



St Paul Apostle Catholic Community

One Family

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29th Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday, 21-22 October, 2023

Listen, Learn, (and) Love

Last weekend, our nation voted in the first referendum of the century. The result of this referendum was an overwhelming rejection of the proposal put forward by the government, echoing the call of the Uluru Statement from the Heart: a constitutionally enshrined First Nations Voice to Parliament.

We must firstly acknowledge that, as a democracy, our civil society is governed by the will of the people. Any and all public policy, including changes to modern Australia's "birth certificate," needs the consent of the nation. To have our voices heard like this is a blessing that many in our world do not have. In this, we must be immensely grateful.

We also acknowledge that this process has left us, as a nation, bruised and battered. The promise of "unity" has, instead, shed light on our divisions. The promise of "hope" has, instead, left many disheartened, and many apathetic. In the past week, many Australians have been asking, "what next?" Some exasperated, some anxious. Some irritated, some apprehensive.

Despite the uncertainty, one thing is clear: our journey towards reconciliation with the First Nations people of Australia does not stop with this referendum. We can't "move on," without first addressing the lived reality of many of our First Nations sisters and brothers.

Post-referendum, the stats still paint a daunting picture of what it means to live as a First Nations person in Australia.

Overrepresentation in our prisons. Shorter life expectancy. Higher rates of suicide. Lower rates of literacy and numeracy.

As Bishop Charles Gauci (Bishop of Darwin) wrote last Sunday, "Australians know [these] poor outcomes are not good enough in the nation of the alleged 'Fair go.'"

While the nation will now undergo period of recalibration, we must still acknowledge that, as a community that has long been committed to reconciliation, this is not the end, but rather a new beginning.

During my homily last weekend, I quoted St John Paul II's address to First Nations peoples in 1986. I'd like to reemphasise those words this weekend:

"If you stay closely united, you are like a tree standing in the middle of a bushfire sweeping through the timber. The leaves are scorched, and the tough bark is scarred and burned; but inside the tree sap is still flowing, and under the ground the roots are still strong. Like that tree, you have endured the flames, and you still have the power to be reborn. The time for this rebirth is now."

Last weekend's referendum brought to an end a single chapter of the as yet unfinished book of reconciliation. The Bishop's Conference this year, in their Social Justice Statement on First Nations Australians, gives a suggestion where the next chapter might begin: "Listen, Learn, [and] Love." Let us today commit ourselves to this new beginning.

Fr Luke Bulley CP

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/Tv66MhVPI6A?feature=share>

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 Kevin Hennessy CP
Fr Luke Bulley CP
Dcn Tuan Paul Anh-Do 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

Readings for Next Week

First Reading

Exodus 22:20-26

Thus says the Lord:

“You shall not wrong or oppress a resident alien, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt. You shall not abuse any widow or orphan. If you do abuse them, when they cry out to me, I will surely heed their cry; my wrath will burn, and I will kill you with the sword, and your wives shall become widows and your children orphans.

If you lend money to my people, to the poor among you, you shall not deal with them as a creditor; you shall not exact interest from them. If you take your neighbor’s cloak in pawn, you shall restore it before the sun goes down; for it may be their only clothing to use as cover; in what else shall that person sleep? And if that person cries out to me, I will listen, for I am compassionate

Psalms

I love you, O Lord, my strength
The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer
My God, my rock in whom I take refuge,
my shield, and the source of my salvation., my stronghold

I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised,
so I shall be saved from my enemies.
From his temple he heard my voice,
and my cry to him reached his ears

The Lord lives! Blessed be my rock,
and exalted be the God of my salvation.
Great triumphs he gives to his king,
and shows steadfast love to his anointed

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

Brothers and sisters:

“You know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming

Gospel

Matthew 22:34-40

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

Questions and Reflection on the readings

R. It is all too easy to be distracted from the most important fundamentals of life and of faith.

R. Love of God and love of our neighbour are inextricably linked – one follows the other.

Q. How might loving God with all your heart, soul and mind affect the way you live your life?

Q. What actions can you take to better recognise the importance of God in your life?

St Paul of the Cross (19 Oct)

On Thursday, the Passionists celebrated the Feast of St Paul of the Cross, who founded our congregation 303 years ago. Our Passionist community, along with some of our Endeavour Hills Companions, travelled to Holy Cross, Templestowe, for a Mass to celebrate the Feast. Chris Monaghan preached a beautiful homily on how Paul was able to help people understand the love of God that he experienced in the Cross.

Young Achievers

Emily dropped into the office on Paul’s feast, and shared with us a photo of her son Elias dressed as St Paul of the Cross. Looking at that photo, it’s not too hard to imagine it’s the year 2050, and we’re gathering to celebrate Mass with Fr Elias CP leading us! We also heard news recently that Theresa and Hannah Kelly were awarded the title of “National Champions” in the recent Australian National Irish Dancing Championships in their age groups of Under 6 and Under 8. What amazing young people we have in our parish!



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

AIR-CONDITION IN OUR CHURCH

Over the last few years, summer has become hotter and hotter, and as we all know, the church building becomes immensely hot during these summer months. When our solar panels were installed a few years ago, capacity was included to eventually install air-conditioning in the church, and we're pleased to say that we are finally going ahead with the installation of 7 split system air-conditioners. Installation will take place this week from Monday to Wednesday (**meaning Mass will be held in the Annexe for at least Monday and Tuesday morning 23 & 24 October**).

We're also grateful that some of this cost was covered by a very generous parishioner who donated towards this new system a few years ago.

In line with Pope Francis' desire for us to be more aware of our environmental impact in his new Apostolic Exhortatio, Laudate Deum, we will no longer be as reliant on gas, and will be able to utilise a renewable source of energy (the sun!) for both heating and cooling within our church building. This may take some time to get used to, as we experiment with different settings on the system, and so we would appreciate both your patience, but also your feedback during the coming months, as the weather becomes hotter, as well as into next year as things cool down again.

We have been advised to leave the current gas heaters in the church building until we've seen how the new system performs through a full winter next year. However, our aim is to remove them towards the end of next year.

YOUNG ADULT (Year 12 and older)

Gathering for this age group will be on **SUNDAY, 5 November** at 7pm in the Annexe. This time we will be focusing on 'Exam Stress'

YOUTH GROUP (grade 5 to year 9)

We had another great gathering of nearly 30 of our young people (year's 5-9) last Friday night. One of our activities was to come up with a new name, and we eventually settled on: **4:12 Youth**. This is in reference to 1 Timothy 4:12, "Don't let anyone look down on you because you're young,

but be an example in the way you speak and behave, and in your love, your faith, and your purity." The next gathering will be on the 17th of November, at 7pm in the Annexe. If possible, we ask again that you would register through the trybooking link (QR Code on the poster), or at www.trybooking.com/CLCIG A big thank you, too, to the amazing work of the parents who have helped organise these gatherings. What started as an idea last year, has become a reality thanks to their hard work and commitment to our youth.

PARISH BINGO

Our last bingo for the year will be on **FRIDAY, 10 NOVEMBER FROM 7.30pm in the Annexe**. You can come on your own or come as a group. For more information please contact Louis 0419 008 173, Vianney 0438 700 675 or Joe 0419 385 441. Please note that this activity is strictly only for anyone older than 18 yrs old. Unfortunately, we are bound to a policy which states that anyone under this age is not permitted inside the hall during Bingo

PARISH MEN'S GROUP TRIVIA NIGHT

After a long pause, including the COVID affected period, the Men's group Trivia Night is back, **FRIDAY, 17th November at St Paul Apostle South School Hall**. Arrival time is 7pm for 7.30pm start. Cost to join the night is \$15per person. BYO drinks and nibbles. There will be a silent auction, raffles and great prizes. **All payment is on a CASH BASIS** as there will be no card payment facility available. You may come on your own or in a group. Contacts for booking and additional information are Peter 0418 345 576 or Dick 0438 701 284. All are welcome

ADORATION GROUP—UPDATED INFORMATION

It's with great pleasure to say we are up and running in our adoration chapel and would invite you to call in during the day and say a prayer and visit our Lord in the blessed sacrament. We have permanent Adorers who take up an hour a week but can also accommodate you if you wish to call in for 15 minutes and worship. Anyone wishing to do, please contact John Hendriks on 0418308051 for further information.

Readings:

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr A

Isaiah 45: 1, 4-6;
1 Thessalonians 1:1-5 ;
Matthew 22:15-21

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr A

Exodus 22:20-26 ;
1 Thessalonians 1:5-10 ;
Matthew 22:34-40

www.universalis.com

This weekend we pray for:

Those who are sick

Mercia, Joaquina Braz, Norah Ekanayake, Grace Sprigg, Lara Moyle, Michael D' Silva, Lina Jom, Giorgia Vella, Lucia Lay, Marie Kronomberg, Bernardo Cabrera, Anne Ghatt, June Enright, Leang Diep, Sonia Singh, Roger Gray, Anthona Henderson, Nimal Pandithakoralage, Cecil Harper, Nicole Pinto, Toni Celona, Shinead Kralj, Carlos Aquino, Jamie Cabrera, Angela Schink, Roy Conyers, Sandra D'Costa, 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

Ivan Velupillai, Monica Chai (Loh), Domenico Folino, Horace Stolke, Sr. Robyn Reynolds OLSH, Lino Mainolfi, Fr Rob Egar, Fr Brian Gleeson, Isabel Stefanovic, Nekita Araujo Boida, Henry Peteru, James Robert, Bryant De Niese, Mara Ujka, Priscilla Fernandes **and all who are named in our church memorial book**

May they rest in peace

2023 Roster

MINISTERS OF WORD/ COMMENTATORS

	Saturday 6pm	Sunday 9am	Sunday 11am	Sunday 6pm
1st Sunday	Mary Pegram Liz Spear	Virendra Jayetileke Alvita Dias	Anne Astin Rinku Arora	Lakni Weerasekera 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 Grace Sudjono	Mary Heaton Yvonne Sherwin	Marg Keating William Roncon
5th Sunday	Marg Daly Trevor Saldanha	Alvita Dias Virendra Jayetileke	Jennifer Tanti Diane Allegany	Melissa Krajacic Charlene Nheu

MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST

	Saturday 6pm	Sunday 9am	Sunday 11am	Sunday 6pm
1st Sunday	Riona Alveyn Lionel Alveyn Lien Phan	Nila Fernando Rosa Mitchell Rohan Wickramasinghe	Glenn Todd Antoniette Gargano Florence Madeira	Anne Kankanige Peng Chee Vonny Lai
2nd Sunday	Gertrude Akom Mima Arena Carmeline Don Paul	Sig Romano Esteban Morales Aloma Pereira	Sharon Normington Jean Jansz Naomi Falo	Jenny Catania Brendan Keating Lakni Weerasekera
3rd Sunday	Celine Quinless Peter Miller Lionel Alveyn	Mary Moore Nila Fernando Rosa Mitchell	Anabela Costa Sai Dilinger Binitha Mathew	Vonny Lai Charlene Nheu Marg Keating
4th Sunday	Bernie Henstridge Lien Phan Celine Quinless	Aloma Pereira Mary Moore Rohan Wickramasinghe	Vianney Clark Stephen Herbert Lauren Rafferty	Swineetha Disanayake Dominique Maclou Neha Cherayath
5th Sunday	Riona Alveyn Carmeline Don Paul Peter Miller	Sig Romano Esteban Morales	Binitha Mathew Glenn Todd Sharon Normington	Ayomi Fernandez Peng Chee Jenny Catania