

STS PETER & PAUL'S CATHOLIC PARISH SOUTH MELBOURNE

Under the Pastoral care of the Capuchin Friars

26th Jan 2020



Third Sunday in Ordinary Time A

History Redeemed

Today's Liturgy gives us a lesson in ancient Israelite geography and history.

Isaiah's prophecy in today's First Reading is quoted by Matthew in today's Gospel. Both intend to recall the apparent fall of the everlasting kingdom promised to David (see 2 Samuel 7:12–13; Psalm 89; 132:11–12).

Eight centuries before Christ, that part of the kingdom where the tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali lived was attacked by the Assyrians, and the tribes were hauled off into captivity (see 2 Kings 15:29; 1 Chronicles 5:26).

It marked the beginning of the kingdom's end. It finally crumbled in the sixth century BC, when Jerusalem was seized by Babylon and the remaining tribes were driven into exile (see 2 Kings 24:14).

Isaiah prophesied that Zebulun and Naphtali, the lands first to be degraded, would be the first to see the light of God's salvation. Jesus today fulfils that prophecy—announcing the restoration of David's kingdom at precisely the spot where the kingdom began to fall.

His Gospel of the Kingdom includes not only the twelve tribes of Israel but all the nations—symbolised by the "Galilee of the Nations." Calling His first disciples, two fishermen on the Sea of Galilee, He appoints them to be "fishers of men"—gathering people from the ends of the earth.

They are to preach the Gospel, Paul says in today's Epistle, to unite all peoples in the same mind and in the same purpose—in a worldwide kingdom of God.

By their preaching, Isaiah's promise has been delivered. A world in darkness has seen the light. The yoke of slavery and sin, borne by humanity since time began, has been smashed.

And we are able now, as we sing in today's Psalm, to dwell in the house of the Lord, to worship Him in the land of the living.

Scott Hahn

COMING UP

**Bush fire
special
collection**
Sun 26th Jan,
10am

MASS TIMES
Sunday 10am, Saturday 6pm (Vigil)
Mon - Thurs: 8am, Friday: 10am, Saturday: 10am
Confession Times: Sat 10:30am, 5:30pm
PARISH ADMINISTRATOR:
Fr John Spiteri OFM Cap
PHONE: 9690 5895 EMAIL: stspeterandpauls@gmail.com
FB: @stspeterandpauls WEBSITE: stspeterandpauls.com
Emerald Hill Mission: 0409 417 412
Secretary Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 9:30am - 3pm



Catholic Church national response to bushfire crisis

STATEMENT FROM THE AUSTRALIAN BISHOPS CONFERENCE PRESIDENT, ARCHBISHOP MARK COLERIDGE

Australia is facing an unprecedented calamity as fire engulfs the land in many places. We have all seen the apocalyptic images, even if we are not in the areas most affected. Lives have been lost, homes and towns have been destroyed, smoke has shrouded large swathes of our country.

And there is no end in sight to the horror which confronts us with our powerlessness before the devastating force of nature.

The efforts of firefighters have been heroic. The resilience of the communities affected has been extraordinary. This has been Australia at its best, and we all stand with those who have been most stricken and with those who are putting their lives on the line to fight the fires.

But we need more than words. Expressions of solidarity are important, but they are not enough.

The bishops are aware of the huge amount being done around the nation, led by governments and first responders. Many local faith communities, including Catholic parishes and organisations, as well as ecumenical and inter-religious coalitions, are also making a big contribution.

While the bishops typically respond to challenges at a parish or diocesan level, the scale of this crisis requires a national response from the whole Church to complement and coordinate what is happening locally.

From the Bishops Conference, that national response includes:

- The facilitation of a national network connecting people affected by the bushfires with people who can help with tasks such as preparing meals, clearing properties, rebuilding communities, as well as pastoral and counselling support.
- The distribution of special prayers and other resources for use in parishes, families and other Catholic communities.
- Collaboration with key national agencies like Catholic Health Australia, Catholic Social Services Australia, the National Catholic Education Commission and the St Vincent de Paul Society (Vinnies) to ensure as effective a response as possible from the wider Catholic community.
- Cooperating with Catholic Religious Australia and religious institutes and their ministries.
- Parishes across the country taking up a special collection at Masses on the Australia Day weekend, with all funds to be donated to Vinnies' bushfire appeal.

Vinnies is responding in all affected states and territories. Its network of local conferences and support services has seen them rapidly respond throughout the nation as the fire crisis has spread.

As well as donations at Masses on Australia Day weekend, people are encouraged to support the immediate response and the ongoing work of Vinnies in your state or throughout bushfire-affected communities by donating here: <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-nsw/vinnies-nsw-bushfire-appeal-nsw>

Our experts on the ground – from agencies like Vinnies, CatholicCare and CentaCare, in parishes and other Catholic communities, including Catholic hospitals and aged care providers – know this will be a long-term process to help people and whole towns rebuild.

With broad and deep roots across the nation, the Church stands ready to walk alongside people throughout their journey of recovery.

Facing this exceptional crisis, we renew our call for insistent prayer for those stricken by drought and fire, for those who have lost their lives in the fires and their families, for rain to quench the parched land and extinguish the fires, and for urgent action to care for our common home in order to prevent such calamities in the future.

A genuinely Catholic response to a crisis of this magnitude must draw strength from prayer which inspires concrete and compassionate action.

(Please also find at the back of the church a letter from Archbishop Peter Comensoli on the matter.)

BUSH FIRE COLLECTION

There will be a special leaving collection at the Sunday 10am Mass, 26th of January, at the end of Mass at the door.

NATIONAL CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES CONFERENCE

Wednesday 26-28 February. At Catholic Leadership Centre, East Melbourne

Will feature many national and international speakers, focusing on mission and key issues of that day. Details and booking here: <https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=529956&>

PLENARY COUNCIL - CALL FOR DELEGATES

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has requested that each Diocese nominate 4 people, who may be laypersons, members of religious orders or Clergy, who are willing to be called as delegates for the Plenary Council Sessions in October 2020, and June and July of 2021. Each delegate will participate in the process of discernment and contribute to a variety of forums before, during and after the Plenary Council Sessions. This is an important and critical role for the life of the Catholic Church in Australia. If you are interested in applying, please fill out the online form and submit by **Friday 24 January 2020**. Note that the application process requires two referees including one active Priest (on appointment).

Application form: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2RPTKHZ>

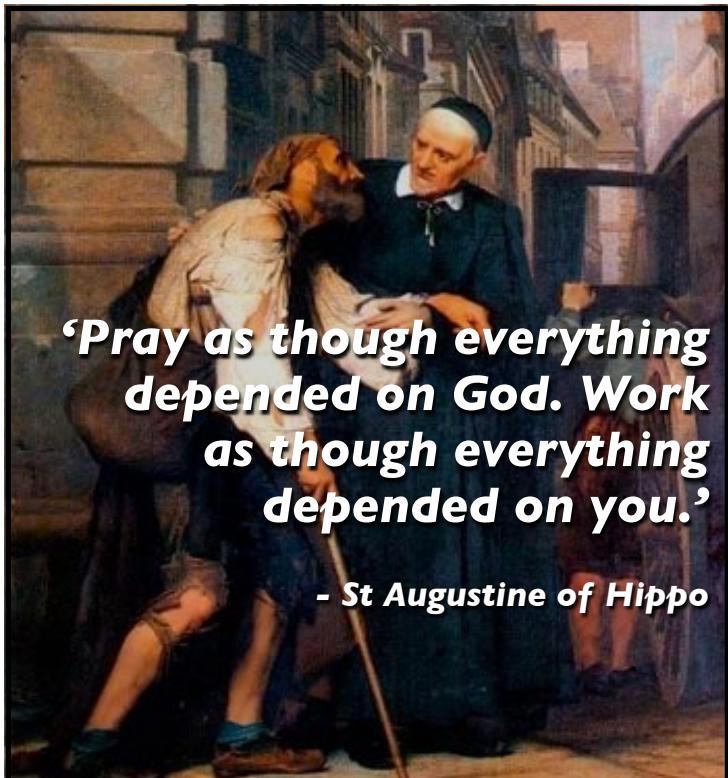
FR JOHN AWAY

Fr John will be away from **Tuesday 21st of January to Saturday 1st of February 2020**. All regular Masses will continue as usual. Fr Bernard Morawski will celebrate most of them. Fr Thomas McFadden will celebrate Saturday evening on the 25th of January. Fr Ian Waters will celebrate Saturday morning on the 1st of February.

ST PATRICK CONCERT

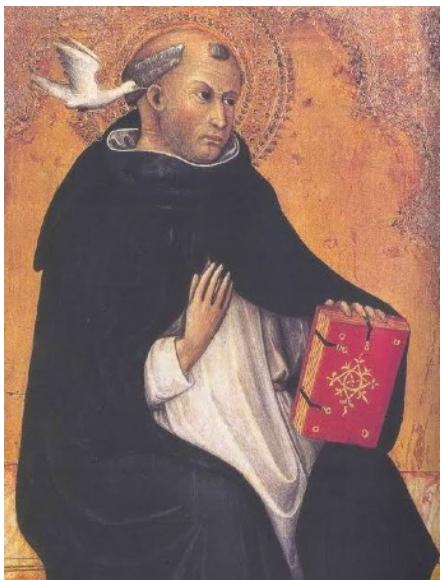
Friday 7th February, 6-7pm. At St Patrick's Cathedral

Featuring Thomas Heywood (organ) playing works by Handel, Vivaldi, Brahms, Tchaikovsky, and Mozart. Tickets \$25. Book here: www.trybooking.com/BHMYQ



'Pray as though everything depended on God. Work as though everything depended on you.'

- St Augustine of Hippo



FEAST OF THE WEEK

St Thomas Aquinas
28th of January

Thomas Aquinas was a 13th century Italian Dominican friar, priest, philosopher, theologian, and Doctor of the Church. He was an immensely influential thinker and jurist in the scholastic tradition, and is affectionately nicknamed *the Angelic Doctor*. He was the foremost proponent of classical natural theology, of which he held that God's existence and nature can be demonstrated through pure reason alone. His influence on Western thought is considerable, having contributed to the areas of ethics, natural law, metaphysics, and political theory. Unlike many currents in the Church at the time, Thomas embraced many ideas put forward by Aristotle—whom he called "the Philosopher"—and synthesised Aristotelian philosophy with the Catholic system. His best-known work is the *Summa Theologiae*. It is unfinished, but massively influential.

Please remember in your prayers and Masses the following people who are ill: Sr Annuciata, Valda Hogan, Flo O'Hara, Sr Joyce Stewart, 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, Steven Wallace, Elaine Wallace, Richard, Miles Buneski, Lachlan Fahy, Colin Crawford, Frank O'Connor.

3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time - Year A

Entrance Antiphon: O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place.

1st Reading – Isaiah 8:23-9:3

We hear once more the words of Isaiah, which were used at Midnight Mass about the people that walked in darkness, had seen a great light. This serves as a geography lesson about northern Galilee where Jesus ministered and called His disciples.

Responsorial Psalm

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; before whom shall I shrink?

There is one thing I ask of the Lord, for this I long,
To live in the house of the Lord, all the days of my life,
To savour the sweetness of the Lord, to behold His temple.

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living. Hope in Him, hold firm and take heart. Hope in the Lord!

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

2nd Reading – I Corinthians 1:10-13, 17

We resume the semi-continuous reading of St. Paul's first letter to the Corinthians. He draws attention to the disputes and differences in that community, asking whether they are truly Christian attitudes.

ALLELUIA, Alleluia

Jesus preached the Good News of the Kingdom, and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!

Gospel – Matthew 4:12-23

We hear how, when John the Baptist was silenced, Jesus moved to new territory in Galilee to proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.

Next week's readings:

1st	Malachi 3:1-4
2nd	Hebrews 2:14-18
Gospel	Luke 2:22-32

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

We pray together:

Lord, we pray for our Holy Father Pope Francis and especially the Australian conference of Bishops as they seek to lead the Australian faithful.

Lord, we pray for the Leaders of Australia, that they may strive to be good stewards of the resources entrusted to their care, and good neighbours to those in their region who are less fortunate.

Lord, we pray for priests and religious who continue to hear God's call to serve the people of this land, to heal divisions and reconcile past wrongs.

Lord, we pray for Australian families, that they joyfully engage the fruits of family life.

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 for those whose anniversaries occur about this time Ignatius Cody, Betty Xuereb, Neita Elligate, Corrigan, Maurice Juriansz, Alex McEwan, Jack Hunt.

Collections: Jan 18/19, 2020

1st Collection: \$820

2nd Collection: \$680

Online per week (Nov): \$350

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

Sat 25
Sun 26
Sat 01
Sun 02

READERS
Ann M
Mavis & Merlyn
Andy
Rick & Natalie

E.M.E
Sue & Carmel
Carmel & Rick

HOSPITALITY
Donovan Family
Andy & Geraldine

FLOWERS
Vinolia & Doris
Ann & Priska