



BITE SIZE THOUGHTS

Living the Gospel - Compassion

Jesus' words call us to love our neighbour as ourselves. We are called to treat others as we would like to be treated ourselves. To be able to do this, we need to picture ourselves in their place - experiencing all that they are experiencing; not imposing our own values and circumstances. To see ourselves in the place of another is the key to responding with compassion. The origin of the word 'compassion' means experiencing with. If we are able to truly 'experience with' another person perhaps then we can genuinely recognise and respond to their needs .

Gospel Focus - Love your neighbour as yourself

There is an implicit, or understood, commandment within the command to love your neighbour as yourself. That is, we must first love ourselves. Whilst to say someone 'loves oneself' is used as a criticism of a person who is a bit too vain, that is not what is intended here. If we are to love others as we love ourselves we must first be content and happy with who we are. It is only when we are comfortable with who we are that we are able to reach out to those around us with compassion.

Greg Sunter.

'Let us dream, then, as a single human family, as fellow travellers sharing the same flesh, as children of the same earth which is our common home, each of us bringing the richness of his or her beliefs and convictions, each of us with his or her own voice, brothers and sisters all.'

It's nothing less than God's own dream for us.

Pope Francis' appeal in his encyclical *Fratelli Tutti*.

DUAL COMMAND

Did you notice that Our Lord does not command us to love 'God'? No, we are to love 'the Lord your God', the One who rescued the Jewish people from slavery. The resurrection of Jesus Christ reveals the Lord God as the liberator from the apparent final dominance of death. Loving such a liberator is the natural response. So, 'Love the Lord your God'.

Then Our Lord does not command us to love our neighbour! Rather, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' But who is 'yourself'? In the wonderful storytelling of Genesis, we are told that Adam, an earthen statue, had Divine Breath breathed into the nostrils, creating him as a human being. We earthlings are conceived with the Divine Breath at the core of our being. The challenge for you and for me is to see 'yourself' in that way, and thereafter every human being whose lives we can affect: the neighbour. And in today's global world, the neighbour can be a person in a society geographically or culturally distant. We could pause for a moment to see the true dimensions of God, self and the other, to more easily fulfil the dual command.

Rev Fr Michael Tate.



SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are truly present in the Holy Eucharist. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You are already here and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen .

*Sacrament Most Holy, O Sacrament Most Divine,
All praise and all thanksgiving be every moment thine (3x)*

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION CORNER

"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind." – Mt 22:37

Do you put other "gods" before God? Is your love of money, power, status, comfort or some personal possession greater than your love for God? Do you really recognize that everything you have and that everything you are is a gift from God? The good news – it's not too late to put God first in all things in your life.



JOIN FR TONY'S SUNDAY MASS AT 10:15 AM AND WEEKDAY MASSES AT 12:00 NOON
LIVE STREAMING AND REPLAY AT

CATHOLIC-PARISH-OF GREATER-BOX HILL

(<https://www.facebook.com/GBHparish>)

ON YOUTUBE:

Fr Tony continues to be present for chats, updates, counselling, queries and prayer requests. You can contact him at tony.kerin@cam.org.au or call 9401 6371.

VIETNAMESE SUNDAY MASS AT 5:00 PM

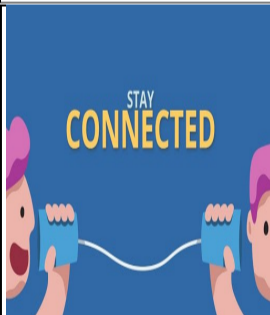
<https://www.facebook.com/sttimvn>

ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL SUNDAY MASS

Live streamed at **St Patrick's YouTube:**

<https://www.youtube.com/user/archmelb>

Mon-Fri: 1pm, Sat: 8am, Sun: 11am



LET US CONTINUE TO REACH OUT TO OUR HOUSEBOUND NEIGHBOURS, FRIENDS & RELATIVES. YOU CAN ALSO DONATE GOODS TO OUR ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY. CALL SVDP (1800 305 330) TO MAKE DONATION ARRANGEMENTS OR THE PARISH OFFICE AND LEAVE A MESSAGE.



Thank you for using St Timothy's Parish Thanksgiving Online Payment Portal and for your continuing support to our parish. Our site link is **Parish Pay Portal**

<https://secure.artezpacific.com/registrant/TeamFundraisingPage.aspx?teamID=116521&langPref=en-CA>

You may also opt to use the direct/debit facility, kindly email or call us for the Parish bank details.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING

Priscilo Nengasea, Merlyn Alwis, Addie Perez, Faye Ibern, Margaret Curtain, Des McCoy, Angelina Viola, Filomena Cigana, Alma Dauksa, Edward Joseph Bevans, Lorraine Oakman, Margie Ratcliff, Mary Julia Morton, Kevin John Pretby, Maria Nguyen Thi Lanh, Rob Donohoe, Gabriele Cigana, Pam Hosking, George Arulanandam, Benjamin Galam.

NEXT WEEK: ALL SAINTS

- ♦ *First Reading: Apoc 7: 2-4, 9-14*
- ♦ *Second Reading: 1 Jn 3: 1-3*
- ♦ *Gospel: Matthew : 5: 1-12*



CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY MASS

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A49A4AE2CA2F85-sttimothy>

We are pleased to inform you that beginning **2 November**, we will resume the celebration of weekday and weekend masses here at St Timothy's Parish.

To comply with the guidelines issued by the state, we will celebrate the Mass **at the portico (outside the Church)** with a maximum of **20 attendees** only.

All health and safety precautionary measures will be strictly enforced such as wearing of fitted face mask, social distancing and registration of contact details. Hand sanitisers will be available at the registration table.

Prior Booking is required via [signupgenius.com](https://www.signupgenius.com)



FEAST OF STS SIMON AND JUDE 28 October

Father, you revealed yourself to us through the preaching of your apostles Simon and Jude. By their prayers, give your Church continued growth and increase the number of those who believe in you. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Catholic Theological College
2020 KNOX PUBLIC LECTURE
Thursday 5th November at 7.00pm

Sheree Limbrick

Safe Church: Commitment,

awareness & action for cultural change



Bookings and Info: ctc.edu.au/knox-public-lecture
Enq: sarah.styring@ctc.edu.au or Phone 9412 3333
Venue: online



PRAYER TO ST JOSEPH

St Joseph, You were receptive to God working in your life. Help us by your prayers at this time of trial. You kept Jesus and Mary under your watchful care: may your prayers assist our local Church to respond to those in need. You taught the Christ Child your trade and prayers: help us to follow his example of love. You were part of God's plan for all humanity: assist us to be vigilant and responsible this day. You spent your life in service: may we be mindful of others, particularly the elderly and vulnerable, caring for them in these difficult days. You trusted in the clear primacy of God over all history and every situation: help us to grow in faith and pray to the Father, Thy will be done. Amen.



PEOPLE OF FAITH DESERVE HOPE, NOT EXILE: ARCHBISHOP COMENSOLI

Sunday was not a great day for people of faith in Victoria, but it should have been.

In announcing the next step of Victoria's COVID-19 road map, the government eased some restrictions. People were ready for glimmers of hope, but there was not much hope offered to people of faith.

We weren't expecting a great opening up of every sector. However, it was noticeable that additions to step two restrictions allowed for a return to pet groomers, swimming pools and locations 25km from your home, but no return to your place of worship in any meaningful sense.

Presently, in step two of the COVID-19 road map, Melbourne's doors of faith are closed. Churches, synagogues, temples and mosques are shut, pending a government announcement that they can open again. These are not places of mere formality, but of lively and attentive care to vulnerable people, and of support to those facing sickness, loneliness, grief and death. They are places of hope and wellbeing, and of spiritual friendship.

Sadly, what is worse is that when we look ahead to step three there is very little for faith communities. Parity with other sectors seems denied even when we reach COVID-normal. The spectre of our places of worship remaining closed except for "private prayer" leaves our people feeling exiled and pushed outside.

And frankly, given our weather sometimes, Victorian people of faith aren't too pleased at being forced to stand outside the doors of their sacred places to celebrate the most important dimensions of their fundamental beliefs and commitments.

If they are gathering outside in the wind and rain, looking over at their locked doors, it's pretty hard to explain why the doors of the cafe across the road are invitingly open.

People of faith have joined in the common work of co-operation with COVID restrictions at every stage this year. We've proven ourselves to be fair-minded and civil, patient and prepared.

We've worked closely with the health department, local police, government authorities and other faith leaders to be safe and responsible. We have been publicly recognised for these efforts.

Churches may not be licensed premises, but they are highly regulated spaces, especially during times of worship.

It is now seven months since people of faith have been able to gather together in prayer. Like every other sector

of life, this has had a major impact on the wellbeing of a very large sector of our community. For many of those who are affected, this is one of their principal opportunities for social interaction and personal activity. Why would pool water shared by 30 swimmers at a time be considered safer than baptism water poured over one infant child?

Why would sitting down without a mask and socialising informally with up to 40 strangers inside an eatery be considered less risky than the formalised, masked and appropriately spaced gathering of a faith community? Why would public health advisers tell the government that religious worship is an inherently higher risk than other sectors?

It is a relief for all of us that our places of sporting, hospitality and community gathering are being allowed to open. It is just that none of this passes the pub test (literally!) when it comes to places of worship remaining closed.

I have been inundated with calls for accountability on the COVID road map and of answers to obvious questions. Profoundly, some of the loudest voices in my own archdiocese have been from our young people. While our elderly and more isolated parishioners have suffered from being closed out of their churches, young people have been speaking on their behalf, concerned for their wellbeing, requesting that the government show us a measure of fairness and equality in each step of restrictions.

Our young people and young priests are looking to the future, and they can see that closing off churches is cutting off a source of spiritual care that cannot be overlooked, and of social and mental health supports that nobody else can provide.

For us, prayer with others is essential. It is a powerful help in our troubles that has nothing comparable in the secular and medical parallels of a visit to the doctor, however important that is.

If there really is health advice suggesting places of worship are inherently riskier, I respectfully request to see it.

If there is data that backs up the suspicion being thrown on communities of faith in this pandemic, I am only too pleased to sit down and talk it through with experts. We can manage all the steps required to be COVID-safe. The quiet and patient prayers and hopes of people of faith have been constant this year.

But now they deserve the opportunity to step forward hopefully.

'NEVER BEEN A MORE EXCITING TIME' TO BE A MISSIONARY

The provincial of the Divine Word Missionaries AUS Province, which covers Australia, New Zealand, Thailand and Myanmar, says there's never been a more exciting time to be engaged in mission.

"With the Plenary Council preparations and discernment underway it's a good time to really explore the Plenary Council theme of being a Christ-Centred Church that is Missionary and Evangelising," says Fr Asaeli Rass SVD.

"We, as an order of missionaries, are really engaging in that and responding to it."

The Divine Word Missionaries is one of the world's 10 largest missionary religious congregations for men, with 6,000 members serving in 80 countries. They are celebrating their 100th anniversary in Australia this year.

POPE HONOURS SOUTH AUSTRALIANS

Pope Francis has appointed two Adelaide parishioners, Bill Griffiths and Greg Crafter, as Knights of the Order of St Gregory the Great.

Announcing the awards, Adelaide Archbishop Patrick O'Regan said the Order of St Gregory the Great was one of the highest awards for lay people, bestowed on Catholic men and women deemed to have made a significant contribution to the Church.

"These two men are most worthy recipients of this high honour with their outstanding service to the community over many years," Archbishop O'Regan said.

Dr Griffiths, a secondary school teacher, was a member of the early South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools. A lawyer before entering State Parliament, Mr Crafter served as chair of the National Catholic Education Commission and is actively involved in his local parish and the Adelaide Archdiocese.

INTRODUCTION:

“You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.” Jesus did not make up these rules but were embedded in his Jewish law and traditions. Jesus lived in it—through his personal testimony of his own unconditional love of God and neighbour and the revelation that in him the infinite love of God has taken flesh and dwelt amongst us. To follow Jesus’ testimony and observe the dual command, our love and care must embrace the whole creation: human beings and nature.

PENITENTIAL RITE:

Lord Jesus, you are the model for all believers.	Lord, have mercy: Lord, have mercy.
Christ Jesus, you hear the cries of the poor.	Christ, have mercy: Christ, have mercy.
Lord Jesus, you command us to love God and each other.	Lord, have mercy: Lord, have mercy.

FIRST READING: Exodus 22: 20-26

The Lord said to Moses, “Tell the sons of Israel this, “You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

“If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

“If you take another’s cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity.”

RESPONSORIAL PSALM : Ps 17:2-4, 47, 51**RESPONSE: I love you, Lord, my strength.**

1. I love you, Lord, my strength, my rock, my fortress, my saviour. My God is the rock where I take refuge; my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold. The Lord is worthy of all praise: when I call I am saved from my foes. (R.)

2. Long life to the Lord, my rock! Praised be the God who saves me. He has given great victories to his king and shown his love for his anointed. (R.)

SECOND READING: 1 Thess 1: 5-10

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**Alleluia, Alleluia!**

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them
and we will come to them. **Alleluia!**

GOSPEL : Mt 22: 34–40

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, ‘Master, which is the greatest commandment of the law?’ Jesus said, ‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.’