

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

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Parish Support - *If you need help with anything, please phone one of our members:*
Gail Hall: 0412 311 586 Bernadette Franc: 0427 678 830 Anne Beer: 0417 369 322

SUNDAY – 3rd October, 2021 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B

Novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

Keep up-to-date with the latest COVID-19 restrictions on the government website <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/religion-and-ceremony-regional-victoria>. Updates are also be available from the diocesan

RECENT DEATHS:

We pray for all the recently deceased especially Chris Nuttall {Son of Jim & Dale Nuttall.} & Graeme McGillivray.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Lucy Leitch, Corp Spicer, Beatrice Rogers, Joan Cushing, Terry Kane, Tuppy Pett, Gerard Molloy, Kevin Molloy, Paul Leahy & Annette Hare.

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Pat Byrne, Margaret MacDonald, Roger Molomby, Graeme Dawson, Blake Dridan, Shelagh Mulcahy, Fr Adrian McInerney, Graeme Trethowan & and all those in need of prayer.

ROSTER:

Introduction & Readings

Today: Jim Mahony
Oct 10th : Gerrard Family.

Prayers of the Faithful

Today: Bernadette Franc
Oct 10th: Gerrard Family.

Assembly Leader

Oct 17th: Anne Beer & Angela Gerrard.

Special Minister

Oct 17th: Therese Jess.

Music

Oct 10th: Naomi Gerrard.

Church Cleaning, Linen & Flowers

Sept 26 & Oct 3: Judy Franc & Carmel Milenkovic
Oct 10th – 17th Sue Mahony & Angela Gerrard

Church Grounds

Sept 26 & Oct 3: Charlie Franc & Peter Milenkovic.
Oct 10th & 17th: Jim Mahony & Tom Franc.

Newsletter

October: Carmel Milenkovic 0407 320 759

MASS TIMES – for next week

October 10th Mass 8.30 am
28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Diocesan e-News

For recent news of events and celebrations, see the latest Diocesan e-News at this link – <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/news-events/e-news/>. You can also subscribe to receive e-News directly to your inbox on this same page.

Plenary Council – Nearly there!

The First General Assembly of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia opens with Mass at 2.00pm AEDT from St Mary's Cathedral, Perth on Sunday, October 3. The historic event will develop concrete proposals to create a more missionary, Christ-centred Church in Australia. Watch the live-streamed Mass and access other information on the Plenary Council website at <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/assembly-1/>

Key moments during the First General Assembly will be live-streamed between October 3 and 10. They will include daily Masses, morning prayer for Plenary Council members and sharing of the fruits of discernment. All found at <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/assembly-1/> or through the diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

It is anticipated that the 10.30am Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat celebrated by Bishop Paul Bird for the start of the Assembly will be livestreamed. A link will be uploaded in due course to <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/plenary-council/>

SYMBOLS AND IMAGES

The love and fidelity of a bride and groom or husband and wife are often used in Scripture to illustrate the love and fidelity of God for his people. In the same way, the Church is often spoken of as the bride of Christ. Husbands love your wives as Christ loved the Church (Ephesians 5:25). The image evokes all the passion, patience, forgiveness and love of a married

The 'Playground of Life.'

We are all invited by God to be in the playground of life, to enter into it with others, to be like children; welcoming, accepting without inhibitions and judgements and relating to one another as brothers and sisters. Life perhaps is meant to be like a playground, without walls, barriers and borders. Life should be an open space in our hearts where people and God can enter and bring life to us and for us to share that life with others.

Mark Chia CSsR

GOSPEL

Mk 10:2-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

What God has joined together, no one must divide.

Some Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, 'Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?' They were testing him. He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' 'Moses allowed us' they said 'to draw up a writ of dismissal and so to divorce.' Then Jesus said to them, 'It was because you were so unteachable that he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation God made them male and female. This is why a man must leave father and mother, and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide.' Back in the house the disciples questioned him again about this, and he said to them, 'The man who divorces his wife and marries another is guilty of adultery against her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another she is guilty of adultery too.'

People were bringing little children to him, for him to touch them. The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' Then he put his arms round them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing.

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

03 OCTOBER 2021

CALLED TO RELATIONSHIP

Given the context in which we live where the breakdown of marriage is an ever increasing and painful reality, the readings for today call for us to examine anew the Christian foundations for marriage. The first reading in speaking of Adam's search for a helpmate and companion poignantly brings into relief the deep seated sense of incompleteness which is a part of the experience of each of us. The underlying truth is that it is by being in relationship with another, or others, that we can become most fully ourselves.

Jesus' authority as a teacher was being sorely tested by his opponents and they used the question of divorce as a means to discredit him. Without denying the authority of Moses Jesus takes his opponents back to the story of creation in order to show the dignity and purpose of marriage. There is no doubt that Jesus speaks powerfully regarding the value of marriage, but it is also critical to note that Jesus' reply does not pretend to cover all the situations that can befall a marriage, nor how to respond to them.

From now until the end of the year we will be following the letter to the Hebrews and paying particular attention to its reflection on the person of Jesus and his relationship to God and to us. Some of the images used in the letter are unfamiliar, and so it's important that the modern reader appreciate the belief that underpins them – that Jesus has shared in our experience, and so is able to be our leader and representative before God.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Gen 2:18-24

A reading from the book of Genesis.

They were two in one flesh.

The Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him a helpmate.' So from the soil the Lord God fashioned all the wild beasts and all the birds of heaven. These he brought to the man to see what he would call them; each one was to bear the name the man would give it. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of heaven and all the wild beasts. But no helpmate suitable for man was found for him. So the Lord God made the man fall into a deep sleep. And while he slept, he took one of his ribs and enclosed it in flesh. The Lord built the rib he had taken from the man into a woman, and brought her to the man. The man exclaimed:

'This at last is bone from my bones,
and flesh from my flesh!
This is to be called woman,
for this was taken from man.'

This is why a man leaves his father and mother and joins himself to his wife, and they become one body.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 127. R. v. 5

R. May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.

- O blessed are those who fear the Lord / and walk in his ways! / By the labour of your hands you shall eat. / You will be happy and prosper. **R.**
- Your wife will be like a fruitful vine / in the heart of your house; / your children like shoots of the olive, / around your table. **R.**



3. Indeed thus shall be blessed / the man who fears the Lord. / May the Lord bless you from Zion / in a happy Jerusalem / all the days of your life! / May you see your children's children. / On Israel, peace! **R.**

SECOND READING

Heb 2:9-11

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

He who sanctifies and those who are sanctified have the same origin.

We see in Jesus one who was for a short while made lower than the angels and is now crowned with glory and splendour because he submitted to death; by God's grace he had to experience death for all mankind.

As it was his purpose to bring a great many of his sons into glory, it was appropriate that God, for whom everything exists and through whom everything exists, should make perfect, through suffering, the leader who would take them to their salvation. For the one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock; that is why he openly calls them brothers.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 Jn 4:12

Alleluia, alleluia!

**If we love one another,
God will live in us in perfect love.
Alleluia!**