ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL, PARRAMATTA

Cathedral Office: 1 Marist Place, Parramatta NSW 2150 (02) 8839 8400 Emergency: 0407 289 360 www.stpatscathedral.com.au Bishop of Parramatta: Most Rev. Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv DD

27 August 2023 - 21st Sunday (Year A)

Mass Schedule

SUNDAY

6:00pm Saturday Vigil Mass 7:30am Morning Prayer 8:00am Mass 9:30am Mass 11:00am Solemn Mass *with Cathedral Choir* 6:00pm Mass

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

6:10am Morning Prayer 6:30am Mass 11:15am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 11:15am Reconciliation (till 12:15pm) Rosary after Angelus at 12:00 noon 12:30pm Mass

SATURDAY

7:30am Morning Prayer 8:00am Mass 8:30am Reconciliation (till 9:00am) 9:30am Mass (Old Rite)

5:00pm Sacrament of Penance (till 5:30pm)

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS Mass at 8:00am (No Adoration or Confession)

WEEKLY PRAYER GROUPS

Tuesday 9:30am - Christian Meditation Tuesday 6:30pm - Legion of Mary Tuesday 7:30pm - RCIA (September - April) Friday 1:00pm - Cenacle Prayers

MONTHLY PRAYER First Friday Devotions: 6:30pm

OTHER CONNECT GROUPS Playgroup: Wednesdays 10:00am - 12:00pm Facebook: Parramatta St Pat's Playgroup

Credo Youth Ministries Contact Fr Chris or find information on Facebook: credo.stpats Email: credo@stpatscathedral.com.au





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"But you, who do you say I am?"

WHEN JESUS ASKS his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?", he receives a variety of answers. He then asks the disciples directly, "But you, who do you say I am?" Jesus isn't interested in popular opinion or in his own reputation. He is asking about the disciples' personal response to him, and about how they see him. Peter takes a leadership role and responds to Jesus with an answer that he could not know through human reasoning.



In other gospel passages, we see Peter struggling –

struggling to understand, struggling to be faithful, and struggling to have courage. Peter often shows his imperfections. Yet, in responding to Jesus, he shows a true depth of understanding about who Jesus is... "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God." In responding this way, Peter demonstrates a knowledge of Jesus that does not come from human reasoning. Peter probably did not fully understand the meaning of his words and the full implication of speaking these words. Yet, his response was enough for Jesus to respond in an extraordinary way to Peter. In spite of his imperfections and his lack of education, Jesus calls him a "rock" and names him as the leader of his Church.

Why? Peter had shown no great insights or demonstrated great learning. He had little leadership experience. Yet, Jesus makes a clear statement that this understanding is not human knowledge, but knowledge that comes from God – "Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven." In the letter to the Romans, Paul reminds us that we cannot penetrate "the depths of God", whose wisdom and knowledge are way beyond our capacity to understand. It is God who enlightens us. In Jesus, God is revealed.

God makes surprising choices. Abraham was an old man when God called him. Sarah was beyond the age of conceiving when she became pregnant. David was the 'least of his brothers'. Yet, God is saying to us that his way is not our way. Those whom God chooses are not perfect, but they are able to listen. Peter listened, not with intellectual understanding, but with knowledge of the heart, to God's revelation of who his Son was. Peter heard God and, in turn, spoke what he had learned. Without full understanding, he spoke what he knew. It was his faith and his willingness to speak the truth that led Jesus to establish Peter's leadership of the Church.

Jesus also addresses this question to us: But you, who do you say I am? Each of us needs to answer this question, prayerfully, reflectively, and honestly. We may not have great theological understanding, but the message from today's gospel is that we don't need it. What Jesus asks of us is that we listen to God's voice in our own heart, and respond, in faith and trust. We, like the disciples, are called to mission. Few are called to be Pope, but we are all called to be disciples. Our understanding of who Jesus is will influence our response.

This week, spend some time prayerfully reflecting on Jesus' question:

"But you, who do you say I am?"

Wishing you a blessed week ahead,

Jeff Hood (Seminarian)

LITURGY GUIDE

ENTRANCE RITE



Text: Michael Perry, 1942-1996; © 1982 The Jubilate Group (Admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188). All rights reserved. Used by permission. Tune: THAXTED (1) 13.13.13.13.13.13; Gustav Holst, 1874-1934.

PENITENTIAL ACT

- I confess to almighty God
- and to you, my brothers and sisters,

that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words,

in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,

(all strike their breast, three times)

through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters,

to pray for me to the Lord our God.

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A Focusing the Word



Key words and phrases

- Who do people say the Son of Man is?
- 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God'.
- You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church; the gates of hell will not hold out against it.
- Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.
- How rich are the depths of God how deep his wisdom and knowledge - and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods.

to the point

IWhat begins with a simple question ends with the building of the church! At the center is the revelation of Jesus as 'the Christ, the Son of the living God.' The Church can be solidly built only on the person of Jesus; the Church can stand firmly only by faith in him.

Connecting the Gospel...

• to Ordinary Time

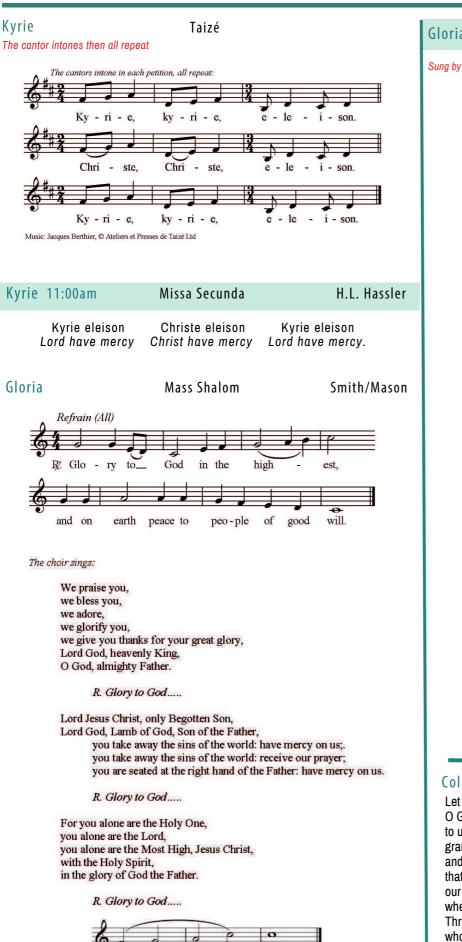
At this point we are about halfway through this longer period of Ordinary Time, a time for deepening our understanding of the identity of Jesus and deepening our identity as Church.

• to Christian experience

There is a tendency to think of faith in Jesus only as a personal commitment. The gospel reminds us that faith finds its deepest expression in the community of the Church.

(image from Gospeltoons.)

LITURGY GUIDE



A

Gloria 11:00am H.L. Hassler Missa Secunda

Et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis. and on earth peace to people of good will.

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Glory to God in the highest,

Sung by the Cathedral Choir. All SIT

	and on carrin peace to people of good will.
Chri - ste, e - le - i - son.	Laudamus te. Benedicimus te. We praise you, we bless you,
	Adoramus te. Glorificamus te. we adore you, we glorify you
ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son. s de Taizé L1d	Gratias agimus tibi we give you thanks
	propter magnam gloriam tuam. for your great glory,
Missa Secunda H.L. Hassler	Domine Deus, Rex caelestis, Lord God, heavenly King,
Christe eleison Kyrie eleison	Deus Pater omnipotens. O God almighty Father.
hrist have mercy Lord have mercy.	Domine fili, unigenite, Jesu Christe. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son.
Mass Shalom Smith/Mason	Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris. Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
	Qui tollis peccata mundi: you take away the sins of the world,
	miserere nobis. have mercy on us;
God in the high - est,	Qui tollis peccata mundi: You take away the sins of the world,
eace to peo-ple of good will.	suscipe deprecationem nostram. receive our prayer;
	Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris: You are seated at the right hand of the Father,
	miserere nobis. have mercy on us.
	Quoniam tu solus Sanctus. For you alone are the Holy One,
or your great glory, King,	Tu solus Dominus. you alone are the Lord,
her.	Tu solus Altissimus, Jesu Christe, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
od	Cum Sancto Spiritu, with the Holy Spirit,
ly Begotten Son, Fod, Son of the Father, the sins of the world: have mercy on us;.	in gloria Dei Patris. Amen. in the glory of God the Father. Amen.
the sins of the world: receive our prayer; at the right hand of the Father: have mercy on us.	
and the second	Collect
od	Let us pray.
Holy One,	O God, who cause the minds of the faithful to unite in a single purpose,
d, st High, Jesus Christ,	grant your people to love what you command
st ringit, stesus chinst,	and to desire what you promise,
e Father.	that, amid the uncertainties of this world,
od	our hearts may be fixed on that place
	where true gladness is found. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
0	who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
	God, for ever and ever.
men.	R. Amen.
21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TI	ME - 27 AUGUST 2023

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah (22:19-23)

I place the key of the House of David upon his shoulder.

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace: I dismiss you from your office, I remove you from your post, and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah. I invest him with your robe, gird him with your sash, entrust him with your authority; and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the House of Judah. I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder; should he open, no one shall close, should he close, no one shall open. I drive him like a peg into a firm place; he will become a throne of glory for his father's house.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 137:1-3, 6, 8



Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans (11:33-36)

From him, through him, and in him are all things.

How rich are the depths of God - how deep his wisdom and knowledge and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

The cantor, alone, intones the Alleluia. All repeat



Dom AG Murray OSB

- *Cantor* You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church; the gates of hell will not hold out against it.
 - R. Alleluia.

11.00am



Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (16:13-20)

You are Peter, to you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said, 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

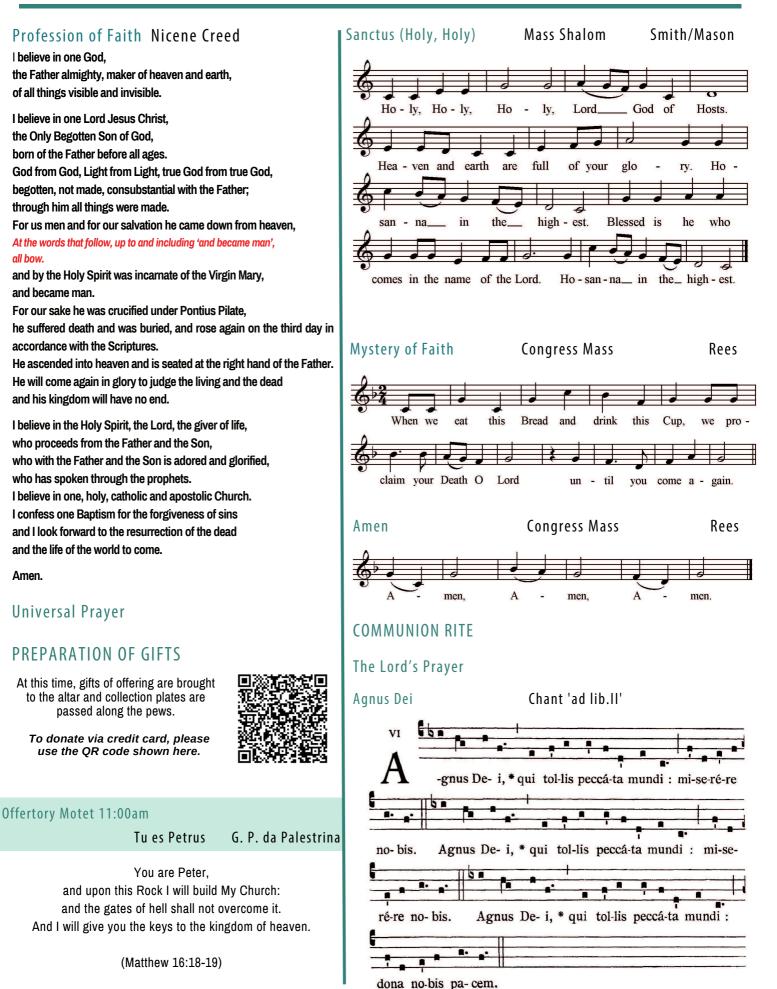
Homily

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

all bow.

Amen.

and became man.



LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Agnus Dei 11:00am

Missa Secunda

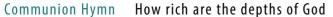
H.L. Hassler

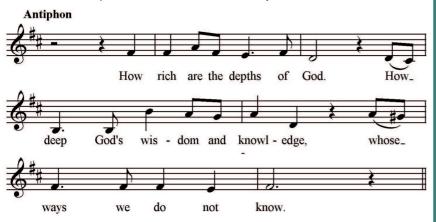
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: miserere nobis. (x2) Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccat mundi: dona nobis pacem Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Communion Antiphon De fructum operum tuorum

The earth will be satisfied by the work of your hands, O Lord, as you bring forth bread from the land and wine to gladden the hearts of your people; oil to make their face shine, and bread to strengthen their hearts.

(Ps.103:13,14,15)





The cantor sings verses from Psalm 139: All join in singing the antiphon after each verse.

- 1. O Lord, you search me and you know me, you know my resting and my rising, you discern my purpose from afar. All my ways lie open to you. *Ant.*
- 2. It was you who created my being, knit me together in the womb. I thank you, Lord, for my being, for the wonder of all your creation. *Ant.*
- 3. O search me, God, and know my spirit, O test me and know my thoughts; O make me not walk in evil, but lead me in the way of truth. *Ant.*

Text: Psalm 139; © 1963, 1993, The Grail, *alt.*; Refrain © 1975, Christopher Willcock SJ. B.1947 Tune: Christopher Willcock SJ., b. 1947, © 1975, 1991, *Psalms for the Journey*, Used with permission of HarperCollinsReligious, Melbourne, Australia

Next Week's Readings:

22nd SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME Readings:

Jer 20:7-9: The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me. Ps 62:2-6, 8-9: R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God. Rom 12:1-2: May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice. Mt 16:21-27: Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.

Anniversary: Episcopal ordination of Most Rev. Anthony Fisher OP (2003)



8:00am Mass Propers

Entrance Antiphon

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

Responsorial Psalm Ps

Ps 137:1-3, 6, 8

R . Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, you have heard the words of my mouth. Before the angels I will bless you, I will adore before your holy temple. R.

I thank you for your faithfulness and love which excel all we ever knew of you. On the day I called, you answered; you increased the strength of my soul. R.

The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly and the haughty he knows from afar. Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands. R.

Gospel Acclamation

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church; the gates of hell will not hold out against it.

R. Alleluia.

Communion Antiphon

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

THE BULLETIN

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Priest in Residence Rev Fr Van Xua (Joseph) Nguyen Vietnamese Community Chaplain

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Gift Shop Manager: Minnie Harb 8839 8400 or giftshop@stpatscathedral.com.au

SACRAMENTS

Baptisms are celebrated in the Cathedral on most Sundays. Check for exceptions. Family members and guests are requested to be present at the Cathedral at least fifteen minutes before the usual commencement time of 12:45pm.

Weddings are by appointment only.

At least six months' notice is necessary. Contact the Parish Secretary on 8839 8412.

First Eucharist and Confirmation Please contact the Parish Secretary.

HIRING of ROOMS

For hire of Cloister Function rooms, call the office on 8839 8400 or enquiry@stpatscathedral.com.au

Material for Bulletin

If you have something that you would like published in the bulletin, please ensure that it is conveyed to our Parish Secretary, Pat, by **12:00noon on Thursday.** Please note that material must relate to the parish and its mission. Don't forget that businesses can advertise on the rear page of the bulletin too!

Clergy Support Foundation

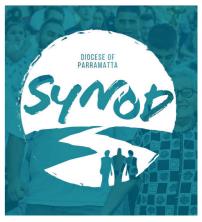
Bishop's Fathers' Day Appeal 02 and 03 September

Please support the Father's Day Appeal next weekend. Your tax-deductible donations will help care for those many aged and sick clergy who have served so faithfully for many decades. Thank you!

Envelopes will be available for you to take home and return on Fathers' Day weekend. Of course, feel free to contribute online via the Parramatta Diocese website.

Novena for the Diocesan Synod

As our Diocesan Synod draws nearer, Bishop Vincent is encouraging us to enter into a novena of prayer. Booklets are available in the usual spots and a PDF and PPT of the novena prayers are available through the Parramatta Diocese website. As well as encouraging us as individuals to pray the novena in our personal prayers time, I would encourage all of our various prayer groups to pray the novena when they meet over the next couple of months. *Fr Robert*



JRS AUSTRALIA

Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Australia provides vital support to over 150 families seeking asylum and refugees every week through our Toiletries and Food Bank program. These families, who are largely unable to access Federal Government assistance, have expressed that JRS is their only safety net. With your assistance, we can ensure that these families no longer face the difficult choice between having dinner and keeping warm this winter.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?



PLEASE DROP ITEMS IN THE CHAPEL AT ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

"AMAZING!"

That is the only word that comes to mind when you see the response to this appeal. We are in the second week of a four-week appeal. Below is Week Two's donations. Week One's goodies have already been collected. Blessings upon you for your continued generosity!



Farewell Fr Chris...

Some sad news to share with you. Fr Chris has been appointed Administrator of the parish of St Thomas Aquinas, Springwood, effective **Monday 02 October.**

Whilst this is good news for the parishioners of Springwood, it is a loss for the cathedral where Fr Chris has been an Assistant Priest since 2019. Having said that, it is a well-deserved appointment for Fr Chris as he takes up a leadership role at St Thomas Aquinas.

Of course, Fr Chris will be here until his new appointment and we will have news of a farewell in next week's bulletin. I hope to be able to share with you shortly too details of Fr Chris' replacement as Assistant Priest here at St Patrick's.

Parish AGM - Postponed till Sunday 17 September

The Cathedral's Annual General Meeting will now take place in the Parish Hall on **Sunday 17 September at 12.30pm.**

This is a great opportunity to hear how the parish has been travelling over the past year and comparable to previous years. Do not miss this opportunity to ask questions or query something that may have been on your mind. Hope to see you there!

Bulletin by email

Recently we stopped sending the bulletin via an app as we were looking at another source for communication. As yet this is still in the pipeline. So, in the meantime, if you would like the bulletin sent to your inbox, please email

secretary@stpatscathedral.com.au and in the subject line type 'Bulletin'. Don't forget to visit our website from time to time. You never know what useful information you may find there!

Annual Leave

Please note that Fr Robert will be on annual leave from Monday 28 August through to Saturday 09 September.

We welcome Fr Chris back **this weekend** after his time at World Youth Day and enjoying some well-earned annual leave.

Sick and Housebound

A reminder to please let the Parish Office know if you are aware of someone living in the parish who can't get to Mass due to illness or restricted mobility and would like a visit from the clergy or from a minister of communion. It is our duty to care for ALL parishioners!

RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

In a few weeks' time the parish is seeking to recommence the RCIA process for those adults who are seeking initiation into the Catholic Church. If you, or someone you know, is seeking more information on this, please contact the Parish Office.

Refugee "Table Talk"

Our Peace, Justice and Environment Group is planning this event for November. More details to come over the next couple of weeks. There is no peace without justice...

Good Works

Ian Goldthorpe (attends 8:00am Mass) collects used aluminium scrap candle holders from the Cathedral to avoid disposal into landfill.



The candle holders are regularly received in plastic bags from numerous parishioners. I then remove the wax from within the candle holder, generally while watching television. I am seeking help with this task and also put out a call if you would like to leave your used candle holders in the sacristy, it would be much appreciated. Every little bit helps!

Please ring Ian Goldthorpe on 0414 716 005 for any enquiries.

Social Justice Statement

Each year the Australian Bishops publish a Social Justice Statement, a tradition that has extends back over eighty years. This year's statement, released last Thursday, is titled *Listen*, *Learn*, *Love: A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.*

Social Justice Sunday is today, Sunday, 27 August. For more information, visit the Social Justice website <u>https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/resources/social-justice-statements/</u>

Concert at St Finbar's Glenbrook A Glimpse of the Sublime...

A Concert of delightful music featuring – Stephanie Zammit (Soprano) & Michael Taylor (Organ) and the heritage-listed Hele organ.

Date: Sunday 27 August Time: 2:00pm

Entry by donation: \$15 and \$10 (conc.)



Information Afternoon - Kairos Prison Ministry

Saturday 16 September at 2:30pm - 4:30pm Blacktown Uniting Church 59 Bungarribee Road, Blacktown

Come and hear about how God is using Kairos prison ministry to change the lives of those who are in prison and the families and friends of those who are impacted by their imprisonment. Come and find out how you can be involved! Afternoon tea included.

Please RSVP to kidillwyniasec@kairos.org.au or phone Yvonne on 0419 284 128.



Special Religious Education (SRE)

Our SREs will be conducting a recruitment drive in mid-September. Have you ever thought about sharing your faith with children in our public schools? You will have the chance to chat with some of our SREs on the weekend of 16/17 September. In the meantime, say a prayer for our SREs and the children they impact in such a significant way.

Preserving Night

Many thanks to Claire Pospischil and all those who came along on Thursday evening to make jams to support the Jesuit Refugee Service. Photos on Twitter!

Prayer Intentions

We pray for our beloved dead...

"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them..."

Recently Deceased: Fr Mark Beard, Alan Overton, Jo O'Brien, Edmund & Anthony Fernandes, Epifania P Etueni, Alan Overton, Peter Jackman, Heather Louden, Charles Vas, Dr Anna Petronille, Kenneth W Brown, Pat Andrews, Mirjana Sardelich, Rachel Deguara, Terry Gorman, Patty Andrews, Roselyn Mudliar

Deceased: Edgardo Perez, Rebecca, Artemio & Abraham Patacsil, Donald Muir, Yolanda Muir, Fr Augustus Patacsil,Newman & Phua families, Jec Tong Phua, Trinidad Llanillo, YT Hsu & Deanna Hsu, Pasquale Altamore, John & Bernadette Rapa, Jorge Guimaraes, Sr Lina Hagele, Dulcie & Leo Tobin

Anniversaries: Agnes Nethercott, Celestino Bumactao, Juan Montesco, Eustaquio Garcia, Maximina Manlangit, Maria McGale, Filomena Nubla, Anna Thach, Margaret Russo, Deery Tait, Maria Truol, Vincent Monteiro

Perpetuals: Paul Mahoney, Louisa & Arthur Baxter, Nat Fedyk, Robert Dearie, Norm Hector, Bokeyar family, David family, Japour family, Paula Loto'aniu, Peter Van Tilburg, Margaret Angela Roberts, Sally & Frank Martlew, Sherwood family, Pat & Jim Hartman, Royan & Andrews families, Don Andrews, Juliet Noronha, Dr Joseph Malouf, Abel Moses, Jimmy, Anna & Frank Grainda, Frank Agostino, Bernadette Melhen & Sally Boujandy, Jack & June Barrett, Ann O'Brien, Watson Lee, Ian & Pat Sanders, Bill & Alice Kendall, Allan Kendall, Maria Patterson & Ellen Bancan, Hooper family, Giuseppina & Giovanni Rechichi, Mary Coady, Mary & Jack White, Vincent & Rebecca Vella, Walter Townsend, Ferris Grugeon, McInherny, White, McWilliam & McGuckin families, Mary Abela, Robert Andrews, Sylvester family, Rogan family, Adcock & McMillan families, Love family, Gabrielle Baker, Paula Cowling, McDermott & Starr families, Repose of the Souls in Purgatory and all deceased parishioners of St Patrick's and St Monica's

We also pray for...

Sick: Serg M., Habib Nohra, Mary Rose Perez, Buenaventura Zafiro Jr., Betty Tobin, Sandrella Toubia, Vincent Rowan, John Lowe, Stephen Senjak, David Mannall, Rachael Sumagu, Nivola Senjak & family, Miguel-Angel Soto-Figuerdo, Belinda & John Mull, James Sampey, Ashley & Debbie Brown, Daniel & Sharon Webb

Special Intentions: Michael Perez, Leo Perez Close Tito, Mary Rose Perez Tito, Elmer Ayuste, Manuel Patacsil, Jorge, John, Naoleon & Agnes Patacsil, Dra Julia Lee, Elizabeth Perez, Franz tito, Zayne Bumactao, Naleen, Tian & Raveen, Roberto, Miguel, Fojas, Magsarili, Lynm, Delilah, Dwaine, Daniel, Nelle, Summer, Leann, Harley, Zelie Rose, Fetui, Tvetc, Robert Osei Kyei, Daniel Lovett, Raveen, Paul & Mouzel Carson, Charlotte Perrottet, Joseph & Alice Suttie, Veronique Brennan, Philip & Elizabeth, Arthur & Genevieve Lopez, Daniel Lovett, Harrisson, Warren Pimenta, Marcel Melik, Anita Denis & family, O'Neill family, Turner family, Fardell family, Rachel Lawrence, Cathleen Donovan, Shane, Luisa, Virginia Ayuste, Jorge



We welcome into our Catholic Christian family the following children who were recently baptised here...

Georgina Nieto Ava Nieto



We also welcome into our Catholic Christian family the following couples who were recently married here...

Taina Lee & Tan Le Janine Perez & Gabriel Reyes Please pray for them and their families.

POPE FRANCIS' Prayer Intention for September



For people living on the margins...

"We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance."

From Pope Francis...

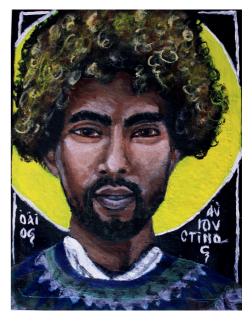
From a tweet dated 22 August

"I renew my appeal to stop using religions to incite hatred, violence, extremism and blind fanaticism, and to refrain from using the name of God to justify acts of murder, exile, terrorism and oppression." #AgainstReligiousViolence

Saint of the Week 28 August - St Augustine of Hippo (354-430), Bishop, Doctor

Augustine was born in Thagaste in Africa of a Berber family. He was brought up a Christian but left the Church early and spent a great deal of time seriously seeking the truth, first in the Manichaean heresy, which he abandoned on seeing how nonsensical it was, and then in Neoplatonism, until at length, through the prayers of his mother and the teaching of St Ambrose of Milan, he was converted back to Christianity and baptized in 387, shortly before his mother's death.

Augustine had a brilliant legal and academic career, but after his conversion he returned home to Africa and led an ascetic life. He was elected Bishop of Hippo and spent 34 years looking after his flock, teaching them, strengthening them in the faith and protecting them strenuously against the errors of the time. He wrote an enormous amount and left a permanent mark on both philosophy and theology. His Confessions, as dazzling in style as they are deep in content, are a landmark of world literature. The Second Readings in the Office of Readings contain extracts from many of his works.



(Information: Universalis)

He was declared a Doctor of the Church by Pope Boniface VIII in 1308.

"Quote of the Week"

"In the Genesis story, it was Joseph, the despised and rejected one, who saves his brothers from ruin when famine besets the land. Rather than turn his back on them, Joseph embraces his brothers with love and generosity

What might it mean for us to befriend, even to love Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, instead of ignoring or despising them? Shouldn't the Church lead the way in that? - not patronising them or "helping" them but befriending and, above all, loving them?; not telling them what they need but listening to them in new ways, which is surely what love would demand?"

Australian Catholic Bishops Conference

"Listen, Learn, Love: A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples" Social Justice Statement 2023-24, p.16





A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples

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SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2023-24

Listen, Learn,

Love

