

St. John Bosco's Parish

29 Muriel Street, Niddrie 3042

Parish Priest: Fr David Cartwright
Phone: 9337 9994
Email: niddrie@cam.org.au
Website: <https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/niddrie>

Parish Secretary: Charles Meneze
Office Hours: 10am – 4pm
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday

Mass Times

Wednesday – Friday: 9:30am
Saturday: 5:00pm Vigil
Sunday: 10:30am
The Rosary is recited before each weekday Mass.

First Fridays:

Reconciliation: 9am – 9:20am
Benediction after 9:30am Mass

Reconciliation

Saturday: 4:30pm
Or any time by arrangement or request

Baptisms: 11:45am First Sunday of the month

St. John Bosco's School

6 Teague Street, Niddrie 3042

Principal: Peter Monaghan
Phone: 9337 2314
Email: principal@sjbenniddrie.catholic.edu.au

Mass Offerings

Envelopes for Mass Offerings are available in the narthex of the church. These can be handed in to the presbytery or given to Fr David or placed in the collection at Mass.

Collections:

Presbytery: \$698
Thanksgiving: \$1,547
Loose: \$396

The 1st Collection is for the support of the Parish Priest, Retired and sick priests, priests in needy parishes and the Archbishop.
The 2nd Collection is for parish expenses such as wages, utilities, insurance, etc.

WITH ST JOHN BOSCO WE PRAY FOR:

Sick:

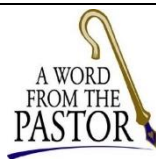
We pray for all those who are sick in our parish community

Recently Deceased:

Fr Des Magennis PE; Gladys Clarke

Anniversaries and Remembrances:

Lyra Fernandez; Caterina Ortisi; Connie Paten;



Dear friends,

Each time I walk into our church I am struck by how nice and well-kept it is. We are blessed with a beautiful church, and blessed with people who maintain it so well. The gardens and grounds are also very well kept, and this is wonderful to see.

During my short time with you I can see that we take pride in what we have as a parish- our buildings and our people. Thanks be to God. May it long continue!

I have been encouraged by the numbers of people at weekday and weekend Masses also. Long may this continue also!

Whilst we have many blessings already, I am sure there is more to come. And we would like to share these blessings with others.

I have often quoted one of my favourite Popes, Paul VI (St Paul VI) in one of his most beautiful documents, where he boldly stated, “The Church exists to evangelise”.

The statements warrant some reflection from all of us, myself included. We are here to bring people to know and love Christ; we are not just here for ourselves, important as this is.

The full quote reads:

The Church exists in order to evangelize, that is to say in order to preach and teach, to be the channel of the gift of grace, to reconcile sinners with God, and to perpetuate Christ's sacrifice in the Mass, which is the memorial of his death and glorious Resurrection.”
Evangelii Nuntiandi, n16

We have Good News. We have the Eucharist, the Word of God, the hope of eternal life. News which is too good to just keep to ourselves! Let's think of how we can share this with others in our conversations, our example and the joy of our Christian life. It was nice to catch up with Fr Brian Cosgriff during this week. Fr Brian came to visit for a cuppa and we had a good chat about the parish and many other things.
Let us continue to pray for each other and ask the intercession of St John Bosco for our parish.

Fr David Cartwright
Parish Priest

Safeguarding Sunday

This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done in the past in Church settings. Rebuilding trust and confidence in the Church requires constant work and vigilance. We recommit to cultural change that will help the Church be a place that builds and supports safe communities for all people. You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at: www.catholic.au/s/article/safeguardingsunday2023

The Archbishop's Campaign 2024

The theme is: Come Follow Me

One major collection for the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Today is the last day for envelopes.

Social Services Sunday

Sunday 15 September 2024 marks Social Services Sunday within the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne when we give thanks and encouragement for the dedicated work our 7000+ staff and 15,000+ volunteers do to serve the poor, disadvantaged and marginalised. May our witness and service always show the face of Jesus to those in need.

Welcome

We welcome to our 5pm Mass this Saturday the Year 5 families from our school.
Next Saturday evening we will welcome our Year 3 families.

Collection for Deacon Cuong Dang

We will be taking up a collection for Cuong Dang at each Mass this weekend to thank him for his service to our parish.

Ordination of Cuong Dang

The Ordination of Cuong Dang will take place on Sunday 8 September at St Martin de Porres Church, Avondale Heights during the 10am Mass. All welcome to attend.

Found

An empty brown spectacle case has been found and handed to the Parish Office. Please contact us if this is yours.

The Parish of St John Bosco's and the Archdiocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community. Child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of everyone.

Our Spiritual Life: Part 2

Continued from last week

It is often said that 'saying prayers' gets in the way of actual 'praying'. It can seem much easier and much more efficient to talk at God, rather than spend time or listen. Prayer is God's work, not ours. We are simply giving Him the time and space. And silence.

The scriptures are replete with instances of divine encounters that happen through silence. This is the most powerful way that God communicates. But this requires an active listening. If we want to know what the Holy Spirit may be trying to tell us, the answer requires a time of active listening in silence. Whether the question is a life changing one, or something on the lower end of the scale, the answer is the same.

Try to make friends with silence. Or at least a passing acquaintance. Allow yourself- or give yourself permission- to be still for a few minutes each day. Settle in a quiet, peaceful place with no noise. Set your alarm for 5 minutes, and simply be still. Perhaps read a little bit of the scripture to start, and then let the Holy Spirit do the talking. After a little while, increase this time a little bit. You will see a difference in your life.

The Lord does not stop talking or trying to answer our questions. It is usually us who don't make the time and space to hear the answer.

Our Liturgical Life:

Preparing for Mass – Physically

Receiving the Blessed Eucharist is the high point of the Mass. To prepare ourselves for this, we have listened to the Word of God, prayed and sung with each other, been silent and listened. We also prepare ourselves physically by fasting from food and drink (except water and medication) for an hour before receiving the Lord. It is a way for us to foster a 'hunger' for the Lord, both spiritually and physically. We prepare internally as well as externally.

Stewardship Corner

Thank you for your generosity towards our parish - spiritually, physically and financially. If you are not a current contributor, we invite your participation: please visit our website or call the parish office.

Direct credits can also be made:

Parish Account (for the parish expenses, our 2nd collection)
BSB: 083 - 347
Acct No.: 6568 74974

Presbytery Account (for clergy & presbytery support, our 1st collection)
BSB: 083 - 347
Acct No.: 6616 52479



Gospel Mark 7:31-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. 'He has done all things well,' they said 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

As we began to welcome the Gospel, we made the sign of the Cross on our foreheads, on our lips and over our hearts. It is meant to be accompanied by the thought: 'May the Gospel be in my mind, on my lips, and in my heart.' It wouldn't be enough to mentally recite that little prayer. We have to do something physical.

Jesus could not have been more physical than in the story of today's Gospel. He stuck his fingers in the man's ears and touched the man's tongue with spittle, saying the Aramaic word 'Ephphatha', 'Be opened'.

Our Lord could have healed this man with a simple prayer. But he acknowledged the sheer physicality of the person to be cured. We are not angels, but ensouled bodies and that is how our Lord particularly related to this man in need of healing.

It is in the sacrament of Baptism that we imitate the Ephphatha incident in today's Gospel. At one stage, the priest lightly touches the ears and then lightly touches the mouth of the person being baptised. This brings the baptised person into a community formed by hearing and speaking the Word in faith.

We could take a moment to recall the Ephphatha dimension of our baptism. Take your thumb and lightly touch your ears (a parent could do this for an infant) making a prayer along the lines of our baptism: 'The Lord Jesus made the deaf hear and the mute speak. May He again touch my ears to receive His Word and my mouth to proclaim His faith to the glory and praise of God the Father. Amen.'

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ST JOHN BOSCO'S
Catholic Parish
29 Muriel St, Niddrie



23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B **8 September 2024**

First Reading Isaiah 35:4-7

A reading from the book of Isaiah

Then the ears of the deaf shall be opened and the tongues of the dumb speak.

Say to all faint hearts,
'Courage! Do not be afraid.
'Look, your God is coming,
vengeance is coming,
the retribution of God;
he is coming to save you.'
Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
the ears of the deaf unsealed,
then the lame shall leap like a deer
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy;
for water gushes in the desert,
streams in the wasteland,
the scorched earth becomes a lake,
the parched land springs of water.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 145:7-10. R. v.1

(R.) Praise the Lord, my soul!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. (R.)
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bound down,
the Lord who loves the just,
the Lord, who protects the stranger. (R.)

The Lord upholds the widow and
orphan but thwarts the path of the
wicked. The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)

Second Reading James 2:1-5

A reading from the letter of St James

Has not God chosen the poor of the world to inherit the kingdom?

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, 'Come this way to the best seats'; then you tell the poor man, 'Stand over there' or 'You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that?

Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Jesus preached the Good News
of the kingdom**

and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!