

Parish Priest

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Sophia Brewty
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 sacraments@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au

Catholic Inquiry—RCIA

Andrew Tham 0403 566 001

Pastoral Council

Daniel Boland (Chair), Joe Kristianto, (Vice.
 Chair) Alicia Moore (Sec), Rosalind Evans
 (Asst Sec), Gai Melville (SJW), Jenny Makerry
 (SJW), Jenny Michael, Katrina Yip, Nathasha
 Ellis (SJW), William Andrews, Amanda Gahan,
 Susie Mravunac, Phil Townsend

Finance Committee

John Le Mottee (Chair)
 T. (02) 9644 8859
 Joe Moses, Sylvia Jukic Brendon Nazareth
 (Finance Controller)

Parish Schools

St Peter Chanel, Regents Park
 T. (02) 9644 9083
 Principal - Phil Townsend
 Family Educator - Barbara Mucha
 St Joseph the Worker, Auburn South
 T. (02) 9646 1434
 Principal - Gai Melville
 Family Educator - Natasha Ellis

CatholicCare. Provides caring advice and
 advocacy to help families . CCareline 13 18
 19 | CatholicCare.org

Alcohol & Drug Information Service:
 (Confidential) 02 9361 8000

Spiritual Retreats: Benedictine Abbey
 Jamberoo - www.jamberooabbey.org.au/
 retreats Ph: 4236 0533

Carmelites Varroville -
 www.carmeliteretreats.com.au
 Ph: 8795 3400

Healing After Abortion: 0400 092 555

Vincentian Retreat Centre Somersby -
 www.divineretreatcentre.org.au
 Ph: 4372 1598

Sara's Place: For pregnancy support or
 grieving after abortion visit
 www.sarasplace.org.au Ph: 9699 8190

What are we up to?

1. Many of you have been asking whether only vaccinated people will be allowed in the Church when open. First of all we haven't got any idea when the Churches will be allowed to open. I was in a conference with our Archbishop last Thursday and he said, he has been constantly in touch with the government. On Monday he will be leading a delegation to the government, asking to consider places of worship to be included in the list of essential service like supermarkets, healthcare and so on; not to be grouped with theatres and casinos as entertainments. Also the places of worship are for both the vaccinated and the unvaccinated alike. Any discrimination in this area is not fair. But it is too early for him to announce any policy since the government is taking time to announce its plan. He is waiting for some clear plans to be announced by the government to make particular decisions. He also spoke about the ethical concerns some people raise about the vaccines. The Holy Father, the Confraternity of the Christian Doctrine, the Bishops Conferences, and leading the ethics teachers consider the vaccines okay to take. In fact for the common good, a Christian should get jabbed. The foetus from the tissues are taken to develop some of the vaccines are so remote that those who opt to take vaccines are not collaborating with any evil.
2. The long talked about **Plenary Council**, after a long time of preparation, is to have its inaugural meeting on Sunday 3 October. It will be the fifth Plenary Council in the history of Australia. Thank you for your prayers and contributions to it. Next weekend's Mass will specially be for the Plenary Council. The prayers and readings will be special; not the ordinary Sunday ones.
3. **Berala Community Care Worker.** Patricia, a community care worker has joined the parish for help and referral services concerned with relationships, parenting, aging, disability, addiction, and mental health. She is employed by CatholicCare and sponsored by the Parish. When the lockdown is lifted, Patricia will be working one day each week from St Joseph House (next to the Church Carpark). From now on, Patricia can be contacted on 0447 529 122.
4. **Pastoral Care** is not on holidays. Though the Church is locked down, I am still available for anointing of the sick, hearing confessions and some of the other pastoral care. Should you wish to offer a Mass for some special intentions and join the celebration of the liturgy, I can organise zoom facility for small groups. Therefore, should you feel the need for any pastoral care, do not hesitate to contact me to discuss the possibilities.
5. **Sacramental Program:** Looks like we will have to postpone the First Reconciliation and the Confirmation programs to next year. Even if the lockdown is eased next month, there will not be enough time to do the program before the end of the year. All the same, parents should keep their children enthused about sacraments by talking and praying with the children. The home preparations are very important and consider the lockdown as an opportunity for it.

~Fr Thomas Kurunthanam

Dementia Action Week – A little support makes a big difference!



WELLBEING
TIPS FROM
CATHOLICCARE

With over 472,000 Australians living with dementia and almost 1.6 million Australians involved in their care, dementia deserves your attention.

CatholicCare would like to share some valuable tips for people with dementia and their family members:

1. **Keep your heart, body and mind in good condition.** You can do this through regular check-ups with your GP, by maintaining a healthy diet, through daily physical activity, socialising and keeping the brain active.
2. **Access information and support.** Information will help you and your family to understand a diagnosis and supports will assist you to cope with changes in behaviour. Dementia Australia is a comprehensive and trustworthy resource. It includes material for people from diverse backgrounds, fact sheets in 50 different languages, toolkits, guides, and a directory of helpful information. Visit www.dementia.org.au
3. **Download a copy of CatholicCare's "5 Keys to Me"**, designed to help promote conversation when visiting or caring for someone living with dementia. It is an easy-to-use and effective way to support people in need. Once complete, ensure it is in clear view of visitors or carers to the house so they can start a warm and friendly conversation. You can find this on our website: https://www.stpeter-stjoseph.org.au/wp/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/5_Keys_2_Me_CatholicCare_Sydney.pdf

If you are seeking expert private care, advice, or need some help registering for a Home Care package, Patricia Lay, our parish Community Care Worker can help. You can call her directly on 0447 529 122 for a chat or to arrange a video meeting.

For help finding help in Berala

Connect with the community care worker for help with counselling, ageing or mental health.

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Berala Community Care Worker

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The parish is providing the office facilities including telephone, internet, and meeting space. In addition the parish will also share 50% of the wages. This service is a much needed one in our area.

Therefore, it is included in our outreach and pastoral care plan. You are welcome to refer people and cases to Patricia. You may also like to share this message with others so that those who need this service will get to know about it.

St Vincent De Paul- Support for the Disadvantaged in Lockdown

St Vincent De Paul volunteers have recently distributed 900 snack packs, 250 self-care packs and 130 hampers through a range of services including Redfern Youth Connect, Parramatta Mission Meals Plus and local support hubs.

Find out more and what support is available vinnies.org.au/covidsupportnsw.



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

ANTIPHONS & READINGS

Entrance Antiphon Dn 3:31,29,30,43,42

All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

First Reading Nm 11:25-29

The Lord came down in the Cloud. He spoke with Moses, but took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. When the spirit came on them they prophesied, but not again.

Two men had stayed back in the camp; one was called Eldad and the other Medad. The spirit came down on them; though they had not gone to the Tent, their names were enrolled among the rest. These began to prophesy in the camp. The young man ran to tell this to Moses, 'Look', he said, 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.' Then said Joshua the son of Nun, who had served Moses from his youth, 'My Lord Moses, stop them!' Moses answered him, 'Are you jealous on my account? If only the whole people of the Lord were prophets, and the Lord gave his Spirit to them all!'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 18:8. 10. 12-14. R. v.9

The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.

The law of the Lord is perfect, it revives the soul. The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, it gives wisdom to the simple. **R**

The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding for ever. The decrees of the Lord are truth and all of them just. **R**

So in them your servant finds instructions; great reward is in their keeping. But who can detect all his errors? From hidden faults acquit me. **R**

From presumption restrain your servant and let it not rule me. Then shall I be blameless, clean from grave sin. **R**

Second Reading Jas 5:1-6

An answer for the rich. Start crying, weep for the miseries that are coming to you. Your wealth is all rotting, your clothes are all eaten up by moths. All

your gold and your silver are corroding away, and the same corrosion will be your own sentence, and eat into your body. It was a burning fire that you stored up as your treasure for the last days.

Labourers mowed your fields, and you cheated them – listen to the wages that you kept back, calling out; realise that the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. On earth you have had a life of comfort and luxury; in the time of slaughter you went on eating to your heart's content. It was you who condemned the innocent and killed them; they offered you no resistance.

Gospel Acclamation See Jn 17:17

Alleluia, alleluia!
Your word, O Lord, is truth; make us holy in the truth.
Alleluia!

Gospel Mk 9:38-43. 45. 47-48

John said to Jesus, 'Master, we saw a man who is not one of us casting out devils in your name; and because he was not one of us we tried to stop him.' But Jesus said, 'You must not stop him: no one who works a miracle in my name is likely to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us is for us.'

'If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink just because you belong to Christ, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

'But anyone who is an obstacle to bring down one of these little ones who have faith, would be better thrown into the sea with a great millstone round his neck. And if your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life crippled, than to have two hands and go to hell, into the fire that cannot be put out. And if your foot should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life lame, than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye should cause you to sin, tear it out; it is better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell where their worm does not die nor their fire go out.'

Communion Antiphon Cf Ps 118:49-50

Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low.

Next Week's Reading for the Opening of the First Assembly of the 5th Plenary Council of Australia

1st Reading: **Deut 30:10-14**

2nd Reading: **Phil 2:1-4**

Gospel: **Jn 14:23-29**

FEAST & MEMORIALS OF THE WEEK

Monday, 27 September - St Vincent de Paul (Memorial)



Born in Gascony (France) in 1581. Died in Paris on this day in 1660. A parish priest who worked for the apostolic renewal of the clergy, founding the Congregation of the Mission (Vincentians or Lazarists) for missionary work in rural areas and for the

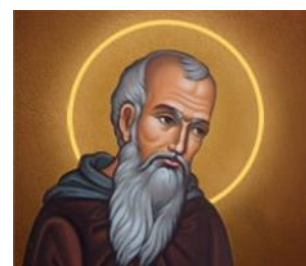
formation of clergy. Committed above all to the oppressed and disadvantaged, he founded the Daughters of Charity with Louise de Marillac to work with the needy. Remembered especially for his practical concern for the poor and the sick.

Wednesday, 29 September - Sts Michael, Gabriel, Raphael (Feast)

The cult of Michael, Gabriel and Raphael began in the East. In the West, this day first marked the dedication of a fifth century church of Saint Michael in Rome. This festival of Michaelmas came to be very popular and widely celebrated in medieval Europe. Raphael and Gabriel were added to the Roman calendar in the twentieth century, and the three are now celebrated together. In the Scriptures (for example, Revelation 12:7-9, Luke 1:26-38, Tobit 3:16-25), each of the three angels is named as a messenger of God, entrusted with special divine missions on earth.



Thursday, 30 September - St Jerome (Memorial)



Born about 340 at Strido on the Adriatic coast. Died in Bethlehem on this day in 420. Baptised in Rome while studying the classics, became a hermit in Syria for a time and was ordained a priest. Later retained as papal secretary by Saint Damasus

(11 December). Began work on a new Latin translation of the Bible, known as the Vulgate. Finally settling in Bethlehem where he founded monasteries, he devoted himself to studying the Scriptures, writing, and teaching. Often irascible and intolerant, he is remembered for his asceticism and scholarship and, above all, for his incomparable service to the word of God



Friday, 1 October - St Theresese of the Child of Jesus (Memorial)

Born at Alençon (France) in 1873. Died of tuberculosis at Lisieux on 30 September 1897. From a devout family, she entered a Carmelite

monastery at fifteen, where she embraced the suffering of her ill-health with love and in service to the missionary spread of the gospel. Known through her popular autobiography and loved for her unaffected simplicity. Remembered for her humble obedience and her fidelity to ordinary duties as the path to sanctity.



Saturday, 2 October - The Holy Guardian Angels (Memorial)

The Memorial of the Holy Guardian Angels, officially observed every 2nd of October, is a memorial of the Catholic Church in honour of

the holy angels entrusted by God to guide us in words and deeds, and to protect us from evil. As Jesus says in the Gospel, Matthew 18:10, "See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly Father." Thus, the belief in the existence and the devotion to the holy angels is a significant part of our Catholic faith. Knowing that a holy angel is ever present by our side should comfort us, especially in difficult times, and remind us to live in the righteous path of the Lord.

Evening with Mary - Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary

Join us on the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, where we will be reflecting on this feast day and the importance of Mary in our Catholic life.



Date: Thursday, 7 October

Time: 7:00 – 8:30 PM

Platform: See <https://www.sydneycatholicyouth.org/events/> for more information

For more information, contact Sydney Catholic Youth at info@sydneycatholicyouth.org

REFLECTIONS ON MARK 9:38-43. 45. 47-48

Have you thought? Jealousy

The disciples are portrayed as being jealous of someone healing in the name of Jesus. It is almost an intellectual property argument – you can't use Jesus' name to heal, only we can 'cause we're with Jesus. Their attitude sounds quite childish but it is an attitude we encounter all the time – and are perhaps guilty of ourselves at times. In our world that encourages competitive behaviour at every turn, Jesus' attitude is a challenging one – if good is being done, why care who gets the credit for it? Perhaps politicians would get more done if they weren't concerned about getting credit for what they do.

Living the Gospel - Cut it out!

The thought of cutting off a hand or foot or tearing out an eye seems a bit extreme if taken literally. Whilst Jesus didn't mean for us to do a bit of self-surgery, if we find ourselves caught in behaviour that is self-destructive or hurtful to others, the only solution is quite literally to 'cut it out'. We know within ourselves when our actions are life-giving or life-harming. Surprisingly we often persist with harmful behaviour even when we know it's harmful. Jesus' solution is simple: cut out the negative behaviour and get back on track. That's the principle behind Reconciliation.

Gospel Focus - Anyone not against us is for us

It is sometimes quite baffling why the movement for ecumenical dialogue is so laboured and apparently delivering such limited results. It seems that it is human nature to dwell much more on what makes us different rather than on what we have in common. Unfortunately, efforts to build dialogue between Christian churches seem to inevitably turn up the differences that impede dialogue more than the commonalities that foster dialogue. Jesus made it clear that 'anyone who is not against us is for us'. Perhaps if we focus on the common goal of leading people to Jesus we can get beyond the differences that set us against each other.

You have been saved by grace

From a letter of St Polycarp to the Philippians

Polycarp and the Elders with him, to the Church of God sojourning in Philippi: all mercy and peace to you, from God Almighty and Jesus Christ our Saviour.

When you welcomed those copies of the True Love and took the opportunity of setting them forward on their road, I rejoiced with you in Jesus Christ. The chains that bound them were the badges of saints, the diadems of men truly chosen by our Lord and God. I rejoiced too that your firmly rooted faith, so well-known since the earliest times, still flourishes and bears fruit for our Lord Jesus Christ. He bore the burden of our sins even as far as suffering death, and *God raised him up, releasing him from the pains of the underworld; you did not see him but still you believed in him, in unspeakably glorious joy*. Many desire to come into this joy, knowing that *you are saved by grace, not by works*, – not by your actions but by the will of God through Jesus Christ.

So gird up your loins and serve God in fear and sincerity. Leave aside empty vanities and vulgar error, *believing in him who raised up our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead and gave him glory and a throne on his right hand, to whom are subject all things in heaven and earth, whom everything that has breath serves, who is coming as the judge of the living and of the dead: God will require vengeance for his blood from any who disobey him*.

Now he who raised him from the dead will also raise us up if we do his will and walk according to his commandments and love the things which he loved, if we refrain from all unrighteousness, covetousness, love of money, evil speaking, and false witness, if we *do not render evil with evil, abuse for abuse, blow for blow, or curse for curse, but if we remember what the Lord taught when he said, Do not judge, that you may not be judged; forgive and you will be forgiven; be merciful and you will receive mercy. For whatever you measure out to other people will be measured out to you also... Blessed are the poor, and they who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the Kingdom of God*.



A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney: Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police.

Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

Just for Laughs

If I keep stress-eating at this level, the buttons on my shirt will start socially distancing from each other!