



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.*

22nd Ordinary Sunday – 30th August 2020

Our readings for this week are **JEREMIAH 20: 7-9; ROMANS 12: 1-2; MATTHEW 16: 21-27**

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

PARISH WEBSITE:

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:

We all know people in leadership who take themselves a bit too seriously. Some confuse their role or title with their significance in the scheme of things. Some look for privilege and an easy life, forgetting that leadership of anything worthwhile involves hard work, misunderstanding, and invariably brings opposition. The first part of today's gospel story presents Peter, who has just been declared the foundation rock of the church and given the "keys" of the kingdom, refusing to accept that Jesus' mission will involve suffering, even death. The reader is confronted in this story with the image of the expansive rock face at Caesarea Philippi and invited to consider the fragile properties of the seemingly indestructible rock. Even rocks can be reduced to sand or gravel and a humbler mode of being.

For all its seriousness, there is something quite laughable about this story. Peter actually criticises and reprimands Jesus. Jesus then sets him straight in no uncertain terms. The 'rock' becomes the leader of the opposition, a serious obstacle to God's purposes, a stumbling block. He is ordered back to the place where disciples properly belong, namely 'behind' Jesus, 'following' him.

Peter's impulsive outburst provides the trigger for Jesus to invite his disciples to think about what they really want. In Matthew's gospel, Jesus is the teacher and the disciples are the students who have accepted the invitation to follow him. That means living out in their lives the pattern of his life. If they really want to be his followers, then they have to embrace the pain involved in his relentless program of teaching and of healing the sick and broken hearted. They will also share the 'glory'. If they choose to put their own interests first, then they will surely lose themselves. It is ultimately a question of choosing life. Peter forgets this for a while and has to be reminded to be true to what he has previously professed. He is not very different from the rest of us. We too need to rethink our choices and to reorder our priorities from time to time if we want to find life. Let us bring into our minds and hearts those most affected by COVID-19 and we pray for the insight to live in right relationship with all that is. **Sarah McDermott**



NEXT SUNDAY- 5th & 6th September 2020

Next Sunday is the Twenty Third Sunday of Ordinary Time in Year A:

Our readings for next week are: **EZEKIEL33: 7-9;**

ROMANS 13: 8-10; MATTHEW 18: 15-20



Pastoral Letter to Parishioners

Dear Parishioners,

28th August 2020

Thank you to all who have shared emails and messages for my 23rd anniversary of priesthood last Sunday. Who would have thought that on the day of my ordination that 23 years later a pandemic would prevent you from attending mass on a Sunday? Hopefully our gradual re-emergence into society will allow masses to have some attendees soon. It'll be baby steps I think. Starting with 10 people, 20 and hopefully 50 by Christmas time!

Speaking of Christmas time, the Liturgy Group and Parish Pastoral Council have begun to reflect on how that will be experienced in the parish. It may seem too early to organise Christmas but we all know that it will be a different experience this year. My prayer is that we can at least gather as families to celebrate the birth of Jesus. I will have a mass recorded for those unable to attend the masses.

There is still lots of background work that goes on during lockdown including another exciting project that was approved late last year. The Mary MacKillop art work and reflective gardens at both church sites. Lots of preliminary work going on, discussions about the design and what sort of medium are all in the "melting pot". We have locked in an artist and await some detailed designs. More news to follow.

Don't forget to Zoom in on prayer with Bern or the scripture or friendship groups and a cuppa with me this coming week. Details in the newsletter.

God Bless,

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

St. Brigid.... pray for us.

Fr. Andrew

Parish News:

Standing Together - Light in the Darkness: On the last 2 days of winter the Victorian Council of Churches invites everyone to join together to remember all those who have lost their lives to Coronavirus or to violence and to pray for the



end of the pandemic with two special events:
Sunday 30th August at 2pm – Standing Together
Virtual prayer with a reflection led by the Archbishop:
Go to www.facebook.com/viccouncilchurches

Monday 31st August at 7pm – Light in the Darkness

As the light fades on the last day of winter you are invited to light a candle in your front garden or at a window and look forward with prayer and hope to spring.



St Louis Tennis Club: will be holding their **Annual General Meeting** via Zoom at **7.30pm** on this **Wednesday 2nd September**. All members will be sent a Zoom link to attend this meeting.



JAG Meeting: Our Parish Justice Action Group (JAG) invites you to join them via Zoom for 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

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

(to be held in October when restrictions ease)

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?

Donation suggestions include **Goods** (new items only) such as vouchers, artwork, books, garden plans, 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**



The Swag

Quarterly Magazine of the
National Council of Priests of Australia

The Swag: Our Parish usually has copies of The Swag (quarterly National Council of Priests Magazine) available for parishioners to pick up. At this time this is difficult so the NCP are making it available online.

Simply go to www.theswag.org.au Click on the **green button** with the words 'Parishes and Schools with a bulk subscription. Please Click here.' to read the latest edition.



Australian Catholics: The Spring edition of Australian Catholics has arrived. This is a **Special Youth Edition with Stories of Celebration – 'Keeping the Spirit Alive'**. Copies are available near the Bulletins on the Church doors or contact the Parish Office to have a copy delivered.



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.

22nd Ordinary Sunday – Year A:

Recently Deceased: Peter Tripovich (brother-in-law of Michael & Carmel Barker) Christopher Jones (nephew of Graham Jones), Drago Tkalcevic (Moorabbin),

Anniversaries: Dennis Bell, Antonietta La Sala, Dorothy O'Keeffe, Ricardo Vilca, Daniel Farren, Benita Schneider-Loos, Megan Tomasetti (Levvey), Charles Barkley, Jose Mari Manahan, Maria Merlino, Sebastiana Musumeci, Joseph Rochford, Sr Susan Shannon, Les Woodhead, Venera Barbagallo, Eveleigh Vickers, Dr Janos Bogнар, Marcella Doran, Clara Dundon, Linda Jamieson, Jack Lanaway, Alan Brereton, Agnes Bugden, Kathleen Doherty, Margaret Dow, George D'Cunha, Curtis Drenen, Marc Licciardo, Terence Partleton.

Healing Prayers Asked For: Michelle Barclay, Wilma Jones, Alma Brennan, Valerie Kilpatrick, Sr Helen Reed, Graham Owen, Frank Forbes, Honor Elvey, Betty Vilca, Jean Phillips, Rebecca Walker, John McFall, Helen Pedrazzini. *(If you know of anyone who needs prayers please contact the Parish Office.)*

Happy Birthday: to Gail Bell who celebrates her 75th Birthday this week



Congratulations: to Sue & Peter Waltho who celebrate their 30th Anniversary on 1st Sept

Parish News:

Social Justice Sunday: is now being celebrated on the last Sunday in August (previously it was in September). Each year the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference put out a Social Justice Statement. The title for this year's Social Justice Statement is: **TO LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL –Mental Health in Australia Today**

Covid-19 pandemic is a threat in many ways – physical, social, political, economic. But it is also putting pressure on the mental health of many people in ways both seen and unseen. Those who are at risk, and those who love them, may be especially anxious. This Social Justice Statement encourages each one of us to make mental health a priority. Copies of the **Social Justice Statement** can be viewed at: www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au You can also watch a video of Bishop Vincent Long speaking about this important topic.



Parish Cuppa with Fr. Andrew: Fr Andrew is offering a chance to have a catch up with him and others online. Please join Fr Andrew on **Friday 4th September** at **10:30am** Zoom link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88067227393>

Prayer Time (via Zoom): Bernadette Carr invites you to join her for some online prayer time (30mins) on **Tuesdays at 11am**. All are welcome to join this weekly parish prayer. Go to: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84762497666>



Scripture & Friendship Group: are now meeting via Zoom at **11am on Thursdays** to read and reflect on the Gospel for the coming Sunday. All welcome to join in on Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82363841283> For info contact: **Ann Brennan 9580 3810** or **Carmel Barker 9580 0539**

St Mary of the Cross Prayer Group: extends a warm invitation to everyone to recite the Rosary in your own home on **Tuesdays at 7:30pm**. *If this time is not convenient you are invited to recite the rosary at any time on Tuesday.* This is a way we can all join together in prayer even if we are apart.

