christ and portray his charity. They express the vocation of the faithful associated with the glory of his Passion and Resurrection; they shed light on the actions and attitudes characteristic of the Christian life; they are the paradoxical promises that sustain hope in the midst of tribulations; they proclaim the blessings and rewards already secured, however dimly, for Christ's disciples; they have begun in the lives of the Virgin Mary and all the saints.

Catechism of the Catholic Church

Today is the annual 'Sunday of the Word of God'

'Sacred Scripture is the speech of God as it is put down in writing under the breath of the Holy Spirit. And Holy Tradition transmits in its entirety the Word of God which has been entrusted to the apostles by Christ the Lord and the Holy Spirit... Sacred Tradition and Sacred Scripture make up a single sacred deposit of the Word of God, committed to the Church.' (Vatican II, *Dei Verbum* 9; 10)

We especially welcome our Stella Maris school families at 10:30 Mass today. All welcome to morning tea after Mass.

Feast of the Presentation, Monday 2 February

Tomorrow, 2nd February, is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord - a celebration of Christ as the Light of the World. 11am Mass at St Patrick's Mentone will commence with the lighting and blessing of candles. You are welcome to bring your own candles to be blessed. There will also be a limited number of candles provided by the parish.

YOUTH RETREAT Ages 13 - 30. **This Saturday 7 February.**

TIME: 11am - 5:45pm. St Patrick's Parish Centre, Mentone.

Event Highlights: ACYF EXPERIENCES - Q&A

Scan to RSVP ↓

- YOUTH SPEAKERS - VOCATIONAL TALKS

- GAMES - FOOD - GROUP DISCUSSIONS.

Guest Speakers: FR CHRIS, SR MARY JOSEPH.



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 2 Feb	Feast: The Presentation of the Lord 11:00am (<i>Mentone</i>)
Tue 3 Feb	9:15am (<i>Mentone</i>) (School Mass)
Wed 4 Feb	9:15am (<i>Mentone & Black Rock</i>)
Thu 5 Feb	Memorial: St Agatha 9:15 (<i>Mentone & Beaumaris</i>)
Fri 6 Feb	Memorial: St Paul Miki and companions 9:15am (<i>Mentone & Black Rock</i>)
Sat 7 Feb	9:15am (<i>Mentone & Beaumaris</i>)

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament recommences this week 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*).

Recently Deceased: Joan Baxter, Ann Johnston

Anniversaries:

Wallace Stevens, Robert Mulavin, Agnes McClelland, Carmela Costanzo

We pray for those who are sick:

Fr James Grant, Aliai Coyle-Madut, Max Byers, Jim Lacey, Janis Williams, Mirella Townsend, Ching Price, Michael Papworth, Alan Laver, Nick Bond, Florence Dunn, Peter & Kaye McCall

Legion of Mary, Melbourne Senatus: Summer School 2026

**Year of St Francis: 800th Anniversary
of the Death of St Francis of Assisi**

Date: Sat 14- Sun 15 February. **Time:** 9am - 5pm
Magnificat House, 456 Queensberry St, Nth Melb.

St Patrick's Young Catholics Gathering Meetings resume March 2026.

Parish Sacramental Program 2026

For Catholic children in our Partnered Parishes attending non-Catholic schools. Appointments can be made to come and register for **Sunday 8th February 10:30am - 12:30pm, Parish Centre, 3 Mitchell St** Lessons are for children (years 3-10) 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 7/8 Feb

St Patrick's - Mentone		
6:00pm	Commentator/Reader	K Cooling
	Extraordinary Minister	B Razga
11:00am	Commentator/Reader	S Medeira
	Extraordinary Minister	S Mathias
5:00pm	Commentator/Reader	J Renden
	Extraordinary Minister	A Moore
St Joseph's - Black Rock		
8:00am	Reader	J Shannon
	Commentator	L Brick
	Extraordinary Minister	T Papworth
St John Vianney's - Parkdale		
9:00am	Reader	B Atherton
	Commentator	C Beck
	Extraordinary Minister	B John
	Extraordinary Minister to the Sick	B Fitchet
	Flowers	B McCann
	Pilgrim Statue	P Edkins
Stella Maris - Beaumaris		
10:30am	Reader	G Blackman
	Commentator	M Khong
	Extraordinary Minister	H Graham
Readings next week: 5th Sunday Ordinary Time - Yr A		
	Isaiah:	58: 7-10
	1 Corinthians:	2: 1-5
	Matthew:	5: 13-16

Thank you Morning Tea, St Joseph's Church:

Today, 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 today, 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 **today Sunday, 1st February**.



Monthly Cuppa N Chat at St Patrick's Mentone, next Sunday 8th February, in the Parish Centre following 11:00am Mass.

Come along and meet your fellow Parishioners.

Morning Tea at Stella Maris next Sunday 8th February following 10:30am Mass. All welcome.

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

SAINT OF THE WEEK 28 January : St Thomas Aquinas (1225-74) – Priest and Doctor of the Church

Arguably the greatest theological and philosophical genius in history, St Thomas Aquinas (of the family of the Counts of Aquino) was born about 1225 at the family castle at Roccasecca near Naples, then in the Kingdom of Sicily. Aged five he was sent to nearby Monte Cassino, the ancient monastery of St Benedict (480-547); and from 1239 he studied at the University of Naples.

Expected to one day become abbot at Monte Cassino himself, he dismayed his family by wishing instead to join the new order of friars founded by St Dominic (1170-1221). In 1244, as Thomas was journeying to Paris to take up his studies as a Dominican, his brothers kidnapped him and imprisoned him in a family castle. In 1245 his mother connived at his escape. As a Dominican student, he studied under St Albert the Great in Paris then Cologne.

He was ordained priest in Cologne Cathedral between 1248 and 1252. In 1257 he became professor at the University of Paris, later lecturing at the papal court at Anagni, Orvieto, Rome and Viterbo, and at the Universities of Bologna and of Naples.

With St Albert, he integrated into Catholic thought the vast intellectual system of the ancient Greek philosopher Aristotle (384-322 BC). St Augustine (354-430) was naturally another major influence, and Aquinas' writings also connect with the medieval Islamic and Jewish Aristotelians, and indirectly with Aristotle's teacher, Plato (d. c. 348 BC). St Thomas' work is the pinnacle of the great intellectual movement of the Middle Ages known

as 'scholasticism'; his own philosophical and theological adherents, past and present, are known as 'Thomists'.

Among numerous writings, his masterpiece is the *Summa Theologiae*, with its 3000 'Questions' and logical answers to 10000 'Objections'. His 'Five Ways' of proving God's existence are much commented on, but he influenced every part of theology and philosophy.

Other works include *On Being and Essence*, *On Truth*, the *Summa Contra Gentiles*, and commentaries on Scripture and on the works of Aristotle. Pope Urban IV had him compose the original liturgy for the feast of Corpus Christi, with its Sequence *Lauda Sion* and the Eucharistic hymns *Pange lingua (Tantum ergo)* and *Panis Angelicus*.

In 1273, St Thomas had a mystical experience while celebrating Mass: 'Such things have been revealed to me that all that I have written seems to me as so much straw.' He died on 7 March 1274 at the Cistercian Abbey at Fossanuova south of Rome, on his way to the 2nd Council of Lyons. Pope John XXII canonised him in 1323, and in 1567 St Pius V named him a Doctor of the Church.

He is known as 'the Angelic Doctor' and 'the Common Doctor'. In 1879 Pope Leo XIII launched a new focus on Aquinas, and in 1880 made him patron of all Catholic universities and schools. Popes since then have repeatedly extolled him, and St John Paul II used him in his encyclical *Fides et Ratio* ('Faith and Reason') as prime example of the harmony of faith and reason.

Among the Scholastic Doctors, the chief and master of all towers Thomas Aquinas... rightly and deservedly esteemed the special bulwark and glory of the Catholic faith...

Reason, borne on the wings of Thomas to its human height, can scarcely rise higher, while faith could scarcely expect more or stronger aids from reason than those which she has already obtained through Thomas.

Pope Leo XIII, Encyclical Letter *Aeterni Patris* (1879)

The Magisterium has repeatedly acclaimed the merits of St Thomas' thought and made him the guide and model for theological studies...In his thinking, the demands of reason and the power of faith found the most elevated synthesis ever attained by human thought...In him, the Church's Magisterium has seen and recognised the passion for truth; and, precisely because it stays consistently within the horizon of universal, objective and transcendent truth, his thought scales heights unthinkable to human intelligence...Looking unreservedly to truth, the realism of Thomas could recognise the objectivity of truth and produce not merely a philosophy of 'what seems to be' but a philosophy of 'what is'.

Pope St John Paul II, Encyclical Letter *Fides et Ratio* (1998)

A sample of St Thomas' thought and style, from his early masterpiece of metaphysics, 'On Being and Essence':

Everything belonging to a being is either caused by the principles of the being's nature, as the ability to laugh in man, or comes to it through an extrinsic principle, as light in the air from the influence of the sun. But existence itself cannot be caused by the very form or quiddity of a thing; I mean that it cannot be caused as by an efficient cause, since then something would be its own cause and bring itself into existence; but this is not possible. Therefore everything that is such that its existence is other than its nature must have its existence from another.

And because everything that exists through another is led back to that which exists through itself as to its first cause, there must be one thing which is the cause of existence in all things because it alone is the Act-of-Being; otherwise there would be an infinite series of causes, since everything which is not Existence-Only would have a cause of its existence, as was said. Hence it is evident that a spirit is form-and-existence, and that it has its existence from the first being, which is Existence-Only, and this is the first cause, which is God.

4th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 1st February 2026

HYMNS: Mentone 6pm Vigil Saturday Plainsong Mass

Parkdale 9am Sunday Mass in honour of St Ralph Sherwin

Mentone 5pm Sunday Plainsong Mass

Entrance: 457 Blessed Jesus At Your Word

Offertory: *Wer nur den lieben Gott last walten*
(If thou but suffer God to guide thee) BWV 691 - J. S. Bach

Communion: 595 Seek, O Seek the Lord

Recessional: 566 O God Beyond All Praising

Mentone 11am Sunday

Entrance: Antiphon - *Let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice; seek the Lord and be strengthened; seek his face forevermore.*

457 Blessed Jesus At Your Word

Offertory: Motet: *Laudate nomen Domini* - C. Tye

Communion: 563 The Beatitudes

Recessional: 566 O God Beyond All Praising

Postlude: Prelude & Fugue in E Minor
BWV 533 - J. S. Bach

Black Rock 8am Sunday

Entrance: 840 This Day God Gives Me

Offertory: 802 Seek O Seek The Lord

Communion: 754 Now Sing My Soul

Recessional: 722 In Faith And Hope And Love

Beaumaris 10:30am Sunday

Entrance: Seek O Seek The Lord

Offertory: Be Glad and Rejoice

Communion: That I May Serve You

Recessional: This Day God Gives Me



Today's readings: 4th OT Year A

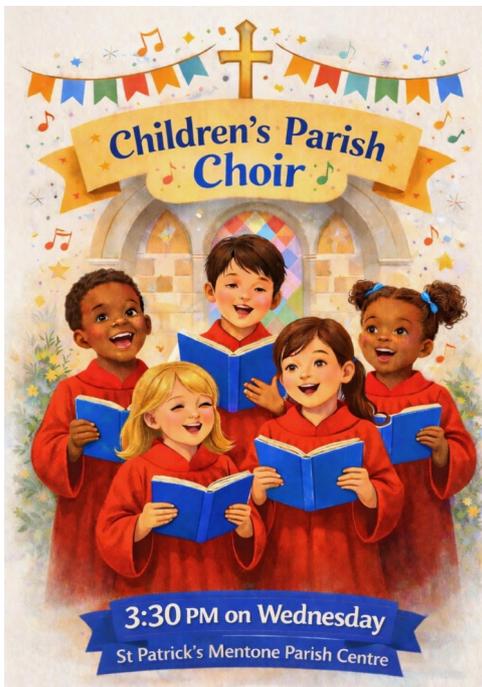
Zephaniah : 2: 3; 3:12-13

1 Corinthians : 1: 26-31

Matthew : 5: 1-12

Psalm: Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! Rejoice and be glad:
your reward will be great in heaven. Alleluia!



Choir rehearsals commence 3:30pm
Wednesday 4th February in the
music room, 3 Mitchell St Mentone.

Please leave your email, contact
number and child's name at the
office 95832103 or
mentoneparkdaleeast@cam.org.au

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 '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:



Sacrament of Baptism for Older Children

Classes for children 7 years & 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 now Open — Children aged 3 - 9 years old

The Bayside Atrium, located at Stella Maris Church, Beaumaris, 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