Saint Catherine of Siena Catholic Church

(Canonically Established: 18th January 2006)

OUR PARISH VISION

"A welcoming and dynamic faith-filled Catholic Community, living and sharing the Gospel, to set the world ablaze."

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Yr A) – 4 October 2026



'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.' (Gospel)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father.
Alleluia!

Today's Scripture Readings

Is 5:1-7; Ps 79; Phil 4:6-9; Mt 21:33-43

Next Sunday's Scripture Readings

Is 25:6-10; Ps 22; Phil 4:12-14,19-20; Mt 22:1-14

PRAYER REQUESTS

For the Sick

Conchita Claudio, Patricia Muscat, Mary Buhagiar, Emmanuel Chime, Violeta Serimogan, Ezio Rischitelli, Alida Beric, Arturo De Jesus, Baby Luca, Obi Obi, Eleonor Rivera-Mendoza, Gloria Ng, Edwin Dragwidge, Sheldon Rodriques, Sam Simmons, Elba Synott, Nomer Yu, Marianne Lim, Alexander, Felipe, Anne, Mar Tristan Benitez, Divina Gracia Carbungco, Teremoana Tagiilima Sea, Noah Bonello, Baby Niko, Jennifer Yamzon, Ana Fernandes, Laila Bunoan, Normida Morrissy

For the Dead

6:00pm: Maria Magazzu |
8:30am: Rita Croning |
12:30pm: Stephen Gustini |

Church Finances for Half-Year of Jan-June 2026
Total Income: **$ 205,967.00** | Expenditure: **$ 220,680.00**
***Net Deficit:* $ (14,713.00)**

CAROLINE SPRINGS PARISH

Parish Priest: REV. FR RICHARD ROSSE
Asst Priest: REV. FR JOHN VESPA
Parish Coordinator: MR ROBERT DURAI
Parish Secretary: MRS MAGGIE MAZZULLO (Tue - Thur)
Evangelisation Coordinator: MS ANN O'BRIEN
Evangelisation Coordinator (Discipleship): MR GAVIN MUSCAT
Deacon: REV. MR DOMINIC LAWES

POSTAL ADDRESS
PO Box 3014, Caroline Springs, Vic. 3023, Australia

CHURCH, PRESBYTERY and OFFICE
28 College St., Caroline Springs
Phone: 03-8361 9822
Email: carolinesprings@cam.org.au
Website: www.stcatherinecarolinesprings.org.au
OFFICE HOURS: Monday to Friday 9:30am–1:30pm

WEEKEND MASS TIMES
Every 2nd Saturday (Vigil): **4:00pm (*KOREAN*)**
Saturday (Vigil): **6:00pm**
Sunday: **8:30am, 10:30am & 12:30pm**

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES, SERVICES & ACTIVITIES
Tuesday: **7:00pm (except on Public Holidays: 9:30am)**
Monday, Wednesday - Saturday: **9:30am**

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
Tuesday: 6:00pm - 7:00pm **(except on Public Holidays: 8:30am)**

DEVOTION TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS
1st Friday: 7:00pm (Mass followed by adoration of Bl. Sacrament)

DEVOTION TO IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY
1st Saturday: 3:30pm

CONFESSIONS: Tuesdays: 6pm; Saturdays:8:45am,10am, 5pm, and 1st Friday: 7:30pm or by Appointment at any other time.

LEGION OF MARY | Every Thursday: 7:00 – 8:30pm
JUNIOR LEGION OF MARY | Every Saturday: 2:00 – 3:00pm

SRM CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP
Every Friday: 7:00 – 8:30pm

ABLAZE PLAYGROUP
Every Thursday: 10:30 – 12:00pm (except School Holidays)

ABLAZE YOUTH GROUP
Every Friday (during School Term) for Youth (Year 7 to 12): 6:00 - 8:00pm

ABLAZE YOUNG ADULTS GROUP
Every 1st & 3rd Sunday: 5:00 - 7:00pm

ABLAZE MEN'S GROUP | 2nd Friday of the Month: 7:00pm

ABLAZE WOMEN MINISTRY
Last Monday of the Month: 7:00pm

SCHOOLS IN OUR PARISH

CHRIST THE PRIEST CATHOLIC PRI SCH (Prep-Yr. 6)
54 Caroline Springs Blvd. | Phone: 93618600
(PRINCIPAL: Mrs Michelle Cassar)

ST GEORGE PRECA CATHOLIC PRI SCH (Prep-Yr. 6)
22-48 Lancefield Drive | Phone: 7378 5500
(PRINCIPAL: Mr Michael Ozbun)

ST MARIANNE COPE CATHOLIC PRI SCH (Prep-Yr. 6)
35 Sentinel Parade, Mount Atkinson 3029 | Phone: 9003 3697
(PRINCIPAL: Mrs Jacqueline Byrne)

CATHOLIC REGIONAL COLLEGE CS (Year 7-10)
10 College Street, Caroline Springs | Phone: 9217 8000
(PRINCIPAL: Mr Jamie Madigan)

For the latest updates, please visit our Parish Website and other social media platforms
Website: **www.stcatherinecarolinesprings.org.au**
Facebook: **@St.Catherine.Siena.CarolineSprings.Australia**

ST CATHERINE OF SIENA
CAROLINE SPRINGS
"Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world ablaze"

Friday 2nd October 2026.

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

With less than a week to go before we kick off our second Alpha for 2026, it is with some urgency that I make a plea from the heart to discern where you are in your own personal relationship with Jesus? Is He a part of your every day life or just someone you catch up with on Sundays? I ask these questions because after listening to a Huntley Leadership podcast with a man by the name of Jean Alphonce, who has since passed away after a long battle with cancer, he said something that really hit the heart, that made so much sense & reminded me of the very reason we run Alpha in our parish. In essence, he reminded listeners that if you are seeking a relationship with someone, be it a friend for example, wouldn't you make the effort to get to know that person, allow them to get to know you, make time to catch up with them? After all, relationships, whatever the kind do not grow unless we spend time with the person. So simple yet so true & profound. He went on to say, it is no different if we are truly seeking to be in close relationship with Jesus. This friends is why we run Alpha in our parish, because at the heart of Alpha is Jesus, the basic proclamation of the Gospel (the Good News) & a chance to journey with others, like the disciples, to encounter Jesus in ways you never imagined.

As many of you know, since August 2024, I myself have been battling cancer but what I am truly grateful for, among many things, is this parish community, my spiritual family who have been my rock & my strength. My spiritual family however didn't just grow all on its own, it takes a conscious choice & effort. It grew through service, connection, fellowship, worship & prayer & a genuine care for each other & the same is required if we want a personal relationship with Jesus.

Whilst I have long been committed and passionate about helping every person encounter Jesus the way I have, and the way I've seen so many others transformed through His grace, my most recent scan results and prognosis have deepened that conviction immensely & with a new level of urgency. I am reminded, with great clarity, that life is fragile, time is precious, and nothing matters more than living in relationship with Jesus.

If anything, it has intensified the urgency with which we should all seek to encounter Jesus, wholeheartedly, personally and without delay. With an "official" prognosis of 12 months after recently finding 7 metastatic tumours in my brain, the reality is only God knows how much time we all have, but we do know that Jesus is ready, right now, to meet us and lead us into the fullness of life & to our final destination, home to Him. My prayer & urgent plea is that none of us wait, hesitate or assume there will always be more time. The invitation is here, right now & as a parish community it is also our mission & responsibility to invite others to know Jesus so they too choose to live in relationship with Him & so arrive safely home when it is our/their time.

Friends, everything we do, work, chores, paying a mortgage, rent, bills while necessary is not the ultimate goal. Our ultimate goal & primary purpose in this earthly life is to live in such a way as to repair our relationship with God, fractured by sin, so that we can finally return home & take our place in the Kingdom of God. Our secondary purpose is to lead everyone else there, starting with our families, our friends, those in our extended communities – schools, work, sporting clubs & wherever else we are sent.

At the risk of being triggering for some, I honestly cannot fathom, given the opportunity in front of us through Alpha, why anyone not already living daily in relationship with Christ would not take the chance to personally encounter Jesus through this program. Secondly, in the same unfathomable manner, I cannot understand why anyone, having encountered Jesus would not invite someone they love or care deeply about (which should be all our brothers & sisters in Christ), to an opportunity to get to know Him, His good works & the love He has for them. As an added bonus at every Alpha, we have not only seen beautiful connections & friendships formed but have also witnessed people who have finally found purpose, belonging, their unique gifts & talents, blessings & graces from God which they have gone on to use in service & ministry.

Whether this be my last Alpha as Alpha Coordinator or not, the Alpha team of 12 passionate & committed disciples are equipped & ready to journey with you, your family, your friends, ready to welcome you with open arms & open hearts. All you need do is take a leap of faith, say yes & invite others.

As is said in **Revelation 3:20 (NRSV)** – ***Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me.*** Jesus is already knocking on your heart & the hearts of those we invite. Alpha becomes the place where people finally open the door. He is waiting, for you & all dear to you.

On behalf of the Alpha Team,
Ann O'Brien
Evangelisation & Alpha Coordinator

Alpha is free but for catering purposes registrations are essential. You can register via the QR code on the opposite page of this bulletin or via this link https://www.trybooking.com/DNFWF

CELEBRATION: DEDICATION OF THE CHURCH, INTERNATIONAL FOOD DAY & FR RICHARD's 9TH ANNIVERSARY OF APPOINTMENT TO THE PARISH

The parish will be celebrating Intl Food Day/Church Dedication Anniversary/Fr Richard's 9 Years as Parish Priest on **4 Oct 2026 at CRC Hall from 1:30pm**. Parishioners are requested to bring a plate of savoury/ sweet to represent their culture/nationality to share. Please ensure to **register your attendance on the sign up sheet** in the gathering space, so arrangements can be made to accommodate everyone. If anyone would like to host a stall to represent their country, please contact the parish office.

ABLAZE MEN'S GROUP GATHERING

The Ablaze Men's Group will meet on **Friday 9 October.** It starts with the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 7:00pm to 7:45pm, with Confession. Adoration finishes with Benediction, followed by fellowship at the presbytery.

DEACON DOMINIC's ORDINATION

It is confirmed that Deacon Dominic Lawes will be ordained to the priesthood on **Saturday, 14 November 2026**. **Mass will be at St Patrick's Cathedral at 10:00am**. The parish will be chartering buses for parishioners to attend the ordination. More details will be made known soon.

NO FRIDAY 8:00AM MASS

Please note that there will be NO 8:00am Mass until **Friday 16 October**

SPECIAL APPEAL FOR SHED & YOUTH GROUP COORDINATOR

Amount received so far: $ 7,910.00

We need a total sum of $20,000. A donation box is fixed to the pillar on the right-hand side in the gathering space as you leave the church . Donations in cash or via EFTPOS are most welcome. We thank you for your generosity.

MARCH FOR THE BABIES

This is the 17th annual March for the Babies, and every year since 2009, thousands of Victorians have gathered peacefully with grief and hope to remember the ever-increasing number of babies killed by abortion in this state since the Government legalized abortion-till-birth on October 10, 2008.

Come and show your support and march for the babies on **Saturday, 10th October at 1:00pm** at Treasury Gardens, Cnr Spring St and Wellington Parade, Melbourne. Wear pink and blue for the Babies!

www.marchforthebabies.com

ST CARLO ACUTIS MAJOR RELIC PILGRIMAGE



The pericardium of Saint Carlo Acutis will be in the parish from **8am on Saturday 10th October until 5pm on 11th October**. The timetable of activities and the times of the Solemn Blessing with the relics are on the notice board in the gathering space, and our website and Facebook too.

Parishioners are encouraged to spend some time in prayer before the relic. **We need at least 2 people to be in the presence of the relic at any one time**. There are sign-up sheets in the gathering space if you can commit to an hour or more during the visit.

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There will also be a screening of St Carlo's life, "Carlo Acutis: Roadmap To Reality" on Saturday 10 October at 8pm in CRC Cafeteria. Please register at www.carlo.acutis.org

ALPHA PROGRAM



The new Alpha Program is **starting on Wednesday 7 October**, and it runs for 10 weeks. The Alpha program is for those who have faith to deepen their faith and for those who do not yet know God to come to know God.

Registration is now open via TryBooking. Use the following link or QR code to register. https://www.trybooking.com/DNFWF

ABLAZE YOUNG ADULTS - CANCELLED

The Ablaze Young Adults (18–35 years) will **NOT** meet **this Sunday 4 October** due to parish celebration at CRC Hall.

PIETY: WORD OF GOD & CALENDAR 2027

DON'T WAIT AND MISS OUT

GOD'S WORD 2027 & COLOMBAN CALENDAR

BOTH AVAILABLE THIS WEEKEND

From our Piety Stall and avoid $9-$12 on postage/ shipping or petrol/time.

Price: God's Word 2027 - $26
Columban Calendar - $12

Both are extremely popular items and have sold out each year by Christmas and we can't get more then, so don't be disappointed - **BUY YOURS NOW!!!**

BAPTISMS IN THE PARISH

Baptism

We welcome into the Catholic faith the following who are baptised on Saturday 3 Oct: **Silas Zanca, Caleb Maluma, Maya Lay & Sienna Lester.** Please pray for them and their families!

ST CATHERINE OF SIENA PARISH IS COMMITTED TO BUILDING A CHILD-SAFE ENVIRONMENT

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