

ST. TIMOTHY'S PARISH NEWS

17-23 Stevens Road, Vermont, VIC 3133

Phone: (03) 9412 8499

Email: foresthill@cam.org.au

Website: www.sttimothys.org.au

32ND SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

09-10 NOVEMBER 2019

Parish Priest / Administrator: Fr. Tony Kerin EV

Secretaries: Millicent (Tuesday: 9am-4pm, Friday: 1pm-5pm)

Corrie (Wed-Thurs, 9am - 3pm)



RESURRECTION STORY

Today's Gospel focuses on those nagging questions that plague us all from time to time. What will heaven be like? What will happen to me in the resurrection of the body? While these are interesting enough questions on which to speculate and pray, this story from Dan McAuley reminds us that resurrection and a taste of heaven are often closer than we think.

‘One day when I was in my early years of High School I noticed this boy from my class walking home from school. His name was Kyle. It looked like he was carrying all of his books. "Why would anyone bring home all his books on a Friday? He must really be a nerd." I had quite a weekend, so I shrugged my shoulders and went on. As I was walking, I saw a bunch of kids running toward him. They knocked all his books out of his arms and tripped him. His glasses went flying. He looked up and I saw this terrible sadness in his eyes. My heart went out to him. I jogged over to him as he crawled around looking for his glasses, and I saw a tear in his eye.

‘As I handed him his glasses, I said, "Those guys are jerks. They really should get lives." He looked at me and just said, "Thanks!" There was a big smile on his face. It was one of those smiles that showed real gratitude. I helped him pick up his books, and asked him where he lived. He lived near me, so I asked him why I had never seen him before. He said he went to another school before now. He turned out to be a pretty cool guy. I asked him if he wanted to play football on Saturday with me and my friends. We hung out all weekend and the more I got to know Kyle, the more I liked him, and my friends thought the same.

‘Monday morning came, and there was Kyle with the huge stack of books again. I stopped him and said, "Boy, you are going to really build some serious muscles with this pile of books every day!" He just laughed and handed me half the books. Over the next four years, Kyle and I became best friends. When we were in our last year of school we began to think about university. Kyle wanted to study overseas, I was going to stay at home. I knew wherever we were that we would always be friends, that the miles would never be a problem.

‘Kyle topped our class at school. I teased him all the time about being a nerd. He prepared a speech for graduation. When he took the microphone he looked great. He was one of those guys that really found himself during high school. He filled out and actually looked good in glasses. He had more dates than I had and all the girls loved him. Sometimes I was jealous.

‘Today was one of those days. I could see that he was nervous about his speech. So, I smacked him on the back and said, "Hey, big guy, you'll be great!" He looked at me with one of those looks and smiled. "Thanks," he said. He started his speech. "Graduating from school is a time when you can thank those who helped you make it through the tough years. Your parents, your teachers, your siblings, maybe a coach, but mostly your friends. I am here to tell all of you that being a friend to another person can save someone from hell. Let me tell you a story."

‘I just looked at my friend with disbelief as he told the story of the first day we met. He had planned to kill himself over the weekend. He talked of how he had cleaned out his locker so his mother wouldn't have to do it later and was carrying all his stuff home. He looked hard at me and gave me a little smile. "Thankfully, my friend saved me from doing the unspeakable. I looked at hell, but the kindness of a friend showed me heaven. And he didn't even know it and I haven't looked back since."

If we want to know what heaven or the resurrection is like, then Jesus says, go and do likewise.

Richard Leonard SJ is the Director of the Australian Catholic Office for Film and Broadcasting, is a member of the Australian Catholic Media Council and a film critic for all the major Australian Catholic newspapers

NEW ENROLMENT POLICY FOR EMMAUS COLLEGE – EFFECTIVE FOR YEAR 7 2022

Emmaus College has amended its Enrolment Policy after consultation with its Canonical Administrators, Regional Primary Principals and Catholic Education Melbourne and as approved by the Archbishop of Melbourne. The amendment will take effect for the Year 7 enrolment period of 2022 and beyond.

The major change to enrolment policy is that Non-Catholic children residing in a priority parish and attending a Catholic school will now be considered ahead of Catholic children residing in a priority parish and attending a government or independent school.

This decision has been made to support the communities of our Catholic feeder primary schools and parishes.

Please note that due to long term high enrolment demand at Emmaus College, not all categories in the amended Emmaus Enrolment Policy can be guaranteed an enrolment at Emmaus.

FEASTS OF THE WEEK

- 11 NOVEMBER - ST MARTIN OF TOURS
- 12 NOVEMBER - ST JOSAPHAT



**LOURDES DAY MASS
SATURDAY 7 DECEMBER, 10.30AM
ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL**

A blessing of the sick will follow the celebration of the Liturgy with water brought from the spring at the Shrine of Lourdes.

On this occasion we celebrate Our Lady's appearance to a young girl, Bernadette, in 1858 in Lourdes, France. Through a set of private revelations, Mary revealed herself as 'the Immaculate Conception'. This is an occasion to come together in prayer with those who are sick, infirm or elderly and their carers. Each Mass participant will receive a gift pack containing a small bottle of Lourdes water (sourced from the Grotto), rosary beads and prayer materials. Individual blessings are available after Mass.



THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES AND QUARTERLY STATEMENT

are now available at the Church Foyer. For those who would like to participate in our Thanksgiving program especially the new parishioners, please contact the Parish Office. Thank you.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION CORNER

"May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us everlasting encouragement and good hope through his grace, encourage your hearts and strengthen them in every good deed and word." (2 Thessalonians 2:16-17)

There are two important lessons here. First, we are called to be generous with our encouragement and hope. As God shows us mercy, we must be merciful to others. Second, joy is contagious! The joy we receive from doing good works not only strengthens us, it encourages others as well. Share the joy of living your faith whenever you can.

ROSTERS:	6:00PM	9:30AM
EUCHARIST MINISTERS		
◆ This Week	S. Chen C. Buchan	L. Cigana D. Hickman P. Kawalevski
◆ Next week	H. Grealy P. Naughtin	
PROCLAIMERS		
◆ This Week	C: P. Kelly P: H. Lobo	B. Ross P. O' Reilly
◆ Next week	C: R. Grealy P: P. D' Cruz	T. Yee R. Yee
COUNTERS		
This Week: Terry Drew / Patrick Kelly		
Next Week: Peggy D' Cruz / Kenneth D' Cruz		



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:
Carl Ferguson, Dulce Kelly, Teresa Shiels, Edgar Fernandes, Bertie Fernandes, Daniel Curtain, Bruce Gemmell, Maria Casano, Minetta Boccacci, Eloide Leonardi, Vita Boccacci, Angelo Isola, Jean Nancy Holgate, Paul Lazzari, Peggy Battle, Pat Howe, Cecilio Abadilla, Francis Fernandes.

SACRAMENTS: Contact Parish office for Enquiries & Arrangement

- ◆ **Baptism:** 1st Sunday of the Month (9:30 AM Mass)
- ◆ **Reconciliation**
- ◆ **Marriage**
- ◆ **Anointing of the Sick**
- ◆ **Funerals**



2019 FIRST EUCHARIST, RECONCILIATION & CONFIRMATION

- ◆ For children attending St. Timothy's school, preparation for these three sacraments is through the school.
- ◆ For children not attending St. Timothy's school, preparation and enrollment is through the Parish Office every Tuesday-Thursday: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM and Friday: 1:00 to 5:00 PM

MASS TIMES:

- ◆ Saturday: 6:00 PM
 - ◆ Sunday: 9:30 AM
 - ◆ Indian Mass: 12:00 NN every 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month
 - ◆ Mass in Vietnamese : 5:00 PM (All Sundays)
 - ◆ Adoration 7:30 PM every 1st Friday of the month
- VIETNAMESE ENQUIRIES: AHN LOC 0434 239 212 or ANH TOAN 0422 295 115.**

WEEKDAYS:

- ◆ 2nd Tuesday of the month, 10:30am (Strathdon)
- ◆ 4th Tuesday of the month, 10:30 am (Livingstone)
- ◆ Wednesday & Thursday, 9:15 am
- ◆ 1st Wednesday of the month, 10:00 am, Anointing Mass
- ◆ Every Friday, 10:00 am





DIALOGUE AND RECONCILIATION IN THE NEAR EAST

Words make a difference. Pope Francis' intention for November asks for reconciliation in the Near East. Iraq, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Syria, and Egypt are to the East of Rome and are close to Italy. That is why they are referred to as the Near East.

For Australians, these nations are not near. We are not immediately affected by what happens there. Although we send soldiers and arms to support military adventures there, their wars are not our wars. When Pope Francis invites us to allow the people of the Middle East and their predicaments to touch us and to enter our prayers, he wants us to expand our minds and hearts to receive people and places distant from us. When seen against the scale of this intense conflict Pope Francis' prayer for a spirit of dialogue, encounter and reconciliation may seem Utopian. He urges us to pray for the seemingly unachievable. But those killed and displaced by conflict need the support of our prayers, as do the ordinary people who long for peace and reconciliation.

The Pope urges us to pray that people will share their life together. He evokes the Christian vision of society in which we are first of all human beings who depend on one another and whose happiness and prosperity are built by trusting and generous relationships.

Prayer can help build bridges. The story of Abraham and respect for Jesus and Mary are shared by Jews, Christians and Muslims, as is generosity to the poor and stranger.

The path to healing and reconciliation must begin in praying for one another and for the healing of broken relationships. This can then lead people of different faiths talking together, taking an interest in how others pray and find encouragement in their own prayer. That is the beginning of a deeper sharing.

WHAT AUSTRALIANS REALLY THINK ABOUT RELIGION

Australians firmly believe that religious people are subjected to discrimination in this country.

Seventy-one per cent of Australians told the ABC's Australia Talks National Survey that religious discrimination happens "occasionally" or "often" in this country. Ironically, this is a point on which the devout and the heathen are in agreement.

Even among Australians with no religion, 68 per cent agreed that there is discrimination, as did 74 per cent of Catholics, 72 per cent of Protestants and 74 per cent of "other religions".



REMEMBRANCE DAY

MONDAY, 11 NOVEMBER

Remembrance Day is observed at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month.

On Monday at 11 AM, let us all pause for a minute of silence and commemorates the noble sacrifices of armed forces and civilians during times of war. This is being observed across the country to mark the cessation of hostilities on the Western front during WW1 after over four years of gruesome warfare.

NATIONAL PRAYER CAMPAIGN FOR DROUGHT

The Church in Australia is dedicating this month as a time to pray for those affected by crippling drought conditions and to pray for the gift of rain.

Parishes, schools, families and other Catholic communities across the country are being encouraged to participate in the National Prayer Campaign for Drought, which also invites people to provide assistance to those most in need.

Wilcannia-Forbes Bishop Columba Macbeth-Green OSPPE has released a video message saying praying for rain shows our humility. Bishop Columba's diocese covers about half of New South Wales, including some of the most drought-affected areas in the country.

He further said that "rain is a gift. It's a gift from God. When you don't have that gift, you realise how precious the gift is. "People out here in the bush really appreciate what a gift rain is. So, when we pray for rain, we're not trying to tell God what to do. We're actually admitting our humility, that we haven't got control of everything.

"We actually need God's providence and his care for us. That's why we pray for rain.

"Pray for that gift in your own lives. Pray to God for an end to this drought. Pray for the victims of the drought. Pray for those people whose lives have been destroyed by the drought. Pray for resilience for people in drought-stricken areas," Bishop Columba said.

OUR LADY OF LORETO FEAST DAY ADDED TO CHURCH'S CALENDAR

Pope Francis has decreed that the feast of Our Lady of Loreto be included in the Church's universal calendar as an optional memorial to be celebrated on December 10.

"This celebration will help all people, especially families, youth and religious to imitate the virtues of that perfect disciple of the Gospel, the Virgin Mother, who, in conceiving the Head of the Church also accepted us as her own," Cardinal Robert Sarah, prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship, stated in the decree published on October 31.

THE POPE'S AFFIRMATION OF SCIENCE HAS A LONG HISTORY

In recent press reports, Pope Francis affirms the importance of science, and he calls for scientists to devote their efforts to the betterment of humanity and not simply for the fame and fortune that comes with new and exciting discoveries. In the context where faith and science are often seen as enemies, this is a welcome and important call from the head of the world's largest religious denomination. But it is not a radical change of heart for the Catholic Church.

For centuries the Vatican has had an observatory run by astronomer priests committed to science and religion. Chief among them, the pope's astronomer Guy Consolmagno, said famously that he would happily baptise an alien should one be found.

Christian faith and science need not be at each other's throats. They both aim at expressing complementary aspects of the human condition, and we need science as well as the values and purposes that come from religion and philosophy to make a better world. Despite some media-magnified minority voices promoting the conflict myth, this is the consistent message of the pope and the Christian Church through the ages.

INTRODUCTION TO MASS:

What will heaven be like? Today's Gospel asks us to check where we stand. Are we open to the idea that our knowledge of God can develop, grow and change? It's not that God changes, but our human knowledge and insights can and do develop. Commitment to the truth requires openness bigger and not limited to the law of Moses. Our God is the God of the Living and by His grace we will follow Jesus Christ to the divine light and energy of LIFE.

PENITENTIAL RITE:

Lord Jesus, you are our Saviour and brother.

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

Christ Jesus, your word gives us strength and courage.

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

Lord Jesus, you have the message of eternal life .

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

FIRST READING: 2Mac 7: 1-2,9-14

The God of the living. The reading professes faith in immortality and resurrection and the real King is God who reigns forever and has supreme power over life and death.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM :

Response: Lord, when your glory appears, my joy will be full.

1. Lord, hear a cause that is just, pay heed to my cry. Turn your ear to my prayer: no deceit is on my lips. (R.)
2. I keep my feet firmly in your paths; there was no faltering in my steps. I am here and I call, you will hear me, O God. Turn your ear to me; hear my words. (R.)
3. Guard me as the apple of your eye. Hide me in the shadow of your wings. As for me, in my justice I shall see your face and be filled, when I awake, with the sight of your glory. (R.)

SECOND READING: 2Thess 2:16—3:5

Put trust and confidence in God who will strengthen and protect the faithful from harm.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia!

Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the dead; glory and kingship be his for ever and ever.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL : Luke 20: 27-38

He is not God of the dead but of the living. Moses of the burning bush recorded God's self-identification, 'I am the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.' God did not say 'I was the God of Abraham, ...', but 'I am ...'. The description, evoking the eternal being of God, implies the continuing personal existence of those with whom God remains in relationship –The relationship God seeks to forge with human beings here and now to enter into God's own eternal being and so necessarily transcends death.



NEXT WEEK: 33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Mal 3:19-20; Second Reading: 2Thess 3: 7-12; Gospel Luke 21 5-19