

We are to love our neighbour as we love ourselves. That sounds very demanding. Actually it is often part of the problem. Many, if not most of us, do not love ourselves very much. Many, most would not like others to know us as we feel we really are. We go to great lengths to hide our inadequacies, our weaknesses. We spend a lot of money on houses, cars, clothes, jewellery, cosmetics, dining out... Image is all. We need status symbols to prove we are "someone". Teenagers looking and sounding very "with-it" but actually hiding behind currently fashionable clothes-styles, hairstyles, language, being "cool" and "hip".

Very few people are really themselves in front of others. In computer jargon we say, "What you see is what you get [WYSIWYG]". In other words, what appears on the screen will also appear on a print-out. For people it should be, "What you see is what there is." This requires total self-acceptance (not the same as self-approval) and integrity, wholeness. Self-acceptance means that I fully acknowledge both my strengths and weaknesses and I am not ashamed of them and I don't mind if other people know them. Because such a person knows that the key to being loved is to have one's real self accessible to others.

Conventionally we say we should first love God. Then, for his sake, we love others. Lastly, self should be denied, sacrifices should be made. We should not be self-ish, self-centred.

Actually it may surprise us to be told that we cannot not be self-centred. Everything we do is self-centred. We need to go the other way: learn to love and accept self fully. Then, and only then, are we free to look out and reach out to others in love non self-consciously. When I have nothing to hide, it is easy to be myself. And, if others do not like what they see, that is their problem, not mine.

And we will then discover that, when we have learnt to love genuinely and unconditionally, we will be loved in return – though not by all. We cannot be loved by all because there are many people out there who are not able to love; it is not because there is anything wrong with me. To want to be loved by everyone is simply unattainable.

And when we know what really loving and being loved is (by direct experience), then (and only then?) can we talk about really loving God. All this, says today's Gospel, is more important than any ritual or sacrifice. It is no good being in church every hour of every day if I am not a loving person.

Jesus said the Scribe was "close to the Kingdom" because he had touched on the essence of living: loving God and loving others as a single but distinct reality. But he is not quite part of it yet. He was not and apparently did not become a full disciple of Jesus.

And what makes such a disciple? By this will all know that you are my disciples – that you love God? that you never miss Mass? that you have special devotion to Our Lady? No, none of these by itself. What is essential and sufficient is to love God in loving others and to love others in loving God.

*Sacred Space*

# OLIVERIAN

## ST OLIVER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, PASCOE VALE

**PARISH PRIEST**  
**Pastoral Associate**  
**School Principal**

**Fr James Puppady**  
**Marthese Temming**  
**Delfina Pieri**

Presbytery: 1 Landells Road, PO Box 567, Pascoe Vale 3044 Telephone: 7036 9330  
email: [pascoevale@cam.org.au](mailto:pascoevale@cam.org.au)  
website: <https://stolivers.org.au/>

School: Landells Road, PO Box 667, Pascoe Vale 3044 Telephone: 9354 5130  
Parish Office Hours: 9am – 3pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

**For Mass details including All Saints and All Souls, please see middle page.**

### MASS TIMES

**Saturday 5.00 pm (Vigil for Sunday)**

**Sunday 8.45 am & 10.30 am**

**Tue, Wed, Thurs, Fri 9.15 am**

**Confessions Saturday 10 —10.30 am**

*(In church through both side doors)*

**Baptisms 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month (by appointment)**

**Marriages By appointment with at least 6 months notice**

### PARISH ACTIVITIES

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Christian Meditation</b>	<b>7 - 8 pm Parish Centre</b> (contact Chris Rowland 0411 440 746)
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Italian Ladies Prayer Group</b>	<b>10.00 am Meeting Room</b>
	<b>Charismatic Prayer Group</b>	<b>7.30 pm Church</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Drop-In Centre</b>	<b>1 - 3 pm Church/Parish Centre</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>St Vincent de Paul</b>	<b>5.30 pm Meeting Room</b> <i>(last Thursday of the month)</i>

### 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>

## THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 30/31 OCTOBER 2021

**Entrance Antiphon:** Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me!  
Make haste and come to my help, O Lord,  
my strong salvation!

**Response to the Psalm:** I love you, Lord my strength.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia!  
All who love me will keep my words,  
and my Father will love them,  
and we will come to them.  
Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** Just as the living Father sent me  
and I have life because of the Father,  
so whoever feeds on me  
shall have life because of me, says the Lord.

### Please remember in your prayers the following:

#### Those who have died:

**Anniversaries:** Tom Watts, John Cannon, Gerard Temming

**Those who are ill:** Josephina Varghese, Davis Kunnen, Jenna Jenson,  
Marie Virag, Amelie Gutierrez, Reg Whiting,  
Frances Tamayo, Ocean Goldsmith, Dalmiro Bellio,  
Kath Layden, Lamberto Cruz, Monica Wickerson,  
Pasquale Buonomo, Sofia Ruggiero, Karen Hardy

### MASS FOR ALL SOULS

A practice during the Month of November is to offer Mass for the soul. If you would like a Mass offered for loved ones please leave envelope at in the box at front of church on altar steps.

### REMEMBRANCE BOOK FOR MONTH OF NOVEMBER

If you wish to add a loved ones name to our Remembrance book for prayer, please add names to book at front of church. Parishioners who died this year are already included in remembrance book. Please check for names first.

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

Please continue to support St Oliver's Parish and Fr James. The link:

<https://bit.ly/CDfpayPascoeVale>

You can also donate directly to the Presbytery Account

**BSB: 083-347**

**ACC: 53102 0158**

We are very grateful for your support at this time.

**ALL SAINTS MASS** – Mon 1 Oct – 9.15am – Unknown Vaccinated Status

**ALL SOULS MASS** – Tue 2 Oct – 9.15am – Unknown Vaccinated Status  
7.00pm – Fully Vaccinated

### LATEST COVID-19 INSTRUCTION

Latest instructions, for Religious Ceremonies and Gatherings:

**Fully Vaccinated** people can gather with a density quotient of 1 per 4sq.m. St Oliver's capacity is for 80 people, commencing this weekend 30/31 October 2021. The regular weekday Masses apply, (please note Unknown Vaccination Status Mass days). No bookings will be required. QR code and proof of vaccination or vaccination exemption status to be sighted on entry to church.

**For the Unknown Vaccination Status** (with a capacity of 30 people) we are offering the **Saturday Vigil Mass at St Paul's Coburg at 6.30pm**, commencing 30 October 2021 also:

- Wednesdays at 9.15am St Oliver Plunkett, Pascoe Vale
- Thursdays at 10.15am at St Paul's Coburg

No bookings required. QR code applies on entry to church.

**Penance - Reconciliation** for:

**Double Vaccinated** As usual Saturday 10.00 - 10.30 in the church.

**Unknown Vaccination Status** Need to make an appointment with Fr James.

Please call Parish Office on 7036 9330 or email [pascoevale@cam.org.au](mailto:pascoevale@cam.org.au)

For detailed COVID-19 updates from the Archdiocese of Melbourne, go to parish website: <https://stolivers.org.au>

At St Oliver's parish we aim to create a child-safe and 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, use, 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.