



ST THOMAS MORE PARISH, HADFIELD

Love one another
as I have loved you
John 13:34

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20th Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr A - 15th & 16th August 2020

REFLECTION

All three readings today speak of the expansive and universal nature of the “Kingdom of God.” Although God set the Hebrew people apart as His chosen race, He included all nations in His plan for salvation and blessed all the families of the earth in Abraham (Gn 12:1-3).

By declaring through the prophet Isaiah (the first reading), “*My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples,*” God reveals the truth that in His eyes there is no distinction among human beings on the basis of race, caste, or colour.

In the Gospel story, Jesus demonstrates that salvation was meant for the Gentiles as well as for the Jews by healing the daughter of a Gentile woman as a reward for her strong Faith. Thus, Jesus shows that God’s mercy and love are available to all who call out to Him in Faith.

We need to persist in prayer with trustful confidence....

Although the essential parts of prayer are adoration and thanksgiving, the prayer of petition plays a big part in our daily lives. Christ himself has told us to ask him for these needs: “*Ask and you shall receive.*” Asking with fervor and perseverance proves that we have the “great Faith” we need to receive what Christ wants to grant us in response to our requests. We must realize and remember that we do not always get exactly what we ask for. Rather, God gives us what He knows we really need, what He wants for us, and what is really best for us.

Hence, let us trust that every time we pray for something, the answer is **already on its way**, even before we have asked God for it. We just need to trust God’s timetable and infinite wisdom that He will answer us according to His will and purpose. (Fr Tony—cbci homilies)

Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary - 15 August

The Feast of the Assumption is one of the most important feasts of our Lady. Catholics believe in the Assumption of the Virgin Mary into Heaven. We believe that when her earthly life was finished, Mary was taken up, body and soul, into Heavenly glory, where the Lord exalted her as Queen of Heaven. (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, # 966).



Why do Catholics venerate Mary?

Mary herself gives the reason in her “Magnificat” recorded in Luke (1: 48-49): 48:

“*For he has looked upon his handmaid’s lowliness; behold, from now on will all ages call me blessed. 49: The Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.*”

1. God has honoured Mary in four ways, and we honour her because God honoured her.
2. He chose her as His Son Jesus Christ the Messiah’s mother.
3. In preparation for this role, God made her “Full of grace.”
4. He anointed her twice with His Holy Spirit: at Annunciation and at Pentecost, making her the most Spirit-filled woman.
5. God allowed her to actively participate in Christ’s suffering and death.
6. Mary is our heavenly mother, given to us by Jesus from the cross.
7. Mary is our role model of all virtues: humility, obedience, surrender to the will of God.

STAY SAFE
STAY HOME
SAVE LIVES

OUR CHURCH IS CLOSED until further notice

see advice on: www.cam.org.au

DO NOT FACE THE DAY,
UNTIL YOU HAVE
FACED GOD IN PRAYER

Please visit our website at pol.org.au/hadfield for regular updates

PARISH OFFICE—due to Stage 4 Restrictions, the Parish Office will be unattended.

During this period of increased restrictions and for any urgent matters please contact Viviana on 0402 249 117, otherwise you may either phone or email the Parish Office.

Please leave a message on the Parish Office answering machine on 9357 1422

or email us on admin@stmhadfield.org.au. We will attend to your call/email asap.

Thank you to everyone for continuing to support your Parish through thanksgiving and your donations.

“Joke” of the Week - FAITH IN THEORY AND ACTION

A man who was walking close to a steep cliff lost his footing and plunged over the side. As he was falling, he grabbed the branch of a tree that was sticking out about half-way down the cliff. He managed to hang onto a weak limb with both hands. He looked up and he saw that the cliff was almost perfectly straight and that he was a long way from the top. He looked down and it was a long, long way down to the rocky bottom.

At this point the man decided that it was time to pray. He didn't pray a long, wordy prayer. He simply yelled out, "God, if you're there, help me!" About that time, he heard a deep voice coming from high up above that said, "I'm here My son, have no fear." The man was a little startled at first by God's voice, but he pleaded, "Can You help me? Can You help me?" God replied, "Yes, I can My son, but you have to have Faith. Do you trust Me?" The man answered, "Yes Lord, I trust You." God said, "Do you really trust Me?" The man, straining to hold on replied, "Yes Lord, I really trust You."

Then God said, "This is what I want you to do: let go of the limb, trust Me, and everything will be all right." The man looked down at the rocks below, then he looked up at the steep cliff above him and yelled, "Is there anybody else up there who can help me?" *(From Fr Raj's Collection....)*

*Don't mistake God's patience for His absence.
His timing is perfect, and His presence is constant.
He is always with you !*

(Deuteronomy 31:6)



75th Anniversary

End of the Second World War

Australia Remembers 2020

On 15 August 1945, Prime Minister Ben Chifley announced the end of World War II after Japan's acceptance of the Allied demand for unconditional surrender, made on 14 August 1945. For Australians, it meant that the Second World War was finally over. That milestone date would become Victory in the Pacific (VP) Day and, 75 years on, remains one of the most pivotal moments in history.

It was a day of jubilation, with crowds spilling on to city streets to dance and celebrate. But it was also tinged with sadness, as people remembered the sacrifice made by service men and women during the six-year war.

On VP Day, let us pray and remember and give thanks for the selfless and courageous service and sacrifice of so many men and women who fought in WWII. Let us also pray for nations still devastated by war, for their people and their leaders, and for those who suffer the effects or memories of past wars; for veterans, for those who mourn, and for all innocent victims whose lives have been shattered by the cruelty of others.

FEASTS DURING THE WEEK

Wed 19 Aug St John Eudes
Thurs 20 Aug St Bernard
Fri 21 Aug St Pius X
Sat 22 Aug The Queenship of the BVM



PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER.....

THOSE WHO ARE SICK: Pamela di Giorgio, Josie Abela, Carl & Michael Ceddia, Goretty Soares, Joe Asdagi, Maureen Canino, Frank & Maria Pisano

RECENT DEATHS: Carol Craig, Doug Henry, Lela Rehm

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES: Paul Micallef, Joseph Abdilla, Des Georgelin, Vincent de Bono, Daniella Speranza