



# Our Lady of Mercy Hampden Parish

St Thomas Church, Terang & St Colman's Church Mortlake

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Account Name: Hampden Parish

BSB: 083-884 Account Number: 516028960

**Child Safety Officer:** Mr. Matthew Uzkuraitis

**St Thomas Primary School, Terang:** Principal: Mr. Matthew Uzkuraitis Ph 55921925

**St. Colman's Mortlake:** Principal: Ms Janet Cain Ph 55992285

**Anniversaries:** Bill Keogh, Maureen Gilblin, Margaret "Peg" Green, Cath Finn, Kevin Conheady, Terry Slattery and Eileen McElgunn.

**Recent Death:** Janine Templeton.

## Dear Parishioners of Timboon, Camperdown, and Hampden Parishes

Over recent months, our parish communities have been prayerfully reflecting on the ways we can continue to live and share our faith more vibrantly amid the changing realities of our region. After consultation and discernment with parish leaders, pastoral councils, and the Diocesan Office, it has been proposed that our three parishes — **Timboon, Camperdown, and Hampden** — be brought together to form **one new parish family**.

This new parish would encompass **seven faith communities: Lismore, Camperdown, Cobden, Timboon, Simpson, Mortlake, and Terang**. Together, these communities share a deep history of faith, service, and commitment to the mission of the Church in our district.

The aim of this formation is not merely administrative, but pastoral and missionary — to strengthen our unity, share our gifts and resources, and ensure that our Catholic presence continues to flourish in each of our towns and communities. We believe that, united in one parish, we can support one another more effectively in worship, outreach, and pastoral care.

In the coming weeks, further opportunities will be offered for conversation, prayer, and input as we journey toward this new chapter together. Your voice, hopes, and suggestions are invaluable in shaping the character and direction of this new parish.

As we take this important step, we would like to **invite you to take part in choosing a name for our new parish**. The name should reflect our shared faith, local identity, and the spirit of unity among our communities. It may be inspired by a **saint**, a **biblical figure**, or a **title of Christ or Our Lady** that expresses our common mission and values. Two different names to be proposed, one based on spirituality and the second local identity and the spirit of unity among our communities. Let us continue to entrust this process to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, that we may move forward with faith, hope, and love — as one body in Christ. Fr George Kuruvila

## Pastoral Letter to the Catholics of Victoria on Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide

The State Government is seeking to amend Victoria's euthanasia and assisted suicide laws. If passed, the new laws would further weaken protections for vulnerable patients and reduce protections for nurses, doctors and other medical practitioners who conscientiously object. In response, the Bishops of Victoria have written a pastoral letter asking that we contact our local Members of Parliament and urge them to vote against these laws. You can read the letter online and find out more by [www.bit.ly/EuthanasiaBill](http://www.bit.ly/EuthanasiaBill)



**All Souls Day 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2025**

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**  
**Sunday 02 November 2025**  
**The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed**  
**(All Souls' Day)**

**First Reading**

**A reading from the book of Job (Job 19:1. 23-27)**

Job said: 'Ah, would that these words of mine were written down, inscribed on some monument with iron chisel and engraving tool, cut into the rock for ever. This I know; that my Avenger lives, and he, the Last, will take his stand on earth. After my awaking, he will set me close to him, and from my flesh I shall look on God. He whom I shall see will take my part: these eyes will gaze on him and find him not aloof.'

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 22. R. v.1 or v.4

**(R.)** The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. **(R.)**
2. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. **(R.)**
3. You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. **(R.)**

**Second Reading Romans 5:5-11**

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans**

Having been justified by his blood, we will be saved from God's anger through him. Hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners. Having died to make us righteous, is it likely that he would now fail to save us from God's anger? When we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, we were still enemies; now that we have been reconciled, surely we may count on being saved by the life of his Son? Not merely because we have been reconciled but because we are filled with joyful trust in God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have already gained our reconciliation.

**Gospel Acclamation** See Matthew 11:25

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;  
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

**Gospel**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (Matthew 5:1-12)**

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them: 'How happy are the poor in spirit: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage. Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted. Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied. Happy the merciful:

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they shall have mercy shown them. Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God. Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God. Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

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### **HOMILY by Richard Leonard**

A man died and went to the pearly gates. St Peter met him there. 'Before you meet with God,' St Peter said, 'I thought I should tell you that we've looked at your life, and you really didn't do anything particularly good or bad. We're not at all sure what to do with you. Can you tell us anything you did that can help us make a decision?'

The newly arrived soul thought for a moment and replied, 'Yeah, once I was driving along and came upon a woman who was being harassed by a group of bikies. So I pulled over, got out my wheel brace, and went up to the leader of the bikies. He was a big, muscular, hairy guy with tattoos all over his body and a ring pierced through his nose. Well, I tore the nose ring out of his nose, and told him he and his gang had better stop bothering the woman or they would have to deal with me!' 'I'm very impressed', St Peter responded, 'When did this happen?' 'About two minutes ago!'

All Souls Day has its roots in the sixth century Benedictine tradition of praying to the dead. It was a way of recognising the human bonds which go beyond death. By the tenth century this feast was about praying for the dead, that they might know the merciful love of God.

It is appropriate today for us to think about what a soul is. In an increasingly secular society it's interesting to note that the word 'soul' persists in ordinary conversation. Many non-religious people use this most religious of terms to describe another person. We often hear how others are lonely, distressed, or lost souls. It can be said that someone has a 'beautiful soul' or that a piece of music, a painting or other work of art 'stirred my soul'. We describe mellow jazz as 'soulful' and still alert others to distress by an SOS, 'save our souls'. These uses of the word reinforce St Thomas Aquinas' teaching that the soul makes us human, and sets us apart from other animals.

Nearly all the great religions of the world believe in a soul, or its equivalent – something that survives the annihilation of the body in death. I have come to the opinion that whatever else might characterise the soul, memory is an integral part of it.

I have done several funerals of people who have suffered from Alzheimer's disease. These are rarely very sad occasions because the family invariably says that they 'lost' their loved one months or years before. Why? Because increasingly their loved one couldn't remember anyone or anything. We hold to caring for the body from the womb to the tomb, because we believe that human dignity must always be respected. There are now theories about how even the memories of the circumstances of our conception and birth have a bearing on the way we live our lives. It is also apparent that even when people seem to have lost their memory, or are unconscious, that there is some recognition of some things at a very deep level.

Soul as memory means that when I meet God face to face, I will remember who I am and how I lived, and God will remember me. It's also a comfort for us to think that we will be reunited with those we have loved who have died before us, because we remember each other.

And what is best about a 'remembering soul' is that it is purified. In the old catechism we used to say that heaven was the place where we are perfectly happy with God for eternity. If we think of purgatory as a stage rather than a place, then it's possible to reclaim it as a moment when we see the fullness of God's sacrificial love for us, and recall our sometimes destructive behaviour

toward ourselves, others and the world. Purgatory can be a moment where our memory is purified so we can be eternally happy with God in heaven.

So let's remember at this Eucharist all those 'departed souls' we have known and loved over the years, that they might pray for us that we never forget God's saving love and live lives worthy of it.

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### Weekly Roster

<b>Terang: Rosters for Weekend of 1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 2<sup>nd</sup> November</b>		
<u>Readers:</u>	6pm Alison Lourey	10.30am Bernadette Wurlod
<u>Eucharistic Ministers:</u>	6pm Carmel Moloney	10.30am Robb Storr
<u>Laptop:</u>	6pm Pam O'Keeffe	10 Robb Storr.30am
<u>Linen for month of November:</u> Marg Irving		
<b>Terang: Rosters for Weekend of 8<sup>th</sup> &amp; 9<sup>th</sup> November</b>		
<u>Readers:</u>	6pm Cate Watt	10.30am Justin Staunton
<u>Eucharistic Ministers:</u>	6pm Lorriane Meade	10.30am Annette Clifford
<u>Laptop:</u>	6pm Kelly Lee	10.30am Des Mckinnon
<u>Linen for month of November:</u> Marg Irvine		

### All Souls Day

All Souls Day is a day especially set apart for the praying for the departed, remembering loved ones, and contemplating the hope of eternal life through faith. It is a time to pray for all souls in need of purification, offering them prayers and Mass to aid their journey to heaven, while also recognizing the unity between the living and the dead in a community of faith.

#### Prayer and remembrance

Pray for the departed: Offer prayers, such as celebrating Mass for souls in purgatory.

**Remember loved ones:** Take time to remember and honour friends and family who have passed away, cherishing memories and continuing to express love through prayer.

**Extend prayers to all souls:** Remember that all souls, not just loved ones, even those who have no one to pray for them need our prayers, and that a simple act of kindness in prayer can have a great impact.

So, during the month of November let us remember and pray for all those departed souls and if possible, remember to offer Mass for them.

### Terang Mortlake Health Service Ladies Auxiliary:

Thank you to everyone that braved the weather last weekend to attend Woolongoon. The day was very successful despite the weather. Over \$4,000's raised.

**2026 Saint Columban Art Calendars are available at the St Vinnies shop \$10.00**

### Golden Jubilee Celebrations:

Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Warrnambool East – November 8, 2025

Our Lady Help of Christian Church, East Warrnambool will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of its opening on November 8, 2025. We invite you to come along and share a story or two. Tell us of your involvement and what this community means to you. As our old motto goes, "Bringing people together in an atmosphere that is welcoming, nurturing and challenges all to share in the mystery of God's Love." For further information please contact the Star of the Sea Parish, South West Coast, ph. 03 5562 2231 and someone from the Jubilee group will get back to you.

OUR PARISH COMMUNITY WISHES TO RESPECTFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LANDS ON WHICH WE LIVE, WORK AND WORSHIP OUR GOD."

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