

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH

Fr Paul Mercovich

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SUNDAY (A)

May 28th 2017

THE YEAR OF MERCY
The Ascension of The Lord

BULLETIN NOTICES

Please forward any notices for the bulletin to Lara Thompson

By Thursday 5pm

Phone: 54911834 or 0400328146

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NEXT WEEKS MASS TIMES

1st SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

**SATURDAY, 7.00 P.M. –
CHARLTON**

**SATURDAY, 7.00 P.M. –
WEDDERBURN***

**SUNDAY, 8.30 A.M. – ST.
ARNAUD**

**SUNDAY, 8.30 A.M. –
DONALD**

*Lay Led Liturgy

NEXT WEEKENDS MASS ROSTER

SPECIAL MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST: Michael Bourke*√
Anne Calnin * Bern Zagame*√ Nursing home*

READERS:

PRAYERS OF FAITHFUL:

PROCESSION OF GIFTS:

ALTAR SERVERS: Abby and Nick Thompson

FLOWERS:

HOME VISITING: Sandra Patton

COUNTERS: This week: Matt and Elaine Donaldson

Next week: Frank and Nance Ssait

CHURCH CLEANING: K. Mulquiny, W. Laffin, C. Fitzpatrick

Shannon's Bridge

Shannon's Bridge is a new not for profit volunteer organisation to help connect patients and existing palliative care services and supports. We are here to support you with issues about illness, dying and loss. The aim is to remove the taboo and change attitudes about death and dying. The focus is on not just a "good death" but "better living". Shannon's Bridge is based on the "Compassionate Communities" international movement to help people to live well within our communities to the very end of our lives. A Compassionate Community is one that acknowledges that care for one another at times of crisis and loss is not simply a task solely for health and social services but is everyone's responsibility. Shannon's Bridge welcomes interest and questions from members of the public, other volunteer groups, faith or spiritual groups, community organisations, service providers, local government, health services and educational institutions. Contact Jeremy McKnight, ph. 0448 827956 or www.shannsonbridge.com. More information attached.

Family Matters - Forum! With guest speaker, Fr Frank Brennan (CEO of CSSA).

Hosted by the Diocese of Ballarat through the Social Justice Commission, all are welcome to attend this free event organised for Saturday, June 24 in Ballarat. Further forums will be held in Warrnambool on Saturday, July 22 and Mildura on Saturday, August 26. Details about workshops and how to register will be released soon. Flyer attached (jpeg).

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2017: 28 May – 4 June 2017

"Reconciliation - The Love of Christ Compels Us" (cf. 2 Corinthians 5:14-20). The Diocesan Commission for Ecumenism and Inter Religious Relations invites all to an active participation in this week of prayer. Resources are available [here](#). Rev Gregory Tait, Chair.

National Pastoral Leader and Planners Conference

"Vines and Branches: Yearning to Belong" will be held in Melbourne from September 4 – September 7, 2017. This conference will be an opportunity for clergy, pastoral associates and pastoral planners to reflect upon the signs of the time and move forward with hope. More information attached.

OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS:

RECENT DEATHS:

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ANNIVERSARIES:

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PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

- BAILEY DELANEY
- VIN SAIT
- FR JOHN KEANE
- IAN BRUNS
- JACK ROSS

ST JOSEPH'S **SCHOOL** **REUNION**

Celebrating 120 years of Catholic Education in Charlton on Show Weekend, 21st & 22nd October 2017.

For many years St Joseph's School participated in the Charlton Music Club Students' Concert. In 1962 for the first time the Music Club awarded 2 scholarships – one for a pupil of Miss E. Paterson and one for a pupil of St Joseph's College. If you know who won the scholarship in 1965, 1966, 1973 or 1974 could you please let Anne know.

St Joseph's participated successfully in the Northern Catholic Schools Picnic Sports Association – commonly referred to as the Birchip, Sea Lake or Warracknabeal Sports.

Photos needed of 1965 & 1967 Junior winners at Birchip and 1976 Juniors at Warracknabeal.

Also 1975 Seniors at Warracknabeal.

Did you know?

A cake and poultry stall was held in Mr Babidge's buildings on Friday, November 7, 1941, in aid of St Joseph's school funds. (Information from Charlton Tribune)

**Our next meeting will be at
6pm on Wednesday 24th May.**

Time to Draw the Line – East Timor

Many of you have a close relationship with East Timor communities. Here is a way to ACT for JUSTICE in support of these communities. Please share this petition in your parish and where possible invite members of your local community to be informed and to sign the petition. All petitions are required before July 30, 2017. Sr Susan Connelly rsj has initiated a formal Petition to the Australian House of Representatives on the maritime border with East Timor. A formal petition means it will be read in parliament. Hopefully, you are aware of this protracted dispute between Australia and its much poorer neighbour, East Timor.

Catholic Education Week

Three schools came together for Catholic Education Week, St Joseph's School - Charlton, St Patrick's School - St Araund and St Mary's School - Donald arrived we went out the front of the St Joseph's School to participate in a Welcoming Ceremony.

Jida Gulpilil on behalf of the Djadjawurrung People welcomed us to the Djadjawurrung land. Jida's visit was a great learning experience for the three schools. Jida spoke about his family's history and he also taught us some words from the Djadjawurrung language. Jida told us that his family's clan country stretched out a long way. The land starts in Boort then extends to Strathdale and Avoca, and almost goes to Ballarat. The land stretches to Kyneton along the Campaspe River, across to Serpentine to follow along the Loddon River and then back to Boort.

The three schools found the welcoming presentation very fascinating and we all thanked Jida so much for the wonderful welcome. Jida played the Didgeridoo. On the Didgeridoo he made the sounds of a kookaburra and the dingo and bird flying sounds. Jida is a talented Didgeridoo player we were all very impressed and realise that we were lucky to have witnessed a real life Didgeridoo performance. Jida was wearing a possum skin as a coat, it looked really fluffy. It was cool. He told us all about the country his family was from. He also taught us some Djadjawurrung words.

This was a great way to start Catholic Education Week.

By Year 5/6 St Joseph's School Charlton

Professor Ian Olver (The Southern Cross) on Legalising Euthanasia

Legalising euthanasia and ending someone's life has been likened to "ripping the last page out of a novel", according to one of Australia's leading cancer researchers and medical oncologists, *The Southern Cross* reports.

Ian Olver, director of the Sansom Institute for Health Research at the University of South Australia, said there was often a lot of "valuable things" that could be written on the last page of a novel and similarly, people at the last stage of life also had something valuable to offer. "Even if people are sick and bedridden, if they are relieved of the burden of the physical they can concentrate on other things – like relationships or even the spiritual," Professor Olver said.

"Sometimes they recognise the spiritual side for the first time when they are ill. Spirituality is not just religion, but religion is one expression. If anyone asks, 'why I am here?' or 'what is the meaning of my illness in the context of my life?' ... that is asking a spiritual question. And they need to explore the answer to it so they can find the meaning and achieve peace. Professor Olver said in today's world there was "less of a scenario" of people having to suffer at the end of their life.

"Over the last couple of decades we've seen the strong rise of the importance of palliative care as part of medical care. It's not all about getting good at using drugs to treat symptoms, it's about the psychosocial and spiritual support of the patient."

He described the public debate around euthanasia as being "quite trite" and added that using pain as the reason was no longer valid.

"Everyone has a story of a relative who has suffered and I'm sympathetic to that, but it may be that they didn't get good palliative care. The opposite of suffering is not death, it's the relief of suffering."

