



OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL PARISH
BULLA, CLARKEFIELD, DIGGERS REST,
SUNBURY, WILDWOOD

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Parish Masses and Newsletters are available on the parish website olmcsunbury.com

Parish Vision: Christlike relationships of friendship and faith, valuing one another and sharing our gifts for the good of all

Parish Priest: Rev Kevin McIntosh
Priest Assisting: Fr John Papworth SDB
Pastoral Assoc.: Sr Jose Noy RSJ
Pastoral Co-ord: Lyn Plummer
St Anne's School: 8746 6800
Principal: Noelene Hussey
Our Lady of Mount Carmel School: 9740 7344
Principal: Julie Freeman
Holy Trinity School: 8746 6464
Principal: Krystine Hocking

20th September 2020

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9

Psalm Response: Psalm 144:2-3, 8-9, 17-18

The Lord is near to all who call him.

Second Reading: Phillipians 1:20-24, 27

Gospel Acclamation: cf Acts 16:14

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

LET US PRAY FOR

Sick: Pam BELL Gieseppe GALATI Marie LOMBARDI Cassie O'KEEFE Lucy PERKOVIC Jeanette RAMAGE Anne SAUNDERS Pat TORR Ren WILSON

Recently Deceased: Mario BRODOTTI Faye CLARKE Kathleen FEAIN Charlie PARNIS Patricia PLOWMAN

Anniversaries: Albert JANSEN

Our Parish is committed to the Safety, Wellbeing And Dignity of all including children and vulnerable adults.



"THE ARROWS OF GOD"

Megan McKenna calls parables "the arrows of God" because: "they pierce us and make us painfully aware of our need to change the way we relate to ourselves, others and God. We look—and we see. This is how we must live in God's kingdom. We are called, and we know ourselves called." (M McKenna "Parables: The Arrows of God" (Maryknoll, New York: Orbis Books 1994)

Today's parable might be called "The Generous Landowner". The parable ends with a reversal of expectations: "The last will be first and the first will be last." We are in the territory of God's kingdom where we realise that the generosity of the landowner God reaches out to the last called (at the 12th hour) as equally as to the first; that, in Jesus, God is present to the people who are poor, sick, disabled, that the tax collectors and the prostitutes all have equal access if they answer the call into the 'vineyard', a symbol of God's holy people (cf Ezekiel 17:6, Hosea 10:1).

A JUST WAGE: In 1907, one of the most important judgements in Australian history was handed down setting the wage of an unskilled labourer at seven shillings per day. Mr Justice Higgins set the amount necessary for the normal needs of a labourer's home of about five persons.

Much of his judgement echoed the words of Pope Leo XIII in 1891 dealing with the rights of a worker to receive a just wage to avoid starvation and poverty.

The landowner in today's parable saw the need for necessary wages to save families from starvation. Hence, he gave all the workers the same wage; he wanted all to have their daily bread.

Pope Francis said: "A world economic system that discards men, women and children because they are no longer considered useful or productive according to criteria drawn from the world of business or other organisations, is unacceptable, because it is inhumane. This lack of concern for persons is a sign of regression and dehumanisation in any political or economic system."

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: On 20th September 2020, we mark Social Services Sunday within the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne. On this day we are invited to give thanks and pray for all who stand with and provide support to those who are marginalised and vulnerable within our communities. We recognise with deep gratitude, those working within Catholic Social Services Victoria's 45 member organisations, the 7,000 staff and 17,000 volunteers, who together, serve more than 200,000 people in need each year. These organisations address the needs of the homeless, those suffering mental illness, those in prison, children in need of care and those vulnerable due to age or disability. We also give thanks for all in our parishes, who are so often at the forefront of providing practical support and care to those in need within their local communities, and beyond. We call to mind the 2020/21 Social Justice Statement brought out recently by the Australian Catholic bishops, To Live Life to the Full: Mental Health in Australia Today, and so draw your attention to a recent event hosted by CSSV, Counselling and Therapeutic Support in a Time of COVID, which provided an opportunity to become more familiar with mental health services, and how to practically reach out for or point to assistance. Parishioners will find the resources in this article helpful.

PAINFUL CHILDHOOD FOR A SAINT OF PEACE: a new biography by Gezim Alphon of Birmingham University was published in August on the life of St Mother Teresa of Kolkata. Born in 1906 in Skopje, now capital of Macedonia, her father Nikolle murdered by Slav nationalists when she was nine. Seven years later, her uncle Mark and six members of her family died of the Spanish flu. In 1923, her grandmother did so in three years, she lost nine people close and very dear to her. It was at this time of grief that Mother Teresa grew increasingly attached to Jesus PTO

And also may have triggered a lifelong "dark night of the soul". Her decision to become a missionary and the choice of India as a destination were motivated by the desire to serve Jesus by assisting "the poorest of the poor." In 1928, she travelled to Dublin to join the Sisters of Loreto. In 1929, she arrived in Kolkata. In 1969, she came to Melbourne. Our Archbishop James Knox knew her when he was the Vatican Ambassador (Nuncio) in India from 1957 to 1967, when he was appointed to Melbourne. She set up Corpus Christi Community for homeless men in Greenvale. In 1979, she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo. In her speech to the world media, she said, "By blood and origin I am Albanian. My citizenship is Indian. I am a Catholic nun. As to my calling, I belong to the whole world. As to my heart, I belong entirely to the heart of Jesus." She died in September 1997 and was canonised in September 2016.

OUR PRAYERFUL SYMPATHY: we offer to the family of Margaret Tworowski who entered eternal life recently aged 86 years. Margaret was born in Poland. After the War, she came to Melbourne. She became an active member of Holy Eucharist Parish, St Albans South until she came to Sunbury last year. Her funeral Mass was celebrated last Wednesday concluding at Keilor Cemetery.Kevin McIntosh

MEETINGS THIS WEEK:

Tues 22 Sept	2pm	Future Catholic Schools in Sunbury
	7.30pm	Sunbury Inter Church Council
Wed 23 Sept	1.30pm	Alpha Retreat
Thurs 24 Sept	7.30pm	Parish Liturgy Team

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER: The Parish newsletter continues to be printed and copies are available online at olmc.sunbury.com and outside St. Anne's church. If you know of anyone who would appreciate a copy please download one, or pick up a copy, or notify the parish office please. For many the newsletter is the only form of communication they may have with the parish. Thank you.

SICK PARISHIONERS: Please let the parish office know if one of our parishioners are sick and would appreciate a call.

YEAR 12 YOU'VE GOT THIS: Catholic Education Melbourne; The Year 12s of 2020 have overcome extraordinary disruptions to their final year of school. As they approach the final leg of their VCAL, VCE and VET journeys, their teachers are getting behind them with the message 'Year 12 You've Got This'.

As the Year 12s head into the holidays and approach their final term of school, they will hear a chorus of teachers encouraging them. No doubt these messages will be echoed by their parents and siblings, their grandparents, alumni and the broader community.

....Melbourne Catholic 16.09.2020

Please continue to pray for the Year 12 students who have had an extremely challenging year.

Prayer for Courage and Compassion

Compassionate God,
Your unconditional love for all inspires our hearts and empowers our actions for those who are most vulnerable.

May we boldly and humbly serve one another and be steadfast in our work for justice for all people.

Keep our hearts open to the joys and the hopes of our world, and our ears ready to hear your call to truth, justice and reconciliation.

Let us continue to draw inspiration and strength from those, like St Mary MacKillop, on whose shoulders we stand.

We gather in Jesus' name to be nourished and to move forward together in hope and joy.

Amen

PLEASE, SORRY, THANK YOU: INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE

(21 SEPTEMBER): The international day of peace is always timely.

Unfortunately so. There is no end to wars and disputes between nations and between groups within them that take lives, devastate towns and impoverish nations. Peace is something that everyone wants, but most wars begin when one group or another tries to impose peace on its own terms.

To build peace you need to go further back and ask those who claim to want peace what they are willing to do and what interests they are prepared to sacrifice in order to build it. A test of their seriousness might be to ask what they are willing to do to support the people destroyed by wars in which their own nations have been involved.

Most wars are fought in order to make peace – sometimes to impose peace by winning the war, often to force an aggressive nation or group to accept the terms on which peace can be built, and sometimes to assert control over the peace that will follow.

Leaders of most nations describe themselves as peace-loving and their enemies as violent aggressors.

In this lack of mutual trust, war is the natural result. Fear and suspicion lead nations to enlarge their armies and piles of deadly weapons, enlarge their capacity to manufacture weapons, recoup the cost by selling weapons to other nations and armed groups with which they are conveniently allied, and join in military adventures their strong allies initiate.

The result for the unfortunate people who are the victims of this cycle is that they live in fear of war, are driven from their homes, become refugees in their own or in another land and are deprived of basic human rights. They are then excluded, and their need ignored, by the nations that participate in their destruction directly or through their proxies.

The cost of war-making is enormous, both directly for the people whose lives it takes or ruins and indirectly for the nations engaging in it. It multiplies distrust and alienates resources that could better be spent positively on peacemaking through aid to impoverished peoples and to healing the wounds of war. And it unites nations in fear as they seek allies against common and enemies.

All this is the gloomy background to International Peace Day. As in so many international challenges, it suggests how important are the personal and communal relationships that are the building blocks of national policies.

The rage and suspicion that we see in war-making are bred in the violence of family relationships, the choice we make between hatred or understanding in our social media postings, the vituperation of political discourse, the ways in which playground fights are handled and learned from, and how we handle frustration on the roads and in shopping centres.

Peace begins in the negotiation of differences through apologies and reconciliation in personal relationships and in the learning of other ways of response than lashing out.

At Jesuit Social Services we are involved in helping vulnerable young people find ways in to face the frustrations of daily living and engage in relationships peacefully and respectfully. This is a challenging task because it often runs against young people's early experience of violence and the role models rampant in our culture.

International Peace Day looks at the largest possible canvas. Peacemaking begins in the most intimate of relationships and the learning of the simplest of formulae: please, sorry, thank you.

CATHOLICCARE: During these challenging times, there is help available. Contact CatholicCare on 03 9287 5555 if you're experiencing financial hardship, increased anxiety or depression, or you need a helping hand. CatholicCare has trained counsellors available for individual counselling or family counselling.

You don't have to suffer in silence when there is help at the other end of the phone line.



Prayer of Pope Francis Spiritual Communion:

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the altar. 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 were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You