



# 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**

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

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

**Office Hours:**  
**Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri - 9.00am - 3.00pm**  
*(Office unattended on Wednesday)*

<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>

**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 & Wed : 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

**7th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**19th February 2023      Issue No. 3**

**SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**YEAR A**

In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus' Sermon on the Mount is an extension of Moses' teachings, and it serves as a framework for the community's conduct. While some may find his teachings unattainable, Jesus himself lived by them, and there have been others throughout history who have as well. Even amidst the chaos of war and violence, there are those who have risen above their own agony and resentment to discover within themselves the capacity for forgiveness. Such individuals speak of their unwavering commitment to not allow others to dictate the course of their lives, and of the liberation and personal integrity that forgiveness brings. Through this process, they become whole.

At times, it appears that the "Golden Rule" has been revised to "Do unto others before they do unto you," which encourages defensiveness instead of promoting goodness. Jesus' teachings, on the other hand, encourage going the extra mile, turning the other cheek, and practicing generosity to rise above conflict. He doesn't suggest that we allow ourselves to be mistreated, but rather that we don't perpetuate the hostility that led to mistreatment. Jesus advocates for active non-resistance, similar to the teachings of Gandhi and Martin Luther King.

While we typically interpret "Who is my neighbor?" to refer to those we don't like, Jesus suggests loving those who exclude us, talk behind our backs, make us feel inferior, and even those who harm us. This is an unconventional and radical teaching.

As Christians are we prepared to do this?  
**Rudy Vail**  
**Deputy Principal/Religious Education leader**  
**St. Richards Primary School**

## PARISH CALENDAR

### FEBRUARY 2023

**18/19th**      **7th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
Baptisms - 11 am

**22nd Wed**      **ASH WEDNESDAY**  
Beginning of Lent  
**Mass 9.30 am**  
**Mass 7.00 pm**

**25/26th**      **FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**  
Monthly Church Collection  
Baptism - 11 am  
Baptism - 12.30 Private

### MARCH

**4/5th**      **SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**  
Baptism - 6 pm

**11/12th**      **THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**  
Baptism - 11 am

**18/19th**      **FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**  
Baptisms - 11 am

## Weekday Mass Times

**Tuesday & Wednesday**  
**9.30 am Mass**

## Readings for Next Week - 26th February

### First Sunday of Lent

**Gen 2:7-9, 3:1-7: Ps 50:3-6, 12-14,**  
**Rom 5:12-19: Mt 4:1-11**

## Prayers for the Sick

We pray for parishioners and friends who are ill;

**Sophia Aranco**

## † Remembrance Diary †

We remember those who have died and all those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

**18/2 to 24/2**

Joseph Fernandez (first death anniversary),  
Joe Ekanayake, Kathleen Collins, Patricia Nugent, Jim McKenna, Valentine O'Donnell, Margaret Sheehan, Giovanni D'Angelo, Brian Vear, Matt Grange, Dorothy Gartlan, Peter Vincent, Mary Ovans, Matthew Ellis, Robert Bell, Tony Nugent, Michael Watson, Cyril Vincent, Mary Hewett, Henry de la Harpe, Maria Bialowieyski, David Bryce, Arne Bouwhuis.

## ROSTERS

### Counters - Month of February

Office Staff & Christine Sellar

### Flowers - Month of February

Philomena Turner

### Church Cleaners - Month of February

Margaret Kim & Esther Ngaihte

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

### Readers and Commentators - 25/26th Feb

6.00 pm      Craig Hume & Mitchell Mazzarella  
9.00 am      Lisa Read & Tim Newcomb  
11.00am      Auna Wernert & Volunteer required

### Musicians - 25/26th February

6.00 pm      No Music  
9.00 am      No Music  
11.00am      Shelly & Co

## 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

**Sasha Niemann & Christian Curti**

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

## PARISHIONERS COLUMN NEWS - STORIES - REFLECTIONS



We would like to introduce a weekly column, where we invite parishioners to contribute items of interest.

Stories, anniversaries, reflections, interesting articles that can be shared with the parish community.

The articles can be emailed or dropped off to the parish office by Thursday morning.

### PASTORAL CARE APPEAL 2023 11/12th February

**Thank you!** Last weekend, we conducted the annual Pastoral Care Appeal in our parish. Thank you to those who have supported this Appeal.

Amount raised: \$536

## Sunday Morning Tea/Cuppa after 9am Mass



Thank you to all those who have volunteered to help with morning tea.

We would appreciate a few more parishioners assisting us in trying to create a spirit of togetherness and cheer in our community.



### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

The focus this year is on Taiwan and the speaker is the Communications officer for the Bible Society – Penny Mulvey.

The service will be at St Margaret's Uniting Church on Friday March 3rd at 10:30

All invited

Contact: Joyce Dodge

Email: [gidodge25@tpg.com.au](mailto:gidodge25@tpg.com.au)



Aid to the  
Church in Need

ACN AUSTRALIA



**A message from Aid to the Church in Need Australia:** ACN is the Pontifical Foundation dedicated to supporting the suffering and persecuted Church.

**HELP SYRIA.** *Aid to the Church in Need* (ACN) has launched an emergency appeal for the people in northern Syria desperate for help following the devastating earthquakes. ACN is begging for funds to support their long-time local project partners on the ground in Syria. To read more about what ACN is doing and to make an offering please visit [www.aidtochurch.org/syriaearthquake](http://www.aidtochurch.org/syriaearthquake) or scan the QR code.

## Have you Changed?

Phone number

Email Address

Residential Address/Mail Address,

Please notify the Parish Office on 9723 4275 or email [mooroolbark@cam.org.au](mailto:mooroolbark@cam.org.au)





## Ash Wednesday – 22 February 2023

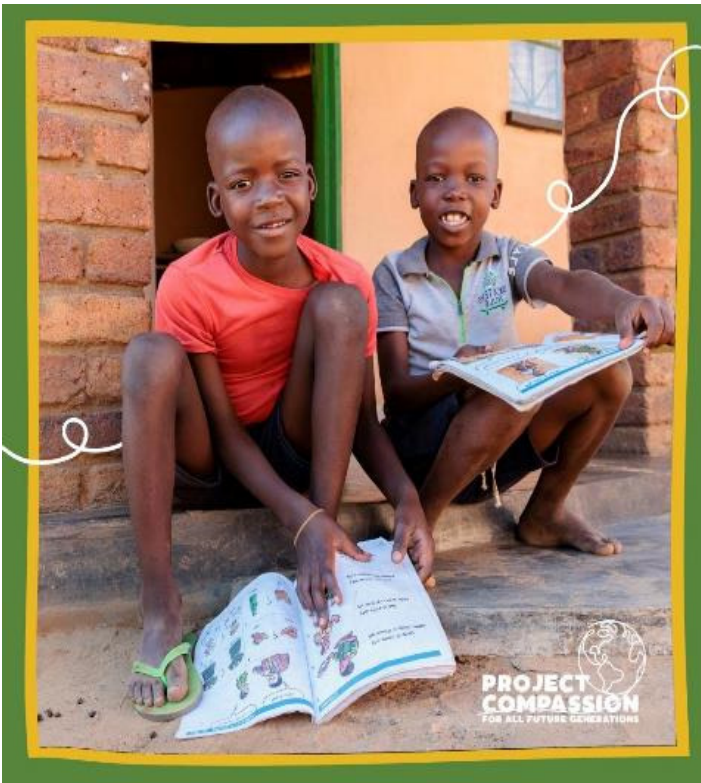
This week, the season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, which also marks the beginning of the annual **Caritas Australia Project Compassion Appeal**.

The theme of Project Compassion 2023 is ‘For All Future Generations’ and reminds us that the good we do today extends to impact the lives of generations to come.

By donating to Project Compassion, Caritas Australia, the Catholic Agency for International Aid and Development, can work with local communities around the world to end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity.

Pick up a Project Compassion box or a set of envelopes or donate online via the Caritas Australia website at:

[www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion)



Researching the origins of Christianity is an opportunity to recover the meaning of life from the roots that hold us together in faith. If we look at the prayer life of the early Church, we find that it can be split-up into various types of prayer: the prayer of Jesus, the liturgical dimension of the early Christian community, and the unity of the Church around its bishop. Even today these dimensions of our Christian life are found in the Pope’s Worldwide Prayer Network.

The first treatises on prayer (from Tertullian, Origen, and Cyprian), were written in a period in which the Church suffered great persecution. Yet, in these writings the authors do not lose hope of a renewed world in the coming of the glory of the Lord. In today’s world, we too live in a time where the culture does not speak the language of Jesus and often persecutes Christians for their different way of life. Prayer can help us stay faithful to Christ’s example in such a tumultuous time, with our eyes always upon him. As Tertullian says, in the second century,

“When we pray, we confess Christ who is our model for living.” (cf. *De oratione* 14, 1).

When we pray, our gaze is centred on Christ, as Cyprian of Carthage says, “Since Christ is the true Sun and the true Day, when we pray until sunset, asking that the light rise again upon us, we are in reality imploring the advent of Christ, who will bring us the grace of eternal light” (*De dominica oratione*, 35).

In the different daily proposals of Click To Pray, in the morning, afternoon and evening, our prayer produces a dynamic of faith in all the hours of the day, similar to Christians in the first centuries. Finally, the ecclesiological dimension of prayer is maintained even when Christians pray alone. This is what we do when we pray for the Pope’s prayer intentions. When we pray, we take the whole Church with us, as St. Ignatius of Antioch says at the beginning of the second century,

“If the prayer of one or two has much force, how much more then that of the bishop and of the whole Church” (Eph. Ep. 5, 2).

Fr. Antonio S’Antana, SJ National Director (Pope’s Worldwide Prayer Network – Portugal)