



St Paul Apostle Catholic Community

One Family

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20th Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday, 19-20 August, 2023

Bishops' statement calls for 'new engagement' with First Nations peoples

(taken from Melbourne Catholic Magazine, written by Australian Catholic Bishops Conference)

Australia's Catholic bishops have called on the nation to seek 'a new engagement' with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in their annual Social Justice Statement being launched today.

Since the 1940s, the bishops have published annual statements that urge the Catholic community to reflect and act on social, economic and ecological issues. The statements are published as a focal point for Social Justice Sunday, which will be marked on 27 August this year.

This year's statement, Listen, Learn, Love: A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, will be launched in western Sydney on Thursday morning by Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, chair of the Bishops Commission for Social Justice, Mission and Service.

'One of the objectives of this statement is that we want Catholics to understand that Catholic social teaching and Catholic social action are not simply theoretical and academic exercises,' he will say.

'We hear what God is saying to us about justice by being with our sisters and brothers on the peripheries of society.'

While the Social Justice Statement is a teaching document of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, a large part of this year's statement was written by members of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council. It is part of the message's exhortation to 'listen'.

'Listening is hard. Hearing about young people taking their lives, about so many people ending up in jail, of children still being taken away from their parents and grandparents and about the ongoing racism is tough,' Bishop Long will say.

'It must be so much more difficult for these people to tell us about their painful experiences. We are deeply grateful to those who shared their stories of pain with us.'

The theme for this year's statement was chosen in May 2022, well before the Voice to Parliament referendum was mooted and before the timing of a vote was proposed. While the bishops don't suggest how people should vote, Bishop Long says, 'Whatever the outcome of this year's referendum, we ask the Church in Australia to make efforts to lead the way for our fellow Australians' in pursuing reconciliation.

'Our attitudes and actions towards First Nations peoples need to be grounded in justice, love and humility,' he will say.

'We need to listen with deep respect and learn from them about what needs to be done to improve their situations. We need to walk with them, day by day, and work with them to bring about change for the better—for their people and for all of us.'

'Strengthening our relationship with our First Peoples is integral and indeed critical to the strengthening of the whole nation.'

Weekday Masses

Monday

9am Mass

Tuesday

9am Mass

Wednesday

7pm Mass

Thursday

9am Mass

Friday

9am Mass

Saturday

6pm

Sunday

9am, 11am and 6pm

Please note Sunday 11am is also
ONLINE

Please click on this link to follow
<https://youtube.com/live/xs-iDmv3J40>

Reconciliation Saturdays

10am—10.30am

Priests:

Fr Brendan Connell CP (PP)
Fr Luke Bulley CP

Parish Staff:

Gillian Velupillay (Bursar)
Didi Karkas (Secretary)

Passionist Community

Fr Brendan Connell CP
Fr Brian Gleeson CP
Fr Kevin Hennessy CP
Fr Luke Bulley 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

CENSUS AND THANKSGIVING CARD

Last week, we asked if anyone wished to fill out a census or thanksgiving card. Some of you have taken one or both of the cards home. Please return them to the parish office once completed. If you missed out, both cards are still available at the back of the Church or at the foyer. Please pick them up as you are leaving the Church.

YOUTH GROUP (Yr 5-9)

Last Friday night, our year's 5-9 Youth Group gathered for the first time. We had close to 50 kids, who had a tonne of fun, ate pizza, and even got delivered slurpees from 7/11! Our next meeting is scheduled for the 8th of September at 7pm in the Annexe. We know that younger siblings are really excited to come along, too, however we would ask that only those in year's 5-9 attend the evening, in order to keep it age-appropriate. Registration details will be available next week



CHILDREN'S LITURGY (UPDATED)

We welcome all primary school children and younger to our Children's Liturgy program at 11am Mass each week. We ask that children under 4 or with special needs be accompanied by a parent or older sibling. 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

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Please remember that registration for 2023 Sacrament of Confirmation program is open. If you wish your child to be part of this program you must submit the completed registration form by September 15, 2023

Important dates are:

First family night on Tuesday, 3 October at 7pm

4 classes either at Parish Schools or ASRE for those who attend non parish schools.

Last Family Night on Tuesday, 14 November at 7pm

Meeting with Bishop on Thursday 16 November (TBA)

ADORATION

We are very excited to be able to extend the adoration (exposing of the blessed sacrament) in our parish. This will commence with an introductory meeting next month (*date to be advised*). We would love to have your involvement and participation to firstly, attend an information session which will go for about 30 minutes and talk about the details of what this will entail. If you would like to know more, attend this session or be part of the adoration roster, please contact John Hendriks on 0418308051 or John-hendriks@gmail.com

JUSTICE GROUP

Over next **weekend 26-27 August**, members of our parish Justice group will be at the door receiving your donation to support the ASRC (Asylum Seekers Resource Centre) which is a non profit organisation in Melbourne. The donation will be used to buy eggs for the Asylum Seekers in Melbourne, our way to help them in time of need.

DANDENONG DEANERY

will be having their last deanery dinner on **Wednesday, 6 September, 2023** at the Graduate Restaurant, St John's Regional College (Caroline St, Dandenong) Cost is \$45pp (incl, 3 course meal and a glass of wine or beer) The evening will start at 5.30pm. if you wish to attend, please contact Paddy on 0422 296 961 or email: dandenongdeanery@live.com.au RSVP by 1 September, 2023. Payment either by transfer prior to the day or cash on the day.

ST JOHN'S REGIONAL COLLEGE

will be having their open day on **SATURDAY, 2 SEPTEMBER, 2023** at 10am

Please register at www.sjrc.vic.edu.au if you wish to attend the opening morning

Readings:

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr A

Isaiah 56:1. 6-7 ;
Romans 11:13-15. 29-32 ;
Matthew 15:21-28

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr A

Isaiah 22:19-23;
Romans 11:11:33-36;
Matthew 16:13-20

www.universalis.com

This weekend we pray for:

Those who are sick

Michael D' Silva, Lina Jom, Giorgia Vella, Lucia Lay, Marie Kronomberg, Bernardo Cabrera, Anne Ghatt, June Enright, Leang Diep, Zina Carlow, Denis Carlow, Sonia Singh, Roger Gray, Anton Nadarajah, Anthona Henderson, Nimal Pandithakorralage, Cecil Harper, Fr Brian Gleeson, Wilhada de los Reyes, Nicole Pinto, Toni Celona, Shinead Kralj, Carlos Aquino, Jamie Cabrera, Angela Schink, Rajendre Rasiyah, Roy Conyers, Sandra D'Costa, Horace Stolke, Annette Perera, Ronald Peters, Godfrey Joseph, Camilla D'Rozario, Esric Jackson, Emily Broadbent, **and All those in aged care or homebound with chronic health issues**

Those who have died

Louisa Lazarus, Anthony Woodley, Therese Curé, Rosaria Nania, Patricia Meerwald, Claude Isaacs, Sybille Fernando, Angelo Fernandes, Arlette Cabon, Therese McLennan, George Overlunde, Henry Peteru, Elma Dilinger, Sonia Dilinger **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

