



**St Peter Julian Eymard  
Catholic Church  
Mooroolbark Parish**



*We are a Welcoming Eucharistic  
and Spirit Filled Parish Community.*

**SPJE PARISH IS A CHILD SAFE ENVIRONMENT**

*We acknowledge the Wurundjeri People, the traditional custodians of this land*

**Parish Priest  
Fr. Joseph Xin Lu**

**Parish Secretary**      **Parish Assistant**  
Mrs. Adriana De Leo      Mr. Brian Twining

**Parish Office**  
234 Hull Road (PO Box 2) Mooroolbark 3138  
**Telephone: 9723 4275**

**Parish Mobile: 0493 071 811 - For emergency  
and church registrations**

<http://pol.org.au/mooroolbark/Home.aspx>  
Email: [mooroolbark@cam.org.au](mailto:mooroolbark@cam.org.au)

**Parish Hall - Contact Parish Office**

**SPJE Parish School**  
Reay Road, Mooroolbark 3138  
Telephone 9725 0595      Fax 9723 9255  
**School Principal – Mr. Greg Thomas**  
<http://www.spjemooroolbark.catholic.edu.au>

**SPJE - Outside School Hours Care**  
Telephone: 8215 9206

**St. Richard's Parish School**  
672 Mt. Dandenong Rd Kilsyth, 3137  
Telephone 9728 4378      Fax 9728 6272  
**School Principal - Mr. Marcus Gill**  
<http://www.srkilsyth.catholic.edu.au>

**Normal Mass Times at SPJE**

Weekday Masses  
Tues: 9.30 am  
Saturday: No morning Mass  
**Saturday: 6.00 pm (Vigil)**  
**Sunday: 9.00 am**  
**Sunday: 11.00 am**

**Reconciliation:** Saturday 5.15 pm  
**or by arrangement with Priest.**  
**Sacraments (Baptism, Weddings)**  
Ring Parish Office 9723 4275

**20th Sunday of Ordinary Time  
14th August 2022      Issue No. 29**

**A CLEAR GOAL**

John Powell, S.J. tells us that after Florence Chadwick had failed, by a short margin, to swim the English Channel, she said, "If it were not for the fog, I could have seen the shore and if I could have seen the shore I'm sure that I could have finished the crossing."

Seeing the finish line is a great help in reaching the finish line.

They say that cats and dogs will never drown provided they can see the shore.

What is true in the natural order of things is also true in the life of the spirit. If Jesus is real to us, if he is not just a character in a history book or a figure on top of a pedestal, then our chances of reaching him in glory are greatly multiplied.

In today's Second Reading the author of Hebrews (12:1-4) says to us, "let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus."

Perhaps the author was anticipating the findings of experimental psychology which tells us that "If the goal is clear, the chances of reaching that goal are greatly increased."

*101 Additional  
Sunday Reflections for Lay People  
John Chambers S.J.*

**AUGUST 2022**  
**PARISH CALENDAR**

**AUGUST**

- 13/14th**      **20th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
Catholic Care Collection  
- All Masses  
Baptism - 6pm  
Baptism - 9am, 11am  
Private Baptism - 12.30pm
- 16th Tues      No 9.30am Mass  
Funeral for **Patricia Kobler** 11am
- 19th Fri        Funeral for **Reg Thaggard** 11am
- 20/21st**      **21st Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
Baptism - 6pm  
Baptism - 11am
- 24th Wed      Funeral for **Patricia Fenton** 11am
- 27/28th**      **22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Social Justice Sunday**  
Baptism - 11am  
Private Baptism - 12.30pm

**SEPTEMBER**

- 3/4th**        **23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Weekday Mass Times**

Next Tuesday 9.30am mass has been cancelled. See Calendar

**Readings for Next Week - 20/21st August**

**Is 66:18-21; Ps 116:**  
**Heb 12:5-7, 11-13; Lk 13:22-30**

**Prayers for the Sick**

We pray for parishioners and friends who are ill;

*James Brien, Eleanor Thompson,  
Brenda Corrigan, Vic Garcia,  
Pam Stephens, Judith Fitzgerald, Max  
Pisotek, Priya & Heidi Franz*

**† Remembrance Diary †**

We remember those who have died especially **Pat Kobler, Pat Fenton & Reg Thaggard**, and all those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

**13/8 - 19/8**

John Mann, Kathleen Chadwick, Peter Farrell, Philip Crellin, Robert Garrett, Brian Harman [*3rd Anniversary*], Rolando Barredo, Albert Victor Parkinson, Bill Bonuda, Dorothy Murfitt, Dulcie Harnetty, Judith Van Der Haar, Leo Trappel, Norman Baron, Charles Azzopardi, Elizabeth Mary Rohan, Herbert Cody, Margot Cooney, Giovanna Crivelli, Bernard Kerin, Harry Munnery, Ian Gunst, John O'Neill, Sr Dympna Malone, Blandyna Ehrenkreutz, Brian Lee, Ellen James, Margaret Corker, Mary Commane [*1st Anniversary*], Elizabeth Gatens, Frank Covino, Maria Carboni Sini & Sr Mary O'Dwyer.

**ROSTERS**

Counters - Month of August

Christine Sellar, M&J Prendergast

Flowers - Month of August

Philomena Turner

Church Cleaners - Month of August

Margaret Kim & Esther Ngaihte

(Please collect church key from parish office  
Monday - Friday, 9am - 4pm)

Readers and Commentators - 20/21st August

6.00 pm      George Nantes, Volunteer  
9.00 am      Marinella Mack, Volunteer  
11.00am     Charlotte Wightman, Volunteer

Musicians 20/21st August

6.00 pm      No Music  
9.00 am      Filipino Group  
11.00am     Zomi Group

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL**



If assistance is  
required, please contact  
**1800 305 330**  
Mon to Fri 10am to 3pm



**BAPTISM**

We welcome to our Parish through  
Baptism

**Isabelle & William Anderson,  
Ted Morrison, Cameron Santucciono,  
Grace Miller and Pippa Jones**

As they receive the Holy Spirit through the  
Sacrament celebrated this weekend, may their faith  
guide them throughout their life.

# Happy Birthday

Congratulations to **Jim Cleary** on his 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday last Tuesday.  
From the Parish.

# Thank You

**Hyacinth Periera** wishes to thank all those parishioners who prayed for his recovery.

One of the most important questions we can ask is, 'What does God want of me?' St Thérèse of Lisieux famously came to the understanding that her vocation was 'to love', even if that love was small or hidden or unrecognised. 'I understand so well that it is only love that makes us acceptable to God, that this love is the only good I ambition,' she wrote in her autobiography, *Story of a Soul*. What is the beginning of this love, however?

Thérèse writes:

Jesus does not demand great actions from us but simply *surrender* and *gratitude*. Has he not said ... 'OFFER TO GOD THE SACRIFICES OF PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING' (cf. Psalm 49:14). See, then, all that Jesus lays claim to from us; He has no need of our works but only of our *love* ... I feel it more than ever before, Jesus is *parched*, for He meets only the ungrateful and indifferent among His disciples in the world, and among *His own disciples*, alas, He finds few hearts who surrender to Him without reservations, who understand the real tenderness of His infinite Love.

Gratitude is the beginning of love, since it opens us to surrender. The world is a busy place, with so many voices and things clamouring for our attention. If we want to flourish in the spiritual life, if we want to grow in love, we can take to heart the words of St Thérèse.

Begin the day with a 'sacrifice of thanksgiving': begin the day with gratitude and surrender.

*Melbourne Catholic*

## CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal

This weekend is the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. CatholicCare Victoria works with individuals, families and communities to build strength, resilience, and empowerment to reach their full potential. Your compassionate generosity will help the most vulnerable members of our community – those facing job loss and homelessness, those experiencing mental health issues, families struggling with relationship problems, people in hospitals and prisons, newly arrived refugees, and those experiencing anxiety, grief and trauma. Please donate to CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal.

Your support and generosity will help the most vulnerable and marginalised in our community.

You can donate using the appeal envelope available or online at [www.catholiccarevic.org.au](http://www.catholiccarevic.org.au) or call (03) 9287 5513.

All gifts of \$2 and above are tax deductible



## SPJE FEAST DAY HAMPER RAFFLE CONGRATULATIONS TO

1<sup>st</sup> Prize- Iris Gale  
2<sup>nd</sup> Prize - Jezer Tabarno  
3<sup>rd</sup> Prize – Eileen Goltz

Bonus Prize – Anne Goodall

Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets.

Thank you to the ticket sellers

Thank you to those who donated items for the hampers

A profit of \$543.50 will go towards the ongoing maintenance costs incurred by the Parish

VGCCC – Declaration Number 62230 - 21/3/2022 – 20/3/2032

## Social Justice Sunday

The Church in Australia marks Social Justice Sunday on August 28. In their Social Justice Statement, *Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse*, the Australian bishops speak out about the scourge of domestic and family violence.

They call for relationships to be marked by equality and reciprocity rather than domination and violence, respect and freedom rather than coercion and control. Access the Statement and related resources at

[www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au)

## Let's be a prayerful people

I had the privilege of being part of the second Assembly of the Plenary Council in Sydney in early July. I think it is highly significant that with a membership of 277 plus support staff, over 300 people gathered for a week to listen to what God wants for the Australian Church.

A friend said to me, "If all the Plenary Council does is tell everyone to use *lectio divina* and learn to meditate, then all will be well." I think it was a marvellous suggestion and, while not the solution to everything, if we become a people that prays, we will be guided along the right path. We do not call Jesus the Good Shepherd for nothing!

The Plenary Council referred to *lectio divina* (divine/holy reading) as *spiritual conversations*. It formed the first part of every session. It is a centuries-old practice of prayer. In simple terms, it is reading a bible passage and focusing on a particular idea or word that has an impact on us. Then we sit silently, wondering if this is God speaking to us.

We then reread the passage and double-check our response. The second time around, some other word may strike us. Again, we sit with it, allowing it to settle in our minds and hearts. Because we began by asking the Holy Spirit to direct us, we can believe this is God trying to tell us something. This is *lectio divina*, but the term *spiritual conversations* adds the further dimension of sharing the reflections of others to the conversation between God and myself. It is an invitation to consider what is significant to them. As I hear from each one in the group, the possibility of discerning a consistent message emerges.

*Jesus said, "Where two or three are gathered in my name there am I in their midst." He was talking about us because as believers, we know that God is always with us and wants to draw us closer. God wants to communicate with us and, if we listen, it is enriching.*

This was a new experience for some at the Plenary Council. They said they were amazed at the power of the experience, which reinforced my friend's comment. If lay people, bishops, priests and religious share with each other what they hear God saying, and listen together, we will have learned a great way of praying. If we then share this gift at home, the Plenary Council will have been a great success. The Good Shepherd has promised to look after the sheep and if we come to know his voice, we will be able to follow.

When I attended the first Assembly of the Plenary Council last year, the discussion in my small group was how to help people grow in their prayer life, in their relationship to God. "Learning to pray" sessions in the Church are rare, as we somehow expect people to know automatically.

A woman once told me she had a list of about 150 people she prayed for each day but did not know what to do after that. I reassured her the Christian community has been praying for people for centuries. We all pray for family, the poor, the oppressed and those in need. It is natural to bring the concerns of our heart to God.

I suggested another way of praying. Read a short gospel passage in which Jesus says or does something. Imagine herself among those listening or watching. Ask if she responded warmly to Jesus' words or actions, his tone of voice or physical demeanour, and then share what she wants with the Lord.

St Ignatius prayed this way, as have millions of people since. Let us pray for each other and ask that all of us in the Church may find our way to God through our prayer.

*Fr Trevor Trotter  
Regional Director of Oceania  
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The Far East - August 2022*