



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.*

16th Ordinary Sunday – 19th July 2020

Our readings for this week are **WISDOM 12: 13, 16-19; ROMANS 8: 26-27; MATTHEW 13: 24-43**

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

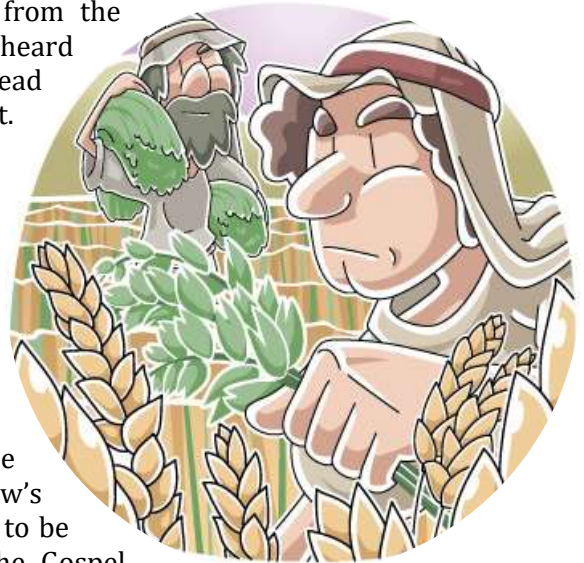
www.sbmord.catholic.edu.au

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

www.stlouisaspendale.catholic.edu.au

Gospel Reflection: *Gardening for the Soul*

The gospel continues on from the parable of the Sower that we heard last week. It is important to read this parable in its context. Jesus is dealing with why so many do not respond to his teaching, for his ministry receives a very mixed response. In the symbolism of the parable, the reign of God that Jesus announces is met by vigorous opposition from the powers of evil. This is the reality in Jesus' time, the reality faced by Matthew's community and it continues to be our reality. The voice of the Gospel continues to struggle to be heard in our present society.



With many of the complex issues we face it is not easy to discern the weeds from the wheat. The parable seems to suggest that the servants need to live with both the wheat and the weeds and leave the task of judgment to God. Jesus offers this teaching to console and encourage his followers. Their task, as servants, is to sow goodness. The task of destroying evil is God's.

Perhaps an even greater challenge is to realise that the parable speaks about me. The paradox within my own life – I too have to learn to live with the wheat and the weeds within my own heart.

Here is a story for you to ponder on. A preacher came and asked the class, 'If all the good people wore white and all the bad people wore black, what would you wear?' Mary Jane answered, 'I'd wear polka dots!'

For all our good intentions, and efforts we will probably continue to struggle with some issues all our lives. The garden of our soul will always need a little weeding. These inner struggles will continue to call us to conversion and we will continue to need to call on God and allow God to be the gardener of our souls. Knowing the weeds and wheat within our own individual lives, can help us be a little more patient, or tolerant of the weeds and wheat around us – in our families, communities, our Church. This is not an invitation to complacency but a reminder to 'get real' as young people say.

Wendy Sullivan

NEXT SUNDAY- 25th & 26th July 2020

Next Sunday is the Seventeenth Sunday of Ordinary Time in Year

A: Our readings for next week are: **1 KINGS 3: 5, 7-12;**

ROMANS 8: 28-30; MATTHEW 13: 44-52

Parish News:

Our Parish Child Safeguarding Team has continued to meet regularly (via Zoom) during this time of restrictions and have been using this time to follow up on Working With Children Checks for all Parish volunteers. If you are a volunteer in any of our ministries or if you are part



of any of our Parish Groups then you must have a WWCC and your WWCC needs to be linked to our Parish. WWCCs are free for volunteers

To apply for a WWCC go to www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au

To link your WWCC to our Parish simply go to the WWCC website and update your details by adding St Mary of the Cross Parish to the list of organisations that you volunteer in.

If you need help applying or updating please contact the Parish Office.

To further improve our understanding of the importance of safeguarding our children and vulnerable adults in our Parish online training will be available later this year.

Our Parish is committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, and vulnerable people in our community. If you have any questions please contact any of the members of our Child Safeguarding Team: **Fr Andrew, Susan Dornom, Carmel Barker, Ann Brennan, Louise Breslin, Judy Dickinson, Deb Poynton & Robyn Worsnop.**

Project Compassion Boxes: Thank you to everyone who returned their Project Compassion Boxes. Total donations from our Parish so far this year is **\$1,638** plus many parishioners have made donations online. Boxes can still be returned to the Parish Office and donations can still be made online at www.caritas.org.au



Other News:

Video Message from Archbishop Peter: Light in the Midst of Darkness:

Archbishop Peter Comensoli has recorded a message for the faithful, encouraging us to continue to pray for and support one another during this difficult time. Despite the challenges of returning to stage 3 restrictions, Archbishop Comensoli says he's been encouraged by 'light in the midst of darkness' – such as the work done by the Flemington Kensington Parish to support locals affected by the hard lockdown of apartment towers.



To view this message go to: www.cam.org.au

Treasuring Our Later Years: Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation is offering a six week course of reflections via Zoom (until face-to-face permitted).

The sessions will be led by **Sr Nicole Rotaru** rsm - *Sister of Mercy, Educator, Social Worker & Creative Arts Therapist with a deep interest in spirituality*

1pm-3pm on Tuesdays 4th August to 8th September

Cost: \$115 for the Series, or \$20 per session

This series includes themes which take on particular relevance and meaning in our ageing years such as:

Ageing! Decline and ascent; both loss and gain...

Spirituality... deepest dimension of our life

What is giving my life meaning? At its core, life is about relationships

Gratitude... thanks for the past... thanks for the present

My death... as an act of communion... into the Mystery

For info & bookings: 9890 1101, holsc@bigpond.com or go to www.heartoflife.melbourne



Parish News:

CORONAVIRUS ADVICE: ALL MASSES HAVE BEEN CANCELLED for the next 6 weeks. Our Parish Office is still contactable and phone calls and emails will be 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.

16th Ordinary Sunday – Year A:

Recently Deceased: Andrew O'Farrell (son of Liz & Paul O'Farrell)

Anniversaries: Harriet Drinan, Eileen Kavanagh, Eileen Maguire, Sr Digna AC, Joan Byrne, Greg Corda, Paddy & Pat Davey, Peg Hallam, Ted McMahon, Evelyn Bibby, Tessie Myles-Kellett, Debbie & Jack Egan, Dorothy Cresswell, Anne Snelgrove, Nicholas Mercer, Robert Panton, Aileen Rowe, Kathleen Hirst, Frances Morgan, Ramon Reed, Antony Saliba, Antoinella Burgio, Patrick Hewitson, Vivette Jansz, Magherita Taranto, Edna Ansalde, Andrew Burns, Josephine D'Cunha, Bobby & Tom Mills, Maria Pitinga, Bill White,

Healing Prayers Asked For: Alan Seddon, John Nicholson, John McFall, Fr Michael Wheeler, Frank Forbes. *(If you know of anyone who needs prayers or a pastoral visit please contact the Parish Office.)*



Parish News:

Renovations at St Louis' Church continue this week. Our online Mass will once again be recorded at St Brigid's Church this week so that the enhancements can be completed and hopefully Mass will be recorded at St Louis' next week. The enhancements include some new lighting in the body of the Church with some coloured glass and a suspended cross hanging from the central tower.

St Mary of the Cross Feast Day: Saturday 8th August is the Feast Day of our Parish's Patron Saint, St Mary of the Cross MacKillop.

Bernadette Carr will be offering an online presentation on the life of Mary MacKillop via a Zoom meeting from 11.00am to 12.15pm on 8th August.

The Zoom link will be: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83257858245>

If you are new to Zoom please connect at 10.45am so we can make sure you are properly connected.

Please register your interest by contacting Bern Carr on bernadette.carr@cam.org.au



JAG Meeting: Our Justice Action Group - JAG are having a meeting (via Zoom) next **Tuesday 21st July at 7.30pm**. Members will be emailed an invite link to the meeting. If you would like to be included in this JAG meeting please contact:



Sandy at slindfield@stlouisaspendale.com

This month JAG invites you to support **Foodbank** - an organisation working to help those in need at this challenging time of Covid-19. Foodbank is Australia's largest food relief organisation, operating on a scale that makes it crucial to the work of the front line charities who are feeding vulnerable Australians. Foodbank provides more than 70% of the food rescued for food relief organisations nation-wide.

COVID-19 Food Crisis: With many Victorians finding themselves in lockdown, isolation, without a job or money to buy food, demand for these services is at an all-time high. For info or to donate go to <https://www.foodbank.org.au>

Cash donations can be made via the Parish Office 9580 7981 and they will be forwarded to Foodbank on 15th August.

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