

The Gospel chosen for today's feast is interesting. It gives us what we know as the Eight Beatitudes from the beginning of the Sermon on the Mount. It is, in fact, a charter for holiness. When many people think of holiness they think of keeping the Ten Commandments and perhaps some other requirements of the Church like going to Mass on Sundays or fasting during Lent. What we often tend to forget is that the Ten Commandments really belong to the Old Testament and are part of the Jewish law. Of course, they are still valid and Jesus said clearly that he had not come to abolish the Jewish law but to fulfil it. We might say that the Beatitudes are an example of that fulfilling. The Beatitudes go far beyond the Ten Commandments in what they expect of a follower of Christ and yet the sad thing is that one hears of relatively few Christians saying that they base their lives on the Beatitudes. When we go to Confession it is the Ten Commandments we normally refer to and not the Beatitudes. And this is sad because it is clear from their position in Matthew's gospel that the Beatitudes have a central place. They are a kind of mission statement saying what kind of person the good Christian will be.

The word 'blessed' is sometimes translated 'happy'. It might be more accurate to translate it as 'fortunate'. In other words, people who have these qualities are really in an envious position. All of these beatitudes are indications that we belong to the 'kingdom of heaven'. This is to be understood not as a place, still less as referring to life after death. It rather describes the kind of society that exists when we live according to these values – a place of truth and love, of compassion and justice, of peace, freedom and sharing.

The general message is that those are really blessed when they know their dependence on God and on their sisters and brothers; when they commit themselves totally to the Way that Christ invites them to follow.

This is the kind of Christian we are all called to be. It is the qualities of the Beaitudes which made the saints and which will make saints of us too. They go far beyond what is required by the Ten Commandments. Being a Christian is a lot more than not doing things which are wrong. The Beaitudes also express not just actions but attitudes. In a way, they can never be fully observed. No matter how well I try to observe them, I can always go further. They leave no room for smugness, the kind of smugness the Pharisees had in keeping the Law. The Beatitudes are a true and reliable recipe for sainthood.

Sacred Space

O L I V E R I A N

ST OLIVER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, PASCOE VALE

ADMINISTRATOR Fr Michael Kong
Pastoral Associate Marthese Temming
Parish Secretary
School Principal Delfina Pieri

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LIVE STREAMED AND TELEVISED MASS FROM ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

SUNDAY 11AM: Live Streamed and C31 Televised (Channel 44 on Digital TV)
6AM: Channel 10 - "Mass for You at Home"

MONDAY - FRIDAY 1PM : Live Streamed. (*Link below*)

SATURDAY 8.00AM: Live Streamed. (*Link below*)

<http://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass> and
<https://www.youtube.com/user/archmelb>

Fr Michael is offering the Mass for all community members each week. If you have any special Mass offerings of personal intentions including anniversaries please don't hesitate to send an email or contact the Parish Office on 93543015.

COVID19 RESTRICTIONS

All places of worship including churches, adoration chapels and other church buildings used for public prayer and religious services are closed with the exception of: **Religious Ceremonies** up to 10 people permitted, **Funerals** are limited to 20 mourners.

ALL SAINTS - 31 OCTOBER / 1 NOVEMBER 2020

Entrance Antiphon: Let us all rejoice in the Lord, as we celebrate the feast day in honor of all the Saints, at whose festival the Angels rejoice and praise the Son of God.

Response to the Psalm: Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Come to me, all you who labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

Please remember in your prayers the following:

Those who have died: John Cannon

Anniversaries: Tom Watts, Gerard Temming, Rizzo & Ambesi Cicala,

Those who are ill: Monica Wickerson, Joe Grech, Pasquale Buonomo, Sofia Ruggiero, Karen Hardy, Eileen Squires, Lamberto Cruz, Vicenta Santos

Act of Spiritual Communion

I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

(St Alphonsus Liguori)

At St Oliver's parish we aim to create a child-friendly environment. Privacy: In 2001 the Commonwealth and Victorian governments introduced legislation that deals with the manner in which public and private sector organisations may record, store and disclose information, including health information collected from individuals. This Parish is committed to upholding and implementing the Privacy Principles set out in the legislation.

Three Sunday masses are now available: Saturday (vigil) 6pm and Sunday 8.45am and 10.30am. Each mass can have 10 people attend until Sunday the 8th of November. From weekend 14/15 November 20 people can attend. To register please contact our parish email pascoevale@cam.org.au or **post** to: 1 Landells Road, Pascoe Vale, VIC 3044 or **phone** on Wednesdays when the office is attended (or leave a message) on (03) 9354 3015 with the following:

- Name
- Contact number
- Preferred mass time
- Names of other family members attending

We will allocate you to a mass time and date. **Until we give you confirmation by either a phone call or email reply, please wait for us to contact you.**

REMEMBRANCE BOOK FOR MONTH OF NOVEMBER

If you wish to add a loved ones name to our Remembrance book for prayer, please leave names in box at the front of the church. You can also email, post or phone in names.

May the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen.

Columban Calendar

The Columban Art Calendar is an iconic Catholic Calendar, well known for its traditional religious paintings and liturgical information. It is now available. To order, please contact Parish Office on 9354 3015 or email pascoevale@cam.org.au and leave your name and phone number. We will inform you of pickup details.

Cost: \$10

Please continue to support St Oliver's Parish and Fr Michael. The link: <https://secure.artezpacific.com/registant/donate.aspx?eventId=52905&teamID=116609>
We are very grateful for your support at this challenging time.