



St Paul Apostle Catholic Community

One Family

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24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B 14-15 September, 2024

With joy and hope, Archbishop Comensoli reflects on Pope's tour

Dear friends in Christ,

My warm and prayerful greetings to you. As I write this letter, Pope Francis has arrived in Timor Leste, having just concluded his visit to Papua New Guinea, Australia's closest neighbour. This is the third leg in his current apostolic visit to our part of the world—Asia and Oceania. The Pope's visit began in Indonesia, the most populous Muslim country in the world, and it was there that I travelled to last week. Why? Because we have a large Indonesian Catholic community in Melbourne, largely comprising of tertiary students and young families. To give expression to the communion of the Church by being with the Holy Father on his mission, I thought it appropriate to do so by representing those of our people from Indonesia. It was a wonderful three days.

Christian faith in Indonesia is old. The first Christian missionaries can be traced back to the 9th Century, with the Franciscans coming to the archipelago in the 14th Century, and yet, the Church I encountered in Jakarta is distinctively young. Perhaps this is a factor of Indonesia's younger age demographic, more generally. Whatever the reason, it was wonderful to be present among a youthful generation of Catholics, and a Church young in spirit and life.

Pope Francis undertook several encounters and gatherings in the short time he was in Jakarta. I was present at three of them: a gathering of clergy, religious, seminarians and catechists in the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Assumption; an interreligious meeting held in front of the Istiqlal Mosque, the largest mosque in South-East Asia; and the final Mass at Gelora Bung Karno Stadium. I thought I would share some brief reflections on these experiences.

While I spotted a few 'grey haired' attendees like me, the vast bulk of those present at the Cathedral gathering would have been under 60, and most of those under 50. It did my heart a lot of good to see groups of young religious women, lay catechists with their families, and a healthy number of seminarians. The Pope spoke of the importance of unity in faith expressed in the diversity of missions and cultures that make up Indonesia. I was taken by the large numbers of lay catechists that offer an essential ministry in the life of the Church in Indonesia, and their crucial and indispensable place in the proclamation of the Gospel in local communities.

The interreligious meeting took place in front of Istiqlal Mosque, which sits directly across the road from the Cathedral. There, the Holy Father and the Grand Imam,

Dr Nasaruddin Umar, met together, spoke together and signed a Declaration together, to defend human dignity and foster religious harmony for the sake of humanity. The Imam spoke of the need for moderation in faith, and the Pope spoke of the building of bridges among people of faith. This gathering was also the opportunity to visit a tunnel (the Tunnel of Friendship) between the Cathedral and the Mosque, symbolising the work of harmony and respect that links the two places of worship and their peoples.

Around 100,000 faithful gathered in the Stadium for Mass on the hot and humid evening. Just about everyone came in their parish and community faith groups, distinguished by brightly coloured polo shirts. And they brought their voices—and can Indonesian Catholics sing! Dignified yet simple, this was a Eucharistic liturgy to remember for its participation and joy. I was struck by the ways in which the varied cultural expressions coming from the different islands and peoples of Indonesia found a way into the Liturgy without losing the essence of our Roman Ritual. Here was worship expressing unity in diversity, of the inculturation of faith.

Throughout the few days I was in Jakarta, I kept coming back to a particular thought. Our local Church in Melbourne is fast shifting in its makeup. We are taking on a more Asian face of Christ, and a less Anglo-European one. How might this be accounted for in the way in which we live our Christian faith, and grow in our missionary outlook? What does a more Asian way in Christ look and feel like? And how do we embrace it with joy and hope? These are good questions to be facing into. I would certainly like to see how the youthfulness of the Church in Indonesia might find its way among us, as a sign of hope.

A culturally diverse Church. A distinctly young Church. A missionary-led Church with vibrant lay leadership. These are three features of the Church in Indonesia that manifested itself to me in the few days I had in Jakarta. It is not a perfect reality; nowhere is—but it was a sign worth seeing up close, and I am thankful to God for the time spent there.

There were many takeaways from this brief visit, but the Holy Father's call to be 'prophets of communion' that always share the 'joy of encountering Christ' is a deep invitation to us all. May the fruits of this apostolic visit to our neighbourly regions be rich and far-reaching.

With every grace and blessing, I remain,
Yours sincerely in Christ Jesus,

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli
Archbishop of Melbourne

(article from Melbourne Catholic Magazine)

Masses

Monday
9am

Tuesday
9am Mass

Wednesday
7pm Mass

Thursday
9am Mass

Friday
9am Mass

Saturday
6pm Mass

Sunday
9am, 11am, 6pm

Please note Sunday 11am is also
ONLINE

Please click on this link to follow

https://youtube.com/live/apkHcF_PoEY?feature=share

Reconciliation
Saturdays
10am—10.30am

Priests:
Fr Brendan Connell CP (PP)
Fr Sony Kannanaikal CP

Passionist Community
Fr Brendan Connell CP
Fr Sony Kannanaikal CP
Fr. Tuan Paul Anh-Do CP

Parish Staff:
Gillian Velupillay (Bursar)
Didi Karkas (Secretary)
Valerie Ferreira
(Safeguarding & Visitation)

St Paul Apostle North
Primary School
Ph. 9700 6068
Acting Principal
Mrs Monique Fallace

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

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

Readings for NEXT WEEK
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

First Reading

Wisdom 2:12. 17-20

A reading from the book of Wisdom

The godless say, "Let us lie in wait for the righteous one, who makes life inconvenient to us and opposes our actions; who reproaches us for sins against the law, and accuses us of sins against our training. Let us see if his words are true, and let us test what will happen at the end of his life; for if the righteous one is God's son, God will help him, and will deliver him from the hand of his adversaries. Let us test him with insult and torture, so that we may find out how gentle he is, and make trial of his forbearance. Let us condemn him to a shameful death, for, according to what he says, he will be protected."

Psalm

Save me, O God, by your name
And vindicate me by your might.
Hear my prayer, O God;
Give ear to the words of my mouth

For the insolent have risen against me,
The ruthless seek my life;
They do not set God before them

But surely, God is my helper;
The Lord is the upholder of my life.
With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you;
I will give thanks to your name, for it is good

Second Reading

James 3:16 – 4:3

A reading from the Letter of Saint James

Beloved,
Where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind.
But the wisdom from above is first pure; then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy.

And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your craving that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

God has called us through the good news,
to obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 9:30-37

They left that place and passed through Galilee. Jesus did not want anyone to know where they were, because he was teaching his disciples. He said to them, "The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men. They will kill him, and after three days he will rise." But they did not understand what he meant and were afraid to ask him about it. They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the road?" But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest. Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, "Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all." He took a little child whom he placed among them. Taking the child in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me."

For reflection

- Evangelii Gaudium Day is a day to celebrate the joy of the Gospel and share our hope with others.
- Jesus reveals himself as the one to be followed with one's whole heart and mind.
- We are called to serve the poor around us.
- The call of Jesus is summed up in the words of the Our Father, "Thy Will be Done".

We are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults

THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES

Most of the envelopes have been picked up. However, there are some which are still waiting to be collected. If you are looking for your new sets of thanksgiving envelopes, please approach Didi after Mass and she will give you the new sets of envelopes.

YOUNG ADULTS (age 18 to 25 years old)

This age Youth group will be gathering on **SUNDAY, 15 September in the Parish House**. If you wish to join in please contact parish office on 97003781 They usually gathers on **THIRD SUNDAY** of each month. Sometimes it holds in the an-nexe, but other times they have activities at other venue.

PARISH YOUTH GROUPS

4:12 YOUTH (our Parish Youth for grd 5 to yr 9)

At last month's gathering, the group had an opportunity to share their thoughts on the Bible story of the week under the guidance of Fr Sony. If you are interested in joining the group, please come along. The next event will be held on **FRIDAY, 13th September at 7pm** in the Tim O'Toole Annexe. A variety of activities is arranged for each gathering. For planning purposes, please contact Trish Brown on 0412 357 350 if you wish to attend.

2024 SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

If you wish to have your child to be part of this year's sacrament of Confirmation program, you are required to send the completed registration form by the **FRIDAY 4th of October, 2024** (you can obtain the registration form from our website or from the Parish office Tuesday-Friday 9am to 2pm. Your child must be in Grade 6 and have already received their Sacrament of Reconciliation & First Communion.

Below are the important dates which you & your child must attend to complete the program

- First Family Night Tuesday 15 Oct at 7pm follow by 4 classes either at our parish schools or After School Religious Education (ASRE) for those attending outside our parish school
- Last Family Night Tuesday, 19 November at 7pm
- Meet with Bishop on Wednesday, 20 November at 9.45am
- Confirmation Mass Saturday, 23 November at 2pm

WELLSPRINGS FOR WOMEN is having fundraising dinner to celebrate their 30th anniversary.

The event will be on **FRIDAY, 18th OCTOBER, 2024** at 6.30pm at **SPRINGVALE CITY HALL**, 18 Grace Park Ave, Springvale. Cost is \$110 per person. There will be lots of raffles, silent auction and Entertainment

To book you can use this QR code or contact Wellsprings on 9701 3740



MIGRANT YOUTH FESTIVAL

Coinciding with the World Day of Migrant and Refugees, the inaugural Migrant Youth Festival is a youth-led event designed to share and celebrate the gifts of young people from the diverse migrant communities of the Archdiocese of Melbourne. The event includes guest speakers, including Archbishop Peter A Comensoli, group activities, discussions and a lunch concert. Following the event, it will join the wider Archdiocese community at St Patrick's Cathedral for the Rosary Procession and the annual Migrant and Refugee Mass. Date is **SUNDAY, 29 September, 2024** from 9am to 3pm at Cathedral Hall, ACU Melbourne. Tickets are \$30 each. If you wish to join please register trybooking.com/CSAYK or scan this QR code no later than 15 September



SAFEGUARDING

The Safeguarding Unit (previously called the Professional Standards Unit) was established on 1 March 2018 and is structurally situated within the Archbishop's Office, and supersedes the Office of Professional Conduct and Ethics which operated from 2012-2017.

The Safeguarding Unit has been established to:

- provide advice and support across the Archdiocese to the leadership, clergy, employees and volunteers to ensure that children, young people and adults are safe from all forms of harm and abuse.
- promote, model and sustain a safeguarding culture within parishes, agencies and entities to ensure the safety, protection and well-being of children, young people and adults is paramount
- effectively respond to current and historical allegations of abuse and misconduct to meet the Archdiocese's moral, ethical and legal obligations.

Readings:

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr B

Isaiah 50:5-9
James 2:14-18
Mark 8:27-35

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr B

Wisdom 2:12. 17-20
James 3:16 – 4:3
Mark 9:30-37

www.universalis.com

This weekend we pray for:

Those who are sick

Sr. Joan Smith cp, Hector de Santos, Gladys Torres, Isabel Florindo, Teariki Sword, Rui Manuel Campos, Annette Tanner, Ruby Reid, Michael Arcaro, Danny Sugunasekera, Stephanie Kinson, Anton Jansz, Dorothy Locke, Piper Anne Spriggs, Grace Sprigg, Ronella Tyrell **and All those in aged care or homebound with chronic health issues**

Those who have died

Doreen Young, Roger Gray, Otto Harris, Bernard David, Victoria Moloney, Darryll Williams, Sakunthala Thuraisingham, Nicolette Gerxhi, Sean White, Paul Nemarich, Colleen Nunes, Wijeyasiri Fernando, Moses Nheu **and all who are named in our church memorial book**

May they rest in peace

BINGO NIGHT

Join us for a night of fun and games on our 10th anniversary

GAME | PRIZE | PARTY

FRIDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER

STARTS AT 7.30PM

at Tim O'Toole Annexe

For more information please contact

Louis 0419 008 173

Vianney 0438 700 675 or

Joe 0419 385 441



PIETY STALL

Don't forget to visit our Piety Stall.

We have some new items, of which you may need including Bible and some other books

St Paul Apostle Parish Endeavour Hills MINISTERS OF WORD/ COMMENTATORS 2024

	Saturday—6pm	Sunday 9am	Sunday 11am	Sunday 6pm
1 st Sunday	Mary Pegram Liz Spear	Virendra Jayetileke Alvita Dias	Anne Astin Rinku Arora	Stephen Nasalio Diane Heaton
2 nd Sunday	Marg Daly Liseby Lapierre	Grace Sudjono Rosa Mitchell	Mars Sota Beth Sota	Charlene Nheu Mignonne Meerwald
3 rd Sunday	Liz Flood Trevor Saldanha	Agnes Giam William Round	Diane Allegany Anne Astin	Jeremy Ferrao Reg Young
4 th Sunday	Mark Rolfe Karen Rolfe	Mary Moore Jodicee Tenisio	Mary Heaton Yvonne Sherwin	Marg Keating William Roncon
5 th Sunday	Marg Daly Trevor Saldanha	Janina Gorski Grace Sudjono	Jennifer Tanti Diane Allegany	Lakni Weerasekera Charlene Nheu