



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
<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

Most Holy Trinity
4th June 2023 Issue No 18

REFLECTION

Great treatises have been written on the Holy Trinity and theologians speak of the Trinity as a mystery. But that is not to claim that we cannot say anything about the Holy Trinity.

Who is God? God is Love.' God is a community of Love: The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. 'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.'

Pope Francis suggests, 'these words indicate that the action of the three divine Persons - Father, Son and Holy Spirit - is a single plan of love that saves humanity and the world.' He continues, 'The Trinity is therefore Love, all in the service of the world, which God wishes to save and recreate.' Therefore, we never have to feel alone, the persons of the Blessed Trinity are with us and are working for our good. May we open our hearts to welcome their love and presence, so that we, in turn, can present and transmit their love to our family, friends, community and world.



God's Word 2023

PARISH CALENDAR

JUNE

- 3/4th **Most Holy Trinity**
6th Tue **FUNERAL - Howard Cummins**
11am SPJE Church
7th Wed Burial for Howard Cummins
1.00 pm Alexandra Cemetery
- 10/11th **The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ**
St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal
14th Wed Confirmation Family Night - 7pm
15th Thur Baptism Preparation Meeting -
7pm - Marg & Liljana
16th Fri Feast of Sacred Heart Mass
St Richards School - **11.45am**
- 17/18th **11th Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Confirmation Commitment Mass
6pm & 9am
24/25th Monthly Church Collection

Weekday Mass Times

Tuesday & Wednesday
9.30am Mass

Readings for Next Week - 10/11th June

Duet 8:2-3, 14-16: Ps 147:12-15, 19-20:
1 Cor 10:16-17: Jn 6:51-58:

Prayers for the Sick

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

Ignatius Suan Lian Thang,
Mateo Bandiling, Bee Herry.

✠ Remembrance Diary ✠

We remember those who have died especially
Howard Cummins and all those whose
Anniversaries occur about this time.

3/6 to 9/6

Annie Burns, Immacolata Sainato, Sheila Staunton,
Mary Woods, Patricia Commerford, Gwenneth Key,
Mavis Morgan, Harold Dobson, Robert Haynes,
Gisela Liedtke, Anna Alvar, Connie Di Pilla, Harold
Redfern, Louisa Verdaasdonk, Edmond & Eden
Pannawitch, Michael Collins, Chester Seagle, Tony
Azzopardi, Mary Robinson, Cathy Sheerin, Kevin
Mackey, Sarah Bone, Giuseppe Zappia, Ted Blow,
Jack Grant, Jean Goodman, Jim Hicks, Nancy
Gatens, Dennis Fay, Anne & Jack Saunders, Honey
Biesinger, Ron Reilly.

ROSTERS

Counters - Month of June

Philomena Turner & Jan Phipphard

Flowers - Month of June

Margaret Kim

Church Cleaners - Month of June

Ged Wright & Kevin Dwyer

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

Readers and Commentators - 10/11th June

6.00 pm Craig Hume & Mitchell Mazarella
9.00 am Lilette de la Harpe & Liljana Stride
11.00am Elizabeth Acabado & Reilly Acabado

Musicians - 10/11th June

6.00 pm Paul & Co
9.00 am Filipino Group
11.00am No Music

ST VINCENT DE PAUL



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

PROJECT COMPASSION DONATION RECIPITS

Parishioners who donated and requested a
receipt for their donation.

Delzoppo family
Margaret Barden
Michael McLindon
Joyce Griffiths
Mary Del Giudice
Monique Rose
Allyson Anthonisz
Anthony McDonald

Please see Fr Joseph to collect from the church
sacristy.
Thank you.

**55th Anniversary of St Peter Julian
Eymard and Multicultural Mass and
Lunch – 30th July 2023
Parish Hall - 12.30pm**

Advice for parishioners regarding the Mass and Lunch on 30th July 2023.

Parishioners are asked to bring simple to eat finger type food to share for a light lunch with many people who will be attending this wonderful celebration of our 55 years of Church in Mooroolbark.

The Parish leadership team will be approaching parishioners from the rich cultural diversity that we truly embrace in our parish community to be part of the working group. This person will also be the contact point for people to provide details of the type of food they will provide.

This will ensure that we have a variety to include meat, vegetarian, desserts and salads.

There is a pie warmer available in the parish hall to keep food warm, but not for cooking from scratch, unless the food can be cooked on a BBQ.

Father Joseph will provide BBQ sausages, tea and coffee.

Please do not hesitate to contact Bernadette Brown on 0447743138 or Margaret Vallence on 0403568302 should you wish to discuss or clarify this advice.



**Feast Day Raffle
Drawn Sunday 30th July
Tickets Selling during month of July**

**We would appreciate any donations of items
suitable for the raffle prizes.**

**Please consider items you would
like to receive yourself.**

Suggestions:

Vouchers ie Bunnings, Coles Myer, Movie
Wine ie Red, White, Bubbly
Small electrical items still in packaging
Kitchen items, Gardening items,
Chocolates, Gourmet nibbles, Biscuits
Mens and Womens toiletries

There will be a basket in church foyer for any donations.

Please call Marg Vallence on 0403 568 302
with any queries or to arrange a pickup
Thank you in anticipation of your support.

**ST. VINCENT de PAUL ANNUAL
WINTER APPEAL 2023
Next Weekend 10/11th June**

*It is time again for the SVDP Winter
Appeal.*

*This will be held at all the Masses on the
weekend of the **10th and 11th June.***

*All money received will go towards assisting
people from Kilsyth, Montrose and
Mooroolbark who are struggling to make
ends meet and who ask for our help.*

*Please place your donations in the marked
collection boxes as you exit at the
conclusion of Mass.*

*For those who wish to donate by credit card
or require a receipt there will be envelopes
on the seats which can be placed in the
collection box or posted to SVDP.*

*Direct Debit is available and, if doing this,
please mark that it is for the Mooroolbark
Conference*

Direct Debit details are

BSB: 063 003

Account No: 1008 1787

*Thank you very much for your previous and
continued support.*

Richard Knight

Mooroolbark Conference President



LADIES LUNCH GROUP

Our next Ladies Lunch will be on

Tuesday 6th June

At The Croydon Hotel

47 Maroondah Hwy, Croydon

We will meet at 12 pm for 12.30 lunch

Enquiries: Nancy Gough 0411 137 251

Philomena Turner 0417 208 077





A REFLECTION for TRINITY SUNDAY, Year A, 3rd-4th June 2023



A week ago I was privileged to share in a John Garratt Webinar led by Frank Brennan & Vicki Clarke:

Frank, AO, is a Jesuit priest, constitutional lawyer, professor in law at both Australian National University & Australian Catholic University, and also an advocate and educator in Indigenous Matters since the early 1980s and representative of and to the Australian Catholic Bishops;

Vicki, OAM, is a Mutthi Mutthi woman from the country around Lake Mungo, beyond Mildura and Wentworth (above), who was coordinator of Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Melbourne from the 1980s & Chair of NATSICC (National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council) 2000-03; Vicki was also a guest speaker/ teacher/ preacher at SPJE Parish & School a number of times at the invitation of SJAG - SPJE Social Justice Action Group.

The Message Stick at the Lectern/ Reading Stand and the Reconciliation Stone by our church entrance are reminders - as with the Acknowledgement of Country at Mass & other meetings - of our Parish commitment to Indigenous Reconciliation dating from Pentecost Day 2006. And also to seeking justice for victims of Clerical Sexual Abuse; and for refugees & asylum seekers, mostly banished to desert places or ignored by successive governments over recent decades). Along with promoting Project Compassion and having an Advent Appeal for different overseas projects in Timor Leste, the Northern Territory, Africa & Myanmar et cetera through the late 80s into the new millennium, SJAG was a very vibrant & inclusive group, Should it be revived in whatever form, we can be sure its company of more than a few more recent heavenly members will be right on side!

Anyway, as these gurus spoke, i was especially struck by the appropriateness of the closing liturgies and scriptures of the Easter Season in terms of present conversations and (hopefully respectful) debates. The feast of ASCENSION affirms that. Jesus is the absolute "YES" of the Father; that humankind is One in Jesus; "For all the promises of God are 'Yes' in Christ. And so through him, our 'AMEN', our 'YES' is ever spoken to the glory of God." (2 Cor 1.20). At PENTECOST we confidently sing Psalm 103, "Lord you send out your Spirit and you renew the face of the earth". TRINITY SUNDAY takes us back to our very beginnings in the Desert with Moses, awestruck by a burning bush that was not consumed (Deut 4. 32-40): "Did ever a people hear the voice of God speaking from the heart of the fire in the desert as you have heard it?"

The Uluru Statement (or Invitation) from the Heart also comes out of the desert, fired by Millennia of passion for custodianship & curacy of a land that was always sacred in the peoples' ancient dreaming, told in art & story. Does it sound familiar?

Every blessing & best wish as we make our journey out of the desert
"In the name of the Father, & of the Son & of the Holy Spirit, Amen-YES".

- Michael McLindon, a companion on our journey to justice & wholeness -



In my short time in Warrnambool I saw many signs of hope. One very vital sign I evidenced came in the form of individual Christians who were willing to promote ministry both in and out of the Church.

In July 2022,¹ I had the good fortune to spend a month serving as the third member of the local team of priests in Warrnambool, VIC, Australia. Fathers John Fitzgerald and John Corrigan, both Ballarat Diocesan priests, had the responsibility of starting and establishing the new mass roster for the new Star of the Sea parish cluster. My help was needed for the month of July while the diocesan team waited for the arrival in early August of Deacon Bill Lowry who was to be ordained priest at the end of that same month.

Previously, the new cluster parish had been five separate and diverse parishes: Saint Joseph's in Central Warrnambool, Our Lady Help of Christians in East Warrnambool, St Pius X in West Warrnambool, the Church of the Infant Jesus in Koroit, and St Patrick's Church in Port Fairy.

Traditionally, Warrnambool and the South-West Coastal Region of Victoria have always been recognized as one of the most Catholic areas of Victoria, having received large numbers of Irish immigrants in former centuries - one of whom was my great, great grandfather, Eugene Owen Flannery, who settled in Port Fairy in the 1840s. However, with the rise of secularism, both the numbers of Christians and the priests to serve them have diminished greatly. According to a July 2nd, 2022 article by Ben Silvester in the Standard newspaper of Warrnambool called "A South West Snapshot," the number of people in the Warrnambool area who previously registered themselves as Christians in the past had dropped from 73% in the 2001 National Census to just 51% in the 2021 census. Moreover, those claiming to have no religion in particular had increased from 15% in 2001 to 43% in the recent census.

My main task was to celebrate Mass in a different community of the cluster most days of the week while celebrating some baptisms in St Joseph's Church on Saturdays. This meant a lot of travelling and constant adaptation to the unique styles of each of the five communities. I realised that the changes that were being introduced were indeed a challenge for both the priests and the laity as they adapted to becoming a single parish, when previously they had been five individual parishes, each with its own priest.

For example, one Friday after the scheduled Mass in Koroit, a member of the community expressed his frustration with his fellow Catholics, saying how disappointed he felt when many of the Catholics in the town had recently chosen to go to the local football match instead of participating in an important community Mass on the same day. It was obvious to me that many of the faithful were struggling with what they saw as the diminishment of the Church's influence and presence as much as the clergy were.

While I did my best to help launch the new Mass roster, I could see a day when even maintaining the present level of sacramental services might not be possible.

What then? I remembered my time in Huandoy Parish in Lima, which had 110,000 people, mostly Catholic. Even with three priests, we never managed to celebrate a fixed Sunday Mass in each of the sixteen chapels in the parish. Instead, we consulted with the communities, celebrating Sunday Masses in eight of the communities one Sunday, then in the other eight the following Sunday, and trained lay-leaders to lead the Sunday liturgies in our absence. I could see a day when community-led liturgies could become a more common feature of Church life in Australia.

In fact, in my short time in Warrnambool I saw many signs of hope. One very vital sign I evidenced came in the form of individual Christians who were willing to promote ministry both in and out of the Church. One man from the community of Our Lady Help of Christians was enthusiastically trying to form new and younger groups that prayed the Rosary together. Another lady was active in supporting an organization called "The Tasty Plate", which helped train people with disabilities in culinary skills that would help them gain employment. Another female parishioner had pioneered the development of courses of Clinical Pastoral Education to help with the training of ministers, both lay and ordained, from all the Christian churches to accompany the sick and incarcerated in the hospitals and prisons of the South West of Victoria. Inviting mission-minded individuals to form mission teams could indeed be a way forward for the Church in these increasingly secular times.

One incident that filled me with hope occurred when I met a lady called Shaz in a country pub where we were celebrating the baptism of her nephew. Shaz was full of happy memories of former times when her community had a resident priest who was famous for visiting all the families in the local area for a pre-prandial drink after Mass on Sundays. I was impacted by Shaz's deep nostalgia and positive love for the humanness of the Church. This happy experience brought home to me what I knew to be true from my experience in both Chile and Peru: that sacramental absence does not necessarily mean estrangement from the Church. Instead, it can mean a new beginning of our way of being with the Church if we but trust that God is with us on our journey.

By Columban Fr George Hogarty, who lives and works in Australia.

On 15th & 16th July, Fr George Hogarty will celebrate our weekend masses to promote the Far East Magazine