



## HOLY EUCHARIST PARISH

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**TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME A**

**19 & 20 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.



*We proclaim a crucified Christ*

16 September 2020

To the People and Clergy of the Archdiocese of Melbourne

Dear friends in Christ,

As we now welcome the beginnings of easing in COVID-19 Restrictions in Victoria, I would like to take this opportunity to write to you, the Clergy and people of our Archdiocese. It is great news that regional Victoria will, from tonight, move into the Third Step of the Roadmap to reopening, which includes our parishes located outside the metropolitan zone. However, we have a long way to go.

The deprivation in sacramental life has been a profound loss for our people. As well as all the other sufferings of the Pandemic, the sense of estrangement from the Eucharist has been a particular struggle for Catholics. The Mass is our primary means of gathering together in faith; it is the source and summit of our Christian life, and its life-giving nourishment and healing is dearly missed.

In the midst of this loss, I am grateful to our Priests and Deacons for continuing to serve the faithful, for sharing a sacramental ministry even under strict conditions, and for being alongside our people and their loved ones in times of death and grief. Thank you for your faithfulness.

All of us are anxious to open church doors, but I want to emphasise our need to be creative in the ways we do so, especially with the thousands of children who have been waiting for Sacraments of Initiation. Countless Catholic families are awaiting Baptism, Reconciliation, Holy Communion and Confirmation for their children. Adults, too, have longed to be received into the life of the Church. We shall be exploring possibilities such as outdoor liturgies in parish and school settings to facilitate these crucial events of grace and welcome.

Throughout the pandemic, I have been advocating directly with the Government, reminding authorities continually of our respectful compliance with each stage of restrictions, and seeking a fair consideration in what is permitted. The Catholic community throughout the pandemic has been constructive and positive. We have, and continue to act in a mature way, caring for the safety and vulnerability of Victorians facing great risk. Thankfully the signs of driving down COVID numbers are looking good at this moment and Catholics join other people of faith in giving thanks for this outcome and working to ensure the steps ahead do not take us backward. Now, it is essential that the Government does not treat faith communities as an afterthought to the opening up of other sectors. Our churches are locations for communities of care and essential service, and must be treated fairly and reasonably.

Practically speaking, I have been in discussion with the Premier to thank him for overturning the restriction on spiritual ministry to the sick and the dying, and have assured him that the Catholic Church is able to manage restrictions (including good hygiene, face coverings, social distancing and density requirements). If pubs and restaurants can open, then places of worship should be open under similar conditions and numbers.

If case numbers track well, I expect we will see larger outdoor gatherings in regional Victoria become possible over the next few weeks, and proportionate opportunities for gathering in metropolitan Melbourne. I am hopeful that this may occur sometime in October, which would be a deeply welcomed improvement on the current Roadmap indications. If we can open our churches, even for outdoor gatherings, then we should open them.

The Deputy Premier and the Multicultural Affairs Minister are conducting discussions this month through the Multifaith Leaders Forum. The Archdiocese will be contributing to these meetings. In addition I will continue to engage with the Premier and Ministers directly on the Church's need for opening doors, carefully and safely.

Be assured of my ongoing closeness in prayer and concern. I have heard your cry, and I am working to bring your voice to the authorities. The Lord has promised he will be with us always; let us place our hope in Him.

With every grace and blessing, I remain,  
Yours sincerely in Christ Jesus,

**Most Rev Peter A Comensoli**  
Archbishop of Melbourne

## THE LIVING WORD

### First Reading Is 55:6-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

#### *My thoughts are not your thoughts.*

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near. Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him, to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks. Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.

### Responsorial Psalm Ps 144:2-3. 8-9. 17-18. R. v.18

(R.) The Lord is near to all who call him.

1. I will bless you day after day  
and praise your name for ever.  
the Lord is great, highly to be praised,  
his greatness cannot be measured. (R.)
2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
How good is the Lord to all,  
compassionate to all his creatures. (R.)
3. The Lord is just in all his ways  
and loving in all his deeds.  
He is close to all who call him,  
who call on him from their hearts. (R.)

### Second Reading Phil 1:20-24. 27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

#### *For me to live is Christ.*

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake. Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son.

Alleluia!

### Gospel Mt 20:1-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

#### *Why are you jealous because I am generous?*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard.

Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

## THANK YOU & FAREWELL MR JEFFREY PARKER

Good Morning Everyone

We are all here to bid farewell to our special Principal and friend who leaves us to take up a new chapter in his career. 7 years ago I gave a farewell speech to our previous Principal John Steele and welcomed you Jeff, as our incoming Principal. So I feel very privileged and honored to deliver this speech for you Mr. Parker, on behalf of the children, staff, families and parishioners of Holy Eucharist community.

Today, I realised how time flies. Let's back track a bit down memory lane....

Historically, 1990 saw [Nelson Mandela](#) released after 27 years imprisonment in South Africa and in sports John McEnroe became the 1st ever player to be expelled from the Australian Open – but it was also the year Jeffrey Parker began working at Holy Eucharist. (Look Jeff, I'm not sure if that last event has made the Google History Search Engine), but nevertheless for our Holy Eucharist community and for you it was a highlighted event.

In the first 6 years at Holy Eucharist, you were our P.E Teacher and I also had the pleasure of teaching and working alongside you in Grades 3 and 4. Times were different then and we had Grades of 34 children, we were in old portables and yet teaching life was fun, simple and good.

What a year 1996 was....!

- Mad Cow Disease hits Britain
- DVD's were launched in Japan
- Friends, X – Files, and Fresh Prince of Bel – Air were the popular TV Shows
- Australia saw 2 Prime Ministers in 1996- Paul Keating and John Howard
- The Spice Girls (not the Beatles Jeff) were on top of the music charts and
- Mr. Jeffrey Parker leaves Holy Eucharist, St Albans to take up a position for 10 years at Emmaus Catholic Primary School in Sydenham

Look I'm not sure what was happening in the world between those 10 years but the year 2006 is very Ironic Jeff. Did you know it was the year that the 'Bird Flu' was discovered in Scotland and Google purchased YouTube for \$1.65 billion US dollars?

It is ironic because we all know you love birds Jeff and we all know you weren't making that amount of money – but it was also the year Mr. Parker, that you came back to your Holy Eucharist Family.

For 8 years you taught Gr 6 and were also Acting Principal for some time between 2012 and 2013.

The year that was ....2014

- The AFL Grand Final..... it didn't involve your beloved Essendon Footy Team. It was between Sydney Swans and Hawthorn – with the Hawks taking the flag.
- Ebola Disease Strikes West Africa
- The Top movies in 2014 were Guardian of the Galaxy and Captain America – The Winter Soldier
- And Frozen became the highest grossing animated movie of all time. Nobody could stop singing "Let it Go"- Now I know you like to sing a tune Jeff – often humming along and breaking out into your own little song as you wander around the school – but I can say that "Frozen – Let it Go" song is not one I have heard you sing.....yet
- But more importantly – Mr. Parker you began your role officially as Principal of Holy Eucharist Primary School

It gives me great pleasure to say that we must recognise, respect and appreciate all the valuable and all the wonderful achievements over the last 7 years.

- From the additions of all the animals you have introduced to our school that the children have come to love - to the construction of what I have named as Jeff's shed (which is the covering between the 2 building that children have enjoyed FRIENDZONE in), new sunshade sails, new playground, the new administration block, and new classrooms to accommodate our growing enrolments.
- You have lead us in educational achievements recognised by Catholic Education Melbourne - from our outstanding NAPLAN results and various Religious, Wellbeing, Learning Diversity, Literacy & Numeracy, Family and School Partnership, sporting, camping and the ARTS achievements. There are countless curriculum initiatives that our school is proud of, and you should be too.

I have no doubt in my mind to say that Mr. Parker you have achieved much in your 7 years and you have done so in your open-minded, generous, knowledgeable, modest, courageous, relational and highly respected manner. This is only made more evident, by the saddened reaction we all have to you leaving.

What makes Holy Eucharist such a great family is our unique multicultural identity. There are a lot of people who would have liked to say goodbye to you in a more personal manner – the children, the teachers, the parents and the parish community. But we are presently living another historical moment in the making and that is that in 2020 – there is this pandemic called COVID-19.

I know for everyone here today and for those who were not able to be present – we sincerely wish you all the very best in your new endeavors. We hope this new chapter in your career brings you as much love and joy that Holy Eucharist has. We know St Dominic's will welcome and embrace you and see the amazing person and Principal that we have had the pleasure to see.

From our Holy Eucharist family, I send Goodbye and Good luck messages in some of our languages. Written phonetically so it's easier for me to pronounce 😊

Vietnamese- Chau Thumb Bier, Mandarin – Chai Tien Sigh, Dinka / Arabic – Allah Mark, Burmese – Mang Tha, Cantonese – Joy Kim, Panjabi – Sath Sri Agal, Italian – Arriverdecì, Philippines – Paalam, Polish- Do Widzenia, Samoan- Tofa Soifua, Greek- Se Apohere Tame KeKali Tihi, Croatian – Dovidjenya, Maltese –Sah-ha, Ukrainian – Dobopachena, Zlubovu I Zbohom

Jeff- Always Remember who you are, where you have come from and the great things you have achieved and will continue to achieve in your personal and professional life. From all of us here at Holy Eucharist. Thank you Mr. Jeffrey Parker and we will surely miss you.

**Julie Semcesen**

## JEFFREY PARKER FAREWELL SPEECH

Dear Children, Staff members, Parents, Parishioners and Clergy of Holy Eucharist,

I would like to begin by saying that the decision to move from Holy Eucharist School was not an easy one to make as Holy Eucharist has been a part of my life for nearly 22 years. It is a decision that I felt I needed to make, as the opportunity presented itself and I knew within myself that it was time to move on.

I began my journey here in 1990 as the Physical Education Teacher and later became a Classroom Teacher. In 1996, I left to take up a position at Emmaus in Sydenham for 9 years and in 2006 I came back after being offered a position at the school.

I returned as a Grade 6 Teacher and in my first year back I worked with Mr. Antonowicz, Mrs. Borowik and Mrs Haugh. I remained teaching in Grade 6 until I became the Religious Education Coordinator and later became the Deputy Principal and Acting Principal. In 2014, I became the Principal and have remained in that position until now.

During my time as Principal here, I have been supported by and worked alongside many Parish Priests. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Father Minh, Father Tuan, Father Peter, Father Patrick, Father Lovin and lastly Father Vincent. Their spiritual guidance has enabled me to fulfil my role and serve the Holy Eucharist School and Holy Eucharist Parish Community and build strong relationships and partnerships.

In particular, I would like to express my gratitude to Father Vincent. Although we did not have the opportunity to work closely together this year, you have been a great support to me and the school through these challenging time. You are always willing to help out with Masses and Liturgies and any other faith formation programs. I would like to thank you for your kind words especially when I spoke to you about my decision to move on. Father Vincent, you have joined a really lovely, vibrant and multicultural community and I wish you all the best in your continued service with our school and parish community.

Although Father Tuan is no longer working with us, I would like to thank him for the contribution he has made to our school and parish. Father Tuan served in our parish for four years and he was always supportive of the children and their families. Father Tuan worked closely with the school leaders to assist in the overall running of the school. Father Tuan was assisted by Father Peter and Father Pat who both worked tirelessly to make the school and parish a welcoming place where everyone is accepted.

I would like to thank the amazing staff at Holy Eucharist for their hard work, dedication and for caring so much for our students. I have said this so many times – it takes all of us to make the school the great place it is. I would like to acknowledge the contribution of the cleaners, Learning Support Officers, the office staff and all the teachers, as we all play an important part in the running of the school and the work we do should never be underestimated.

To our wonderful children who have made every day at this school enjoyable and memorable. I thank you for your daily greetings, your smiles and your happy faces. You brighten up my day especially when things are not going so well. The highlight of my day is visiting your classrooms, talking to you and feeding the animals with you at lunchtime and recess. I am definitely going to miss the time that we have spent together. I am sure that once things get back to normal and you are all back at school, you will continue to work hard and dedicate yourself to your studies.

To all our school parents – I thank you for putting your faith in the school and especially in my leadership. You have entrusted all of us with your most precious gift – your child. I am sure that you have only had positive experiences with the school and the staff. I wish you all the best and thank you again for your support.

I would like to thank my wife Caroline for her support as she is always ready to listen and offer advice when I need it. Also to my children Luke, Tara and Jake for their support during my time as Principal.

When reflecting back on my time here, there is so much that we as a staff should be proud of. Our reputation in the community has improved over time and people from the surrounding suburbs want their children to come to Holy Eucharist. Local kindergartens are recommending our school to their parents. The community spirit has grown and the relationship between school and parish has flourished. But the most important outcome is that our children are making academic progress and that is what we are here for.

Being the Principal at Holy Eucharist has been a privilege and an honour and I have really enjoyed getting to know the children and their families. I am a strong believer in developing strong bonds between school, parish and families, as I believe that children learn best when we work in partnership.

In closing, I would like to thank everyone who has been involved in organising this celebration. Holy Eucharist School will always hold a very close place in my heart. It is a wonderful school and I will always be grateful for the opportunities it has gifted me. I wish all of the children, staff, parents, clergy and parishioners all the very best for the future and I hope to return to say good bye to all the children. I will miss you all dearly.

Thank you and God Bless.

**Jeffrey Parker**  
*Principal*

## 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.

## LET US PRAY FOR

### Prayers For The Sick

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

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.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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

**VOCATION VIEW:** “The new ministry of “Deacon” is mentioned in today’s Scripture. Perhaps the Lord is calling you to assist with the charitable, educational or liturgical needs of the Lord’s People today.”

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