



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.holyeuchariststalbans.org



FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C

29 & 30 JANUARY 2022

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

LUNAR NEW YEAR MASS TIMES:

New Year's Eve - 31/1/2022 7pm

New Year's Day - 1/2/2022 7pm

New Year Day 2 - 2/2/2022 7pm

New Year Day 3 - 3/2/2022 7pm

Wishing a Happy Lunar New Year especially to our Vietnamese Community as they will be celebrating in the coming week.

Good Luck with all the New Year plans.

Keep safe and God bless.

THE LIVING WORD

First reading Jeremiah 1:4-5,17-19

'I have appointed you prophet to the nations'

In the days of Josiah, the word of the Lord was addressed to me, saying: 'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you came to birth I consecrated you; I have appointed you as prophet to the nations. 'So now brace yourself for action. Stand up and tell them all I command you. Do not be dismayed at their presence, or in their presence I will make you dismayed. 'I, for my part, today will make you into a fortified city, a pillar of iron, and a wall of bronze to confront all this land: the kings of Judah, its princes, its priests and the country people. They will fight against you but shall not overcome you, for I am with you to deliver you – it is the Lord who speaks.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps. 70(71):1-6,15,17

I will sing of your salvation.

In you, O Lord, I take refuge;
let me never be put to shame.

In your justice rescue me, free me:
pay heed to me and save me.

I will sing of your salvation.

Be a rock where I can take refuge,
a mighty stronghold to save me;
for you are my rock, my stronghold.
Free me from the hand of the wicked.

I will sing of your salvation.

It is you, O Lord, who are my hope,
my trust, O Lord, since my youth.
On you I have leaned from my birth,
from my mother's womb you have been my help.

I will sing of your salvation.

My lips will tell of your justice
and day by day of your help.
O God, you have taught me from my youth
and I proclaim your wonders still.

I will sing of your salvation.

Second reading 1 Corinthians 13:4-13

Three things last: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love

Love is always patient and kind; it is never jealous; love is never boastful or conceited; it is never rude or selfish; it does not take offence, and is not resentful. Love takes no pleasure in other people's sins but delights in the truth; it is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope, and to endure whatever comes.

Love does not come to an end. But if there are gifts of prophecy, the time will come when they must fail; or the gift of languages, it will not continue for ever; and knowledge – for this, too, the time will come when it must fail. For our knowledge is imperfect and our prophesying is imperfect; but once perfection comes, all imperfect things will disappear. When I was a child, I used to talk like a child, and think like a child, and argue like a child, but now I am a man, all childish ways are put behind me. Now we are seeing

a dim reflection in a mirror; but then we shall be seeing face to face. The knowledge that I have now is imperfect; but then I shall know as fully as I am known.

In short, there are three things that last: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.

Gospel Acclamation Luke 4:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor and freedom to prisoners.

Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 4:21-30

No prophet is ever accepted in his own country

Jesus began to speak in the synagogue: 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.' And he won the approval of all, and they were astonished by the gracious words that came from his lips. They said, 'This is Joseph's son, surely?' But he replied, 'No doubt you will quote me the saying, "Physician, heal yourself" and tell me, "We have heard all that happened in Capernaum, do the same here in your own countryside."' And he went on, 'I tell you solemnly, no prophet is ever accepted in his own country. "There were many widows in Israel, I can assure you, in Elijah's day, when heaven remained shut for three years and six months and a great famine raged throughout the land, but Elijah was not sent to any one of these: he was sent to a widow at Zarephath, a Sidonian town. And in the prophet Elisha's time there were many lepers in Israel, but none of these was cured, except the Syrian, Naaman.'" When they heard this everyone in the synagogue was enraged. They sprang to their feet and hustled him out of the town; and they took him up to the brow of the hill their town was built on, intending to throw him down the cliff, but he slipped through the crowd and walked away.

BE OPEN TO GOD'S MESSAGE

In this astonishing incident in Luke's gospel, those listening to Jesus suddenly turn from praising him to rage against him. So intense was their anger that they attempt to kill him. And these are people from Jesus' home town of Nazareth, who knew his family and had grown up with him. How do we explain this?

Today's gospel follows on from Jesus in the synagogue reading from Isaiah about bringing Good News to the poor, proclaiming new sight to the blind, liberty to captives and setting free the downtrodden. He then stuns everyone by claiming he was fulfilling this text; he is the prophet they had been longing for.

His listeners were astonished, and greatly approved of what Jesus was saying. But then they struggled to take this in. They had heard about his miracles and teaching elsewhere, and demanded he do the same in their town. Perhaps that would really put Nazareth 'on the map', bringing them honour and prestige.

What a shock when Jesus suddenly pulls the rug from

under their feet. Far from healing the blind, Jesus in effect accuses them of being blind to the message of God. He highlights how God ignored the plight of Israel when Elijah only helped the Sidonian widow, and when in Elisha's time no lepers in Israel were cured except a Syrian foreigner.

Jesus' listeners were in no doubt about the significance of what Jesus was saying, that God's message of love and solidarity was not just for the Jewish people alone, but for everyone. Jesus was not original in saying this, since it is a theme in the Jewish prophets. But these people in Nazareth did not want to accept this, and their initial admiration for Jesus turned to absolute fury.

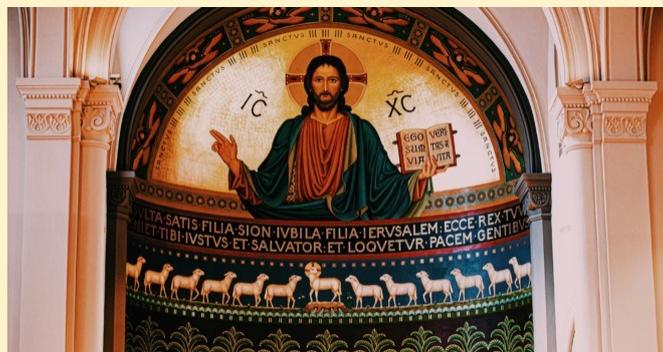
Pope Francis repeatedly insists that Jesus' words are powerfully relevant for us in our very different world. Francis urges us to see with the eyes of Jesus those on the margins, those excluded and hard done by. These are the ones for whom God's heart especially aches.

Pope Francis says the Christian community is not meant to be a museum or a cocoon keeping us safe from the problems of the world, but rather a 'field hospital', bringing healing and seeking out the wounded. His catchy phrases, like getting mud on our boots, or smelling like the sheep, remind us that each of us, in our own way, shares this mission.

We know God loves everyone without exception, but in Jesus' eyes those who are most 'special' to God are the outsiders, like refugees and asylum seekers, the unemployed, or the homeless. As Pope Francis spells out in his document *Laudato Si'*, God is calling us to transform our world by protecting the wellbeing of everyone and preserving our glorious planet for future generations.

By Bruce Duncan CSsR

ENTER INTO A JOYFUL COMMUNION WITH GOD



I recently had a conversation on phone with an octogenarian relative of mine who was learning how to use his first android cell phone. He mistakenly muted his phone during the conversation and did not know how to unmute it. He could not hear me speaking to him but I heard him muttering under his voice as he struggled in vain to unmute his phone.

While I was reflecting on how frustrating it was to be mistakenly muted in our conversation, it occurred to me that we too usually purposely put God on mute when

we do not want to hear from Him. We mute Him when we are afraid of what He would ask of us. We put Him on mute when we want to do our own thing. This tendency to mute God only leads us to a frustrating and joyless relationship with Him.

God wants a joyful communion with us. This is the message that the priest Ezra has for the rebellious Israelites who had returned from their banishment, "Today is holy to the Lord your God. Do not be sad and do not weep...Do not be saddened this day, for rejoicing in the Lord must be your strength." No matter their infidelity to God's law in the past and the disastrous consequences of their actions, God's word were not condemning but inviting them again to find their joy and strength in Him.

He invites us to this joyful communion in three ways. Firstly, because God desires that we have joy in communion with Him, **God always speaks to His people**, "All the people *listened attentively* to the book of the law." The people did not mute God in any way but listened to the whole law as proclaimed and explained by the priest Ezra. These words pierced their heart and filled them with remorse and sorrow for their infidelity, "For all the people were weeping as they heard the words of the law."(See Neh 8:2-10)

Secondly, **God always listens to His people**, "Let the words of my mouth and the thoughts of my heart find favor before you O lord, my rock, and my redeemer."(Ps 19) Our communion with God is not a monologue on God's side or our own side. God always speaks and He always listens to us. He does not only listen to the words that we speak to Him, but He also listens to our thoughts, desires, and wishes.

Thirdly, **God always acts in the life of His people.** Jesus is empowered with the Spirit and sent on a mission to act in our lives "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor...to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free." God acts to set us free from the things that hinder us from fulfilling the will of God in our lives and finding true joy in God. In Jesus Christ, God is never idle in our lives.

For us to enter into this joyful communion, **we must also first listen attentively to all that God reveals to us.** We must listen without filtering out anything, ready to act on every single word that He speaks to us. We cannot hope for joy when we are picking and choosing only what appeals to our taste or what is culturally acceptable. We will be frustrated in our relationship with Him when we purposely choose to mute Him occasionally.

We must also speak to Him honestly. Because God will never mute us out, we too must not be mute in our attitude towards Him. We must bring to Him our thoughts and desires, no matter how ashamed we may feel about them or how inappropriate they may be. We will be amazed how much joy we get from this brutally

honest and sincere self-revelation to God.

Lastly, **we too must give God a chance to act in our lives and set us free.** We cannot free ourselves no matter the good intentions and motives that we have. Freedom is something that God does if we are properly disposed to receive it.

One buzzword in the Catholic world today is discernment. We hear so much about discernment that one would think that it is just a skill to be cultivated or something we do by simply dialoguing with people of different ideologies and beliefs or no belief at all. We can erroneously think that anyone can do discernment irrespective of his or her spiritual and moral lives.

Fr. John Hardon, SJ succinctly defines discernment of spirits as "the ability to distinguish whether a given idea or impulse in the soul comes from the good spirit or from the evil spirit." Discernment entails that we are ready to accept what really comes from God while rejecting what we know comes from the evil one. Before we can actually seek and find the will of God through discernment, we must be free from sin and sinful attachments.

Thus, discernment is impossible when we reject or deny divine revelation in any of its form, either in Sacred Scripture or Tradition. It is an illusion to think that we can do discernment when we are sifting through God's commandments and choosing only the ones that we like or find easy. Forget about true discernment when we mute divine revelation and settle for lies, calling evil good and good evil.

We also cannot do discernment when we do not reveal ourselves honestly to God who reveals Himself to us out of love. Discernment requires transparency in our relationship with God. We deceive ourselves when we speak of discernment while refusing to come clean before God and trying to keep secrets from Him.

No discernment is possible when we are not ready or willing to give God a chance to act in our lives. Where there is no freedom from Jesus Christ, authentic discernment is impossible. Jesus Christ must set us free first before we can do discernment. Only a person who is intent on being a more faithful disciple of Jesus can actually discern because discernment presupposes love for the Lord Jesus Christ and a readiness to follow Him more closely. No matter their good intentions, persons who are careless with the spiritual lives and who adamantly live in mortal sin just cannot hope to do any authentic Christian discernment.

We are told that the people of Nazareth "looked intently at Jesus." We also should do the same if we are going to do discernment. When we look at Him intently and are ready to receive from Him new freedom, He will give us His Spirit, the Spirit of discernment, "There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit... To one is given the discernment of spirits."(1Cor 12:4,10) As members of the body of Christ, "we are all given to drink of the one Spirit."(1Cor 12:13) We pos-

sess the Spirit but we do not allow the Spirit to guide us in our daily discernment and choices.

Our Eucharistic Lord Jesus Christ never stops inviting us to a joyful communion with Him. He is present with us at each Mass to continue speaking, listening, and acting in our lives. Let us practice authentic discernment by listening to Him attentively, speaking honestly with Him and allowing Him to act and lead us in our lives. This is the only way we can enter into joyful communion with God.

Fr. Nnamdi Moneme, OMV

PRECA COMMUNITY

- Sacraments enquires and enrollments for all classes start from 8th February 2022 from 645pm onwards - Reconciliation, Holy Communion and Confirmation.

- RCIA enquires and enrollments at Preca Centre from 7th February 2022 from 645pm.

- Friday Youth group and families with children from 21st January 2022 from 645pm.

⇒ For RCIA enquires put Br Tony Gatt - 0419115692.



Join Fr. Peter Carrucan in Celebrating a milestone.

On Saturday the 19 Feb. 2022 from 2pm-4.30pm.

Venue - St Augustines Parish Grounds, 631 Bourke St., Melbourne VIC 3000.

Note: - Please bring a platter to share and drinks for your consumption.

Contacts - Fr Peter Carrucan 0400 908 199 or Sharma Saunders 0409 122 654



READERS/COMMENTATOR/ COORDINATOR/EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Tues 9:00 AM, 01-02-22

Reader Xuan Duong
Eucharistic Min. Monica Lomen

Wed 9:00 AM, 02-02-22

Reader Carmen Camilleri
Eucharistic Min. Volunteer

Thur 9:00 AM, 03-02-22

Reader Volunteer
Eucharistic Min. Volunteer

Fri 9:00 AM, 04-02-22

Reader Helen Maddela
Eucharistic Min. Catherine Bartolo

Sat 6.00 PM, 05-02-22

Lit. Coordinator: Charlie Pace
Reno Attard
Commentator: Anthony Naidu
Reader: Ed Cabla & Joh Cabla
Eucharistic Min. Alastair Surrao
Anthony Naidu & Reno Attard

Sun 9.00 AM, 06-02-22

Lit. Coordinator: Monica Lomen
Commentator Wilma Marmur
Readers: Pam Norris
Kelechi Kelechi
Eucharistic Min. Wilma Marmur
Monica Lomen & Volunteer

Sun 10:30AM, 06-02-22

Lit. Coordinator: Saua Tufuga
Commentator Christina Afano
Reader Jonas Coe
Yoko Ah Kuoi
Eucharistic Min. Mary Giuffrida
Cristine Pedroso & Rita Martin

Sun 6.00PM, 06-02-22

Lit. Coordinator Rod Lalunio
Commentator Larnie Mendoza
Reader Xuan Duong
Lorraine Ward
Eucharistic Min. Rod Lalunio
Lani Larrit & Larnie Mendoza

CHOIR GROUPS

Saturday 5th February 2022

* 6pm – Fenandez Family Choir

Sunday 6th February 2022

* 9am - Charlie Schembri

* 10.30am - Samoan Choir

* 6pm - Exzimos Family & Friends Choir

CLEANING ROSTER

Week Beginning 2nd February 2022
Group 11 - Ed & Joh Cabla & family, Jinky Monteros & Family

SCHOOL NEWS

JANUARY

- Mon 31st Jan. -All students in Prep to Grade 6 are back to school.-Grade Prep finish school at 12pm this week

FEBRUARY

- Tues 1st Feb -Lunar New Year
Mon 7th Feb -Grade Prep finish school at 1pm this week

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptism will be on the 1st Saturday of each Month and it will resume Saturday 5th February 2022 10am & 11am. Please contact Parish Office for further details.

LET US PRAY FOR

The Sick

Ash Dominic Marguerite, Nithy Chellapa Shirley Dondasekera, Anthony Chircop, Rachel Piskon, Toni Antonowicz, Linda Ratbone, Anna, Maria Kim, Yulette Tanner, Jessie Spiteri, Stella Sandle, Frank, Doris Carabott

Recently Deceased

Ranjani Goonetilleke, Hema Somaratne Rafael Dela Cruz, Vincent Ciappara

Anniversaries

Jan & Jovan Vala, Martin Deman, Norberto Larrit, Criselda Fernandez, Angela Chircop, Maria Vu Thi Yeu Thuong, Peter Disco, Frank Kreuger, Richard Curmi, Iro & Jessie Vella, Anthony Gatt, 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 Lord says: "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I dedicated you." Always listen to an Old Friend.

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