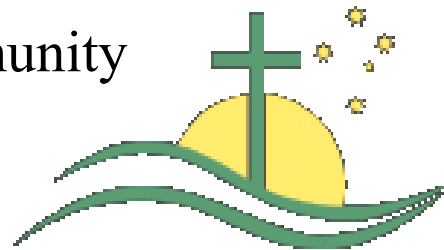




St Paul Apostle Catholic Community

One Family

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didi.karkas@cam.org.au
<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/endeavourhills>



256th Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr C, 24/25 September, 2022

God is the Creator

I was sitting in a lecture about 'Prayer and St Thomas Aquinas' when I had a conversion'. It was not a big moment, but it has stuck in my mind for quite a few years now. The Lecturer said that when Thomas ran into a difficulty while writing one of his books, he would get down on his knees and ask God for help. When I heard this, I thought, "That is cheating". As a student, who had to write assignments for the course, I felt that it was up to me to know the answers. To be asking God to help with the answers seemed to be not right. This was to upset the standard way of doing things.

To learn and come to know things and remember them was the way we were all brought up. Then of course, after school we had to learn other skills in order to find our way in the world. This was the journey for all of us. That was what others were doing and this was the way to become grown up. It depended very much on each of us as an individual. Getting help from God to do all these things was not part of the script. Now and again, we heard that we could pray to God, but somehow that did not lead to the expectation that God would do much for us. Actually, we had to do stuff for God.

Now my thinking has changed. When we say God is our Creator, means just that. God is the one who brings us into life. God is the one who keeps the blood circulating through our bodies and guides us each and every day of our lives.

God continues to create us, not just as body plus soul, but in the situations we find ourselves in. God creates the answers that come our way. God provides us with solutions and the people we need to help us. Thomas Aquinas was one of the smartest people you could ever meet, so getting down on his knees and asking for God's help was smart. He was asking God to create an answer and put it into his head. The thing is, God did.

This idea of God continuing to work in our world, in our small lives, and in our cosmos takes some absorbing. The Church in Australia is in the final stages of the Plenary Council. Here again, there are a lot of people praying, asking God to keep on creating. We are asking God to guide us, inspire us and help us be better missionary disciples. This is what God wants us to be. Our desire and God's desire are for the same things. We want the People of God to be a sign of unity for the whole world and for the whole world to know that we will find that unity by being in God.

To talk about God like this is not normal in our society in Australia or in New Zealand. For many people it is normal, but somehow most of us have this idea that spiritual things are not real. God is not real in the sense that God is not involved in politics, economics, science or even football.

In our countries, most people are unaware or barely mindful of the fact that the biggest and most important relationship that they have is with the God who created them. They probably did not hear my philosophy professor say that one of the biggest tasks of our lives is to become conscious of the relationships that we are born with.

Yes, we become aware of our relationships with our families, our country and even our earth, but the strongest relationship we are born into is with the one who created and still creates us.

God is a creating God. God is a missionary God. To be a missionary is to be God—like. Jesus came to us with his message of love. He then picked people to be with him so they could learn the message and then send them out. God continues today to pick people to be part of the People of God, which is committed to letting the world know of the creative love of our God.

To be on a mission means that we get out of our chairs and go out to meet people. Maybe we do not need to get on our knees to know this, but praying to our Creator God might help us to do it better. The Spirit is with us, thank God

(written by Fr Trevor Trotter in Far East Magazine, July 2022 ed)

Weekday Masses

Monday
9am Mass

Tuesday
9am Mass

Wednesday
7pm Mass

Thursday
9am Mass

Friday
9am Mass

Saturday
6pm Mass

Sunday
9am, 11am & 6pm Mass

Please note Sunday 11am is also
ONLINE

Please click on this link to follow

<https://youtu.be/bSqjpa3pgkw>

Reconciliation
Saturday 10am—10.30am

Priests:

Fr Brendan Connell CP (PP)
Fr Luke Bulley CP

Parish Staff:

Gillian Velupillay (Bursar)
Didi Karkas (Secretary)

Passionist Community

Fr Brian Gleeson CP
Fr Kevin Hennessy CP

St Paul Apostle North Primary School

Ph. 9700 6068
Principal
Mrs Mary Lucas

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

ENDEAVOUR HILLS ST VINCENT DE PAUL

This weekend we will have 'late' WINTER APPEAL. It will be Third Collection at all Masses. Your support for this appeal will be greatly appreciated.

VOLUNTEER REQUIRED

St Paul Apostle SOUTH School is planning to start a 'chess club' at the school for their students. If you are able to play chess and wish to help the school (on a volunteer basis) please contact Paul Gleeson, principal of the South School, on 9700 3663. Please note that you MUST have a current and valid Working With Children Card.

THANKSGIVING DEDUCTIONS FROM CREDIT CARDS & BANK ACCOUNTS

The Archdiocese has transitioned us to a new system with some small changes:-

- 1/ Each time a deduction is made an email will be sent to the email address we have on file for you. The email will be from "Endeavour Hills Parish". If you do not wish to receive these emails please call or email the office at Gillianv@stpaulapostle.com.au and we will stop this from occurring.
- 2/ Some parishioners split their payments between the Parish and the Priests. Previously this used to appear as one payment/deduction. On the new system they are processed individually and as such will appear as two transactions on your statement. This is out of our control and we are unable to change this as this is how the Archdiocese has set it up for split payments.
- 3/ In the past deductions were shown on your bank statement as from "St Paul Apostle Church". This will now show as "Archdiocese of Melbourne". Rest assured that the funds are definitely being paid to St Paul Apostle Church.

If you wish to discuss any of the above please feel free to contact Gillian via email or phone. Gillian is in the office on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays.

WORKSHOP FOR CHOIR

Fr Chris Monaghan will be coming to run a workshop for all choir members, and those interested in joining a choir, on Wednesday the 28th of September, at 7pm in the Annexe. This event will be an opportunity for current, and aspiring choir members, to gather and reflect on the importance of our Sunday music ministry. All are

welcome, both current member of our choir groups or those who are interested in joining one of the parish choir.

WELLSPINGS FOR WOMEN is having Fundraising Dinner on THURSDAY, 6 October, 2022 at Springvale City Hall (405 Springvale Rd, Springvale) 6.30pm to 10.30pm. Cost is \$85 per person. There will be Music, Raffles and Door Prizes. We are offering two options for registration and payment
Option 1: via this link <https://events.humanitix.com/wellspringsfundraisingdinner2022>

Option 2: Via direct deposit into our bank:

A/c Name: Wellsprings for Women

Bank: Bendigo Bank

BSB: 633 000

Account No: 129467502

Reference: Surname Dinner or Surname Donation

If you choose option 2, please email your details and dietary requirements to: jasmine@wellspringsforwomen.com

REMEMBERING JIM HELM

As we wrote in our earlier newsletter, Jim, one of St Paul Apostle's Church founding parishioners, sadly passed away on 28th August. The family & friends of Jim wish to have a memorial Mass, to remember Jim, on our **7pm Wednesday Night Mass on 5th October 2022**. Mass will be followed by a cuppa and stories to share at the gathering space. We invite you to bring a plate to share

SISTERS OF ST PETER CLAVER

Is having a MISSION FETE on SATURDAY, 8 October, 2022 from 9am to 2.30pm. At the Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver, 154 Cotham Rd, Kew 3101
For more information please call 9817 3715

PARISH BINGO NIGHT

Please note that **FRIDAY, 21 OCTOBER** is our next bingo night. at 7pm in the Annexe. Contacts are Louis 0419 008 173, Vianney 0438 700 675 or Joe 0419 385 441

FUNDRAISING BY THE CONVENT OF ST. ELISABETH.

BELARUS is for the care of children and adults with mental & physical disabilities. Selling craft which is handmade by them is one of the ways they finance their work. On the weekend of the 1st-2nd of October, some of their handcraft goods will be available to purchase after each Mass. If you are interested to know more about their work please visit their website <https://obitel-minsk.org/children-and-adults-with-disabilities>

Readings:

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Amos 6: 1, 4-7;

1 Tim 6: 11-16;

Lk 16: 19-31

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Hab 1: 2-3, 2: 2-4;

2 Tim 1: 6-8, 13-14;

Lk 17: 5-9

www.universalis.com

This weekend we pray for:

Those whose sick

Betty Scanlan, Vernon Law, Angela Schink, Roy Conyers, Sandra D'Costa, Monica Evans, Rosetta Alberti, Adelina Frante, Horace Stolke, Christakis Isodiou, Mary Hili, Nestor Santos, Collette, Marcia Fernandes, Annette Perera, Ronald Peters, Godfrey Joseph, Kirk Smaller, June Smaller, Camilla D'Rozario, Esric Jackson, Emily Broadbent, **and All those in aged care or homebound with chronic health issues**

Those who have died

Brett Joseph Daly, Helene De Silva, Lowstein Cano, Vernon Clifford Kern, Victor Jayamaha, Queen Elizabeth II, James (Jim) Helm, Francika Zerebni, Andre Machado, Jim Boy Tortosa, George Overlunde, Paul Seng Leong Lay, Marceline Dhakul, Deon Lawrence **and all who are named in our church memorial book**

May they rest in peace



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

