

St Patrick's

MURRUMBEENA

234 Murrumbeena Road, Murrumbeena

Email: murrumbeena@cam.org.au

Webpage: www.pol.org.au/murrumbeena



St Kevin's

ORMOND

72 Glen Orme Ave, Ormond

Email: ormond@cam.org.au

Webpage: www.pol.org.au/ormond

COMBINED PARISH OFFICE: 6 Dalny Rd, Murrumbeena, VIC 3163 Ph: 9568 7365 - Office Hours Tues to Fri 10am-4pm

St Patrick's and St Kevin's Parishes are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Welcome to the Combined Parishes of St Patrick's and St Kevin's

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time—Year B — 14th November 2021

REFLECTION

Although this is not the last Sunday of the liturgical year, the major theme found in the readings is the end of time. The events that will usher in and will take place during this time are described in apocalyptic terms. The struggles of life will culminate in a massive cosmic confrontation between the forces of good and those of evil. This last battle will be universal in scope, just like the first primordial conflict between chaos and God.

In some way, all of today's readings state that good will finally prevail over evil. In the last days Michael, the angelic warrior of God, will rise up. In the epistle, Christ is pictured seated triumphantly at the right hand of God with his enemies under his foot, a sign of conquest. Finally, in the gospel, the Son of Man, the mysterious figure from apocalyptic literature, comes in the clouds with great power and glory. All of these images are apocalyptic; each of them is quite hopeful.

We read these stories at the close of the liturgical year, because we are coming to the conclusion of our yearly telling of the story of salvation. However, apocalyptic images are timely whenever we find ourselves in the throes of the battle with evil and it appears that we will succumb. These forms will remind us that good will be able to withstand evil. From this we will conclude that we need only trust in God.

By Dianne Bergant CSA

PatCare Ministry—Going Forward

Patcare is an emergency short term (3 months) care ministry in the parishes of St Patrick's and St Kevin's. Volunteers provide care assistance to the aged/housebound, food or transport.

It is important to be aware of our induction day on Saturday, November 27th between 11.00 am—1.00 pm.

A power point presentation will be given as well and a light lunch provided. Please bring with you any documentation required surrounding this ministry such as WWCC, Full Vaccination, Police Check and the Code of conduct sheet sent out to you as well as your availability sheet.

Please notify one of the coordinators if you are unable to attend or have any queries as soon as possible.

Coordinators: Maria Fernandez 0405327041; Teresa Leech 0422923501

Ministry to the Sick

St Patrick's and St Kevin's Parishes have formed a Ministry to the Sick.

We are seeking volunteers to assist in this Ministry, either visitation or distribution of Holy Communion.

We will be forming a roster and parishes are asking for your generous donation of time to assist in this important ministry.

We will be providing necessary training as well. Date to be advised.

If you are aware of any housebound parishioners please contact the Coordinators for each Parish.

St Kevin's: Yasmine Miranda 0433336483 St Patrick's : Teresa Leech 0422923501.

Thankyou.

Aged Care Ministry

There are 5 aged care facilities within our combined parish boundaries. It is the responsibility of both our parishes (Parish Priest), to look after the spiritual needs of Catholics in these aged care facilities (Holy Mass at least once a month and distribution of Holy Communion weekly or fortnightly). Therefore Fr Siby is in need of volunteers to help in this ministry. So please sign up on the sheets at the back of the church. Thank you.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU SIGN IN WITH THE QR CODE AND SHOW YOUR PROOF OF VACCINATION



Dear People and Clergy of the Archdiocese,

Equal Opportunity (Religious Exceptions) Amendment Bill 2021

My prayerful greetings to you in the Lord.

It is with grave concern that I write to you about proposed new legislation, the *Equal Opportunity (Religious Exceptions) Amendment Bill 2021* from the State Government, which will impact on all faith-based organisations in Victoria.

The Victorian Government is depicting this Bill as merely a protection against discrimination in religious settings. Sadly, however, this is a seriously far-reaching law that will limit faith-based organisations from managing employment matters according to their faith, conscience and values. The legislation is a serious overreach of the Government into the rightful freedoms of Victorian faith-based organisations.

Across all areas of society, Catholics run organisations with an open and inclusive commitment to people in their care. Our excellence in the provision of services is recognised by many—evident in the large numbers of students attending Catholic schools and educational institutions.

Currently, Catholic organisations, including our schools can freely employ those who share our religious beliefs, values and ethos. However, the Victorian Government has introduced legislation seeking to change this. If it passes, the *Equal Opportunity (Religious Exceptions) Amendment Bill 2021* will affect religious organisations all across Victoria, who will be limited in their ability to employ staff, run their schools and provide other services that adhere to their faith, values and ethos.

Under the new legislation, religious bodies and educational institutes will no longer be able to employ staff who hold the same religious beliefs and values unless they can prove that it is an 'inherent requirement' of the job. It would grant power to a government appointed commissioner or a court to ultimately determine whether particular staffing roles carried an 'inherent' religious requirement or not. This means that in places like schools, and especially where government funding is attached, employers will have an extra burden of administration placed on them, and leave them vulnerable to a decrease in the role and importance of faith in the work they do.

The example has been given that in a religious school, the only roles where religious beliefs might be an 'inherent requirement' of the job include positions of senior leadership (e.g. a principal) or religious education teachers. However, what the Government fails to understand is that faith is holistic—it affects the way we see the world and conduct our lives. Faith is part of the very make-up and fabric of each school. It is entirely reasonable and fair that religious bodies should be able to preference those who share their beliefs and values in their own private employment matters.

I do not believe it is in anyone's interest in the long term for a secular power to make such a determination for religious organisations. The role of importance of faith in a faith-based organisation cannot be relegated to a bureaucrat or a secular court. This is another sad example of people of faith and the freedom of religious organisations being unfairly targeted.

Other organisations like political parties will not have the same restrictions placed on them. In other words, the Government will impose on the staffing of faith organisations but not on the staffing of political organisations. We rightly ask, why the imbalance?

Unfortunately, we can expect the Bill to be debated in Parliament next week and the Government has given its full support to these proposals without adequate consultation in which we could have negotiated a fair and equitable outcome.

We live in a diverse and pluralistic society, and it is our democratic right and responsibility to respectfully challenge legislative proposals which are unfair and unreasonable. I encourage all people of faith and goodwill to stand up for religious freedom and ask our parliamentarians to oppose the Bill, particularly the introduction of an 'inherent requirement' test.

On the following page, you will find some suggestions on how to raise concerns about this important issue and I also encourage you to share this message widely.

Please continue to pray for a spirit of fairness to people of faith by our parliamentary representatives, and for good sense to prevail.

With every grace and blessing, I remain, Yours sincerely in Christ Jesus,
Most Rev Peter A Comensoli,
Archbishop of Melbourne

(To be continued on next page)



1. Contact your local Members of Parliament in Victoria

Writing to Members of Parliament (MPs) is an effective way to communicate with them about this Bill. A short letter (emailed or mailed) respectfully expression concerns with the legislation will help them understand what is important to people of faith. Each Victorian has one MP representing their local **district** and six MPs who represent their wider **region**. If you're unsure who to write to, you can find out which district/region you are part of and the contact details of the MPs representing you here: www.parliament.vic.gov.au/about/electorates

2. Contact your federal Members of Parliament

Writing to federal Members of Parliament to tell them about what is happening here in Victoria is also vitally important, because religious freedom legislation is potentially being considered on a federal level. You can write to them to share your concern and ask them to act to protect the religious freedom of all Australians. Each Victorian has one local MP representing their geographic **area** and twelve Senators who represent their **state**. Details of your local federal Member of Parliament can be found here: www.aph.gov.au/Senators_and_Members/Members

Simply scroll down to 'Search Members' and type in your postcode to find your MP.

Details of Victorian Senators can be found here: www.bit.ly/3BNVYAI

- 3. **Share your concerns with others:** You are also encouraged to tell your family, friends and those in your local community about your concerns and ask them to become active too.
- 4. **Get active on Social Media:** You may also like to share your concerns with your Members of Parliament via their Social Media pages.
- 5. **Find out more**—Keep up to date about this issue at: www.melbournecatholic.org/religiousfreedom

REGULAR WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

ST PATRICK'S
9.15am on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays

ST KEVIN'S
9.15am on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays

"CUPPAS" ROSTER
SUNDAY, 21ST NOVEMBER 2021
Celina and Philip de Rose

WEEKEND MASS TIMES FOR THE FULLY VACCINATED

| DAY | ST PATRICK'S | ST KEVIN'S |
|----------------|-------------------|------------|
| Saturday Vigil | | 6.00 PM |
| Sunday | 8.30 AM & 5.00 PM | 10.30 AM |

BAPTISMS AT ST PATRICK'S AND ST KEVIN'S
Please contact the parish office for information
Phone: (03) 9568 7365

Reading Roster for Next Weekend— 20th/21st November, 2021

| St Kevin's | St Patrick's |
|---|--|
| Sat. 6pm Vigil — Rosemary McGeoch and David Zammit | Sun. 8.30am - Philip de Rose and John Murtagh |
| Sun. 10.30am - Margaret McGill | Sun. 5.00pm – Teresa Leech |

Let's pray in faith, hope and love for the recently deceased.
Bruce Thompson (Husband of Valerie Thompson), Sr Eileen Jones (Presentation Nun),
Sheila Sullivan, John Bowen (brother of Bernadette Gunasekera), Santa Sabato and William McNamara



Let's also pray for the Sick:

Neil Stapleton, Frank Jackson, Han Kwee, Jack Mack, Michael Chew, Kurt Siegermeier, Coleen Parris,
Thomas (Fr Siby's Dad), Tessa Keane, Rodney Gardner (grandson of Pat Gardner).

STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE

Dear Parishioners,

With the easing of restrictions and recommencement of Holy Mass in our Parishes, the 'TAP & GO' donation machines in the Parishes are active for your convenience.

Thanksgiving Contributions can be Direct Credited to the Parish Bank Accounts as follows;
Please indicate your Thanksgiving Envelope number as your reference.

St Patrick's Church Murrumbena BSB: 083 347 A/c: 66364 4763
St Patrick's Presbytery BSB: 083 347 A/c: 16891 5271
St Kevin's Church Ormond BSB: 083 347 A/c: 64473 7358
St Kevin's Presbytery BSB: 083 347 A/c: 18207 5969

Last Weekend's Collection

| | Church | Presbytery |
|--------------|----------|------------|
| St Kevin's | \$598.80 | \$363.90 |
| St Patrick's | \$631.10 | \$348.65 |

Thank you and God Bless you and your Families.

Nihal Lawrence

Finance Officer

Combined Parishes of St Patrick's and St Kevin's

Entrance Antiphon: The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

First Reading: Daniel 12:1-3

A reading from the prophet Daniel.

‘At that time Michael will stand up, the great prince who mounts guard over your people. There is going to be a time of great distress, unparalleled since nations first came into existence. When that time comes, your own people will be spared, all those whose names are found written in the Book. Of those who lie sleeping in the dust of the earth many will awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting disgrace. The learned will shine as brightly as the vault of heaven, and those who have instructed many in virtue, as bright as stars for all eternity.’

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God!

Psalm: Ps 15:5. 11. R.v.1

R. Keep me safe, O God: you are my hope.

Second Reading: Hebrews 10:11-14, 18

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

All the priests stand at their duties every day, offering over and over again the same sacrifices which are quite incapable of taking sins away. Christ, on the other hand, has offered one single sacrifice for sins, and then taken his place for ever, at the right hand of God, where he is now waiting until his enemies are made into a footstool for him. By virtue of that one single offering, he has achieved the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctifying. When all sins have been forgiven, there can be no more sin offerings.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful, and pray constantly, that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 13:24-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘In those days, after the time of distress, the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, the stars will come falling from heaven and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory; then too he will send the angels to gather his chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the world to the ends of heaven.

‘Take the fig tree as a parable: as soon as its twigs grow supple and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. So with you, when you see these things happening: know that he is near, at the very gates. I tell you solemnly, before this generation has passed away all these things will have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

‘But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son; no one but the Father.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Communion Antiphon: Amen, I say to you: Whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you will receive, and it shall be given to you, says the Lord.

**John Main Christian Meditation Group
A Parish Ministry**

John Main (1926-1982) was a Benedictine monk in the UK who adapted Meditation as a form of prayer within the Christian tradition to the modern Church. The Christian Meditation movement which he introduced has spread around the world with about 400 groups currently in Australia. The John Main Christian Meditation group at St. Patrick's, Murrumbreena was started in the year 2000 and has operated continuously since then. We meet on a weekly basis at Rovira House and people come whenever they can make it.

Meditation has many health benefits as a way of relaxing the body and mind, lowering blood pressure, easing anxiety and generally feeling revived and revitalised. Meditation can become a very powerful way of dealing with stress which is part of all of our lives. I know in my life, the practice of meditation has given the gifts of calmness, focus and ability to cope with day to day problems. It is a very simple practice using the three elements of stillness, silence and simplicity.

But meditation can also be of great benefit in our spiritual pilgrimage. It is a simple way of taking us through the noise, distraction and agitation of the mind to the inner room or centre of the heart. As one of our members puts it: “Losing oneself in God is one of the most profound and wonderful experiences of true Christian meditation. Once lost, we then find ourselves again, renewed, unique and perfectly and abundantly loved by the One who is Love itself.” We really encourage new members to come along at **Rovira House, 5 Dalny Rd (next to the School) every Monday 7-8pm.** People who are beginners to meditation are welcome, it is free and we are more than happy to help you get started. Any enquiries contact **Patrick at 0413431100.**

ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS!

THANKS TO ALL VOLUNTEERS, WHO HAVE PROVIDED THEIR FULL VACCINATION CERTIFICATE AND A GENTLE REMINDER TO OTHER VOLUNTEERS WHO HAVEN'T OR ARE AWAITING THEIR CERTIFICATE, TO PROVIDE IT TO THE PARISH OFFICE (FR SIBY) ASAP.

(THIS IS MANDATED BY THE GOVERNMENT).



Child Safety is Everybody's Responsibility
For information and Child Safety matters you can contact the Parish Child Safety Committee via celticparishes@gmail.com



Pope's Prayer intention for November 2021

“We pray that people who suffer from depression or burn-out, will find support and a light that opens them up to life.” – Pope Francis”



St Vincent de Paul Society
VICTORIA
good works

The Murrumbreena Conference of St Vincent de Paul Society provide emergency food and assistance to families and people doing it tough in the Ormond and Murrumbreena Areas. **For assistance Ph: 1800 305 330**
If you know someone who needs help give them this number.
Also the Conference is looking for Volunteers to ensure this good work continues. If you have some spare time and feel you would like to help in this area please contact us on svdp3163@hotmail.com