



# 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

**Parish Priest**  
Fr. Joseph Xin Lu

**Parish Secretary**  
Mrs. Adriana De Leo

**Parish Assistant**  
Mr. Brian Twining

**Parish Office**  
234 Hull Road (PO Box 2)  
Mooroolbark 3138  
Telephone: 9723 4275 Fax: 9725 4377  
<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**  
Tel: 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 - Tuesday - Friday: 9.15 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



## ST VINCENT DE PAUL

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

**17th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Year A**  
**26th July 2020 Issue No 27**

### REFLECTION

The Parable of the Hidden Treasure and the Parable of the Pearl are both parables of discovery, joy, and action. Both, explore the overwhelming value of their discovery, and sell everything so that they might buy it. In neither case is there any hint of sacrifice—of giving up something precious, of having to make a difficult decision. Neither is sad to sell everything, because they are overwhelmed with the joy of discovery and the prospect of possessing a new treasure.

They are like the disciples, who left everything to follow Jesus.

The expression of true happiness is what seems to drive these men to act. They do not sell everything to buy the treasure because they ought to do so, but because their hearts desire these. Thinking about hidden treasure: it inspires and opens horizons of new plans and dreams. Not everyone should be told about it immediately but the excitement that it brings cannot always be hidden. It is often when we act upon these treasures that we gain clarity and comfort in who we are. God looks at us and sees a hidden treasure, wondering when we might discover it.

Greg Thomas  
Principal SPJE School.

## PARISH UPDATE

As you are aware with the recent news of stage 3 restrictions with 6 weeks lock down. It is with much disappointment for us all that the church will be closed and all weekend Masses have been suspended until further notice.

Only Funerals will be allowed in the church with a maximum of 10 people.  
Please take care & stay safe everyone.

*Sometimes it is hard to be positive in these very troubled times. Happiness can be elusive when in isolation. Here is something to think about.*

### DANCE LIKE NO ONE IS LOOKING

We convince ourselves that life will be better after we get married, have a baby, then another. Then we are frustrated that the kids aren't old enough and we'll be more content when they are. After that we're frustrated that we have teenagers to deal with. We will certainly be happy when they are out of that stage. We tell ourselves that our life will be complete when our spouse gets his or her act together, when we get a nicer car, are able to go on a nice vacation, when we retire.

The truth is, there's no better time to be happy than right now. If not now, when? Your life will always be filled with challenges. It's best to admit this to yourself and decide to be happy anyway. At times it seems to me that life is about to begin – real life. There always seems to be an obstacle in the way, something to be gotten through first, some unfinished business, time to be served, a debt to be paid, then life would begin.

The reality is these obstacles are our life and accepting this reality allows us to see, there is no way to happiness, happiness is the way. So treasure every moment, for time waits for no one. Stop waiting until you finish school, until you go back to school, until you lose five kilos, until you gain five kilos, until you have kids, until your kids leave the house, until you start work, until you retire, until you get married, until you get divorced, until Friday, until your car or home is paid off, until winter, spring, summer or autumn, until you are off welfare, until the first or fifteenth, until your song comes on, until you've had a drink, until you've sobered up, until you die to decided that there is no better time than right now to be happy.

**“Happiness is a journey, not a destination**

**So work like you don't need money  
Love like you've never been hurt  
And dance like no one is looking”**

## Readings for Next Week – 2nd August 2020

Is 55:1-3; Rom 8:35, 37-39; Mt 14:13-21



We pray for parishioners and friends who are ill;

**Trish Fenton, Annette Andrewartha,  
Julia & Mabel Dana, Matthew Arrowsmith,  
Rose Robert, Lorraine Downie, Trish Leahy,  
Jean Blencowe, Nancy Greco.**

## ✠ Remembrance Diary ✠

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

**25/7 to 31/7**

**Kevin Dillon, Harold Fox, Terry Collins,  
Theresia Humphries, Jim Collins, Mark  
Ralston, Ann Bernadine Cox, Judy Margerison,  
Leonard Ryan, Georgina Greblo, Dean  
Andrewartha, Christine Morrison, Amy  
Paternoster, Baby Patrick James Bourke-Finn,  
Carmel Ryan, Ron Rigby, Ann Howatt, Gerald  
Lane, John Nugent, John Larsen, Eleazar de  
Souza, Peter Hupport, John Griffith, Paul  
Rigby, Martin George Tuohy, Nina Burley,  
Damian John O'Grady, Leo O'Leary, Mona  
Grant, Isagami Sumagui, Hermon Van Den  
Heuvel, Sam Bustill.**

## THANKSGIVING PROGRAM

**Parish still needs your help !**

During this difficult time, parishioners are encouraged to continue to support the Parish financially. This support is essential to the ongoing weekly expenditure of our Parish. Thanksgiving envelopes can be dropped off at the Parish Office. **(left side of front door).** If you wish to donate via electronic funds you may wish to set up direct debit from your bank to the church account (please phone or email the office for the parish bank details)

If you prefer Credit Card payments this can be arranged by phone or email to the Parish Office. Please leave your name and phone number and Adriana will contact you.

**Fr Joseph acknowledges your generosity and thanks you for your continued financial support of our parish.**

## CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE LINK

### LIVE STREAM MASS

<https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass>

11am MASS ON SUNDAY



## St Vincent de Paul Society

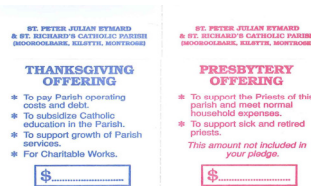
*A Message from Jan Phippard.*

SVDP is still active and doing visits. People are advised to call the centre if they need assistance.

Contact 1800 305 330  
Mon – Fri 10 am-3 pm

## THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES

Parishioners who have not received their annual Thanksgiving envelopes please contact the parish office.



By email, [mooroolbark@cam.org.au](mailto:mooroolbark@cam.org.au)  
or phone the office on 9723 4275.

## PARISH NEWSLETTER

If you know of someone who is not receiving a newsletter please email the parish office and we will include them on our weekly email list.

## THE COMBINED CATHOLIC PARISHES RAFFLE 2020

**3 x ALL NEW SUZUKI BALENO TO BE WON!!!**



The Raffle Draw Date is now September. **HOWEVER**

All books must be returned so they can be taken to the organisers by early August. I am going to start contacting people who have not returned books which is a very time consuming job.

If you need to return your book [sold or unsold] please place them in the letter slot at the Parish House front door in an envelope marked Raffle, **by the end of July** or contact me - Marg Vallenge, 0403 568 302  
[rafflespie@gmail.com](mailto:rafflespie@gmail.com)



## STAY HOME

What a quote: "The virus doesn't move, people move it. We stop moving the virus stops moving, the virus dies. It's that simple."

## Honour to the Penitent: St Mary Magdalene

'In recent years,' Andy Hamilton SJ writes, 'Mary Magdalene's image has been more sharply drawn in the Catholic Church. She was always prominent, frequently mentioned in the New Testament as a supporter and benefactor of Jesus and his disciples, as present near Jesus cross when he died, and as one of the chief witnesses to the Resurrection.'



of

Her feast day (**22 July**) has now been given the same standing as that of the apostles; she is no longer called a Penitent, and she has been named Apostle to the Apostles.'

You can read the full story via [melbournecatholic.org.au](http://melbournecatholic.org.au)

FR JOSEPH'S HOMILY

17<sup>th</sup> Sunday, Year A, 2020

In today's First Reading (1 Kings 3, 5:7-12), God asks young King Solomon what gifts he would like. Solomon answered, saying, "Oh Lord, I am a mere youth, not knowing at all how to act...Give your servant an understanding heart to judge your people and distinguish right from wrong."

The Lord was so pleased that Solomon did not ask for a long life, riches, or the death of his enemies. He gave Solomon not only what he asked for, but what he did not ask for.

How pleased was God with Solomon's humility. Signs of humility before God and before people are so pleasing to the Lord. For when we humble ourselves, in words and in actions, we are admitting that even the greatest of us is a mere child in the presence of the Lord.

At the ordination ceremony of a priest, the man about to be ordained lies prostrate before his bishop with his face on the floor of the church sanctuary, while all the people pray for him to God and all the angels and saints. How pleasing and touching is this moment of humility and submission. This act of humility tells everyone that we know our place before God and before people. This gesture or act of humility is best reflected on this prayer composed by St. Ignatius: "Take, O Lord, and receive, all my liberty, my memory, my understanding, and my entire will. Take all that I have and all that I call my own. You have given all to me: to you, O Lord, I return it all. Everything that I have is yours. Give me only your love and your grace and I am rich enough and I ask for nothing more."

A while ago, before I wrote this homily, I was driving from visiting an elderly couple and listening to the radio broadcaster saying that Melbournians are so anxious of hearing the numbers of Covid 19 infections and wishing and hoping the numbers will be going down. However, the radio broadcaster was saying that he has overheard that the number is in fact going up. One thing which we can probably reflect on is that this pandemic has made many of us to recognize our need for one another and our need for God. Our modern tendency of self-centredness or selfishness or the Me attitude has been challenged. We have probably recognized that we need God to give the grace and blessing upon our medical scientists to come up with effective vaccine to deal with this Pandemic and our human willpower is not enough and in humility we need say that we need the Divine Power to help us.