



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



THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER, YEAR B

13 & 14 APRIL 2024

REDEMPTORIST COMMUNITY

Parish Priest & Mission Leader

Fr Vincent Long Pham, CSsR

Assistants

Fr Joseph Xuan Hieu Nguyen, CSsR

Fr Dominic Carrigan, CSsR

Fr Robin Lomangkok, 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

Fr Stephen Battal

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

SOCIAL OFFICE/(JP SERVICE)

Contact: Son Nguyen

Phone 9366 1310

Friday 10:00am-3:00pm.

FOODBANK open Fridays
10.30am until 2.00pm. More details call Charlie 03 9366 1310.

RCIA: Please contact Br. Anthony Gatt on 0419 115 692 or call the Parish Office for more details.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Preca Centre, 29 Rosslare Parade,
St Albans – Ph: 9356 0734

between 7pm-8pm

Email: stalban@preca.org.au

THE LIVING WORD

First Reading: Acts 3:13-15,17-19

Peter said to the people: 'You are Israelites, and it is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our ancestors, who has glorified his servant Jesus, the same Jesus you handed over and then disowned in the presence of Pilate after Pilate had decided to release him. It was you who accused the Holy One, the Just One, you who demanded the reprieve of a murderer while you killed the prince of life. God, however, raised him from the dead, and to that fact we are the witnesses. Now I know, brothers, that neither you nor your leaders had any idea what you were really doing; this was the way God carried out what he had foretold, when he said through all his prophets that his Christ would suffer. Now you must repent and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps.4:2,4,7,9

Lord, let your face shine on us.

When I call, answer me, O God of justice;
from anguish you released me, have mercy and hear me!

Lord, let your face shine on us.

It is the Lord who grants favours to those whom he loves;
the Lord hears me whenever I call him.

Lord, let your face shine on us.

'What can bring us happiness?' many say.
Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.

Lord, let your face shine on us.

I will lie down in peace and sleep comes at once
for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

Lord, let your face shine on us.

Second Reading: 1 John 2:1-5

I am writing this, my children, to stop you sinning; but if anyone should sin, we have our advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, who is just; he is the sacrifice that takes our sins away, and not only

ours, but the whole world's. We can be sure that we know God only by keeping his commandments. Anyone who says, 'I know him', and does not keep his commandments, is a liar, refusing to admit the truth. But when anyone does obey what he has said, God's love comes to perfection in him.

Gospel Acclamation of Luke 24:32

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us: make our hearts burn with love when you speak.

Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 24:35-48

It is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead

The disciples told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread. They were still talking about all this when Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you!' In a state of alarm and fright, they thought they were seeing a ghost. But he said, 'Why are you so agitated, and why are these doubts rising in your hearts? Look at my hands and feet; yes, it is I indeed. Touch me and see for yourselves; a ghost has no flesh and bones as you can see I have.' And as he said this he showed them his hands and feet. Their joy was so great that they still could not believe it, and they stood there dumbfounded; so he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' And they offered him a piece of grilled fish, which he took and ate before their eyes. Then he told them, 'This is what I meant when I said, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets and in the Psalms has to be fulfilled.' He then opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance

for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.’

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Extraordinary things can happen if we open ourselves to the presence of a stranger on the road of life. That is one of the elements in today’s gospel that forms the conclusion to the Emmaus story. When I was a student at Trinity College in Dublin researching Luke’s depiction of women in the Acts of the Apostles, I would often take a detour on my way home to visit the National Gallery of Ireland. Velázquez’ remarkable oil painting, *Kitchen Maid with the Supper at Emmaus* captured and held my attention. The viewer is confronted with a painting within a painting. The kitchen maid pauses from her tasks to listen, through the space between kitchen and dining area, to the conversation between Jesus and his table companions. Jesus’ hosts have not yet recognised the companion they had encountered on the road from Jerusalem. Velázquez seems to be suggesting that the young servant woman in the foreground, a woman from another place and another time, has sensed what they have yet to discover. Like the servant woman, we might attend to this graced encounter, its prelude and its aftermath.

Imagine two dejected disciples (Cleopas and possibly his wife) on the road from Jerusalem to their home in Emmaus. On their journey, they encounter Jesus who has been raised. At first, they fail to recognise him. Their sadness at his death has blinded them to what is happening before their very eyes. He engages them in conversation and holds up a metaphorical mirror to their experience of loss and grief. Their hearts “burn” within them as he opens to them the meaning of their sacred scriptures. They invite him to share a meal with them and their eyes are opened: they recognise him in the breaking of the bread. Jesus then disappears from their midst. They cannot contain the joy they have experienced in realising that he is alive.

Cleopas and partner return immediately to Jerusalem to share the good news with the other disciples. All the assembled disciples experience powerfully the presence of Jesus in their midst. They share a meal with him. He opens their minds to understand the scriptures. Everything falls into place. They not only understand Jesus’ death and resurrection in the light of the scriptures. They now know that they will be “clothed with power from on high” to exercise their role as witnesses to this great mystery, and to preach forgiveness to all peoples “beginning from Jerusalem”.

Luke will open his second volume, the Acts of the Apostles, with the story of the risen One sending the disciples to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth. We who remember these events in every Eucharistic celebration are both the recipients and the bearers of that message. If we allow our hearts to “burn” within us, we too may recognise the Risen One “on the road” and become his witnesses to the ends of the earth, engaging and even hosting the “strangers” we meet along the way.

By Sr. Veronica Lawson rsm

NEW VATICAN DOCUMENT OUTLINES ATTACKS ON HUMAN DIGNITY

Being a Christian means defending human dignity and that includes opposing abortion, the death penalty, gender transition surgery, war, sexual abuse and human trafficking, the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith says in a new document.

The declaration, *Dignitas infinita* (‘Infinite Dignity’) gathers what recent popes have said about this ‘fundamental pillar of Christian teaching’ and summarises the novel approach offered by Pope Francis, said Cardinal Víctor Manuel Fernández, dicastery prefect, during a news conference at the Vatican on 8 April, the day the document was released.

The Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith’s document on human dignity highlights Pope Francis’ decade-long insistence that every human being—independent of their circumstances, stage of development or state of sin—possesses infinite and inalienable dignity that must be respected and protected, said the dicastery’s prefect.

In fact, the nearly 25-page document was named a ‘declaration’ in order to emphasise the doctrinal importance of the subject and the pope’s unique thinking, attitude and behaviour toward ‘the sick, those who do wrong, the forgotten’, the cardinal said.

Dignity does not depend on development, otherwise there will be no universally valid reasons to unapologetically defend human rights.

Unfortunately, not everyone is born with or has access to the same possibilities in life ‘and, therefore, it is not true that everyone is accorded the same dignity’ in today’s market-based or individualist ‘model of the success of the strong’, the cardinal said.

Dignity does not depend on development

This is why Pope Francis has repeatedly reinforced ‘the conviction of inalienable dignity’ as being independent of anyone’s circumstance or situation, he said.

For example, those who are ‘slow, less gifted and weaker have infinite value,’ and a child who has been born and one who has just been conceived have the same exact dignity, he said. ‘Their dignity does not depend on development, otherwise there will be no universally valid reasons to unapologetically defend human rights.’

In the document’s opening section, Cardinal Fernández writes, ‘We cannot separate faith from the defence of human dignity, evangelisation from the promotion of a dignified life and spirituality from a commitment to the dignity of every human being.’ He also confirms reports that a declaration on human dignity and bioethical issues—like abortion, euthanasia and surrogacy—was approved by members of the dicastery in mid-2023, explaining that Pope Francis asked the dicastery to make additions to ‘highlight topics closely connected to the theme of dignity, such as poverty, the situation of migrants, violence against women, human trafficking, war and other themes’.

With its five years of preparation, ‘the document before us reflects the gravity and centrality of the theme of dignity in Christian thought,’ says Cardinal Fernández.

No matter the threat—war, poverty, violence against women, abortion, forced migration—the dignity of the human being remains the same.

A declaration on the dignity of every human being

Noting that the Second Vatican Council’s Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World (*Gaudium et Spes*) also listed attacks on human dignity as ranging from abortion and euthanasia to ‘subhuman living conditions’ and ‘degrading working conditions’, the document sets out to draw attention to about a dozen ‘grave violations of human dignity that are particularly relevant’.

It is not an exhaustive list, Cardinal Fernández said at the news conference on 8 April, and each problem is only briefly addressed as ‘each of these themes would require its own entire paper.’ The idea is to show that no matter the threat—war, poverty, violence against women, abortion, forced migration—the dignity of the human being remains the same, he said.

With each topic, he said, it is ‘important to understand the topic in a harmonious way. For example, it is true that there are at least two reasons not to accept gender ideologies,’ reasons that are developed in the document, he said.

‘Instead of helping recognise dignity,’ he said, the ideologies ‘impoverish’ the beauty and reciprocity of sexual difference, and they reflect the temptation to be ‘omnipotent’ and ‘create everything ... as if there was no reality that was given’.

The declaration includes the death penalty among violations of ‘the inalienable dignity of every person, regardless of the circumstances’ and calls for the respect of the dignity of people who are incarcerated.

It also denounces discrimination against people who are ‘imprisoned, tortured and even deprived of the good of life solely because of their sexual orientation’, reaffirming that ‘every person, regardless of sexual orientation, ought to be respected in his or her dignity and treated with consideration, while “every sign of unjust discrimination” is to be carefully avoided, particularly any form of aggression and violence.’

This reflects Jesus’ teaching, ‘Let he who is without sin cast the first stone,’ Cardinal Fernández said at the news conference.

But when the acts of violence or discrimination are explicitly called for by law, then ‘we are facing a big problem,’ he said. Cardinal Fernández said he is horrified when he reads about Catholics praising military governments for creating laws against homosexuals, saying he’s shocked that a Catholic would say such a thing given the Church’s ‘conception about human dignity’.

‘It is certain that we are in favour of decriminalisation—there is no doubt about it,’ he said.

Human life in all its dimensions, both physical and spiritual, is a gift from God. This gift is to be accepted with gratitude and placed at the service of the good.

*Continued in the next Bulletin
By Cindy Wooden and Carol Glatz*

EASTER AT THE VATICAN

After staying home, the night before rather than preside over the Way of the Cross at Rome’s Colosseum, the pope arrived at the basilica in a wheelchair. Although he had to clear his throat several times, he read the entire prepared text of his homily.

‘Easter is a promise that no matter how dark the world may seem and



no matter how heavy the burdens one carries, victory belongs to the Risen Christ and all who believe in him.”

During the Mass, two deacons brought a baptismal font to Pope Francis, and he baptized eight adults: four from Italy, two from South Korea, a man from Japan and a woman from Albania. He also confirmed them and gave them their first Communion.

THE WAY OF THE CROSS

The Statues of the station of the Cross and the pedestals have arrived already. The construction will be on site on May 6th. It will take couple of weeks to install the statues in the right position.



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



Rather than rebuking him, Jesus comes to ‘Thomas’ aid and allows him to put his finger in His side.

“He does not treat Thomas with harshness, and the apostle is deeply moved by this kindness. From a disbeliever, he becomes a believer, and makes the simplest and finest confession of faith: ‘My Lord and my God!’”

Pope Francis said that every believer can relate to ‘Thomas’ story and disbelief. Jesus comes to us too with “heartwarming signs of His mercy” and comforts us “by offering His wounds.”

KEEP HOLY THE SABBATH DAY

Once upon a time, Sunday was a special day, a holy day, a day different from the other six days of the week.... Sunday was set aside to recultivate



the soul’s appreciation for beauty, truth, love, and eternity. The Lord’s Day allows us to bring our souls, our emotions, our senses, our vision, and even our bodies back to God so that God might remember our tattered, broken selves and put our priorities back in order. The Sabbath makes sure we have the time to do what’s really important and be with those we really care about.

THE WAR IN GAZA

“We need to build the pathway out of the endless cycle of violence,” Senator Wong said in a major speech to a security conference at the Australian National University. She noted the “widespread frustration” at the failure on all sides to achieve a

two-state solution in the three decades since Palestinian and Israeli leaders agreed on the objective, adding that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu refused to even engage on the question.

“Recognising a Palestinian state – one that can only exist side by side with a secure Israel – doesn’t just offer the Palestinian people an opportunity to realise their aspirations, It also strengthens the forces for peace.”

BECOMING CATHOLIC - RCIA

RCIA classes will start on the 29th April 2024 and enrollments will stay available till the end of May. If you are interested or know someone who is interested please contact Br Tony - 0419 115 692 or on our email - stalbans@preca.org.au

INFORMATION SESSION FOR THE PERMANENT DIACONATE

ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO SERVE?

The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men, aged between 30 and 60 years, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers.

COME & SEE!

An Information Session about the Permanent Diaconate will be held on **4 May 2024 Saturday**, 10:00 -11.45 am at the Catholic Theological College (CTC), 278 Victorian Parade, East Melbourne.

For more information: The Vocations website for the Archdiocese is available. The links below are a source of addition information.

<https://vocations.melbournecatholic.org/about/what-is-a-vocation/permanent-diaconate>

<https://www.cam1.org.au/permanent-diaconate>

Contact: Office of the Permanent Diaconate (Phone) 03 9412 3357 (Email) diaconate@cam.org.au

CHURCH CLEANING

Week starting 17th April 2024
Group 3 - Lily Disco, Shannon Lindsey, Margaret Bajada, Cathy Bartolo, Wendy Forbes-Perera.

READERS/COMMENTATOR/ COORDINATOR/EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Tues 9:00 AM, 16-04-24

Reader Xuan Duong
Eucharistic Min. Monica Lomen

Wed 9:00 AM, 17-04-24

Reader Carmen Camilleri
Eucharistic Min. Carmen Carmilleri

Thur. 9:00 AM, 18-04-24

Reader Shirley Krizmanic
Eucharistic Min. Shirley Krizmanic

Fri. 9:00 AM, 19-04-24

Reader Helen Maddela
Eucharistic Min. Catherine Bartolo

Sat 5.00 PM, 20-04-24

Lit. Coordinator: Charlie Pace
Commentator: Anthony Naidu
Readers: Carmen Carmilleri
Violeta Montoro
Eucharistic Min. Miriam Vella,
Nanette Micallef-Grimaud
Reno Attard

Sun 8.45 AM, 21-04-24

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

Sun 10:00AM, 21-04-24

Lit. Coordinator: Rita Martin
Commentator: Ed Cablao
Readers: Christine Pedroso
Susan Hollarina
Eucharistic Min. Joh Cablao
Br. Noel Debono
Rita Martin

Sun 6.00PM, 21-04-24

Lit. Coordinator Rod Lalunio
Commentator Lani Laririt
Readers: Xuan Duong
Larnie Mendoza
Eucharistic Min. Rod Lalunio,
Lani Laririt
Xuan Duong

CHOIR GROUPS

Saturday 20th April 2024

- ♦ 5pm – Tavallo Family

Sunday 21st April 2024

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

LET US PRAY FOR

The Sick

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

Death Anniversaries

William & Patricia Norris, Christina Kramar(10yrs), Milan Kramar(6mnths), Joseph Formosa, Grazio(Horace) Camilleri, Maria Nguyen Thi Dao, Hoang Family(Fanxico, Maria, Maria & Teresa) & Nguyen Family(Joseph, Anna & Maria), Nazareno & Josephine Spiteri, Antonio Mifsud, Philip Gauci, Joseph, Frank & John Xerri, Cornelio Maddela, 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, Maria Tran Thi Huong, 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

What could convince someone to turn to God? That God became man and is the sacrifice that takes our sins away. Let us pray - Lord Jesus, make Your word plain to us and set our hearts on fire with love when You speak. Enable us to respond to the call to be witnesses of Your love

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