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*St. Theresa’s Parish Community Newsletter*

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 St. Theresa’s Primary School - 93119070

 16 Drummartin St., Albion 3020

 Principal: Rob Macklin



Mother of God Primary School - 93631734

 Blanche St., Ardeer 3022

 Principal: Assunta Iacovino

*“Do Small Things Well”*

 26th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME YEAR C 24 & 25 September 2022

FR. BARRY’S 50TH ANNIVERSARY Sunday 9th October

To celebrate Fr. Barry’s Golden Jubilee, we will gather for Mass, 10.30am at St Theresa’s Church, and then in the multipurpose room at St Theresa’s School. If you could bring a plate to share and please advise if sweet or savoury when contacting Ann Maree to confirm your attendance. annmaree.sanford@stellamaris.org.au or SMS 0401 192 079 by Monday 26th September.

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| MASSES THIS WEEK ST THERESA’SDrummartin St, Albion 9.00am Friday10.30am SundayMOTHER OF GODBlanche St, Ardeer10.00am Wednesday (Pol) 9.00am Thursday 6.00pm Friday (Polish)  5.30pm Saturday 10.15am Sunday (Polish)QUEEN OF HEAVENHolt St, Ardeer NO 9.00am Wednesday 9.00am Sunday CHRIST’S CATHOLIC COMMUNITYPrayer Group meets every Thursday, 7.00 - 8.30pm, at Queen of Heaven Church. All are welcome |  | CUPPA AFTER MASS 1 & 2 OctoberJoin us next weekend after each Mass for a cuppa and a chat. Why not take this opportunity to enjoy the company of your fellow parishioners, and get to know one another better? Please bring a plate to share.COLLECTIONS RECEIVEDThanksgiving $1188.50 Presbytery $435COUNTERS 2 October  Team 4: J. Camilleri, M Buhagiar, J ZammitFEAST DAYS THIS WEEKSt Vincent de Paul, 27 SeptemberSTS Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels, 29 OctoberSt Jerome, 30 SeptemberSt Therese of the Child Jesus, 1 OctoberREADINGS *Today Next Week**Amos 6.1a,4-7 Habakkuk 1.2-3;2.2-4**Ps 146.6c-7, 8-9a, 9b-10 (R1) Ps 95.1-2, 6-7ab, 7c-9 (R.7c+8a)**1 Timothy6.11-16 2 Timothy 1.6-8, 13-14**Luke 16.19-31 Luke 17.5-10* |

WELL BEE-ING DAY 30th September St Joseph’s by the Sea 16 Esplanade, Williamstown

Fun-d-raising activity day planned at SJBTS. It will be a “ drop in” anytime between 10.30 am and 3.30 pm. Bookings for Reflexology or Seated Massage ($15) is essential.  Ring Lyn (see poster) to make a booking. Cuppa at the “café” will be $5. Phone 03 9397 6012 or 03 9397 9344 All Welcome!

'Walking with Wisdom Series' (in person or via Zoom), 4 x Thursdays, 6-27 October 2022, 10am-12.30pm. Time to explore the depths of wisdom in our own heart, to recognise wisdom in the encounter with another . Heart of Life Centre, Rear 41 Stanhope St, Malvern VIC. Cost $30 per session or $100 for the series.  Book and email office@heartoflife.melbourne, or tel (03) 9890 1101.

*St Theresa’s Parish is committed to the safety of children, young people and vulnerable adults*

NEW TESTAMENT COMMENTARY by Mary Coloe PBVM

They won’t listen!

1 Timothy 6:11-16; Luke 16:19-31

Parents will certainly understand the point of the parable in today’s Gospel. You can almost hear the exasperation in Jesus’ voice, ‘You’ve been told over and over again…’ But still people refuse to listen. In the parable, the rich man insists that if only the message was dramatic enough, if only Lazarus could return then surely his brothers would listen. ‘No,’ says Jesus, ‘they won’t listen, even if someone were to rise from the dead.’

And someone has risen from the dead, and has the listening improved? Is kindness a value for us? Generosity? Are we willing to share with others? Or like the rich man, do we block our ears and close our eyes to the needy at our gates, to the refugees on our doorsteps. As I write this reflection, men, women and children are locked up in ‘Detention’ centres, their crime being a desire to live, and see their families live, with some hope. They want a chance for their children to be educated, a chance to live without fear of arrest and torture, a chance to live alongside us and be given a fair go. Apart from these asylum seekers, there are other examples you can think of where Lazarus lies starving on our doorsteps. What more will it take for us to listen, really listen to the words of Jesus?

If you look carefully at the parable and the description of the rich man, it does not describe him as a thief, or a swindler; it is not as if he is the one who caused Lazarus to become poor; in this sense he has done nothing wrong. But this is the point. He has done nothing! Lazarus has been at his gate and he has not reached out to him; he has not seen that he has any responsibility for him – it’s not his fault – it’s just the way it is. But Jesus holds him accountable for doing nothing.

The letter to Timothy speaks of the person dedicated to God, calling this person to be holy and religious. My question is, how can anyone know she/he is holy or religious? What are the signs to look for? Within Christianity, holiness is not measured in the number of prayers, or our life-choices, but is measured in how we act. Remember when the young man came to Jesus asking about the greatest commandment? Jesus’ response was to tell a story about a Priest, a Levite and a Samaritan, with the last one being upheld as the one who truly kept the commandment because he acted to care for the stranger. It was not his fault that the Jewish man was battered and robbed and lying by the side of the road. No one would have been surprised if he, like the Priest and Levite, had just walked past. But the Samaritan saw a fellow human in need; not one of his own race, but one with him in his neediness. So he acted. Perhaps he thought that it could have been himself by the side of the road – we don’t really know his motives, but he did act. Which is what the rich man in the parable did not do.

May our ears and hearts be opened to feel the discomfort of the Gospel; may the Risen One in our midst goad us to act in his name for those like Lazarus in our midst.