



HOLY EUCHARIST PARISH
 1A Oleander Drive, St Albans South 3021
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 Email: stalbanssouth@cam.org.au
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THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME A

24 & 25 OCTOBER 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 Acting Principal

Michael Bonnici PH: 8312 0900

Filipino Chaplain

Fr Joselito Asis

South Sudanese Chaplain

Deacon George B.P.Meat

FoodBank: open Fridays 10.30am until 2.00pm. More details call Charlie 03 9366 1310.

St Vincent de Paul: Call Centre is now open. Please contact 1800 305 330. Thank you.

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.

NATIONAL DAY OF SORROW AND PROMISE

The National Day of Sorrow and Promise is in its third year and will be held on Sunday 25 October 2020.

Purpose

The National Day of Sorrow and Promise emerged to acknowledge survivors of abuse within the Catholic Church and all those who have been hurt by that abuse. Underpinning this, is a clear promise for a better, safer future.

Promise Statement

As Catholic Religious of Australia, we are stirred by sorrow for the failings of the past. We encounter the depth of pain endured within our midst.



WE promise to listen to and support those who have been harmed by abuse

WE promise to act to prevent abuse, respond with compassion and justice and put the protection of children and the vulnerable at the heart of all our ministries

WE promise to support all those walking courageously with the abused and those working fearlessly for the prevention of abuse

WE promise to work tirelessly and humbly to build a culture in our Church which is loving and answerable to the wider community

WE promise to partner with those who have been abused, with governments, civil agencies and society at large to continue to learn and work towards a safer, more respectful and accountable Church

WE promise to be people of action, to embed prevention and safeguarding practices and governance reforms throughout our Church

WE promise to remember and to be forever changed.

REAL CARE

The great secret of the spiritual life, the life of the Beloved Sons and Daughters of God, is that everything we live, be it gladness or sadness, joy or pain, health or illness, can all be part of the journey toward the full realization of our humanity. It is not hard to say to one another: "All that is good and beautiful leads us to the glory of the children of God." But it is very hard to say: "But didn't you know that we all have to suffer and thus enter into our glory?" Nonetheless, real care means the willingness to help each other in making our brokenness into a gateway to joy.

By Henri J. M. Nouwen

THE LIVING WORD

First Reading Ex 22:20-26

A reading from the book of Exodus

If you are harsh with the widow or the orphan, my anger will rage against you.

The Lord said to Moses, "Tell the sons of Israel this, "You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

"If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

"If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."

Responsorial Psalm Ps 17:2-4. 47. 51. R. v.2

(R.) I love you, Lord, my strength.

1. I love you, Lord, my strength,
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.
My God is the rock where I take refuge;
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.
The Lord is worthy of all praise:
when I call I am saved from my foes. (R.)
2. Long life to the Lord, my rock!
Praised be the God who saves me.
He has given great victories to his king
and shown his love for his anointed. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Thes 1:5-10

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

You turned away from idols to serve God and await his Son.

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.
Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 22:34-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

REFLECTION ON SUNDAY GOSPEL

October is traditionally a month in which we focus on Mary. In our journey of praying the rosary from the first mystery, the Annunciation, until we come to Pentecost, Mary gives us an example of loving God and loving our sisters and brothers. The rosary ends with her Assumption and Coronation, a reward for keeping the greatest commandment.

The Pharisees in today's gospel reading should have been enjoying the moment when their rivals, the Sadducees, having tried to trick Jesus with a question concerning the resurrection,

were silenced by him. But on that day, the Pharisees and the Sadducees joined in an attempt to silence Jesus. Losing arguments with Jesus meant risking losing their followers and increasing Jesus' popularity. So, they called on an expert in the law to ask another tricky question.

His question sounds genuine. Over the years, the scribes, Pharisees and the Sadducees had burdened the lives of ordinary Jews with 613 rules, Dos' and Don'ts. There were "greater laws" and "smaller laws" and "oral and written" laws. Hence the question: Which commandment assured eternal life? But the purpose here was to trap Jesus. They wanted Jesus to say something at variance with the Law of Moses and thus hasten his condemnation.

Jesus replied with a surprising combination of the two Old Testament texts, Deuteronomy 6:5 (You shall love the Lord your God ...) and Leviticus 19:18 (You shall love your neighbour ...) For the first time ever Jesus brought these commandments together and said that on these two together hung the rest of the Scripture. That was an unexpected answer which enraged his enemies. But here is the heart of Jesus' teaching.

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Today's first reading speaks of how greatly God cares for His people. God calls the poor, the widow, the orphan and the stranger "His People." The Lord says to Moses "I shall hear their cry. . . I will listen, for I am full of pity." Saint Catherine of Genoa, a mystic, once prayed, "Lord, you say that I should love my neighbour, but I can love no one but you." God replied to her in these words: "Everybody who loves me loves what I love." God loves his people. Loving God and loving your neighbour are inseparable. As the First Letter of St John tells us, "If anyone says, 'I love God,' and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen."

On the last Sunday of this Marian month may we learn from Mother Mary. In the miraculous icon of Our Mother of Perpetual Help, she holds the Son of God close to her heart, but her eyes are fixed on the wounded world and its suffering people.

By Manoj Kunmath CSsR

PASTORAL GUIDANCE FOR PARISHES REGARDING COVID-19

Archbishop Comensoli
Tuesday 20 October 2020

Archbishop Peter A Comensoli

The following text originally appeared in the Herald Sun (19 October 2020):

Sunday was not a great day for people of faith in Victoria, but it should have been.

In announcing the next step of Victoria's COVID-19 road map, the government eased some restrictions. People were ready for glimmers of hope, but there was not much hope offered to people of faith.

We weren't expecting a great opening up of every sector. However, it was noticeable that additions to step two restrictions allowed for a return to pet groomers, swimming pools and locations 25km from your home, but no return to your place of worship in any meaningful sense.

Presently, in step two of the COVID-19 road map, Melbourne's doors of faith are closed. Churches, synagogues, temples and mosques are shut, pending a government announcement that they can open again.

These are not places of mere formality, but of lively and attentive care to vulnerable people, and of support to those facing sickness, loneliness, grief and death. They are places of hope and wellbeing, and of spiritual friendship.

Sadly, what is worse is that when we look ahead to step three there is very little for faith communities. Parity with other sectors seems denied even when we reach COVID-normal. The spectre of our places of worship remaining closed except for "private prayer" leaves our people feeling exiled and pushed outside.

And frankly, given our weather sometimes, Victorian people of faith aren't too pleased at being forced to stand outside the doors of their sacred places to celebrate the most important dimensions of their fundamental beliefs and commitments.

If they are gathering outside in the wind and rain, looking over at their locked doors, it's pretty hard to explain why the doors of the cafe across the road are invitingly open.

People of faith have joined in the common work of co-operation with COVID restrictions at every stage this year. We've proven ourselves to be fair-minded and civil, patient and prepared.

We've worked closely with the health department, local police, government authorities and other faith leaders to be safe and responsible. We have been publicly recognised for these efforts.

Churches may not be licensed premises, but they are highly regulated spaces, especially during times of worship.

It is now seven months since people of faith have been able to gather together in prayer. Like every other sector of life, this has had a major impact on the wellbeing of a very large sector of our community. For many of those who are affected, this is one of their principal opportunities for social interaction and personal activity.

Why would pool water shared by 30 swimmers at a time be considered safer than baptism water poured over one infant child?

Why would sitting down without a mask and socialising informally with up to 40 strangers inside an eatery be considered less risky than the formalised, masked and appropriately spaced gathering of a faith community?

Why would public health advisers tell the government that religious worship is an inherently higher risk than other sectors?

It is a relief for all of us that our places of sporting, hospitality and community gathering are being allowed to open. It is just that none of this passes the pub test (literally!) when it comes to places of worship remaining closed.

I have been inundated with calls for accountability on the COVID road map and of answers to obvious questions. Profoundly, some of the loudest voices in my own archdiocese have been from our young people.

While our elderly and more isolated parishioners have suffered from being closed out of their churches, young people have been speaking on their behalf, concerned for their wellbeing, requesting that the government show us a measure of fairness and equality in each step of restrictions.

Our young people and young priests are looking to the future, and they can see that closing off churches is cutting off a source of spiritual care that cannot be overlooked, and of social and mental health supports that nobody else can provide.

For us, prayer with others is essential. It is a powerful help in our troubles that has nothing comparable in the secular and medical parallels of a visit to the doctor, however important that is.

If there really is health advice suggesting places of worship are inherently riskier, I respectfully request to see it.

If there is data that backs up the suspicion being thrown on communities of faith in this pandemic, I am only too pleased to sit down and talk it through with experts. We can manage all the steps required to be COVID-safe.

The quiet and patient prayers and hopes of people of faith have been constant this year.

But now they deserve the opportunity to step forward hopefully.

SCHOOL NEWS

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos this year have been postponed a number of times due to the COVID-19. Hopefully our school photos **will be taken on Monday 23rd November 2020**. All students need to wear their full Summer Uniform and black school shoes.

SchoolPix wants all students to have the opportunity to have a 2020 school photo taken. They have made a decision not to offer a

traditional group photos for the remainder of the year. Instead they will take a portrait photo of each student and then create a "composite" group for each class using the portrait images. This will enable everyone to adhere to social distancing rules.

Please note that some parents have already paid for their photographs online in Term If you are not sure if you have already

paid, you can contact SchoolPix on 1300 766 055. If you need any more information, please feel free to contact me (Michael).

SCHOOL LITURGIES AND ASSEMBLY ONLINE – VIA ZOOM

Thank you to all our students, families and staff for taking part in our online Liturgies and Assemblies. We will continue celebrating the special feast days online and will be hosting regular whole school assemblies via Zoom. Please note that in October (on Thursday mornings at 9:30am) we will be praying a decade of the Rosary. All students and their families will be invited to attend online. Please look out for the regular invitations posted by me (Mr Bonnici) on Class Dojo.

PLEASE NOTE IMPORTANT DATES:

- **Friday 23rd October – AFL Grand Final – SCHOOL CLOSED (Public Holiday)**
- **Friday 30th October – Day for Daniel – Wear something RED**
- **Monday 2nd November – Report Writing Day – SCHOOL CLOSED**
- **Tuesday 3rd November – Melbourne Cup - SCHOOL CLOSED (Public Holiday)**
- **Monday 23rd November – School Photos**

SUNDAY MASSES

St Patrick's Cathedral will continue to broadcast Sunday Mass (live) via online streaming and also on C31 (digital channel 44).

Broadcasting Sunday Mass on television and online continues to enable the faith community to gather and pray remotely, during the COVID-19 lockdown. In particular, the television service is essential, especially for those in our community with limited internet access.

Sunday Mass at 11am will continue to televised free-to-air. All daily Masses however, will be available online via the Archdiocesan

website and YouTube channel. For more details, please visit: [h t t p : / / melbournecatholic.org.au](http://melbournecatholic.org.au)

To access Mass from St Patrick's Cathedral via live streaming, please visit [h t t p : / / melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass](http://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass)

Monday – Friday 1.00pm.

Saturday – 8.00am.

Sunday – 11.00am OR Sunday – 11am free-on-air C31 (digital channel 44).

Fr Rob Galea also broadcasts Mass each Sunday morning at 10am. Please visit <https://www.frministry.com/>

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

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: precastal-bans@tpg.com.au

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.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

Mary Chircop, Joseph Nicholas Tuan Manh Nguyen

Anniversaries

Angela & Clementa Chircop, Anthony Ranasinghe, Elizabeth Disco, 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 must stop just putting Band-Aids on the wounds of society. We must tell the world that we are God's people. God loves us and we were created to serve God, and others in God."

All information used in accordance with the terms of our privacy policy.