



Bayside Catholic Mission St James & St Joan of Arc Parishes



25th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME. Year A

20th 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

Website:

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

Reflection On The Gospel

In today's Gospel, in which the first labourers are paid the same wage as the afternoon workers, what the early birds didn't reckon on was that they could have come much later and got the same deal.

We would cynically call the afternoon workers, 'Johnny-come-latelies' and chances are if we were confronted with the same situation we would be with the complainers.

This story was important to the early Church because generations of Jews waited and longed for the Messiah and, like the first workers, they were the first to respond to the call of Jesus and to work in the field of his Kingdom. For some of the early Jewish-Christians, including St Peter, it came as a surprise that the Lord was calling Gentiles to the life and work of Jesus' Kingdom as well.

We can imagine that it rankled some of the early birds to see these Johnny-come-latelies taking charge of the Christian mission. This wasn't how it was supposed to be!

This story, then, is a wonderful commentary on how fickle we are and, luckily for us, how extraordinarily generous God is. What we see in ourselves and others is only a glimpse of what God is like. God is so much more: more loving; more forgiving; more compassionate; and more just.

And because God is so much greater than anything we could ask or imagine, we are constantly surprised at how he turns our expectations, our fears and predictions upside down. We constantly look for God in the big and spectacular and he comes to us poor, naked, sick, in prison and hungry. God speaks through the most surprising people at the most surprising times.

That's why those people who have decided that God can only work in certain ways, places, people, institutions and times so often end up at the end of the line when it comes to religious wisdom. Michael McGirr in his excellent book, *Things You Get for Free* argues that there is a crisis of belief today, but that it's not the way we often think. In a brilliant turning of the tables, McGirr says that the crisis of belief is that people inside the Church sometimes cannot believe that people outside its traditional structures can experience the love of Jesus. God loves and guides the Church, but is not bound by it. God is busy about making sure those who might be last have a chance to come in first.

Rather than resent this, however, let's thank God for being bigger than we are and for being just to all of us, no matter when, or how, we get the Word.

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Remember In Our Prayers

Illness: Kuldip Ahluwalia, Nici Bonning, Anne de Rebello, Kevin Fox, Alan Giles, Marj Hess, Antony LaRive, Tatiana Mansel, Gabrielle Marylees, Margaret McGrath, Freddy McGuigan, Kevin Nichollis, Catherine Ryan, Edward Shelley, Rob Smith, Brian Taylor, Barbara Turner, Robin Turner, Walter Uhlenbruch

Recently Deceased: Sr Lois Young pbvm



Dear parishioners,

The Mission and Stewardship teams will meet again this week. Each parish has a representative and our reps are Carole Cheng and John Sheldon.

We need to keep our reps informed of any issues we would like raised at these meetings. They are there to support us so don't miss out on the opportunity to have your say.

This week the Mission group will discuss a new timetable for weekend Masses. They aim to have at least one Mass at each church on Saturday or Sunday. Please send any suggestions to Carole by Monday at: Carole.cheng@cam.org.au

Mass this weekend will be recorded in the pop up church. The lease on the church won't be extended and we are unsure if a new location for Masses will be available on the St James' site. Fr David will keep us informed of any developments.

Many thanks to everyone who joined the Future Forum on Wednesday with guest speaker Lorraine McCarthy. My apology to those who tried to join but were unable due to technical difficulties.

No specific plans for the Mission were discussed at the forum. The emphasis was on identifying the opportunities and challenges ahead. It is vital that we think beyond the physical boundaries of our churches and focus on engaging with the people around us and re-energizing and sharing our faith, especially with young people.

There are two more opportunities to meet with Fr David and Fr Dean this Tuesday. Please use the TryBooking links below to register a place.

If you know of someone who is not receiving the parish news please try to share a copy with them or let us know and we will contact them.

Many thanks, Elaine.

Meet and Greet With Fr David & Fr Dean

Please register for the group meetings and bring along a cuppa and share some time together.

Tuesday 22 Sept at 10.30am
<http://www.trybooking.com/BLOVZ>

Tuesday 22 Sept at 7.30pm
<http://www.trybooking.com/BLOWA>

Social Services Sunday- A Time To Reflect And Give Thanks



This Sunday the 20th September, we mark Social Services Sunday within the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne. On this day we are invited to give thanks and pray for all who provide care and support to those who are marginalised and vulnerable within our community.

Prayer

**Compassionate God,
Your unconditional love for all
inspires our hearts and empowers our actions
for those who are most vulnerable.
May we boldly and humbly serve one another
and be steadfast in our work for justice
for all people.**

**Keep our hearts open to the joys
and the hopes of our world,
and our ears ready to hear your call
to truth, justice and reconciliation.
Let us continue to draw inspiration
and strength from those,
like St Mary MacKillop,
on whose shoulders we stand.
We gather here in Jesus' name
to be nourished and to move forward
together in hope and joy.**

Amen



We are currently undertaking a spring clean of our parish databases. Have you have changed address, telephone numbers or your email? Do you know of another parishioner whose details may not be up to date, encourage them to contact us.

Please email brighton@cam.org.au

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



A pathway through the COVID-19 Pandemic

Archbishop Peter A Comensoli has written a special message to the clergy and faithful in the Archdiocese of Melbourne, expressing his closeness and concern while acknowledging the many challenges facing the community during this extended period of lockdown. It follows last week's overturning of restrictions on spiritual ministry to the sick and the dying. 'Throughout the pandemic, I have been advocating directly with the Government, reminding authorities continually of our respectful compliance with each stage of restrictions, and seeking a fair consideration in what is permitted,' said Archbishop Comensoli.

Continue reading



FRUSTRATED ABOUT COVID?

It's normal to feel angry, frustrated or stressed as a result of the lockdown restrictions.

While we can't change our situation, what we can control is how we respond to it.

Speak to a friendly counsellor today to vent frustrations and learn how to manage negative or unwanted emotions. Click on the link:

<https://www.ccam.org.au/page/44/contact>



'Walking with Wisdom'

Contemplative Sessions (via Zoom)

Thursdays, 10am-12.30pm (AEST) on 8, 15, 22 & 29 October 2020. We invite you to join us for a series of contemplative sessions with Carole Carmody rsm and Marlene McGrath, providing opportunities for Deep Listening: to oneself at this unique time in our lives; to Divine Wisdom in the Heart, and in the Hearts of Others; and to engage in a gentle, creative response. Join for one or all sessions. \$85 for the Series or \$25 per session.

Bookings at www.trybooking.com/BLILH. Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation, tel 03 9890 1101, www.heartoflife.melbourne

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:	<u>St Joan of Arc Church</u>
BSB: 083347	Account Number: 6633 09906
Account Name:	<u>St James Church</u>

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.

An Email From God



One day God was looking down at Earth and saw all of the evil that was going on. He decided to send an angel down to Earth to check it out. So he called one of His best angels and sent the angel to Earth for a time.

When she returned she told God, yes it is bad on Earth, 95% is bad and 5% is good.

Well, he thought for a moment and said, maybe I had better send down a second angel to get another point of view.

So God called another angel and sent her to Earth for a time too.

When the angel returned she went to God and told him yes, the Earth was in decline, 95% was bad and 5% was good.

God said this was not good. So He decided to E-mail the 5% that were good and He wanted to encourage them, give them a little something to help them keep going.

Do you know what that E-mail said????

You didn't get one either,.....huh?