



HOLY EUCHARIST PARISH

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TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME A

5 & 6 SEPTEMBER 2020

REDEMPTORIST COMMUNITY

Mission Leader

Fr Peter Danh CSsR

Parish Priest

Fr Vincent Long Pham CSsR

Assistant Parish Priest

Fr Vinsensius (Lovin) Lolo CSsR

Fr Oche Matutina CSsR

Fr Patrick Corbett CSsR

Parish Secretary

Mary-Lucy Atonio PH: 9366 1310

Parish School Principal

Jeffrey Parker PHONE: 8312 0900

Filipino Chaplain

Fr Joselito Asis

South Sudanese Chaplain

Deacon George B.P. Meat

SEASON OF CREATION Pope Francis is encouraging parishes and schools to participate in a Season of Creation, commencing September 1 and ending October 4, the Feast of St Francis of Assisi. We are called to prayer, reflection and action towards care of our common home, the planet Earth and, to this end, we will publish resources on each of the four coming Sundays. This does not override any liturgical norms.

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

by St Alphonsus de Liguori, Founder of the Redemptorist

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



Happy Father's Day to all who are Fathers or Grandfathers or Stepfathers!

I am conscious that many will celebrate the father's day without their children surrounding during this time of restrictions. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Father's Day is a day to remember, acknowledge and appreciate OUR HEAVENLY FATHER Who is our spiritual "Daddy." It is He on whom we lean in times of pain and sorrow; it is He on whom we call in times of need; it is He who provides for us in all ways: practical, emotional, and spiritual. May OUR HEAVENLY FATHER bless our earthly Fathers. May He guide us and fill our hearts with his inner peace and blessings during this time of pandemic.

"Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil."

Fr Vincent Long Pham CSsR

A CORONAVIRUS PRAYER

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace.

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace.

Jesus Christ, heal us.

THE LIVING WORD

First Reading Ez 33:7-9

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

If you have not warned the wicked man, then I will hold you responsible for his death.

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 94:1-2.6-9. R. v.8

(R.) O that today you would listen to his voice!

Harden not your hearts.

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. (R.)
2. Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. (R.)
3. O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my
work.' (R.)

Second Reading Rom 13:8-10

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Love is the fulfilment of the Law.

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself, and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 18:15-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

If your brother or sister listens to you, you will have won that person back.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector. 'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven. 'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE SEASON OF CREATION

The Season of Creation is a new Liturgical Season for the Catholic community globally as it joins the 30-year ecumenical/orthodox history of celebration under the leadership of Pope Francis and through the promotion of the Vatican Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development. It extends from September 1st, the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, to October 4th, the feast of St. Francis of Assisi.

The Season focuses on God as Creator of the vast cosmic universe, God's revelation in Creation, and our calling to care for God's creation, protect its rich diversity and address the urgent, destructive crises threatening its health and future.

This year's theme is Jubilee for the Earth. Climate change, currently one of Earth's most pressing crises, is a result of the intersection of greed, inequality and destruction of God's Earth. Jubilee is a time to renounce overconsumption and economic systems based on constant economic growth at the cost of the Earth and those who are poor. Jubilee is a time when those who have consumed the most must care for those who have suffered the most. Jubilee is a time of rest for the land from constant exploitation, to restore ecosystems and people.

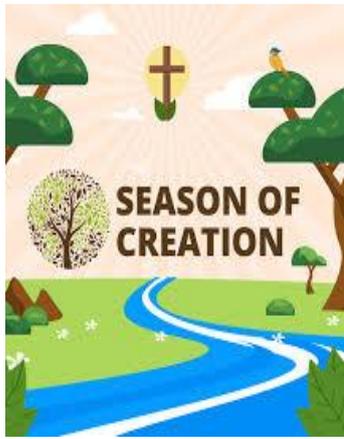
On this 1st Sunday of the Season of Creation, the scriptures call us to accept our prophetic responsibility in love to invite each other to conversion and care for creation in these times of ecological crisis.

In the first reading, Ezekiel describes God's warning to himself and to us: we are responsible for each other. If we hear and fail to relay God's Word, God's call to conversion to those for whom it is intended, we will be held responsible and complicit in their sin and in the suffering and punishment it brings.

One of Pope Francis's central beliefs at the heart of Laudato si' is that everything and everyone is connected, interdependent. We are responsible for each other. God speaks to us and calls us to conversion in many ways. In the context of the Season of Creation, we need to listen to that Word of God in "the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor." (L.S. 49)

The cry of the Earth, heard in increasingly powerful storms and fires, melting ice and rising sea levels, droughts and floods, pollution of air and water, loss of rich biodiversity and ecological degradation.

The cry of the poor, heard and seen in widespread hunger and malnutrition, in homelessness and ill health, exploitation and vast migration and refugee flows, violence and ecological destruction of the most marginal regions where the poor are so often forced to struggle for survival.



How do we, how can we educate and warn ourselves and each other about the ecological crises facing us and threatening life as we know it on the planet?

How do we, how can we understand and warn each other about our part, our responsibility for the destructive forces at work?

What is the conversion in ways of thinking, acting, and living together on Earth that God is calling us to? What are the changes in lifestyle and relationships with each other and with creation?

What individuals, groups, communities, parishes, institutions, movements will help me/us to grow in this mission?

To what individuals, groups, communities, parishes, institutions, movements am I called to speak out, educate, warn of God's prophetic Word in the cry of the poor and the cry of Earth?

St. Paul's letter to the Romans puts this prophetic education and invitation to care for creation in their deepest context: they are expressions of the great commandments that sum everything up: Love God. Love your neighbor.

All is interdependent, all is interconnected. We cannot say we love God if we do not love our neighbor. We cannot say we love our neighbour if we do not care for the air, the water, the land, the ecological systems, the intricate Web of Life upon which our neighbors and we depend for life itself.

Nor can we say we love God if we do not care for God's gift of creation in all its wonders and richness.

How can we, how do we express this prophetic love in our families? In our parishes and dioceses? In our religious communities? In our schools and universities? In our hospitals and health care centers? In our businesses and farms?

In the gospel, Jesus lays out a way to convey the urgent prophetic warnings in this time of ecological crisis, an approach that shows respect for those who need to hear these truths and invites conversion gently but persistently.

At the same time, the approach is realistic: there will be those who will not listen. The prophetic word around these issues is far too important and urgent to get bogged down in endless arguments with those who, in the words of the psalm, have hardened their hearts. Move on to where the work of conversion and the growth of the New Creation can find fertile ground and produce a hundredfold.

Christ calls us together too in prayer, promising to be with us, promising us that our prayer will be heard. Let our prayer deepen our awe and reverence be

SEASON OF CREATION 2020 PRAYER

Creator of Life, At Your word, the Earth brought forth plants yielding seed and trees of every kind bearing fruit. The rivers, mountains, minerals, seas and forests sustained life. The eyes of all looked to You to satisfy the needs of every living thing. And throughout time the Earth has sustained life. Through the planetary cycles of days and seasons, renewal and growth, you open your hand to give creatures our food in the proper time.

In your Wisdom, you granted a Sabbath; a blessed time to rest in gratitude for all that you have given; a time to liberate ourselves from vicious consumption; a time to allow the land and all creatures to rest from the burden of production. But these days our living pushes the planet beyond its limits. Our demands for growth, and our neverending cycle of production and consumption are exhausting our world. The forests are leached, the topsoil erodes, the fields fail, the deserts advance, the seas acidify, the storms intensify. We have not allowed the land to observe her Sabbath, and the Earth is struggling to be renewed.

During this Season of Creation, we ask you to grant us courage to observe a Sabbath for our planet. Strengthen us with the faith to trust in your providence. Inspire us with the creativity to share what we have been given. Teach us to be satisfied with enough. And as we proclaim a Jubilee for the Earth, send Your Holy Spirit to renew the face of creation. In the name of the One who came to proclaim good news to all creation, Jesus Christ. Amen.

MEDIA STATEMENT

On behalf of the Catholic Bishops in Victoria, on the release of the Voluntary Assisted Dying Review Board Report of Operation January – June 2020

“The latest report from the Voluntary Assisted Dying Review Board is not a celebration of good healthcare, but a sad story of the loss of hope and care for vulnerable people.

The report is notable mostly for what it does not address: mental health, the proportion of patients who died alone, and the number of patients who were able to receive a comprehensive palliative care assessment before a VAD assessment.

Despite assurances that VAD numbers would not increase significantly in its early years, the numbers presented in the report are alarming. Comparatively, it took the State of Oregon in the United States 17 years to reach the same number of deaths that Victoria has reached in its first 12 months of VAD.

On the one hand, our nation is making sacrifices to protect people from the Coronavirus pandemic while on the other, this report is encouraging greater access to assisted suicide. The contradiction is baffling to many doctors, which is alluded to in the VAD report but not addressed comprehensively.

Our hearts go out to families in distress at this time and the lack of quality palliative care options available to them. It illustrates, just as recent Royal Commission findings have also shown, that the range of quality aged care options available to Australians is far narrower than what it should be in a prosperous country like ours.

One of the few ‘safeguards’ in the VAD legislation is that doctors are prevented from initiating the conversation with patients. This protects doctors from becoming stewards of death to their patients, and it protects vulnerable patients from having VAD pushed on them. We are surprised and disappointed that the VAD Board is now sympathetic to overturning this safeguard.

Despite the scant detail in the report, we are encouraged by those with the resilience to keep serving patients without resorting to VAD. Catholic healthcare providers will not abandon their patients, and believe they have a right to be loved from the beginning to the end of their life.”

Statement attributable to:

Most Rev Paul Bird CSsR, Bishop of Ballarat

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli, Archbishop of Melbourne

Most Rev Terence Curtin, Auxiliary Bishop of Melbourne

Most Rev Shane Mackinlay, Bishop of Sandhurst

Most Rev Bosco Puthur, Bishop of the Syro-Malabar Eparchy

Rev Peter Slater, Administrator Diocese of Sale

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SCHOOL NEWS

• IMPORTANT DATES:

- **Tuesday 8th September -Our Lady's Birthday**
- Friday 18th September -End of Term 3
- Monday 5th October -Beginning of Term 4
- Friday 9th October -Caroline Chisholm's Year 7 Enrolments for 2022 close
- Monday 12th October -School Photos
- Mon 19th –Fri 23rd October - Children's Book Week

Please remember to continually check for updates on Class Dojo and to visit our school website to keep up to date with important information in regards to COVID-19. Please visit

www.hestalbanssth.catholic.edu.au

➤ PREP ENROLMENTS 2021.

Just a reminder that Grade Prep enrolments for 2021 are almost full. If you wish to enroll your child for Prep next year, please do so as soon as possible. If you know of family friends who are also seeking a placement for their child, could you please let them know to contact the school office on 8312 0900.

- **SACRAMENTS.** At this stage we are still unable to gather in large groups as directed by the State Government. Therefore, we are unable to make any plans to celebrate Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation. As soon as we know anything we will communicate this with families.

PRECA NOTICE

We are in progress to host more families from the Holy Eucharist Parish on our zoom meetings whether they are sacraments related or not. We are constantly holding catechism classes every Tuesday at 7pm for young people Sacraments and also every Friday at 7pm for both girls and boys who wish to continue their faith journey from 11 years and above youth including their families.

If anyone interested call myself Noel on 0410923291 or Br Anthony on 0419115692 or our email: precastalbans@tpg.com.au

LET US PRAY FOR

Prayers For The Sick

Louise Tonna, James Raitmajer, Toni Antonowicz, Linda Ratbone, Anna, Maria Kim, Yulette Tanner, Peter Disco, Jessie Spiteri, Stella Sandle, Frank, Doris Carabott.

Recently Deceased

Mrs Thi Hot Bui

Anniversaries

Alfred Chircop Jnr (1st Anniv.), Alfred Sn., Johunnus Disco, Joe Farrugia, Alan Royle, Philip Gauci, George & Angela Bugeja, Wayne Camilleri, Vincent Duong Kham Su, Mary Camilleri & Family, Joseph, Frank & John Xerri, Charlie Xerri, Lewis Spiteri, Raymond Abela and All Souls.

Food Bank opens Fridays from 10.30am until 2.00pm. Contact Charlie at the Presbytery 9366 1310

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Holy Eucharist parish respectfully acknowledges the Wurundjer people as the traditional custodians of the land on which we reside and worship.

VOCATION VIEW: “How much would the world be changed if everyone were completely forgiving? Probably totally! Jesus’ stories of forgiveness are so loved because they are so needed. Re-tell them! Re-live them!”

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