



St Paul Apostle Catholic Community

One Family

5 William Hovell Drv, Endeavour Hills 3802
T. 9700 3781 / F. 9700 6228
didi.karkas@cam.org.au
<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/endeavourhills>



16th Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr C, 19-20 July, 2025

ECHOES OF THE ATOM BOMB

It is 80 years since two atomic bombs were detonated in Japan, one over Hiroshima and another over Nagasaki. On August 6, 1945, at 8.15 am, the first of these bombs, dubbed the Enola Gay, fell on Hiroshima and left an estimated 69,000 dead bodies. Then on 19 August, at 11.02 am, the second bomb, called Fat Man, was dropped on Nagasaki, taking 39,000 lives. At the epicentre, in 3000 C degree heat, human beings like us were incinerated alive. Dying of burns is an excruciating way to die. I came to Japan as a Columban priest-missionary in 1956, 69 years ago. I met A—bomb survivors, some of them suffering from radiation sickness. Their faces had an unhealthy yellow tinge. Some spoke of the guilt they still felt more than a decade after the war had ended for not answering the desperate cries for water of the more seriously wounded and dying.

A survivor asked me to offer Mass for some of his family members who died because of the bomb. At the prayers of the faithful, he read out the names of 19 relatives. An estimated 10,000 Catholics in Nagasaki died from the bomb. The city has been the centre of the old Christians since St Francis Xavier's time.

In recent decades, Japan has joined the prosperous developed countries of the world. And most people, Japanese included, have forgotten the desperate post-war conditions in the country. When I first came to Japan, the people were still much affected by the trauma of war and the death, destruction, and poverty that had come in its wake. Poverty was prevalent, especially outside the big cities. In my first mission assignment, as an assistant pastor in Chiba prefecture, I would distribute food and clothing each Friday to the poorest of the poor. There were seven tuberculosis sanatoriums in the area. Limbless former soldiers dressed in white begged for help outside the railway stations.

I went to Nagasaki and visited the Atom Bomb Memorial Museum. The photos of burned victims were horrendous, of course. But what really touched me was a small child's tricycle, burnt and twisted. It personalised the destructiveness and lethality of ONE bomb. I left the museum sickened and indeed angry. In that turbulent mood, I walked a short distance to a small wooden hut. For three years after the

war, Doctor Takashi Paul Nagai lived there with his two children. He later became bedridden with radiation sickness affecting his liver. From that tiny wooden hut, Doctor Nagai campaigned for peace and reconciliation, not recrimination. Behind Nagai's hut, there is now a small, tasteful museum. Doctor Nagai's son, Makoto, guided me through the exhibits. On later visits, I was shown around by his grandson, Tokusaburo.

in the Bomb Museum, it had been that tricycle that touched me; here, it was a tiny, melted pile that had once been a rosary. This rosary had often been in the hands of Doctor Nagai's beloved wife, Midori, who was killed instantly in the atomic blast.

Accompanying this exhibit was a poignant sketch

by Doctor Nagai himself, showing his wife going to heaven on a mushroom-shape atomic cloud. By the time I left that small museum, my anger had been replaced by hope. Thanks to Doctor Nagai, I felt and still feel motivated to be an instrument of Christ's peace.

All these years later, the number of atomic bomb survivors (hibakusha in Japanese) has dwindled to only a few. But these few have continued to raise their voices and were awarded the 2024 Nobel Peace Prize.

In the interviews afterwards, the survivor representatives emphasised that a nuclear bomb is radically different from a conventional bomb. Just

one nuclear bomb kills a massive number of people indiscriminately. There is no distinction made between military and civilian targets. The International Peace Research Institute of Stockholm estimates that the nine nuclear-armed nations possess 12,121 nuclear weapons among them.

The prayerful plea of Doctor Nagai was: "May there be peace! Let Nagasaki be the last atomic bomb."

(by Fr Barry Cairns in Columban 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 online
Mass is*

[https://youtube.com/
live/QaBamRw6cAI?
feature=share](https://youtube.com/live/QaBamRw6cAI?feature=share)

Reconciliation
Saturdays
10am—10.30am

Parish Priest:
Fr Brendan Connell CP

Assistant Parish Priest
Fr OBrien Chanda 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
Principal
Cathy Mason

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**

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

First Reading **Genesis 18: 20-32**

The Lord said: "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know."
So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" And the Lord said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake."
Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And the Lord said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there."
Again Abraham spoke to the Lord, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it."
Then Abraham said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." The Lord answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there."
Abraham said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." The Lord answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it."
Then Abraham said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." The Lord answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."
The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the angels I sing your praise;
I bow down toward your holy temple,
and give thanks to your name
for your steadfast love and your faithfulness.

For you have exalted your name
and your word above everything.
On the day I called, you answered me,
you increased my strength of soul.

For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly;
but the haughty he perceives from far away.
Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies.

You stretch out your hand
and your right hand delivers me.
The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me;
your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.
Do not forsake the work of your hand

Second Reading

Col 2: 12-14

Brothers and sisters, When you were buried with Christ in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised Christ from the dead.
And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the Cross.
The word of God

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
You have received a spirit of adoption,
In whom we cry, Abba! Father! . . . Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 11:1-13

Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."
He said to them, "When you pray, say: 'Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation.'" And Jesus said to the disciples, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.'
And your friend answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' "I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.
"So I say to you: Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.
"Is there any father among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give the child a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion?
"If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"
This is the Gospel, the Good News of the Lord

Reflection

How do I bring my needs and the needs of others to God?

How can I make my prayers more open and honest with God?

How do I experience God's care and guidance in my life?

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

PARISH YOUTH GROUPS

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

Please remember that this group is open for children in grade 5 to grade 9. They meet regularly on the second Friday of each month, in August their meeting will be on **FRIDAY, August 8th 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.

2025 SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION PROGRAM (for children)

If your child is in grade 6, has been baptised and received First Communion (as well as Sacrament of Reconciliation) and you wish them to be part of our 2025 Sacrament of Confirmation program, please register **URGENTLY**. We have extended the registration deadline to 25 JULY 2025. All of you who have registered earlier, please ensure that you receive an email from us on the first week of August 2025. The following are the important dates, of which you **must** attend:

- First Family night: Tuesday 16 September at 7pm
(Follow by 4 classes at parish Schools or ASRE)
- Last Family Night: Tuesday 18 November at 7pm
- Session with Bishop: **To be advised**
- Masses: Saturday 22 November at 1pm and 3pm
(choice of Mass will be opened after First family night)

ST VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER COLLECTION

In winter St Vinnies receive many requests from people in need of assistance. As always we will have a special collection next weekend at all masses to support the work of this group in the hope of keeping the disadvantaged warm during this bitter winter.

PASSIONIST COMPANION 'COME AND SEE'

Passionist Companion Group invites you to 'Come & See' session on **SATURDAY, 26 JULY, 2025** in the Annexe. You will learn what this group is all about. Fr Luke cp will lead this session of Passionist spiritual nourishment. It starts at 9.30am to 12pm. Please bring a plate to share for lunch.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

This group welcomes 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 wish to remind parents that all children under 4 or with special needs be accompanied by a parent or older sibling who is older than 13 yrs old.** 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. 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.

SAFEGUARDING CORNER

Play your part in preventing abuse:

- Remember that one person can make a difference in the life of a child.
- Be a good role model, listen to children, and be kind and respectful.
- Make it clear that abusive behaviour is never OK.
- Talk to children/young people about respectful relationships.
- Don't accept excuses for violence, victim blaming, or sexist attitudes.
- Learn more about DFV (<https://www.napcan.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/FINAL-DVbrochure-NATIONAL-1.pdf>)

Readings:

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr C

Gen 18: 1-10
Col 1: 24-28
Lk 10: 38-42

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr C

Genesis 18: 20-32
Col 2: 12-14
Luke 11:1-13

www.universalis.com

This weekend we pray for:

Those who are sick

Anne Marlene Rea, Maria Terezia Szabo, Mavis David, Elaine Gillett, Parama Sivam, Nethanjal Tu'ulakitau, Christopher de Silva, Christina Williams, Italia Fata, Eva Marie, Dominique Balmano, Marie-Noelle Herchenroder, Kevin Ooi, Rose Liew, Annabelle Ghatt, Maranatha Fidow, James Mendis, Oliver Mendis, Merlinda B. Szuba, Marian Meade, "Horse" Ian Price, Josip Dujic, Anton Nadarajah, Hector de Santos, Teariki Sword, Rui Manuel Campos, Ruby Reid, Danny Sugunasekera, 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

Fr Thomas Thanh CP, Genevieve Grubert, Lucy Ramirez, Merwyn Baptiste, Brandon Anthony, Deon Lawrence, Angie Pereira, Melville Atong Garra, Catherine Choo, Chung Wing Piu, Errie Gunawan, Beulah Ranasinghe, Anthony Ranasinghe, Mavis David, Lomaga Pau, **and all who are named in our church memorial book**

May they rest in peace

BIG SALE—PIETY STALL
IS ON THIS WEEKEND 19-20 JULY
REMEMBER TO TAKE THIS RARE OPPORTUNITY
YOU MAY FIND SOME RELIGIOUS ITEMS WHICH YOU NEED AT DISCOUNTED PRICE

Updated Roster 2025

St Paul Apostle Parish Endeavour Hills MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST 2025

	Saturday—6pm	Sunday 9am	Sunday 11am	Sunday 6pm
1st Sunday	Riona Alveyn Lionel Alveyn Lien Phan	Mary Moore Nila Fernando Rosa Mitchell Rohan Wickramasinghe Jennifer Cunningham	Vianney Clark Antioniette Gargano Stephen Herbert Binitha Mathew Patricia D'Souza	Anne Kankanige Peng Chee Vonny Lai
2nd Sunday	Gertrude Akom Mima Arena Carmeline Don Paul	Sig Romano Anabela Costa Aloma Pereira David Goh Rinku Arora	Sharon Normington Sai Dlinger Naomi Falo Stephen Nasalio Santhanamary	Jenny Catania Brendan Keating Lakni Weerasekera
3rd Sunday	Celine Quinless Riona Alveyn Lionel Alveyn	Mary Moore Nila Fernando Rosa Mitchell Jennifer Cunningham Sig Romano	Vianney Clark Antioniette Gargano Binitha Mathew Patricia De Souza Marie Claire Maillard	Vonny Lai Charlene Nheu Marg Keating
4th Sunday	Bernie Henstridge Lien Phan Celine Quinless	Aloma Pereira Michelle Boissezon Rohan Wickramasinghe David Goh	Naomi Falo Sharon Normington Lauren Rafferty Stephen Herbert Santhanamary	Swineetha Disanayake Dominique Macclou Jenny Catania
5th Sunday	Bernie Henstridge Carmeline Don Paul Mima Arena	Sig Romano Anabela Costa Nila Fernando Rinku Arora	Binitha Mathew Stephen Herbert Sharon Normington	Peng Chee Jenny Catania Marg Keating

St Paul Apostle Parish Endeavour Hills MINISTERS OF WORD/ COMMENTATORS 2025

	Saturday—6pm	Sunday 9am	Sunday 11am	Sunday 6pm
1st Sunday	Mary Pegram Liz Spear	Virendra Jayetileke Janina Gorski	Anne Astin Rinku Arora	Stephen Nasalio William Roncon
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	Alvita Dias Rinku Arora	Jeremy Ferrao Reg Young
4th Sunday	Mark Rolfe Karen Rolfe	Mary Moore Jodicee Tenisio	Mary Heaton Yvonne Sherwin	Marg Keating Luiza Monteiro
5th Sunday	Marg Daly Trevor Saldanha	Grace Sudjono Janina Gorski	Mary Heaton Jennifer Tanti	Lakni Weerasekera Charlene Nheu