



# Bayside Catholic Mission

## St James & St Joan of Arc Parishes



24th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME. Year A

13th September, 2020

### Services

Please contact the office regarding baptisms, weddings and funerals.

### Online Mass

Sunday at 11am.

Click on the links at :

<https://baysidecatholicmission.org>

or

<https://bit.ly/BaysideCatholicMission>

### Parish Groups

Most groups are not currently meeting.

#### Card Players:

First Thursday of the month in the St Joan of Arc presbytery meeting room from 11.30am.

#### Meditation:

Mon 10am in presbytery at St Joan of Arc.

#### Prayer Group:

Thursday at 8pm, St Joan of Arc Church.

#### Social Justice Group:

Every second Thursday of the month in the presbytery at St Joan of Arc at 7.30 pm.

#### St Vincent de Paul Society

For welfare assistance ph: 1800 305 330.

### Parish Contacts

**Parish Priests:** Fr David Cartwright & Fr Dean Mathieson

**Pastoral Associate:** Carole Cheng

**Organist:** Mary Taylor

**Cantors:** Adam Kaczanowski & Marie-France Urruty

**Parish Accountant:** Marina Stevenson

**Finance:** Nici Bonning

**Parish Secretary:** Elaine Bolitho

**Office:** 118 New St, Brighton. 3186

**Tel:** 9593 1703

**Email:** [Brighton@cam.org.au](mailto:Brighton@cam.org.au)

**Website:**

<https://baysidecatholic.org.au/>

### Reflection On The Gospel

What are the limits of love? Can love be measured? These questions lie behind Peter's query about forgiveness. He obviously considers seven a most generous number since it echoes God's words through the prophet Amos, 'For three transgressions and for four, I will not revoke the punishment.' (2:1). Jesus replies with an incalculable number 'seventy times seven'. Forgiveness, like love, has no limits.

Since 11 September 2001, I have thought a lot about forgiveness. It seems to me there are just two choices we can make. We can go the way of ever-spiralling vengeance, forever 'paying back' the wrongs we experience, or we can reach into the depths of our God-given and Spirit-gifted lives and forgive – impossible though that might sound. Left to ourselves, perhaps forgiveness is not possible, but given the Spirit of Jesus we may be able to access his power and 'turn the other cheek'. This is the almost crazy demand placed on Christians.

In the parable the slave owes an impossible amount to his master. The number, ten thousand talents, was simply the denomination in ancient accounting – perhaps today's equivalent of a 'billion' dollars. Remember that parables make use of hyperbole and exaggeration. There is no need to imagine how a slave could possibly have run up this amount of debt. The point is the enormity of it and the sheer impossibility of the slave ever being in a position to repay it. In response to the master's demand for repayment, and the threat of selling him and his family, the slave makes a ridiculous request for 'more time'. Then, the unthinkable happens, the Master feels compassion for the slave – literally his very bowels are moved with emotion. He set him free and forgives his debt.

The scene quickly changes. The slave, released from his impossible debt goes and finds a fellow-slave owing him a paltry sum, and shows him no mercy. What is missing here is a pause – a time for the first slave to be aware of the extraordinary generosity of his master, to know deep in his own being the enormity of his debt and a corresponding gratitude for being freed from this impossible burden.

In the past decades, stories have emerged from Africa of the power of forgiveness. One woman, Iphigenia Mukantabana saw her husband and five children butchered by a rival Hutu tribe's soldiers in 1994. Yet, today she is able to share a meal with the killer and his wife. Another Rwandan young woman, Immaculée Ilibagiza hid in a concealed bathroom for over ninety days while outside her family and village were slaughtered. She too found the strength to forgive and come to peace with the deaths of so many friends and neighbours. Consider also the efforts of Bishop Desmond Tutu and Nelson Mandela to bring about reconciliation following the regime of apartheid in South Africa. These almost impossible-to-believe accounts are history, not parable, but like the parable they challenge us to widen our capacities for forgiveness.

The parable sets up the measuring stick for Christian love and this measure is that of the generous, forgiving master. From the experience of God's extraordinary generosity we ought to be able to be generous in our turn. The servant in the parable forgot his experience of being forgiven and focussed only on his being wronged. Christians need to be people with long memories, able to recall the times they have failed and been forgiven, and from this place reach out in forgiveness of others.

Remembering that we fail again and again and again might enable us to forgive 'seventy times seven'.

*Dr Mary Coloe PBVM*



### Remember In Our Prayers

**Illness:** Kuldip Ahluwalia, Anne de Rebello, Kevin Fox, Barbara Gallo, Alan Giles, Marj Hess, Antony LaRive, Tatiana Mansel, Gabrielle Marylees, Marie-Claire McCaffrey, Margaret McGrath, Freddy McGuigan, Kevin Nichollis, Catherine Ryan, Giovanni Sabato, Edward Shelley, Rob Smith, Brian Taylor, Barbara Turner, Robin Turner, Walter Uhlenbruch

**Recently Deceased:** Antun Bogovic, Elaine Brady, Carmela Cambria, Edna Smith

**Anniversary:** Colin Johnstone

## Bayside Catholic Mission Update From Carole Cheng

A big thank you to the many parishioners who responded to my request for help to document our two parishes' hopes, and wishes, together with suggestions for the future planning of the Bayside Mission.

I have received many very detailed and succinct replies. You have given it your time and efforts and much thought and it is greatly appreciated.

It will be invaluable as we move forward over the coming weeks and months.

### Masses At St James

Because of the high costs of the rental of the pop up church, \$48,000 per annum, it has been decided it is no longer possible to continue with this financial outlay.

Rest assured, Fr David and Fr Dean are attempting to provide an alternative venue for the St James community to come together and celebrate Mass.

### Mass Times

We have been asked to put forward our ideas for Mass times in the different churches.

If you would like to send your suggestions, and further ideas please email me at [Carole.cheng@cam.org.au](mailto:Carole.cheng@cam.org.au)

My best wishes and prayers,

Carole,  
Pastoral Associate.

## Looking To The Future Event For Parishioners

Wednesday 16th September at 7.30pm

Please register using the TryBooking Link below. Everyone is welcome.

<https://www.trybooking.com/BLJDX>

## St Joan of Arc Centenary 2021

It's not too late to join our centenary committee.

Parishioners from St James and St Joan of Arc are most welcome. We need your ideas, your memories and enthusiasm to make it a wonderful celebration next year.

Please email Elaine at [Brighton@cam.org.au](mailto:Brighton@cam.org.au)



## PNG News

Dear parishioners,

Thankyou for your generous support of our Aitape Appeal in July. We have now forwarded A\$3000 to PNG which covers the tuition and accommodation fees of our students for semester 2.



Here is a letter from Sr Mary McCarthy giving an update on the issues of school fees and the purchase of medical items for our graduate student Jacinta.

"Hi Sheila,

Thanks so much for your email and for news of the good work of the group and the online collection at the end of July.

K6,000.00 Kina approximately is needed to cover the commitment we made for 2020. About AUS \$ 3,000.00.

I have a most promising report for you about purchase and delivery of medical items for Jacinta. As explained to me this morning, Meddent Supplies are able to facilitate the purchase and delivery to different parts of PNG in the context of COVID.

They can supply the items listed and will send me a Quotation by email.

They employ TNT transport which I have found very reliable and deliver to the main hospital in the province and request the recipient to arrange pick up. For example, in Jacinta's case – she is on the coast near Aitape on the Wewak side. I think the ambulance from the Raihu Hospital goes to Wewak regularly and would be familiar with pick-ups from Wewak hospital. They could possibly drop the parcel off to her on their way back to Aitape. Her village is along the road, as far as I know. Sounds like a good plan to me, certainly worth a try.

Very many thanks again for the help and support of the Brighton Parishes Social Justice Group! **This is a wonderful project that will really make a difference.**

I say this because the reality is all too challenging. My PBVM Sister Raingarde who graduated with Jacinta is now working in Aitape bush – Ningil. She recently had a mother with a retained placenta following her 9<sup>th</sup> pregnancy. No ambulance but somehow got her to Nuku by road – quite some distance then a further referral to the hospital in Vanimo (in the opposite direction!) where there is a doctor, again travelling by road – an exhausting trip on a rough road for one in the peak of health let alone a post-natal mother. Raingarde has also had difficulties with a mother pregnant with twins but she could only hear one heartbeat. She fortunately will soon have one of these foetal heart monitors to help her and her mothers.

Very best wishes,

Mary pbvm"

## Spring Clean

We are currently undertaking a spring clean of our Parish database. Have you changed address, telephone numbers or your email?

Do you know of another parishioner who's details may not be up to date, encourage them to contact us.

Please email Nici at [brighton@cam.org.au](mailto:brighton@cam.org.au); send us a note at the parish office or you can call me on 0418 548 259.

Now more than ever we need to stay in touch with our community. Many thanks Nici Bonning.





## Child Protection Sunday

Dear Friends

In Child Protection Week, our whole nation is invited to 'put children first'. In fact, that is the theme in 2020, which marks thirty years of Child Protection Week in Australia.

Although the Pandemic has changed the way we are all living and working, it doesn't change what is most important. For Christians, the Lord Jesus shows us that at all times, the most vulnerable among us are those requiring our greatest care. In particular, the safety and the protection of children is one of our most important priorities.

The Professional Standards Office of our Archdiocese along with our Mission Team have developed some resources to be of help for all in our communities. These are designed to support children and young people's right to be safe and feel safe.

My heart breaks for those who were not cared for and protected in the past. When a child is neglected or abused, the pain and suffering endures throughout their whole life. I am sad and angered that the Church has not always been a place that has put children first. We continue to address the horror of abuse, to walk with those in need, and to build a culture of safety and protection for our most vulnerable. Personally, I will continue to meet with survivors of abuse; listening to them, hearing them and trusting them, and helping our Church be continually converted.

Please pray with me that we would put children first always, and protect their safety.

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli  
Archbishop of Melbourne

[Protecting God's Children Parent Resource](#)

## Strengthening Adolescents Against Anxiety

**Tuesday 29 September, 7pm–7.45pm**

Bayside City Council Youth Services is proud to present a free online webinar with Karen Young, founder of popular website Hey Sigmund and author of best-selling book for young people with anxiety, *Hey Warrior*. Karen is a sought-after international speaker that translates the neuroscience of anxiety into meaningful advice for all ages.

Topics covered:

- The brain and anxiety
- Supporting young people returning to school in a COVID 19 environment
- Responding to a young person's uncertainty
- Practical parenting strategies and exercises on managing anxiety in adolescents.

This session is for parents or carers of young people aged 12–17 that live, go to school, or have a connection to Bayside.

Registrations essential, visit [bayside.vic.gov.au/youth](https://bayside.vic.gov.au/youth)



## Stewardship Pledges

To all of our St James and St Joan of Arc Parishioners,

We hope this note finds you all going along as well as can be expected given our stage 4 lockdown. We are all so thankful again for your continued financial support to both the House and Church Account.

Contributions can continue to be paid through direct credit to either the St James or St Joan of Arc Church Account – details as follows:

**BSB: 083347 Account Number: 6434 19112**  
**Account Name: [St Joan of Arc Church](#)**

**BSB: 083347 Account Number: 6633 09906**  
**Account Name: [St James Church](#)**

Alternatively, we can also offer the option of CDFPay:

**[St Joan of Arc Church Link:](#)**

**[CDFpay for St Joan of Arc Parish, Brighton](#)**

**[St James Church Link:](#)**

**[CDFpay for St James Parish, Gardenvale](#)**

Thank you to everyone who has continued to send in their Stewardship Pledge Forms. We are slowly working through them and updating the systems.

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to call Marina on 0439 031 900 or Nici on 0418 548 259. We are more than happy to chat with you and discuss any issues that you may have.

We very much look forward to seeing you at the parish office, when we are able to resume working.

Thank you.

Warm regards, Marina Stevenson.



## Prayers and Images in the Time of Virus

Following the success of Michael McGirr's *Trees in Solitude, Prayers and Images for Pentecost*, we are pleased to present a second 'Trees' series from Michael – *Trees Without Masks*. Over the coming weeks we will share these beautiful prayers and images, starting with his first prayer – *Trees that Wait for Birds*

**[Download the PDF of his first prayer here.](#)**

Shortly after tying the knot, a young married couple started arguing over who should make the coffee. Being a good Christian woman, the wife went to the scriptures for her answer. She said that the Bible specifically stated that men should be the ones to make the coffee.

Puzzled, the husband asked her where in the Bible it said that. Very confidently, the wife opened up her Bible and said: "It's right here—HEBREWS."

