



MOYNE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

St Patrick's Parish, Port Fairy

Infant Jesus Parish, Koroit



Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday 20th June and Sunday 21st June, 2020

FIRST READING

Jer 20:10-13

*He has delivered the soul of the
needy from the hands of evil men.*

Jeremiah said:

I hear so many disparaging me, "Terror from every side!" Denounce him! Let us denounce him! All those who used to be my friends watched for my downfall, 'Perhaps he will be seduced into error. Then we will master him and take our revenge!' But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero; my opponents will stumble, mastered, confounded by their failure; everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be theirs. But you, O Lord of Hosts, you who probe with justice, who scrutinise the loins and heart, let me see the vengeance you will take on them, for I have committed my cause to you. Sing to the Lord, praise the Lord, for he has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of evil men.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 68

R/. Lord, in your great love, answer me.

It is for you that I suffer taunts, / that shame covers my face, / that I have become a stranger to my brothers, / an alien to my own mother's sons. / I burn with zeal for your house / and taunts against you fall on me.

R/. Lord, in your great love, answer me.

This is my prayer to you, / my prayer for your favour. / In your great love, answer

me, O God, / with your help that never fails: / Lord, answer, for your love is kind; / in your compassion, turn towards me.

R/. Lord, in your great love, answer me.

The poor when they see it will be glad / and God-seeking hearts will revive; / for the Lord listens to the needy / and does not spurn his servants in their chains. / Let the heavens and the earth give him praise, / the sea and all its living creatures.

R/. Lord, in your great love, answer me.

SECOND READING

Rom 5:12-15

*The gift considerably
outweighed the fall.*

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Jn 15:26,27

V/. Alleluia! **R/.** Alleluia!

V/. The Spirit of truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord, and you also will be my witnesses. **R/.** Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 10:26-33

*Do not be afraid of
those who kill the body.*

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: ‘Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the housetops.

‘Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.

‘So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.’

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 THE BISHOP

Last Sunday, the Victorian Government announced a further easing of restrictions on gatherings in the context of the coronavirus pandemic.

From Monday (22nd June), places of worship can open for private worship or small religious ceremonies for up to 50 people, plus those reasonably required to conduct ceremony, in each separate area.

The current requirements for cleaning between ceremonies and for recording the name and contact phone number for each attendee will continue.

God bless you all.

Bishop Paul.

FROM FR JOHN FITZGERALD

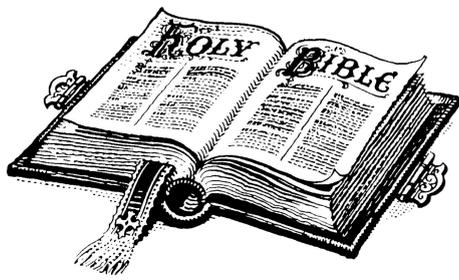
To ensure that we can uphold all of the Victorian Government requirements on gatherings, we will proceed slowly. We are aware that there will be many desiring to join in the celebration of the Eucharist, far more than can be accommodated.

The parishes of Warrnambool, East Warrnambool, West Warrnambool, Port Fairy and Koroit will eventually open on the same weekend. I believe it’s still a few weeks away before we are ready to celebrate Sunday Masses.

ST JOSEPH’S CHURCH, YAMBUCK

The church is under contract and due for settlement on Tuesday 15th September. 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 portfairy@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. You are asked to submit your requests by the end of this month.



Reflection on this Sunday's Gospel

by Fr Francis Fernandez

COURAGE IN ORDINARY LIFE

In today's Gospel our Lord tells us not to be afraid, but to live as children of God. At times we come across people who are tormented and overwhelmed by the hardships that life brings. Adverse circumstances and the obstacles seem only to grow when one relies on human resources alone in order to overcome them. We also frequently meet Christians who seem to be ashamed of speaking clearly about God, of saying no to falsehood and, whenever necessary, of showing themselves to be faithful disciples of Christ. They are afraid of what people will say, of a critical remark, of going against the current or of drawing attention to themselves. Is it possible for a Christian not to draw attention to himself in a pagan environment, where so often economic values are the supreme values?

Jesus tells us not to be concerned about possible slander or criticism. *'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear.'* What a shame if it were to be discovered that we were afraid of proclaiming to the four corners of the world the truth that God has entrusted to us! *'What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the housetops.'* At times we will keep silent because that is the best thing to do, for reasons of supernatural prudence, or charity, but never out of fear or cowardice. We Christians are not friends of darkness and hidden corners; we are friends of light, of openness in our

lives and in our words. The times we live in are such that we need to proclaim the truth clearly. Falsehood and confusion are leading many souls astray. It seems absurd, but at times even good doctrine, the moral norms of behaviour, following one's conscience in our work and in the demands of married life, common sense itself, are held in less esteem than some scandalous, erroneous doctrine which is held to be 'advanced' or tinged with a progressive hue.

We shouldn't be afraid of losing the gloss of a superficial prestige, or of being criticised or even slandered because we go against the current or what happens to be fashionable. *'If anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven,'* our Lord promises. He rewards us fully for all those times when people do not understand us because we try to live bravely, with holy daring, in a world which is frequently unable to understand anything except purely material values.

"I consider," says Saint Paul, *"that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us."* (Rom 8:18) Therefore, St Cyprian remarks, *"who would not make the effort to achieve such great glory, to become a friend of God, to possess Christ immediately, to receive the divine rewards after the anguish and torments of the earth? If for the soldiers of this world it is glorious to return home after humbling the enemy, how much more glorious and praiseworthy will it be to return in triumph to heaven once the devil is overcome; to bear aloft the signs of victory; to be seated at God's side when He comes in judgement, be co-heirs with Christ, to rank with the angels, and with the Patriarchs, the Apostles and the Prophets; to rejoice in the possession of the Kingdom of Heaven?"* (St Cyprian, Letter to Fortunatus, 13.)

Lay Pastoral Ministry Program – Registrations now open

Low-cost online study and formation for lay workers in parish and other ministries; employed or volunteers. Sacraments, Scripture, Youth Ministry, Liturgy, Leadership and more. The next cycle begins July 12. Study is 5 weeks. Registrations open now until July 8. More information at www.ballarat.catholic.org.au or email kim.butler@ballarat.catholic.org.au or ph. 0407 523 424.

Position available - Diocesan Pastoral Development Coordinator

The Diocesan Pastoral Development Coordinator will develop and facilitate diocesan initiatives, programmes and activities to strengthen and support Diocesan and Parish life. Position information available from the diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au



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. On 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: **13th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

First Reading. *2 Kings 4:8-11,13-16.* This is a holy man of God; let him rest here.

Second Reading. *Romans 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.

Gospel. *Matthew 10:37-42.* Anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it.

CANONICAL ADMINISTRATOR: Fr John Fitzgerald, john.fitzgerald@ballarat.catholic.org.au
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PARISH SECRETARY: Louise Dryburgh, portfairy@ballarat.catholic.org.au
Phone: 0408 681 223. Port Fairy office hours: Closed until further notice.
Parish postal address: PO Box 8, PORT FAIRY VIC 3284.