



HOLY EUCHARIST PARISH
1A Oleander Drive, St Albans South 3021
Office Hours: Tues - Fri: 9:00am - 3.30pm
Phone: 9366 1310, Fax: 9366 9359
Email: stalbanssouth@cam.org.au
Website: www.holyeuchariststalban.org



TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME A

12 & 13 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

SCHOOL NEWS

• IMPORTANT DATES:

- Friday 18th September -End of Term 3
- Monday 5th October -Beginning of Term 4

Dear families,

We will be having a farewell Liturgy of the Word for Mr Parker on Thursday 17th September 2020 at 9:30am. All families and parishioners are invited to attend this celebration which will be led by Fr Vincent. The celebration will be held before remote learning via Zoom and will go for approximately 20 minutes.

(We have updated our Zoom account to allow up to 1000 participants). Please click on the following link on Thursday morning (17-09-2020) at 9:30am and please remember to mute your microphone as this is a prayerful celebration.

Join Zoom Liturgy of the Word
https://zoom.us/j/94781550231?pwd=blRiL1lhMjlpQWtDaGowZERXe_mFGdz09

Meeting ID: 947 8155 0231

Passcode: 360679

We hope to see you there.

Thanks,
Michael

PARISH SOCIAL MEDIA

We are online!

Parish Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/HolyEuchristChurch>

Parish Youtube: Holy Eucharist Church St Albans

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRkzB6-KIHeDQ_aOTDfeYIg/featured

Parish Website:

<https://www.holyeuchariststalban.org/>

PARISH PRIEST'S MESSAGE

Dear Families and Friends at Holy Eucharist School and Parish,

Many of us possibly have known that our Principal, Mr Jeffrey Parker will be leaving the school at the end of the term 3 and our Deputy, Mr Michael Bonnici will be the Acting Principal for term 4 and applications for Principal and Deputy Principal in the following years are in the process.

The whole parish and school community will be grieved by the loss of this wonderful person. Mr Parker has been at the school for 15 years, and 6 years as principal. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Parker for his outstanding contribution to the care of the school community, students, staff and families as well as the parish staff. He has created an environment where school and parish are one, and we cannot thank him enough for giving his utmost to this mission. I hope that during term 4 or early next year, when things settle a little better, we will welcome him back to school for a proper farewell.

I also would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Bonnici will be the Acting Principal and Miss Alison Borg will be the acting Deputy for term 4.

In many ways, this year has been so challenging and we may feel overwhelmed by so many setbacks, and especially with this further news. And yet we are reminded that God is always with us, and that we graciously allow people to follow their calling wherever God leads them. We can be sad at the loss, but let us also be happy for them and appreciate all they would have given to us.

God bless Jeff, Michael and Alison in their new role, and God bless us all.

Vincent Long Pham CSsR
Parish Priest

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.

THE LIVING WORD

First Reading Sir 27:30 – 28:7

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner. He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin. Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord? Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins? Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his sins? Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments. Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 102:1-4. 9-12. R. v.8

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. (R.)
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion. (R.)
3. His wrath will come to an end;
he will not be angry for ever.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults (R.)
4. For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 14:7-9

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans
Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 18:21-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times seven.

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times. 'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time," he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me", he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said. "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

SECOND SUNDAY OF THE SEASON OF CREATION

Reading from the Book of Sirach. The mission of relaying God's call to "integral ecological conversion" in these times can lead to frustration and anger when people refuse to listen, deny the truth and evidence, resist acting, and even actively oppose the work of caring for and healing Earth and all its Web of Life.

When crises are as urgent and destructive as the ecological/climate crises today, it is hard to be patient and gentle with those causing them who do not see the truth and the need or are not willing to change. When we watch families starve, the Amazon burn, floods ravage, arctic regions melt, and crucial waters evaporate in rising heat, anger about the thoughtlessness and destruction seems just and called for.

When people we love suffer from the changing climate, the desire to strike out against those responsible rises quickly. The human costs: to those alive now and to future generations can be devastating. Earth is even now going through the Sixth Great Extinction with costs to all life that are massive.

Still, Sirach warns that clinging to anger and vengeance will bring God's anger and vengeance upon us. We must forgive others' injustice if we hope to have God forgive our own.

Legitimate righteous anger, on the other hand, can provide energy and courage to speak out and work for change, but this kind of anger seeks conversion and reconciliation, not vengeance or destruction. It does not become bitter.

Psalm 103 celebrates God's forgiveness, mercy, patience, and compassion for us. As we pray this psalm in the context of the Season of Creation, the Spirit is working with us to deepen our felt gratitude for God's mercy and forgiveness for the abuse of the gifts of creation. The Spirit longs to heal us and redeem our lives from the destruction threatening us all. How have we experienced God's patience and forgiveness for the ways we receive, live in, and treat God's gifts of Earth, of creation? As a community? As individuals?

This passage from Paul's letter to the Romans, in its fuller context, serves to encourage Christians not to judge one another. Each one lives or dies for Christ and "each of us shall give an account to God." [Romans: 14:12]

Matthew's gospel answers two questions: How often must we forgive someone who seeks forgiveness? And what will happen if we don't forgive each other?

Jesus could not be clearer: We must forgive not 7 times but 77 times – a metaphor in his time and culture for a number without limit. Every time they ask forgiveness sincerely, we must give it from our hearts. If we do not forgive each other when we have been forgiven so much by God, we will lose God's forgiveness.

To recognize how precious God's forgiveness for the misuse of the gifts of creation is, we need to be conscious of how precious and sacred those gifts are.

How has God patiently increased our awareness of the preciousness of the gifts of creation?

What do we most appreciate, enjoy and rely on in nature? How can we come to recognize it more as a gift from God?

How can we contemplate God present in those gifts? How can we grow in discerning God's Self-gift in and through them?

As we have grown in consciousness of God's gifts in creation and of our destructive use and abuse of them, we have experienced God's patience, mercy, and call to conversion in our lives – what Pope Francis has called an integral ecological conversion.

How have we been forgiven in our individual journeys thus far? In our community life? For what are we in still need of forgiveness now? How can we expand our consciousness of the ways we continue to live unconscious of or unconcerned about waste, pollution, a "throw away culture," overuse of resources, inequality and poverty?

Acknowledging our sins, failures, slowness to change and asking forgiveness, we need to contemplate and give profound thanks to God for this patience, gentleness in forgiving us, teaching us, drawing us to work for the New Creation.

How can we express and live out our gratitude for God's patient forgiveness to us personally? As a community?

How can we work at deepening and nurturing that gratitude of spirit? What type of liturgies, prayers, actions together can nurture this spiritual growth?

How can that gratitude call forth in us patience and forgiveness for those "behind us" in this journey? For those resisting or denying the cry of the poor and the cry of the Earth?

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.

CHILD PROTECTION WEEK (6-12 SEPTEMBER)

This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Child Protection Sunday, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. The Church takes a zero-tolerance approach to child abuse. We recommit to practices that support survivors and make the Catholic Church and its ministries the safest possible place for children and people at risk.

Please read a letter from the Archbishop Peter Comensoli

Dear Friends

In Child Protection Week, our whole nation is invited to 'put children first'. In fact, that is the theme in 2020, which marks thirty years of Child Protection Week in Australia.

Although the Pandemic has changed the way we are all living and working, it doesn't change what is most important. For Christians, the Lord Jesus shows us that at all times, the most vulnerable among us are those requiring our greatest care. In particular, the safety and the protection of children is one of our most important priorities.

The Professional Standards Office of our Archdiocese along with our Mission Team have developed some resources to be of help for all in our communities. These are designed to support children and young people's right to be safe and feel safe.

My heart breaks for those who were not cared for and protected in the past. When a child is neglected or abused, the pain and suffering endures throughout their whole life. I am sad and angered that the Church has not always been a place that has put children first. We continue to address the horror of abuse, to walk with those in need,

and to build a culture of safety and protection for our most vulnerable. Personally, I will continue to meet with survivors of abuse; listening to them, hearing them and trusting them, and helping our Church be continually converted.

Please pray with me that we would put children first always, and protect their safety.

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli
Archbishop of Melbourne

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.

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, Tori Antonowicz, Linda Ratbone, Anna, Maria Kim, Yulette Tanner, Peter Disco, Jessie Spiteri, Stella Sandle, Frank, Doris Carabott.

Recently Deceased

Mrs Thi Hot Bui

Anniversaries

Nazareni Spiteri, Antonio Mifsud, Philip Gauci, George & Angela Bugeja, Wayne Camilleri, Bartolo family, Brincat & Galea family, 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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