

STS PETER & PAUL'S CATHOLIC PARISH SOUTH MELBOURNE

Under the Pastoral care of the Capuchin Friars

21st July, 2019



16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Jesus entered a village where a woman whose name was Martha welcomed him. She had a sister named Mary who sat beside the Lord at his feet listening to him speak. Martha was burdened with much serving.” The village is Bethany and the house is that of Lazarus and his two sisters. Jesus loved to stop there and take some rest when he was traveling near Jerusalem.

Mary was stupefied that for once she had the master all to herself and could listen in silence to the words of eternal life that he spoke when he was taking his rest. So she sat there at his feet, as is still done today in the East. It is not difficult to imagine Martha's half-resentful, half-joking tone when, passing by them, she says to Jesus: “Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me by myself to do the serving? Tell her to help me.” It was at this point that Jesus said something that by itself is a mini Gospel: “Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her.”

The tradition has seen in the sisters a symbol of the active and the contemplative life respectively; the liturgy with the choice of the first reading (Abraham who welcomes the three angels at the terebinth of Mamre) shows an example of hospitality in the episode.

I think, however, that the more evident theme is that of friendship. “Jesus loved Martha, together with her sister and Lazarus,” we read in John's Gospel (11:5). When they bring him the news of Lazarus' death he says to his disciples: “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep but I am going to wake him up” (John 11:11). Faced with the sorrow of the two sisters he also breaks down and weeps, so much so that those who are present exclaim: “See how much he loved him!” (John 11:13). It is wonderful and consoling to know that Jesus knew and cultivated that sentiment that is so beautiful and precious for us - friendship.

Of friendship we must say what St. Augustine said of time: “I know what time is but if someone asks me to explain it, I no longer know what it is.” In other words, it is easier to intuit what friendship is that to explain it in words.

Friendship is also different from love of neighbour. The latter must embrace everyone, even those who do not return it, even enemies, while friendship demands reciprocity, that is, that the other corresponds to your love. Friendship is nourished by confidences, that is, by the fact that I confide in another that which is deepest and most personal in my thoughts and experiences.

Sometimes I say to young people: Do you want to find out who your true friends are and rank them? Try to remember what have been the most secret experiences of your life — positive or negative — and ask yourself to whom you confided them: those are your true friends. And if there is something in your life, so deep and you have revealed it to one person only, that person is your best friend.

The Bible is full of praise of friendship. “A faithful friend is a strong support; whoever finds one has found a treasure” (Sirach 6:14ff.). The proof of friendship is fidelity.

According to a popular saying, “When the money goes, friends go.” True friendship does not fade at the friend's first problem. We know who our true friend is during the time of trial. History is full of great friendships that have been immortalised in literature. But the history of Christian sanctity also knows examples of famous friendships.

Fr Raniero Cantalamessa

COMING UP

Craft Group
Mon 29th & Wed
31st July, 12pm

Alpha
Friday 2nd
August

**Archbishop's
Visit**
Sat 10th August
6pm Mass
followed by
gathering in
the hall

MASS TIMES

Sunday 10am, Saturday 6pm (Vigil)
Mon - Fri: 8am | Saturday: 10am
Confession Times: Sat 10:30am, 5:30pm

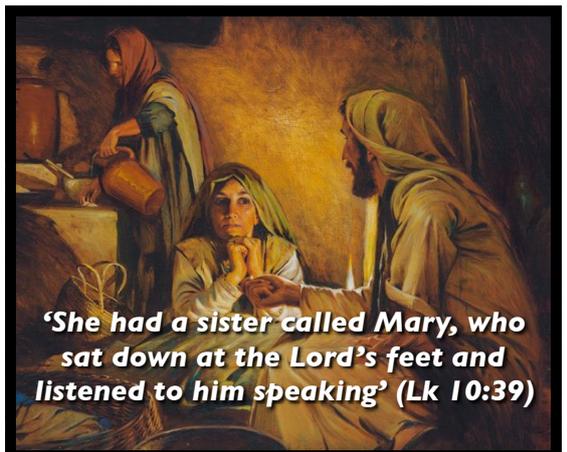
PARISH PRIEST:

Fr Dean Mathieson OFM Cap

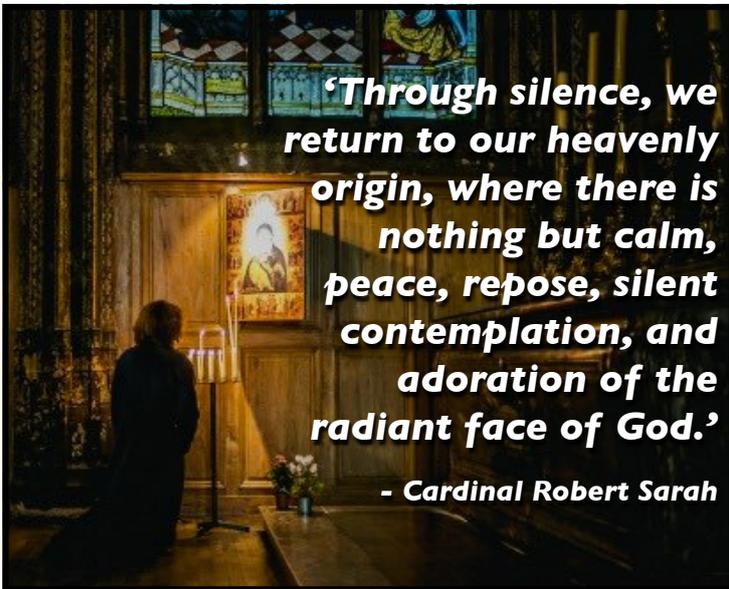
PHONE: 0422 852 273 EMAIL: stspeterandpauls@gmail.com

FB: @stspeterandpauls WEBSITE: stspeterandpauls.com

Emerald Hill Mission: 0409 417 412



**‘She had a sister called Mary, who
sat down at the Lord's feet and
listened to him speaking’ (Lk 10:39)**



GOSPEL REFLECTION

Waiting on the Lord

God wants to dwell with each of us personally, intimately—as the mysterious guests once visited Abraham’s tent, as Jesus once entered the home of Mary and Martha.

By his hospitality in this week’s First Reading, Abraham shows us how we are to welcome the Lord into our lives. His selfless service of his divine guests (see Hebrews 13:1) stands in contrast to the portrait of Martha drawn in this week’s Gospel.

Where Abraham is concerned only for the well-being of his guests, Martha speaks only of herself—“Do you not care that my sister has left me by myself? . . . Tell her to help me.” Jesus’ gentle rebuke reminds us that we risk missing the divine in the mundane, that we can fall into the trap of believing that God somehow needs to be served by human hands (see Acts 17:25).

Our Lord comes to us not to be served but to serve (see Matthew 20:28). He gave His life that we might know the one thing we need, the “better part,” which is life in the fellowship of God.

Jesus is the true Son promised today by Abraham’s visitors (see Matthew 1:1). In Him, God has made an everlasting covenant for all time, made us blessed descendants of Abraham (see Genesis 17:19, 21; Romans 4:16–17, 19–21).

The Church now offers us this covenant, bringing to completion the word of God, the promise of His plan of salvation, what Paul calls “the mystery hidden for ages.”

As once He came to Abraham, Mary, and Martha, Christ now comes to each of us in Word and Sacrament. As we sing in this week’s Psalm: He will make His dwelling with those who keep His Word and practice justice (see also John 14:23).

If we do these things we will not be anxious or disturbed, will not have our Lord taken from us. We will wait on the Lord, who told Abraham and tells each of us: “I will surely return to you.”

Scott Hahn



Saturday,

10th August, 2019

6:00 p.m

Archbishop Peter Andrew

Comensoli

will be visiting

Sts. Peter & Paul’s

Catholic

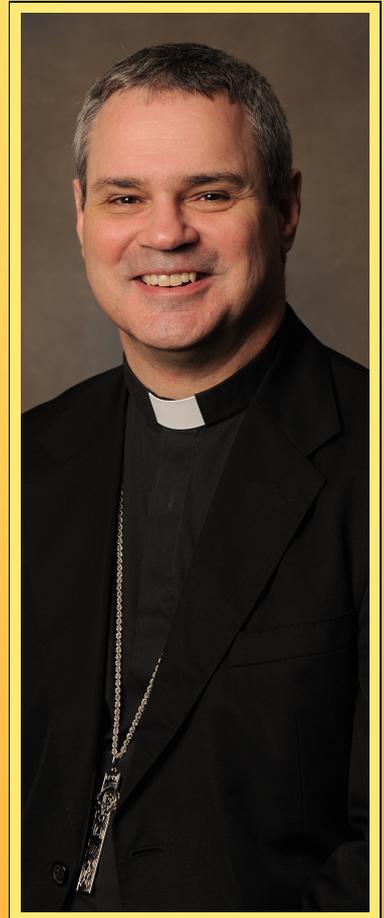
Parish and will be

Celebrating

the 6:00 p.m Mass on

Saturday, 10th August,

2019



Please join us for Mass | Sts Peter & Paul's Catholic Parish, South Melbourne

ALPHA

Season starts Friday August 2nd, 7pm. Parish Hall.

Alpha is for anyone who’s curious and wants to learn more about the faith. The gatherings are designed to encourage conversation and explore the Christian faith in a friendly environment. It is a great opportunity to invite people who don’t normally come to Mass.

See parish website for details:
stspeterandpauls.com/alpha



CATECHISM CORNER

At the Wellsprings of Prayer (n. 2659)

We learn to pray at certain moments by hearing the Word of the Lord and sharing in his Paschal mystery, but his Spirit is offered us at all times, in the events of each day, to make prayer spring up from us. Jesus' teaching about praying to our Father is in the same vein as his teaching about providence: time is in the Father's hands; it is in the present that we encounter him, not yesterday nor tomorrow, but today: "O that today you would hearken to his voice! Harden not your hearts."

THE SECOND MARY GLOWREY LECTURE

Tuesday 27 August, 7pm
Cathedral Hall, 20 Brunswick Street,
Fitzroy

The 2019 Mary Glowrey Lecture, 'From Common Ground to Conscientious Objection - Catholic reflections on life and death in a context of state sponsored euthanasia,' will be delivered by the Archbishop of Melbourne, Most Rev. Peter Comensoli.

Father's Day Raffle

The craft group has put together 4 great prizes for the Father's day raffle. Tickets are 3 for \$5 and will be on sale after Mass from August, and will be drawn after Mass on Father's Day.

FRIDAY MORNINGS

Starting from **Friday 2nd August** we will be trialling a new Mass time for Friday mornings that will be followed by a time of Adoration and then morning tea.

Mass 10am | Adoration 10:30am | Morning Tea 11am

Thanksgiving envelopes are now available for collection after both Masses this weekend.

Parishioner Profile: Stephen Romić

Stephen is a Croatian-born Australian who came here with his parents when he was 1½ years old. His wife, Athena, was born in Australia but of Greek parents. The big question for them is how to pass on both their cultures to their children.

"We'd like our kids to have both the Croatian and Greek languages. They hear their grandparents talking. And when they are a bit older, we plan to do a Europe trip to immerse them in language and culture. In the meantime, we do things like making the sign of the cross in English, Croatian and Greek when we say prayers."

Food connects us across all boundaries—what dish connects you to Croatia?

"The classic is Croatian *Juha* (soup), which is served all year round. Croatia and its cuisine is a 1,300 year melting pot

of the Byzantine empires as well as Austrian, Hungarian and Ottoman empires."

How long have you been in the parish?

"Athena and I were married here by Fr Bob in 2004; our boys were christened by Fr Julian; now Fr Dean is here—it's our parish. And now I'm part of Fr Dean's consulting team."

Anything to say to your fellow parishioners?

"These days it's unfashionable to be christian or catholic, so we need to hold onto our faith and to demystify it in the community."

I think that what we can do is to show, by our actions as a parish, that we are part of the greater community, caring for people regardless of who they are. As Fr Bob says, 'We're all in this together'."



SAINT OF THE WEEK

St Mary Magdalene - 22nd July

St Mary Magdalene was a Jewish woman who traveled with Jesus as one of his followers. She is mentioned by name 12 times in the canonical Gospels, more than most of the other Apostles. Her epithet 'Magdalene' most likely means that she came from the town of Magdala, a fishing town on the western shore of the Sea of Galilee. It was popularly believed that she was a prostitute before meeting Jesus, but this claim has been disputed. Despite the vagueness of her background, what she did in her subsequent life, after meeting Jesus, is much more significant. She was a sinner whom Jesus saved, giving us an example of how no person is beyond the saving grace of God. Mary likely watched Jesus' crucifixion from a distance. Mary was present when Christ rose from the dead, visiting his tomb to find the stone rolled away and Christ very much alive. After this, legend states that she remained among the early Christians. After 14 years, she was allegedly put into a boat by Jews, along with several other saints of the early Church, and set adrift without sails or oars. The boat landed in southern France, where she spent the remaining years of her life living in solitude in a cave.

Please remember in your prayers and Masses the following people who are ill:
Sr Annunciata, Valda Hogan, Flo O'Hara, Sr Joyce Stewart, Celestina Ressia, Peter Wood, Vandersman Family, Joanne Kilmer, Liliana Bobadilla, Ruby Roxa, Eunice Costa, Richard Fennessy, Giovanna Santarossa, James Burnes, James Atkins, Bonnie Breen, Jeff Martin, Naomi McSweeney, Alison Fraser, Tony Bailey, Steven Wallace, Elaine Wallace, Richard Grant, Helen Keighery.

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Entrance Antiphon: See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to you with a willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

1st Reading – Genesis 18:1-10

This touching story of hospitality in a Bedouin's tent serves as a backdrop to the Gospel incident of Jesus visit to the home of Martha and Mary. Abraham had three visitors but he noticed that one of them was the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain? He who walks without fault;
 He who acts with justice and speaks the truth from his heart.

He who does no wrong to his bother, who casts no slur on his neighbour,
 who holds the godless in disdain, but honours those who fear the Lord.

He who keeps his pledge, come what may; who takes no interest on a loan and accepts no bribes against the innocent.
 Such a man will stand firm forever.

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

2nd Reading – Colossians 1:24-28

We hear from St. Paul's letter to the Colossians we started last week. His mission as an apostle was to bring the good News to places where Christ had not preached. This preaching is now directed to all the world.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Happy are they who have kept the word with a generous heart and yield a harvest through perseverance. Alleluia!

Gospel – Luke 10:38-42

Jesus shows He really is close with the family of Martha, Mary and Lazarus. The dialogue is an enigma but He encourages us to reflect on what is the one thing He says is needed.

Next week's readings: 1. Genesis 18:20-32
 2. Colossians 2:12-14
 Gospel. Luke 11:1-13

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL
We pray together:

Lord, we pray for our Pope, his bishops, clergy and religious that as leaders of the Church they will continue to care for the spiritual well-being of their people.

Lord, we pray for those who like Sarah and Martha are overwhelmed with the work of serving others. We pray that they may also find time to sit at the Lords' feet and listen to Him.

Lord, we pray for our parish groups especially those who provide hospitality and service to others. May their welcome and attentive care make visitors feel at home and comfortable.

Lord, we pray for those who are entrusted with reading and preaching the word that they may understand His message and speak it as compellingly as He did.

Lord, we remember with compassion our family and friends who have gone before us. Hold them in your keeping, especially those who have died recently **Greg Jin, Jessie Jack, Jose Mendoza, and Eileen Radford** and those whose anniversaries occur about this time **Helen Naughton, John Gurny, Ken Sargeant, Esme Forehan, Len Webster, Denis Penrose, Jim Sutherland, Vera Berger, Giovanna Abdilla, Annette Kibell, Fr John Cunninham, Fr John Allen, Joyce McKinley, Peter Phelan, Sr Cynthia Wright, Pat and Jack Hunt.**

Collections: July 13/14, 2019

1st Collection: \$1130

2nd Collection: \$761

Online thanksgiving (June): \$1161

1st Collection goes to the Friars, and the 2nd collection goes to the running costs of the Parish.

EFT Donations:

Account Name: Parish SS Peter & Paul

BSB: 083 155

Account number: 515577466

	READERS	E.M.E	HOSPITALITY	FLOWERS
Sat 20	Andy			Doris
Sun 21	Gerry & Ann T	Rick & Sue	Donovan Family	
Sat 27	Geraldine			Vinolia & Hanh
Sun 28	Mario & Michele	Sue & Theresa	Bill & Carol	