



HOLY EUCHARIST PARISH

1A Oleander Drive, St Albans South 3021
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FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, YEAR B

27 & 28 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

ANointing MASS



**Anointing Mass is next
Friday the 3rd of May @
9am here at Holy Eucharist
Church.
All are Welcome!**

THE LIVING WORD

First Reading: Acts 9:26-31

Barnabas explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul on his journey

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus. The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm Ps.21(22):26-28,30-32

I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

My vows I will pay before those who fear him.

The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.

They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him.

May their hearts live for ever and ever!

I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord,
all families of the nations worship before him;

They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust.

I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him.

They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come,
declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn:

'These things the Lord has done.'

I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

Second Reading: 1 John 3:18-24

The commandment of faith and love

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

Gospel Acclamation John 15:4-5

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. Alleluia!

Gospel John 15:1-8

I am the vine, you are the branches

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more. You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you. Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away – he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it. It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Again and again, life's experiences teach us that, as members of the Earth community, we cannot make it on our own. We need one another, other living beings, the sun, the soil, the water and everything else that formed from exploding stars in the distant past. The gospel reading reminds us that as baptised Christians we are not just intimately interlinked but that the source of our unity is the Risen Christ. As limbs and leaves and sap of the same vine, we simply cannot survive in isolation.

The vine image picks up one of the most potent biblical images for God's relationship to the people of Israel. It is an image of life and growth, of colour and vibrancy. It holds the promise of a life-sustaining grape harvest that is ultimately transformed into wine, the biblical symbol for joy. God brought Israel "the vine" out of Egypt (Psalm 80:9). For the prophet Isaiah, Israel is also a vineyard planted and nurtured by God (Isa 5:1-7; 27:3). For Jeremiah, Israel is the choice vine "of fully tested stock" planted by God (Jer 2:21).

The Johannine Jesus takes the image further: Jesus is the vine and God is the vine grower. The potency of this image resides in the fact that a vine without branches is inconceivable. It draws us into the mystery of the mutual interchange of life between us and the risen Christ, into the mystery of God. It also invites us to acknowledge our interconnection with the whole of the Earth community, to nurture the wonderful biodiversity of our planet, and to accept the inevitability of pruning if we are to "bear fruit" and "become disciples".

"Pruning" can take various forms. A chance encounter, a sudden inspiration, a word from a friend, an unexpected illness, a confronting story: any

such experience can bring us to our senses and serve as a "pruning" device. The first reading for today recounts the story of Saul of Tarsus who is "pruned" quite dramatically through his encounter with the Risen Christ on the road to Damascus. He is transformed from persecutor to defender of Christ and Christ's followers. Saul "bears much fruit" and becomes a disciple. The Greek-speaking Christian Jews are suspicious, even murderous, when he tries to preach the gospel among them. Peace ensues, however, and the movement takes hold in the regions where Jesus had first preached the gospel. It is worth reflecting on the cultural diversity that characterised earliest Christianity and the tensions that had to be resolved between different language groups or groups of different ethnic origin for the gospel to flourish and bear fruit. John's gospel is written against the backdrop of such "pruning within the early communities. Sometimes the requisite "pruning" is respectfully hearing a point of view that differs from one's own.

By Sr. Veronica Lawson rsm

LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME...



It may be impossible for modern readers to understand how truly shocking Jesus' statement is. Little children had no status in the very status-conscious culture of the Jewish, Greek, and Roman worlds of his day. Children may be loved and valued and dearly cared for, but they had no say in the choices that impacted their lives. Compared to adults of any age, children were powerless.

The disciples had asked Jesus a question that came from their own disputes about who among them was the greatest. They wanted to know who would be the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Jesus begins by telling them that they need to "turn" to become like children or they would not even enter the kingdom of heaven.

In other words, entrance into heaven's kingdom cannot be gained by defeating all opponents or demonstrating personal accomplishment. Those who would enter must make themselves humble by recognizing that, like little children, they are powerless over the

circumstances of their own lives. They are completely dependent on God to provide for them what they need and to protect them from harm. Only with that kind of honest humility and dependence on God can anyone come into His kingdom.

THE STORY OF SAINT JOSEPH THE WORKER



To foster deep devotion to Saint Joseph among Catholics, and in response to the “May Day” celebrations for workers sponsored by Communists, Pope Pius XII instituted the feast of Saint Joseph the Worker in 1955. This feast extends the long relationship between Joseph and the cause of workers in both Catholic faith and devotion. Beginning in the Book of Genesis, the dignity of human work has long been celebrated as a participation in the creative work of God. By work, humankind both fulfills the command found in Genesis to care for the earth (Gn 2:15) and to be productive in their labors. Saint Joseph, the carpenter and foster father of Jesus, is but one example of the holiness of human labor.

Jesus, too, was a carpenter. He learned the trade from Saint Joseph and spent his early adult years working side-by-side in Joseph’s carpentry shop before leaving to pursue his ministry as preacher and healer. In his encyclical *Laborem Exercens*, Pope John Paul II stated: “the Church considers it her task always to call attention to the dignity and rights of those who work, to condemn situations in which that dignity and those rights are violated, and to help to guide [social] changes so as to ensure authentic progress by man and society.”

By Fr. Pat Corbett, CSsR

HOLY EUCHARIST SCHOOL NEWS

OPENING, BLESSING AND NAMING OF OUR NEW BUILDING

You are cordially invited to join us at Holy Eucharist School, for the Blessing, Naming, and Opening of our new building.

This special celebration is scheduled to take place on the Feast of Corpus Christi, Thursday, May 30th, 2024. It is a momentous occasion for our school community, made even more significant as it coincides with our School/Parish Feast Day.

Bishop Martin Ashe and Fr Vincent Pham our Parish Priest will be celebrating Mass in the church at 10:30 am followed by the blessing and opening of the new building. We hope that you can make it!

SACRAMENT PREPARATION - IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY DATE

- ⇒ Communion Family Faith Evening TERM 2: Tuesday 30th April @ 6.30pm
- ⇒ Confirmation Presentation Mass TERM 2: Sunday 5th May @ 10.00am Mass, Blessing with Sponsors
- ⇒ Confirmation and Communion candidates attend the church for the second rite of Reconciliation TERM 2: Thursday 9th May @ 9.45am (after Mass)
- ⇒ Year 6 Confirmation TERM 2: Friday 17th May, Seated by 6.45pm ready to start at 7.00pm
- ⇒ First Eucharist Presentation Mass TERM 2: Sunday 26th May @ 10.00am Mass, (Bring parents)
- ⇒ First Eucharist Reflection Day TERM 2: TBA
- ⇒ Year 4 First Eucharist TERM 2: Sunday 2nd June @ 10.00 am Mass
- ⇒ Reconciliation Family Faith Evening TERM 3: Tuesday 30th July @ 6.30pm
- ⇒ Year 3 Reconciliation TERM 3: Tuesday 27th August @ 6.30pm



CATHOLICARE VICTORIA SUNDAY APPEAL

Next weekend is the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal (previously held during the month of August). As the Catholic Church’s mission in action, CatholicCare Victoria delivers programs and services to support families, children, young people and individuals to help everyone reach their full potential. The services include counselling and mental health services, specialised support for children and teens, refugee and asylum seeker help, pastoral care, support for separating families, social housing and homelessness support. Donations from our parish community help CatholicCare Victoria support the most vulnerable individuals and families in

our community and empower everyone to live life to the full.

Please donate to the Catholic-Care Victoria Sunday Appeal. Your support and generosity will help provide caring and compassionate support for struggling individuals and families in our community.

You can donate using the appeal envelope available in our parish, donate online at www.catholiccarevic.org.au or call (03) 9287 5513 .

MASS COUNT

The Archdiocese of Melbourne conducts Mass count during the month of May. Collectors/ Volunteers and Community Leaders will help with the four week-ends in May been selected for the count, which commences on the 4&5 May 2023 Masses, and all other Sunday in May. Thank you.

PRECA COMMUNITY NEWS



**Celebrating
ST GEORGE PRECA**

Thanksgiving Mass
Followed by refreshments
Friday 3rd May 2024
7:00pm to 8:30pm
Holy Eucharist Parish
1a Oleander Drive
St Albans



DIVINE MASTER
may the whole world follow your gospel

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

CHURCH CLEANING

Week starting 1st May 2024
Group 5 - Xuan Dung Huynh, Phuong Ung, Margaret Bajada, Tran Thi kim Hao, Hong Thuy Trang, Nguyen Thanh Tao.

READERS/COMMENTATOR/ COORDINATOR/EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Tues 9:00 AM, 30-04-24

Reader Xuan Duong
Eucharistic Min. Monica Lomen

Wed 9:00 AM, 01-05-24

Reader Carmen Camilleri
Eucharistic Min. Carmen Carmilleri

Thur. 9:00 AM, 02-05-24

Reader HE School
Eucharistic Min. HE School

Fri. 9:00 AM, 03-05-24

Reader Helen Maddela
Eucharistic Min. Catherine Bartolo

Sat 5.00 PM, 04-05-24

Lit. Coordinator: Charlie Pace
Commentator: Agatha Saliba
Readers: Violeta Montoro
Jinky Monteros
Eucharistic Min. Josephine Cassar
Nanette Micallef-Grimaud
Reno Attard

Sun 8.45 AM, 05-05-24

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

Sun 10:00AM, 05-05-24

Lit. Coordinator: Faati Ierome
Commentator: Christine Pedroso
Readers: Samoan Choir
Samoan Choir
Eucharistic Min. Br. Noel Debono
Rita Martin
Faati Ierome

Sun 6.00PM, 05-05-24

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

CHOIR GROUPS

Saturday 4th May 2024

♦ 5pm – Fernandez Family

Sunday 5th May 2024

- ♦ 8.45am - Charlie Schembri
- ♦ 10.00am - Samoan Choir
- ♦ 6pm - Exxemos Choir

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

Jan Vala, Elizabet & Jan Danicek, Maria Lojdova, 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 Tinh, 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

Who shall come forward to explain the love God has for His people who should be one in faith? We need more faith-filled, prayerful and spirited people to make the Vine and the Branches One again. How about you?

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