



St Paul Apostle Catholic Community

One Family

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18th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B, 3-4 August, 2024

Home is where the mess is

There is a version of me. She is an incredible host. She laughs this musical laugh and says, 'Come back to mine!' And there's something baking in her oven. There's always something baking. Something with cinnamon. And the house, the house is immaculate. There is never any random debris on her kitchen bench. There is no bottle of shower gel on her bookshelf for no good reason. You could eat off the floor space under her couch. You might think you're popping by for afternoon tea, but the conversation is just too good, so she puts a few extra plates on the table for a nutritious dinner. It all just happens. It all unfolds. And everyone who comes to her house feels nurtured and nourished and just so impressed by this vision of a woman in a cute apron and oven mitts

I'm waiting to become this version of myself. When it happens, I'll invite people inside my house. I will invite them so hard. It's bound to happen some day.

I'm exaggerating a little. I do have people over. It's just that I never seem to get it right. And it's so much work. I have to clean for days just so that I can tell guests that I'm sorry for the mess

By the time people arrive, I'm exhausted and feeling bad about myself. I'm stressing about the food. I'm stressing that things are so far from perfect. I watch my husband. He's chatting and relaxing by the fire in the backyard that I panic-cleaned 90 minutes ago. I give my husband so much side-eye I almost pull an ocular muscle.

It's times like this that I think that Martha got a raw deal. Do you know the story I'm talking about? I'm sure you do. Jesus is visiting his friends, two sisters. Martha is stressing over the vol-au-vents and trying to achieve a perfect dismount of her vanilla bundt. She is putting food on trays and wiping up spills. And Mary? All of this time, Mary is just sitting there. She's relaxing. She's listening to Jesus talk.

So Martha is checking on the glass potatoes and cutting the chocolate ripple cake into geometrically pleasing slices. And she is just simmering with resentment. That's when it gets too much. She stalks back into the living room. She talks to Jesus (not to Mary, and she says it in front of everyone, so a little

pas-ag, but anyway). She says, 'Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!'

Jesus looks at Martha. The way I see it, his eyes are full of compassion and if he smothers a sigh, you couldn't tell by looking at him. He says 'Martha, you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her.'

I don't know what happens next. I like to think Jesus invites Martha to sit down and join them. Better yet, maybe he sends Lazarus off to check on the food

Jesus isn't being unappreciative of Martha's hospitality. The problem isn't with the food. The problem is with where her attention is focused. The most important thing is being present with Jesus. Instead, Martha's attention is on everything else.

Like Martha, I worry about many things. Have I remembered to pay for the sports day thing on Compass? Why does the TV remote have no battery cover? Does Annie have enough grey socks? Is it possible that I currently have a fatal, incurable disease that has no symptoms and I just don't know it yet? How many apples are in the fruit bowl right now? Are there enough for school tomorrow? And are they the right size for the lunchboxes? Where's my bag?

I used to find morning prayer stressful. There was so much to cover. My prayers were like a shopping list of concerns, swirling around my head. I would stress about forgetting one of them, as if the All-Powerful Master of the Universe was reliant on my help to keep him on top of things.

God doesn't need me to be his PA, striding along beside him with a clipboard, barking instructions and managing his affairs. Instead, Jesus invites those of us who are worried by many things to turn our attention towards him. To sit and rest in his presence.

More recently, I've reduced my morning prayer to one thing. 'Help me to grow in holiness.' Everything else springs from that.

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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/-D2KIJ1e45g?feature=share>

Reconciliation
Saturdays
10am—10.30am

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

Parish Staff:
Gillian Velupillay (Bursar)
Didi Karkas (Secretary)

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

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
19th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

First Reading *1 Kings 19:4-8*

A reading from the first book of Kings

Elijah went a day's journey into the wilderness, and he came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors." Then Elijah lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat." He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. The angel of the Lord came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you." He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mountain of God

Psalm

I will bless the Lord at all times
his praise shall continually be in my mouth
My soul makes its boast in the Lord
let the humble hear and be glad

O magnify the Lord with me
and let us exalt his name together
I sought the Lord, and he answered me
and delivered me from all my fears

Look to him, and be radiant
so your faces shall never be ashamed
The poor one called, and the Lord heard,
and saved that person from every trouble

The Angel of the Lord encamps
around those who fear him, and delivers them.
O taste and see that the Lord is good
blessed is the one who takes refuge in him

Second Reading *Ephesians 4:30-5:2*

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

Brothers and sisters,
Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption.
Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the living bread that came down from heaven, says the Lord
whoever eats of this bread will live for ever
Alleluia!

Gospel *John 6:41-51*

The people began to complain about Jesus because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?" Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."



For reflection

"How do we live into this extraordinary mystery as we face the demands of our endangered planet?"

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

PASSIONIST COMPANION

The Passionist Companion group is inviting you to join them on **SATURDAY, the 10th of AUGUST** to **'COME & SEE'** Beginning with a cuppa at 9.30am and wrapping up with a BBQ lunch at 12pm. Sr Brigid and Sr Karen will be leading the 'conversation' of the day on what it is to be a Passionist Companion.

For more information, please contact Gerard at Gerard.daly23@bigpond.com or Oswyn at oswyn.trindade@gmail.com

LOST PROPERTY

We have noticed that our Lost Property items are increasing. If you think you have left something behind at any stage, you may wish to check if you can find it in our lost property pile. We have been holding it in the sacristy for a while and have now placed it in the foyer (William Hovell entrance) where we will hold it for another week.

By this weekend, all unclaimed items will be delivered to St Vinnies.

ALTAR SERVER INTRODUCTION AND TRAINING

In the effort to assist those who are interested in continuing or becoming a part of the altar server army, and in keeping with safeguarding rules, we have decided to run 3 sessions of altar service training.

Attending one of these sessions is **COMPULSORY** to all past and current members as well as those who wish to join in.

Dates & times are:

Tuesday 13th August at 4pm

Saturday 17th August at 11am & 4pm

Please ensure that parents sign the attendance sheet on the day their child attends the session.

Regretfully, any child whom does not attend one of these sessions will not be able to serve (policy - safeguarding from Catholic archdiocese of Melbourne)

SAFEGUARDING NEWS

NAPCAN have launched 'Tuned In Modules', a resource designed to enhance their approach as adults to facilitating safe and impactful interactions with young people. As advocates for their well-being, they recognise the crucial role of fostering environments where young individuals not only thrive but feel

secure to explore and learn.

Please see this link for more details <https://mailchi.mp/napcan/rav-design-comp-and-grants-2630739?e=fa63ffb7b6>

Also remember 'The Safety Commissioner' runs online courses/webinars for Parents and Carers of children in primary and secondary school. Date of the session is **Thursday, 5 September, 12.30pm** (Australian Eastern Standard Time) To book click here:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/8077245949908148062>

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

This group originally ran once a month at 11am Mass. Post COVID, in the interest of the children, the schedule has been changed to every Sunday at 11am Mass during the school term. Thanks to the dedication of the teachers and leaders of this group, the program has run smoothly. Each session is run by 2 leaders (under the safeguarding policy) while all children under 4 are accompanied by a parent or older sibling.

At this we have encountered a shortage of leaders, due to family commitments, some of our current leaders are taking leave. They are asking if some parishioners would like to volunteer to help in running this special liturgy.

Next weekend (10/11 August), during all Masses the group will prepare a presentation detailing what they are all about. We hope that you will consider to help out with this group in the interest of nurturing the little ones understanding of God's word in their own 'language'

SPECIAL NOTES ON CHILDREN'S LITURGY

(Reminder)

This group welcome all primary school children and younger to our Children's Liturgy program at 11am Mass each week. Please note that the 11am Mass is being LIVE-STREAMED every week. We ask that children under 4 or with special needs be accompanied by a parent. Our leaders will be easily identifiable, if your child has any allergies, a serious medical condition or special needs, please alert the leader on the day. Due to possible allergic responses we ask that you refrain from bringing any food into the Children's Liturgy space.

...PTO....

Readings:

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr B

Exodus 16:2-4. 12-15

Ephesians 4:17. 20-24

John 6:24-35

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr B

1 Kings 19:4-8

Ephesians 4:30-5:2

John 6:41-51

www.universalis.com

This weekend we pray for:

Those who are sick

Teariki Sword, Santana D'Souza, Rui Manuel Campos, Annette Tanner, Ruby Reid, Maureen Dawson, Michael Arcaro, Danny Sugunasekera, Roger Gray, Stephanie Kinson, Anton Jansz, Dorothy Locke, Piper Anne Spriggs, Grace Sprigg, Ronella Tyrell, Meti **and All those in aged care or homebound with chronic health issues**

Those who have died

Raymond Cabral, Dewi Anggraeni, Hendra Santosa, Ivan Rudan, Genoeffa 'Jennifer' Palamara, Hendra Purnomo, Kay Dal Lago, Cecilia Suwartinah, Angelo Marateo, Margaret Ferrao, Antonio Manuel Leita, Fred Steinwall, Giuseppina Bartuccelli, Mariana Villaseca, Horace Stolke, Andre Da Costa, Therese Cure, Octave Maclou, Amy Parer, Anthony Dinh Pham, Martha Mung Pham, Carlos Afonso Henriques **and all who are named in our church memorial book**

May they rest in peace

Feast of the Assumption, Thursday, 15 August

Masses are 9am and 7pm



Home is where the mess is

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When I think about friends who are good hosts. It's not elaborate food or sparkling clean houses that make them that way. There is an attentiveness, a certain presence. The focus is not on feigning perfection. The focus is on enjoying each other's company.

I'm not saying mess is best. I definitely aspire to order and cleanliness and hygiene and clarity. But I am not going to wait until my house looks impressive before I let people in. And I'm not going to give myself a hard time because I struggle.

There is another version of me. She sometimes has whole pieces of toast in her hair and doesn't realise it. She puts the kettle on and takes your order for tea. Then she gets distracted and forgets that tea exists. There's stuff on the table, some school books, a pile of mail and somebody's half-finished craft project. You'll have to take a stuffed toy off the chair before you sit down. There isn't anything baking, but there are plenty of Iced Vovos left in the already-open packet in the pantry. And if you'd like to stay for dinner, this version of myself might stick another frozen pizza in the oven, so there's enough McCain's BBQ Meatlovers for everyone.

It's not always tidy. It's not always functional.
But you are always welcome

(extracted from Catholic Magazine, written by Kate Moriarty)

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When the children are returning to their seats after the session please ensure they are aware of where you are seated. We have provided labels for you to write your child's name if you wish. If you have any questions or feedback please feel free to chat to one of our Children's Liturgy volunteers or someone on the parish team

COME AWAY DAYS

A ministry of the Passionist community who offer a space which is an oasis of peace and quiet, away from the busy world. in the surrounds of beautiful gardens, open space and trees. Their first session is on **WEDNESDAY, 4 SEPTEMBER**. The day begins with a cuppa at 9.30am and end at 2pm. This retreat runs at Holy Cross Retreat 207 Serpells Road Templestowe, VIC.

For further information about Come Away Days contact Phone - 9846 6014 or email hcc@passionists.com



St Paul Apostle Parish Endeavour Hills

MINISTERS OF WORD/ COMMENTATORS 2024

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