

First Sunday of Advent

30 November 2025



Readings: Sunday 30 November 2025

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5
Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14
Gospel Reading: Matthew 24:37-44

Readings: Sunday 7 December 2025

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10
Second Reading: Romans 15:4-9
Gospel Reading: Matthew 3:1-12

This First Sunday of Advent encourages us to think of the Lord's coming at the end of time (GIRM 93). The season will close with the birth of the child Jesus, however it opens with the widest of visions. We are called to remain awake, ready for the coming of Christ, a time of fulfilment and completion of all creation.

Lectors and Special Ministers – could you please ensure that you tick your name off the Liturgy Roster (situated on the table in the Narthex) on your arrival. This will help to make the Sacristan's (especially at the 10.30am Mass) job easier, if they know you have arrived.

Our next Children's Liturgy Session is Sunday December 7, 2025 at the 10.30am Mass. If you would like to join the Children's Liturgy Team in leading the children once a month, please contact the parish office on 9398 2964. We would love to hear from you. No experience necessary.

Welcome to
Children's Liturgy



"Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on which day your Lord will come." Matthew 24:42

One of the key themes of the advent season is readiness. If God were to ask at this moment, could you provide an accounting of how you have used the personal and financial gifts that God has entrusted to you?



Christmas/New Year Timetable:

Monday Dec 22	No public Mass
Tuesday Dec 23	No public Mass
Wednesday Dec 24 – Christmas Eve	6pm & 8.30pm
Thursday Dec 25 – Christmas Day	9am
Friday Dec 26	No public Mass
Saturday Dec 27	one Mass only at 6pm
Sunday Dec 28	one Mass only at 9.30am
Mon Dec 29 to Wed Dec 31	No public Mass
Thursday Jan 1 – New Year's Day	9.15am



Compulsory 'Group Training Session' for all Parish Volunteers Regarding Child Safeguarding Standards will be held in the Church on:

Sunday 7 December, 2025 after the 10.30am Mass.

This will be the last session for this year. Therefore, if you are a parish volunteer and have not yet done the compulsory training, please attend this session which takes approximately one hour. If you prefer to do it on line yourself, you will need to provide the parish office with a copy of your certificate showing you have done your online training.

The training sessions will provide all parish volunteers with foundational knowledge and a clear understanding of their duty of care and expectations in relation to safeguarding children young people and vulnerable persons from all forms of abuse and harm. This will be required every three years for all volunteers.

Prayer Service at Port Phillip Village:

Port Phillip Retirement Village in Altona has an ecumenical Prayer Service on the second Tuesday of each month at 2p.m. The next Prayer Service will be held on the 9 December, 2025. Friends and family are welcome.

Liturgy Roster - 7 December, 2025

	Lectors	Special Ministers
6.00pm	Stephanie Tulilo	Mairead Kirk
8.30am	Cath Cuthbert	Brian Dalton
10.30am	Anna Watson	Paul Bugeja
Linen Roster December	Counting this week: Team 2 – 30.11.2025	Counting next week: Team 3: 07.12.2025
Carmen Inguanez	Leticia Mauricio Raquel Arquesa Conee Manguiat	Shaun Crosbie Margaret Bond John Shaw

Christmas Carols in the Park - An annual event organized by Altona/Laverton Council of Churches. Family Friendly – All Welcome – Free Entry! Come and experience His Presence. December 7th 2025 at 6pm.

Logan Reserve Altona, Cnr Pier & Queen Streets, Altona. In case of wet weather this event will be held at The Salvation Army Hobsons Bay, 108 Queen Street Altona.

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!

Australian Catholics Summer Edition - grab your free copy from the Narthex.

Red November: Pray for persecuted Christians - Aid to the Church in Need invites all Catholics to remember, pray for and support persecuted Christians throughout **Red November**. Please pray especially for our brothers and sisters in Nigeria, Sudan and the Middle East, where Christians are facing grave danger right now. Watch the official video and download your Red Rosary prayer card by visiting www.rednovember.org

St. Mary MacKillops Daily thoughts

“Love one another, each one always, in good or bad, not minding how things seem”.



Recently Deceased:

Monsignor Frank Marriott

Anniversaries & Remembrances:

George & Loreta Calleja; Joan Grioli;
Kevin Woof; Doma & Ivan Lesic;
Frank & Zana Cetinic; Senko Srhoj; Ivan Boroje;
Claudia Teixeira; Charles, Frank & Inez Micallef;
Joseph, Carmen & Charles Falzon; Rose Camilleri;
Giuseppina Meilak; Aldo Bordignon

Prayers for the Sick:

Genna Angelowitch; Maura McCabe;
Trish Aitken; Anne Playnsek

Volunteers required to help set up the Christmas Tree in the Narthex and our Crib on Saturday 29th November, 2026. If you can help, please turn up at 4pm. Thank you.

2026 Fees for our 3 student priests at the Seminary in Timor Leste:

If you would like to contribute to the 2026 seminary fees for Eusebio Madeira, Tarcisio Abi, and Amorino Amaral (their photographs and biographies are on the wall outside the parish office) please place your donation in an envelope marked **TIMOR** and put your envelope in a Sunday collection basket.

Or, if you prefer, you are welcome to give your envelope to Father Deonildo, or to me.

The current exchange rate means we will need about \$1,200 (Australian) per student for the 2026 academic year in Timor Leste.

As it was earlier this year, our donation will be hand delivered (in January) to the Rector of the Seminary in Dili. Thank you for your kind assistance.

Archpriest Michael

ADVENT 2025 with The Catholic Guy Bruce

Downes - Jesus is Coming - Time to Get Ready. Experience the life-changing love of Christ and be strengthened in your faith journey this Advent alongside many people from around the world with The Catholic Guy, Bruce Downes.

- * Inspiring and transforming talks
- * Opportunities to pray and reflect
- * Practical strategies for impactful living
- * Life-changing encounter with Christ

To help you go deeper in your prayer life and spiritual journey, you are invited to attend the Advent Mission Event Retreat online available from 29 November with unlimited streaming until the end of Advent. To find out more and register, go to: <https://TheCatholicGuy.com/missionevent> Register now on the website or for more information, email: info@brucedownes.org

✠ MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CHURCH ✠

P.O Box 63, Altona 3018
Phone: 9398 2964
Mobile: 0434 088 900
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.



These advertisers support us, please support them.

Emmanuel College
LIFE TO THE FULL

NOTRE DAME CAMPUS, POINT COOK - CO-EDUCATIONAL

Ph: 8325 5100 www.ecmelb.catholic.edu.au

Emmanuel College
LIFE TO THE FULL

ST PAUL'S CAMPUS, ALTONA NORTH - ALL BOYS

Ph: 8325 5100 www.ecmelb.catholic.edu.au

New villas in Altona!

ST JOHN OF GOD
Accord

Disability services, where everyone is welcome!

Happy homes 1:1 support Support Coordination Skill building Allied Health

accorddisability.org.au 1300 002 226

COMPLETE CARETAKING
FOR ALL YOUR GARDENING NEEDS

MOWING & EDGING
PRUNING & HEDGING
RUBBISH REMOVAL

PHONE LUKE: 0409 075 052

Take your business to the next level...

Enquire about advertising on this parish's newsletter.

1800 245 077
advertising.austnews.net.au

ALTONA PODIATRY CENTRE

Julian Yacono
Over 30 Years Providing Podiatry Services To The Local Area.
35 Central Ave, (Cnr Millers Rd), Altona. Ph: 9398 8779
www.altonapodiatry.com.au

ALTONA RSL

Book your function with us!

31 Sargood St, Altona VIC 3018
(03) 9398 2817 follow us on facebook

RSL REWARDS

Candlepines
UNDERTAKERS OF DISTINCTION Pty. Ltd.

Family Friendly Service
Pre-Paid Funeral Plans
Tailored Services
100% Family Owned and Operated

24 Hour Service, All Melbourne Suburbs

2/132 Maddox Road, Williamstown North

Remembering With Love

www.candlepines.com.au 1300 722 635



MOUNT ST. JOSEPH GIRLS' COLLEGE
Virtue Courage

133 Maidstone Street
Altona Ph 8398 2000
To apply or book a tour:
www.msj.vic.edu.au



We are a nurturing learning and faith community where every individual is encouraged to excel in their academic, co-curricular and personal goals whilst bearing witness to the Gospel values.