



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



THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH YEAR B 26 & 27 DECEMBER 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

Novena
 5pm on 2nd & 4th Saturday of every month

Mass Times

- ◆ **Tues-Fri:** 9:00am
- ◆ **Saturday:** 6:00pm
- ◆ **Sunday:** 9:00am, 10:30am, 6:00pm
 12:00pm Vietnamese

Other Masses

- 1st & 2nd Sun Sudanese Mass - 3.00pm
- 3rd Sun Samoan Mass - 2.00pm
- 4th Sun Filipino Mass - 3.00pm

SOCIAL OFFICE
 Contact: Son Nguyen & Tammy Le
 Phone 9366 1310
 Tuesday & Friday 10:00am-3:00pm.
Currently closed & reopened 19th January 2021

FOODBANK open Fridays
 10.30am until 2.00pm. More details call Charlie 03 9366 1310.
Closed 18/12/2020 Reopened 5/2/2021

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

MOVE TOWARD THE LIGHT GOD'S LOVE

You are constantly facing choices. The question is whether you choose for God or for your own doubting self. You know what the right choice is, but your emotions, passions, and feelings keep suggesting you choose the self-rejecting way.

The root choice is to trust at all times that God is with you and will give you what you most need. . . . God says to you, "I love you. I am with you. I want to see you come closer to me and experience the joy and peace of my presence. I want to give you a new heart and a new spirit. I want you to speak with my mouth, see with my eyes, hear with my ears, touch with my hands. All that is mine is yours. Just trust me and let me be your God."

This is the voice to listen to. And that listening requires a real choice, not just once in a while but every moment of every day and night. It is you who decides what you think, say, and do. You can think yourself into a depression, you can talk yourself into low self-esteem, you can act in a self-rejecting way. But you always have a choice to think, speak, and act in the name of God and so move toward the Light, the Truth, and the Life.

By Henri J. M. Nouwen



PLEASE NOTE the Parish Office will be closed from the 24th December 2020 and will be reopened on the 7th January 2021.

Thank You for your patience.

NEW YEAR DAY
Friday 1st January 2021,
World Day of Peace
FEAST OF THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

- ◆ **9:00am (English)**
- ◆ **6:00pm (English)**
- ◆ **7:30pm (Vietnamese)**

May the blessings of our Jesus Christ be always with you and your family.
Happy New Year.

OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES

For the safety of everyone

- ◆ Please use the hand sanitizer provided and keep social distancing at all time.
- ◆ Everyone over 12 years of age, please wear face coverings/masks at all times.
- ◆ When a cantor is singing or a reader/commentator is reading, the face covering/masks may be lowered, but must be worn at all other times.
- ◆ Please find a mark on the pew to sit when you enter inside the church.
- ◆ Rite of Peace, please avoid shaking hands but instead say "Peace be with you" and offer a smile, wave, nod or bow.
- ◆ Please observe social distancing at Holy Communion, which will only be given in the hand.
- ◆ If you feel unwell, please stay home.

Thanks for your collaboration.

THE LIVING WORD

First Reading Sir 3:2-6. 12-14

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

Whoever fears the Lord honours his parents.

The Lord honours the father in his children, and upholds the rights of a mother over her sons. Whoever respects his father is atoning for his sins, he who honours his mother is like someone amassing a fortune. Whoever respects his father will be happy with children of his own, he shall be heard on the day when he prays. Long life comes to him who honours his father, he who sets his mother at ease is showing obedience to the Lord My son, support your father in his old age, do not grieve him during his life. Even if his mind should fail, show him sympathy, do not despise him in your health and strength; for kindness to a father shall not be forgotten but will serve as reparation for your sins.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 104:1-6. 8-9. R.vv.7.8

(R.) The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

1. Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name, make known his deeds among the peoples.
O sing to him, sing his praise;
tell all his wonderful works! (R.)
2. Be proud of his holy name, let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice.
Consider the Lord and his strength;
constantly seek his face. (R.)
3. Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, the judgements he spoke.
O children of Abraham, his servant,
O sons of the Jacob he chose. (R.)
4. He remembers his covenant for ever, his promise for a thousand generations, the covenant he made with Abraham, the oath he swore to Isaac. (R.)

Second Reading Col 3:12-21

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

Concerning the Christian life in the world.

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful.

Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Wives, give way to your husbands, as you should in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and treat them with gentleness. Children, be obedient to your parents always, because that is what will please the Lord. Parents, never drive your children to resentment or you will make them feel frustrated.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! May the peace of Christ rule in you hearts, and the fullness of his message live within you.. Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 2:22. 39-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

You will conceive and bear a son.

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL-FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

The time between Christmas and New Year is usually family time, a good time to think about what family means. We try to connect with and enjoy the company of those with whom we have family ties, especially those who are alone or struggling in some way. Many parents value the extra time they are able to spend with their children over this period. This year, we are particularly grateful for any reunion after so many months of pandemic restrictions.

The first two readings for today narrate and reflect on the family story of Sarah and Abraham, of God's promise to give them a child, and of the fulfilment of that promise in the most unlikely of circumstances. The wonder of God's ways and the need to trust in God are at the heart of their story. At the same time, there is humour reflected in Abraham's choice of name for their son: "Isaac" means "he laughed". Does Abraham detect God's humour in providing a son for an elderly couple? Does he laugh for sheer joy at the birth of the child who will hold the traditions of the past and the hopes of the future? Whatever about this, the family story of Sarah, Abraham and Isaac foreshadows the even more extraordinary family story to be found in today's gospel.



Luke depicts Mary and Joseph as observant Jews bringing their child to the Jerusalem Temple in accordance with the ritual requirements of the Law, even if the Law actually applied only to the woman who had given birth and not to the man. Two prophetic figures, Anna and Simeon, recognise God's saving and redemptive purpose at work in the presence of this child who is presented in the Temple. Luke insists that Mary and Joseph have fulfilled the demands of the Law before they return to their home in Nazareth.

Growing up in Nazareth in the care of Mary and Joseph, the child Jesus grows to maturity, is filled with wisdom and God's favour is with him. Luke's summary statement introduces us to the wonderful world of a grace-filled family home. It invites us to ponder the wisdom that both Mary and Joseph had to share with their child. They taught him to pray and told him the stories of his people. They filled him with wonder at the goodness of God and of God's creation. They mediated the grace and favour of God and watched him grow and gain the strength he needed for life. They allowed him the freedom he needed to develop his own personality and to find his own Spirit-filled way on the earth. Finally, they had to let him go so that he might follow a path that was beyond their imagining when they brought him to the Temple in fulfilment of the Law. In other words, they did what so many parents would want to do for their children.

By Veronica Lawson RSM

CRISIS HELPS RENEWAL, CONFLICT CREATES DISCORD

In his annual meeting with the Roman Curia, Pope Francis reflects on how a crisis can be beneficial to us, but says it should not be turned into a conflict, which creates discord and enemies.

By Vatican News staff writer

A crisis, such as the current pandemic, "can prove beneficial to us all", if we make it an opportunity for conversion and renewed authenticity, by allowing ourselves to be led by the Spirit with courage and humility. On the other hand, if the crisis is seen as a conflict, it will create discord, competition and enemies.

Pope Francis made the point on Monday, in his address to members of the Roman Curia, the various departments of the Holy See and the central body in the Vatican. In the traditional pre-Christmas meeting with them, he noted that in "contemplating the mystery of the Incarnation, before the child lying in a manger, but also the Paschal Mystery, in the presence of the Crucified One, we find our proper place only if we are defenceless, humble and unassuming".

Lessons from pandemic and Christmas

In the "Urbi et Orbi" Blessing and prayer service on March 27 in a deserted St. Peter's Square, Pope Francis

noted that the coronavirus "has exposed our vulnerability and uncovered those false and superfluous certainties" and "uncovered once more "our belonging to one another as brothers and sisters".

Crisis

The pandemic, the Pope noted, has been a time of trial and testing, but also a significant opportunity for conversion and renewed authenticity. He explained that the Greek origin of the word "crisis" - "krino" - denotes "sifting that separates the wheat from the chaff after the harvest". In this regard, he recalled the Biblical figures, such as Abraham, Moses, Elijah, John the Baptist, Paul and even Jesus Himself, who were "sifted" by crisis and who showed that God never abandons us.

"This reflection on crisis warns us against judging the Church hastily on the basis of the crises caused by scandals past and present." The Pope noted that in the Curia, there are many people who with their discreet, unassuming, faithful, honest and professional work, are a living witness to the fact that the Lord has not abandoned his people. "The only difference," he said, "is that problems immediately end up in the newspapers, while signs of hope only make the news much later, if at all." Hence, we must recover the courage and humility to admit that a time of crisis is a time of the Spirit, which should be seen in the light of the Gospel.

Conflict

In this regard, the Holy Father urged that one must not confuse crisis with conflict. "Crisis generally has a positive outcome, whereas conflict always creates discord and competition, an apparently irreconcilable antagonism that separates others into friends to love and enemies to fight. In such a situation, only one side can win."

Conflict, the Pope said, is a "false trail leading us astray, aimless, directionless and trapped in a labyrinth; it is a waste of energy and an occasion for evil". "The first evil that conflict leads us to, and which we must try to avoid, is gossip, idle chatter, which traps us in an unpleasant, sad and stifling state of self-absorption. It turns crisis into conflict."

Church in crisis, not in conflict

"When the Church is viewed in terms of conflict – right versus left, progressive versus traditionalist – she becomes fragmented and polarized, distorting and betraying her true nature," the Pope said. A body in continual crisis because she is alive, she must never become a body in conflict, with winners and losers. This would only "spread apprehension, become more rigid and less synodal, and impose a uniformity far removed from the richness and plurality that the Spirit has bestowed on his Church".

Openness to the Spirit

The newness born of crisis and willed by the Spirit, the Pontiff said, is never a newness opposed to the old, but one that springs from the old and makes it continually fruitful. Like a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, a crisis can be called both “death and decay” and “birth and blossoming”, for the two are one. In an end, a new beginning is taking shape. Hence by shielding ourselves from crisis, we hinder the work of God’s grace, which would manifest itself in us and through us

Everything evil, wrong, weak and unhealthy that comes to light, the Pope said, serves as a forceful reminder of our need to die to a way of living, thinking and acting that does not reflect the Gospel. Only by dying to a certain mentality will we be able to make room for the newness that the Spirit constantly awakens in the heart of the Church.

Every crisis, he pointed out, contains a rightful demand for renewal and the courage to be completely open. “We need to stop seeing the reform of the Church as putting a patch on an old garment, or simply drafting a new Apostolic Constitution.” “We are not called to change or reform the Body of Christ”, as Jesus is the “same yesterday, today and forever”, “but we are called to clothe that Body with a new garment so that it is clear that the grace we possess does not come from ourselves but from God.”

Hence, the Pope noted that a crisis is a time of grace granted us to discern God’s will for each of us and for the whole Church. It is essential not to interrupt our dialogue with God, however difficult this may prove. And in this, the Pope said, prayer will allow us to “hope against all hope”.

READERS/COMMENTATOR/ COORDINATOR/EUCHARIST

Tues 9:00 AM, 29-12-20

Reader Volunteer

Wed 9:00 AM, 30-12-20

Reader Carmen Camilleri

Thur 9:00 AM, 31-12-20

Reader Shirley Krizmanic

New Years Day 9:00AM, 01-01-21

Lit. Coordinator: Volunteers

Reader Helen Maddela

Eucharist: Volunteers

New Years Day 9:00AM, 01-1-21

Lit. Coordinator: Volunteers

Reader Volunteer

Eucharist: Volunteers

Sat 6.00 PM, 02-01-21

Lit. Coordinator: Reno Attard

Charlie Pace

Commentator Miriam Vella

Reader: Alaistar Surrao

Carmen Camilleri

Eucharist: Violeta Montoro

Anthony Naidu

Sun 9.00 AM, 03-01-21

Lit. Coordinator Monica Lomen

Commentator Wilma Marmur

Reader: Mini Eddy

Pam Norris

Eucharist: Mini Eddy

Monica Lomen

Sun 10:30AM, 03-01-21

Lit. Coordinator: Taoete & Saua

Commentator Christina Pedroso

Reader Rita Martin

Francois Ierome

Eucharist: Taoete Afanao

Faaati Ierome

Sun 6.00PM, 03-01-21

Lit. Coordinator Lani Laririt

Commentator Xuan Duong

Reader Angeline

Lani Laririt

Eucharist: Lani Laririt

volunteers

CHURCH CLEANING

Week beginning: 30th Dec. 2020

Group 6 – Legion Of Mary Vietnamese. (Mary)

CHOIR GROUPS

Sat. 2nd Jan 6pm – Fernandez Family

Sun. 3rd Jan: 9am - Charlie Schembri

10.30am – Samoan Choir

6.00pm – Exximoz Choir

LET US PRAY FOR

Prayers For The Sick

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

Recently Deceased

Lily Luu, Vinh Quang Dinh, Anthony Bartolo, Anna Jarnevic

Anniversaries

Angel Dacaya, Richard Curmi, Iro & Jessie Vella, Charlie Vella, 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.

SAFETY FOR ALL

Holy Eucharist Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people and vulnerable adults.

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 Old Law said that every first born male shall be dedicated to the Lord. Is there a priest, deacon, brother, or sister from your family? Now is the time for families to encourage a vocation!”

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