



PARISH OF HOLY SPIRIT AND ST ANTHONY'S

Postal Address: PO Box 85 Fairfield Vic 3078
Parish Office: 248 Raleigh Street, Thornbury East 3072
Email: hosan@cam.org.au
Web: www.melbournecatholic.org/hosan
Phone: 0394128439 or 0432576500



Holy Spirit Church
248 Raleigh Street
Thornbury East

Weekend Masses:
5pm Sat, 10am Sun

Weekday Masses:
Tuesday 9.15am
Thursday 9.15am
(Italian)

Parish Priest: Rev Shabin Kaniampuram IVDei
Assistant Priest: Rev Dixon Kuriapilly IVDei
Supporting Priest: Monsignor Tom Doyle

Parish Staff: Admin/Finance— Margaret Harrington
Pastoral Worker—Pauline Egan

Ring the parish office leave a message and staff will call you back

Holy Spirit Primary School Principal Rob Costin
197 Clarendon Street, Thornbury East 94800391

St Anthony's Primary School Principal James Casey
52 Austin Street, Alphington 3078— 94897963

St Anthony's
Church
45 Railway Place
Alphington

Weekend Masses:
6pm Sat,
9am Sun (Italian)
11am

Weekday Masses:
Wednesday 9.15am
Friday 9.15am

3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time (Year C)

1st Reading: Neh 8:2-6, 8-10

Responsorial Psalm: Your Words, Lord, are spirit and life.

2nd Reading: I Co 12: 12-30

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia, The Lord send me to bring Good News to the poor and freedom to prisoners. Alleluia

Gospel: Lk 1: 11-4, 4:14-21

Next Week: 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Jer 1: 4-5, 17-19

2nd Reading: I Cor 12:31, 13:13

Gospel: Lk 4: 21-30

Anniversaries and Deaths

We pray for those who have died including Norma Bardini and Carmel McCarthy and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Michele Delle Vergini (1mth), Martin Troy, Maggie Ahern and Bert Jones may they all be at peace with their God.

Rite of Welcome and Sacrament of Baptism

We support Christopher and Alexandra as they present Oscar Frigo for his baptism at St Anthony's.

Diary Dates

WEEK DAY MASSES BEGIN THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCHES. MASS FOR AUSTRALIA DAY WILL BE AT ST ANTHONY'S 9.15AM WEDNESDAY.

Please mark your diaries

Sunday 13 Feb 11am Mass St Anthony's—Welcome back to school and a special welcome for Preps 2022.

Sunday 20 Feb 11am Mass St Anthony's 100 years of the Alphington/Northcote St Vincent de Paul Conference.

Exploring the Word

It is very unusual in the sequence of Sunday gospels to have two texts from completely different chapters, but such is the case this week. The opening text from Luke claims that he has a special purpose in undertaking to write his gospel. It is clear that Luke did not know Jesus personally—indeed he places himself among those to whom the story of Jesus 'was handed down', first by eyewitnesses and then by ministers of the word. Luke is of the second or third generation of Christians, and his purpose is to 'write an ordered account' to instruct Theophilus so that 'he can learn how well founded the teaching is.'

The Lectionary then moves to this central text in Luke, where the mission and mandate of Jesus are proclaimed. The text from Isaiah chosen by Jesus is about the coming of the Messiah or the 'anointed one'. Two weeks ago, we read the text of the baptism of Jesus, where the Spirit had indeed been given to him and he had indeed been anointed by God as the one who carries God's favour. Here Jesus announces how he will carry out his messianic mission of bringing hope to the hopeless. The gospel continues with Jesus carrying out this mandate. Luke includes many stories of Jesus bringing good news to the poor, of raising up those who are downtrodden, of bringing sight to the blind. His whole ministry is his living out of this very task. Indeed, 'this text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.'

•Are there ways in which you can see yourself as among the 'poor', the 'blind', the 'downtrodden' or the 'captive'.

•In what ways does Jesus relieve these limitations?

•Discuss what these terms mean in our day? Who are the downtrodden, the poor, the captive and the blind today? What is the good news that our world needs?

•In what ways are we called to be bringers of good news to these situations?

FIRST READING: Nehemiah -6. 8-10

A reading from the prophet Nehemiah
Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, consisting of men, women, and children old enough to understand. This was the first day of the seventh month. On the square before the Water Gate, in the presence of the men and women, and children old enough to understand, he read from the book from early morning till noon; all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden dais erected for the purpose; In full view of all the people-since he stood higher than all the people-Ezra opened the book; and when he opened it all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people raised their hands and answered, 'Amen! Amen!'; then they bowed down and, face to the ground, prostrated themselves before the Lord. And Ezra read from the Law of God, translating and giving the sense, so that the people understood what was read.

Then (Nehemiah-His Excellency-and) Ezra, priest and scribe (and the Levites who were instructing the people) said to all the people, 'This day is sacred to Yahweh your God. Do not be mournful, do not weep.' For the people were all in tears as they listened to the words of the Law.

He then said, 'Go, eat the fat, drink the sweet wine, and send a portion to the man who has nothing prepared ready. For this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad: the joy of Yahweh is your stronghold.
The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 18

R: Your words, Lord, Are spirit and life.

1. 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.

2. The precepts of the Lord are right,
they gladden the heart.
The command of the Lord is clear,
it gives light to the eyes.

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

4. May the spoken words of my mouth,
the thoughts of my heart,
win favour in your sight, O Lord,
my rescuer, my rock!

R: Your words, Lord, Are spirit and life.

SECOND READING

1Corinthians 12: 12-30

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

Nor is the body to be identified with any one of its many parts. Now you together are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it.

The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

2 Th:2:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord sent me to bring good news to the poor
And freedom to prisoners.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL:

Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

Seeing that many others have undertaken to draw up accounts of the events that have taken place among us, exactly as these were handed down to us by those who from the outset were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word, I in my turn, after carefully going over the whole story from the beginning, have decided to write an ordered account for you, Theophilus, so that your Excellency may learn how well founded the teaching is that you have received.

Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout the countryside. He taught in their synagogues and everyone praised him.

He came to Nazara, where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written:

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has anointed me.

He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and to the blind new sight, to set the downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.

He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen'
The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ.

The Parish of Holy Spirit and St Anthony's and the Archdiocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community. May our message be that child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of every adult. You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at: www.catholic.org.au/responseandprevention OR contact the child safety representatives of our Parish—Margaret Harrington, Pauline Egan, Fran Adamopoulos and Max Gomez.

Sacraments 2022—If your child attends a school other than our Parish Primary school and would like to receive the Sacraments please contact the Parish Office for further details and an enrolment form.

"...in the midst of the World".

Fr. Dixon and I consider it a great privilege and honour to serve the communities of Alphington/ Thornbury East and Northcote/ Thornbury as we read in the sermon on the mount are like, *"cities built on the hill-top that cannot be hidden and lamps placed on a stand which shine for everyone"*.

We accept this appointment with lots of excitement and humility and we pray that it may bring rich blessings to the people we are called to serve and we find joy in living out our priestly ministry among you.

We thank you dear parishioners for accepting us as one of you and for your kind welcome, we already feel quite at home in the community. We, as missionaries always experience our community as "a home away from home" and that is what you are to us.

We both belong to a new secular order in the church called "Voluntas Dei" which was founded on 1958 in Trios-Rivieres, Canada by Fr. Louis- Marie Parent. Dixon and I belong to the Region of Kerala (India) of the Institute. As our institute is Secular, all the members are called to live a secular consecration in the midst of the world, the charism of our institute is *"to be like the virgin of the annunciation, the instrument of Christ, living the father's will within the reality of the present moment"*.



Dixon was ordained a priest in 2014, moved to Melbourne in 2018, he served in the parishes of Craigieburn and the Partnership Parishes of Greensborough/Diamond Creek, now he is privileged to be in this beautiful community of three parishes.

I was ordained a priest in 2007 moved to Melbourne in 2011, worked in different parishes and ministries of the Archdiocese: Werribee, Altona, Thornbury/Northcote, chaplain of Australian

Catholic University, Chaplain of Archbishop's office for the Youth and vocations promoter.



Dear friends, parish is the heartbeat of the Church, being with and serving the community brings lots of joy to us as we commence this new journey into the Mission model.

We emphasise to you all, that the identity, the history, the customs and sense of pride in what people and former priests have achieved in each parish will be respected in this journey. We look forward to working with you all and getting to know you.

Our founder always reminds us to live in the "present moment", this is an opportunity for us to witness and live the Gospel, and be the instruments of Christ, living the Father's will within the reality of this present moment.

We are grateful to the Archbishop and the Vicar General for entrusting us with this opportunity.

Let the Holy Spirit guide us all and Our Divine Mother, St. Joseph and St. Anthony of Padua be on the journey with us. Thank you. *Shabin Kaniampuram IV Dei* Parish Priest *Dixon Kuriapilly IV Dei* Assistant Priest

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HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE TO THE PARISH This QR code is unique to St Anthony, Alphington and Holy Spirit, Thornbury East and will give parishioners direct access to our CDF pay web page. To make a payment, parishioners simply scan our CDF pay QR code with their mobile phone and follow a few easy steps. Thank you for your continued support.



As noted in our Diary Dates the celebration of the St Vincent de Paul Alphington/Northcote Conference will take place on 20 February 2022 at the 11am at St Anthony's . The excerpt below comes from a history put together by current members to reflect the work of the Conference and its history over the last 100 years. Each week we will print a further part of the story..... If you wish to attend the Mass and can add to the history please contact the Parish office.

A Journey of a Century . The Story of SVDP Conference Alphington

Gerald Ward an Englishman from Irish parents living in Durham England was 44 when he came to Australia as a missionary in 1850. He founded the first Conference from St. Francis Church Melbourne in 1854. He saw the poverty, destitution and need for an orphanage in Melbourne and decided the best approach was a conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society. The conference lapsed with his death in 1858 aged 52. The next conference opened was from St Patrick's Cathedral in 1885 and 35 years later St. Anthony's became operational.

The conference at Alphington was founded on 10th October 1920. The Spiritual Director Father M. Hayes. President John Horan, Vice President Axel Prah, Secretary B Street, Treasurer R. Crohen.

Members: Jerome Andriells, James Ryan, George Rogan, Ron Burke,

J Cowley, Lawrence Reilly, F. O'Shannessy. Ron Burke later became Secretary and remained in that position for 60 years. Two other long serving members from the past were Ern Juliff 51 years and a long time President as was Tom Scully 41 years. To these men we owe a debt of gratitude for the establishment of a conference that has benefitted so many families and individuals in this area.

The aims of the original society were: Visiting of the poor, Conducting the Library (CTS Pamphlets) and Piety Stall, conducting night watch on Holy Thursday, Erecting the Christmas Crib, Meeting at the at the house of deceased parishioners for prayers. These days our emphasis is welfare and material aid, paying rent, utilities and help in providing resources for students having trouble with school expenses.

If you asked our present members, why they joined the conference and do the work. The answer would be that we learn so much from the clients. They are very real people who have suffered and illness, death of a partner, marriage upset, loss of a well-paid job, unfortunate circumstances, single parent, limited education and mental health issues. They show us a light into their lives, and it reflects back on us. It turns a mirror on our own lives and makes us grateful that we can serve and listen. The SVDP Society is a wonderful institution, but its greatest asset is its clients.

Throughout the hundred years prayer and the spiritual development of its members has been ongoing for the conference. In the early years a priest from the parish was appointed as Spiritual Director of the conference. Dignity and confidentiality of clients is paramount, and support, direction and policy is provided by the Head Office of the society for all members especially in this time of Covid. Prior to Covid, two conference members visited clients in their homes to apprise their needs and give them comfort and support. The average membership of the conference has been 8 – 12 members throughout the century. (continued next week)