

STS PETER & PAUL'S CATHOLIC PARISH SOUTH MELBOURNE

Under the Pastoral care of the Capuchin Friars

17 February, 2019



SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

"If our hope in Christ has been for this life only, we are the most unfortunate of all people" (1 Cor 15:19). With this line St Paul points out a crucially significant fact about Christianity - if Christ didn't rise from the dead, all that we do in regard to Faith is essentially a waste of time. Christ's resurrection gives us hope for what is to come, but also helps us to make sense out of the lives we live in this world. This hope especially helps us to navigate the sufferings, disappointments, losses, and darkness of this life. In Christ's resurrection, we have a promise that there is something more.

In the Gospel we hear Luke's account of the Beatitudes. In it we again see the paradox that Christianity offers - "Happy are you who are poor Happy are you are hungry ... Happy are you who weep ...". Jesus helps us to understand that through the darkness of our lives we are truly able to see the light. In other words, it is when we are in great need that we are able to discover the only true source of happiness, which is God.

St Ambrose speaks eloquently of the link between the Beatitudes and the cardinal virtues when he writes, "Let us see how St. Luke encompassed the eight blessings in the four. We know that there are four cardinal virtues: temperance, justice, prudence and fortitude. One who is poor in spirit is not greedy. One who weeps is not proud but is submissive and tranquil. One who mourns is humble. One who is just does not deny what he knows is given jointly to all for us. One who is merciful gives away his own goods. One who bestows his own goods does not seek another's, nor does he contrive a trap for his neighbour. These virtues are interwoven and interlinked, so that one who has one may be seen to have several, and a single virtue befits the saints. Where virtue abounds, the reward too abounds... Thus temperance has purity of heart and spirit, justice has compassion, patience has peace, and endurance has gentleness."

WHAT'S ON

Holy Hour
Wed 27 Feb,
6:30pm

Play Reading
Monday 18 Feb,
1pm

Mass for Young
Adults
Wed 20 Feb,
6:30pm

Starting again soon
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Lenten Discussion
Group
Stations of the Cross
(plus Fish & Chips)
Fridays in Lent
Playgroup

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

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FB: @stspeterandpauls WEBSITE: stspeterandpauls.com
Emerald Hill Mission: 0409 417 412

Secretary Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 9:30am - 3pm

**'Happy are you
who are poor'
(Lk 6:20)**



GOSPEL REFLECTION

RICH IN POVERTY

The blessings and woes we hear in today's Gospel mark the perfection of all the wisdom of the Old Testament. That wisdom is summed up with marvellous symmetry in today's First Reading and Psalm: Each declares that the righteous—those who hope in the Lord and delight in His Law—will prosper like a tree planted near living waters. The wicked, who put their “trust in human beings,” are cursed to wither and die.

Jesus is saying the same thing in the Gospel. The rich and poor are, for Him, more than members of literal economic classes. Their material state symbolises their spiritual state.

The rich are “the insolent” of today's Psalm, boasting of their self-sufficiency, the strength of their flesh, as Jeremiah says in the First Reading. The poor are the humble, who put all their hope and trust in the Lord.

We've already seen today's dramatic imagery of reversal in Mary's “Magnificat.” There, too, the rich are cast down while the hungry are filled and the lowly exalted (see Luke 1:45–55 also 16:19–31).

That's the upside-down world of the Gospel: in poverty we gain spiritual treasure unimaginable; in suffering and even dying “on account of the Son of Man,” we find everlasting life.

The promises of the Old Testament were promises of power and prosperity—in the here and now. The promise of the New Covenant is joy and true freedom even amid the misery and toil of this life. But not only that. As Paul says in today's Epistle, we're to be pitied if our hope is “for this life only.”

The blessings of God mean that we'll laugh with the thanksgiving of captives released from exile (see Psalm 126:1–2), feast at the heavenly table of the Lord (see Psalm 107:3–9), “leap for joy” as John the Baptist leapt in his mother's womb (see Luke 6:23; 1:41, 44), and rise with Christ, “the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.”

Scott Hahn

MASS FOR YOUNG ADULTS MELBOURNE

**BACK FOR 2019
WED 20 FEB
7PM**

CATECHISM CORNER

CHRIST'S WORK IN THE LITURGY

In the liturgy of the Church, it is principally his own Paschal mystery that Christ signifies and makes present. During his earthly life Jesus announced his Paschal mystery by his teaching and anticipated it by his actions. When his Hour comes, he lives out the unique event of history which does not pass away: Jesus dies, is buried, rises from the dead, and is seated at the right hand of the Father "once for all." His Paschal mystery is a real event that occurred in our history, but it is unique: all other historical events happen once, and then they pass away, swallowed up in the past. The Paschal mystery of Christ, by contrast, cannot remain only in the past, because by his death he destroyed death, and all that Christ is - all that he did and suffered for all men - participates in the divine eternity, and so transcends all times while being made present in them all. The event of the Cross and Resurrection abides and draws everything toward life.

(1085)



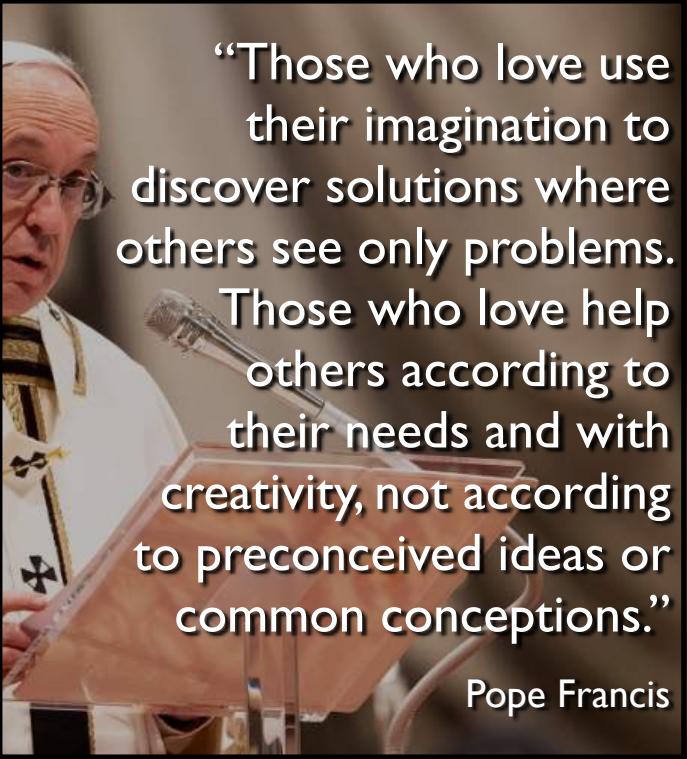
PARISH HOLY HOUR

Adoration of the
Blessed Sacrament
every Wednesday
6:30-7:30pm

(except when the
Mass for Young
Adults is on
Wed 20th Feb)

SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION

There will be an information night on Thursday
28th of February, at 7:30pm, in the hall.
Subsequent sessions will run Wednesdays 6th, 13th,
20th, and 27th March, 3:45pm - 4:45pm, in the hall.
The Reconciliation night will be on Tuesday 2nd of
April, at 7pm.



“Those who love use their imagination to discover solutions where others see only problems. Those who love help others according to their needs and with creativity, not according to preconceived ideas or common conceptions.”

Pope Francis

PLAY READING GROUP

The Play reading group will continue again for 2019 on Monday 18th February 1pm, and will take place in the bookshop. All welcome.

For more information:
Geraldine 0419 115 565 or Annie 0423 741 790



NEXT SATURDAY 23RD FEBRUARY

PARISHIONER PROFILE

Olwen Smith

I've been a part of this parish for 44 years. I have two children and have been married for 44 years. The things I am most grateful for are my faith, which helps me through obstacles and challenges, being a part of a faith community that inspires me to be my very best, and my close and loving family. My favourite things about the parish include learning from the homilies, the welcomeness of everyone, encouragement from others, and getting a coffee and cake to chat with other parishioners after Mass. One thing that always stands out to me is that magical moment bringing and showing baby Jesus to the children at Christmas Eve, as they are involving themselves in carrying him down to the manger. This is always a wondrous moment that is different every time for me. Fun fact: I am one of identical triplets and if you marry one of us, you marry us all. I'm also an orange belt in Judo and am an early childhood teacher.



SAINT OF THE WEEK

St Peter Damian, bishop, doctor - 21st of February

St Peter Damian was an 11th century Benedictine monk of the Fonte Avellana hermitage, Italy. Dante Alighieri, the great poet who wrote the *Divine Comedy*, placed the saint in one of the highest circles of Heaven, as the great predecessor of St Francis of Assisi. St Peter Damian is known for his relentless work in reforming the Church, particularly in areas to do with clergy corruption, abuse of minors, simony, and covering the crimes. He is also a model for the religious life, especially for monks and hermits, and those who desire to live a life of incredible spiritual discipline.

Please remember in your prayers and Masses the following people who are ill:
Sr. Annunciata Fcj, Pauline O'Hara, Valda Hogan, Flo O'Hara, Sr. Joyce Stewart, Celestine Ressia, Peter Wood, Vandersman Family, Joanne Kilmer, Liliana Bobadilla, Ruby Roxas, Eunice Costa, Richard Fennessy, Eunice Costa, Giovanna Santarossa, James Burnes, James Watkins, Bonnie Breen, Maurita Carlisle, Jeff Martin, Naomi McSweeney, Mary Quirke, Ilse Miranda, Neil Baker, Helen Keighery, Alison Fraser, Tony Bailey, Steven Wallace.

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Entrance Antiphon: Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

1st. Reading – Book of Jeremiah 17:5-8

Jeremiah does a contrast between the person who depends on human strength for his well-being and the person who trusts in God for the same purpose. The former receives a curse while the latter receives a blessing.

Responsorial Psalm

Happy the man who has placed his trust in the Lord.

Happy indeed is the man who follows not the counsel of the wicked; nor lingers in the way of the sinners nor sits in the company of scorners, but whose delight is the law of the Lord and who ponders his law day and night.

He is like a tree that is planted beside the flowing waters, that yields its fruit in due season and whose leaves shall never fade; and all that he does shall prosper.

Not so are the wicked, not so! For they like winnowed chaff shall be driven away by the wind. For the Lord guards the way of the just but the way of the wicked leads to doom.

Happy the man who has placed his trust in the Lord.

2nd Reading – St Paul to the Corinthians 15:12, 16-20

The Resurrection of Jesus is the basis for faith in his Gospel. Paul recounts the manifestations of Jesus after the Resurrection.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad: your reward will be great in heaven. **Alleluia!**

Gospel - St Luke 6:17, 20-26

In this passage we have the Lucan equivalent of the Matthean Sermon on the Mount that begins with the beatitudes. Luke gives only four beatitudes but supplements them with four woes.

Next week's reading: I Samuel 26:2,7-9,12-13
2 I Corinthians 15:45-49
Gospel Luke 6:27-28

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL We pray together:

Lord, we pray for Pope Francis, his bishops, clergy and religious that as leaders in the Church they may work towards the eradication of poverty and misery from the world.

Lord, we pray for the leaders of our world that they may find strength to work for peace, not war.

Lord, we pray for those who through their charity and efforts make the world a better place for the poor.

Lord, we pray for those who suffer from illness. May they know your mercy through those who care for them.

Lord, we pray for ourselves that we might always turn to you when we face trouble in our lives.

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 and those whose anniversaries occur about this time **Nellie Ducker, Renee Downes, David Fennessy, Randall McIlvena, Justin Connell**

Collections: Feb 9/10, 2019

1st Collection: \$ 1145
2nd Collection: \$ 904

January online thanksgiving: \$785

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

	READERS	E.M.E	HOSPITALITY	FLOWERS
Sat 16	Ann M			Doris
Sun 17	Rick & Natalie	Carmel & Doris	Denis & Olwen	Vinolia & Hanh
Sat 23	Janet			
Sun 24	Carmel & Ann T	Doris & Mario	Donovan Family	