



St Paul Apostle Catholic Community

One Family

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31st Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A, 4th-5th November, 2017

THIS MONTH OF THE 'HOLY SOULS'

November 1st was the Feast of All Saints, to honour all those human beings who live with God in heaven in perfect happiness. The rest of this month is focussed on those whom Tradition calls the 'holy souls'. We remember and we pray for all those who have died who may need our prayers, so that they might see God face to face and experience the fullness of God's love.

Each of us knows people near and dear to us who have died. There are those who were part of our family, perhaps even our mother or father, sister or brother. There are friends who are no longer with us. There are others who have touched our lives and influenced us to become better people. But today we remember not only all those people who were special to us but all the 'faithful departed'. We offer to the God of love and mercy all who have been baptised, all who have been joined to Jesus Christ through faith and baptism. We ask God to give them complete pardon, joy, happiness, life and peace in his presence.

But what of non-Christians, of those who have never been baptised and have never known Jesus Christ? 'On this mountain,' Isaiah assures us in our First Reading for the Feast of All Souls, 'the Lord ... will prepare a banquet for all peoples.' Not just for a chosen few, then, but for all! Every living person has been created by God; every living person is unique and loved by God. Would God want to lose any of those whom God has made in his own likeness? Would God want to lose any of those for whom his Son died?

We are reminded of God's love for us the in Second Reading for the Feast when St Paul reminds us: 'what proves God's love for us is that Christ died for us ...' In the gospel we hear Jesus himself speaking words of comfort and encouragement both for us and for all the faithful departed: 'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest.'

But why do we feel the need to pray for those who have died? If the dying and rising of Jesus has gained for them everlasting life, what can our prayers achieve? To help the souls in purgatory, we say, to release them from suffering into the presence of God.

But what is purgatory? We don't know exactly. Perhaps it's a blinding flash that comes to those who have just died; a vivid awareness about just how huge is God's love for them. Perhaps in that blinding flash of insight they are also aware of their own selfishness and lack of love. Perhaps in that blinding flash of insight they turn totally to God and in the 'fire' of God's unlimited love they are instantly purified.

The word 'purgatory' simply means 'cleansing'. Too often we think of it as a kind of waiting room, where God must keep us like naughty children, till we say we are sorry. We speak of 'days' and even of 'years' spent in a place, and of 'indulgences' as remissions of a sentence.

Here in this life we live in a time and a place, but in God there is no time and there are no boundaries. There is only an immediate present, an everlasting now. And so our prayers offered in time can help those who have died today, yesterday, last year, and even long ago. They can even help and sustain the dying at that time when God will be fully revealed to them.

The thief who died on the cross next to Jesus was given immediate entry into paradise. He recognised Jesus for what he was, as the human face of God. There was no talk of making up for sin, no talk of satisfying the justice of God, and certainly no talk of appeasing God's anger. There was only Jesus' offer of total forgiveness and his wonderful promise and welcome: 'This day you will be with me in paradise!'

Dying and the moment of death may be all the purification, all the purgatory, which any person of good will needs.

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This Week

SUNDAY 5th Nov
 9am, 11am, 6pm Mass
 Baptism at 12.30pm

MONDAY 6th Nov
 8.30am Rosary
 9.00am Mass

TUESDAY 7th Nov
Melbourne Cup Day
 9.30am Rosary
10.00am Mass

WEDNESDAY 8th Nov
 6.30pm Rosary
 7.00pm Mass

THURSDAY 9th Nov
 8.30am Rosary
 9.00am Mass

FRIDAY 10th Nov
 8.30am Rosary
 9am Mass
 9.30am Divine Mercy

SATURDAY 11th Nov
 10.30am Reconciliation
 6pm Mass

SUNDAY 12th Nov
 9am, 11am, 6pm Mass
 Baptism at 12.30pm



Parish Calendar, News & Events

DIARY

- 7th Nov:** Melbourne Cup Day
(Mass changed to 10am)
8th Nov: Mass for Deceased at 7pm
9th Nov: Come Away Day at Holy Cross
15th Nov: Senior's Trip
21st Nov: Talk by Compassionate Friends
25/26th Nov: Feast of Christ the King
3rd Dec: 1st Sunday of ADVENT Year B

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Dying and the moment of death may be all the purification, all the purgatory, which any person of good will needs. What loving parent would not open wide the arms of love to their child who was truly sorry for doing wrong? If the Father of the lost son could run and embrace with such tenderness and affection the prodigal coming home, surely we can trust that God will do the same for all others who turn to him with sincere sorrow in their hearts?

If we can take God at his word, if we can recognise that God never stops loving us, if we can appreciate that Jesus Christ died so that we might live, should we not somehow rethink our ideas about purgatory? Should we not leave to God how he takes and uses our prayers for the dead? Should we not make more of that marvellous truth which we declare in our Masses for the Dead: 'Lord, for your faithful people, life is changed, not ended, and when the body of our earthly dwelling lies in death, we gain an eternal dwelling place in heaven'?

by Fr. Brian Gleeson, C.P.

A LETTER FROM THE PROVINCIAL

To the Parishioners of St Paul
Apostle Parish, Endeavour Hills

Dear brothers and sisters,

I am very pleased to be able to announce to you the appointment of Father Kevin Dance CP as Parish priest of St. Paul Apostle Parish. This appointment was made this week by His Grace, Archbishop Hart. Fr Kevin's appointment commences officially on Dec. 1st, 2017.

Fr Kevin is a religious well known to the Church in Australia. He is a professionally trained and highly skilled counsellor and facilitator. He has served two terms as Provincial of our Holy Spirit Province. Fr Kevin has served as parish priest of our Sydney inner city parish of Marrickville and our Port Moresby parish of St Joseph. After completing his terms of office as Provincial, Fr Kevin was sent by the



Passionist Superior General to establish our Passionist Presence as an NGO at the United Nations. He served there for 10 years, focusing on issues of human rights, environment and other JPIC issues. Fr Kevin was also the Provincial who dialogued with the Archdiocese for the Passionist to receive responsibility for the pastoral care of the parish of St Paul Apostle.

I am grateful to Fr Brian Gleeson for shouldering the responsibilities for St Paul Apostle parish these last months, which he has done with great generosity and extraordinary energy. I am also grateful to Fr Jose, Fr Tony Egar and Fr Ray Brain for their assistance over these last few months

Finally I would like to express my thanks to each and everyone of you, the parishioners, for your patience in waiting for this decision to be made.

With my prayers and best wishes

Fr Tom McDonough CP
Provincial Superior

CONGRATULATIONS to Estelle Scarcella, Theodore James Ribeiro Hoban and Luka William Balta who are being welcomed into the Catholic Community through the sacrament of Baptism this weekend. We offer them and their family the support of our prayers as they take this important step in faith

REMEMBERING OUR DECEASED RELATIVES AND

FRIENDS: Our special annual Mass for deceased relatives and friends will be on **Wednesday evening November 8th at 7pm.** As has been the custom for many years the Cross will be in the gathering space next weekend for you to write the names of people you would like to pray for and they be remembered in all the Masses offered during November.



COME AWAY DAY: Holy Cross on November 9th 10am-3pm- this is the last one for this year- why not treat yourself before the rush up to Christmas begins! BYO lunch and a donation of \$20 is welcomed

SENIORS TRIP: Wednesday November 15th 9.30am to 3pm. This will be to Abbotsford

Convent, one of the heritage sites of Victoria. Please sign up soon if you would like to come along. There is a beautiful chapel there, some galleries, a nice garden and three different eating places. If you would prefer it you could bring a picnic lunch and have it in the grounds. Cost : \$15-20.00 depending on numbers and cost of transport. Please sign up this weekend or by Wed 8th at the latest.



A TALK BY COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS
NOVEMBER 21ST AT 7.30PM IN THE ANNEXE.:

The Compassionate Friends support parents who have the grief of losing a child or a sibling . Many people are uncertain of what to say or how to support someone who has lost a loved one, especially a child or a brother or sister. On top of this, many people have never heard of The Compassionate Friends Victoria and therefore are unaware of the support they can provide to bereaved families. The Compassionate Friends Victoria have a number of education programs that can be tailored to suit any audience and every program is presented by a trained speaker with lived experience.

ON NOVEMBER 21ST AT 7.30PM Sue Brown from Compassionate Friends will guide us through an evening of information, reflection, and conversation about coping with the loss of a child or a sibling or about how best to support one another and people we know at times of such losses. Please sign up so we get an idea of numbers for the speaker. Please pass this information on to other family and friends.

SAVE A DATE: DECEMBER 9TH 10AM-3PM we hope to have a reflection day for Advent and to prepare for Christmas-if you are interested please put this date in your diary now !! There will be sign-up sheets mid way through November.

CHOIRS: Thank you to all our choirs who help us experience prayerful liturgy. If you have ever been part of a choir you will know that it can be fun and enjoyable but it is also a commitment. We therefore appreciate the time that people put in to prepare for the liturgy. If you attend 9am Mass and have previous experience of being in a choir and you know you could lend a voice the choir at 9am would welcome you to have a conversation about when they practice and how you could help as they just renewing themselves. Contact Trevor or Cecil after 9am Mass.

FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING: November 25th/26th when traditionally our Parish community celebrate our multiculturalism and diversity which is our great richness. It would be great if you could help us with translating the prayers of intercession into another language so that for each Mass we have each of the prayers in another language. Please contact the Parish Office on 97003781 or Sr Brigid if you are interested and willing to share in this way. We hope that we can also have as many people as are able to come in national dress and after the 11am Mass we will gather for shared finger food from different cultures.

WELLSPRINGS ANNUAL DINNER, is the annual fundraising for Wellsprings for Women. This year the dinner will be on **FRIDAY, 17th November 2017** at 6.30pm. Venue is ST. PAUL—RECEPTION HALL (32-34 Plunkett Rd, Dandenong 3175) Guest speaker on the night is MS HELEN KAPALOS (Chairperson of Victoria Multicultural Commission) Cost \$60pp (incl. dinner, wine, beer & soft drinks). Booking can be made over the phone to 9701 3740 or email: fundraising@wellspringsforwomen.com.

PARISH NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE

A group of parishioners have started working on the event. More information will be out soon. Keep an eye on this space. Contact Louis 0419 008 173 or Vianney 0438 700 675



Please note that due to public holiday, morning Mass on the 7th November will be at 10am



Sunday Readings

THIS WEEK:

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Malachi 1: 14-2: 2, 8-10;
1 Thess 2: 7-9, 13
Mt 23: 1-12

NEXT WEEK:

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wis 6: 12-16;
1 Thess 4: 13-18
Mt 25: 1-3

www.universalis.com

This weekend we pray for:

Those who are sick

Li Tsu Lay, Emma Segovia, Lambert D'Silva, Gloria Jablam, Edgardo Sotiar; Elwood Esteban, Garry Howell, Kim Lay, Roselyne Benoit, Beryl Ratnayake, Dina Nagliati, Yap Djiang, Marie Martin, Emily Martin, Pat Garard, Muliaga Vaifale, Nicholas Lee, Joanne Withers, Raquel E. Guinto, Anne Silva, Gihan Tillekeratne, Shenelle Fernando, Crescenciana Tuazon, Lesley Nadarajah, Edna Fonseca, Joachim Fernandes, Giorgia Vella, Frederick Quinless

For those who have died

Joseph Solari, Marie-Therese Mondon, Shila Hanning, Zeta Florindo, Lorenz Varney, Renato Quinio, Jayaraman Chelliah, John Gomesz, Annie Ward, Felipe Barros, Felipe Bernardino, Mata Vulic, Clarence Turner, Laura Costa, Aurelia Malig, Aurelia Concepcion, Jose T Trijo, Ante Babaric, Filomena D'Amelio, Jorge Canales, Patrick Johnson, Maureen Pearce, Maria Krypciak, Grazia Scarlata, Fred Herrich, Anna Di Marcantonio, Ljuba, Pasquale Lamanna, Irene Gonsalves, Placido Artienda, Percival Rafferty, Anthony Dinh V Pham, Ana Lorenc, All who are named on the Cross

May they rest in peace



St Paul Apostle Catholic Community

Priests:

Fr Brian Gleeson CP
(Adm)

Pastoral Associates:

Sr Joan Smith CP
Sr Brigid Murphy CP

Parish Staff:

Bursar: Gillian Velupillay
Secretary: Didi Karkas

Passionist Community

Fr Brian Gleeson CP
Fr Chris Mithen CP
Fr Jose Mathew CP

Sisters of Cross and Passion

Sr Brigid Murphy CP
Sr Joan Smith CP
Karen Englebretsen

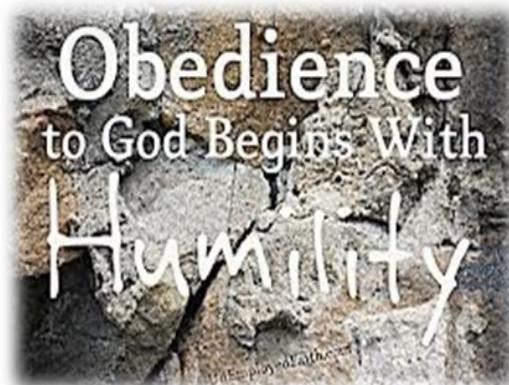
St Paul Apostle
North Primary
School - 9700 6068
Mrs Mary Lucas

St Paul Apostle
South Primary
School - 9700 3663
Principal
Mr. Paul Gleeson

St John's Regional
College - 9791 3366
Principal
Mr Tim Hogan



Roster for next weekend 4th-5th November (1st Sunday of month)				
	6pm	9am	11am	6pm
Welcome	Judy Tarranto, Bettina D'Rozario Beryl Barnfield	Marina Nadarajah Rita Constanzo	Antoinette Gargano Damian Kearney	Julian Disanayake volunteer
Sacristan	Mark Rolfe	Denver De Rozairo	Yvonne Sherwin	Volunteer
Readers & Commtr	Emily or Lindley Ah-Qune, Kathleen Stewart Mary Pegram	Virendra Jayatileke Mary Moore	Rhonda <i>or</i> Michael O'Connor Geraldine Mutthumani Maximus Anthony	Aidan Del Socorro Pierre Mendonca
Gifts	Beryl Barnfield Helen Sanders	Margaret Magee Danny & Rose Sugunasekera	Shalet Mamachan Ashlyn Mamachan	
Communion	Gertrude Akom Jolene Stewart Jenny Satya Graha Denise Ritchie Jessica Satya Graha Jeremy Ferrao Karen Maillard	Sandra & David McGuire Esteban Morales Sig Romano Errie Gunawan, Pierre Marion	Vianney & Alex Clark Louis Newman Crystal Jayamaha Antoinette Gargano Bryant Jayamaha Rinku Arora Jean Jansz	Pierre Mendonca Margaret Keating Tania Mendez Maureen Dawson Anne Kankanige Volunteer
Servers	Jocelyn, Avinda, Ananya, Christopher	Mark Harper, Joyen, Tara Luke	Calvin, Cassandra, Joaquin, Kiara, Brodie	Lakni Schron Adrian
Roster for next weekend 11th-12th November (2nd Sunday of month)				
	6pm	9am	11am	6pm
Welcome	Sue Sharp Peter Miller Anne Peters	Siro De Rozairo Denver De Rozairo	Cecile Boissezon Tanis & Sharon Normington	Volunteers
Sacristan	Lien Phan	Anton Nadarajah	Volunteer	Nona Sangalang
Readers & Commtr	Natasha Noronha Denise Rodgers Reg Young	Medgee Gontram Milroy Martyn	Yvonne Sherwin, Glen Johnson, Rinku Arora	Mignonne Meerwald Maureen Dawson
Gifts	Sujeeva & Tania Wick-ramaratne	Siro De Rozairo Denver De Rozairo	Yolaine Chaperon	
Communion	Marie-Claire Maillard Celine Quinless Denis Rice Grace Tyszka Neluska Sendapperuma Helen Sanders Kathleen Stewart	Siro & Denver De Rozairo Dharshi Alwis Aloma Perera Edna & Bernard David Anton Nadarajah	Anabela Costa Michael O'Connor Sai Dlinger Joseph Allas Josephine Khoshaba Daniella Thevanesan Binitha Mathews	Swineetha Disanayake Daniel & Marie Mas-set
Servers	Jocelyn, Avinda Ananya, Christopher	Mark Harper, Ashvika, Casey	Calvin, Cassandra, Joaquin, Kiara	Lakni Adrian
Cuppa	<i>4th Sunday of the month</i>			
Flowers Anabela Costa	Church Prep Team 4 G Velupillay	Communion to the sick (after 9am mass) Antoinette Gargano	View Hills: - Friday 24th November Mass at Reema Blvd Wing Marie Nelson	



Sacraments:

Baptism are held on the 1st & 2nd Sundays of the month. Preparation is on the 3rd Sunday of the month. **Parish Office**

Marriages require 6 months notice to one of the priests, participation in a FOCUS marriage preparation program, or a CatholicCARE Course.

Anointing of the Sick is held during Mass on the 1st Friday of the Month at 9am. Before going to hospital for major surgery, why not ask one of the priests to pray with you and anoint you.

Children's Sacraments require full participation in the preparation phase.

Registration forms in the Parish Centre