



MOYNE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

St Patrick's Parish, Port Fairy

Infant Jesus Parish, Koroit



Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday 27th June and Sunday 28th June, 2020

FIRST READING 2 Kings 4:8-11,13-16

He is a holy man of God; let him rest here.

One day as Elisha was on his way to Shunem, a woman of rank who lived there pressed him to stay and eat there. After this he always broke his journey for a meal when he passed that way. She said to her husband, 'Look, I am sure the man who is constantly passing our way must be a holy man of God. Let us build him a small room on the roof, and put him a bed in it, and a table and chair and lamp; whenever he comes to us he can rest there.' One day when he came, he retired to the upper room and lay down. He said to his servant Gehazi, 'Call our Shunammitess. Tell her this: "Look, you have gone to all this trouble for us, what can we do for you? Is there anything you would like said for you to the king or to the commander of the army?"' But she replied, 'I live with my own people about me.' 'What can be done for her then?' he asked. Gehazi answered, 'Well, she has no son and her husband is old.' Elisha said, 'Call her.' The servant called her and she stood at the door. This time next year,' he said 'you will hold a son in your arms.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 88(89)

*R/. For ever I will sing the
goodness of the Lord.*

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord; /
through all ages my mouth will proclaim

your truth. / Of this I am sure, that your
love lasts for ever, / that your truth is
firmly established as the heavens.

*R/. For ever I will sing the
goodness of the Lord.*

Happy the people who acclaim such a
king, / who walk, O Lord, in the light of
your face, / who find their joy every day in
your name, / who make your justice the
source of their bliss.

*R/. For ever I will sing the
goodness of the Lord.*

For it is you, O Lord, who are the glory of
their strength; / by your favour it is that
our might is exalted; / for our ruler is in
the keeping of the Lord; / our king in the
keeping of the Holy One of Israel.

*R/. For ever I will sing the
goodness of the Lord.*

SECOND READING Rom 6:3-4,8-11

*When we were baptised we went into the
tomb with Christ, so that we too might
live a new life.*

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we
were baptised in his death; in other words,
when we were baptised we went into the
tomb with him and joined him in death, so
that as Christ was raised from the dead by
the Father's glory, we too might live a new
life.

But we believe that having died with Christ
we shall return to life with him: Christ, as

we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him any more. When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION 1 Peter 2:9

V/. Alleluia! R/. Alleluia!

V/. You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy people. Praise God who calls you out of darkness and into his marvellous light. R/. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mt 10:37-42

Anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it.

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who prefers son or daughter to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who does not take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me. Anyone who finds his life will lose it; anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it.

'Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me; and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me.

'Anyone who welcomes a prophet will have a prophet's reward; and anyone who welcomes a holy man will have a holy man's reward.

'If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is a disciple, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

We commend to the Lord's mercy **Johanna (Joan) Smith** and



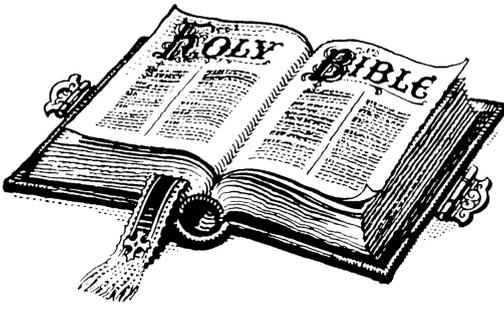
Maurice Lourey who died recently. May they rest in God's peace.

FROM FR JOHN FITZGERALD

We are preparing to return to our Sunday Eucharist but the experience will be somewhat different. We are required to limit the number of people at Mass. There is the cleaning of the whole church between Masses. We have to observe the one person per 4 sq metre rule. Names and phone numbers of attendees must be recorded (for contact tracing). Parishioners to call the Parish Office to register for Mass as there will probably be more people desiring to attend than there are places. We desire to ensure equity and a 'fair go' to enable as many people as possible the opportunity to participate in the celebration of the Eucharist. Collection plates may be a thing of the past. Hymn books may also be a thing of the past. We will need to find alternate ways in sharing the 'Sign of Peace.' Communion to be given in the hand only and no drinking from the chalice. Hands to be sanitised on entering the church.

YAMBUK AND ORFORD CHURCHES

Both churches are under contract and due for settlement. It is important that all chattels are removed from the church before settlement. Parishioners can express their interest in any items in the church by emailing parish secretary Louise Dryburgh at portfairry@ballarat.catholic.org.au, or calling 0488 180 819. Interested parties are asked to state the amount they're willing to pay, from \$0 to any fair value. You may also indicate any reasons for the request ("*I put flowers in the vase for many years,*" "*I'd love a memento of the church,*" etc.) This is optional. If more than one parishioner expresses interest in an item, the decision on who gets the item rests with the parish administrators. Please submit your requests ASAP.



Reflection on this Sunday's Gospel

by Fr Francis Fernandez

GOD ALONE MUST BE LOVED ABSOLUTELY

Over and over again Jesus teaches us that God has to be the principal object of our love. We must love creatures in a secondary, subordinate way. In today's Gospel he tells us in words that leave no room for doubt: *whomever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whomever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.*

Our Lord teaches us true love. He asks us to love family and neighbour, but not even these loves should we put before the love of God, which must always be given an overriding priority. All other earthly loves are enriched, purified and encouraged to grow when we love God. Our heart expands and our capacity for loving increases. We find ourselves able to overcome all the obstacles and limitations of self-centredness that are present in all creatures. The pure loves of this life are raised and ennobled still more when we love God first and most of all.

To love God the way He wants us to love Him, we have to go so far as to lose our own life, that of "the old man." We have to die to those disordered tendencies which incline and induce us to sin. God wants us to preserve all that is healthy and upright and truly human in our nature, all that is good and humanly characteristic in each unique individual. Nothing genuinely human, of the positive, of the perfectible, will be lost. The life of grace will permeate the whole of man's nature and elevate it. In this way the personality of the

Christian who loves God is richly enhanced. The more we die to our selfish ego, the more truly human we become, and so much the better are we prepared for supernatural life.

The Christian who is struggling in the battle of self-denial finds he or she is living this new life: the life of Jesus. Grace respects what is characteristic in each one of us at the same time as it transforms us, so that we come to have the same attitudes and sentiments that Christ himself has concerning our neighbours and concerning events. Seeing things as He does, we begin to imitate his deeds. In this way a new, simple, natural behaviour is born in us, encouraging us to be better. We are filled with the same desires as Christ: our one objective becomes that of fulfilling the will of the Father. That, then, is the real expression of love and its clearest manifestation. Remaining what he or she is, by the help of grace, the Christian becomes identified with Jesus insofar, paradoxically, as he or she divests himself or herself of their very self. "*For through the law I died to the law, that I might live to God,*" says St Paul. "*I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.*" (Gal 2:19-20)

Love of God cannot be taken for granted. If we do not nurture and take care of it, it dies. On the other hand, difficulties can set it ablaze and confirm us in it if our will holds steadfastly in God. Love of God is nourished in prayer and in the reception of the sacraments, in the constant struggle against our defects, in the unceasing effort to maintain a living presence of God throughout the whole of our working day, in our relations with others, in our times of rest ... The Eucharist above all must be the spring at which our love of God is perpetually refreshed and strengthened. In a way, to love thus is already to possess Heaven on earth.

PARISH-WISE MAIL OUT

Communications during the church closure have been hampered by incomplete phone and email lists. A mailout is in the works, which will advise all parishioners of important news in the weeks ahead.

PLANNED GIVING

Anyone wishing to continue with their planned giving or Presbytery contribution can pay by direct deposit into the corresponding account. **Please put as your reference your full name and planned giving number** (Envelope number).

St Patrick's Parish - Planned Giving

BSB: 633 000 Account: 163 466 790

Infant Jesus Parish - Planned Giving

BSB: 633 000 Account: 163 466 881

Presbytery Contributions

BSB: 633 000 Account: 163 466 899

Alternatively, you are welcome to drop in and see Louise at the Port Fairy parish office, 10am to 12pm, on Mondays and Thursdays.



VINNIES CEO SLEEPOUT

Every night, thousands of Australians experience homelessness. But it doesn't have to be that way. This year, Archbishop Peter Comensoli is taking part in the Vinnies CEO Sleepout to raise funds for the St Vincent de Paul Society. Last Friday night, the Archbishop slept in his car to raise awareness and bring home the realities of homelessness. "It's a little bit of discomfort for a good bit of awareness."

Donations to the Vinnies CEO Sleepout funds new initiatives, ensures existing homeless services – like food vans and emergency support – continue, and expands the reach of existing Vinnies programs to ensure every Australian can access accommodation, meals, and emergency assistance when they need it. Visit www.ceosleepout.org.au

WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH

Our Child Safe Policies can be read at our church entrances and on our websites. Our safe-guarding officer is Peter Sanderson.

NEXT SUNDAY: **14th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

First Reading. *Zechariah 9:9-10.* See now, your king comes humbly to you.

Second Reading. *Romans 8:8-9,11-13.* If by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

Gospel. *Matthew 11:25-30.* You have hidden these things to the wise and revealed them to little children.

CANONICAL ADMINISTRATOR: Fr John Fitzgerald, john.fitzgerald@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Phone: 5562 2231. Warrnambool office hours: 9am to 4pm, Monday to Friday.

ASSISTANT PRIEST: Fr John Corrigan, john.corrigan@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Phone: 0422 342 499. For urgent matters, please don't hesitate to call any time.

PARISH SECRETARY: Louise Dryburgh, portfairy@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Phone: 0408 681 223. Port Fairy office hours: 9am to 12pm, Monday and Thursday.

Parish postal address: PO Box 8, PORT FAIRY VIC 3284.