

**29 March 2026**

**Palm Sunday**

*Year A*



**Readings: Sunday 29 March 2026**

**First Reading:** Isaiah 50:4–7

**Second Reading:** Philippians 2:6–11

**Gospel Reading:** Matthew 26:14–27:66

**Readings: Sunday 5 April 2026**

**First Reading:** Acts 10:34, 37-43

**Second Reading:** Colossians 3:1-4

**Gospel Reading:** John 20:1-9

Matthew 27:11–54

The Sunday liturgy that opens Holy Week is distinct in a number of ways. Most notably it consists of two parts, one which focuses on Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem and the second featuring an extended reading of the Passion. Further, the Liturgy of the Word is laid out to be more overtly participatory – this draws us to reflect more intensely during these most significant moments of the liturgical year. .

**Tap & Go Machine is now available in the Narthex for anyone wishing to make a donation to the church by credit/debit or eftpos.**

**Thank you.**

**2026 Stations of the Cross: Good Friday:**  
Cherry Lake, Altona at **Noon**

**OUR 2026 PARISH RENEWAL PROGRAM  
NEW THANKSGIVING COMMITMENTS**

Thank you to all parishioners for the generous response to our Parish Renewal Program. I am pleased to report a positive response! Our parish Ministries have been revitalized with existing volunteers renewing and new families offering their commitment. Thanksgiving Income has received a significant boost with existing families reviewing and renewing their pledges, and many new families pledging their support for the first time. Thank you!

There are still a number of Letters of thanks and acknowledgement of your new pledge to be collected from the church foyer. These are in **ALPHABETICAL** order. A reminder that the new financial commitments **TOOK EFFECT BEGINNING THE WEEKEND SUNDAY 22 MARCH.**

Those who have chosen to contribute by **DIRECT DEBIT** for the first time and have not yet returned the appropriate Direct Debit authorization form will have one enclosed with their letters. We ask you to complete and return the form to the Parish Office during the week. For those who elected to contribute by **ENVELOPES**, a set of envelopes is enclosed with their letters.

There will again be a sheet available for those who are unable to find their letter – simply add your details and the Parish Office will be in touch. Thank you again for your wonderful support of the parish.

*Stephen Littleton – Program Coordinator*

**The Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne  
Safeguarding Unit runs training for ALL**

**volunteers** who must undertake training to maintain a volunteer position within our Parish. The next training session is for **VOLUNTEERS** who have not done their compulsory training session in the last three years. The session will be a group training session conducted by Gavin Deller, our Child Safety Co-ordinator and will take place in the Narthex on:

**Tuesday 31 March at 5.45pm.**

If you have any queries, please contact the Parish Office on 9398 2964.

**Can you Help Us Celebrate Holy Week/Easter?** If so, please place your name & phone number next to the ministry you are able to assist with on the Roster located on the table in the Narthex. **There are many spots that need filling on the Roster so please add your name if you can help.**

**There will be no Children's Liturgy on the first Sunday of April as it will be Easter Sunday.**

**Good Friday Collection** – The annual collection for the support of the of the church in the Holy Land takes place on Good Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land, by providing welfare assistance to local Christians, in areas such as health, education, employment and housing. Parishes, schools, orphanages and medical centres throughout the Holy Land also rely on assistance from the Good Friday collection. The collection is also used to maintain 70 churches and shrines associated with the life of Jesus. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Due to the ongoing war the Church and people of the Holy Land are still struggling with reduced income due to fewer pilgrims and lower church attendance around the world. In 2025 Australian Catholics were once again extremely generous and we were able to send to the Holy Land nearly \$1.7 million dollars. The Holy Land continues facing an income shortfall in funds due to the ongoing effects of the Pandemic, the war in Gaza and now the war with Iran, all of which discourage or totally prevent pilgrims coming to the Holy Land. And so, we again urge Catholics around the world to be as generous as possible. Please remember the Christians of the Holy Land on Good Friday and please keep them in our prayers. Thank you.

**Liturgy Roster - Easter Sunday,  
5 April 2026**

Mass Times	Lectors	Special Ministers
7.00pm Easter Vigil	Viet Tran Cora Torrefranca 2 more volunteers required.	Maryanne Bartolo Paul Bugeja
8.30am	Cath Cuthbert 1 more volunteer required	2 Volunteers
10.30am	Lisa Zammit + 1 volunteer	2 Volunteers
<b>Linen Roster April</b>	<b>Counting this week: Team 3: 22.03.2026</b>	<b>Counting next week: Team 4: 29.03.2026</b>
Luma Kassika	Shaun Crosbie Margaret Bond John Shaw	Brian Dalton Joe Farrugia Joe Yacono

**Novena Of Pope St. John Paul to commemorate  
40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his visit to St Leo the  
Great, Altona North.  
All Welcome.  
See Poster on Narthex Notice Board  
for full details.**

Novena Day 2 - 28.3.26 5pm Fr. Jude Johnson  
 Novena Day 3 - 28.4.26 7pm Fr. Kevin Dillon  
 Novena Day 4 - 28.5.26 7pm Fr Victor Farrugia  
 Novena Day 5 28.6.26 5pm Bishop Thinh Nguyen  
 Novena Day 6 28.7.26 7pm Fr. Tadeusz Rostworowski  
 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**

For enquiries please contact Parish Office via  
[AltonaNorth@cam.org.au](mailto:AltonaNorth@cam.org.au) or 03 9391 7111

*"As they were marching out, they came upon a man of  
 Cyrene, Simon by name; this man they pressed into service  
 to carry his cross." MATTHEW 27:32  
 The Lord calls us to love God and to love our neighbor.  
 Every day we are presented with opportunities to love our  
 neighbor and help him "carry his cross." These  
 opportunities aren't usually big events, they are usually  
 ordinary occurrences like helping someone carry their  
 groceries or holding the door open for them. The key is  
 putting the other person's needs before our own and not  
 expecting anything in return.*

**Recently Deceased:**  
 Mary Stracey  
**Anniversaries & Remembrances:**  
 Fr. James Nooney; Peter Farrugia; Charlie Axisa;  
 Claudia Teixeira  
**Prayers for the Sick:**  
 Trish Aitken; Maura McCabe;  
 Anne Playnsek;  
 Alfred & Jane Farrugia;  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**HOLY WEEK/EASTER TIMETABLE 2026**

<b>28 March</b>	<b>Individual Reconciliation</b>	After 9.15am Mass & at 5 pm
<b>30 March</b>	<b>Maltese / English Individual Reconciliation Fr. Agius</b>	4 - 5 pm
<b>31 March</b>	<b>Individual Reconciliation</b>	After 5pm Mass
<b>1 April</b>	<b>Individual Reconciliation</b>	After 9.15am Mass
<b>Holy Thursday 2 April</b>	<b>No morning Mass or Reconciliation</b>  Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by an hour of silent prayer in the Church	7.00 pm
<b>Good Friday 3 April</b>	<b>No morning Mass or Reconciliation</b>  Ecumenical Service - Walk of Witness - Cherry Lake  Solemn Ceremonies of Good Friday	12.00 noon  3.00 pm
<b>Easter Saturday 4 April</b>	<b>No morning Mass or Reconciliation</b>  Easter Vigil Mass	7.00 pm
<b>Easter Sunday 5 April</b>	<b>Easter Sunday Masses</b>	8.30 am & 10.30 am

Safeguarding Committee 2025 Highlights are  
 available for your perusal on the Safeguarding  
 Information Notice Board in the Narthex.

# ✠ 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



**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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