

## ST. TIMOTHY'S PARISH NEWS

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## 33RD SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

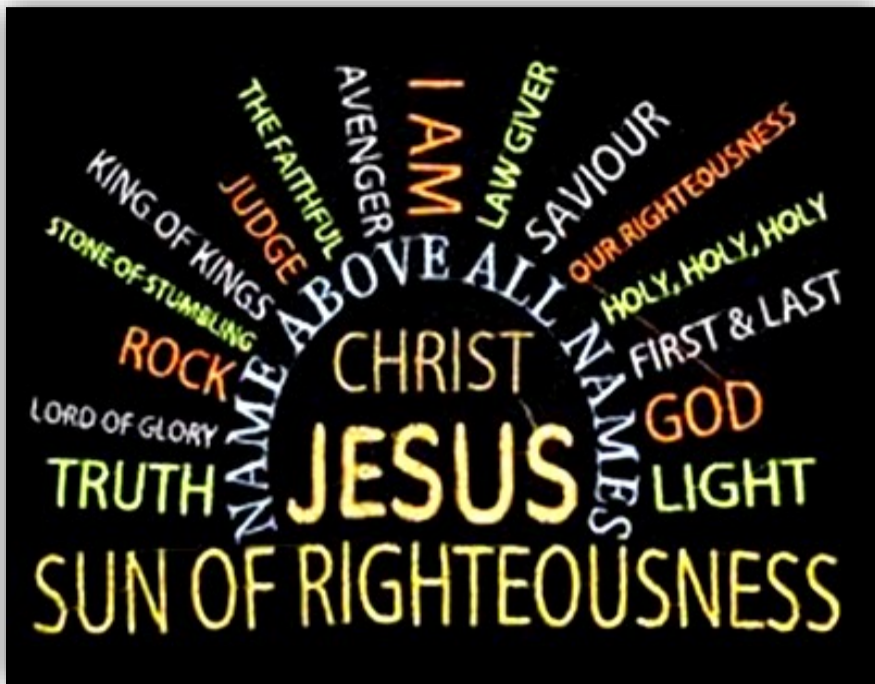
16—17 NOVEMBER 2019

Parish Priest / Administrator: Fr. Tony Kerin EV

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

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

### THE SUN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS



Have you ever prayed for a parking spot? Which reminds me of the Irishman who went around the block twice looking for a spot, and in his frustration lifted his eyes towards Heaven and prayed 'Almighty God, if you find me a spot I'll go to Mass every Sunday and give up the Guinness.' Just then, a parking spot opened up and he dashed in to the space, raised his eyes to heaven and said 'Almighty God, disregard the previous conversation, I just found a spot by myself.'

Our prayers can tell us a lot about the image of God we really have. For some it is of a Divine Parking Attendant in the sky. For others a sort of weather God who with sufficient entreaty can stop the rain during the second day of the Test Match.

But if you were in Syria and your town was being strafed and bombed by government and rebel forces, with innocent people being wantonly killed, then your prayer would be very different.

Your image of God would be of a Liberator from warfare, of a Saviour from crimes against humanity, and if it came to it, a Strengthened in time of torture and impending death.

In today's Gospel, Jesus was preparing his followers for what he knew would be times of persecution in the immediate and ongoing futures for the Christian community.

Imagine hearing these readings in a Catholic church in Syria, as the congregation fearfully gathers in the wake of murderous violence by some Muslim extremists against Christians, or in a church in a village in China with the Catholic community trying to keep its ties with the Pope, fearful of denunciation and betrayal by family and friends, as predicted by Jesus in today's gospel.

There would be a yearning and heartfelt hope which would be a real prayer by those Syrian and Chinese disciples. They would be looking for vindication of their perseverance in persecution. They would cling to Our Lord's assurance: 'Your endurance will win you your lives.' They would listen to the prophet Malachi:

'The day is coming now... evildoers will be like stubble... But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness will shine out with healing in its rays.'

What a wonderful image of God, putting our rather pathetic parking spot attendant and weather God images to shame. 'The sun of righteousness will shine out with healing in its rays.'

This is the image for God which would mean something very heartening in the midst of the seemingly endless darkness of persecution. God will do what the sun does, flooding the world with light and warmth, making our fragile planet habitable for human beings.

It is our faith that out of the inky blackness of the cold tomb carved out of a hill near Calvary, the Son of righteousness did rise, shining out with healing in His rays. That is what the early church believed during those early centuries of persecution. They believed that Son when he had said: 'Your endurance will win you your lives.' This belief is what sustains the martyrs of our present era.

The word 'martyr' is the Greek word for witness. It simply means somebody who witnesses to something.

A Christian martyr witnesses to Our Lord Jesus Christ, the pre-eminent martyr. Their blood is shed, as was His. They do so with the faith that for them, the Son of righteousness will shine out with healing.

That is our faith, that is the faith of the church. What was in the future tense for Malachi, is a present reality for those in parts of Nigeria, of Indonesia, of China, of Syria and elsewhere. This is what sustains them. There will be vindication. Justice will be done.

Because the Son of Righteousness rose with healing in His rays.

**Rev Prof Michael Tate** is currently Vicar General in the Tasmania Archdiocese and is an Honorary Professor of Law at the University of Tasmania where he lectures in International Humanitarian Law.





### FEASTS OF THE WEEK

- 21 November - *The Presentation of Blessed Virgin Mary*
- 22 November - *St Cecilia, virgin, martyr*

*Blessed are you, O Mary, for the world's salvation came forth from you; now in glory, you rejoice forever with the Lord.  
Intercede for us with your Son.*

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTED THE **WORLD MISSION SUNDAY APPEAL**. SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR VIETNAMESE COMMUNITY FOR THEIR GENEROSITY.



### CATHOLIC DEAF APPEAL 2019

We will have a special collection at all Masses this weekend in support of the Catholic Deaf Appeal.

### SINGERS/CHOIR NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES

*Enquiries with the Parish Office  
Or Contact Leann at 0401 155 847*

**ROSTERS:**                      **6:00PM**                      **9:30AM**

#### EUCCHARIST MINISTERS

♦ This Week	H. Grealy P. Naughtin	A. Benedict C.L. Tay A. Yee
♦ Next week	M. Italiano S. Chen	C. L. Tay D. Hickman P. Kawalevski

#### PROCLAIMERS

♦ This Week	C: R. Grealy P: P. D' Cruz	T. Yee R. Yee
♦ Next week	C: H. Lobo P: P. Kelly	Sr Betty A. Lee

#### COUNTERS

This Week: Peggy D' Cruz / Kenneth D' Cruz  
Next Week: Barry Silvester / Christine Silvester

### VINNIES BUSH FIRE APPEAL

Bushfires are currently devastating several communities across Australia. Hundreds of homes have been lost, livelihoods destroyed and tragically, some people have lost their loved ones.

Vinnies is on the ground helping people as they deal with the immediate aftermath of fires, and we will continue to be there as they rebuild their lives in the long term.

With your support we can:

- Provide food, clothing, essential items and grocery vouchers for people who have lost everything
- Pay unexpected bills as people work through the recovery process
- Make referrals onto a range of other organisations providing crisis accommodation and specialised services
- Give much-needed emotional support, as well as practical assistance to pick up the pieces after homes are lost.

This emergency is unprecedented, and frighteningly, it is forecast to get even worse. **PLEASE DONATE URGENTLY** so Vinnies can be there for everyone needing our help.

For more details please visit: <https://donate.vinnies.org.au>

### MASS FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

**20 NOVEMBER, 12PM AT ST MARY OF THE CROSS CHAPEL AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY, FITZROY**

*This Mass will be offered for the millions of Christians who are persecuted around the world today. Red Wednesday is a global movement to stand in solidarity with all those who are persecuted for their peacefully held religious beliefs. This Mass will commence our Red Wednesday events in Melbourne until Wednesday 27 November.*

*ALL WELCOME but please RSVP to [justice@cam.org.au](mailto:justice@cam.org.au) by Monday 18 November.*

### THANKSGIVING ENVELOPE 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.*



### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

William Gibson, Mary Parslow,  
Maria Mariniello, Rev Charles Mayne S.J.  
Maria Casano, Vita Boccacci, Felice Boccacci,  
Minetta Boccacci, Eloide Leonardi,  
Arthur Grealy.

### 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 4:00 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, 10:30 AM (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





## **POPE FRANCIS MESSAGE OF HOPE FOR WORLD DAY OF THE POOR**

In observance of World Day of the Poor this Sunday, the Church in Australia is recognising volunteers who work to bring hope to those in need.

The third World Day of the Poor focused on the theme “the hope of the poor shall not perish for ever”. Taken from the Book of Psalms, Pope Francis said those words “express a profound truth that faith impresses above all on the hearts of the poor, restoring lost hope in the face of injustice, sufferings and the uncertainties of life”.

“The psalm was composed at a time of great economic development that, as often happens, also led to serious social imbalances,” the Holy Father wrote.

“The inequitable distribution of wealth created a significant number of poor people, whose condition appeared all the more dramatic in comparison with the wealth attained by a privileged few.”

Today, too, Pope Francis says, “we must acknowledge many new forms of bondage that enslave millions of men, women, young people and children”.

“Daily we encounter families forced to leave their homeland to seek a living elsewhere; orphans who have lost their parents or were violently torn from

them by brutal means of exploitation; young people seeking professional fulfilment but prevented from employment by short-sighted economic policies; victims of different kinds of violence, ranging from prostitution to the narcotics trade, and profoundly demeaned,” he lamented.

“How can we overlook, too, the millions of immigrants who fall victim to any number of concealed interests, often exploited for political advantage, and are refused solidarity and equality? And all the homeless and ostracised persons who roam the streets of our cities?”

Bishop Vincent Long van Nguyen OFM Conv, chair of the Bishops Commission for Social Justice, paid tribute to the many thousands who volunteer in Catholic organisations across Australia to assist those in need. “They work in our jails, in charitable organisations with those who have fallen on hard times, and they help the most vulnerable members of our community,” he said.

“For this third World Day of the Poor, we say thank you to each and every one of our volunteers. Know that your work is bringing hope to the lives of the poor and poor in spirit.”

## **CARDINAL PELL'S APPEAL TO GO TO HIGH COURT**

The High Court of Australia has granted leave for Cardinal George Pell to appeal against his conviction on sex-abuse charges.

The controversy over the conviction of Cardinal George Pell has not gone away, despite the time that has elapsed since his conviction in December 2018, and sentencing last March.

Cardinal Pell has not been moved to an ordinary prison, as would normally be expected, but remains in solitary confinement in the Melbourne Assessment Prison. He is fighting to clear his name by appealing against his conviction to the High Court, which will hear his case early next year.

## **PNG VISIT AFFIRMS NEED FOR SAFE, SECURE PATHWAYS FOR REFUGEES AND PEOPLE SEEKING ASYLUM**

Seven representatives from the Catholic community in Australia have returned from a visit to Papua New Guinea (PNG) to listen, pray and express solidarity with people seeking asylum and refugees and gain a better understanding of the human experience and complexities of the situation.

The group has affirmed the need for the Medevac provision as part of a bill that will be debated in Federal Parliament over the coming days, and called on the Federal Government to accept New Zealand's, or any other safe and secure country's offer to secure the future of these individuals who are now either considered refugees, or migrants in a vulnerable situation.

Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Chairman of the ACBC Commission for Social Justice – Mission and Service and Bishop of Parramatta, says that the Catholic Church in PNG has been active in supporting refugees and people seeking asylum, both on Manus Island and in Port Moresby, where the majority of individuals now reside.

## **IF CHURCH DOES NOT EVANGELIZE, IT WILL DECAY, POPE SAYS**

The Catholic Church must follow Jesus' command to preach the Gospel to every person, otherwise it will not fulfill its mission of bearing witness to Christ, Pope Francis said.

In an excerpt of a new book-length interview published 4 November by Fides, news agency of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, the pope said the phrase he uses - “a church on the move” - is not meant to be a “fashionable expression” but a summary of the Church's mission.

Reflecting on evangelization, the pope said that to evangelize means to deliver Christ's teachings “in simple and precise words like the apostles did” without the need to “invent persuasive discourses.”

“The proclamation of the Gospel can even be whispered, but it always passes through the overwhelming power of the scandal of the cross. And it has always followed the path indicated in the letter of the apostle Peter, which consists in simply ‘providing reasons’ of one's hope to others, a hope that remains a scandal and foolishness in the eyes of the world,” he said. True missionaries, he said, act as “facilitators and not as controllers of the faith.”

## **VIETNAMESE PRIESTS BRING 'NEW ENERGY' TO GERALDTON**

Geraldton Diocese in Western Australia has welcomed a trio of Vietnamese priests, who were ordained at St Francis Xavier Cathedral last week in a historic moment for the diocese. Physically, the Geraldton Diocese is the second largest in the world by land mass. But with only 28,000 Catholics living in the area, recruiting locals to take their vows has been nearly impossible. “The last time someone was local, who was born and bred in Geraldton, was 25 years ago,” Geraldton Bishop Michael Morrissey said. “That is the reason why we've gone looking to other places in the church for people who are willing to accept the call to come to another country to be priests.” The diocese turned to Vietnam for its next generation of priests.

Fr Peter (Tam) Duong, Fr Dominic Hoang and Fr Savio Nguyen have spent seven years in Geraldton and Port Hedland both learning the scripture and to speak English.

## **INTRODUCTION TO MASS:**

**The end is not so soon.** How do we find faith when life seems to collapse around us? What do we do now? For one thing, within ourselves we ought to develop a deeper spirit of responsibility so that we seek to become dependable rather than dependent, givers rather than takers, generous rather than addicted to self-interest. Faith in Jesus does not take us out of humanity's pain, we have to face our trials and persevere with enduring trust that, 'the sun of righteousness *will* shine out with healing in its rays'.

## **PENITENTIAL RITE:**

Lord Jesus, you give us words of wisdom .

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

Christ Jesus, you bring peace, not fear .

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

Lord Jesus, you are with us till the end of time.

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

## **FIRST READING: *Malachi 3: 19-20***

The reading offers another prophetic assurance that evildoers will be brought to book and the righteous rewarded, but the vague 'the day is coming' still leaves much unanswered.

## **RESPONSORIAL PSALM :**

**Response: The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice.**

1. Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp with the sound of music. With trumpets and the sound of the horn acclaim the King, the Lord. (R.)
2. Let the sea and all within it, thunder; the world, and all its peoples. Let the rivers clap their hands and the hills ring out their joy at the presence of the Lord. (R.)
3. For the Lord comes, he comes to rule the earth. He will rule the world with justice and the peoples with fairness. (R.)

## **SECOND READING: *2 Thess 3: 7-12***

Do not give anyone food who refuses to work. The early converts looked forward to the "Day of the Lord" but — mistakenly — they stopped working. The letter informs the non-workers that, no matter when the Second Coming arrives, people are expected to meet their daily responsibilities.

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

**Alleluia!**

Lift up your heads and see; your redemption is near at hand. **Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## **GOSPEL : *Luke 21: 5-19***

Patiently endure the trials you are to face for Jesus. The discourse deals with the 'passion of the disciples', the trials and temptations that await in the long space of time before the Kingdom finally takes place. Today as was in the past, ' Be not afraid for I am here with you always'.



"But of that day and hour no one knows,  
Not even the angels of heaven  
But My Father only" -MT 24:36

**Next Sunday: Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**

**First Reading: Samuel 5: 1-3; Second Reading: Col 1: 12-20; Gospel: Luke 23: 35-43**