

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

16 August 2026



May the walls which separate us crumble beneath the shadow of your outstretched arms.

Readings: Sunday 9 August 2026

First Reading: 1 Kings 19:9, 11-13

Second Reading: Romans 9:1-5

Gospel Reading: Matthew 14: 22-33

Readings: Sunday 16 August 2026

First Reading: Isaiah 22:19-23

Second Reading: Romans 11:33-36

Gospel Reading: Matthew 16:13-20

The Scriptures for this Sunday draw us into a widening horizon of God's mercy, where boundaries are crossed and belonging is reimagined. In the Gospel, Jesus' encounter with a Canaanite woman reveals a striking movement outward, as her persistent faith opens the way to a deeper recognition that God's care is not limited but abundant enough for all. Together with Isaiah's vision of welcome to the foreigner, and St Paul's reflection on mercy extended beyond Israel, we are invited to trust this abundance and to enlarge our vision and the capacity of our own hearts to respond.

Please note: Weekend Masses will be as normal (but with visiting priests).

Funeral Masses will be announced.

Weekday Mass this week is on - Thursday August 20th at 9.15am

COMBINED PARISHES YOUTH GATHERING

Our Combined Parishes Youth Gathering meet on the first Saturday of each month after the 6:00pm Mass from 7:00pm—8:30pm, at St Mary's Church, Williamstown Parish Centre, 116 Cecil Street Williamstown. We invite all Youth aged 13-19 years to come and join us for fun evenings with food/snacks, faith topic discussion, and games. A registration form to be signed by parents and attendees is required and can be requested from williamstown@cam.org.au.

Novena Of Pope St. John Paul to commemorate 40th Anniversary of his visit to St Leo the Great, Altona North.

All Welcome.

See Poster on Narthex Notice Board for full details.

Novena Day 7 28.8.26 7pm Fr Edwin Agius MSSP
Novena Day 8 28.9.26 7pm Fr Paul Tru
Novena Day 9 28.10.26 7pm Archbishop Michael Kalka
Feast Day 28.11.26 5pm Archbishop Peter Comensoli

Please save these dates!

- 1. Farewell Mass for Archbishop Michael** will be at **10.30am on Sunday October 11th, 2026.** (No 8.30am Mass on this day). **Please bring a plate to share.**

If you would like to make a donation to Archbishop Michael's farewell presentation on Sunday October 11th, please place your donation in an envelope with the word 'Michael' on the front. You can then place it in any collection basket during this month. Thank you.

The Parish Council Members.

- 2. Timorese Mass** to remember the SANTA CRUZ Massacre in 1991. Will be at **10.30am on Sunday November 15th, 2026.** (a shared lunch will follow).

Just announced! **Timor Leste - Ita Nia Lian, Ita Nia Istoria** – Our Voices, Our Stories. A landmark concert celebrating Timor-Leste's most exciting voices. Showcasing the vibrant new wave of Timorese music led by Hamoris Lian Timor along with many special guests including iconic singer songwriter Ego Lemos and acclaimed First Nations artist Candice Lorrae. Friday 20 November 7.30pm Elisabeth Murdoch Hall. Melbourne Recital Centre. Book now – <https://www.melbournerecital.com.au/.../current/timor-leste>

St. Mary MacKillop's Daily thoughts....

We can never be sure that all that looks good is really so.

1875



Liturgy Roster - 23 August 2026

Mass Times	Lectors	Special Ministers
6.00 pm	Anthony Adewale	Natasha Misquitta
8.30 am	Margaret Nicoli	Mark Nicholls
10.30am	Julian Yacono	Noella Misquitta
Linen Roster August	Counting this week: Team 4: 16.08.2026	Counting this week: Team 5: 23.08.2026
Mary Dimech	Brian Dalton Joe Farrugia Joe Yacono	Leticia Mauricio Maria Hughes Sarah Petronio



Simplicity September

This September, simplify one thing in your life and discover what truly matters.

Sponsor yourself, your family or a friend to participate and raise money for **Palms International Volunteering**, Australia's only Catholic lay organisation that delivers international development and formation through long term international volunteering. *Join Australians across the country supporting Palms' work in the Asia-Pacific.*

02 9560 5333 / 0422 472 567

www.simplicityseptember.org.au

If you have a communion pyx that belongs to the church, would you kindly return it asap. Thank you

Christian Meditation takes place every Thursday evening at 7pm. If you would like to be part of this group, please phone Lucy at the Parish Office on 93982964.

MARANATHA!

"For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable." - ROMANS 11:29

God has a special mission in mind for each of us. He has given us the gifts we need to accomplish that mission. We are called to be good stewards by using those gifts to do the work that He has planned for each of us. If we deny our gifts or fail to use them as God calls us to use them, then some part of His work will be left undone. Each of us has a part in God's salvation plan.

Recently Deceased

Dominador Palencia

Anniversaries & Remembrances:

Annie Shaw; William Wyro Shaw; Frank Bond; Perfecto Dela Torre Arquesa; Percy Sultana; George & Loretta Calleja; Charles Schembri; George & Carmen Schembri; Kelina Grioli.

Prayers for the Sick:

Trish Aitken; Maura McCabe;

Anne Playnsek;

Alfred & Jane Farrugia

The next anointing Mass will be at 9.15am on Saturday, September 12th, 2026.

Long Term Volunteer Opportunities in the Australia-Pacific Region - The Cagliero Project, Salesians of Don Bosco

The Cagliero Project is an initiative of the Australia-Pacific Province of the Salesians of Don Bosco, providing overseas volunteer experiences for Australians and New Zealanders who wish to work with young people in the Asia-Pacific region. We are seeking enthusiastic volunteers for January 2027 departure. Our volunteer placements run for 6-12 months and are centered around working with young people in educational settings. We are currently recruiting for volunteers for Cambodia, Samoa, Timor Leste, Mongolia and the Solomon Islands. We use the skills and talents of our volunteers to contribute meaningfully to host communities. Rather than "helping," we walk in solidarity with young people, creating opportunities for mutual learning and growth. Cagliero volunteers work in the Salesian way, placing young people at the centre of all they do and approaching life with joy, compassion, and respect. While the focus is on those we serve, the experience is often deeply rewarding for volunteers as well.

Applications close October 31st, 2026. Send us an enquiry - www.cagliero.org.au or lhichaaba@salesians.org.au

National Vocations - Please pray for our priests today in thanksgiving for their ministry and presence in our community. Please pray for the religious who do so much in pastoral care, education, health care and many other ministries. Pray also that the saints may inspire many vocations to consecrated life and priesthood, especially from our community.



✠ MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CHURCH ✠

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Email: altona@cam.org.au
www.altonacatholic.org.au
ABN:29 213 076 983



Office Hours: Tuesday to Thursday 10am – 2pm
Parish Priest: Archpriest Michael Kalka. JP
Priest in Residence: Fr Deonildo de Andrade
Child Safety Officer: Mr Gavin Deller 0431 184 014
Principal: Mrs Sonia Riccardi 9398 4842
Mass Times: Saturday Vigil 6pm
Sunday 8.30am & 10.30am
Weekday Mass: Tuesday 5pm;
Wed to Sat 9.15am
(or as advertised in the Parish Bulletin and Parish Website)
Reconciliation: Saturday at 9.45am or by request
Anointing of the Sick and Elderly: Once per quarter at Mass or by request
Rosary: After the 9.15 a.m. Mass, Wednesday to Saturday
Marriages & Baptisms: by appointment

Child Safety: The Catholic Parish of Altona is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.

Privacy Principles: Commonwealth and Victorian Governments introduced legislation which deals with the manner in which public and private sector organisations may record, store and disclose information including health information collected from individuals. The Catholic Parish of Altona is committed to upholding and implementing the Privacy Principles set out in the legislation.

First Collection: (Loose cash) For the support of the Archbishop, sick and retired priests and our Parish Priest.

Second Collection: (Stewardship Collection envelopes, cheques, credit cards and direct debits) for the management, upkeep and running of our Parish.



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