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# Sacred Heart Parish

NORTH ALBURY

## Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

29th September / 30th September

### Parish Administrator

Fr Martin Cruickshank

### Parish Office

Fran Kernaghan—Wednesday & Friday

Gemma Whitehead—Monday

9.00 am – 2.00 pm

Phone: 60251516

Email: [sacredheartna@gmail.com](mailto:sacredheartna@gmail.com)

Web: <http://sacredheartnorthalbury.com/>

### Mass Times

SATURDAY VIGIL: 6.00 pm

SUNDAY: 9.30 am

WEEKDAYS MASSES: This Week:

Tues 11am Mercy Place, Level 2, Clare Sheedy Lounge. Includes sacrament of anointing.

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 9.30am

### RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY: 5.15 PM-5.45 PM

BAPTISMS—By appointment

Preparation Course: 0411 883 661

### CHURCH STORES.

Religious gifts and supplies shipped overnight. Phone (02) 9233 2268.

[churchsupplies@ozmail.com.au](mailto:churchsupplies@ozmail.com.au)

PAULINE BOOKS AND MEDIA

Phone (03) 9882 3424

## Social Justice Statement 2018–2019

### A Place to Call Home:

#### Making a home for everyone in our land

*We celebrate Social Justice Sunday on 30 September. This year, the Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement is titled: A Place to Call Home: Making a home for everyone in our land. The Statement challenges us all to confront Australia's growing rate of homelessness and unaffordable housing.*

The latest Census figures show that more than 116,000 Australians are homeless – something unacceptable for a rich and well-resourced nation like ours. Yet these people are only the tip of the iceberg: welfare agencies report growing numbers of families and individuals struggling to meet the cost of mortgages or rents and turning to specialist housing services, which are often unable to meet demand. House prices and even rents are spiralling out of reach of too many families and placing huge financial stress on ordinary people, even when they are employed. For those living on pensions or allowances, finding secure housing can be a far greater challenge – one that often takes a terrible toll on social wellbeing and mental health.

The Statement draws on the example of people who have gone out of their way to assist sisters and brothers in great need, of agencies and charities of the Church that have provided shelter, safety and care, and of Pope Francis, who himself has reached out to men and women on the streets of Rome and reminded us forcefully of the rights of people experiencing homelessness around the world.

The Bishops consider the extent of our housing crisis and Australia's falling rates of home ownership. They focus especially on those in our society who are most vulnerable to housing insecurity and homelessness. We are reminded that safe and secure housing is a human right, asserted both by the Church's social teaching and by the Declaration of Human Rights. It is the inherent dignity of each brother and sister in need of a place to call home that urges us on to confront the growing challenge of homelessness and housing insecurity in Australia.

For further details visit the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council website [www.acsjc.org.au](http://www.acsjc.org.au)

# Parish Community



*We pray for those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith especially:*

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Bruce Armstrong, Jock Gordon, Lorna Knox, Bill Persik Eileen Gill, Sr Margaret Schmetzer, Maryanne Kennedy, Pat Densley, Ellen Widdup, Evelyn Burke.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Hayden Corrigan, Louise Sowrey, Tony Chappell, Mal McPherson, Ron Brindley, Douglas Tooth, Jenny McLaurin, Dawn Rixon, Clare Maloney, Bernie Moncrieff, Edith Cane, Vicky Gyoles, Elinor Monk, Arnold Corte, Cecil Murray, Alfred Jeffery, Barbara Hartwig, Denes Todor, Roy Clear, John Bereza, Vera Smith, Shirley Thomas, Phyllis Jones, Alice Conroy, Armer Boyle, Joseph McKeown.  
*Gather our loved ones into your arms. Quiet our doubt and anger and send us your healing grace. Through Christ our Lord.*

## Prayer for the Sick

*We pray for all those who are sick. May they draw strength and healing from God's presence with them and from our prayers and thoughts for them.*

*May they have peace in their hearts and know they are greatly loved by all.*

*We offer our prayers believing that God's presence and power can do more than we can ever know. Amen*

## ROSTERS

Sat / Sun: 29th / 30th September		
Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
<b>Commentator</b>	Virginia Mitsch	Sr Carina Morton
<b>Lector 1</b>	Michael Byrnes	Ray Murtagh
<b>Lector 2</b>	Barbara Godde	Colleen Day
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Pauline Mulquiney Noelene Cruise	Fran Kernaghan Peter & Dianne Treacy
<b>Cantor Musicians</b>	Margaret & Ed Brown Judy Foley	Ann McIntyre Catherine Cutler
<b>Counters: Michael Byrnes</b>		<b>Cleaning Group: Group 3</b>

Sat /Sun: 6th / 7th October		
Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
<b>Commentator</b>	Anthony Foley	Roy Thompson
<b>Lector 1</b>	Pat Hickman	Gavin Dykes
<b>Lector 2</b>	volunteer	Ray Murtagh
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Catherine Cutler Jeneice Harding	Pauline Willis Gemma Whitehead Marjorie Serbinek
<b>Cantor Musicians</b>	Volunteer please Catherine Cutler	Judy Lindsay Val Hayes
<b>Counters: Nardia Scarvell &amp; Liz Simon</b>		<b>Cleaning Group: Group 4</b>

## Prayer for Social Justice

God of Compassion, your love for us is revealed in your beloved son Jesus, who was born into homelessness, lived with nowhere to lay his head, and died for us in agony on the cross.

Inspire us to act in justice, by all means at our disposal, to right the wrongs of peoples who are suffering the deprivations of homelessness, and to see in them the dignity of a brother and sister redeemed by Jesus Christ.

Let us have the commitment, as people of the Gospel, to be ever mindful of our obligations we have to the poor and marginalised, to work in your name, O God, to turn sorrow into joy and to bring all those who live in darkness into your own wonderful light.  
Amen.

## Thought for the Week ( Pope Francis):

**“We cannot wait any longer to deal with the structural causes of poverty, in order to heal our society from an illness that can only lead to new crises.”**

# Parish News

## Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

A reminder that the next meeting will be held on Tuesday 2 October at 6.00pm. At this gathering the members of the council will address issues relating to our strategic plan for the future.

Please note this meeting will be held in Sacred Heart Hall as on this occasion we may need a larger working space.

## Outreach Group

Following a discussion at the Parish Council meeting it was decided to re-form the Outreach group in the Parish.

Outreach group members would need to visit parishioners who are unable to go to Mass, unwell, lonely or bereaved. If you are interested in joining the Outreach group please contact Barbara Godde on 6021 7868 for further information.

## Thanks

Thanks to those who organised, catered for and attended the morning tea to celebrate the twenty fifth anniversary of my ordination to the ministerial priesthood. The generous gift of the set of binoculars will come in handy for practical use during my holiday sojourn at the spring carnival.

Our next **Parish Morning Tea** will be held next Sunday 7 October at the conclusion of our celebration of Eucharist. If you are able to help Fran and Ann Marie with the provision of cakes, slices etc. please email or contact the parish office on Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday.

## *Feast Days*

Monday 1st Oct – St Therese of the Child Jesus

Tuesday 2nd Oct—Holy Angels

Thursday 4th Oct—St Francis of Assisi



*This weekend we welcome to the community of the church through the sacrament of baptism Isla Lea Hinch daughter of Shaun & Dimity; Abel Bernard May son of Jonathon & Cassie; Marlie Cate Hehir daughter of Ryan & Zoe.*

## Plenary Council

Many thanks to those who were able to attend our second deanery listening and dialogue session in connection with the 2020 Plenary Council. Over sixty people gathered of varying ages to offer their reflections on possible directions for the Catholic Church in Australia and to listen to one another's concerns, ideas and stories of faith.

This plenary council or full council of Catholics won't begin until October 2020. It's being planned as an event where hundreds of Catholic representatives will deliberate on how the Catholic Church in Australia moves forward - in a world where the authority of its clergy leadership is under unprecedented challenge. It's a bit of a radical idea on consultation - where lay Catholics both women and men, brothers and nuns, all bishops, ethnic catholic churches, the youth, the marginalised, ex-catholics, survivors of sexual abuse, basically everyone is being called to contribute to the critique and future planning of the Catholic church in Australia.

In the coming months there will be an opportunity within our parish community to come together in small groups to participate in the listening and dialogue process or go to the website to make your own individual response:

<http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/>

## Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers Rosters

Your rosters are now available for collection from side table at Swan Street entrance to church.

Please let the office know if you would like your roster sent by email.

# Liturgy of the Word

*Twenty-Sixth Sunday of the Year—Year B*

*Readings: Num 11: 25-29; James 5: 1-6; Mark 9: 38-43,45,47-48*

*Responsorial Psalm:*



***The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.***



## Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Your word, O Lord, is truth:  
make us holy in the truth.

Alleluia!

## Reflection on the Readings

The first part of today's gospel deals with the disciples' jealousy at someone else 'cashing in' on Jesus' name and authority. It is a continuation of their limited understanding about the message and ministry of Jesus. They still cling to an idea that Jesus is going to rise up in power against the forces of Rome and, in the aftermath, they are going to be sitting pretty as associates of this powerful figure. The disciples have been blinded by their dreams of glory and forgotten that the real story is that people are being cured and having demons cast out. Rather than celebrating the healing that is occurring in Jesus' name, the disciples are jealous that it's someone else who is getting the credit. Jesus assures them, and us, that any good work being undertaken genuinely in his name is to be welcomed. It is a reminder to us that sometimes we look down on the work of others because 'they're not one of us', or 'they're not doing it our way'.

The second portion of the gospel is one of the really challenging teachings of Jesus. Drawing on the image of the community as being a whole body, the teaching suggests that it is better to remove the part of the body/community that is causing sinfulness than have the whole body/community perish. It is a concept we are familiar with in modern medicine: sometimes it is necessary to remove diseased tissue to prevent the spread of disease. We are reminded that if we surround ourselves with negative people and negative influences, we too will become negative. If we separate ourselves from negative influences and surround ourselves with positive ones then the positive aspects of our lives will flourish.

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.

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. (Greg Sunter)

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