



# STS PETER & PAUL'S CATHOLIC PARISH SOUTH MELBOURNE

Under the Pastoral care of the Capuchin Friars

16th June, 2019



## The Most Holy Trinity (Year C)

The Gospel for the solemnity, drawn from Jesus' farewell discourses, deals with three mysterious subjects which are inextricably united, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: "When the Spirit of truth comes, he will lead you into the whole truth. ... All that the Father has is mine" — the Son! Reflecting on these and similar texts the Church arrived at its faith in the Trinitarian God.

Many ask: But what is this puzzle of three who are one and one who are three? Would it not be easier to believe in a God who is just one, as the Muslims do? The answer is simple. The Church believes in the Trinity, not because it likes to complicate things, but because this truth has been revealed by Christ. The difficulty of understanding the mystery of the Trinity is an argument in favour of, and not against, its truth. No man left to himself would have ever come up with this mystery.

After the mystery has been revealed to us, we intuit that, if God exists, it can be no other way: one and three at the same time. There can only be love between two or more persons; if therefore "God is love," there must be in God one who loves, one who is loved, and the love that unites them.

Christians are monotheists; they believe in a God who is one, but not solitary. Who would God love if he were absolutely alone? Perhaps himself? But then his love would not be really love, but rather egoism or narcissism. I would like to consider the great and formidable teaching about life that comes to us from the Trinity. This mystery is the maximum affirmation that there can be both equality and diversity: equal in dignity but different in characteristics. And is this not the most important thing that we must learn if we are going to live well in this world? That we can be, that is, different by the colour of our skin, because of culture, sex, race and religion, and yet enjoy equal dignity as human persons?

This teaching has its first and most natural field of application in the family. The family must be an earthly reflection of the Trinity. It is made up of persons of different sex (man and woman) and age (parents and children) with all the consequences that derive from these differences: different sentiments, different attitudes and tastes. The success of a marriage and a family depends on the measure by which this diversity knows how to tend toward a higher unity: unity of love, intentions and collaboration.

It is not true that a man and a woman must have the same temperament and gifts; that for them to agree, they must both be either cheerful, vivacious, extroverted and instinctive, or both introverted, quiet and reflective. Indeed we know what negative consequences can follow, even at the physical level, from marriage between relatives within a restricted circle.

Husband and wife do not have each to be the "better half" of the other in the sense of two halves perfectly equal, as an apple cut in two, but in the sense that one is the missing half of the other and the complement of the other. This was God's intention when he said: "It is not good for man to be alone; I will make him a help similar to him" (Genesis 2:18). This all presupposes the strength to accept the difference of the other, which is the most difficult thing for us to do and in which only the most mature marriages succeed.

From this we also see how erroneous it is to consider the Trinity a mystery that is remote from our lives, one to be left to the speculation of theologians. On the contrary, it is a mystery that is very close to us. The reason is very simple: We were created in the image of the Trinitarian God, we bear this imprint and we are called to realise the same sublime synthesis of unity and diversity.

Fr Raniero Cantalamessa

**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**

**STS  
PETER &  
PAUL'S  
FEAST  
DAY  
FESTIVAL**

**SUN  
30TH  
JUNE**

### 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](http://stspeterandpauls.com)

Emerald Hill Mission: 0409 417 412

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



**SUNDAY**  
**30 June 2019**  
**10am - 1pm**

# *Sts Peter & Paul's*

FEAST DAY FESTIVAL

377 Dorcas Street, South Melbourne

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## We Care – Responding to the Voluntary Assisted Dying Act.

From the earliest times, Christ's followers have set themselves apart by their care of the vulnerable (Acts 4:34). On 19 June 2019, the Voluntary Assisted Dying Act (VAD) comes into effect. It legalises euthanasia and assisted suicide. Despite what the law may say, our Christian tradition affirms that every life, including those of the sick and suffering, is sacred. Euthanasia and assisted suicide are never part of end of life care.

Pope Francis has encouraged ordinary Catholics everywhere to resist euthanasia and to protect the old, the young and the vulnerable from being cast aside in a "throw-away culture." We are called to follow Christ by accompanying people with compassion, sharing hope not fear.

The Bishops of the Catholic dioceses of Melbourne, Ballarat, Sale and Sandhurst, echoing Pope Francis, have published a pastoral letter including practical guidance on ways we can be conscientious objectors to euthanasia.

Copies of the letter are available in our parish and online: [www.cam.org.au/euthanasia](http://www.cam.org.au/euthanasia)

Please read and share it.



### FIRST COMMUNION 2019

The first Communion Mass will be next Sunday 23rd June, 10am (Corpus Christi).

### PLAY READING GROUP

The next play reading will be on Monday 17th June, 1pm, in the hall.

## THE DISCOURSE

TRUTH SET FREE

TUESDAY 18 JUNE, 7PM

The Hall at Sts Peter and Paul's. A panel discussion about important religious, political, cultural matters.

**Tickets are \$10 at [www.trybooking.com/BDAYO](http://www.trybooking.com/BDAYO)**

### GOSPEL REFLECTION

Trinity Sunday

In today's Liturgy we're swept through time in glorious procession—from before earth and sky were set in place to the coming of the Spirit upon the new creation, the Church.

We begin in the heart of the Trinity, as we listen to the testimony of Wisdom in today's First Reading. Eternally begotten, the first-born of God, He is poured forth from of old in the loving delight of the Father.

Through Him the heavens were established, the foundations of the earth fixed. From before the beginning, He was with the Father as His "Craftsman," the artisan by which all things were made. And He took special delight, He tells us, in the crowning glory of God's handiwork—the human race, the "sons of men."

In today's Psalm, He comes down from heaven, is made a little lower than the angels, comes among us as "the Son of Man" (see Hebrews 2:6–10).

All things are put under His feet so that He can restore to humanity the glory for which we were made from the beginning, the glory lost by sin. He tasted death that we might be raised to life in the Trinity, that His name might be made glorious over all the earth.

Through the Son, we have gained grace and access in the Spirit to the Father, as Paul boasts in today's Epistle (see Ephesians 2:18).

The Spirit, the Love of God, has been poured out into our hearts—a Spirit of adoption, making us children of the Father once more (see Romans 8:14–16).

This is the Spirit that Jesus promises in today's Gospel.

His Spirit comes as divine gift and anointing (see 1 John 2:27), to guide us to all truth, to show us "the things that are coming," the things that were meant to be from before all ages—that we will find peace and union in God, we will share the life of the Trinity, we will dwell in God as He dwells in us (see John 14:23; 17:21).

Scott Hahn

### CATECHISM CORNER

*The formation of the Trinitarian Dogma (249-250)*

From the beginning, the revealed truth of the Holy Trinity has been at the very root of the Church's living faith, principally by means of Baptism. It finds its expression in the rule of baptismal faith, formulated in the preaching, catechesis and prayer of the Church. Such formulations are already found in the apostolic writings, such as this salutation taken up in the Eucharistic liturgy: "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." During the first centuries the Church sought to clarify her Trinitarian faith, both to deepen her own understanding of the faith and to defend it against the errors that were deforming it. This clarification was the work of the early councils, aided by the theological work of the Church Fathers and sustained by the Christian people's sense of the faith.

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

### Trinity Sunday

**Entrance Antiphon:** The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Spirit of God dwelling with us, alleluia.

**1st Reading – Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11**

We hear the stirring events of the first Pentecost. St Luke shapes three images to resonate with the creation story in Genesis. Now is the age of the new creation in the Holy Spirit.

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.**

Bless the Lord, my soul! Lord God, how great you are!  
 How many are you works, O Lord! The earth is full of you riches.

How many are your works, O Lord! In wisdom you have made them all.

The earth is full of your riches. Bless the Lord, my soul.

All of these look to you to give them their food in due season.  
 You give it, they gather it up: you open your hand, they have their full.

May the glory of the Lord last forever! May the Lord rejoice in His works!

May my thoughts be pleasing to Him. I find my joy in the Lord.

**Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.**

**2nd Reading – I Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13**

We hear from St Paul talking about the many gifts of the Holy Spirit. These gifts are not to be used for selfish reasons, but for the love and building up of each other in Christ's body, the Church.

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel – John 20:19-23**

We hear of Jesus giving authority to his Apostles to forgive sins through the power and legitimacy of the Holy Spirit. He breathes on them and says 'receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

### PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

We pray together:

Lord, we pray for our Pope and the College of Bishops. May the vision of the Holy Spirit descending at Pentecost reinforce the call for a new Pentecost in our day.

Lord, we pray for the world's leaders at all levels. May a spirit of goodwill towards all create a true united witness that gives hope to all people.

Lord, we pray for our families and friends who gather here in the knowledge that Jesus has given his Spirit to us so that we may share it with those who are in need.

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 **Leokadia Filippow, Jeanette Cardoz** and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time **Bob Carlisle, Mother Clare Birrane, Stephanie, Daniele and Chantelle Meredith, Jeff Foley, Mary Moloughney.**

**Collections: June 1/2, 2019**

**1st Collection: \$1019**

**2nd Collection: \$994**

**Online thanksgiving (May): \$1153**

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 08	Adrian			Geraldine F & Sue
Sun 09	Andy & Natalie	Teresa & Carmel	Bill & Carol	
Sat 15	Angela			Doris
Sun 16	Carmel & Olwen	Carmel & Rick	Margaret & Nancy	