

ST MARY'S PARISH, ROBINVALE

Incorporating St Patrick's Manangatang

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time – 19th & 20th September 2020

Please remember these people in our prayers

Recent Deaths: Shirley Irving

Anniversaries:

Alice McTaggart; Vittorio Grotto; Teresa Scopacasa; David Barry;
June Ryan; Jack Kennedy; Leigh Grant; Luigi Brigante

Sick:

Sam Giampaolo; Therese Cummins; Rosa Santos; Kristin Sparto; Debbie Nolen; Jack Hayes; Basilio Alcodia; Gai Trainer; Jeremy Dickson; Carmela Garreffa; Sister Basil;



Parish Office

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Fr Anthony Nagothu

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Caring for our Parish: Parishioners wishing to contribute to the Presbytery/Parish finances during the COVID19 restrictions may by bank deposit to the Parish account - Westpac: BSB: 033250 Account number: 870747. St Mary's Parish has joined with CDF (Catholic Development Fund-Ballarat) and CDF Pay where you can electronically make a one off payment or set up a regular payment. You receive an electronic receipt for any payments made. The link for St Mary's Parish, Robinvale is <https://bit.ly/CDFpayRobinvale>

Online Mass: Mass for the coming weekend, 12-13th September. 24 Sunday in Ordinary time For the Parishes of St Mary's Robinvale and St Joseph, Ouyen.

<https://youtu.be/zWqN7n7kEuQ>

COVID-19 Step 3—Easing of Restrictions

Private Prayer/Church Visit—As from **Tuesday the 22nd of September** our Church will be opened (9am-6pm) for private prayer and devotions. Please note: people cannot gather in larger groups. You must sit in your family group or with a person in your social bubble and only one family group or social bubble group can be in the church at any time. You will need to sign in and out of the church as per COVID regulations. Please wear your mask and sanitise your hands. *Fr Anthony is available during these times on appointment except Monday & Thursday.*

Reflection on the Gospel

In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks of a parable, where he gives fair wage to everyone and extra fair wage to those who came late for the work. How do I see God's generosity, Am I able to rejoice in the growth and blessing of others? None of us can comprehend God's ways. Our human thinking does not correspond always with the divine. He tells us clearly in the first reading. 'for my thoughts are not your thoughts my ways are not your ways'. The Lord is a good shepherd who is generous and gentle especially to those in need.

God loves us with an everlasting love. None of us can deserve his absolute love, it doesn't matter whether we work for 24/7 or only an hour. Our salvation has been paid in full ... paid in full by the Lord even before we ever thought to ask him. Let us rejoice in the surprising generosity of our abundant God and be generous with one another!

I pray the refrain of the COVID song composed by Fr Michael Joncas, "O shelter me, O shelter me: the way ahead is dark and difficult to see. O shelter me, O shelter me: all will be well if only you will shelter me."

Let us pray, May the Lord give us the grace to open our minds to see him and open our hearts to be generous, in our love and service to one another Amen! - *Fr Anthony Nagothu*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Isaiah 55:6-9

My thoughts are not your thoughts

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near. Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him, to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks. Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 144(145):2-3,8-9,17-18

The Lord is close to all who call him.

I will bless you day after day and praise your name for ever. The Lord is great, highly to be praised, his greatness cannot be measured.

The Lord is close to all who call him.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures.

The Lord is close to all who call him.

The Lord is just in all his ways and loving in all his deeds. He is close to all who call him, who call on him from their hearts.

The Lord is close to all who call him.

SECOND READING Philippians 1:20-24,27

Life to me is Christ; but death would bring me more

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake. Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 20:1-16

Why be envious because I am generous?

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Message from Bishop Paul

Hello Everyone,

As you would be aware, the Victorian government has announced some easing of the restrictions that have been in force to counter the spread of COVID-19. In regional Victoria, including our Diocese of Ballarat, we will move to the Third Step of the government's staged reopening. This will apply from midnight tonight (September 16). What does this mean as far as our churches and chapels and religious ceremonies are concerned?

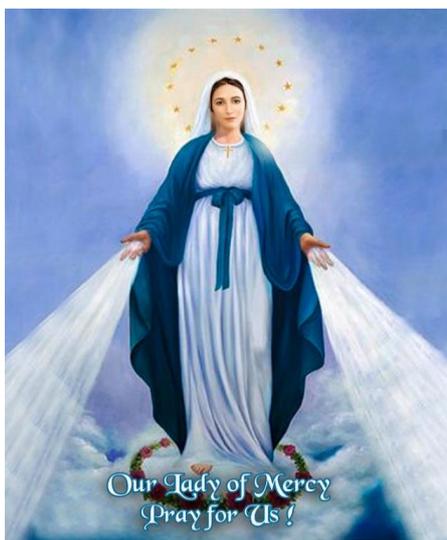
Weddings will be able to have up to 10 people gathered (including the couple and two witnesses), plus the celebrant. Funerals will be able to have up to 20 people gathered, plus those required to conduct the funeral. Outdoor religious gatherings will be allowed for up to 10 people, plus a faith leader. Churches and chapels may be open for private worship for households or social bubbles, plus a faith leader. These provisions allow for some increase in numbers for weddings and funerals. Furthermore, it will now be possible to have an outdoor religious celebration for up to 10 people, plus the person leading the prayer. Parishes may be able to arrange some such outdoor celebrations. Moreover, we will now be able to reopen our churches and chapels, at least for private worship. I encourage parish and school communities to open churches and chapels for some time each day so that people can spend a while in personal prayer in the presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament.

It is still possible for parishes to live-stream Mass. However, this can only involve up to five people. The provisions do not allow us to gather in our churches to celebrate Mass as we would dearly wish to. I pray particularly that we will soon be able to share the Eucharist, source and summit of the Christian life.

Peace be with you. God bless you all. - Bishop Paul

Feast of Our Lady of Mercy

Thursday the 24th of September is the Feast of Our Lady of Mercy, Patroness of Sisters of Mercy. In 1827 on this day the House of Mercy, Baggot St, Dublin was opened. We pay tribute to our Past Mercy Sisters who have generously served St Mary's community.



Pope Francis - Twitter

LaudatoSi

The common good requires everyone's participation. If everyone contributes his or her part, and if no one is left out, we can regenerate good relationships on the communitarian, national and international level and even in harmony with the environment.

Parish Planned Giving: Thank you to the parishioners who support the work of the Church through their financial contribution. New envelopes, along with receipts are available from the Parish Office. Please contact Parish Office/Pat Curran 0427 269 211 or email robinvale@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Fr Anthony's Sunday Homily

Now you can view Fr Anthony's Sunday Homily on his YouTube channel - 'Anthony Nagothu-Homily'. Or press the below link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J9AgfSiHMnU>