



Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time 19th / 20th September 2020

Parish Clergy

Fr Martin Cruickshank

Parish Office

Gemma Whitehead—Monday

Fran Kernaghan—Wednesday, Friday

9.00 am – 2.00 pm

Phone: 60251516

Email: sacredheartna@gmail.com

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

Mass at Sacred Heart North Albury

Weekend Mass Times:

Saturday 6.00pm and Sunday 9.30am.

Thanks to our I.T. gurus the 9.30am celebration of the Eucharist will be live streamed.

The mass will then be downloaded on YouTube as per normal. Simply click on the YouTube link provided on our website.

Weekday Masses This Week:

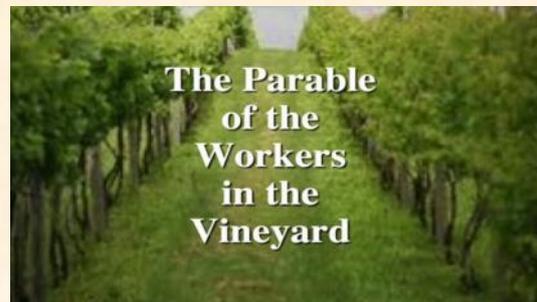
Tuesday, Wednesday, & Friday at 9.30 am

PLEASE NOTE NO THURSDAY MASS THIS WEEK

Gospel Discussion/Reflection

In today's climate of social distancing here is an opportunity to meet via Zoom and discuss and reflect on the following Sunday's gospel. Each meeting is on Friday evening at 5.00pm and is for 30 minutes. If you are interested please email Catherine Cutler at:

cmmc4321@gmail.com or phone 0419 518 791



The justice and integrity of God flow throughout the whole of creation. God's generosity knows no bounds, and sometimes – as Jesus shows us in today's parable – it is too much for human minds to comprehend. Quite simply, God's ways are not our ways.

Isaiah, in the **First Reading**, calls us to turn back and seek out the Lord. The Lord is near to us, and full of mercy and forgiveness.

The response to the **Psalm** declares that the Lord is close to all who call him. Our Lord is kind, full of compassion, and his abounding love is for the whole of creation. Such wonderful greatness cannot be measured.

Paul declares that life itself is Christ, and his evident enthusiasm encourages us to fully embrace a life centred on Christ. (**Second Reading**)

In today's **Gospel** passage, Jesus uses a parable of workers in the vineyard to challenge and stretch our thinking about those who are called to live and work for the Kingdom of God. We are all equal in God's eyes, and there is no room for human ideas of hierarchy and self-importance. The first will be last and the last will be first.

As we come to pray together, with Christ at the centre of all that we are and do, how might we live out these radical Gospel values in a world that is in so much need of the kindness and compassion of God?

May we have the grace to listen to the cry of the prophet, and to seek the Lord with all our heart, mind and spirit. In this coming week, let us pray for each other with a generous love, recognising that we are all equal as we work together in the vineyard of the Lord.

Parish Community



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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Lesley Harbick, Therese Galanakis, Andrew Lindner, Santina Battellino, Sr Dominica Sheahan, Corazon Ivill, Mary Scholtens, Patricia O'Connor, George Chomatek.

ANNIVERSARIES: Maureen Brady, Marlene Mirani, Sandra Syphers, Maureen Brady, Dorothy Fegan, Nicole Shirley, Bernard Rolfe, Neil Russell, Gwenith McSpadden, Keith Fegan, Amanda Bowen, Jill Mitsch, Kerry Osmond, Patricia Kernaghan, Geoffrey Thompson, Laurel Lindsay, Rose Ries, Sr Mary Aquinas, Ray Desmond, Ivy Binding, Muriel Freund, Dawn Tenteye, Glen Simpson, Wayne Scott, Michael Conroy.

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

First Communion 2020

Thanks to our year 4 teachers at St Anne's, Gemma Burke, Jessica Shephard and Allyson McDonald for preparing our children for the celebration of First Eucharist. Gratitude is expressed to Cassandra Jones, our Religious Education Co-ordinator for planning and assembling our creative and engaging liturgy and to the St Anne's leadership team and staff who by their attendance demonstrated the importance of communal prayer and worship. Please keep these children in your prayers and their parents and families that through participation in the Eucharist their faith may be nurtured and strengthened.

Prayer for the Children Who Made Their First Communion

Lord Jesus Christ, bless the children who have received Holy Communion for the first time.

May this day be a step toward a life-long love of the Eucharist.

Give them a hunger for this sacred food so that they turn to you for comfort, guidance and wisdom as they grow.

Nurture in them a desire to give and not simply to take . . .

But to bring your love to those whom they meet, to develop a Christ-like love for all people . . .

As a Parish Community may we support these children and their families so that we may all work together in coming closer to You.

May you always know the peace of Jesus, the light of His love and joy of His life within you. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

Pope Francis Season Of Creation Prayer

Creator God, who made our beautiful world, appointed us as its guardians and gifted us with everything we need, forgive us for the times we cause it harm; for the times our way of life affects our neighbours.

Inspire us to care for the environment; to help rebuild lives and communities; to share in the griefs and anxieties, joys and hopes of all your people, so that all your creation may flourish.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



This weekend we welcome into the community of the Church through the sacrament of baptism **George Foley** son of Scott and Alexandra.

A Thought for the Week (Pope Francis):

"This is the time to re-acquaint ourselves with praying immersed in nature, where our gratitude to the creator God arises spontaneously."

Parish News

Holy Land Collection

Thanks to your generosity our special collection for the work of the Catholic Church in the Holy Land raised \$489.45. Our parish and diocesan contribution will be used to provide local Christians with health care, education, employment and housing. The collection for the Holy Land will also be used to maintain over seventy churches and shrines associated with the life of Jesus as well as schools, homes for orphan's, lodging for pilgrims and residences for Arab Christians most in need.

Connell Perry—Pastoral Placement

Connell Perry, a senior seminarian attending Vianney College returns to seminary life and routine after being resident in our parish community over the last two weeks.

Thanks to everyone for welcoming and encouraging him and to those who have invited him into your homes, your pastoral care of Connell has been much appreciated. In a particular way gratitude is extended to both St Anne's and Xavier School communities for engaging Connell's ministry in practical ways.

Thanks to those who have provided additional meals - an improvement on my chops and two veg!

Connell has participated in a range of pastoral activities and his enthusiastic, gentle, collaborative and prayerful nature has enhanced our parish life. Please remember him in prayer as he prepares for final exams and continues the journey of discernment towards priestly ordination.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF THE PARISH AND PRIESTS

Instead of the usual way collections have been taken up in the past, baskets are located at the entrance and the middle of the body of the church.

Second Collection

Envelopes & Direct Debit (Pastoral Planned Giving) and loose money are the only source of meeting the parishes financial commitments. This includes insurance, church and presbytery utility expenses, diocesan levies, repairs and maintenance, liturgical and pastoral activities, payment of secretarial staff.

First Collection

Used for presbytery household and housekeeping expenses. At the conclusion of each quarter the surplus is sent to diocesan chancery and placed in a central pool. It is from this central fund that each priest's designated stipend is paid. It is the responsibility of each priest to purchase and operate a motor vehicle from their given stipend.

Defibrillator Training

Thanks to the generosity of the St Anne's School community a defibrillator has been purchased and located in the church at the Swan Street entrance. Michael Regan conducted training in its use should such an emergency arise. Thanks to those who were in attendance. Please contact Michael Regan or Narelle Naughton after mass if you would like to be shown how the machine operates.

UPDATED COVID-19 DIOCESAN PROTOCOLS

If you are feeling unwell, have a cough or cold, sore throat or flu like symptoms please do not attend our physical gatherings as this puts others as well as yourself at risk.

After having your name registered or ticked off please use the hand sanitiser located at the four entrance points of the church at the beginning of our liturgical celebration and as you leave the church building.

Communion will begin with those on the car park side and then move to those seated on the Swan Street side. Please allow space between each recipient.

Eucharist

Holy Communion in the hand only.

Sacred Host to be offered only, not the Precious Blood.

No touching at the sign of peace.

No offertory procession.

No congregational singing.

No collection plates are to be used, but money/envelopes placed at collection points.

Face Masks

From Bishop Mark Edwards (18 August 2020)

Evidence is clear that close contact at church, or at weddings or funerals, has resulted in community transmission of COVID-19 in Australia and overseas. Evidence is also clear that face masks dramatically reduce the risk of spread. (See attached article or follow this link:

[https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-08-](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-08-06/mask-order-helped-avert-coronavirus-outbreak-in-sydney-aged-care/12527518)

[06/mask-order-helped-avert-coronavirus-outbreak-in-sydney-aged-care/12527518](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-08-06/mask-order-helped-avert-coronavirus-outbreak-in-sydney-aged-care/12527518))

Health authorities recommend the use of a mask in situations where social distancing is difficult, eg on public transport and at religious gatherings. The premier has asked (but not yet required) that church goers wear masks at church. Rather than get to the point of having further restrictions placed on our attendance numbers or of having mask-wearing imposed on all church attendees, I ask that in addition to all requirements around social distancing and hygiene, **parishioners be exhorted to wear masks at Mass.**

COVID-19 Testing

Under no circumstances should anyone awaiting COVID-19 test results (even without presenting symptoms) attend a Church or parish setting until a negative diagnosis is confirmed. Additionally, under no circumstances should anyone who is closely connected to people who are awaiting test results or who have tested positive attend.

Esencia High Tea

Esencia will be holding a regular monthly High Tea as a Women's Life Centre fundraiser. Come and celebrate a decadent High Tea in style. Slip into a pretty dress, pop a flower in your hair and celebrate Spring with friends.

Saturday 26th September—Two sittings available: 10am—midday and 1.30—3.30pm.

\$60 per person. Please book online **esencia-cafe.square.site** or for more information contact Andrew by email: esencia1@gmail.com

Liturgy of the Word

First reading Isaiah 55: 6-9

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near.

Let the wicked abandon their way, the evil ones their thoughts.

Let them turn back to the Lord who will take pity on them, to our God who is rich in forgiving;

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks.

Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts. The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm 94

R. The Lord is near to all who call him.

I will bless you day after day,
and praise your name for ever.

The Lord is great, highly to be praised,
His greatness cannot be measured. **R**

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.

How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. **R**

The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.

He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts. **R**

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia , alleluia!

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

A reading from St Paul's Letter to the Phil 1: 20-24, 27

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

The word of the Lord.



A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 20: 1-16

Jesus said to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour, he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, 'You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage.' So they went. At about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, 'Why have you been standing idle all day?' 'Because no one hired us,' they answered. He said to them, 'You go into my vineyard too'. In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, 'Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first.' So those who were hired last came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but grumbled at the landowner. 'The men who came last have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat.' He said, 'My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous? Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'" The Gospel of the Lord.