6 SEPTEMBER 2026

The Dominican

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TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A



Celebrating the Goodness of Creation, and working for peace.

For the past decade the Catholic Church has annually celebrated the Season of Creation, from 1 September, the World Day of Prayer for Creation, until 4 October, the Feast of St Francis of Assisi (who was declared by Pope St John Paul II as the patron saint of those who promote ecology.) This celebration originated with the Orthodox Church, and is now shared across the World Council of Churches.

Pope Leo took as the scriptural text for his 2026 Message for 1 September "They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks" (Isaiah 2:4). In this message the Pope invites us to 'contemplate the gift of life and to cherish the earth that sustains it, for they are tangible ways of offering praise to our Creator'.

Pope Leo goes on to highlight the 'wounds of war' that stand in stark contrast to the peace that Christ offered, and which extend far beyond the battlefield:

It claims lives, tears families apart and forces millions to flee their homes… War also leaves behind social and ecological destruction that endures for generations...This fuels poverty, inequality, and new social tensions that can contribute to the emergence of further conflicts.

But there is hope:
the path before us is clear, though it is not easy. We are called to allow our hearts to be renewed, so that we might seek peace and care for creation…

The true tools for building peace are not weapons of destruction, instead they are truth, dialogue, patience, goodness, justice, mercy, understanding, care and love. These flow from hearts shaped by the Gospel and sustained by God's grace.

He concluded with a call to prayer: 'May the Lord grant us the courage to walk along this path, so that in our time, swords may indeed be beaten into plowshares, and the promise of the Gospel may take deeper root in our world, and the peace of Christ may reign over all of creation.'

And Pope Leo brought this message into the liturgy: he began the Season by celebrating, in the gardens of his residence outside Rome, the Mass for the Care of Creation: LIVE | Pope Leo XIV's Holy Mass for the Care of Creation from Castel Gandolfo | September 1, 2026.

(from the St Dominic's Justice & Peace group)





ST DOMINIC'S IS A CHILD SAFE PARISH
At St Dominic's we hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our parish.

ST DOMINIC'S PARISH
816 Riversdale Road
Camberwell VIC 3124
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SUNDAY MASSES
6pm Saturday (Vigil),
8am, 9.30 am, 11am & 6pm

WEEKDAY MASSES
Monday to Friday 12 noon, 6pm
Saturday and Public Holidays, 9am

CONFESSION (RECONCILIATION)
Monday - Friday 11.15 - 11.45am
Saturday 4pm - 5pm

PARISH TEAM

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Manager: Truc Nguyen
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Monday, Wednesday & Friday

Secretary: Thao Tran
secretary@stdominics.org.au
Office Hours: Mon-Fri 10am to 3pm
Closed Public Holidays & Weekends

Dominican Priory: 9912 6880

Principal, St Dominic's School:
Natalie Kenny 9836 8300

Child Safety:
Denis Fitzgerald 0418 136 372
safety@stdominics.org.au

Parish's Collection