

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A 27th - 28th June 2020

First Reading: 2 Kg 4:8-11. 14-16

This is the holy man of God, let him remain there.

One day as Elisha was on his way to Shunem, a woman of rank who lived there pressed him to stay and eat there. After this he always broke his journey for a meal when he passed that way. She said to her husband, 'Look, I am sure the man who is constantly passing our way must be a holy man of God, let us build him a small room on the roof, and put him a bed in it, and a table and chair and lamp; whenever he comes to us he can rest there.' One day when he came, he retired to the upper room and lay down. 'What can be done for her?' he asked. Gehazi (his servant) answered. 'Well, she has no son and her husband is old.' Elisha said, 'Call her.' The servant called her and she stood at the door. 'This time next year,' Elisha said 'you will hold a son in your arms.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 88:2-3. 16-19. R. v.2

R/ For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Second Reading: Romans 6:3-4. 8-11

Having been buried with him through baptism, we shall walk in a new life.

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life. But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him; Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him any more. When he died, he died, once for all, of sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation: 1 Peter 2:9

Alleluia, alleluia! You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy people. Praise God who called you out of darkness and into his marvelous light. **Alleluia!**

Gospel: Mt 10:37-42

Anyone who does not accept his cross is not worthy of me. Anyone who welcomes you, welcomes me.

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: Anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who prefers son or daughter to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who does not take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me. Anyone who finds his life will lose it; anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. 'Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me; and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me. 'Anyone who welcomes a prophet because he is a prophet will have a prophet's reward; and anyone who welcomes a holy man because he is a holy man will have a holy man's reward. 'If anyone gives so much as cup of cold water, to one of these little ones because he is a disciple, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Just as the woman of Shunem is rewarded with new life for receiving the "man of God", so the reward from welcoming Jesus is infinitely greater. We become the dwelling places of God himself and we become a "new creation" in the image of the Son.

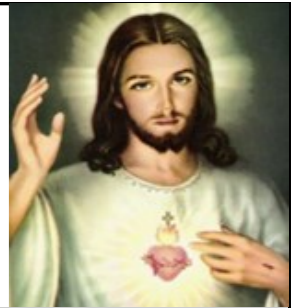


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Hospitality of Heart – Acknowledging the God Within

Openness to life! Hospitality of heart – These are some of the themes of the readings this week. The woman in the first reading was open to life; she welcomed the prophet into her home, perceiving that beyond his appearance, he was truly a holy man of God, and set about facilitating his mission. The beautiful story of the Shunemite woman illustrates the fact that God's word finds acceptance in people's lives sometimes through the needs and deeds of the most unassuming of human agents. Elisha may seem to be an itinerant preacher. It was the woman who detected his mission and made room for him in her house. He in turn responded to her hospitality in God's name.



In the gospel, we, as disciples listen to Jesus' words telling us how we are to look beyond the obvious, open our lives to him giving him central place over family and friends, even to the point of 'bearing his cross'. Jesus summarises both the costs of discipleship and its rewards. The conditions of discipleship may appear harsh. Yet they underline for us a truth - choosing anything with one's whole heart has consequences. The Gospel also highlights for us the importance of hospitality in the Christian life. To welcome another in Jesus' name is to extend hospitality to Jesus himself. "He who welcomes you, welcomes me."

Our welcome is to be whole-hearted, and if I am in any doubt as to where I am to exercise this total acceptance of Christ in my life, I have only to turn to my neighbour. Nothing could be clearer. Christ is all around me. He is present in my home, at work, in those who pass me in the street.. He is present in myself!

We may expect, then, that Christ will come to our doors in many disguises and almost always at the wrong time! We may find him hidden in the stranger, the outcast of society, a refugee family, a child needing attention, a sick person, an aging relative. How would I respond? Openness to wonder, to the mystery of Christ hidden in the other: these qualities may often be sadly missing in my life. The "cup of cold water" is proverbially quoted as a somewhat dubious sign of Christian hospitality. Perhaps this is because it does not cost much in rain-drenched climates! In a hot, dusty climate, however, a drink of cold water can be a life-saver.

The attitude of thoughtfulness, the lack of self-absorption; these would seem to underline the Christian attitude towards others. It is not what is given that counts but the timeliness of the gift and the heart with which it is given.

Office Hours:
Tues to Fri: 10.00am - 12.30pm

Parish Priest:
Fr Jan Szweda, SVD
Assistant Priest:
Fr Aloysius Nato, SVD
Priest in Residence:
Fr Ennio Mantovani, SVD
Deacon:
Yousef Meda, SVD
Parish Office: Cristina Agius
School Principal: Mark Tierney
School Phone: 9487 1001

Sacrament Co-ordinator:
Ylenia Useli
shpcatechists@gmail.com

Child Safety Officers:
Kay Dufty: 0431 376 212 and
Robert Dullard: 0433 401 958

Child Safety Committee:
Robert Dullard (Chair)

Parish Council Members:
Catherine Zanatta (chairperson),
Kay Dufty (secretary), Tony Eley,
Gerard Grant, Ophelia Swai,
Anisasio (Pauline) Veamatahau,
Mark Tierney, Ben Fortuna and
Natalie Baran

Parish Finance Committee:
Peter Constable (Chair)
0425 779 831

St. Vincent de Paul Society:
Pauline O'Day (President)
Ph: 9484 2445

This Week's Masses

Saturday 4th July

Vigil Mass, **5 pm**

Sunday 5th July

9am (Italian), 11am and 6pm
(English)

Monday to Friday

9.10am

There is still a limit of 20 people (including children), to attend every Mass, therefore it is necessary to register by calling Fr Jan on mobile on 0400469540 or 9480 3398.

Solemnity of Sts Peter and Paul – Monday, 29th June

St. Peter and Paul's day is the feast day that honours the martyrdom of the two saints sometime between AD 64 and 68. While the Church recognizes that they may not have died on the same day, tradition says that this is the day that they were both martyred in Rome by Emperor Nero.

The day is a solemnity, or a feast day of the highest rank.



This honour is reserved for only the most important events, like events in the lives of Jesus or Mary, so this emphasises just how important the two saints are to the Catholic faith.

St. Peter and Paul are both patron saints of Rome. St. Peter was one of the 12 apostles, as well as the first pope and founder of the Roman Church. He was martyred sometime around AD 64, and at his request, he was crucified upside down because he did not consider himself worthy to die in the same way as Jesus. The famous Vatican church, St. Peter's Basilica, is a shrine to him and considered to be built on the site where he was buried.

St. Paul was also an apostle, responsible for much of the New Testament. 13 out of the 27 books are attributed to him. He was eventually beheaded around AD 64. Both saints are considered very important foundations of the Church.

Dates to Remember

Monday, 29th June: Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles

Online Masses

St. Patrick's Cathedral - Live Streaming at:

<https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass>

Monday- Friday: 1pm, Saturday: 8am, Sunday: 11am

Recorded masses can also be viewed at:

www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass

Or: <http://bit.ly/MassOnDemand>

TV Masses

Channel 44 (31): Live telecast from St. Patrick's Cathedral, Sunday at 11am

Channel 10: Mass for you at home, Sunday at 6am.

RAI: Italian Mass from the Vatican, Sunday at 8:30am

Farewell

Fr Ennio's Retirement

After 11 years of service to the Italian Community in our Parish, the SVD Superior, considering Fr. Ennio's age (born 1932), has transferred him to the retiring home of the SVD in Sydney.

Fr. Albano da Costa SVD, who speaks Italian, has been appointed to replace Fr. Ennio who will leave Preston at the beginning of August 2020.

Sacred Heart Parish Prayer

Loving God, we honour the heart of Jesus, your beloved Son. We remember how he opened his heart in love to all people. Open our own heart to receive the gifts that continue to flow so richly from the heart of Christ, who lives with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

The Real Presence of Jesus

We are very used to thinking that the Real Presence of Jesus is in the Blessed Sacrament.

Maybe we need to think more deeply about the real presence of Jesus also being in real, living human beings.

Bread and Wine have no eyes to gaze with love, no face with which to smile, no mouth to speak soothing words, no arms to hold the grieving and the sick, or to lend a hand, no ears to hear the pain. But we do.

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Visit www.jcr.org.au or
<https://podcasts.apple.com/au/podcast/journey-catholic-radio/id970818039>
where you can listen anytime

Please click on the following link for:

[A Word of Encouragement to the Catholic People of Australia from the Bishops of Australia](#)

Collections

1st Collection: \$923.10

2nd Collection: \$390.00

Project Compassion: \$160.00 (School)

Project Compassion: \$535.25 (Parish)

Thank you for your kind generosity!



St Vincent De Paul June Winter Appeal



Every day at Vinnies, we see that ordinary people are able to make an extraordinary difference in their local communities.

As we continue to face this winter in the shadow of coronavirus, your commitment to helping those experiencing disadvantage, poverty, loneliness, job loss and homelessness is still very much needed and appreciated.

If you are able to make a contribution to the Vinnies COVID-19 Winter Appeal, please do so by visiting vinnies.org.au or calling 13 18 12.

For those who do not have access to the website, next weekend, 4th and 5th July, we will have a special collection for the Winter Appeal.

Please help us to help others. Thank you.



Update: General Guidelines COVID-19 Implications for the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne

With a sudden rise in COVID cases throughout Victoria, the Premier has announced that there will be no changes to previous restrictions.

This means that the **numbers in places of worship will remain at 20 until 12th July 2020** (dependant on trending health concerns and advice). There are further limits to be put in place for gathering in homes and other spaces.

Catholics For Renewal

Will dioceses and the Plenary Council itself be guided by the Church's 'principle of subsidiarity', a principle endorsed by Vatican II and every recent Pope? Articles on subsidiarity, Media Release from Australian Catholic Coalition for Church Reform and other interesting topics you may find in the Catholics For Renewal Inc. newsletter:

<https://www.catholicsforrenewal.org/>

Resources for the 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Please share these online resources with your families.

The [family resource](#) is designed for families with young children.

'Like us' at:

<https://www.facebook.com/SacredHeartChurchPreston/>



Tell us what you would like to see on our Parish Page!



WE PRAY FOR:

The elderly and the sick
*Lopioni Amato, Maria Crocco,
Lilia Crupi & Nicola D'Orazio*

We Commemorate
Antonio Potenza & Keith John Tonnsend

Those who have died recently
Alan Castles & Chahid Kairouz

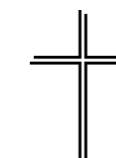
O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen.



An open letter from Sacred Heart student Isaac to parishioner Alan Castles



On Tuesday 21st June, there was a funeral held at our church across the road from our school. The man who passed away was Alan. He always went to Mass and never missed a day. How I met Alan was that in my second week going to church, there was Alan and someone else called Kevin talking. So Alan came up to me and we started to talk. He was a great person to look up to. He was like God. I felt very upset about him dying that I wanted to cry, but I kept strong. (Isaac)



Together in the Spirit Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday 5th July 2020

'Together in the Spirit' is the theme of this year's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday. The COVID-19 pandemic has forced National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council to rethink the ways in which they can empower Catholics to celebrate this year in a digital setting with online resources and a first ever live-streamed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday Mass from the St Francis Xavier Cathedral in Adelaide from 10am EST. The livestream will be available from the NATSICC homepage: <https://www.natsicc.org.au/>

Praying during the COVID-19 lockdown

I invite you to a meditation prayer with Father Richard Shortall SJ. It takes about 24 minutes. You will find it here: <https://email.jesuitcommunications.com/t/d-l-mijyutk-qituddttu-p/>