



St Peter Julian Eymard Catholic Church Mooroolbark Parish

We are a Welcoming, Eucharistic and Spirit Filled Community

SPJE 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

Parish Hall - Contact Parish Office

SPJE Parish School
Reay Road, Mooroolbark 3138
Telephone 9725 0595

School Principal – Mr. Greg Thomas
Email: office@spjemooroolbark.catholic.edu.au
<http://www.spjemooroolbark.catholic.edu.au>

St. Richard's Parish School
672 Mt. Dandenong Rd Kilsyth, 3137
Telephone 9728 4378

Email: office@srkilsyth.catholic.edu.au
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

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
3rd September 2023 Issue No 31

**Embracing the Path of Sacrifice: Insights from
Matthew's Gospel**

In the Gospel of Matthew, a pivotal moment unfolds as Jesus reveals his impending journey to Jerusalem, a path fraught with conflict, persecution, and death. This revelation elicits a response from Peter that exposes his struggle to grasp the depths of Christ's mission. This pivotal moment, offers profound insights into the nature of discipleship and the challenges inherent in following Christ's example.

Amidst the backdrop of Peter's rebuke, a recurring theme emerges: the contrast between human understanding and divine purpose. Peter, once lauded for his insightful confession, now stumbles in comprehending the necessity of Christ's suffering and death. This inner tension mirrors the broader human struggle to align personal desires with God's will. Peter inadvertently assumes a stance against God's divine plan, acting as though Jesus' mission is influenced by an evil spirit. However, Jesus' sharp response unveils Peter's misalignment and emphasises the need to discern God's higher purpose beyond immediate understanding.

Transitioning to the teaching on discipleship, the episode conveys a powerful lesson: embracing Christ's message requires selflessness. The call to deny oneself and bear the cross signifies prioritising others over self, reflecting the essence of servanthood. The paradoxical concept of losing one's life to gain it underscores the transformative potential of wholeheartedly embracing Christ's path, even when it seems counterintuitive. The narrative mirrors the human struggle to grasp the radical nature of Christ's mission, reminding us that even those closest to him can falter in understanding. Yet, within these struggles lies the potential for growth. Like Peter, we may stumble, but these stumbles offer opportunities to deepen our faith and commitment.

At its core, this passage underscores the importance of aligning human aspirations with God's divine plan, even when it diverges from our preconceptions. It prompts us to reflect on our own responses to challenges and uncertainties, encouraging us to embrace the transformative power of sacrifice. Through this journey, we learn that true discipleship necessitates yielding to God's wisdom and surrendering our own agendas, ultimately leading to a profound, selfless, and life-giving relationship with Christ.

Rudy Vail

PARISH CALENDAR SEPTEMBER

SEPTEMBER

- 2/3rd** **22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**
 Welcome back Fr Joseph
 Fathers Day
 Priest Retirement Fund Collection-
 All Masses
- 5th Tue** Baptism Preparation Meeting -
 7pm Bernadette & Naomi
- 6th Wed** Reconciliation Family Night—7pm
- 9/10th** **23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**
 Reconciliation Commitment Mass
 6pm & 9am
 Baptisms—11am
- 16/17th** **24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**
 Baptisms—11am
- 23/24th** **25th Sunday in Ordinary Time**
 Baptisms—9am & 11am
 Private Baptism—12.30pm
- 29th Fri** Public Holiday—Grand Final
 Term 3 ends

OCTOBER

30/1st Oct 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

ROSTERS

Counters - Month of September

Jan Phipphard & Philomena Turner

Flowers - Month of September

Pat Harman

Church Cleaners - Month of September

Jun Romero Family

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

Readers & Commentators— 2/3rd September

6.00 pm Pat Harman & Iris Gale
 9.00 am Muzzena D'Almeida & Volunteer
 11 am Elizabeth & Reilly Acabado

Readers & Commentators— 9/10th September

6.00pm Dymrna Beard & Angela Stainwall
 9.00am Karen Broughton & Lilette de la Harpe
 11 am Charlotte Wightman & Volunteer

Musicians—2/3rd September

6.00 pm Shelly & Co
 9.00 am Filipino Group
 11 am No Music

Musicians—9/10th September

6.00 pm Paul & Co
 9.00 am No Music
 11 am Shelly & Co

Weekday Mass Times

**Weekday Masses
 Tue & Wed—9.30am**

This Week's Readings - 2/3rd Sept

Jer 20:7-9: Ps 62:2-6, 8-9:
 Rom 12:1-2: Mt 16:21-27

Prayers for the Sick

We pray for parishioners and friends who are ill,
 especially,

**Harry Janssen, Max Pisotek, Ignatius Suan
 Lian Thang, Mateo Bandiling, Cora
 Fitzsimons, Reji, Sr Moira Sheedy.**

✠ Remembrance Diary ✠

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

2/9 to 8/9

**Patrick Sheehan, John Stewart, Tess Ryan, Ken
 Collins, Vince Maniscalchi (first anniversary),
 George Graves, Ronald Bell, Ray Kiker, Emma
 Collins, Gabriel Margaletic, James Collins, Mary
 Murphy, Betty Code, Harry Quarmby, Jean
 Bowman, Adrian Clark, Rosemary Elanayake,
 Monsignor Francis Lyons PE AM, Thelma
 Whitehouse, Leigh Matheson, Angela Raudino,
 Matija Jelenc, Jennifer Watson, Margot Van Reyk,
 Charles Stafford, Ada Casotti, Mark Kowacki,
 Richard John, Kevin Whelan, Francis Cafarella,
 Tom Madden, Charles Duke, Maria Giuffrida,
 Edward Glab, Francis Mauguere, Cheryl Rout,
 Nick Nagtzaam, Anne Reynolds.**

FATHERS DAY ANNUAL COLLECTION 2/3rd September

Today's collection is for the Priests Retirement
 Foundation which cares for our Retired Priests
 of the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

Please donate using the envelopes on the pews
 or electronically by logging on to:

www.melbournecatholic.org.au/foundation
 and make your donation through Paypal.

Thank you for your generous support of the
 Retired Priests

Combined Catholic Parishes Raffle

Tickets are available now in the church foyer for collection by parishioners who are registered for Thanksgiving.

Church Foyer ticket sales will also commence this weekend at most masses, until end of October. The raffle will then be drawn early December.

The prizes are:

- 1st Prize: Kia Picanto S 1.25ltr Auto
- 2nd Prize: Coles/Myer Gift Card - to the value of \$5000
- 3rd Prize: Coles/Myer Gift Card - to the value of \$3000
- 4th & 5 thPrize: Coles/Myer Gift Card - to the value of \$1000
- 6th & 7th Prize: Coles/Myer Gift Card - to the value of \$500

Tickets are \$2.00 each or \$20 per Book.

I would be most grateful for assistance with the selling of the tickets and the distribution of the named books.

If you have any queries, I can be contacted on
0403 568 302
or by email: rafflespje@gmail.com
Marg Vallence / CoOrdinator SPJE Parish
Mooroolbark/CCPR 2023



We have redrawn the 8th prize in our recent Multicultural Lunch Raffle
(due to the prize not being claimed by the original winner)

The new winner is
Kath McKenna
Congratulations Kath

CHILDSAFETY

A REMINDER ONLINE TRAINING IS
REQUIRED FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS

To access the training use this link in your browser
You will need access to your email to register.

<https://safeguarding.melbournecatholic.org/>



LADIES LUNCH GROUP

Our next Ladies Lunch will be on

Tuesday 5th September

At YORK ON LILYDALE

We will meet at 12 pm for 12.30 lunch

Enquiries: Nancy Gough 0411 137 251

Philomena Turner 0417 208 077



Mission: Transform Lives - theirs...and yours

Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills and knowledge with those who have few other chances for training.

Build enduring global relationships while assisting sustainable, self-reliant, community development.

Want to find out more? Join our [Global Development Webinar](#) happening on the 14th of September 2023 at 6pm to 7pm AEST

02 9560 5333
palms@palms.org.au



PRAYER OFFERING ENVELOPES

For parishioners who wish to have a loved one prayed for, on a special birthday, wedding & death anniversary, ill health & deceased, etc.

Envelopes are available next to the newsletter.

Please complete details on the front of the envelope and give to Fr Joseph.

A donation is appreciated.



Pope Francis Announces Historic Visit to Mongolia



In a momentous announcement, Pope Francis has called for the world's faithful to unite in prayer as he embarks on a significant journey to the heart of Asia. The destination is none other than the enigmatic and sparsely-populated nation of Mongolia, where the Pope aims to foster connections, promote interreligious harmony, and strengthen the bonds of faith. The pontiff's pilgrimage will see him traverse approximately 5,600 miles to reach Ulaanbaatar, the capital of Mongolia, from August 31 to September 4, 2023.

In a poignant statement shared during his weekly Angelus address at the Vatican on August 27, Pope Francis expressed his anticipation for this groundbreaking visit. He underlined the profound significance of the trip, saying, "It is a much-desired visit," indicating the deep resonance this journey holds for both the Catholic Church and the people of Mongolia.

During this landmark four-day visit, Pope Francis will engage in a multifaceted agenda that reflects his commitment to diplomacy, spiritual enrichment, and fostering unity among diverse religious traditions.

Among the anticipated activities are meetings with government officials, dialogues focused on interreligious understanding, and the celebration of Mass to provide solace and support to the small Catholic community that numbers just 1,450 in a nation of approximately 3 million inhabitants.

The Pope's visit holds a unique historical distinction, as he will be the first leader of the Catholic Church to set foot on Mongolian soil. This unprecedented event marks a turning point in the relationship between the Vatican and Mongolia, a democracy that finds itself nestled between two major world powers, Russia and China.

In a message that resonates with humility and fraternal love, Pope Francis reached out to the people of Mongolia. From a window overlooking the iconic St. Peter's Square, he addressed the Mongolian population with warmth and openness: "I would now like to address you, brothers and sisters of Mongolia, to tell you that I am happy to travel to be among you as a brother of all." This sentiment embodies his commitment to bridging divides and cultivating connections on a global scale.

Acknowledging the significance of this historic journey, Pope Francis extended his gratitude to the Mongolian authorities for their generous invitation and to all those diligently working behind the scenes to prepare for his visit. He emphasized the power of collective prayer in this transformative endeavour, urging people around the world to lend their support through their spiritual devotion: "I ask all of you to accompany this visit with your prayers". As the world awaits this extraordinary voyage to Mongolia, the anticipation is brimming with hope, unity, and the promise of interreligious collaboration. Pope Francis' journey to the heart of Asia stands as a testament to the power of faith to transcend geographical, cultural, and political boundaries, inspiring the globe with its message of fraternity and understanding.