



Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

29th October, 2023

Administrator Fr Denis Stanley
101 Riddell Rd, Sunbury Vic 3429
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CHILD PROTECTION - is everyone's responsibility

Check the Parish Website for:

Child Safety & Code of Conduct Policy
Parish Privacy Act / Professional Standards

A parent must accompany any child leaving the church during Mass.

Parish Email gisborne@cam.org.au

Parish Website <http://pol.org.au/gisborne/Home.aspx>

Secretary Hours Tuesday & Thursday 9:00am – 5:00pm

CONTINUING PRAYER LIST:

Please pray for those who are in ill health:

*Eileen S, Corrine V, Megan B, Michael W, Glenys O,
Anthony S, Ryan F, Jessica C, Cheryl L, Stephania C,
Kylie I, George T, Bill P, Jacqueline D, Fran S, Terry R,
Helen K & Shane R.*

We pray for the recently deceased, especially *Sharon Black* and for those who have an anniversary at this time, especially *Doris Brassell and Saverio Spano*.

May they rest in peace ☩

Please email Tam if you would like an Anniversary included in the prayers.

NOVEMBER MASSES

Memorial Books will be located next to the bulletins in each of our churches for the month of November. If you would like your loved ones prayed for, please feel free to write their name in the Memorial Book.

Parishioners are invited to leave framed photographs of departed loved ones at the base of each altar during the month of November.

St. VINCENT de PAUL Christmas Cards

Packets of 5 cards for \$5 will be available in each church from weekend of 4th & 5th of November.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING WORLD MISSION SUNDAY – 22 October, 2023

Total Parish contribution - \$412.85

Thank you very much for your donations to World Mission Sunday last week. Your prayers and support of World Mission Sunday will help missionaries work alongside communities throughout the world that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief.

Please pray for the work of Catholic Missions and all those working to offer the love of Jesus, that we may remain strong in our witness to Christ's love for all peoples.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Did you notice that Our Lord does not command us to love 'God'? No, we are to love 'the Lord your God', the One who rescued the Jewish people from slavery. The resurrection of Jesus Christ reveals the Lord God as the liberator from the apparent final dominance of death. Loving such a liberator is the natural response. So, 'Love the Lord your God'.

Then Our Lord does not command us to love our neighbour! Rather, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' But who is 'yourself'? In the wonderful story telling of Genesis, we are told that Adam, an earthen statue, had Divine Breath breathed into the nostrils, creating him as a human being.

We earthlings are conceived with the Divine Breath at the core of our being. The challenge for you and for me is to see 'yourself' in that way, and thereafter every human being whose lives we can affect: the neighbour. And in today's global world, the neighbour can be a person in a society geographically or culturally distant.

We could pause for a moment to see the true dimensions of God, self and the other, to more easily fulfil the dual command.

mtate@bigpond.com

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

28/10/23 Saturday 6pm Mass

29/10/23 Sunday Masses

30/10/23 Alpha – 7pm

31/10/23 WEEKDAY MASS – TUESDAY'S 5pm

Fr. Denis will celebrate Mass on Tuesday afternoons.

ALL WELCOME

01/11/23 All Saints' Day Mass - 9:30am

01/11/23 Baptism Information Evening

02/11/23 All Souls' Day Mass – 5:00pm

04/11/23 Saturday 6pm Mass

05/11/23 Sunday Masses



Rosters & Events



Ministers for next weekend's Masses

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

4th & 5th November, 2023

6:00pm Mass **St. Brigid's**
Reader: L. Scott
Offertory: to be chosen on the day.
Eucharist: M. McCormack

8:00am Mass **St. Ambrose's**
Welcomer: J. White
Reader: M. Hall
Offertory: to be chosen on the day.
Eucharist: -----

Counters:
Not currently needed.

Flowers:
T. Armstrong

9:30am Mass **St. Patrick's**
Reader: M. Redman
Offertory: to be chosen on the day.
Eucharist: K. Petherbridge

11:00am Mass **St. Brigid's**
Reader: B. Meyers
Offertory: to be chosen on the day.
Eucharist: V. Firman



THANKSGIVING BY DIRECT DEBIT

If you would like to contribute to the Thanksgiving Program, you may do so by direct debit to the acct below:

St. Brigid's Church Account
NAB

BSB: 083 347

Acct: 6742 95773

Please use your surname and TG number as the reference.

PRIEST & PRESBYTERY BY DIRECT DEBIT

If you would like to contribute to the Priest & Presbytery expenses, you may do so by direct debit to the acct below:

St. Brigid's Presbytery Account
NAB

BSB: 083 347

Acct: 6672 72303

Please use your surname as the reference.

WEEKDAY SERVICES & RECONCILIATION

Weekday Mass

Tues 5:00pm – 5:30pm

St. Brigid's with Fr. Denis

Reconciliation

By appointment only

Please phone Sunbury Parish

Office 9744 1060 to book a time.

SCRIPTURE STUDIES

Thursday 10am – Presbytery

Enquiries: Bernie 0414 890 377

COMBINED PARISHES RAFFLE

The combined parishes raffle was very well supported by parishioners at St. Brigid's, St. Patrick's and St. Ambrose with all tickets now being sold.

Thank you to parishioners who have returned their raffle ticket stubbs and ticket money. Could those who have yet to do so please return them this weekend.

SPECIAL OFFER

5.55% p.a.

12-month Term Investment account

Open an account with CDF Community Fund, and save while doing good. Help build classrooms for students, churches for communities, hospital wings for the sick, aged care homes for the elderly and social service facilities for the poor and vulnerable.

To open an account call 1800 134 135 or scan the QR code.

*Rate subject to change. Interest paid at maturity. See catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au for disclosure information.



Night of the Witnesses – 22 Nov 2023, 7pm St. Patrick's Cathedral

Aid to the Church in Need invites you to an evening of prayer, testimony, song, adoration and reflection.

Archbishop Peter Comensoli will preside.

For more information please visit: www.aidtochurch.org/notw

OPEN HOUSE – meet after 11am Sunday Mass at the Kaffeine Bar - 30 Aitken Street for a coffee and chat.

Everyone Welcome!

KARATE CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

Thursday evenings 6pm - 1st TWO lessons free then \$7 per class

No term commitment required; pay as you come.

Enquiries: Kathryn Aprile—0404 340 892

Weekly Social Cards Night

St. Brigid's Hall – Tuesday 7:30pm start - Entry \$10 per player

Light supper served on completion of play

EVERYONE WELCOME

St Brigid's Parish Weekly Thanksgiving Sunday – 22nd October, 2023

Total Amount received	\$	827	(envelopes)
Total Amount received	\$	224	(credit cards)
Total Amount received	\$	170	(direct debit)
Presbytery Collection	\$	490	(cash, c/c & d/d combined)

Thank you for your ongoing support through the Thanksgiving Program.

May the Lord bless you all

Introduction: The greatest commandment was another question used to trick Jesus by the Jewish leaders. The love of God and love of neighbour are the parallel tracks of the Christian way. Jesus illustrates that, when the question is put to him.

1st Reading: Exodus 22: 20-26

We hear from Exodus the context of laws and customs especially in treating others in need and being fair in all ways. This is portrayed as background to what Jesus says in the Gospel.

2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

We hear the continuation from last week when Paul again praises the Church of Thessalonica for their strength of faith, and their example to other churches.

Gospel: Matthew 22:34-40

We hear another controversy used to express the growing opposition to Jesus. The lawyer's question is loaded to trap Jesus, but again he beats them at their own game, and his riposte is devastating.

Prayer of Intercession: Brothers and sisters, the Lord is our fortress and our strength, with confidence, therefore, let us bring our needs before the God who saves us.

1. For the Church: that Christian communities may live the love of God and neighbour that we proclaim to others.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

2. For leaders of nations: that they will make wise and humane provisions for those seeking refuge from poverty or oppression.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

3. For all who live in the fear of war: may those who grieve be comforted, the injured consoled and healed, the Lord be close to those in fear and restrain those who turn to violence. May we seek the Lord's wisdom when we speak of justice, peace and security for all.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

4. For all the relationships in our lives – those we love and those we find hard to love: that we treat each other with gentleness, civility and loving concern.

(pause) We pray to the Lord

Lord hear our prayer.

5. For those undertaking final examinations: may they know the peace of God, the support of family and teachers, and approach with confidence this harvest time of their studies.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

6. For all who ask our prayers in a time of sickness and pain - especially those on our parish prayer list and for all who care for them: may they hold fast to the Lord who is their strength. For all those who have died recently, especially *Sharon Black* and for those whose anniversary occurs at this time, especially *Doris Brassell and Saverio Spano*, may they know the glory of the resurrection and those who mourn be comforted.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

7. For the gifts of wisdom and courage for our parish: that the Holy Spirit will continue to pour into our hearts the precious gifts of wisdom and courage that will help us to empower our service for our community's life and witness..

Let us commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray, to the mercy and protection of God.

(Pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Compassionate God, you are a refuge for the poor and helpless. Hear our prayers and place in our hearts the desire to live your commandment of love. We make these prayers through Christ our lord. Amen.

Next weeks readings: Malachi 1:14-2:2, 8-10; 1 Thessalonians 2:7-9, 13; Matthew 23:1-12

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory.

Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ,

Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

You take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us;

You take away the sins of the world; receive our prayer;

You are seated at the right hand of the Father; have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

In the glory of God the Father. Amen

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, *(all bow)*

born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died and was buried; "he descended into hell;

on the third day he rose again from the dead;

he ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;

from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen

First Reading**Exodus 22:20-26****A reading from the book of Exodus.**

If you are harsh with the widow or the orphan, my anger will rage against you.

The Lord said to Moses, ‘Tell the sons of Israel this, “You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

“If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

“If you take another’s cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity.”

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm**Psalm 17:2-4. 47. 51. R. v.2**

(R.) *I love you, Lord, my strength.*

1. I love you, Lord, my strength,
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.
My God is the rock where I take refuge;
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.
The Lord is worthy of all praise:
when I call I am saved from my foes. (R.)
2. Long life to the Lord, my rock!
Praised be the God who saves me.
He has given great victories to his king
and shown his love for his anointed. (R.)

Second Reading**1 Thessalonians 1:5-10****A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians.**

You turned away from idols to serve God and await his Son.

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation**John 14:23**

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

Gospel**Matthew 22:34-40****A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.**

You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, ‘Master, which is the greatest commandment of the law?’ Jesus said, ‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

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