



ST THOMAS MORE PARISH, HADFIELD



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

FR ADAIKKALA RAJ LOURDUSAMY HGN

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*St Thomas More's is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity
of all children and vulnerable adults*

Keeping
children safe
is everyone's
responsibility



25th Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr A - 19th & 20th September 2020

SOCIAL SERVICES SUNDAY, 20TH SEPTEMBER – A TIME TO REFLECT AND GIVE THANKS

On 20th September 2020, we mark [Social Services Sunday](#) within the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne. On this day we are invited to give thanks and pray for all who stand with and provide support to those who are marginalised and vulnerable within our communities. We recognise with deep gratitude, those working within Catholic Social Services Victoria's 45 [member organisations](#), the 7,000 staff and 17,000 volunteers, who together, serve more than 200,000 people in need each year. We also give thanks for all in our parishes, who are so often at the forefront of providing practical support and care to those in need within their local communities, and beyond. We call to mind the 2020/21 Social Justice Statement brought out recently by the Australian Catholic bishops, [To Live Life to the Full: Mental Health in Australia Today](#), and so draw your attention to a recent event hosted by CSSV, [Counselling and Therapeutic Support in a Time of COVID](#), which provided an opportunity to become more familiar with mental health services, and how to practically reach out for or point to assistance. Parishioners will find the resources in this article helpful.

PRAYER FOR COURAGE AND COMPASSION

Compassionate God,
Your unconditional love for all
inspires our hearts and empowers our actions
for those who are most vulnerable.
May we boldly and humbly serve one another
and be steadfast in our work for justice for all people.
Keep our hearts open to the joys and the hopes of our world,
and our ears ready to hear your call
to truth, justice and reconciliation.
Let us continue to draw inspiration and strength
from those, like St Mary MacKillop,
on whose shoulders we stand.
We gather in Jesus' name
to be nourished and to move forward together
in hope and joy.
Amen.

*This prayer was the 2020 National Catholic Social Services Conference prayer held in February 2020 in Melbourne.
The Conference was convened by Catholic Social Services Victoria and Catholic Social Services Australia.*

Reflection 52: Daily Prayer (from Daily Reflections on Divine Mercy (365 days with St Faustina))

What is it that makes your soul beautiful? **Prayer.** What is it that keeps you from sin? **Prayer.** What is it that fills you with hope? **Prayer.** What is it that leads you on the road to holiness? **Prayer.** *Prayer is the key to all things.* Without prayer, each and every day, you are directionless in life and are left to your own wisdom and ability, which is a frightening state to find yourself in. (See Diary #146).

Lord, I know my prayer life is weak. I know I need to give more attention to my daily conversation with You. Help me to form a strong habit of prayer, each and every day, so that this life of prayer will become the guiding light of my life. Jesus, I trust in You.

OUR CHURCH REMAINS CLOSED until further notice see advice on: www.cam.org.au or

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

**Please see Letter to the People and Clergy of the Archdiocese of Melbourne
by Archbishop Peter A Comensoli**

PARISH OFFICE—due to continued Stage 4 Restrictions, the Parish Office remains unattended.

During this period of increased restrictions and for urgent matters only please contact 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.



FEAST DAY OF PADRE PIO, 'A MAN OF PRAYER AND SUFFERING' ON 23 SEPTEMBER

On 23 September, the Catholic Church remembers the Italian Franciscan priest St. Pio of Pietrelcina, better known as "Padre Pio". He was born Francesco Forgione and at the age of 15, he joined the Capuchins and took the name of Pio. He was ordained in 1910 and was drafted during World War I. After he was discovered to have tuberculosis, he was discharged. In 1917, he was assigned to the friary in San Giovanni Rotondo, 75 miles from the city of Bari on the Adriatic.

On September 20, 1918, as he was making his thanksgiving after Mass, Padre Pio had a vision of Jesus. When the vision ended, he had the stigmata in his hands, feet, and side.

Padre Pio was known for patient suffering, fervent prayer and compassionate spiritual guidance. Padre Pio saw Jesus in all the sick and suffering. At his urging, a fine hospital was built on nearby Mount Gargano. The idea arose in 1940; a committee began to collect money. Ground was broken in 1946. Building the hospital was a technical wonder because of the difficulty of getting water there and of hauling up the building supplies. This "House for the Alleviation of Suffering" has 350 beds.

Padre Pio died in 1968, and was declared a saint in 2002. Three years after his death, Pope Paul VI marvelled at his simple and holy life in an address to the Capuchin order. "A worldwide following gathered around him ... because he said Mass humbly, heard confessions from dawn to dusk and was – it is not easy to say it – one who bore the wounds of our Lord," Pope Paul explained. "He was a man of prayer and suffering." Among other patronages, St. Pio is the patron of adolescents and stress relief. (Excerpts CNA/EWTN News)

REFLECTION...*God's values are different*

Ordinary human standards, often based on survival, lead to ways which are quite different from the ways of God. All his justice is shot through with generosity which the world often misunderstands. We have been called to live in him and he in us; that closeness of wills helps us to see things God's way, and reach out in love to others, as He does.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT...

A frog decided to reach the top of a tree. All the other frogs shouted, "It's impossible, it's impossible..." Still the frog reached the top... How? Because...He was DEAF... and he thought ...everyone was encouraging him to reach the top...



"BE DEAF TO NEGATIVE THOUGHTS...IF YOUR AIM IS TO REACH YOUR GOAL"
(Fr Raj's collection)

FEASTS DURING THE WEEK

Mon 21 Sept	St Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist
Wed 23 Sept	St Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)
Sat 19 Sept	Sts Cosmas & Damian

Pray, hope, and don't worry. Worry is useless. God is merciful and will hear your **prayer**. Have courage and do not fear the assaults of the Devil. **St Pio**

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER.....



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

RECENT DEATHS: Graditta Gargano, Rita Cremona

ANNIVERSARIES: Angelo Caruana, Lucenz, Paul & Andy Scicluna, Walter Chamberlain, Elwin McMahon, Cuschieri & Gauci Families, Amabile & Manuel Cuschieri, Jerry Sammut