



## 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](mailto:stalbanssouth@cam.org.au)  
Website: [www.holyeuchariststalbans.org](http://www.holyeuchariststalbans.org)



### ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

12 & 13 JUNE 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

### Good News, Good News!

Dear Parishioners,

With gratitude to our God,  
we can have 50 people in our  
Church to celebrate the Eu-  
charist until further notice.

#### English Masses:

◆ Weekday Masses: 9am

Tuesday to Friday

◆ Weekend Masses

Saturday: 5pm & 6pm for  
the time being.

Sunday: 9am, 10.30am &  
6pm

Please contact the Parish Of-  
fice to let us know that you  
would like to attend.

Phone: 9366 1310

Office Hours: 9am - 3.30pm  
from Tuesday to Friday.

May God bless us and pro-  
tect us always

### OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES

The restrictions in place are compul-  
sory as issued under lawful direction  
of the Chief Health Officer of Vic-  
toria. As of 11:59pm, 10 June 2021:

- ⇒ **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
- ⇒ Please use the hand sanitizer provided and keep social distancing at all time.
- ⇒ 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 do not attend the Mass you are registered for and advise the Parish Office, so as to allow someone else on the waiting list to attend.
- ⇒ 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

### SCHOOL NEWS

As we are transitioning back to onsite learning, we have some safety procedures put in place. Some of these procedures may not be ideal, but they are there to keep everyone in our school community safe and I seek your full cooperation.

As of Friday 11th June, we will be implementing the following:  
STARTING AND FINISHING TIMES.  
All classroom teachers will open their doors at 8:45am and school will begin at 8:55am. However, we will be having staggered finishing times until the end of Term 2. This means that

◆ Grades 3, 4, 5, and 6 will finish school at 3:05pm,

◆ Preps, 1s and 2s will finish at 3:15pm

Please note:

◆ Students in Grades 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be allowed to pick up their younger brother or sister in Grade Prep, Grade 1 and/or Grade 2 at 3:05pm

◆ If the Grade Prep, Grade 1 and Grade 2 students do not have an older sibling, then they will be taken to their allocated gate at 3:15pm (by their classroom teacher) and will wait for the students to be picked up.

Please remember:

◆ In the morning the gates will be open from 8:30am until 9am.

◆ Students will need a late pass after 9:15am

◆ In the afternoon gates will be open from 3:05pm until 3:30pm.

◆ At this stage, parents/carers/visitors are not permitted to enter the school grounds.

◆ Wear a mask outdoors if you cannot maintain the 1.5metre physical distancing rule

◆ If you have more than one child at school, you can drop off and pick up your children from a preferred gate, so long as you have one child who belongs to the year level specified at the gate.

◆ The same gate must be used for drop off and pick up time.

◆ QR check-ins will become mandatory for all staff and visitors to the school. These are located on the window of every classroom

## THE LIVING WORD

### First reading Ezekiel 17:22-24

*I will plant a shoot on the high mountain of Israel*

The Lord says this: 'From the top of the cedar, from the highest branch I will take a shoot and plant it myself on a very high mountain. I will plant it on the high mountain of Israel. It will sprout branches and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Every kind of bird will live beneath it, every winged creature rest in the shade of its branches. And every tree of the field will learn that I, the Lord, am the one who stunts tall trees and makes the low ones grow, who withers green trees and makes the withered green. I, the Lord, have spoken, and I will do it.'

### Responsorial Psalm Ps. 91(92):2-3,13-16

**Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.**

It is good to give thanks to the Lord,  
to make music to your name, O Most High,  
to proclaim your love in the morning  
and your truth in the watches of the night.

**Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.**

The just will flourish like the palm tree  
and grow like a Lebanon cedar.

**Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.**

Planted in the house of the Lord  
they will flourish in the courts of our God,  
still bearing fruit when they are old,  
still full of sap, still green,  
to proclaim that the Lord is just.

In him, my rock, there is no wrong.

**Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.**

### Second reading 2 Corinthians 5:6-10

*We want to be exiled from the body and make our home with the Lord*

We are always full of confidence when we remember that to live in the body means to be exiled from the Lord, going as we do by faith and not by sight – we are full of confidence, I say, and actually want to be exiled from the body and make our home with the Lord. Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing him. For all the truth about us will be brought out in the law court of Christ, and each of us will get what he deserves for the things he did in the body, good or bad.

### Gospel Acclamation Jn15:15

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;  
all who come to him will live for ever.

Alleluia!

### Gospel Mark 4:26-34

*The kingdom of God is a mustard seed growing into the biggest shrub of all*

Jesus said to the crowds: 'This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man throws seed on the land. Night and day, while he sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is sprouting and growing; how, he does not know. Of its own accord the land produces first the shoot, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the crop is ready, he loses no time: he starts to reap because the harvest has come.'

He also said, 'What can we say the kingdom of God is like? What parable can we find for it? It is like a mustard seed which at the time of its sowing in the soil is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.'

Using many parables like these, he spoke the word to them, so far as they were capable of understanding it. He would not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything to his disciples when they were alone.

### REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL

The first of the parables in today's gospel reading has no parallel in the other gospels. It compares God's kingdom to a trusting sower who scatters the seed by day, sleeps by night, and simply observes the "earth produce of itself" until it is time to harvest the grain. The sower's actions of scattering, sleeping, rising, and going in with his sickle are paralleled by his "not-knowing how" the seed is transformed into grain. We may, in our times, have a more sophisticated, more scientific understanding of the process of growth. We have no less reason to stand in awe at the wonder of it all.

In an era of urbanization, of supermarket chains and online shopping even for groceries, we can easily lose sight of the source of food and the miracle of food production. This little parable might serve as a reminder of the goodness of the Earth and of the God who sustains our planetary home.

It might inspire us to contemplate the myriad ways in which the Earth speaks to us of God and God's empire or kin-dom. At another level, we might ask about the identity of the sower. We might question how the sower's actions and attitudes provide an image of God's reign. Is it in the sower's trusting that all will be well while "not-knowing"? Is it in the observation that the grain is ripe for the harvest? Is it in the prompt action to bring in the harvest? The sower's "not-knowing" might resonate with us in our "not knowing" all we would like to know about dealing with the spread of Covid-19. Parables are meant to tease their hearers/readers. They are open-ended and challenging.

The second parable appears in all three synoptic gospels. Matthew and Luke both parallel the mustard seed parable with a parable about a woman mixing yeast into flour. Mark, in contrast, juxtaposes his mustard seed parable with that of the trusting sower. Mustard seeds were tiny, although they were not the smallest of seeds and have never been known to become the largest of shrubs. The idea that God's reign provides shelter for the birds to make their nests is a challenging one at a time when so many species are becoming extinct precisely because their habitats are being destroyed by human activity.

Some scholars have pointed out that the mustard seed was a weed. To compare God's reign with a weed may have brought a smile or two. It would certainly have exercised the minds of Jesus' audience. Maybe Jesus' disciples were in need of encouragement even in the early stages of the Galilean ministry. Maybe the curious and hostile were in need of a reminder to take this movement seriously since extraordinary things can come from the most inauspicious beginnings. Opposition to Jesus had surfaced at the outset. Mark's community may also have been experiencing opposition and feeling the need for the wisdom that comes from a carefully crafted and perfectly timed story.

*By Veronica Lawson RSM*

## **IN PRISON I FORGAVE MY ACCUSERS, FAITH KEPT ME ALIVE**

In an interview with Vatican News, the Australian Cardinal who turns 80 today relives the experience he had during thirteen months of detention recounted in his book "Prison Journal". "It helped me to live my sufferings by associating them with those of Jesus. I have always believed that God was behind everything that was happening to me".

Cardinal George Pell, Prefect Emeritus of the Secretariat for the Economy, has been a free man for fourteen months. Today, 8 June 2021, he was able to celebrate his eightieth birthday in his home country, Australia. We reached him by phone at a time in which he is in self-isolation for health reasons related to Covid. The conversation took place as the Cantagalli Publishing House releases his "Prison Journal" - Volume I in Italian. The 400-page book collects the notes that make up the Cardinal's daily diary between 27 February and 13 July 2019, while he was in prison in Melbourne on charges of sexual abuse of minors, charges from which he was completely acquitted by a High Court ruling in April 2020. Pell had been sentenced to six years in prison in March 2019 and his lawyers' appeal to the Supreme Court of Victoria had been rejected by two out of three judges in August that year. Subsequently the appeal to the High Court of Australia overturned the conviction. The Cardinal has always declared himself innocent, calling the crime he was accused of a horrible and intolerable crime. The sentence of acquittal was greeted with satisfaction by the Holy See, which - in a statement - said it had always trusted the Australian judicial authorities. Then, on 12 October last, the meeting with Pope Francis in the Vatican during which the Holy Father thanked him for his testimony.

### **Would you ever have imagined that your life was to include the experience of prison?**

For many reasons. I thought it might be helpful for those who are in difficulty, for those who are going through a time of suffering, like I was. Then I thought that keeping a diary would be of some interest from a historical point of view, because there weren't many cardinals who had the experience of prison. But then also because I had discovered that many prisoners had dedicated themselves to writing, starting - in the Catholic sphere - with St Paul. Writing when you are in prison is good therapy.

### **How much has prayer helped you to cope with the humiliation and discomfort of imprisonment?**

I have to say that faith and prayer were fundamental; they helped me to completely change the perspective during those days of detention. Today I tell everyone, using an English expression, that in prison I have had confirmation that "the Christian package works." My experience shows how much the Church's teachings help us, how much praying and seeking God's grace helps. Especially when we understand that we can live our personal suffering for the greater good, that we can associate our suffering with that of Jesus. As Christians, we know that we have been redeemed by the passion and death of the Son of God. Living this teaching on the value of suffering really changes everything when you find yourself in a situation like mine.

### **During the days of your imprisonment, what was your relationship with the other prisoners? You write that you "felt" their suffering...**

I was in solitary confinement to ensure my personal protection. I never saw the other eleven prisoners who were with me in the same section. Only during the last four months of my imprisonment was I able to meet three other prisoners and talk to them. But most of the time I could only hear the anger, the anguish, of my fellow prisoners, without having any personal relationship.

### **In your diary, you say that you often listened to the prayers of Muslim detainees from your cell. What did it feel like to pray while listening to those prayers?**

For me there is only one God, we are monotheists. The theological conceptions of Christians and Muslims are obviously different, but we all pray in different ways to the same God. There is no God of Muslims, Christians or other religions, there is only one God.

### **In your diary you write that every day in prison you forgave, blessed and prayed for your accusers... Was it difficult to forgive them?**

I must admit that sometimes it was difficult. But once I made the decision to forgive, everything else followed. For me, it was not so difficult to forgive the person who accused me. I knew that he was a person who had suffered and was in great confusion and who knows what else...

### **While you were in prison you received thousands of letters of support, what affect did they have on you?**

They helped me enormously. Many were obviously from Australia, but also from the United States and the rest of the world. Also from Italy, Germany, England, Ireland. They were a great help and encouragement to me. Sometimes families wrote to me. Often they were full of spirituality, sometimes of theology, sometimes of historical culture. They were really letters that dealt with a wide variety of topics and that helped me a lot.

### **Did you continue to believe in providence while in prison?**

Yes, even if sometimes I did not understand what God's providence was doing. But I always believed that God was behind everything that was happening to me.

## What have these thirteen months taught you as a man of the Church?

The importance of perseverance. The importance of simple things, like faith, forgiveness, the redemption of suffering. Usually, when you live in prison you are forced to confront the fundamental issues of life, the simple and fundamental things. This also happened to me, and I must say that thanks be to God I survived.

## Can the sex abuse scandal be an opportunity for the renewal of the Church?

It must be. We cannot continue in the same vein. It is a kind of spiritual and moral cancer. It seems to me that here in Australia we have worked seriously to eradicate it, but it is a duty for all priests and all bishops in the world to ensure that these scandals do not happen again. Too much suffering, too much pain. The phenomenon of abuse in the Church shows once again that we have often not followed the teachings of Jesus. If we had followed the commandments of the Decalogue, none of this would have happened.

*By Fabio Colagrande*

## 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](mailto:vocations@cssr.org.au)

**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.

## READERS/COMMENTATOR/ COORDINATOR/EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

### Tues 9:00 AM, 15-06-21

Reader: Xuan Duong  
Eucharistic Min. Monica Lomen

### Wed 9:00 AM, 16-06-21

Reader: Carmen Camilleri  
Eucharistic Min. Elizabeth Delacruz

### Thur 9:00 AM, 17-06-21

Reader Shirley Krizmanic  
Eucharistic Min. Shirley Krizmanic

### Fri 9:00 AM, 18-06-21

Reader Helen Maddela  
Eucharistic Min. Catherine Bartolo

### Sat 5.00PM, 19-06-21

Lit. Coordinator: Reno Attard  
Charlie Pace

Commentator: Alastair Sumroo  
Readers: Miriam Vella  
Anthony Naidu

### Eucharistic Min. School

### Sun 9.00 AM, 20-06-21

Lit. Coordinator: Monica Lomen  
Commentator Wilma Marmur  
Readers: Shirley Krizmanic  
Helen Madella  
Eucharistic Min. Shirley Krizmanic  
Mini Eddy  
Monica Lomen

### Sun 10:30AM, 20-06-21

Lit. Coordinator: Taoete Afano  
Commentator Rita Martin  
Readers Cristina Pedroso  
Christina Afano  
Eucharistic Min. Taoete Afano  
Rita Martin

### Sun 6.00PM, 20-06-21

Lit. Coordinator Lani Laririt  
Commentator Xuan Duong  
Reader Larnie Mendoza  
Lani Laririt  
Eucharistic Min. Lani Laririt  
Larnie Mendoza  
Xuan Duong

## CHOIR GROUPS

### Saturday 19 June 2021

\* 5pm – Tavallo Family Choir

### Sunday 20 June 2021

- \* 9am - Charlie Schembri
- \* 10.30am - Holy Eucharist Family Choir
- \* 6pm - Volunteer

## CLEANING ROSTER

Week Beginning 16th June 2021,  
Group 4: Otilia Tufuga Family

## LET US PRAY FOR

### The Sick

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

### Recently Deceased

Asuncion Madella.

### Anniversaries

Pierre Judde, Maria Vu Thi Yeu Thuong, Peter Disco, Frank Kreuger, Richard Curmi, Iro & Jessie Vella, 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

“Through the gift of the Holy Eucharist and by the Word of God we are nourished and continue to grow towards fuller maturity. Like the Church, we are the potential to be like a growing tree, bearing fruit and giving comfort, but always open to further growth.”

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