

ST MARY'S PARISH, ROBINVALE

Incorporating St Patrick's Manangatang

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time – 26th & 27th September 2020

Please remember these people in our prayers

Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries:

Joy Englefield; Sid Sampson; Edward (Ted) Reedy; Lucio Cardin;

Sick:

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



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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,
26/27 September.

26th Sunday in Ordinary time
For the Parishes of St Mary's
Robinvale and St Joseph,
Ouyen.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5X051Woj7XU>

Social Justice Statement 2020-2021

The COVID-19 pandemic is affecting the mental health of many members of our parishes, schools and communities. Understanding mental health will help us to be aware of those who need our support. In the Social Justice Statement 2020 -2021, To Live Life to the Full: Mental health in Australia today, the Bishops invite us all to reject stigmatisation, to work for the transformation of social determinants of mental ill-health, and to call for policies and service provision that meet the needs of the poorest and most marginalised members of our community. More information is available from the diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au or http://bit.ly/SocialJustice_2020

Reflection on the Gospel

Today's gospel presents us a beautiful parable. A man had two sons. He makes them a request. He asks them to go into his vineyard and do some work! The first son said 'no' to the father. But later he changes his mind and he accomplishes the work entrusted by the Father. First son did the father's will because he had a change of heart and obeyed the Father. *Metanoia (Change of heart and spiritual conversion)*. This is an echo of the first reading from the book of Ezekiel. God always forgives sinners who truly repent of their sins.

The second son said yes, but did not go to work. The *second son* refers to the *Pharisees and the Scribes*. They have failed to transform their way of thinking and living. Like the Pharisees and Scribes, if we have pretended to be good and upright Christians – in name only, this parable offers us a chance to change and find welcome in the kingdom of heaven. Ultimately **we are defined, not by what we say, but by what we do.**

Let us pay attention to the *ideal son* about whom St. Paul speaks to us in the second reading. Jesus, the Son of God who said "yes" and obeyed the will of the heavenly Father even unto death. He was divine, but he did not regard this as something to be grasped. Instead, He emptied Himself of His Divinity. He became a human being, a servant. So, Saint Paul exhorts us: "Have in you the same attitude that is also in Christ Jesus. (Phil 2:5). This is to be kind, and loving, and merciful to each other. We are to put the interests of others above ourselves.

Fr Anthony Nagothu

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 18:25-28

When the sinner renounces sin, he shall certainly live

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalms 24(25):4-9

Remember your mercy, Lord.

Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your paths. Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour.

Remember your mercy, Lord.

Remember your mercy, Lord, and the love you have shown from of old. Do not remember the sins of my youth. In your love remember me, because of your goodness, O Lord.

Remember your mercy, Lord.

The Lord is good and upright. He shows the path to those who stray, He guides the humble in the right path, He teaches his way to the poor.

Remember your mercy, Lord.

SECOND READING

Philippians 2:1-11

Be united in your love

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus: His state was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death,

death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.

Alleluia!

Jn 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia!

The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice, says the Lord,

I know them and they follow me.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 21:28-32

Tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir," but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Fr Anthony's Sunday Homily

Now you can view Fr Anthony's Sunday Homily on his YouTube channel - 'Anthony Nagothu-Homily' or click the below link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w3aik3ktr7U>

COVID-19 STEP 3—EASING OF RESTRICTIONS

We hope you are all keeping safe, well, warm and connected to our parish. There has been some easing of the Victorian Government's COVID-19 restrictions in regional Victoria, which is fantastic news. Unfortunately as far as Mass go, we are still unable to celebrate Mass and church gatherings indoor. This means our churches are closed with no Mass until further notice from the Victorian Government. All going well, we will be able to meet for Mass very soon. Of course there will be restricted numbers on the amount of people able to gather. We will be informed at a later date by the Victorian Government when these changes will take place.

What does it mean for churches and religious ceremonies?

Private Prayer/Church Visit:

Our church is open (9am-6pm) for private prayer and devotion. Please note people cannot be 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 to be in the church at any time.

Mass:

The current provisions do not allow us to gather in our churches to celebrate Mass.

Funerals:

Will be able to have up to 20 people gathered plus those required to conduct the funeral (the celebrant and funeral directors)

Baptisms:

At this stage we are unable to celebrate baptisms.

Weddings:

Will be able to have up to 10 people gathered (this is to include the couple, two witnesses and the celebrant).

You will need to sign in and out of the church as per COVID regulations.

It's St Mary's 10th Anniversary and you're invited!

To mark the 10th anniversary of the canonisation of Mary MacKillop, Australia's first Saint, the Sisters of Saint Joseph invite you to celebrate the wonderful life and inspirational legacy of Saint Mary of the Cross. The Sisters have created commemorative prayers, videos and a global vigil in of honour Mary throughout September and

October <https://www.sosj.org.au/10th-anniversary>

Mary Helen MacKillop RSJ was an Australian religious sister who has been declared a saint by the Catholic Church, as St Mary of the Cross. Of Scottish descent, she was born in Melbourne but is best known for her activities in South Australia
Canonized: 17 October 2010, Vatican City, by Pope Benedict XVI



106th World Day of Migrants and Refugees

This Sunday, September 27, 2020 The Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office has prepared a Migrant and Refugee Kit, which includes stories from local communities, reflections and prayers

https://www.acmro.catholic.org.au/resources/migrant-refugeekit?fbclid=IwAR00HRtrkYbmKfV4Tjyo9SqFOMYSEeUVn3dUNaWote0OKR2-JArGmZS8_8

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

SR TIRSA BALE RIP:

Bishop Paul Bird has notified us of the death last week of Sr Tirsa, a member of the Baptistine religious order, who for the past few years has served as a Pastoral Associate in Horsham parish. Sr Tirsa had been unwell and returned to the Philippines earlier this year for medical treatment. We pray that Christ may welcome Sr Tirsa into eternal life and our thoughts are with her Horsham community member, Sr Manuela Cabigas, and their fellow Baptistine sisters at this time.