

Wedding Garments at Baptisms!

If Eddie McGuire sent you and your family an invitation to a Collingwood luncheon, all expenses paid, of course you might reject it out of hostility or indifference, but if you went, I bet you would find something black and white to wear. Even the baby in your arms would probably wear a black and white beanie.

It would be a show of gratitude, of being willing to dress up for the occasion.

This is only a parable! But you get the point, Eddie would expect you to make an effort. That is what the king in the gospel parable expected.

The king who is God had invited all to come into the great banquet hall of his Kingdom.

Some were indifferent, or openly hostile and they rejected the invitation.

The servants of the king went out and gathered in 'all whom they found, good and evil alike'. They respond, drawn by the attractive prospect of sharing in the life of the Lord of the Feast, and they are welcomed, whether good or evil.

We don't have to first prove ourselves good and worthy of Divine Love who is seeking us out. God simply ardently loves us. And so the invitation and the welcome is extended to all.

By the way, this is why Catholics believe in infant baptism. There is nothing the baby brings apart from its beautiful existence. Proof of capacity to understand all that is happening is not required. It is sufficient that the baby be surrounded by the faith of parents and the local church community.

At the baptisms of infants, it is always a nice moment when the godparents help put a white shawl around the shoulders of the baby or little child. It may have been used for the baptism of a grandmother present at the ceremony, or be completely new.

With teenagers or adults, I ask them to be ready at this point in the ritual to change into a white shirt or blouse or at least drape a white scarf around their shoulders.

So, at every baptism, we look for a signal of commitment to respond to the spirit of the occasion, by the wearing of a white garment.

This is the point of the king's (God's) question to the wedding guest. He asks the guest: 'My friend, how come you are here without a wedding garment?' The guest might have replied: 'Because of dire poverty', or 'Lack of time', but the story goes on, 'But the guest was silent'. The guest was tongue-tied because he was caught out having decided not to enter into the spirit of the occasion.

The wearing of the white garment by the newly baptised indicates that they are appropriately attired for their sacramental presence in the banquet hall of God's kingdom.

Parish Notices

THANK YOU Thank you everyone who attended the **Hospitality Ministries Gathering** on 25 September 2026. It was good to reflect on WHY are we serving in this ministries, getting to know people from other ministries and being able to discuss some issues arising while serving in the ministry. Some solutions were developed which we will announce over the next few weeks.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation – The sessions will begin on the 24th October 26 4-6pm. The ceremony will be 21 November 2026 at 4pm. If you would like to register your child please contact the Parish Office.

Car Boot Sale Market on Saturday 24 October from 8am;

- You can have a stall and sell your items. Reserve a stall for \$35 and you can make some money for yourself. Or
- You can volunteer to help on a parish stall on the day for cakes, BBQ, bric a brac, books, plants or as a traffic warden. The parish will collect the money to be used for parish activities. Or
- You can donate some cakes, drinks, sausages, bread rolls & plants to help the fundraising on the day.

Invite your friends and family, and come along on Saturday morning to support the market, parish & stallholders. Grab a bargain and have a sausage roll.

All Souls Day Outdoor Mass on Monday 2 November at 7.30pm

We will be holding our annual Mass in the Columbarium, honouring and remembering our dearly departed loved ones. All are most welcome. This year, for November, you are invited to bring in a photo if you have experienced the loss of a loved one this year. A photo sized 4 x 6" or 5 x 7" will be displayed in the church for the month.

Alpha sessions will commence on Saturday 24 October at 10am and continue weekly till December. Is there someone who is enquiring about their faith, or is considering joining the Catholic Faith through RCIA. Register via the Parish Office.



Contact us via
Facebook or Instagram



2026 Cash Raffle to be drawn on thursday 26 November. This is a major fundraiser for our parish. Books of tickets are available for you to take home and sell to family & friends. Please ask at the welcome desk after Mass or call the parish office to collect a book of tickets. Tickets cost \$5 each and a book of tickets cost \$50. Your support of our parish is invaluable.

Catholic Mission Annual Appeal will be held at all Masses next weekend



For Yamikani*, getting to school means walking long distances in pain, often without enough food or strength to make the journey. For many families in vulnerable and remote areas like rural Malawi, education has become an impossible choice.

But there is hope. Led by Fr Matthew Semba, a new primary school is being built, offering children a safe place to learn, grow, and look ahead with renewed possibility.

This World Mission Month, you are invited to share in this mission, standing with families as they rebuild their lives and create a brighter future for their children.

*None charged for privacy

Freecall: 1800 257 206
catholicmission.org.au/united

For the sick and homebound:

Myka Mangos, Kevin Cloran, Karen Browne, Reg Gardner, Barry Atkins, Carol & Gabriel Gonzales, Amelia Jimenez, Susan Mella, Sean Finnerty, Rose Levoune, Doris Wahhib, John Kajdrys, Pat Stewart, Allan Marquinez, Vladdy Mher Peralta, Mercy Espiritu, Stephen & Kathleen Mitrovics, Jadwiga Doomalewska, Bill Scibberas, Bernie Briscoe



May they experience the saving power of the risen Lord amidst their pain & affliction.

For our recently departed

Liliana Jaroveski, Peter MacKenzie

Anniversaries that occur at this time

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
may perpetual light shine upon them.*

Holy Gospel according to Matthew 22: 1-14

Whomsoever you find invite to the wedding.

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son’s wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. “Tell those who have been invited” he said “that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding.” But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He dispatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, “The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding.” So these servants went out onto the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests. When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, “How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?” And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, “Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.” For many are called, but few are chosen.’

The Gospel of the Lord



Contact Us

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