 **Immaculate Heart of Mary Church**

441 Bluff Road, East Hampton. VIC 3188 Australia

Parish Priest: Fr. Vittorio Ricciardi

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**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION AND EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENTON ON FRIDAYS**

in the future, Fr Vittorio will be available for the individual confessions also by appointment, but every Saturday, at 10.30am, will be dedicated to the confessions. There will be **no Mass** **anymore** **on Saturday morning, except for important solemnities.**

Furthermore, from next Friday, 15 January 2021, the exposition of the blessed sacrament after the 9.00 am Mass will be re-established as normal.

**GOVERNMENT COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS AFFECTING OUR MASSES**

The restrictions relating to Church gatherings as they currently affect us are:

1. The numbers who can attend Mass in our Church are now 100. This is based on the Government’s formula of one person for every four-square metres of floor space.
2. Masks are **not** required to be worn in Church (**but** social distancing **must be** observed).
3. Social distancing (1.5 m separation) must be observed during movement into and seating in the Church and our pews have been marked accordingly to assist.
4. Attendance/contact rolls must be maintained as is presently the case.
5. We have, as many parishioners now attending Mass know, continued to have a "Duty Officer" in the Narthex to take bookings and record attendees details as required. This has been done to avoid bottlenecks on entry to the Church.
6. Our attendances are increasing in numbers which will mean it is important that Parishioners register for Mass at the entrance of the Narthex to guarantee that they have a seat at the Mass of their choice. Just turning up means you could be turned away if the nominated Church capacity of 100 has been reached.

Collection bowls are located in the main aisle for the Thanksgiving collection and the Presbytery collection. Thank you to all who have helped financially over this difficult year.

**MASS TIMES**

We have now resumed all our weekday Masses (Monday to Friday at 9am, excluding Saturday morning) together with Masses on Saturday at 6pm and Sunday at 9am and 10:30am. **At the entrance of the Narthex somebody will write your name, in order to keep the tracking record.** In this Christmastide Masses will be as follows:

**Saturday 30 January 6:00pm Mass 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Sunday 30 January 9:00am Mass 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Sunday 31 January 10:30am Mass 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Monday 1 February 9:00am Mass 4th Week in Ordinary Time**

**Tuesday 2 February 9:00am Mass 4th Week in Ordinary Time**

**Wednesday 3 February 9:00am Mass 4th Week in Ordinary Time**

**Thursday 4 February 9.00am Mass 4th Week in Ordinary Time**

**Friday 5 February 9:00am Mass 4th Week in Ordinary Time**

 **and exposition of the blessed sacrament**

**Saturday 6 February 6:00pm Mass** **5th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Sunday 6 February 9:00am Mass 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Sunday 7 February 10:30am Mass 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

All Sunday Masses will still continue to be broadcast on Zoom (login via the Parish website on [www.cam.org.au/hamptoneast](http://www.cam.org.au/hamptoneast)), until further notice. Weekday Masses will continue as normal **without Zoom.**

Follow the link on our Parish website for the liturgy and songs, including a copy of this bulletin.

All information about our Parish is on our website [www.cam.org.au/hamptoneast](http://www.cam.org.au/hamptoneast).

**CONTACT TRACING**

In order to help reduce the clerical workload on the Parish the Archdiocese has helped in facilitating the introduction of a system for people who have so called “smart phones”. The system has been referred to as a “QR code for contact tracing” system. The “new system” would allow Parishioners with “smart phones to scan a code on entering the Church allowing this parishioner to enter their details (Christian Name, Surname, email address and Phone Number). While this system could perhaps reduce some of the clerical workload of the Parish, the current manual system would still have to be run in parallel for those without smart phones and bookings would still be recorded manually. The Parish will investigate this system after Christmas.

**MASS FOR TOMBOLO ACADEMY**

As Parishioners would be aware last year, we leased our vacant school to Tombolo Academy which is operated by KidsLikeUs (KLU) who work with “twice exceptional youth” (including gifted children with learning differences/disabilities) enabling them to achieve their potential in school and life.

On Monday 1 February the school opens for the 2021 school year and I am offering Mass at 9:00 (our regular Monday Mass) for the students, families and staff of Tombolo Academy to mark the commencement of the new school year. It is great to see our school buildings operating as a school once more. All are welcome to join us at this Mass.

Fr Vittorio

**REFLECTION ON 4th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Mark 1:21-28**

Today’s Gospel continues our reading from Mark and describes what some believe was likely to have been a typical day in Jesus’ ministry. Jesus and the disciples that chose to follow him in last week’s Gospel arrive at Capernaum, a small village on the Sea of Galilee. Jesus teaches in the synagogue on the Sabbath. Mark reports that the people respond to Jesus’ teaching with astonishment, noting Jesus’ authority and contrasting it with the scribes’. Early in Mark’s Gospel we already find evidence of the tension that will manifest itself fully in Jerusalem.

After Jesus’ preaching, an even more astonishing thing happens. A man possessed with an unclean spirit calls out to Jesus. As we see in this example and throughout Mark’s Gospel, the spirits and demons seem to know Jesus and are often fearful of him. In fact, they seem to understand Jesus’ identity better than his disciples. As we will read again and again in Mark’s Gospel, Jesus orders the spirit to be quiet and drives the unclean spirit out of the man. Jesus’ ability to heal those possessed by demons is an indication of his power over evil.

In the prescientific age of Jesus’ time, all illnesses were understood to be manifestations of evil and sinfulness. Our modern understanding of illness is very different. Possession by unclean spirits may have been a way to describe what we might call mental illness today. It may have even been a way of describing certain kinds of physical conditions. But Jesus heals with unique authority and connects his healing activities with the words of his preaching.

We are missing the point that Mark is trying to make in this Gospel, however, if we try to explain away the healing work of Jesus. The crowds see in Jesus’ cure of the possessed man further affirmation of his authority. Jesus’ power to heal gives greater credence to his teaching. Jesus impresses the crowds through his words, which are manifested with power in his deeds. Mark’s Gospel tells us that because of the authority with which he healed, Jesus’ fame spread throughout all of Galilee.

**Mon: 1st Feb, St. Brigid of Ireland**

**Tue: 2nd Feb, PRESENTATION OF THE BABY JESUS**

**Wed: 3rd Feb, St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr**

**Thu: 4th Feb, St. Joan of Valois**

**Fri: 5th Feb, St. Agatha, Martyr**

**Sat: 6th Feb, St. Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs**

**Thanksgiving Collection Weekend: 17/01/2021 – $232.00**

**Loose Money: 17/01/2021 – $130.70**

**Once again thank you for your generosity. My dear Parishioner**

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK**

Christian James; Filippo and Sara, Joe Harb, Sophia, Daniel Rivalland, Georgette Kheir, Christine Banerjee, Ettore Poletta, Francesco Paolo Ricciardi, Gemma Foster, Victoria Foster; Millie D’Alton, Claire Posten, James Morrison, Catalina Morrison,; Rosa Maria Santos,Ben, Mary Muscat, Patrick Lakagreagrow, Brian Tierney, , Carmel Kanci, Jo Arena, Pam Montgomery, Helen Mille; Jason Denis; Mary Westhead; Rosa Nistico, Margaret Denis; Arthur Astarlis, , Lourenca Fernandes, Prithie Pereira, Madison Kelly, Pat Flarve.

**SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED**

**John McLean;** Mickey Mascarenhas**;** Vincent & Tina Giglio; Louisette Harris; Connie Kilpatrick, Nelson Trapani; Jim Walsh; Miriam Proctor; Elva Ebdon, Vince Giglio, John Rivalland,Douglas Gonsalves, Charlotte Godfrey, Linda D’Souza; Felix Lobo, Margaret Herbstreit; Trevor Anthony Fernandez,Pauline Burke, Sandra Highland, Rudolph D’Souza, Michelle Fowler, Sam Molino, Margherita M. La Macchia, Joan Elliot, Archimede Camba, Denzel D’Souza, Melissa D’Souza John Noal, Lorraine Thompson, Peg Smith, Gladys DeRosario, Molly Wintle, Florencio David Sr, Kathy Taranto, Maureen Collins, John Palamara, May Ray, Milan Lozo, Albert & Hillary D’Souza; Shannon Baker; Margaret Dowsey, Janine Capiron; George Tickner; Jack Foley; Marie Rivalland; Sheila McKenna; Peter Dunne; Tony Molloy; Dulcie Jopling; Gerard Bourke, Alfred Foster, Joan Mealing; Judith Buckley; Genevieve Rodrigues Jean Allday; Gloria James; Earnie Breznik; Margaret Daveron; Patrick & Maurice Kelly; Edward Majda; Elizabeth Mary McKay; John H. Moloney; +Fr. Frank Maher; +Fr. Victor Crennan.