

We are told in today's Gospel that Jesus and his disciples were making their way through the northern province of Galilee but that he did not want people to know. As his public life goes into its final stages, Jesus spends more time with his disciples and less with the general public.

Today we hear him for the second time) warning his disciples of what is going to happen to him. He tells them that he will be handed over into the hands of men; that he will be put to death; and that he will rise again on the third day.

The first time Jesus told them this Peter reacted very strongly and Jesus reacted more strongly still. This time they are more cautious. They still do not understand what he means but they do not dare to ask him; they don't want to reveal their inability to see. Jesus, they have acknowledged, is the Messiah, the Anointed King of Israel. How then can he face a fate like this – and from some of his own people? And, further, they have seen all that he has been doing: healing the sick, bringing sinful people back to God, liberating people from evil powers. They have seen his popularity with the crowds who pursue him everywhere.

At the same time, of course, Jesus has been very outspoken. He has attacked what he regards as the hypocrisy of many religious leaders. He has criticised the over-legalistic interpretation of the Law and false ways of evaluating people's goodness.

He is running into a paradox of human living, namely, the hatred that the good person engenders. It is put so well in the First Reading: "Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man." Why? "Because he annoys us and opposes our way of life, reproaches us for our breaches of the law and accuses us of playing false to our upbringing." Jesus annoyed many people, he did oppose their way of life and of being false to the real meaning of their traditions, of worshipping only with their lips but with hearts far from God. While he hung on the cross they mocked him. "If you really are the Son of God, come down and then we will believe!" Or as the First Reading puts it in mocking tones: "Let us see if what he says is true, let us observe what kind of end he himself will have. If the virtuous man is God's son, God will take his part and rescue him from the clutches of his enemies."

In their twisted thinking, they abuse him with punishment and torture just to see how good he really was and whether God was really with him. "Let us test him with cruelty and with torture, and thus explore this gentleness of his and put his endurance to the proof. Let us condemn him to a shameful death since he will be looked after – we have his word for it." The same kind of thing is practised by torturers still. All of this was realised in Jesus. His gentleness and endurance and his love for us were proved beyond doubt. And he was looked after though not in the way they anticipated. He was allowed to drink the cup of suffering to the very dregs, dying a most awful death. But that moment of final surrender into the Father's hands – "Into your hands I surrender my life" and "It is finished" – was the moment of glory, the moment of exaltation, of being lifted up to the right hand of the Father, leading the way for us to follow.

*Sacred Space*

# O L I V E R I A N

## 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

**There are no Weekend or Daily Masses or Parish Activities until COVID19 lockdown restrictions lift.**

### 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> (last Thursday of the month)

### 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>

MESSAGE FROM FR. JAMES PUPPADY.

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My dear Parishioners  
of St. Oliver Plunkett, Pascoe Vale and St. Paul's, Coburg.

"For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me" Jn. 6:38.

The 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday scripture readings invite us to become great in the sight of God by doing God's will as Jesus did, surrendering our lives to Him in the service of others. A messianic prophecy like the "Suffering Servant" prophecy in Isaiah referring to Christ's passion. It urges us to choose the path of righteousness despite painful consequences. St. James also warns us that selfish ambitions destroy peace and cause conflicts and war. So, he advises us to choose the path of righteousness and humble service which leads to lasting peace. Jesus taught us to do the selfless service to the poor, needy and marginalized. So Jesus teaches his apostles that child-like humility and selfless service make one great in the eyes of God.

Dear friends, now we are on the journey of "TAKE THE WAY OF THE GOSPEL" MISSION.

This mission focuses specifically on the realities of our local Church here in the Archdiocese of Melbourne at a pastoral, spiritual and practical level. It's about how we might work together co-operatively with the priests and people of the Archdiocese in strengthening and reinvigorating our parish communities as well as more effectively reaching out with missionary enthusiasm to the communities in which we live.

At present I am looking after two parishes and everything is going on well. Now the future mission is on the way in our area. So I would like to invite both parishioners who would like to be the part of a discerning process for our parishes' mission to come forward. You can read in detail from the website and reflect in different ways about our future faith and community relationship. The parish Resource pack is available at this link:  
<https://melbournecatholic.org/about/mission/parishresources>

It is very unfortunate that because of the COVID lockdowns we are unable to meet in person to discuss the future of our parishes and how it will affect our people. Without any proper discussion with my parishioners, we will not proceed with any future decisions or report. At present we have two committees, one representative from both parishes. We are participating in Zoom meetings and would like to know your valuable suggestions and visions regarding this mission process. In the future you can also join in the groups. So if you would like to express your opinion or participate in this procedure please respond by email:

[pascoevale@cam.org.au](mailto:pascoevale@cam.org.au) or phone 03 7036 9330.

[coburg@cam.org.au](mailto:coburg@cam.org.au) or phone 03 9354 1564.

Hope this message will help you towards our journey "TAKE THE WAY OF THE GOSPEL" MISSION. You are all in my daily Mass and prayers. Keep well and healthy. Stay safe. God will bless us soon to come together and worship Him as a one family. God bless you and your family.

Fr. James Puppady. PP.  
Pascoe Vale and Coburg.

## TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 18/19 SEPTEMBER 2021

**Entrance Antiphon:** I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.  
Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them,  
and I will be their Lord for ever.

**Response to the Psalm:** **The Lord upholds my life.**

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia!  
God has called us with the gospel  
to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord;  
I know my sheep, and mine know me.

**Please remember in your prayers the following:**

**Those who have died:**

**Anniversaries:** Tita Braic, Vicki Heath

**Those who are ill:** Amelie Gutierrez, Reg Whiting, Frances Tamayo,  
Ocean Goldsmith, Dalmiro Bellio, Kath Layden,  
Lamberto Cruz, Monica Wickerson, Pasquale Buonomo,  
Sofia Ruggiero, Karen Hardy

### **Migrant and Refugee Sunday - 26 September - St Vincent de Paul Society Social Justice and Advocacy Asylum Seekers & Refugees Portfolio**

Its focus has been to call on the Government “to remove temporary protection visas and provide a permanent and safe resettlement pathway for all refugees and those who arrive here seeking protection.” This campaign is especially relevant for refugees and asylum seekers, such as those from Afghanistan, who cannot settle and plan their lives, as their visa status presumes they will be ‘sent back’ when their country is no longer deemed dangerous for them. The campaign was to culminate in a ‘Day of Lamentation and Call to Action’ on Migrant and Refugee Sunday. While many plans for in-person vigils and gatherings have been cancelled, we are all invited to join together in a virtual ‘Call to Lamentation and Commitment’ on 26 September at 7 pm (via zoom). The link to register <https://bit.ly/Calltolamentation>

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.

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.



### **Lockdown Light—week three**

*A weekly series bringing 'light' to this time of lockdown ...*

Well and truly done with sourdough starters? Not interested in another DIY project? To help fill the void during lockdown, each week we'll suggest some inspiring content to bring 'light' to this difficult time. Pop on the kettle and check out the recommendations below.

### **Resources for Christian living: Making the most of lockdown**

In this blog post, local Melbourne mum of six, Kate Moriarty, shares some fun and creative ideas to help families make the most of their time together in lockdown. Find out more at [www.bit.ly/ChristianLiving3](http://www.bit.ly/ChristianLiving3)

### **Getting to know your Bible: Opening up the Old Testament**

*Getting Started:* This video by Bible Snap brings you the Old Testament in 8 minutes, with a comprehensive overview of where the books and people fit in the timeline of history. Watch at [www.bit.ly/BibleGettingStarted3](http://www.bit.ly/BibleGettingStarted3)

*Going Deeper:* Exodus is one of the key books of the Old Testament. Hear about the pivotal events in Exodus from a range of other Christian Biblical scholars and theological experts in this 10-minute video. View here [www.bit.ly/BibleGoingDeeper3](http://www.bit.ly/BibleGoingDeeper3)