



HOLY EUCHARIST PARISH
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TWENTY-SXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME A

26 & 27 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.

COVID AND THE ROAD AHEAD

Victorians have been in exile from the homeland of our humanity for six months now. Throughout this exile, hope has been hard to come by as fear, fatigue and frustration have taken hold. Now, a way out of captivity has been set before us. Every Victorian has an interest in the Government's Roadmap towards a 'COVID-normal' destination. But what do we actually want that destination to look like, and how might it shape the road ahead?

There will be no return to a pre-COVID world; it has changed forever. Rather than lament this loss, might we be facing a great opportunity? What is the world we want to build? Is our objective a society that is fair, truthful, and merciful; prosperous and generous; democratic and transparent? Or one that is anxious and argumentative; uncivil and individualistic; competitive and selfish? Will every life matter? What are our priorities as we take the next steps?

People of faith have deep resources to share here. While the voice of religious communities has gone largely unheeded in recent years, at this time of great fear it turns out religious people are motivated by something positive and inspirational. In the middle of lockdown, and cut off from all kinds of human sources of inspiration, people of faith draw on something that does not depend entirely on other people. It might be unfashionable to say, but God has been helpful to lots of Victorians in 2020.

All of God's people – whether believers or not – are my friends and fellow pilgrims on the journey ahead. From my Christian faith, this is a road that offers a horizon of hope and wellness. Some friends on this road have been lonely and isolated this year. Some of them have had a hard time stuck in high-rise public housing. Some have faced death and sickness apart from loved ones, and cried at a funeral without the tender presence of their nearest and dearest. Talking with our friends on the phone and via zoom has been helpful. But all of them tell me that it's God who has made all the difference.

Right now, we can't physically gather in our churches, synagogues, mosques or temples. I want our doors to be open; they should be open for the life-giving nourishment and healing offered there. We will do so safely and carefully, but we need to be open so as to gather as friends with the God who loves us.

The great challenge emerging is not how to keep people at home, but how to encourage them to interact fruitfully in the new context. Restoring social contact and connection, especially for the elderly and vulnerable, while practicing physical distancing, is a key part of any path ahead. Finding the balance between protecting lives and livelihoods is also a measure of the treatment of every human life. Reaching for a 'COVID-normal' must mean reaching for the common good, where no one is left behind and a place is found for everyone.

Both prayer and play are deeply humanising realities. Work and the care of others are good for humans. Families, who have had to work, live and be schooled at the kitchen table for months, have had to re-discover the best and the worst of themselves. The family – in all its nuances and challenges, griefs and joys – remains the fundamental pillar, and source of order in human society. We neglect the family at our peril.

Family, religion, work, education, care and leisure: these should be our first and foundational priorities, the human measures upon which our pathway forward ought to be framed. The humanity behind the data cannot be neglected as we emerge from captivity. Each step along our path from exile must be taken in personal and civilising ways.

If these good things aren't part of the horizon before us, then we are creating much trouble for ourselves. I, for one, will work so that our journey out of exile is oriented towards this humanising horizon. And like many of my friends facing the hard realities of this year, I'll be placing my hope in the tender closeness of God who is accompanying us on the road ahead.

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli
Archbishop of Melbourne

THE LIVING WORD

First Reading Ez 18:25-28

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The sinner who decides to turn against sinfulness deserves to live.

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 24:4-9. R. v.6

(R.) Remember your mercies, O Lord.

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. (R.)
2. Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord. (R.)
3. The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor. (R.)

Second Reading Phil 2:1-5

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia!

Gospel 32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

He went out moved by regret. The tax collectors and prostitutes will precede you into the kingdom of God.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second

who answered, "Certainly, sir," but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE SEASON OF CREATION

Reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel.

Our decisions for evil or for good matter for God.

The message Ezekiel is affirming is that the major decisions affecting the direction of our lives – even late in life – are matters of life and death for us. Our decisions matter. God pays attention to personal responsibility.

It is never too late in life to respond to God's call to conversion. How can we become more attentive to that call in how we relate to creation, becoming more conscious of our consumer patterns, our care for the poor and marginalized among us and for future generations?

The passage from the Letter to the Ephesians describes God's response to the prayer to know the Way: urging unity of mind and heart, doing nothing out of selfishness, having the same attitude of humility and obedience that Jesus lived even to the point of death on the cross.

The example of Christ Jesus is challenging, as is his teaching on what is truly important in life. The beatitudes and the parable of the last judgment put down-to-Earth examples before us.

How do the example and teaching of Jesus call us to what Pope Francis calls an integral ecological conversion? As we contemplate the extent of the humility and sacrifice that Jesus embraced, do we grow in gratitude and courage?

In Matthew's parable of the two sons, Jesus calls attention to the all too familiar reality that we may learn the right things to say, but that what matters is what we actually do, our actions.

He challenges the chief priests and the elders to change and act in the way of righteousness and justice that John preached.

In this Season of Creation, what are our actions showing about how are we responding to God's call to integral ecological conversion?

The environmental dimensions of an integral ecological conversion: What are we doing to reduce the pollution of air, water and land that have resulted from our ways of living in creation?

How can we grow in a spirituality that will help us better to acknowledge, reverence, care for, and share the gifts of creation within which we live? Upon which we and all others rely for life itself?

The economic dimensions of an integral ecological conversion: What changes are we undertaking in the economic dimensions of our lives? How are we resisting the idolatry of wealth and possessions so common around the world? What are we doing to help ourselves and others better understand the systems of economy and development, of production and distribution and consumption which have abused and overused the resources of the planet, are threatening its resilience and are destroying its regenerative capacities?

Do we need to re-evaluate our habits of accumulation? How can we act to address the terrible inequalities in our society? In the global human community where billions of people live in devastating poverty? What can we do to change the unjust ways our economies distribute the resources given by God for all, to meet the basic needs of all life?

How can we grow in a spirituality that nurtures simplicity in lifestyles, structures of justice for all in our economies, and sustainable relations with the natural world?

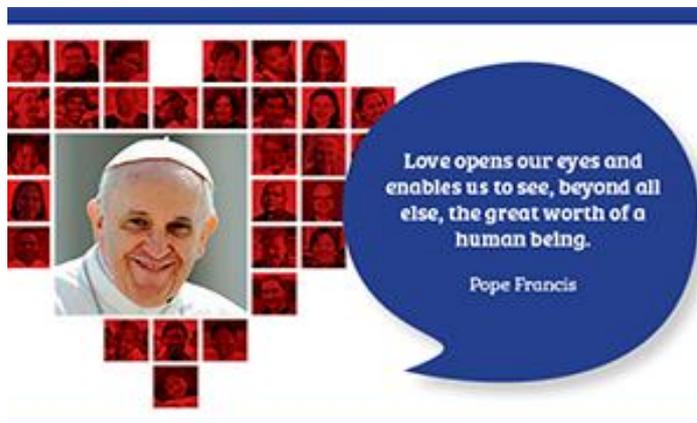
The social dimensions of an integral ecological version: How can we work together to overcome poverty and marginalization? Racism, discrimination in our communities, our societies?

How can we work to overcome violence and divisions that lead to conflict and destruction of creation?

How can we develop a more socially conscious spirituality, one that is attentive to the injustice in our institutions and culture, one that works to resolve conflict non-violently, one that works to raise up the New Creation?

REMEMBERING, WORKING AND PRAYING FOR MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

This 2020 World Day of Migrants and Refugees (Sunday, 27 September), on this 106th World Day of Migrants and Refugees, we remember, pray for, and commit to working to change the horrible reality of many in 'our own backyard'. We acknowledge and give thanks for the many parish communities across the state, along with those working within our Catholic social services and other organisations and community groups, who are making considerable efforts to assist people seeking asylum, refugees, and other migrants who hold temporary visas—many remain in harsh circumstances in detention centres, and the majority of the 115,000 living in the Australian community have been deemed ineligible for any federal government support payments during COVID-19, making many at risk of homelessness and despair.



In his message for World Day for Migrants and Refugees, Pope Francis tells us, “You have to know in order to understand” and “It is necessary to be close, in order to serve”. Only when different elements of the community work together — individuals, parishes, schools, universities and organisations — can we effectively advocate for systemic change and provide for people’s immediate necessities and other spiritual and social needs.

A BIOGRAPHY OF THE SERVANT OF GOD CARLO ACUTIS

A popular teenager in the city of Milan north of Italy in our time like many others, going to school and seeing his friends, and an expert for his age in computers. His encounter with Jesus Christ fitted into all of this. Carlo Acutis born in London on May 3, 1991 and died on October 12, 2006 with Leukemia was witness to the Resurrection; he places his trust in the Virgin Mary, lives a life of grace, and tells his contemporaries about his incredible experience with God.

He goes to Mass and takes Communion every day and passes hours in front of the Blessed Sacrament. His Christian development and experience bear witness to the truth in the words of Pope Benedict XVI's Apostolic Exhortation, *Sacramentum Caritatis*: “The Sacrifice of Mass and Eucharistic adoration corroborate, support and develop love for Jesus and willingness for ecclesiastic service”. Carlo is also devoted to Our Lady, faithfully says his Rosary and dedicates his devotions to her as his beloved Mother.

In sociological terms this boy is the same as his school friends, and bears out the fact that the Gospel can also be experienced fully by an adolescent. His brief existence, reaching out with the aim of encountering Jesus, was like a beacon lighting the way not only of anyone who met him on their path, but also of those people yet to know his story. I am more than confident that this first biography of Carlo Acutis by Nicola Gori, with its recognisable descriptive ability, will help today's adolescents, who have so many issues and are so heavily influenced by the mass media, to reflect on their life and evangelic values as a way of fulfilment.

By looking at this adolescent as one of them and as someone who was captivated by the love of Christ, which enabled him to experience pure joy, these teenagers will be in contact with an experience of life that doesn't take anything away from the richness of their teenage years, but which actually makes them more valuable.

The evangelical testimony of Carlo doesn't just provide inspiration for today's adolescents, it also encourages priests and teachers to ask themselves about the validity of the teaching they provide for the teenagers in our parishes, and how to make this teaching effective and profound.

“I'm happy to die because I've lived my life without wasting even a minute of it doing things that wouldn't have pleased God”. (Carlo Acutis)

Citation from the foreword by The Most Reverend Bishop Michelangelo M. Tiribilli

P.S. The beatification rite of Carlo Acutis will take place on Saturday, October 10, 2020, at 4:00pm in the Upper Basilica of San Francesco in Assisi. The chosen date will be close to an important anniversary in Carlo's life; his birth to Heaven October 12, 2006.

<https://www.thescottsmithblog.com/2018/01/blessed-biographies-carlo-acutis-future.html>

<http://carloacutis.com/en/association/biografia>

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.

AN INVITATION TO SHARE THE JOURNEY

The discernment of a vocation is a wonderful journey. God desires that you will be happy in your choices.

In this sense, Redemptorists would love to meet you, hear your views, and be inspired by your passion to give yourselves in service of others.

If you wish to talk with someone about your thoughts of vocation, please contact with one of the Redemptorist priests or write to:

vocations@cssr.org.au

VOCATION VIEWS

WHAT KINDS OF PEOPLE become priests, sisters or brothers? Are they uncommonly holy, unusually saint-like? No. They are people who make mistakes, people who aren't afraid to be human while in God's service. Are they people who can't face the competition and cruelty of the 'real' world? No. They are people who believe that through ministry they can immerse themselves in the world and make positive changes. Are they people who don't relate well with other people? No. They are people who love others – people who find real satisfaction chatting with a 93-year-old parishioner, holding the hand of a cancer patient, listening to the troubles of a street-wise teen. They are people with the courage to touch lives, hearts and souls in a high-tech, unchurched world. Are you that kind of person?

HOLINESS IS A CHALLENGE for us all, whatever our specific vocations. We are called to be holy in all aspects of our lives. This is an ongoing process, often slowed by setbacks. When the saints were alive, they did not regard themselves as saints; rather, they knew they were sinners – and they strived to be saints. The process of becoming holy is, even for saints, painful and filled with struggle. Know you are a sinner; strive to be a saint.

FAMILY LIFE CAN BUILT VALUES integral to a strong vocation – whether to priesthood, religious life or marriage. Teaching your children to value commitment, service and prayer will help them make strong vocation decisions as adults and live out those vocations with success and fulfilment.

PRAYER IS A MOVING FORCE in vocations development. Prayer is effective; prayer is powerful; prayer is essential. Few are called to priesthood or religious life, but all are called to pray for vocations.

A VOCATION MUST BE NURTURED for a lifetime, not just until ordination or the taking of vows. You can help nurture the vocations of priests, sisters and brothers by praying, listening, and expressing appreciation. A life of service needs support from those served.

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

PARISH SOCIAL MEDIA

We are online!

Parish Facebook:

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

Parish Youtube: Holy Eucharist Church St Albans

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRkzB6->

[KIHeDQ_aOTDfeYIg/featured](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRkzB6-KIHeDQ_aOTDfeYIg/featured)

Parish Website:

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

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

Marina Pagdanganan, 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: "We cannot act overly proud just because we have responded to God's call. Responding is our duty and source of happiness; serving God with perseverance and happiness fulfils us."

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