



# THE CARMELITE

Parish of Port Melbourne and Middle Park  
in the care of the Carmelites since 1882

*We acknowledge the Yaluk-ut Weelam Clan, the traditional  
owners and custodians of this land. We pay our respects to them.  
May we walk gently here.*

**33RD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME - 16 NOVEMBER 2025**

Dear sisters and brothers,

Today's Readings are certainly attention grabbers. Both the 1st Reading from the Prophet Malachi and the Gospel Reading from St Luke seem a bit like horror movie scripts.

According to Malachi, the "arrogant and the evil-doers" will burn "like a furnace" and "be like stubble ... leaving them neither root nor stalk".

St Luke talks about "wars and revolutions ... nation fighting against nation, kingdom against kingdom ... great earthquakes and plagues and famines here and there ... fearful sights and great signs from heaven."

What are we to make of all this "doomsday" stuff?

We need to see it in context. Malachi was writing towards the end of the Old Testament time when the Jewish community was trying to reestablish itself in Israel after its exile in Babylon and meeting with oppression and persecution at the hands of foreign powers. The community for which Luke was writing towards the end of the 1st century AD had witnessed the destruction of the Jewish temple in 70AD, which many Jews interpreted as the beginning of the "end of the world".

Malachi tries to encourage fidelity in his community to living in accordance with God's covenant of love with them, formulated in "The 10 Commandments". Those who do so are those who "fear God's name" (i.e. respect and honour God). For them, "the sun of righteousness will shine out with healing in its rays." They are encouraged to keep hoping in God's kingdom prevailing in the fullness of time, in spite of all the difficulties and challenges that life entails.

Likewise for Luke. His community is struggling to survive in the face of persecution from civil authorities (the Romans and Jewish authorities resistant

*Continued on pg 3*

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**Both our Churches are fitted with a hearing induction loop. Please use the 'T' or other appropriate switch on your hearing aid. Please tell us if you experience any difficulty.**

## OUR PARISH

### Churches

St Joseph's  
cnr Rouse & Stokes Streets  
Port Melbourne

Our Lady of Mount Carmel  
cnr Richardson & Wright Streets  
Middle Park

### Sunday Masses

5.00pm (Sat) Mount Carmel  
9.00am Saint Joseph's  
10.30am Mount Carmel

### Reconciliation

after 9.00am Mass Saturday

### Carmelite Parish Office

274 Rouse Street  
Port Melbourne Vic 3207

Telephone 03 9681 9600

After Hours Phone Number  
0419 136 030

Email [parish@sj-mc.org.au](mailto:parish@sj-mc.org.au)

Parish Website [www.sj-mc.org.au](http://www.sj-mc.org.au)

Carmelite Website

[www.carmelites.org.au](http://www.carmelites.org.au)

### Office Hours:

Tuesday - 9am - 4pm

Wednesday - 9am-4pm

Friday - 9am-12pm

**(CLOSED MONDAYS & THURSDAYS)**

### Parish Priest

Fr Paul Cahill, O.Carm

### Parish Secretary

Cathy Garbellini

### Pastoral Associate

Kelly McEnhill

### Business Finance Manager

Mark Zanon

### Sacramental Co-Ordinators

Baptism - Br Daryl Moresco, O.Carm

First Reconciliation - Sally Diserio

First Eucharist - Aimee Nguyen

Confirmation - Sally Diserio

### Safeguarding Officer

Frances Correa

### Maintenance Manager

Dave Fletcher

### Galilee Regional Catholic Primary School

Bank Street, South Melbourne 3205

Telephone 03 9699 2928

## THIS WEEK

### Tuesday 18 November

9.00am Mass, Mt Carmel

### Wednesday 19 November

9.00am Mass, St Joseph's

### Thursday 20 November

9.00am Mass, Mt Carmel

### Friday 21 November

9.00am Mass, St Joseph's

2:30pm Funeral, St Joseph's - for Maxine Knott

### Saturday 22 November

9.00am Mass, Mt Carmel

5.00pm Vigil Mass, Mt Carmel

### Sunday 23 November

9.00am Mass, St Joseph's

10.30am Mass, Mt Carmel

## WE REMEMBER

**Those who are sick or ill and in need of prayer:** James Arnold, Geraldo Bacelar, Enrifue Benitez, Kitty Brady, Vaughan Carlin, Dianne Chapman, Brendan Coburn, Angela Cochill, Jairo Cruz, Anthony Dickason, Maureen Dickason, Maria Do Ceu, Fr Des Fitzgerald CSSR, Fr Maurice Barry, Kathie Fennell, Lindsay Flint, Pauline Flint, Jill Foster, Cinthia Furcanetto, Justine Grahame, Badih Hachem, Lisa Healy, Sylvie Lagane, Tony Lagane, Mr Loh, Mrs Loh, Gerald Lopes, Hazel McKay, Marcello Marasco, Angela Mercuri, Lisa Morrison, Maria loc Nguyen, Ingrid Ohleiter, Maria Ohleiter, Pina Orientale, Domingo Pasmor, Mr. Passareti, Julieta Pereira, Paul Quattrocchi, Rafal Rafalski, Tony Robinson, Maria Sekeme, Ailbe Sheehy, Sash Emmanuelle Somerset-Beauverie, Maria Speziale, Jim Sullivan, Rachel Szeto, Yvon Thanet, Kyler Tolongs, Bill Toohey, Bridget Toohey & Henry Verhoeven.

**Those who have died recently:** Sinardi J. Halim, Maxine Knott.

**Those whose anniversaries occur about this time:** Gerard Miniapen, Sharmini Senayaka & Carmelites Thomas Kelly & Peter Davies

## IN OUR PARISH

### Parish Ladies Dinner

Our next dinner is

**Wednesday, 19 November 2025, 6.00pm**

at **Clare Castle Hotel, Port Melbourne.**

Meal and drinks at each lady's expense.

To RSVP, please contact **Joan Cusack** via:

Email: [joanbarwonheads@gmail.com](mailto:joanbarwonheads@gmail.com)

Mobile: 0478 224 624

All welcome !

### Parish Men's Dinner

**Tuesday, 25 November 2025, 6.45pm**

at **Bleakhouse Hotel, Albert Park**

97 Beaconsfield Parade (cnr Victoria Ave)

Meal & drinks at attendee's expense.

**Speaker:** Our speaker will be Richard Olive.

If you are interested in attending, please contact  
Brian Rochford by Friday, **21 November 2025:**

- phone or text: 0403 056 542
- email: [bfrochford@bigpond.com](mailto:bfrochford@bigpond.com)

All welcome !

## Working Bee at St Joseph's Church

**Saturday, 22 Nov 2025, 9:30am**

\* Washing pews, side chapels, skirting boards, etc

\* Cleaning sanctuary, sweeping, vacuum cleaning

\* General dusting, cleaning interior glass doors, brass polishing & tidy up.

\* Weed, prune, sweep and tidy up church grounds.

**BYO gloves, bucket, cleaning cloth, secateurs & trowel if you have but not required. All welcome.**

## THANK YOU

for your generosity last weekend

### Parish Stewardship Offerings

Envelopes \$ 280.00

Credit Card \$ 515.00

Direct Credit \$ 1,693.75

Loose Plate \$ 1,183.20

Tap & Go \$ 513.00

**Total \$ 4,184.95**



## MINISTRIES

**22-23 November 2025**

**OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING  
OF THE UNIVERSE YEAR C**

### 5.00pm Mount Carmel (Vigil)

*Commentator:* Abramo Ierardo

*Reader:* Pat Mount

*Offertory:* Kathy Mount

*Communion:* Kathy Mount

*Music:* Abramo Ierardo

*Sacristan:* Abramo Ierardo

### 9.00am St Joseph's

*Commentator:* Brian Harrison

*Reader:* Tris Tanumihardjo

*Offertory:* Elaine Chaffer

*Communion:* Frances Correa

*Counters:* Ron & Sandra Cassano

*Music:* Kelly McEnhill

*Hospitality:* Elaine Chaffer

*Sacristan:* Rob Winduss

### 10.30am Mount Carmel

*Commentator:* Mary Brady

*Reader:* Peter Thomas

*Offertory:* Ken Becker

*Communion:* Ken Becker

*Music:* Choir / Peter Russo

*Hospitality:* Denis Churkovich

*Sacristan:* Peter Russo

### Communion to the Sick:

Marlene Carlin - 23-29 Nov 2025

## DONATIONS

### Parish QR code

Enter the amount, your name, email address & optionally any comment.

### Electronic Funds Transfer

BSB: 083-347

Account No: 58 216 8515

Name: Port Melb / Middle Park Parish

**Parish Website:** [www.sj-mc.org.au](http://www.sj-mc.org.au)  
using **DONATE** button on Homepage.

to Jesus and those who believed in him), but also from intra community and intra family division and betrayal. Luke is giving them a reality check ... the end-time, when the kingdom of God will be established in its fullness, can't be presumed to be anytime soon. They must go on living, waiting, believing and hoping in light of the risen Christ and the eternal kingdom he has established for them by his death and resurrection. They must do so in the reality of their circumstances, confident that, whatever trials or difficulties they experience, God's love for them and his Spirit living within them remains steadfast – "not a hair of your head will be lost. Your endurance will win you your lives"!

In the difficult and challenging circumstances of our lives, may we also be encouraged by our belief in God's love for us and his Spirit moving within us, empowering us to witness to God's love and the reign of God's kingdom of love and mercy, forgiveness and reconciliation, compassion and kindness, justice and peace; a kingdom to be fully established in the fullness of time.

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### Reception into Full Communion in the Catholic Church.

At the 5pm Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church next Saturday, 22 November, Mrs Terri Thompson, already baptized in the Anglican Church, will declare her commitment to living her Christian faith in the Catholic Church, receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and receive the Eucharist for the first time in our Catholic church. We pray for Terri as she takes this significant step in her life journey and look forward to sharing her joy in doing so.

### November Mass Intentions

During the month of November all Masses will be offered for our deceased loved ones whose names are written and placed in the baskets in front of the altar of each Church. **If you would like your departed loved ones remembered in our Masses throughout the month of November, please write their names on a piece of paper or an envelope and place it in the basket in front of the altar.**

### Working Bee

We look forward to the Working Bee at St Joseph's on Saturday morning, 22 November, at 9:30am. We hope a good number can attend.

### Weekday Mass timetable

- Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday – 9am at OLMC
- Wednesday & Friday – 9am at St Joseph's
- No Mass on Monday

Blessings for the coming week.



## ADVENT REFLECTION

Are you being swept along by the 'Crazy Season'? Why not take a moment to catch your breath and experience Advent in a meaningful way.

Join us for a series of Advent reflection/discussion sessions based around the themes of '**Awake**', '**Prepare**', '**Receive**' and '**Rejoice**'

Date: Tuesdays - 2nd, 9th, 16th & 23rd December  
Time: 9.30am - 10.30am  
Where: Malone Room, Carmelite Hall,  
214 Richardson Street, Middle Park

All welcome for one or all sessions.

Sign up on the form at back of each church.

Or visit the Carmelite Centre website:

<https://www.thecarmelitecentremelbourne.org/events>

## SAVE THE DATE

- **Saturday 22 Nov, 9:30am** - Working Bee at St Joseph's, Port Melbourne
- **Thursday 4 Dec, 6pm** - Parish Christmas Social at St Joseph's Hall, Port Melbourne
- **Monday 8 Dec, 9am** - Advent Reconciliation Service at St Joseph's, Port Melbourne
- **Wednesday 10 Dec, 7pm** - Advent Reconciliation Service Our Lady of Mt Carmel, Middle Park

## FOOD CUPBOARD

- **Friday 19 Dec, 10am** - Last Food Cupboard service for 2025.
- **Friday 30 Jan 2026, 10am** - First Food Cupboard Service for 2026.

We are seeking donations of items to help our needy enjoy Christmas - Christmas Cake, Shortbread, assorted Sweet biscuits, Christmas Puddings, Chocolates, etc would be appreciated.

## PARISH CHRISTMAS SOCIAL



**Thursday 4th December 2025**  
**6.00pm - 8.30pm**  
**St Joseph's Hall, Port Melbourne**  
**Cost : \$40.00 per person**

Come along for a great night and take the opportunity to get to know other parishioners. Cost includes savoury & sweet Finger Food, Beer, Wine, Bubbles, Soft Drinks, Coffee/ Tea & a ticket to all the prizes:

- one **Raffle** ticket
- one **Lucky Door Prize** ticket
- one **Lucky \$50 Note** ticket

We need **PRIZES** for our raffle! If you are able to donate a prize, please contact Cathy on 9681 9600 or leave it at the parish office.

To book select one of the following methods:

- contact Cathy at the Parish Office (9681-9600 or [cathy@sj-mc.org.au](mailto:cathy@sj-mc.org.au)) & pay using the DONATE button on the Home page of the parish website ([www.sj-mc.org.au](http://www.sj-mc.org.au))... be sure to select **Parish Christmas Social** and specify your **First name** and **Last name**.
- use the QR Code on page 3; this directs you to the DONATE button on Home page of the parish website ([www.sj-mc.org.au](http://www.sj-mc.org.au)). Follow the above instructions.
- see **Carmel Collins** after the 5.00pm Mass at Mt Carmel.
- see **Cathy Garbellini** after the 9.00am Mass at St Joseph's
- see **Sally Diserio** after the 10.30am Mass at Mt Carmel

For catering purposes, payment MUST be made by **Tuesday 25 November 2025**.



## VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL



Cost-of-living pressures threaten to turn the festive season into the hardest time of the year for millions of Australians, a survey commissioned by St Vincent de Paul Society reveals.

Those worse affected include Gen Z and families with children under 18 living at home.

- **Food for hungry families** - Your generosity can help provide people facing hunger with healthy, nutritious food.
- **Urgent bill relief** - Your kindness can help people keep the lights on, the car running and pay for vital medical supplies.
- **Safe, secure housing** - Your gift can help people stay on top of their rent, so they can keep a roof over their heads.

To donate, visit <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/christmas-appeal>

Donations to the Vinnies Christmas Appeal of **\$2 and over are tax-deductible**, with every contribution helping to spread hope and relief to Australians under financial pressure this Christmas.

Please give if you can.

## CARMELITE REFLECTION

### *Not So Soon*

Passages of Scripture, like today's Gospel, can leave us feeling disturbed.

Talk of destruction, wars, revolutions, persecution and betrayal by close family members can be quite unsettling.

We have to read the Gospel as Luke's community would have received it, knowing that the Temple and Jerusalem had already been destroyed (ca 70AD) at the end of the Jewish-Roman war, some 10-20 years before Luke's Gospel was written. In the light of that destruction, and the ongoing persecution by both Romans and Jews, perhaps many in Luke's community thought the end was near.

Looking at the world today many of us, too, are dismayed by the wars, persecutions and destruction in our own day.

Like Luke's community, perhaps we, too, long for a saviour to come to our rescue, to make it all right. Maybe that is why so many are prepared to put their trust in harsh dictators who promise to make things right and restore a sense of control and national identity, even at the expense of basic human rights.

The words which Luke places on the lips of Jesus are designed to comfort and give hope. Jesus warns them not to listen to those who think they know God's plan for the end of time – rather, they should know that God is with them always and no matter what happens.

The Church must continue its journey (persevere) in spite of all sorts of difficulties and persecutions. Like Jesus, the disciples will be vindicated by God with the gift of eternal life.

*David Hofman, O.Carm. Celebrating at Home,  
Carmelite Communications, Melbourne*

## OUR LITURGY

**Note: For the Live Music at 10:30am, there is a separate pew sheet.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: SING TO THE MOUNTAINS      BOB DUFFORD, SJ

**Refrain: Sing to the mountains, sing to the sea.  
Raise your voices, lift your hearts.  
This is the day the Lord has made.  
Let all the earth rejoice.**

I will give thanks to you, my Lord.  
You have answered my plea.  
You have saved my soul from death.  
You are my strength and my song. **Refrain**

Holy, holy, holy Lord.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. **Refrain**

This is the day the Lord has made.  
Let us be glad and rejoice.  
He has turned all death to life.  
Sing of the glory of God. **Refrain**

GLORIA

*Mass of Creation: Marty Haugen*

**Refrain: Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on earth.**

Lord God, heavenly King, Almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory. **Refrain**

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;  
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer. **Refrain**

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen. Amen! **Refrain**

## FIRST READING

### *Malachi 3:19-20*

The day is coming now, burning like a furnace; and all the arrogant and the evil-doers will be like stubble. The day that is coming is going to burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, leaving them neither root nor stalk. But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness will shine out with healing in its rays.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 98 - THE LORD COMES TO RULE THE EARTH WITH JUSTICE.

**Response: The Lord comes to rule the earth, to rule the earth with justice.**

Sing praise to the LORD with the harp,  
with the harp and melodious song.  
With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
sing joyfully before the King, the LORD. **Response**

Let the sea and what fills it resound,  
the world and those who dwell in it;  
let the rivers clap their hands,  
the mountains shout with them for joy. **Response**

Before the LORD, for he comes,  
for he comes to rule the earth,  
he will rule the world with justice  
and the peoples with equity. **Response**

## SECOND READING

### *2 Thessalonians 3:7-12*

You know how you are supposed to imitate us: now we were not idle when we were with you, nor did we ever have our meals at anyone's table without paying for them; no, we worked night and day, slaving and straining, so as not to be a burden on any of you. This was not because we had no right to be, but in order to make ourselves an example for you to follow.

We gave you a rule when we were with you: not to let anyone have any food if he refused to do any work. Now we hear that there are some of you who are living in idleness, doing no work themselves but interfering with everyone

else's. In the Lord Jesus Christ, we order and call on people of this kind to go on quietly working and earning the food that they eat.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia.**

## GOSPEL

### *Luke 21:5-19*

When some were talking about the Temple, remarking how it was adorned with fine stonework and votive offerings, Jesus said, 'All these things you are staring at now – the time will come when not a single stone will be left on another: everything will be destroyed.' And they put to him this question: 'Master,' they said, 'when will this happen, then, and what sign will there be that this is about to take place?'

'Take care not to be deceived,' he said, 'because many will come using my name and saying, "I am he" and, "The time is near at hand." Refuse to join them. And when you hear of wars and revolutions, do not be frightened, for this is something that must happen but the end is not soon.' Then he said to them, 'Nation will fight against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes and plagues and famines here and there; there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.

'But before all this happens, they will seize you and persecute you; they will hand you over to the synagogues and to imprisonment, and bring you before kings and governors because of my name – and that will be your opportunity to bear witness. Keep this carefully in mind: you are not to prepare your defence, because I myself shall give you an eloquence and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to resist or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relations and friends; and some of you will be put to death. You will be hated by all on account of my name, but not a hair of your head will be lost. Your endurance will win you your lives.'



## APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ,  
his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

## OFFERTORY: ALLELUIA SING TO JESUS

Alleluia! sing to Jesus!  
His the sceptre, his the throne;  
Alleluia! his the triumph,  
His the victory alone;  
Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion  
Thunder like a mighty flood;  
Jesus out of every nation  
Has redeemed us by his blood.

Alleluia! King eternal,  
You the Lord of lords we own;  
Alleluia! born of Mary,  
Earth your footstool, heaven your throne:  
Thou, within the veil, have entered,  
Robed in flesh, our great high priest;  
Here on earth both priest and victim  
In the eucharistic feast.

Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Glory be to God on high;  
Alleluia to the Saviour,

who has won the victory;  
Alleluia to the Spirit,  
fount of love and sanctity.  
Alleluia! Alleluia to the triune majesty.

**All: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands  
for the praise and glory of his name,  
for our good and the good of all his holy Church. Amen.**

Cel: The Lord be with you. **All: And with your Spirit.**

Cel: Lift up your hearts. **All: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Cel: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God. **All: It is right and just.**

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full, are full of your glory.  
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes, who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest.

## MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Save us, Savior of the world,  
for by your Cross and Resurrection  
you have set us free.

## LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Cel: Behold the Lamb of God.

Behold him who takes away the sins of the World.

Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**All: Lord I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof,  
but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

COMMUNION HYMN: BE STILL FOR THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD

Be still, for the presence of the Lord,  
The holy One, is here;  
Come bow before him now  
With reverence and fear  
In him no sin is found  
We stand on holy ground.  
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,  
The holy One, is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord  
Is shining all around;  
He burns with holy fire,  
With splendour he is crowned:  
How awesome is the sight  
Our radiant king of light!  
Be still, for the glory of the Lord  
Is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord  
Is moving in this place:  
He comes to cleanse and heal,  
To minister his grace -  
No work too hard for him.  
In faith receive from him.  
Be still, for the power of the Lord  
Is moving in this place.

RECESSIONAL HYMN: ALL THE ENDS OF THE EARTH BOB DUFFORD SJ

**Refrain: All the ends of the earth,  
all you creatures of the sea,  
lift up your eyes to the wonders of the Lord.  
For the Lord of the earth,  
the master of the sea,  
has come with justice for the world.**

Break into song at the deeds of the Lord,  
the wonders he has done in every age. **Refrain**

Heaven and earth shall rejoice in his might;  
every heart every nation call him Lord. **Refrain**

The Lord has made his salvation known,  
faithful to his promises of old.  
Let the ends of the earth,  
let the sea and all it holds  
make music before our King **Refrain**

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**THE PARISH OF PORT MELBOURNE AND MIDDLE PARK  
IS COMMITTED TO THE SAFETY,  
WELLBEING AND DIGNITY OF ALL CHILDREN,  
YOUNG PEOPLE AND VULNERABLE ADULTS.**

# NEW PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

## Parish Vision Statement

(Endorsed at Parish Meeting, 27 August 2025)

### **Our Vision: A Carmelite Catholic Community of Faith, Love, and Service**

We are the welcoming community of St Joseph's Port Melbourne and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Middle Park, embracing all people with open hearts. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we seek and celebrate Christ's presence among us, finding Him in one another and in the world around us.

With the openness of Mary, the courage of Prophet Elijah and the care of Joseph we accept the continual challenge of the Gospel to follow Jesus and to become more authentic disciples in these changing times.

Our desire is for our worship to be prayerful, inclusive and relevant, in which people participate fully and which expresses our joy and confidence in God and in each other.

As a community we look to serve the needs of each other and we discover and celebrate our gifts through serving the dignity of all persons without discrimination. We reach out beyond our worshipping community to serve others in need, particularly in our local area.

In a spirit of synodality, we listen deeply, discern prayerfully, and walk together, responding with faith to what God asks of us.

## St Joseph's Port Melbourne and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Middle Park

### Parish Pastoral Council Guidelines

**Vision:** We base our ministry on the Parish Vision Statement, as agreed at the Parish Meeting on 28 August 2025

**Name:** St Joseph's Port Melbourne and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Middle Park Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)

**Mission:** The PPC leads the parish, in collaboration with the Parish Priest, in bringing the Parish Vision Statement to life.

We do this by:

- Facilitating and encouraging the spiritual growth of the parish by offering ongoing faith formation opportunities to parishioners and others wishing to participate.
- Informing the parish of developments in the wider Church.
- Encouraging and facilitating social interactions and friendships within the parish.
- Welcoming and encouraging new parishioners.
- Assisting with the implementation of short term projects which do not fall in the remit of other parish groups.
- Exploring and facilitating opportunities of outreach to the wider community.
- Encouraging among parishioners the pastoral care of each other.
- Organising and facilitating an annual Parish Meeting.

**Membership:** Membership of the PPC is open to all parishioners.

The PPC would ideally consist of the following “ex officio” members:

- Parish Priest
- Parish Secretary
- Parish Pastoral Associate
- Any other appointed pastoral ministers (clerical, religious or lay)
- Galilee School Principal

The PPC would also consist of 8 self-nominated members who are registered parishioners.

**Elections:** If elections are necessary, a brief paragraph introducing each nominee and outlining his/her interest in being a member of the PPC and how they felt they could contribute to the PPC would be available beforehand, accompanied by a photograph.

If necessary, elections would be held after the Homily at all masses on a specific weekend, advertised in advance and on a prepared ballot paper.

**Filling of Vacancies between Elections:**  
At the discretion of the Parish Priest after consultation with the PPC.

**Terms of Office:** 2 years – and renewable for a further 2 terms.

**Office Bearers:** President and Secretary – elected by majority vote at the 1st meeting of each new PPC. The election would be presided over by the Parish Priest.

As the PPC addresses its work, it will rely on various other members to fill casual absences of President and Secretary and to take leadership of various subcommittees in areas of interest as they are formed.

**Operation:** Before each new PPC is formed, an information session, outlining the nature and purpose of a PPC, would be offered to those interested in nominating for the PPC.

The PPC would meet monthly from February to November;

The days and times of meeting would be decided by

consensus among the members of the PPC;

Meetings would be conducted in a synodal manner, incorporating prayer and Conversations in the Spirit; orientation to this way of operating would occur early in the life of each PPC.

Regular reports on the activities of the PPC would be provided to parishioners through the Parish Newsletter. The Reports would be prepared by the Secretary, in consultation with the President and the Parish Priest.

5 elected members and 2 “ex officio” members would make up a Quorum for meetings.

The PPC would second parishioners, as required, to assist with various projects as they arise.

#### **Roles of Office Bearers:**

President:

- Chair all meetings of the PPC;
- Represent the PPC before parishioners and the wider community as required.

Secretary:

- Prepare an Agenda for each meeting of the PPC in consultation with the President and Parish Priest - and distribute;
- Record and distribute Minutes of meetings.

#### **Relationship with other parish groups:**

The PPC is NOT an overseeing group, so doesn't require formal reports from other parish groups. However, the PPC would endeavour to show interest in and be aware of other groups' work and support them as appropriate. From time to time, the PPC may invite a member of another parish group to attend a PPC meeting and inform it of their work or hear any concerns they may wish to raise in relation to the PPC or the broader parish. Such invitations may be issued by the PPC at specific times, but there would be an open invitation for other groups to have a representative attend a PPC meeting on request. The PPC would endeavour to support these groups as possible.

The PPC would have no jurisdiction over other parish groups and would not interfere in their operations. However, it would be available to provide support if requested and as possible.



## **Parish Pastoral Council NOMINATION FORM**

I, \_\_\_\_\_  
nominate myself to serve on the newly formed  
St Joseph's & Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish  
Pastoral Council commencing in February 2026.

I offer my time and skills for the benefit of  
the Parish Community in fulfilling our Vision  
Statement.

Nominations close: **Sunday, 16 November 2025.**

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

(Please place this form in the box at the back of  
either Church or hand to Fr Paul)