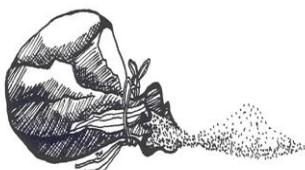


# 8 February 2026

## Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A



You are the salt of the earth.

**Readings: Sunday 8 February 2026**

**First Reading:**

Isaiah 58:7-10

**Second Reading:**

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

**Gospel Reading:**

Matthew 5:12-16

**Readings: Sunday 15 February 2026**

**First Reading:**

Sirach 15:15-20

**Second Reading:**

1 Corinthians 2:6-10

**Gospel Reading:**

Matthew 5:17-37

The readings of this Sunday shed light on the nature of Christian discipleship as a vocation to exist for others and to be transformative agents in the world. Relying on the grace and power of God, Jesus' disciples must live out their faith in concrete works of love that further justice and peace in the world. Only then will they be the 'light' of the world, a theme that runs through the scriptural readings of today.

**Volunteer with IMPACT** - Develop sustained self-reliant futures in overseas communities!

Join Palms International Volunteering [online](#) in this special session where you'll learn about our [diverse assignments](#) suited to your qualifications. Hear from past Palms volunteers how skill-exchange makes a lasting impact in communities and changes lives.



**Venue:** Online-Scan the QR or register at [palms.org.au/events](http://palms.org.au/events)  
**Date:** Thurs 19 Feb 2026  
**Time:** 7pm-8pm AEDT  
**02 9560 5333**

[palms@palms.org.au](mailto:palms@palms.org.au)

**Want to visit a community first?** Join our 13-day **Encounter Tour to Timor Leste!** Book by **28 February** for the May tour! See [palms.org.au/encounters](http://palms.org.au/encounters)

**Christian Meditation** takes place every Thursday evening at 7pm. If you would like to join this group please ring Lucy at the Parish Office on 9398 2964. All welcome.  
MARANATHA

**St. Mary MacKillops Daily thoughts**

**"I feel more trust in God than ever"**

**The next Anointing Mass will be on Wednesday February 11<sup>th</sup> at 9.15am.**

**Ash Wednesday - February 18th:**  
Mass will be at 9.15am and 7pm

**Power Disruption:** We have been notified that the Church will not have any power for most of the day on Saturday February 14th. However, there will be no change to our timetable for that date.

**LAUNCH OF OUR PARISH RENEWAL**

**PROGRAM** - This weekend is the LAUNCH of our special **Parish Renewal Program** – the first in 4 years - and we would love you to be involved! Over 3 weeks, the Program is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on our role in parish life, and to 'review and renew' our commitment to each other and the mission of our parish. We must ensure we provide the human and financial resources for mission, vibrant liturgy, faith formation, and pastoral care and outreach. The Program will feature at Mass, and you can also follow through regular updates via our parish website and the school newsletters. This weekend parishioners will share their love of parish at each Mass and copies of the special Program brochure will be distributed on arrival. Our Program Coordinator, Stephen Littleton from Parish First, will be with us at each Mass over the 3 weeks of the Program.

**THOUGHTS FOR REFLECTION:**

**Q: Why is celebrating our faith as a parish community important to you?**

"Celebrating as a faith community enables me to become one in heart and mind with others at Mass. We listen to the words of Scripture, celebrate Eucharist, and together renewed and revitalised, go out to live and share our faith."

"Showing my children how to follow Jesus is important to me – how to come together at Mass as part of our faith community on a regular basis."

**POPE LEO:**

"Together we must look for ways to be a missionary Church, a Church that builds bridges and encourages dialogue, a Church ever open to welcoming with open arms."

## Liturgy Roster - 15 February, 2026

Mass Times	Lectors	Special Ministers
6.00pm	Francis Arquesa	Mary Bartolo
8.30am	Vince Camilleri	Cath Cuthbert
10.30am	Anna Watson	Noella Misquitta
Linen Roster February	Counting this week: Team 2: 08.02.2026	Counting next week: Team 3 : 15.02.2026
Mary Dimech	Leticia Mauricio Raquel Arquesa Conee Manguiat	Shaun Crosbie Margaret Bond John Shaw

### LENTEN RETREAT 2026

#### ***Is Lent changing you OR Just your diet?***

Join us at St. Peter Apostle Mission Parish, 38 Guinane Ave, Hoppers Crossing. to explore **From Lent to Life – Walking the Way of Faith with Fr. Elio Capra SDB**, Salesians of Don Bosco Priest and Lecturer at Catholic



Theological College, Melbourne. **Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> February, 9:30am to 3:00pm in the Parish Hall.** Cost \$20 (includes morning tea, lunch, Lenten gift bag). Please register using the QR code or fill in the form at <https://forms.gle/YWTZk5GQEYHS9jMF9> Enquiries please call the Parish office on 97494300

*Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”*  
**MATTHEW 5:16**

*The generosity of being a good steward of your gifts has a positive effect on people, and it is contagious! Good works encourages more good works. Generosity is a by-product of a grateful lifestyle. The more we recognize God's gifts, the more we want to share them. Good stewards recognize that God is working through them, and they don't put themselves above the people they have been called to help.*

### **Recently Deceased:**

Sr. Claire Skehan (Sr. of Mercy)

### **Anniversaries & Remembrances:**

Charles Schembri; Lina Fenech; Godwin Tanti Bellotti; Catherine Aquilina; Suzanne Loriente; John & Paula Sultana; Laurie, Richard & Ersilia Sammut

### **Prayers for the Sick:**

Trish Aitken; Maura McCabe; Anne Playnsek; Alfred & Jane Farrugia;

**On Wednesday 11 February, 2026, I will have completed my 8<sup>th</sup> year as parish priest of Mary Help of Christians. May I ask to be remembered in your prayers as I begin my nineth year as parish priest.**

**Fr. Michael Kalka**

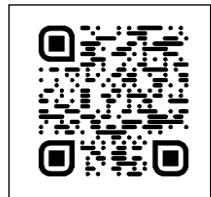
An **Information Night** for parents of children who live in Altona wishing to receive the **Sacrament of Reconciliation (Grade 3), First Eucharist (Grade 4) & Confirmation (Grade 6)**, **who attend schools other than St. Mary's School in Altona**, will take place on **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2026 at 7pm** in the Church Narthex (foyer). Please contact the Parish Office on 9398 2964 or email [altona@cam.org.au](mailto:altona@cam.org.au) with your contact details as soon as possible if you wish your child to receive these sacraments in 2024.

**The next meeting of the Child Safeguarding Committee** will be on Tuesday, 17 February at 7.15pm in the Narthex.

**Mary MacKillop Spirituality Ministry, at St Joseph's by the Sea, Williamstown** is a wonderful haven for people who seek to nurture contemplation, explore and celebrate the wonders of the Earth and universe, nourish the body, mind and spirit, and live into new ways of being. At the centre we offer, Reflection Days and Retreats, Conference Spaces and Accommodation. Scan for more information or contact us on [admin.sjbtsofspirit.org.au](mailto:admin.sjbtsofspirit.org.au)



**Mary MacKillop  
Spirituality Centre  
St Joseph's by the Sea  
Williamstown**



# MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CHURCH

P.O Box 63, Altona 3018  
Phone: 9398 2964  
Mobile: 0434 088 900  
Email: [altona@cam.org.au](mailto:altona@cam.org.au)  
[www.altonacatholic.org.au](http://www.altonacatholic.org.au)  
ABN:29 213 076 983



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