



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



SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

16 & 17 JANUARY 2021

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

Michael Bonnici PH: 8312 0900

Filipino Chaplain

Fr Joselito Asis

South Sudanese Chaplain

Deacon George B.P. Meat

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.

A NEW BEGINNING!

We must learn to live each day, each hour, yes, each minute as a new beginning, as a unique opportunity to make everything new. Imagine that we could live each moment as a moment pregnant with new life. Imagine that we could live each day as a day full of promises. Imagine that we could walk through the new year always listening to the voice saying to us: "I have a gift for you and can't wait for you to see it!" Imagine.



Is it possible that our imagination can lead us to the truth of our lives? Yes, it can! The problem is that we allow our past, which becomes longer and longer each year, to say to us: "You know it all; you have seen it all, be realistic; the future will just be a repeat of the past. Try to survive it as best you can." There are many cunning foxes jumping on our shoulders and whispering in our ears the great lie: "There is nothing new under the sun... don't let yourself be fooled."

When we listen to these foxes, they eventually prove themselves right: our new year, our new day, our new hour become flat, boring, dull, and without anything new. So what are we to do? First, we must send the foxes back to where they belong: in their foxholes. And then we must open our minds and our hearts to the voice that resounds through the valleys and hills of our life saying: "Let me show you where I live among my people. My name is 'God-with-you.' I will wipe all the tears from your eyes; there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness. The world of the past has gone" (Revelation 21:2-5).

By Henri J. M. Nouwen

OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES

The restrictions in place are compulsory as issued under lawful direction of the Chief Health Officer of Victoria.

As of 5:00pm, 31 December 2020:

- ♦ **All people must carry a face covering when leaving home** unless they have a lawful reason not to.
- ♦ It is **mandatory to wear fitted face coverings in all indoor public spaces** unless you have a lawful reason not to do so, or are a child under 12 years of age.
- ♦ Wearing a face covering is strongly recommended outdoors if a distance of 1.5 metres from other people cannot be maintained.
- ♦ Up to 15 people can visit an individual's home per day. There is no limit on the number of households those people come from. Front and backyards are considered part of the home.
- ♦ Weddings, funerals and religious gatherings can occur with no limits on the number of guests or attendees. To ensure people can keep 1.5 metres distance the 'venue' must apply the two square metre rule. Anything conducted in a private home must apply the gathering limits for private homes of 15 people.
- ♦ Record keeping remains an important and critical tool for keeping all in the community safe.

Under no circumstances should anyone awaiting a COVID-19 test verification, including Clergy (even without presenting symptoms) attend a church or parish setting until a diagnosis is confirmed. Additionally, under no circumstances should anyone attend who is closely connected to people who are awaiting test results or who have tested positive.

Thanks for your collaboration.
God bless and protect us always.

THE LIVING WORD

First Reading 1 Sm 3:3-10.19

A reading from the first book of Samuel

Speak, O Lord, your servant is listening.

Samuel was lying in the sanctuary of the Lord where the ark of God was, when the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' He answered, 'Here I am'. Then he ran to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli said, 'I did not call. Go back and lie down.' So he went and lay down. Once again the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' He replied, 'I did not call you, my son; go back and lie down.' Samuel had had as yet no knowledge of the Lord and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. Once again the Lord called, the third time. He got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli then understood that it was the Lord who was calling the boy, and he said to Samuel, 'Go and lie down, and if someone calls say, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

The Lord then came and stood by, calling as he had done before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel answered, 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.' Samuel grew up and the Lord was with him and let no word of his fall to the ground.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 39:2. 4. 7-10. R. vv. 8.9

(R.) Here am I, Lord;

I come to do your will.

1. I waited, I waited for the Lord.

and he stooped down to me;

he heard my cry.

He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God. (R.)

2. You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,
but an open ear.

You do not ask for holocaust and victim.

Instead, here am I. (R.)

3. In the scroll of the book it stands written
that I should do your will.

My God, I delight in your law
in the depth of my heart. (R.)

4. Your justice I have proclaimed
in the great assembly.

My lips I have not sealed;

you know it, O Lord. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Cor 6:13-15. 17-20

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

Your bodies are members of the body of Christ.

The body is not meant for fornication; it is for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. God, who raised the Lord from the dead, will by his power raise us up too.

You know, surely, that your bodies are members making up the body of Christ; anyone who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him. Keep away from fornication. All the other sins are committed outside the body; but to fornicate is to sin against your own body. Your body, you know, is the temple of the Holy Spirit, which is in you since you have received him from God. You are not your own property; you have been bought and paid for. That is why you should use your body for the glory of God.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 1:41. 17

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have found the Messiah: Jesus Christ, who brings us truth and grace.

Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 1:35-42

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

They saw where Jesus lived and they stayed with him.

As John stood with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God.' Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, 'What do you want?' They answered, 'Rabbi,' – which means 'Teacher' – 'where do you live?' 'Come and see' he replied; so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day. It was about the tenth hour.

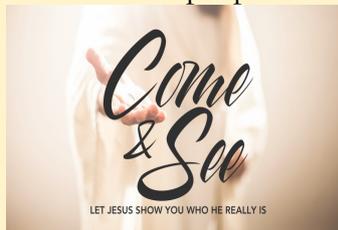
One of these two who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' – which means the Christ – and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas' – meaning Rock.

SUNDAY GOSPEL REFLECTION

How does God speak to us? Or, to put it another way, how does God reveal the divine being to us?

The term "revelation" comes from the Greek word "apocalypse", which originally meant a vision or a dream. The bible has numerous stories of dreamers and visionaries to whom God revealed divine being – today's first reading tells of the child Samuel who hears God calling him while he slept in the temple. But, for the most part, such numinous experiences are rare.

In the bible, there is a great deal of speaking to God; but little conversation the other way, at least to those who are not prophets and sages.



The prophet Habakkuk complains that God's failure to respond to prayer more regularly and explicitly is the cause of Israel's faithlessness (Hab 1:2-4; cf. Is 64:12).

The bible is littered with demands that one be silent and listen to God (e.g., Job 33:33; Ps 4:4; Amos 8:3; Mal 2:2; Zep 1:7; 2:13; 1 Cor 14:28; Rev 2:7; 3:20). Yet those of us who profess allegiance to the Judeo-Christian tradition cannot always suppress a sense that, no matter how hard we listen, we often do not hear anything. So, we are once again back to the question with which we began: how does God speak to us?

In today's gospel, two disciples of John the Baptist – one of whom was Andrew, Peter's brother – encounter Jesus who, in John's Gospel, is proclaimed as the Word of God made flesh. The scene is played out in a manner that appears so mundane. The disciples ask Jesus, "Where do you live?"; to which Jesus replies, "Come and see!"

There is an incredible irony here.

For Judeans in Jesus' time, as well as Israelites in the time of Samuel, the temple was the dwelling place of God; it was the one place in all the universe where God's glory broke through from the realms of the sacred into the profane world. And yet here, in the person of Jesus, those two disciples have met and seen the dwelling place of God's glory (Jn 1:14), in other words, the true temple of God.

So, how do we hear the voice of God? The simple answer is in many and varied ways: in the wonders of creation; in the touch of a human hand; in the stories of prophets and sages but, most fully, it is in the person of Jesus of Nazareth and in his "house" that the divine being is available and ready to speak to us.

Today's gospel is an invitation to "come and see [where Jesus lives]"; to reflect on his story; to listen to his words; and, thereby, to hear afresh the voice of God speaking directly to us in Word and Sacrament within the community of disciples.

By Ian J Elmer

WE CAN ALWAYS PRAISE GOD, WHOSE LOVE NEVER FAILS

Continuing his catechesis on prayer at the Wednesday General Audience, Pope Francis reflects on "the prayer of praise", which is possible in every circumstance because God is always faithful.

Pope Francis reflected on the dimension of praise in prayer, at the General Audience on Wednesday, taking as his starting point "a critical moment in the life of Jesus."

At the beginning of His ministry, when He had already begun to preach the Kingdom of God and perform miracles, "the mission of the Messiah goes through a crisis," the Pope said: John the Baptist expresses doubts, while the people to whom He had preached showed hostility to Jesus and His message.

But "precisely in this disappointing moment," Pope

Francis said, "Jesus does not lift up a lament to the Father, but rather a hymn of jubilation... in the midst of a crisis, Jesus blesses the Father, He praises Him."

God is praised for Who He is

Jesus praises God for Who He is, calling upon Him as



"Father, Lord of heaven and earth." Jesus acknowledges His Father as Lord of the universe, and conversely recognizes "the Lord of all that exists," as His Father. "Praise springs from His experience of feeling the He is 'Son of the Most High'," the Pope said.

God favours the little ones

In His prayer, Jesus goes on to praise God "for favouring the little ones." Pope Francis explained that in His ministry, Jesus saw those who were considered "wise" and "learned" react to His preaching with suspicion, while the "little ones" were open to His message. "This can only be the will of the Father," the Pope said, "and Jesus rejoices in this. We too must rejoice and praise God because humble and simple people welcome the Gospel."

Jesus' prayer of praise "in that moment of seeming failure" leads us to see our own failures in a different light, Pope Francis continued. He explained that praising God, especially "when it seems evil prevails and there is no way to stop it," is necessary, not for God's sake, but for our own.

Praising God in times of trial

The Pope cited the catechism, which says that the prayer of praise "shares in the blessed happiness of the pure of heart who love God in faith before seeing Him in glory."

Paradoxically, he said, it is not only at times of happiness, when we feel blessed, but especially "in difficult moments" that we must praise God – precisely, so that, rising up to God, we will be able "to see a new panorama, a broader horizon."

The example of the Saints

Saint Francis, in his Canticle of the Creatures – *Laudato sí* – offers an excellent example of praising God in time of difficulties.

The prayer was composed at the end of Francis' life, when he was beset by difficulties. Yet in that moment, Pope Francis said, the saint "praises God for everything, for all the gifts of creation, and even for death, which he courageously manages to call 'sister'."

The example of the saints, Pope Francis said in conclusion, shows us "that we can always give praise, in good times and bad, because God is the faithful Friend. This is the foundation of praise: God is the faithful Friend, and His love never fails."

By Christopher Wells

SCHOOL NEWS

School will resume for **Term 1 in 2021, on Thursday 28th January 2021**. This next year, our starting times and finishing times will return to normal, however, students will still be required to enter via the designated gates. Please see below:

- ◆ 8:30am Gates open
- ◆ 8:45am Students enter the classroom
- ◆ **8:55am Classes begin**
- ◆ **3:15pm School finishes**
- ◆ Students from each grade level will still need to enter via the designated gates around the school when entering/leaving the premises.

IMPORTANT DATES:

JANUARY

- Tues 26th Jan -Australia Day Public Holiday
- Wed 27th Jan -Staff return to school (Mass at 9am)
- Thurs 28th Jan -Term 1 begins - Gr Prep to Gr 6 return, Preps begin in the hall until 12:15pm
- Fri 29st Jan -Preps in the hall until 12:15pm

INFANT BAPTISM

Baptisms take place on the 1st Saturday morning at 11am of each month.

Preparation takes place on the Wednesday evening before the 1st Saturday of the month at 7pm in the Church. Coming up Baptism is 6th February 2021. Baptism forms can be collected from the Presbytery or go online at www.holyeuchariststalbans.org

TAI CHI CLASSES

Yang Style 24 Commencing on **Thursday Night at 6.30pm on the 4/2/21.**

The Classes will be held at the HOLY EUCHARIST HALL 1A Oleander Drive St Albans.

All welcome. gold coin donation. Please wear Comfortable Clothing and Footwear."

READERS/COMMENTATOR/ COORDINATOR/EUCHARIST

Tues 9:00 AM, 19-01-21

Reader Xuan Duong
Eucharist: Monica Lomen

Wed 9:00 AM, 20-01-21

Reader Carmen Camilleri
Eucharist: Elizabeth Delacruz

Thur 9:00 AM, 21-01-21

Reader Shirley Krizmanic
Eucharist: Volunteer

Fri 9:00AM, 22-01-21

Reader Helen Maddela
Eucharist: Catherine Bartolo

Sat 6.00 PM, 23-01-21

Lit. Coordinator: Reno Attard
Charlie Pace
Commentator Anthony Naidu
Reader : Miriam Vella
Carmen Camilleri
Eucharist: Alaistair Surrao
Violetta Montoro

Sun 9.00 AM, 24-01-21

Lit. Coordinator: Monica Lomen
Commentator Helen Maddella
Reader: Wilma Marmur
Fred Storace
Eucharist: Mini Eddy
Monica Lomen

Sun 10:30AM, 24-01-21

Lit. Coordinator: Susan Hallorina
Commentator Rita Martin
Reader Cristina Pedroso
Matthew Tufuga
Eucharist: Susan Hallorina
Rita Martin

Sun 6.00PM, 24-01-21

Lit. Coordinator Tammy
Commentator HE Youth
Reader HE Youth
HE Youth
Eucharist : Lani Laririt
Xuan Duong

CHURCH CLEANING

Week beginning: 20th Jan. 2021. Group 9: Cita & Frank Carreon, Visjna Milinkovic, Joe Camilleri, Eddie Domingo

CHOIR GROUPS

Saturday 23rd January 2021

6pm – Osana Choir

Sunday, 24th January 2021:

9am - Charlie Schembri

10.30am – Fernandez Family

6.00pm – Parish Youth Choir

LET US PRAY FOR

Prayers For The Sick

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

Recently Deceased

Peter Disco, Ema Bustell, Mary Gauci (Malta)

Anniversaries

Daminh Tran Huu Manh, Caterina Di Giacomantonio(1st Annv.), Ivica Krizmanic, Rosina Mandato(1st Annv.) Saverio Mandato, John Juhas, Ally, Mary Charlie, Peter Spiteri & Family, Ignatius Borg & Family, Jessie Pace & Family, Anthony Gatt, 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

"A good Vocation prayer to say every-day, from the time we are ten years old till we are ninety years old, is found in today's first Scripture Reading: 'Speak, Lord for your servant is listening.' Just try it with sincerity starting today."

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