

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

7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME- YEAR A

23-24 FEBRUARY 2020

Parish Priest / Administrator: Fr. Tony Kerin EV

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

Corrie (Wednesday-Thursday: 9am - 3pm)

This is the
season

This is the
reason



LOVE IS COMPLICATED – END OF STORY.

Okay, not really end of story. But LOVE is complicated - that statement shouldn't surprise anyone. It's complicated enough to know that love and movements of the heart are all over today's readings.

We have all experienced love in our lives - the love of parents for their children, a husband's love for his wife, mutual affection and sharing between friends, and more. Whether we realize it or not, we have loved and been loved. It's been both painful and beautiful, tender and deep.

Yet, it pales in comparison to the love the Heavenly Father has for His children. Praise the Lord for that! Original holiness saw Adam and Eve walking with the Lord in the Garden of Eden, living in union with Him in His love. And even when they screwed up, God still loved them. He didn't leave His most beloved creation in chaos but planned to redeem and reconcile them to His love.

John 3:16 is one of the most quoted lines of Scripture; however, I believe it's one of the least understood. Or maybe it's understood on a very basic level, in our minds but not in the depths of our hearts. "God so loved the world that He gave His only Son so that everyone who believes in Him might not perish but might have eternal life."

So, whether or not we have been able to acknowledge and receive love here on earth, we can rest in knowing the depth of our Heavenly Father's love - a love that sent His Son for our salvation and a love that will nourish our bodies and souls.

Erin Madden. Diocesan.

CAN WE TALK

Our personal relationship with God is based on who we are as people. What is startling is that while we cannot reach out and embrace God with our arms, we can do just that with our hearts. Our physical size is of no importance here because love is based in the human soul. Isn't it true that a smile from an infant gazing at the face of her mother totally transforms the mother in ways she could not describe?

In our personal relationship with God, all we need to do is act as we do with one another. The elements of that are the essence of our relationship with God. Many confuse a relationship with feeling a kind of closeness. Often it is not felt or sensed in that way. A relationship may include emotions, but they are definitely not the essence of it. Rather, it is with our hearts that we embrace the Lord. And in that relationship, we speak with God as we would with anyone else.

There is no special language or grammar. We speak as we always do. We remind ourselves that God is not "somewhere up there," but within us so that we don't have to find God. We must look within. God is the one who shares everything in our lives with us—good and bad. We hold nothing back. God can handle it all with no trouble. In fact, God embraces us no matter where we are in life.

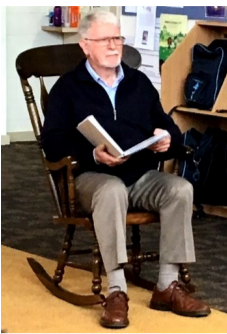
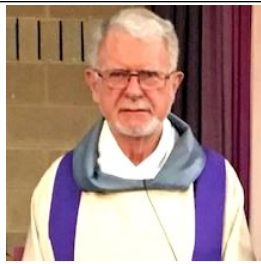
What's a simple way of coming to the Lord, you might ask? Simply say in your heart, *Here I am, Lord. We need to talk.*

Extract from the [FranciscanMedia](#) posting of Jim Van Vurst, OFM

Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory!

FR RODNEY (ROD) FREDRICK PHILIP PITTS

FUNERAL MASS WILL BE ON 25 FEBRUARY AT 11 AM
ST TIMOTHY'S CHURCH
A PRIVATE CREMATION WILL FOLLOW.



*O God, listen favourably to our prayers offered on behalf of your servant and priest, and grant that Fr Rod who committed zealously to the service of your name, may rejoice forever in the company of your saints. We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION CORNER

"BUT I SAY TO YOU, LOVE YOUR ENEMIES AND PRAY FOR THOSE WHO PERSECUTE YOU..." (MATTHEW 5:44)

Love your enemies, easier said than done, no doubt. But, remember, the foundation of stewardship is prayer. When we are in close communication with God, it opens our heart and it turns our attention away from "me" and moves it towards God and others. It allows us to have a little more empathy for "our enemy." When we pray for others, even "our enemies," maybe it softens their hearts as well.

VERMONT CHILDREN'S CENTRE

AT ST TIMOTHY'S SCHOOL GROUND

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

STILL ACCEPTING ENROLMENT

A FUNDED KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM AVAILABLE.

Please call: Celine at (03) 98075208 or email info@vermontchildcare.com.au

ROSTERS: 6:00PM 9:30AM

EUCHARIST MINISTERS

◆ This Week	S. Chen P. Naughtin	P. Kawalevski D. Hickman T. Hickman
-------------	------------------------	---

◆ Next week	TBA	
-------------	-----	--

PROCLAIMERS

◆ This Week	C: H. Lobo P: P. Kelly	R. Yee T. Yee
-------------	---------------------------	------------------

◆ Next week	C: P: P:	TBA
-------------	-------------	-----

COUNTERS

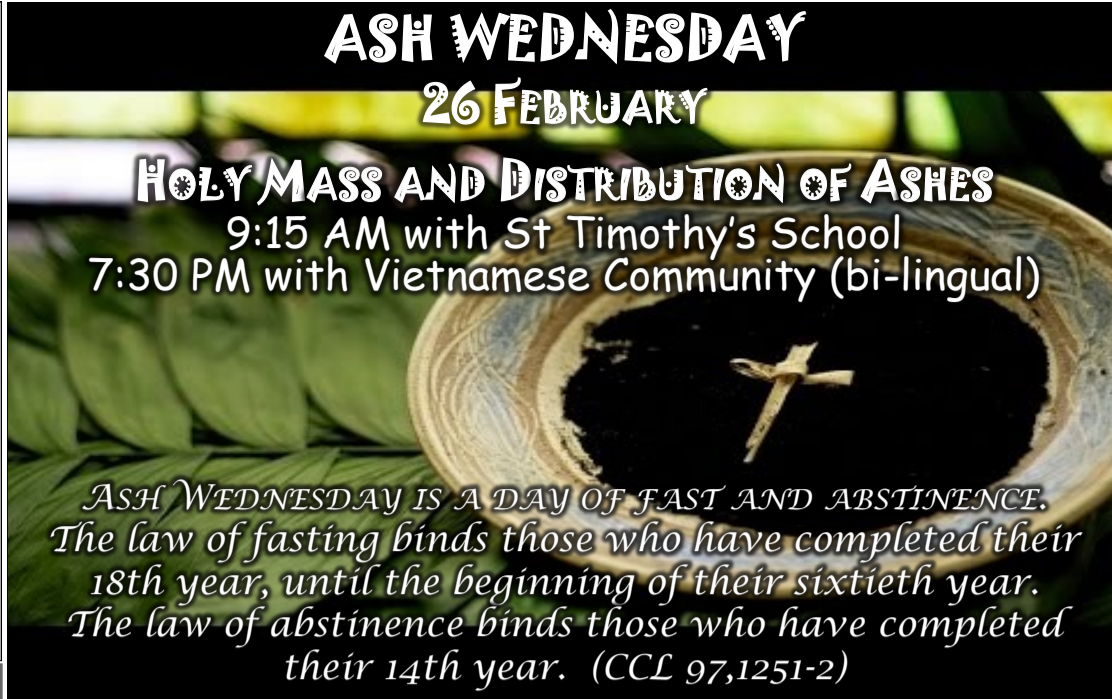
This Week: Peter Deayton / Lester Steele
Next Week: Adrian Farrell

ASH WEDNESDAY

26 FEBRUARY

HOLY MASS AND DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES

9:15 AM with St Timothy's School
7:30 PM with Vietnamese Community (bi-lingual)



ASH WEDNESDAY IS A DAY OF FAST AND ABSTINENCE. The law of fasting binds those who have completed their 18th year, until the beginning of their sixtieth year. The law of abstinence binds those who have completed their 14th year. (CCL 97,1251-2)

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2020

FOR CHILDREN IN NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

AT BOX HILL PARISH

- ◆ **CONFIRMATION** classes for children in Year 6 or above will commence on Tuesday 3rd March. It will be held every Tuesday night from 7.00pm to 8.00 pm in the Friars Room.
- ◆ **Reconciliation** classes for children in Year 3 or above (ages 8 & older) will commence from Saturday 18th April at 4pm in Friars Room.
- ◆ **First Eucharist** classes for children in Year 4 or above (ages 9 and older) will commence from Saturday 18th July at 4pm in Friars Room. For more information please contact the Parish Office on 9401 6371 or boxhill@cam.org.au



SHROVE TUESDAY
25TH FEBRUARY 2020 AT 10.00 AM

ALL PARISHIONERS ARE INVITED FOR A PANCAKE MORNING TEA AT ST TIMOTHY'S SCHOOL IN OBSERVANCE OF THE SHOVE TUESDAY. SCHOOL TOUR WILL FOLLOW AFTERWARDS.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

- Mary Miller, Carlos Arciaga, Clem Rabel,
Francis Dalmau, Augusto Monzon,
Albert Johnson, John Cotter, Elio Lessio,
Carol Carla Maria Papillo, Dorothy Faulkner,
Carmel Curtain, Peter Waddington.

SACRAMENTS: Contact Parish office for Enquiries & Arrangement

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



The Sacraments

2020 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, enrollment is through the Parish Office every Tuesday-Thursday: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM and Friday: 1:00 to 4:00 PM but the sacramental preparation classes will be coordinated to Box Hill Parish Office.

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



FOR THE INFORMATION OF PARISHIONERS LENT 2020

109. *The Lenten season has a twofold character:*

- 1) *it recalls baptism or prepares for it;*
- 2) *it stresses a penitential spirit.*

By these means especially, Lent readies the faithful for celebrating the paschal mystery after a period of closer attention to the Word of God, and more ardent prayer. In the liturgy itself and in the liturgy-centred instructions, these baptismal and penitential themes should be more pronounced. Hence:

- a) *Wider use is to be made of baptismal features proper to the Lenten liturgy...*
- b) *The same approach holds for the penitential elements...*

110. *During Lent, penance should not be only internal and individual but also external and social...*

In any event, let the paschal fast be kept sacred. It should be observed everywhere on Good Friday and, where possible prolonged throughout Holy Saturday, so that the joys of the Sunday of the resurrection may be visited on uplifted and responsive spirits.

Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, Vatican II

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of Fasting and Abstinence from meat.

On all other Fridays, except solemnities, the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled by performing any one of the following:

- (a) **Prayer** -for example, Mass attendance; family prayer; a visit to a church or chapel; reading the Bible; making the Stations of the Cross; praying the Rosary; or in other ways.
- (b) **Self-Denial** - for example, not eating meat; not eating sweets or dessert; giving up entertainment to spend time with the family; limiting food and drink so as to give to the poor of one's own country or elsewhere; or in other ways. Project Compassion is a major means of expressing our self-denial in Australia.
- (c) **Helping Others** - for example, special attention to someone who is poor, sick, elderly, lonely or over-burdened; or in other ways.

- All who have completed their eighteenth year and have not yet begun their sixtieth year are bound to fast. All who have completed their fourteenth year are bound to abstain (Canon 1252).
- The Season of Lent is a time of penance. During this season the faithful are exhorted to devote themselves in a special manner to prayer, to engage in works of piety and charity, and to deny themselves.
- Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This precept must be fulfilled between Ash Wednesday, 26 February 2020 and Trinity Sunday, 7 June 2020 unless for a good reason it is fulfilled at another time during the year.
- The wonderful gift of the Lord's merciful love is offered in a special way in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Lent is a most appropriate time to receive this Sacrament. All the faithful who have reached the age of discretion are bound faithfully to confess their grave sins at least once a year.

HOLY WEEK - The 2020 Ordo contains instructions for the Rites of Holy Week.

FUNERALS – On Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday all Masses for the Dead, including Funeral Masses, **are forbidden**. Funerals on these days are celebrated with the Liturgy of the Word and without the Eucharistic Sacrifice.

WEDDINGS - Weddings should be discouraged during the Easter Triduum: Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday. Should a couple be particularly insistent on a wedding for one of these days, then please indicate that no decorations (including flowers), no music nor Nuptial Mass will be permitted.

Father Joe Caddy AM
VICAR GENERAL

INTRODUCTION TO MASS:

Be holy! The word 'holy' is not the image of someone who is always praying and perhaps, cut off from every day life. Holiness is not measured by the calluses on our knees but by our love for others. Most essentially, holiness is God's gift. God causes the sun to rise and the rain to fall on good and evil people. Our Lord commands us to be everything we are meant to be as human beings in exactly the same respect. We are holy because God loves us and dwells among us making up His temple.

PENITENTIAL RITE:

Lord Jesus, you have shown us the way of love .

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

Christ Jesus, your Spirit is with us always.

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

Lord Jesus, you fill us with your gift of peace.

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

FIRST READING: *Lev 19: 1-2, 17-18*

The reading commences with the call to be holy, as God is holy, and then describes the kind of activity that will identify one as holy. Even though Israel and humanity is prone to sin and failure, God does not abandon or break the relationship .

RESPONSORIAL PSALM :

Response: The Lord is kind and merciful.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. **(R.)**

2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. **(R.)**

3. The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy. He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults. **(R.)**

4. As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. As a father has compassion on his sons, the Lord has pity on those who fear him. **(R.)**



SECOND READING: *1Cor 3: 16-23*

What is wise with the world, is absurd with God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia! alleluia!

Whoever keeps the word of Christ, grows perfect in the love of God.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL : *Mt 5: 38-48*

Love your enemies. He re-interprets the law of love in a more radical manner, insisting that his disciples' love must be patterned after God's love, which is given unquestioningly to the just and the unjust alike.

NEXT WEEK: FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: Genesis 2: 7-9, 3: 1-7 ; Second Reading: Romans 5: 12-19

Gospel: Matthew 4: 1-11