

## ST. TIMOTHY'S PARISH NEWS

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## ALL SAINTS - YEAR A

31 OCTOBER - 01 NOVEMBER 2020

PARISH PRIEST / ADMINISTRATOR: FR. TONY KERIN EV

SECRETARIES: MILLICENT (TUESDAY: 9AM-4PM, FRIDAY: 1-5PM),

CORRIE (WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY: 9AM-3PM)



### THE SAINTS (not AFL St Kilda)

Catholics are a curious group. More than any other Christian believers, they have a culture filled with saints. They name their children after saints, they invoke them in their speech, and they have holidays for them.

Yet, if asked, any given Catholic is not likely to sign up for sainthood. After all, in spite of their presence in Catholic culture, saints are a little suspicious. How could a 'real' person who enjoys the pleasure of food or drink, or whose life is marked by excesses be a saint? No, thanks. Sainthood requires works of charity, continuous prayer, and a generally austere life. We will leave sainthood for the spinsters and timid or feeble minded, whose vocation is akin to being a doormat. Or maybe to the wild-eyed prophet who rebukes society for its excesses, and whose ascetic life justifies his self righteousness.

Of course, it's possible that our suspicions about saintliness are wrong. Perhaps the saints are actually people who have the most fun and are what we all long to be. Maybe they just know something we don't.

In his book, *A Third Testament*, 20th-century journalist Malcolm Muggeridge calls saints "God's spies." The saints are on a mission to 'relate their time to eternity.'

This has to be done every so often, otherwise, when the lure of self-sufficiency proves too strong, or despair too overwhelming, we forget that we need to be called back to God to rediscover humility, and with it hope- there will always be a need for a bridge and a prophetic voice calling on us to cross it. If we let them, the saints will use their voices to call us. But we need to get to know them, in order to understand the joy that they embraced.

One of the first places to become acquainted with the saints is in Scripture. The stories of the Old Testament are stories of God speaking to individuals and how those individuals respond to God. It is one of the best places to lose the notion that the saints are just goody-goody. Jonah running away from God's leading, or Balaam beating his donkey, or David turning from God to adultery and murder are not stories of sweetness and light.

Yet when God called these people to Himself, they believed in His love and mercy, named their sins, and repented. Saints aren't people who don't sin; they are people who believe in God's forgiveness.

Well, good for them, but what does this all have to do with us? The Church teaches we can have communion with these saints, who, unlike us, contemplate "in full light, God himself exactly as he is." (CCC 954). We may not understand God's will or how to pray. But the saints do, and, just as we ask our friends and family on earth to pray for us, we can ask those in glory to pray for us too.

The 'example of their lives, the transmission of their writings, and their prayer today': these are the gifts the saints can give us. Knowing their life stories can show us that our difficulties are not unknown to God and not impossible to overcome.

*Pamela Pettibone, Diocesan, 2019.*



### 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

"Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you (falsely) because of me." - Matthew 5:11

We are all at different points on the path to holiness, on getting to Heaven and becoming a saint. Part of the journey is being mocked and ridiculed by others. When this happens, how do you respond? Do you become silent? Do you react in anger or do you react with love? Fortunately, as one Body of Christ, we are united with the saints already in Heaven. Ask your favorite saint for guidance in defending the Faith.



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:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCF7pNUOT1tfuoz6Fu3VwPvg>

Fr Tony continues to be present for chats, updates, counselling, queries and prayer requests. You can contact him at [tony.kerin@cam.org.au](mailto: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

## VERMONT CHILDREN'S CENTRE

AT ST TIMOTHY'S SCHOOL GROUND

- 6 weeks to 5 years old includes
- 3 and 4 Year Old Kinder

A FUNDED KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM AVAILABLE

Expressions of interest are being taken. Please call: Celine on (03) 98075208 or email at [info@vermontchildcare.com.au](mailto:info@vermontchildcare.com.au)

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Kevin Joseph Carroll, Thecla Flor, Francesco Boccaccio, Maria Casano, John Hicks, Eloide Leonardi, Vita Boccaccio, Catherine Choy, Felice Boccaccio, Laura Ciritelli, Cameron Coney, Dullantha Wilarachchi, Maurice Michael, Edgar Francis Fernandes, Paul Curry, Frank Stewart Wattie, Anna Boccaccio, Stan Brown, Antonio Villani, Yin-Foong Kong.

*'Bury my body wherever you will, only one thing I ask, remember me at the altar of the Lord.'*

- St Monica +387AD

## NEXT WEEK: 32ND SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

- First Reading: Wisdom 6:12-16
- Second Reading: 1 Thess 4: 13-18
- Gospel: Matthew 25: 1-13



LATEST UPDATE

## CELEBRATION OF HOLY MASS

Due to the latest update on Covid-19 for parishes, we are happy to inform you that we will commence holding Mass services from Saturday, 31 October at 6PM in the Portico. Only 20 people are allowed to attend the Mass and all health and safety precautionary measures will be strictly enforced. Online booking will be at [sign up genius.com](https://sign-up-genius.com). Sunday mass is now at 9:00 AM and all other mass times remain the same.



*Blessed by God for 90 years*

This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it. ~ Psalm 118:24



*Happy Birthday*  
SISTER BETTY MCMANUS

May the Lord Jesus shine His light on you as He showers you with blessings and grace to take you throughout the year.



## FEASTS OF THE WEEK

- 2 November - All Souls' Day
- 3 November - St Martin de Porres
- 4 November - St Charles Borromeo

## CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE VIRTUAL OPEN DAY

Whether you are interested in learning more about your faith, have a desire to study and research, wish to pursue a career in ministry or pastoral areas or need to gain qualifications to assist your current teaching or ministry position, you will find something at CTC to meet your needs. Book here: <https://ctc.edu.au/catholic-theological-college/news-and-events/open-days/>



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.

## 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.



## **POPE: WORLD NEEDS MARY'S MOTHERLY GUIDANCE**

The Church needs to rediscover its maternal heart and the world needs Mary's motherly guidance so it can become a place where everyone is welcomed as brothers and sisters, Pope Francis said at the weekend.

"We need maternity, those who generate and regenerate life with tenderness, because only giving, caring and sharing hold the human family together," he said during an audience on Saturday with professors and students of the Marianum, a pontifical institute for the study of Mariology in Rome.

A world without mothers has no future, he said. "Earnings and profits by themselves do not offer a future, rather sometimes they increase inequality and injustice. Mothers instead make every child feel at home and give hope."

Pope Francis reminded the staff of the institute that they should be open to opportunities for collaboration with other institutes.

"Mary is a mother who teaches the art of encounter and walking together," he said. "And, so, it is wonderful that, like in a big family, different theological and spiritual traditions merge at the Marianum, which contributes to ecumenical and interreligious dialogue."

It is important that Mariology also pays attention to, promotes and "sometimes purifies" popular devotions to Mary, he added.

## **NOT SEEKING SPECIAL TREATMENT, SIMPLY PARITY**

As our city slowly begins to re-open and rebuild, we are all breathing a sigh of relief at the lower case numbers, the chance to visit loved ones and to gather once more at our places of worship.

However, there remains a distinct lack of parity for faith communities. From 8 November, cafes and pubs can host up to 40 patrons inside while the limit for places of worship—which are often big enough to host double the capacity of a cafe—remains capped at 20. We invite you to contact your local MPs and speak out on this continued lack of parity.

Here are some ways you can exercise your voice on behalf of God's people in the public square. As with any such 'raising of the voice', we do so prudently, never attacking individuals or using language of anger or aggression, but showing boldness and conviction about what is ultimately reasonable and fair.

- Call your local State Member of Parliament
- Encourage your people to call their local Member
- Follow up a call with a letter to your local Member of Parliament
- Use this letter template as a helpful guide for you and your parishioners.
- Personalising letters or hand writing them is always encouraged

As we move through this time let us continue to pray for all those affected and entrust our city to the care of St Joseph, our Great Protector.

To find your local Member of Parliament, <https://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/about/electorates>. When using the link to find your local Member, simply enter your postcode on the website and then click on the link for 'Find Member'. There you will see the relevant email address to add to your letter.

## **SUNDAY MASS OBLIGATION REINSTATED IN TASMANIA**

The practice of the Catholic faith in Tasmania has largely returned to normal with the reinstatement of the obligation to attend Sunday Mass. Source: Hobart Archdiocese.

Archbishop Julian Porteous issued a decree on Friday rescinding a previous decree issued in March that meant Catholics were not obligated to attend Mass on Sundays due to COVID-19 restrictions. Friday's decree rescinding the March decree and dispensation from Sunday Mass obligation came into effect on Sunday.

As restrictions have lessened, most parishes in Tasmania have returned to almost-normal Mass practices, with COVID-safe measures still in place.

Archbishop Porteous said the opening of Tasmania's borders, and the further easing of restrictions, was an indication that Tasmania – and the practise of the faith – was returning to normal.

"The decision by the Government to open the borders has marked a significant development in terms of restrictions on public gatherings ...so it is an appropriate time to rescind the decree that came into place on the 19th of March, when, because of Government regulations, we were required to close our churches," Archbishop Porteous said

He noted that Masses will continue to be celebrated in line with Government directions around COVID.

"In parishes where it is not possible to accommodate all parishioners at a Sunday Mass because of restrictions on numbers in the church, the parish priest can seek a dispensation from the Archbishop for those who attend a weekday Mass in place of the Sunday Mass," the decree reads.

## **CARDINAL URGES AUSTRALIANS TO PRAY FOR CATHOLICS IN CHINA**

Cardinal Joseph Zen has urged Australian Catholics to pray for Catholics in China enduring a "terrible situation" as a controversial Vatican-China agreement is renewed for two years.

In an exclusive interview by email the 88-year-old former archbishop of Hong Kong who has been an outspoken critic of the agreement said that Catholics in China cannot speak for themselves without "great danger" and need Catholics in other countries, including Pope Francis, to speak on their behalf.

Because the details of the agreement on the appointment of bishops have been kept secret it can only be judged on its effects so far, which are "very bad", Cardinal Zen said.

He said the agreement allowed "opportunist" bishops to infiltrate the Catholic Church in China, risking making it largely an instrument of state policy.

The agreement also "did not stop the [Chinese Communist Party] from persecuting the Church, for example they forbid minors under 18 from entering churches and participating in any religious activity," he explained.

The Cardinal urged Catholics in Australia to look for good information on the situation of churches in China. "Your conscience and your prayer may help you to discern," he said.

## **INTRODUCTION:**

The Beatitudes are not 'rules' for life as the Commandments are. They are more in line as 'positive reinforcement'. They celebrate those who respond to God's call through particular attitudes towards life and towards others. They are images to inspire imitation. Those who live with these attitudes in this life are to be celebrated – 'Happy are you' – for they will be saints. They will be welcomed into communion with God in heaven. By praising and honouring the attitudes of the Kingdom, Jesus paints a picture of what life could be and should be like if we choose to live in the Kingdom of God. –(Greg Sunter)

## **PENITENTIAL RITE:**

Lord Jesus, you bless the poor and the humble.

Lord, have mercy: **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ Jesus, you are our saviour and brother.

Christ, have mercy: **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you gather people from every nation around your throne.

Lord, have mercy: **Lord, have mercy.**

## **FIRST READING: *Apocalypse 7: 2-4, 9-14***

I, John, saw another angel rising where the sun rises, carrying the seal of the living God; he called in a powerful voice to the four angels whose duty was to devastate land and sea, 'Wait before you do any damage on land or at sea or to the trees, until we have put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.' Then I heard how many were sealed: a hundred and forty-four thousand, out of all the tribes of Israel.

After that I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. They shouted aloud, 'Victory to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels who were standing in a circle round the throne, surrounding the elders and the four animals, prostrated themselves before the throne, and touched the ground with their foreheads, worshipping God with these words, 'Amen. Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and strength to our God for ever and ever. Amen.'

One of the elders then spoke, and asked me, 'Do you know who these people are, dressed in white robes, and where they have come from?' I answered him, 'You can tell me, my Lord.' Then he said, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb.'

## **RESPONSORIAL PSALM : *Ps 23: 1-6***

**RESPONSE: Lord, this is the people who longs to see your face.**

1. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness, the world and all its peoples. It is he who set it on the seas; on the waters he made it firm. (R.)

2. Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord? Who shall stand in his holy place? The man with clean hands and pure heart, who desires not worthless things. (R.)

3. He shall receive blessings from the Lord and reward from the God who saves him. Such are the men who seek him, seek the face of the God of Jacob. (R.)

## **SECOND READING: *1 John 3: 1-3***

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is. Surely everyone who entertains this hope must purify himself, must try to be as pure as Christ.

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Come to me all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord. **Alleluia!**

## **GOSPEL : *Mt 5: 1-12***

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'