



St Patrick's Parish

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Lilydale 3140

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Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Francis Denton

Email: lilydale@cam.org.au

Secretary: Mrs Sharon Jacob

Pastor Emeritus: Fr John Dupuche

Pastoral Worker: Mrs Debbie Edwards

19TH & 20TH September 2020

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year A)

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

My thoughts are not your thoughts.

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,

call to him while he is still near.

Let the wicked man abandon his way,

the evil man his thoughts.

Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him,

to our God who is rich in forgiving;

for my thoughts are not your thoughts,

my ways not your ways - it is the Lord who speaks.

Yes, the heavens are as high above earth

as my ways are above your ways,

my thoughts above your thoughts.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 144:2-3, 8-9, 17-18

R. The Lord is near to all who call him.

I will bless you day after day

and praise your name for ever.

The Lord is great, highly to be praised,

his greatness cannot be measured.

R. The Lord is near to all who call him.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.

How good is the Lord to all,

compassionate to all his creatures.

R. The Lord is near to all who call him.

The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.

He is close to all who call him,

who call on him from their hearts.

R. The Lord is near to all who call him.

Second Reading: Philippians 1:20-24, 27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians
For me to live is Christ.

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life
or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but
then death would bring me something more; but then
again, if living in this body means doing work which is
having good results - I do not know what I should
choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone
and be with Christ, which would be very much the
better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more
urgent need for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be
unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: cf Acts 16:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

Open our hearts, O Lord,

to listen to the words of your Son.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Why are you jealous because I am generous?
Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is
like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers
for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the
workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his
vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw
others standing idle in the market place and said to
them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a
fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and
again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the
same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out
and found more men standing round, and he said to
them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?"
"Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said
to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the
evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff,
"Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting
with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So

those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

General Intercessions

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

All Masses in our Parish Have Now Been Suspended

All Masses suspended until further notice Fr Francis and Fr John will continue to pray for us in their private Masses, and we as a Parish join our prayers to theirs. The Sacrament of Reconciliation can be arranged on request, please phone Sharon on 0448 658 418



PARISH PRAYER LIST

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries:

Sick: Joan Keuken, Angela Del Guidice, Lynne Fleming, Jo Payne, Kim J, Cherie, Izaak, Anne-Maree Sullivan, Jim Reid, Peter & Aurelia Di Ciero, Tony Cunningham, Claudette & Gilbert, Florens, Kate, Tim Lawson, John Hopper, Cassandra, Mary and John Hamilton, Carmel O'Healy, Michelle, Pat Robb, Robert Taylor, Nancy Leonard, Brian Walsh, Michael Paola, Barbara De Vincentiis, Emma, Wayne, Julian Monteiro, Dolly Maher, Salvacion Santos, Ricky, Giovanna Zammit, Michael Jordan, Anne Moroney, Catherine Fields, Sam Lawson, Trish Macpherson, Geoff, Grace Quinlivan, Bianca, , Mary Ovans, Stephen, Gael Holliday, Rob Meridith, Bill Meyer, Cathie & Jose Grima, Rose Roberts, Roman De Angelis, Tedi & Santi, Stephen Wakeham, Joe Di Battista, Gwen Weaver, Stella Martin, Peter Murphy, June, Jenny Goh, Zerda Val, Bill Moxey

Reconciliation By appointment

Anointing of the sick By appointment

Marriages: Please give at least six months' notice.

Baptism: Please contact parish office for details.

Parish office - Please call 0448 658 418

Pastoral worker - Please call 0448 664 731

St Vincent de Paul - If assistance is required please contact 1800 305 330 Mon-Fri 10.00am – 4.00pm

Care group Ann McCann, Debbie Edwards, Sharon Jacob, Contact Parish Office 0448 658 418



We are a child safe Parish

We have recently switched to NBN and having trouble



accessing our office phone message bank. If you need to contact the office please call 0448 658 418

If you would like to join in our next zoom next Sunday 27th September at **NEW TIME 10am** please email the office



lilydale@cam.org.au

This will be a fortnightly zoom gathering.

Link to weekly mass

A reminder that Fr Francis' Sunday Masses are recorded each weekend and are available on St Brigid's You Tube Channel each Sunday morning. Fr Francis records Masses from St Brigid's, St Patrick's and St Aloysius churches. The link is accessible through St Brigid's Healesville's website, <http://www.stbrigidshalesville.cam.org.au/> or by searching St Brigid's Healesville on You Tube, or using the link: <https://bit.ly/StBsHville>

WEEKLY THANKSGIVING

Pledged Amount	\$1404.50
Thanksgiving received	13 th September 2020
Thanksgiving Collection \$	2510.00
Presbytery \$	220.00
Restoration \$	

Bible study group is every Thursday at 4pm. If you would like to join this online zoom please email the office lilydale@cam.org.au



TOMATO SEEDLINGS FOR SALE

Tomato seedlings will be for sale again this year! Please call Mario on 0431 043 643 to place your order. Seedlings are \$2.50 each with proceeds going St Vincent de Paul,

To the People and Clergy of the Archdiocese of Melbourne

Dear friends in Christ,

As we now welcome the beginnings of easing in COVID-19 Restrictions in Victoria, I would like to take this opportunity to write to you, the Clergy and people of our Archdiocese. It is great news that regional Victoria will, from tonight, move into the Third Step of the Roadmap to reopening, which includes our parishes located outside the metropolitan zone. However, we have a long way to go.

The deprivation in sacramental life has been a profound loss for our people. As well as all the other sufferings of the Pandemic, the sense of estrangement from the Eucharist has been a particular struggle for Catholics. The Mass is our primary means of gathering together in faith; it is the source and summit of our Christian life, and its life-giving nourishment and healing is dearly missed.

In the midst of this loss, I am grateful to our Priests and Deacons for continuing to serve the faithful, for sharing a sacramental ministry even under strict conditions, and for being alongside our people and their loved ones in times of death and grief. Thank you for your faithfulness. All of us are anxious to open church doors, but I want to emphasise our need to be creative in the ways we do so, especially with the thousands of children who have been waiting for Sacraments of Initiation. Countless Catholic families are awaiting Baptism, Reconciliation, Holy Communion and Confirmation for their children. Adults, too, have longed to be received into the life of the Church. We shall be exploring possibilities such as outdoor liturgies in parish and school settings to facilitate these crucial events of grace and welcome.

Throughout the pandemic, I have been advocating directly with the Government, reminding authorities continually of our respectful compliance with each stage of restrictions, and seeking a fair consideration in what is permitted. The Catholic community throughout the pandemic has been constructive and positive. We have, and continue to act in a mature way, caring for the safety and vulnerability of Victorians facing great risk. Thankfully the signs of driving down COVID

numbers are looking good at this moment and Catholics join other people of faith in giving thanks for this outcome and working to ensure the steps ahead do not take us backward. Now, it is essential that the Government does not treat faith communities as an afterthought to the opening up of other sectors. Our churches are locations for communities of care and essential service, and must be treated fairly and reasonably.

Practically speaking, I have been in discussion with the Premier to thank him for overturning the restriction on spiritual ministry to the sick and the dying, and have assured him that the Catholic Church is able to manage restrictions (including good hygiene, face coverings, social distancing and density requirements). If pubs and restaurants can open, then places of worship should be open under similar conditions and numbers.

If case numbers track well, I expect we will see larger outdoor gatherings in regional Victoria become possible over the next few weeks, and proportionate opportunities for gathering in metropolitan Melbourne. I am hopeful that this may occur sometime in October, which would be a deeply welcomed improvement on the current Roadmap indications. If we can open our churches, even for outdoor gatherings, then we should open them.

The Deputy Premier and the Multicultural Affairs Minister are conducting discussions this month through the Multifaith Leaders Forum. The Archdiocese will be contributing to these meetings. In addition I will continue to engage with the Premier and Ministers directly on the Church's need for opening doors, carefully and safely.

Be assured of my ongoing closeness in prayer and concern. I have heard your cry, and I am working to bring your voice to the authorities. The Lord has promised he will be with us always; let us place our hope in Him.

With every grace and blessing, I remain,
Yours sincerely in Christ Jesus,

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli
Archbishop of Melbourne



From Debbie's Desk

I moved our 'fire pit' this week. As it is made of bricks and rocks and was standing on concrete, I expected that the only living inhabitants of the whole set up would be the occasional sneaky spider hanging around the top stones, waiting for whatever may happen to wander past for its next meal. I saw one tiny spider. I also found heaps of upset worms living a foot down against the concrete base. Life finds a way! These tiny, fragile creatures can obviously live on the micro-organisms that survive in the dust at the bottom of a rock pile, relying on random rain to make life possible in their desert home. The number of tv soap moments happening in our own backyards each day is stunning, without us even noticing much of the action. My neighbour was jumping up and down with sheer fury last week because a fox had jumped our back fence, and then scaled his fence 'with malice and forethought' to chase his beloved cat. We live in a suburban street, and it was 11.45 in the middle of the day! These David Attenborough moments occur in every 'backyard' around the world, from concrete jungle to lush rain forest, from lava pit to desert and mountain top, from open ocean to puddle, and they do so with very little reference to the control that we think we have. Life survives with our help, but it also survives without it, or in spite of it. By the way, I carefully saved each and every worm, with my whopping gardening gloves making the project potentially lethal to the victims I was saving, and relocated them to the lawn and a new life of freedom in unfamiliar green.

As I did, I was thinking about St Francis of Assisi, who regarded all living things as God's expression of love. St Francis was given the huge mission to 'rebuild' God's church, starting with the local building which lay in ruins at his feet. God's voice spoke to his heart loudly and clearly. Hundreds of years later, his name is now synonymous with care for the poor, care for creation, and respect for all life, the building blocks of maintaining God's Church on Earth. St Francis' example of love for our world encourages us to experience God with awe and with wonder, finding him through all living

things. He is a role model for Pope Francis I, whose pontificate reaches out to the poor and the marginalised with confidence and courage. God literally speaks to us through each spark of life, no matter how tiny or insignificant the living thing he has created may be. We may not recognise all links in the chain of life, but eventually the creature, the plant, the rock formation, or the trickle of water becomes big enough to catch our attention, and if we open our eyes with the perception of St Francis, we too can find God.

Everything works together with such marvellous precision. Our world, nestled in our universe, is a simply stunning place. We need only to stop occasionally to recognise God's artistic touches. We are the stewards of creation, scripture clearly commissioning us to care for God's precious masterpiece, our world. We literally hold the life and death of other living creatures in the palm of our hands. Yet life finds a way, despite our tendency to act foolishly, selfishly and often carelessly in our role of caretaker. Pope Francis invites us all to participate in the Season of Creation, which began on 1st September, and concludes officially on 4th October, the Feast Day of St Francis of Assisi. The Season of Creation is celebrated throughout the Christian world. Catholics joined the movement in 2015, but it actually began in 1989 when the Orthodox Patriarch Dimitrios I proclaimed 1st September as a day of prayer for creation. Together, we pray and act as one to care for our common home, unconcerned about the boundaries of race or creed. Through our common respect and concern for our world, we find what binds us, not what tears us apart.

Social Services Sunday within the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne is our opportunity to give thanks and offer prayer for all who stand with and provide support to those who are marginalised and vulnerable within our communities. We recognise with deep gratitude those working within Catholic Social Services Victoria's 45 member organisations, and the 7,000 staff and 17,000 volunteers who together serve more than 200,000 people in need each year. We also give thanks for all in our parishes who are so often at the forefront of providing practical support and care to those in need within their local communities, and beyond.