



St Mary of the Cross Catholic Parish

EMBODYING CHRIST'S LOVE

Parish Vision Statement:

*We are a faith community who gather to praise and worship God.
We express Christ's presence among us by reaching out to those in need
with Christ's message of love and forgiveness and the promise of justice and hope for all.*

21st Ordinary Sunday – 23rd August 2020

Our readings for this week are **ISAIAH 22: 19-23; ROMANS 11: 33-36; MATTHEW 16: 13-20**

PARISH CHURCHES:

**St Brigid's,
520 Main St, Mordialloc
& St Louis de Montfort's,
37 Dolphin St, Aspendale**

PARISH PRIEST:

Fr Andrew Jekot

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:

Bernadette Carr

PARISH SECRETARIES:

Susan Dornom

Monday, Thursday & Friday

Ann Fitzgerald

Tuesday & Wednesday

PARISH HOUSE:

9580 1018

PARISH OFFICE:

9580 7981

Monday-Friday 9am-4.30pm

PARISH EMAIL:

**[mordiallocaspendale
@cam.org.au](mailto:mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au)**

PARISH WEBSITE:

**[www.cam.org.au/
mordiallocaspendale](http://www.cam.org.au/mordiallocaspendale)**

PARISH SCHOOLS:

**St Brigid's School,
129 Albert St, Mordialloc
9580 4518**

www.sbmord.catholic.edu.au

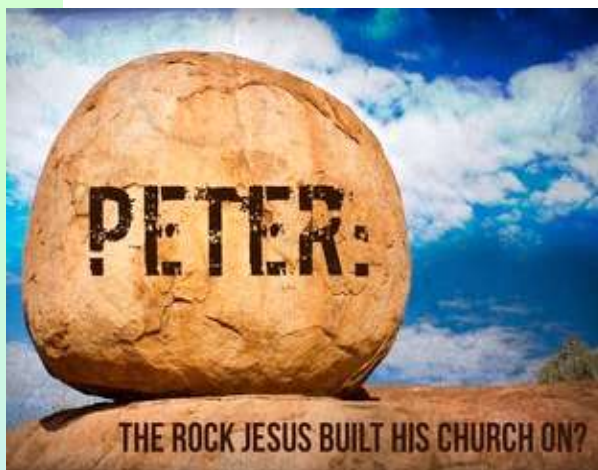
**St Louis de Montfort's School,
37 Dolphin St, Aspendale
9580 5169**

www.stlouisaspendale.catholic.edu.au

Gospel Reflection: Like last week's gospel, this week's story takes place in a region that was outside predominantly Jewish territory. Caesarea Philippi (north of Galilee and in the region of modern day Syria) had long been a centre of pagan worship. It was used originally by the Canaanites as a site of worship; the Greeks built a temple to one of their gods there; in 20 BC Herod the Great built a temple to Caesar Augustus; and after his death, Herod's son, Phillip, renamed the city Caesarea Phillipi after Tiberius Caesar and himself. It is intriguing that Matthew's gospel chooses such a site as the location for such a significant revelation of faith.

Jesus asks the disciples who people say he is. They report that people associate Jesus with one of the great prophets of Jewish tradition. By people identifying Jesus with other great prophets they were projecting Jesus into the same mould as that prophet. What they were saying was that Jesus will be a great leader in the style of John the Baptist, or Elijah or even Jeremiah. The expectation of a messiah was running very high at the time of Jesus and everyone had their own idea about what that messiah would be like – usually aligned with some previous leader. They didn't seem to understand that Jesus was breaking the mould and was not going to fit in with any of those expectations. To see him as one of the great prophets come again is always going to be an inadequate understanding of Jesus as messiah.

When Jesus pushes the disciples for their own ideas, it is Simon



Peter who speaks up and identifies Jesus as being the Son of the living God. Making a play on Peter's name (in Greek, petros = Peter and petra = rock), Jesus states that hereafter, Simon Peter will be known as Peter and upon the rock of his profession of faith the church will be built.

Michael Russo

NEXT SUNDAY- 29th & 30th August 2020

Next Sunday is the Twenty Second Sunday of Ordinary Time in Year A: Our readings for next week are: **JEREMIAH 22: 19-23; ROMANS 12: 1-2; MATTHEW 16: 21-27**



Pastoral Letter to Parishioners

Dear Parishioners,

21st August 2020

“How rich are the depths of God, how deep his wisdom and knowledge”. Words we will hear in our second reading this weekend. We cannot fathom the amount of love God has for each and every one of us but let’s continue to receive this gift with an open heart.

Thanks to those who joined me for a cuppa or a drink during the week via Zoom. It’s the best that we can do at the moment so other opportunities will be in the newsletter soon. Just another chance to catch up.

Congratulations to Fr. Peter on his 50th anniversary of priesthood on the 22nd August. Covid has again delayed some significant celebrations but we just put them on hold until we can gather again. I still have a bit of catching up to Peter’s special anniversary with my 23rd anniversary on the 23rd August and yes, it will be a quiet day. I will make contact with Frs Max Vodola and John Healy who I share this anniversary with.

Don’t forget prayer with Bernadette is on every Tuesday at 11am.. Scripture and Friendship group is every Thursday at 11am. Details in the newsletter.

Speaking with my nephew Ethan recently who is currently ploughing through Year 12, he shared some wise words. It’s not what Covid-19 is doing to us but what can Covid-19 do for us? A reminder to see the positives around us.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BA7pdABvpnc>

God Bless,

St. Mary of the Cross.... pray for us.
St. Louis.... pray for us.

St. Brigid.... pray for us.

Fr. Andrew

Parish News:

Archbishop's Message: This week Archbishop Peter Comensoli asks us to reflect on what it means to be people of compassion during times of suffering. 'The word compassion has two parts to it: 'com' and 'passion' Com, in its Latin, means 'wit' and 'passio' means 'suffer'. To have compassion is to suffer with, and to be able to reach out to those in need. I'm sure you have that sense of our circumstances that this moment'. Go to www.cam.org.au to view his message.



Australian Catholics: The Spring edition of Australian Catholics has arrived. Copies are available near the Bulletins on the Church doors or contact the Parish Office to have a copy delivered. This edition is a special youth edition with stories of celebration – '**Keeping the Spirit Alive**'. It includes stories from the bushfires, stories from the Young Journalist Awards 2020 re-discovering what's important, and imagining life after Covid-19, and much more.



JAG News: Thank you to everyone who made donations to **JAG's Foodbank Appeal**. The Parish has received \$575 in cash donations Adding this to the donation of \$400 already sent means that a total of \$975 goes to Foodbank from JAG plus there were donations that were sent directly to Foodbank for this Appeal:



BASP Appeal: JAG would now like to highlight the plight of refugees and asylum seekers in these very difficult times. Many of them receive no government assistance and are unable to work so they rely on the support of groups like **BASP** (Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project).

JAG is planning to hold a Silent (online) Auction as a way of raising funds for BASP.



JAG's Silent Auction for BASP
will be held probably in October
(when Covid-19 restrictions have eased)
Bidding & viewing of items will be online



To make this fundraiser a success JAG needs items to auction.

Do you have any goods or services you would like to donate?

Donations need to be new items. Suggestions include **Goods** such as vouchers, artwork, books, garden plants, sculptures, craft, etc

Services could include a catered meal delivered to your home or even minor home maintenance like window cleaning etc *Please let JAG know if you have other suggestions.*

It doesn't have to be a big donation as smaller items could be put together in hampers.

For more information or to discuss possible donations

contact **Maree Morris** on 0407 376 505 or mareemorris959.mm@gmail.com

or **Sandy Lindfield** on 0412 057 177

JAG Meeting: Our Parish Justice Action Group (JAG) invites you to join them via Zoom at their next meeting at **7.30pm on Wednesday 9th September.**



All JAG members will be sent a Zoom link to this meeting. If you would like to be included in this JAG meeting please contact Sandy at: slindfield@stlouisaspendale.com

St Vincent de Paul: All the Vinnies stores have closed during stage 4 restrictions



but the work of our St Vincent de Paul conferences (including our local conferences) has been deemed an essential service and they will continue to assist all those in need following safe Covid-19 guidelines. Many people in our community have been impacted economically by



the current restrictions. If you know of anyone who is struggling please encourage them to ask for assistance. Contact: **St Vincent de Paul Welfare - 1800 305 330**

CORONAVIRUS ADVICE: ALL MASSES HAVE BEEN CANCELLED.

BOTH OUR CHURCHES AND PARISH OFFICE ARE NOW CLOSED.

All staff are working from home. Phone calls and emails are still being attended to.

Don't forget to keep checking our Parish website www.cam.org.au/mordiallocaspendale for Fr Andrew's YouTube Masses, Weekly Bulletins and lots of other up to date information.

21st Ordinary Sunday – Year A:

Recently Deceased: Mary Wilde (Mordialloc),
Lois Erikson (cousin of Sue Waltho)

Anniversaries: Clare Brennan, Br Bill Lebler, Sr Mary Imeldine AC, Sr Mary Silvaria AC, Mary Baldock, Frances D'Argent, Aloysius & May Demonte, Maurice Dowd, Tom Drenen, Ernesto Leme, Kathrine Fernandes, Phylis Laughlin, John Michael Malone, Roger Parfait, Moira Waight, Jack Wraight, Terry Duus, Anacleta Gutierrez, Margaret Hamilton, Kerry Smith, Claire Wright, Giordano Godeassi, Dennis Bell, Kathleen Healy, Frances O'Reilly, Ronald Coghlan, Sr Marita O'Connell, Bruce Thurgood, John Wood, William Amor, Ken Balm, Henry Mellan, Eileen O'Brien, Margaret Roberts.

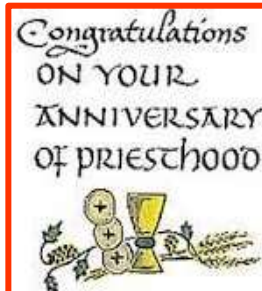
Healing Prayers Asked For: Graham Owen, Honor Elvey, Betty Vilca, Sr Helen Reed, Jean Phillips, Valerie Kilpatrick, Rebecca Walker, Helen Pedrazzini, John McFall, Frank Forbes.

(If you know of anyone who needs prayers or a pastoral visit please contact the Parish Office.)

Parish News:

Congratulations to **Fr Peter Matheson** who celebrates his Golden Jubilee - 50th Anniversary of Ordination on 22nd August and also to **Fr Andrew** who celebrates his 23rd Anniversary of priesthood on 23rd August.

We thank them for the inspiration, dedication and faithful service they give to the priesthood and we pray that their ministries continue to be blessed.



Parish Cuppa with Fr. Andrew: Thanks to everyone who joined in for a chat with Fr Andrew and each other on Zoom last week. There will be other opportunities in the coming weeks – keep an eye on the Bulletin for more details.

Prayer Time (via Zoom): Bernadette Carr invites you to join her for some online prayer time (30mins) on **Tuesdays at 11am.**

All parishioners, visitors to our online mass, website or all who hear via a friend are welcome to join our weekly parish prayer. COVID-19 is a very isolating time so by joining us in prayer we hope that in some small way you may have a sense of being connected with others. Go to: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84762497666>



Scripture & Friendship Group has resumed. They are meeting via Zoom and will continue weekly for the moment. This group is open to anyone who wishes to join and will be held at **11am** on **Thursdays** during this Covid-19 lockdown time. They spend some time reading and reflecting on the Gospel for the coming Sunday and then share how it relates to our everyday lives.



Please feel free to join in on the Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82363841283>

For information contact: **Ann Brennan 9580 3810** or **Carmel Barker 9580 0539**

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