

The Parish Collections

We have had people enquire about how they can contribute to the normal collections.

The First Collection - This looks after Fr Matt and the running of the Presbytery, this collection is normally taken up first and in the past has been via cash, with the current situation you may wish to contribute to this by either dropping money into the office on a Tues or Fri or you can direct debit to the account. Account Name Holy Family Parish
BSB- 083874 Account 30-816-7018

The Second Collection- this is for the running of the parish, most people either use plan giving envelopes or direct debit, if you would like to contribute to this one the details are

Name: Holy Family Parish BSB 083874
Account 30-806-2531

If using direct deposit, please make sure you put your name in the reference box.

REFLECTION – by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

Jesus often spoke about himself and his significant relationship with his disciples, saying things like, 'I am the vine, you are the branches', 'I am the Resurrection and the life', 'You are the light of the world', 'You are the salt of the earth', 'I am the Good Shepherd'.

When a significant relationship is healthy, it has a positive impact on the life of the people involved. That is a sign that the Holy Spirit is at work.

Do you ever talk to your close friends about your relationship with them? Why or why not? The Spirit has several names: Paraclete, Advocate, Counsellor, Helper. But the most simple one to remember and understand is Love. God is love. The Spirit of God is love.

It has been said that it is easier to 'love the world' than to actually love your next door neighbour or some of the people in your family. What is meant by that? Do you agree with that? Why or why not?

If love is so simple to understand, why is it so complicated and difficult to share?

2020 - It's the fifth anniversary of Laudato Si'

Pope Francis invites you to celebrate *Laudato Si'* Week which takes place May 16-24. Go to <https://laudatosiweek.org/> for more information.

Week of Prayer and Christian Unity 2020

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in Australia will be observed from May 24-31, 2020 in the week between Ascension and Pentecost. This year's theme, "*They showed us unusual kindness*" (Acts 28:2), calls us to move from shared prayer to shared action and remembers the historic shipwreck of Paul on the island of Malta. It calls us to a greater generosity to those in need. Resources are now available at the website [The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity](#).

Pentecost Pilgrimage

Catholics are invited to join others worldwide on a spiritual pilgrimage to Pentecost. Register for free to receive a series of talks which are uploaded twice a week from speakers around the world, including from Australia Archbishop Porteous (Hobart), Fr Ken Barker MGL, Founder and Moderator of the Missionaries of God's Love, Robert Falzon, Cofounder of menALIVE, and Daniel Ang, Director of Parish 2020, Sydney Archdiocese.

Go to <https://www.pentecostpilgrimage.com/>

What can I do during this time of Covid19?

With some easing of restrictions please keep being safe and social distancing as we are not over it yet. Don't forget the elderly and vulnerable in your area. Keep checking in daily to make sure they are ok. If you can assist in any way eg shopping,collecting medication etc, this can allieviate some stress and arrange to leave it at their door when task is finished.

The Ballarat diocesan website has a list of links for Mass on line, resources for things like Sacred Space: 10 minute prayer and reflection, pray at home, pray as you go are just a few of the links as well as activities to do as a family so head over to www.ballarat.catholic.org.au and discover what is on offer

Jesus loves us and asks us to keep his commandments. Name some of the commandments?



REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Parallel Truths

Today's Gospel speaks of an advocate. This translates a Greek word: '*paraclete*'. Our Lord says: 'I will send you *another Paraclete* to be with you forever.' Our Lord was a *Paraclete*, and he would send *another*.

What does this strange sounding word mean? Here is a hint. We all know that parallel lines run, well, para-ll-el. They run alongside each other. A *paraclete* is a person who stands alongside someone and pleads their case.

That is how our Lord Jesus Christ saw himself. His role was not to condemn but to plead the case for mercy and compassion, to be the intercessor *par excellence*.

Our Lord promises another *Paraclete* dwelling within us, individually and as the body of Christ's disciples, the Holy Spirit advocating our cause, assisting us to live Truth-fully by the measure of the One who is the Way, the Truth and the Life. This *Paraclete* particularly assists us by acting as the Spirit of Truth.

We could pause for a moment to thank God for the two *Paracletes*, constantly pleading our case before the Throne of Mercy.

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Rev Prof Michael Tate graduated in Law from the University of Tasmania in 1968, and in Theology from Oxford University in 1971. He lectured at the University of Tasmania from 1972-78, being Dean of the Faculty of Law in 1977-78. He was a Senator for Tasmania from 1978-93, being Federal Minister for Justice from 1987-93. He served as Ambassador to The Hague and the Holy See from 1993-96. He then returned to Australia and was ordained in May 2000 and has been a parish priest in the Archdiocese of Hobart since then. He is currently Vicar General in the Archdiocese and is an Honorary Professor of Law at the University of Tasmania where he lectures in International Humanitarian Law.

INTRODUCING FR JAMES KERR OUR NEW PARISH PRIEST

I was very excited to be asked by the Bishop to replace Fr Matthew as Parish Priest in Holy Family Parish North-East Mallee. I've heard many good things about the parish and its people. My sister-in-law (Kerrie née Munro) is especially excited for me, being a Swan Hill girl originally. It will be my first appointment as parish priest, and my first appointment to the area, but I know I'll have good people around me to support me.

A little about myself. I am the fourth of five children to my parents Michael and Francine. They're now living on the Mornington Peninsula along with most of the family. The older siblings were all born in Melbourne, but I was born in Sale where dad had his first teaching job. After 9 years in sale, the family moved to Ballarat, where my little sister was born. I went through secondary education at St Pat's College, where Dad worked as a boarding master and teacher. As a family we were part of first the Cathedral parish and later St James' Sebastapol when we moved a little out of town.

After school I started an engineering course at Melbourne Uni. Soon after commencing though I started to feel a strong pull towards the priesthood. Once it became clear (as much as these things can be) where God was calling me, I entered the seminary in Carlton. I was ordained a priest in Ballarat on September 2013. I had my first placement as an assistant priest for three years in the Ballarat area, and have been in Mildura now since the beginning of 2017.

And as for the very important question; I am a Geelong supporter.



First Reading Acts 8:5-8. 14-17

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles;

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town. When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 65:1-7. 16. 20. R. see v.1

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy. Alleluia.

Cry out with joy to God all the earth, O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise.

Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds!

'Before you all the earth shall bow; shall sing to you, sing to your name!' Come and see the works of God, tremendous his deeds among men.

He turned the sea into dry land, they passed through the river dry-shod. Let our joy then be in him; he rules for ever by his might.

Come and hear, all who fear God. I will tell what he did for my soul: Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer nor withhold his love from me.

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy. Alleluia.

Second Reading 1 Pt 3:15-18

A reading from the first letter of St Peter;

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong. Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 17:1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John;

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

'Father, the hour has come: glorify your Son so that your Son may glorify you; and, through the power over all mankind that you have given him, let him give eternal life to all those you have entrusted to him. And eternal life is this: to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I have glorified you on earth and finished the work that you gave me to do. Now, Father, it is time for you to glorify me with that glory I had with you before ever the world was. I have made your name known to the men you took from the world to give me.

They were yours and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now at last they know that all you have given me comes indeed from you; for I have given them the teaching you gave to me, and they have truly accepted this, that I came from you, and have believed that it was you who sent me. I pray for them; I am not praying for the world but for those you have given me, because they belong to you: all I have is yours and all you have is mine, and in them I am glorified. I am not in the world any longer, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you.'

Next Week's Readings:

First Reading: Acts 1:1-11

Second Reading: Eph 1:17-23

Gospel: Mt 28:16-20

