



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



NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A 12 & 13 AUGUST 2023

REDEMPTORIST COMMUNITY

Parish Priest & Mission Leader

Fr Vincent Long Pham CSsR

Priests in Residence

Fr Joseph Xuan Hieu Nguyen 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:** 5:00pm
6.30pm Vietnamese
- ♦ **Sunday:** 8:45am, 10:00am,
6:00pm
12:00pm Vietnamese

Other Masses

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

"THE FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY"

Masses here at the Holy Eucharist Church for the Feast of the Assumption, Tuesday 15th August 2023:

- ⇒ 9:00am English
 - ⇒ 12:15pm HEP School
 - ⇒ 7:00pm Vietnamese
- ALL ARE WELCOME!**

THE LIVING WORD

First Reading: 1 Kings 19:9,11-13

The Lord was not in the wind, or the earthquake, or the fire

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps. 84 (85):9-14

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace.
His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land.

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven.

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps.

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

Second Reading Romans 9:1-5

I would willingly be condemned if it could help my brothers

What I want to say now is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ – it is the truth – my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

Gospel Acclamation Ps 129:5

Alleluia, alleluia!

I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word.
Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 14:22-33

Jesus walks on the water

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord,' he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus.

Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL

Right now, our planet is battered by the waves of pandemic. Our church also knows what it means to be "battered by the waves". Over its two millennia history, there have been periods of discrimination and persecution against its members. Countless church members have died for their faith, while others have been and are being denied the freedom to practice their religion. There have also been times when the church has fallen far short of its own ideals and has quite seriously betrayed the gospel values it seeks to embody and proclaim. It is presently "battered" by huge even terrifying waves, largely of its own creating. Only God can bring order out of the chaos, and God works through the courageous witness and action of faith-filled disciples.

In today's gospel, Matthew tells of Jesus astride the waves like the God of Israel in Job 9:8. In Israel's mythology, the sea represents chaos. To walk on water is to have power and authority to bring order out of the chaos. Matthew presents Jesus as exercising the power of God over the potentially destructive chaos. Jesus makes his claim to divine power explicit in words that echo God's words from the burning bush: "It is I" (literally "I am"). He tells the frightened disciples to take heart and not to be afraid. Peter, leader of the group, continues to doubt. He asks for a sign and is then prepared to take a risk in order to come to Jesus on the water. He begins to falter when he takes his eyes off Jesus and focuses instead on the threatening wind. Jesus reaches out his hand to rescue Peter. In a lovely gesture, Jesus takes him by the hand and holds him firmly in his grip. Jesus names Peter's hesitation as a response of limited faith.

Matthew weaves the story of Peter into an earlier story from Mark's gospel. We can only speculate on the reasons for this. Were Matthew's communities going through hard times? Were they battered by the waves of conflicting loyalties as they found themselves excluded from Pharisaic Judaism? Was the pressure of separation from the synagogue too great for some, even for those in leadership? This is a telling story for anyone who exercises leadership at any level in the church. It is a reminder to us as disciples to keep our eyes firmly fixed on the source of hope in times of struggle and uncertainty and on the crucial issues that face our planetary home.

Finally, this story invites us to consider the threatening waves created by the undeniable reality of a pandemic in a time of climate crisis. The human community is largely responsible for the climate crisis. The human community must join hands to save what can be saved. The growing commitment to renewable energy provides, for me, a contemporary image of a saving hand reaching out to Earth communities that are in danger of being submerged.

By Sister Veronica Lawson rsm

'LISBON WYD WAS A "BEAUTIFUL" EXPERIENCE

During his flight back to Rome from his Apostolic Journey to Portugal for World Youth Day 2023, on Sunday evening, Pope Francis said he was very positively impressed by the huge participation and enthusiasm shown by so many young people in Lisbon and also by the successful organization of the event, the best of all the ones he has attended so far (Rio de Janeiro, Krakow and Panama).

"For me it was beautiful!", he told journalists travelling with him in his customary post-visit press conference aboard the return flight to Rome.

Young people need to be accompanied

Commenting on the over a million youths joining the WYD last week, the Pope remarked "they are religious, they are looking for a non-hostile, non-artificial, non-legalistic faith, for an encounter with Jesus Christ", which "is not easy", he said.

Some may object that young people today don't always abide by moral rules, however, Pope Francis remarked, we all make mistakes in life, and despite



this the Lord is always waiting for us because He is merciful”.

“Who among us has not made a moral mistake in our lives?. Everyone has! Life is like that, but the Lord is always waiting for us because He is merciful.”

While highlighting the need to accompany young people, our future, as they “seek to look forward”, Pope Francis stressed once again the vital importance of “dialogue between old and young” so they don’t lose their roots.

The Church is open to everyone, but there are rules in the Church

In the conversation the Pope spoke also about his health, his silent prayer for peace in Fatima, sexual abuse, his upcoming visit to Marseille, in France, and his assertion that the Church is open to all with no exception (“Todos, todos, todos”, as he repeated several times during the WYD).

Asked by a reporter if he didn’t think that this assertion was somehow incoherent with the fact that some people, such as women and gay people, do not have the same rights and cannot receive some Sacraments, Pope Francis reiterated that the Catholic Church welcomes everyone and that it has a duty to accompany them on a personal path of spirituality, but within the framework of its rules.

"The Church is open to everyone but there are laws that regulate life inside the Church," he said. According to these laws, certain people they cannot partake in (some) Sacraments. “This does not mean that it is closed. Each person encounters God in their own way inside the Church," the Pope said .

All forms of abuse must be addressed by the Church and society

Pope Francis was also asked about his private meeting with a group of victims of abuse in Lisbon and his opinion on the Portuguese bishops’ policies to to address the scourge of sexual abuse in the Church, following the recent publication by independent commission pointing to nearly 5,000 victims over the past decades in the country. Pope Francis said he knows things are proceeding well in this respect and reiterated that all forms of abuse against minors and vulnerable people, whether sexual or not, must be addressed by the Church and society at large.

Exploitation of migrants is criminal

Finally, a French reporter asked Pope Francis about his upcoming visit to the French port city of Marseille in September and his reason for never visiting France as a country.

Pope Francis explained that the specific purpose of the visit is to join an international conference hosted by the archdiocese (the “Rencontres Méditerranéennes”) gathering bishops and religious leaders of the Mediterranean to discuss, amongst other issues, immigration in the region, an issue which is of particular concern to him. "The exploitation of migrants is criminal", he said referring in particular to Sub-Saharan African migrants blocked in North Africa.

He added that at the moment his priority are smaller and more remote countries, rather than big countries like France.

By Lisa Zengarini .

WYD: THE STREETS OF LISBON BECAME THE STREETS OF THE WORLD!

A chapter has come to an end with the conclusion of World Youth Day, but the young pilgrims who spent the last six days here in Lisbon go home with plenty of material with which to continue writing and shaping their stories. They set off with a renewed sense of hope, strengthened faith and memories that are forever.

Endings are always sad, but all good things must come to an end, and WYD2023 really was “good”... to say the least. There were never really any doubts about that. Ever since the storming of the streets of Lisbon on the first day of August, there has never been a dull moment. The pilgrims tested the waters with the first large-scale event when they welcomed Pope Francis in the Edward VII Park on Thursday, and it was only a *crescendo* from there.



Love and hope

Love and hope were at the centre of Pope Francis’ messages in these days. He invited the young pilgrims to love one another, to help each other when they fall, to never stop getting back up and to “ride the wave” of life, reminding us all that there is a place in the Church for every single one of us. “Everyone, everyone, everyone” he made the 800,00 pilgrims repeat

during the Way of the Cross on Friday afternoon. This comforting statement came at a time in which different worlds were meeting. Many of those attending WYD are sheltered from the brutal realities of war, poverty, hunger, climate disasters and violence in all its forms. Others, however, face destructive realities every day. In Lisbon, these two worlds met, intertwined, and became one. What an important lesson to learn at a young age: to meet and grow fond of someone who at first glance seems so different to you - looking, dressing, speaking, eating and thinking in a different manner. These new friendships helped many young pilgrims realise that amongst all these differences there really is no difference after all.

The streets of the world

So, Pope Francis brought unity to the streets of Lisbon when the streets of Lisbon were the streets of the world. To have 800,000 young people sit in silence, shedding tears, expressing that feeling of “he’s really speaking directly to me”, in such a crowd... that’s quite something. They rejoiced in every second of Pope Francis’ presence. They woke up early on Sunday morning – the final morning - and they sat, patiently, waiting, for him to arrive for the final mass. On that last final morning, he, - just like the pilgrims - must have been tired, but he was happy, visibly so, just as he has been on every occasion and every meeting. It really did seem that there was no other place he would rather have been, and the young people felt that, they felt it to the core, and that is the biggest demonstration of love.

An invitation

Although this chapter has ended, it has ended with an invitation, an invitation to two places for two events... the Jubilee year 2025 in Rome and World Youth Day in Seoul, South Korea, in 2027. These days are proof that even though some events are closer, and others further, there is always something to look forward to... and more than a glimmer of hope.

By Francesca Merlo

READERS/COMMENTATOR/ COORDINATOR/EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Tues 9:00 AM, 15-08-23

Reader Xuan Duong
Eucharistic Min. Monica Lomen

Wed 9:00 AM, 16-08-23

Reader Carmen Camilleri
Eucharistic Min. Carmen Camilleri

Thurs 9:00 AM, 17-08-23

Reader: HE School
Eucharistic HE School

Fri 9:00 AM, 18-08-23

Reader Helen Maddela
Eucharistic Min. Catherine Bartolo

Sat 5.00 PM, 19-08-23

Lit. Coordinator: Reno Attard
Commentator: Alastair Surrao
Readers: Carmen Camilleri
Agath Saliba
Eucharistic Min. Wendy Forbes-Perera
Josephine Cassar
Reno Attard

Sun 8.45 AM, 20-08-23

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

Sun 10:00AM, 20-08-23

Lit. Coordinator: Saua Tufuga
Commentator: Rita Martin
Reader: Christine Pedroso
Ed Cablao
Eucharistic Min. Joh Cablao
Rita Martin
Saua Tufuga

Sun 6.00PM, 20-08-23

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

CHOIR GROUPS

Saturday 19th August 2023

- ♦ 5pm – Tavallo Family

Sunday 20th August 2023

- ♦ 8.45am - Charlie Schembri
- ♦ 10.00am - DeSouza Family
- ♦ 6pm - Angeline Veigas

CLEANING ROSTER

Week starting 16 August 2023 -
Group 4 - Otilia & Tufuga Family.

LET US PRAY FOR

The Sick

Pam Norris, Alfred & Pauline Storace,
Arnord Fernandez, Toni Antonowicz,
Anna, Maria Kim, Yulette Tanner, Stella
Sandle, Frank, Doris Carabott.

Recently Deceased

Joseph Nguyen Ba Ky, Josephine
(Jessie) Spiteri, Maria Nguyen Thi
Thu Hang.

Death Anniversaries

Joseph Formosa, Nazareno Spiteri, Antonio Mifsud, Philip Gauci, Joseph, Frank & John Xerri, Tran Thi Huong, Cornelio Maddela, Grazio (Horace) Camilleri, Joseph & Franc Xiberras, Reno Cauchi, Mac-co Ngo Van Thinh, Lucia Huynh Thi Kim Hue, Phero Ngo Minh Truong, Maria Huynh Thi Thanh Kieu, Phero Le Nghia, Matta Le Thi Linh, Phero Le Quang Tuan, Theresa Nguyen Ngoc Giang Thu, Dominico Le Ngoc Son, Mary Camilleri, Richard & Connie Curmi, Iro & Jessie Vella, Angela Chircop, Peter Disco, Wayne Camilleri, Bartolo family, Brincat & Galea family, Maria Vu Thi Yeu Thuong, Duong Family, Do Family, Vincent Duong Kham Su, Michael Alphonsus Schiller, Mollie Rice (Marie), 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 Wurundjeri people as the traditional custodians of the land on which we reside and worship.

VOCATION VIEW

Why is it that we lack real trust when the Lord calls us? We think we may drown, or have to give up too much, or fear failure. These attitudes can help to strengthen our faith in the Lord.

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