



MOYNE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

St Patrick's Parish, Port Fairy
Infant Jesus Parish, Koroit

www.moyneatholic.org.au



Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday 7th October and Sunday 8th November, 2020

FIRST READING

Wisdom 6:12-16

Wisdom is found by those who look for her

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim. By those who love her she is readily seen, and found by those who look for her. Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she makes herself known to them. Watch for her early and you will have no trouble; you will find her sitting at your gates. Even to think about her is understanding fully grown; be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you. She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her and graciously shows herself to them as they go, in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

RESPONSORIAL

Ps 94(95):1-2,6-9

**R/. My soul is thirsting for you,
O Lord my God.**

O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water.

**R/. My soul is thirsting for you,
O Lord my God.**

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise.

**R/. My soul is thirsting for you,
O Lord my God.**

So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.

My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy.

**R/. My soul is thirsting for you,
O Lord my God.**

On my bed I remember you.

On you I muse through the night
for you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.

**R/. My soul is thirsting for you,
O Lord my God.**

SECOND READING

1 Thess 4:13-18

*Do not grieve about
those who have died in Jesus*

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them; to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Mt 24:42,44

V/. Alleluia! R/. Alleluia!

V/. Be watchful and ready: you know not when the Son of Man is coming.

R/. Alleluia

GOSPEL

Matthew 25:1-13

The wise and foolish virgins

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'

PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

We pray for **Frank Murphy, 'Redda' Ryan, Eleanor Bourke, and Tony**

Mansbridge who died recently. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



WEEK DAY MASSES

Twenty people permitted inside church.

Tuesday 10am Port Fairy

Wednesday 10am Koroit

Thursday 10am Port Fairy

Friday 10am Koroit

PETITION TO PREMIER ANDREWS

Although restrictions have been eased, the limits on religious gatherings remain much stricter than they were after the first lockdown, without any data supporting this decision. Please consider adding your name to a petition objecting to the government's arbitrary and unequal treatment of religious communities.

"We, people of Victoria's faith community, request that you adjust the 'Roadmap for Reopening' in a way that secures the equitable treatment of religious communities and grants us the opportunity to practise our faith in a COVID-safe manner."

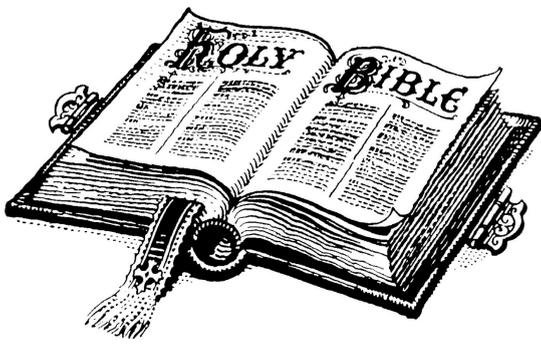
Sign at www.equalityforfaith.com.au

PRAYER FOR EXAM STUDENTS

Loving Father, we bring before you our VCE & University Students. Give them the wisdom, right judgement, knowledge and courage. Bless them with calm hearts and clarity of mind as they sit their exams. May they be affirmed in their efforts and may they know that you are there with them.

We pray that they will stay calm under pressure and work to the best of their ability. May they feel your loving presence in their lives, now and always, and may they be strengthened by the prayerful support of us, their family and their community.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.



Reflection on today's Readings

by Fr Francis Fernandez

THE PARTICULAR JUDGEMENT

But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him."

In the immediate aftermath of our death we will encounter God in the particular judgment. At that time we will see before our eyes all the good works and sins of our past life. How delighted we will be to review those many acts of faith we have made to Jesus Christ present in the Tabernacle! We will take comfort in the countless genuflections we have made with love, in the many hours of work we have offered to God, in the smile and good cheer we have brought to our home and our workplace, in the efforts we have made to bring a friend to Mass or the sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. We will also contemplate with joy our participation in works of mercy, our prompt recourse to the confessional whenever we have sinned.

And yet, how much sorrow we will have at the sight of those occasions when we have offended God, those hours of work or study which we failed to sanctify, those lost opportunities for apostolate with our friends ... What a shame to behold so little generosity and attention to God's grace! How grieved we will be by so much neglect!

It is Christ who will judge us. *He is the one ordained by God to be judge of the living and the dead.* [Acts 10:42] As St Paul reminded the first Christians at

Corinth: *For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive good or evil, according to what he has done in the body.* [2 Cor 5:10]

If we are faithful in the little things of each day, then we will have no fear in coming before Christ. On the contrary, we will feel an immense peace and joy at the prospect of this encounter. St Teresa of Avila provides this moving description of that moment:

"For it will be a great thing at the hour of death, when we are going we know not whither, to realize that we shall be judged by One whom we have loved above all things, and with a passion that makes us entirely forget ourselves. Once our debts have been paid we shall be able to walk in safety. We shall not be going into a foreign land, but into our own country, for it belongs to him whom we have loved so truly and who himself loves us."

– St Teresa, *The Way of Perfection*, 40, 8.

Right after death the soul will find itself within the banqueting hall or outside the bolted doors forever. St Thomas Aquinas teaches that the soul is lifted up or brought down by its merits or the lack thereof (i.e., sins, omissions, failings ...)

Let us meditate today on the condition of our soul. Are we making a sincere effort to rectify our intention, to sanctify our daily work? Let us take to heart those words of today's Responsorial Psalm: *O God, you are my God, for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting. My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water.*

My Lord, I am convinced that the things of this world have no meaning unless they lead me to you."

SCHOOLS TRANSFER

Last Friday was the official signing of 'School Transfer Agreement' for our parish schools of St Joseph's and St Patrick's (Port Fairy and Koroit). The agreement is the transfer of governance from the parish priest to DOBCEL (Diocese of Ballarat Catholic Education Limited) effective 1st January 2021. The transfer is at a governance level and doesn't impact the day to day running of the school.

CHANGES AT CENTACARE

In the new year the Ballarat Diocesan family and community organisation, Centacare, will merge with the other Victorian diocesan agencies to form CatholicCare Victoria. Further information is available from the diocesan website, www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/catholic-care-victoria

CHANGES AT CENTACARE

The South West Victoria CPE Centre is offering the opportunity for education and formation in Pastoral Care, with the option to have a CPE unit recognised as 30 points should you wish to enrol in theological studies with the University of Divinity. The Centre is registered through the Association for Supervised and Clinical Pastoral Education Victoria (ASACPEV Inc.).

CPE is currently offered online and will be this way for at least the first semester in 2021, after which it will be reassessed. For more information call 0455 033 321 or bernadette@bernadettewurlod.com.au

PLENARY COUNCIL

The voices in the Listening and Dialogue submissions inspired the National Themes for Discernment, which have served as guides as we went through Phrase II: Listening and Discernment. Catholics all over Australia continue to participate in discerning with prayerful hearts and minds.

Discernment will go on indefinitely. We are invited to continue getting together with your community for sessions and sending us your responses. With COVID-19 this has its challenges.

A new resource, Reflection Guide for responding to the Thematic Discernment Papers has been developed with the help of the Diocese of Sale, Archdiocese of Brisbane and Archdiocese of Darwin, to guide a reflection on the six Thematic Discernment Papers. Access the papers at www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au.

The Six Discernment and Writing Groups were tasked with writing papers to bring some major themes and issues into focus. These Thematic papers have been published and can also be viewed at the Plenary Council website.

The papers will be central to the preparation of the *instrumentum laboris* or working paper for the Plenary Council, and the agenda for Assembly 1.

In the Ballarat diocese we are asking people from around the diocese to write about their feelings on the discernment papers. Meetings will be arranged in the new year, when COVID-19 restrictions have been further eased

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