



# ST JOSEPH'S MALVERN *stepping out in faith and trust*

UNDER THE CARE OF THE VINCENTIAN COMMUNITY

**PARISH PRIEST:**

Fr Alan Gibson CM

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**PARISH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL:**

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Principal  
Mrs Michelle Moore  
9597 6300



## **SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY** **22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A** **30th August 2020**

**FIRST READING:**

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah  
*The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.*

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced;  
you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.

I am a daily laughing-stock,  
everybody's butt.

Each time I speak the word, I have to howl  
and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!'

The word of the Lord has meant for me  
insult, derision, all day long.

I used to say, I will not think about him,  
I will not speak in his name any more.

Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart,  
imprisoned in my bones.

The effort to restrain it wearied me,  
I could not bear it.

**ST JOSEPH'S IS A CHILD SAFE PARISH**

*At St Joseph's we hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our parish.*

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Response: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;  
for you my soul is thirsting.  
My body pines for you  
like a dry, weary land without water. (R.)

2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary  
to see your strength and your glory.  
For your love is better than life,  
my lips will speak your praise. (R.)

3. So I will bless you all my life,  
in your name I will lift up my hands.  
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,  
my mouth shall praise you with joy. (R.)

4. For you have been my help;  
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.  
My soul clings to you;  
your right hand holds me fast. (R.)

## SECOND READING:

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice.*

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

## GOSPEL:

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.*

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'



# FR ALAN'S REFLECTION

## BEING IN TUNE WITH GOD

In our Second Reading for this Sunday, Romans 12: 2 says 'Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind.' In other words, we must put on the mind of Christ. We must be transformed to the way he thinks and not taking control and doing things our way. At the heart of it we are asked to be in tune with God.

In last week's Gospel Jesus told Peter he would be the rock on which he would build his Church. In this week's Gospel which immediately follows last week's, we listen to Jesus rebuking Peter in the strongest possible terms. It seemed such a profound change in such a short space of time. Why? The reason was because in that moment Peter was not tune in God. When Jesus revealed the true purpose of his mission Peter could not take it. Though Peter understood his words he could not reconcile his view of Jesus with the suffering and death that Jesus spoke of. He had seen Jesus being adored by the crowds. He thought that ultimately Jesus would remove the occupying Roman forces and take control and that as a follower he would be the beneficiary of this. Confronted by the fact that his expectations were not going to be met, Peter took Jesus aside and started to remonstrate with him. Rather than being in tune with God, Peter was in tune with his own worldly ambitions. He had not yet understood the foundations that Christ was trying to build.

Origen one of the early Church fathers who lived from 185-253AD had this to say. He suggested that Jesus was saying to Peter, 'Peter your place is behind me, not in front of me, your place is to follow me and not try to lead me in the way that you would like me to go.'

In this Gospel we learn that discipleship is not about what you are going to get. It is about what you are prepared to give. Jesus says, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine let them denounce themselves, take up their cross and follow me.' This means we must take away our own egos and our own plans and our own desires for glory even if we get nothing in return. Ultimately the strength of our Church will depend upon our collective willingness to deny ourselves and place ourselves at the service of others. It demands that when there is a conflict between God's way and ours, we will always choose God's way even if we have to suffer for it. Going back to the words in our Second Reading today this will require a profound change in behaviour.

Are we tune with this demand or at present do we identify more with Peter in this Gospel where we just do not want to know about this?



Jesus, you invite us all into the fullness of life.

May we support one another to flourish in body, mind and spirit.

Strengthen our commitment to ensure that nobody falls through gaps in our systems of care.

People called you mad.

Help us to recognise you in those who suffer mental ill-health today.

Show us how to eliminate stigmatization of mental ill-health from our parishes, schools, communities and organisations.

You drew near to those who were suffering in body or mind.

May we too feel your nearness when we struggle with mental health challenges.

May we be on as members of Your Body.

You invite us to share in your ministry of love and true compassion.

May we be empowered by your Spirit to reach out to all people in need.

May we build communities of welcome and inclusion.

Amen.

# MESSAGE FROM FR ALAN



## Social Justice Sunday

This Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2020 is Social Justice Sunday. The Social Justice Statement 2020-21 is titled *To Live Life to the Full: Mental health in Australia today*. The link to this year's Social Justice Statement is:

<https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Social-Justice-Statement-2020-WEB.pdf>

## Lockdown Reading

Foreign Correspondent All the Single Men

<https://www.abc.net.au/foreign/all-the-single-men/12368622>

Vatican News, Human Trafficking

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/taglist.cultura-e-societa.Diritti-umani.tratta.html>

## International Students

I am pleased to report that all of our donations were distributed last weekend. Please see Kerri-Anne's report in this week's bulletin.

Both food and vouchers were delivered to **26** individuals. Ongoing support will be provided to **38** individuals in the form of further food and vouchers.

Thanks to Kerri Anne (JoCare Coordinator) and I also wish to wish to acknowledge the 100 Coffee Movement for their willingness to link up with JoCare to make this work possible. It is good to know that we are making a difference so please keep the donations of non-perishable food items and gift cards coming.

## Global Climate Catholic Movement – Season of Creation

This year Pope Francis invites the whole Church to join in the Season of Creation from 1<sup>st</sup> September-4<sup>th</sup> October. The Season of Creation represents the annual prayer and action for our common home. It is an opportunity to reflect and restore our relationship with creation and each other. To see the invitation from Pope Francis please go to YouTube link:

<https://youtu.be/tbK5l8OcjJg>

## Alpha Online Program

Earlier this year on Sunday February 16<sup>th</sup> we had Lorraine McCarthy out for our first hot button issue of the year "Becoming an Alive and Vibrant Parish" in 2020." During her presentation Lorraine mentioned the Alpha Program. Alpha has continued to keep going online during this time of lockdown in parishes around Australia. Representatives from the Parish Pastoral Council met online with parishioners from Ringwood North Parish a few

weeks ago who had completed the Alpha Online program. Since then 5 of us from the parish commenced the Alpha Online program last week to learn how to lead it online. This will take 8 weeks and the purpose is to determine whether this is something that could be offered to the parish.

### **Printout of Christ looking up to the Father**

Thanks to Carmel O' Connor, a parishioner who has carved and printed a linocut of 'CHRIST' looking up to the Father. I am grateful to Carmel for allowing me to share this in the bulletin.

### **Poet's Gospel**

Mark Davis, who in past years has led Lenten Programs in our parish, has written Poet's Gospel. It is now a permanent link on our parish website. It will be updated weekly. I encourage you to have a look when visiting our website.

### **Printout of Christ looking up to the Father**

by Carmel O'Connor





With grateful thanks to the many generous people who donated supermarket vouchers, money and non-perishable food items for the international students. On Saturday my husband and I packed the groceries, (moving our bubble from our home to my office!). The groceries were then placed on the front verandah of the

presbytery for a contactless pick up by Chris and Priya from the 100coffemovement. They then delivered the groceries to the students who were touched by your kindness. There were several amazing mystery mask sewers who also left homemade masks, very much appreciated. A majority of these have been given to Cabrini Outreach as per our previous request for refugees, with a small number provided to some international students.

*Thank you and your team!!! God bless you more and more!!! Take care! Thanks for everything*

*Thank you so much 😊 You the best one.*

*We appreciate you a lot for your help. 😊. have a good day.*

*I have just received it..thank you so much..its a great help. Take care and stay safe*

*It's raining today and i would say dangerous coz we dont have the vaccine yet but still you made time to deliver us food that we need..thank you is not enough to express our gratitude.. 😊❤️take care always of your health as well..be safe.*

*I have just checked my email And received the e voucher..thanks a lot 😊*

*I have just received it..thank you so much..its a great help. Take care and stay safe 😊 “*

*I got it. Thank you very much! Have a great week!*

*"You guys are amazing, thank you"*

## **KiT – KEEP IN TOUCH**

Missing Mass and contact with other parishioners?  
If you'd like to catch up for a chat with some of your fellow parishioners, feel free to contact any of us below:

Rosie Coulthard	0422 611 522
John Davies	0418 596 983
Lucia Mac	0405 231 207
Damian Coleridge	0407 330 404



**Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020**

**Readings: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5; Luke 4:16-30**

### **THE REJECTION AT NAZARETH**

Today's Gospel captures two main themes in Luke: Jesus' universal mission and the rejection of the prophet. We hear how Jesus returned to Nazareth to proclaim the platform of his ministry using the Word of God. The fact that the poor would have good news preached to them, those in captivity would experience liberty, the blind would see and the downtrodden would be set free meant that no one would be excluded from God's love and mercy. As he announced this Jesus was rejected by his own people. Rather than focusing on the truth of God's word, they turned their attention to where Jesus had come from and his family background. How could someone like that proclaim God's word so eloquently?



This Gospel raises a few questions for us. What is our life's mission and is it inclusive of all? Also, if someone familiar to us speaks God's word can we focus on the truth of the message and not get caught up as to where they come from and what their family background is?

**Tuesday 1st September 2020**

**Readings: 1 Corinthians 2:10-16; Luke 4:31-37**

### **TRUE AUTHORITY**



Today it tells us that Jesus spoke with authority. This was an authority that did not come about because of position and status. It came from the fact that Jesus spoke with credibility and reliability. The source of this authority came from God. It was the exercising of this kind of authority that enabled to Jesus to heal the man with an unclean spirit.

As a follower of Jesus, we too are called to exercise our moral authority which comes from God when we encounter things

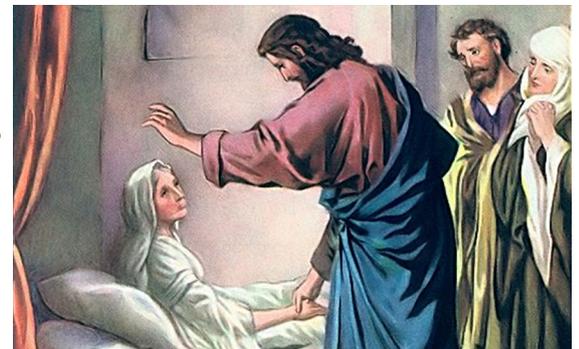
that are not right.

**Wednesday 2nd September 2020**

**Readings: 1 Corinthians 3:1-9; Luke 4:38-44**

### **CALLED TO OTHER PEOPLE AND OTHER PLACES**

Today's Gospel once again focuses on the universality of Jesus's mission. He stopped to heal Peter's mother-in-law and gave her the time she needed. The people were so impressed that they did not want Jesus to leave. However, after spending time in prayer with his Father Jesus knew that he was being called to minister to people in other places as well.



Today's Gospel has a couple of messages for us. We can be a healing presence to people by simply giving them our time. Jesus's healing of Peter's mother in law shows that God always has time for us. Secondly, we need to spend time in prayer so that we can remain focused on doing what God wants us to do. Without this it can become easy to become attached to people and places where we are comfortable and overlook the possibility that God is also calling us to other people and other places as well.

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2020**

**Readings: 1 Corinthians 3:18-23; Luke 5:1-11**

**Saint Gregory the Great, Pope, Doctor  
FROM THE ORDINARY TO THE  
EXTRAORDINARY**

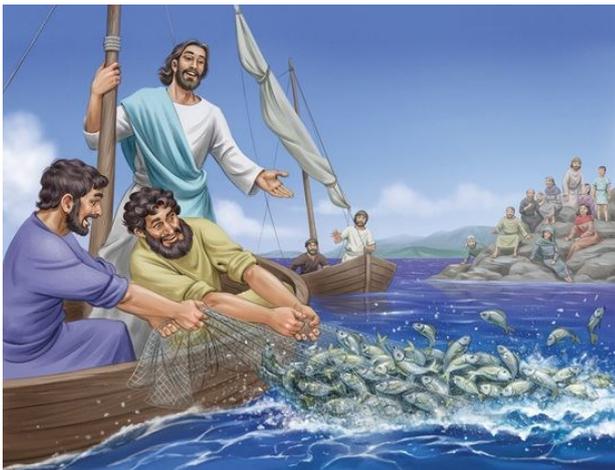
In today's Gospel we hear how Peter tells Jesus to leave him because he was a sinful person. Jesus knew this but he also knew Peter's heart. This was why he goes on to call Peter to be a fisher of people. Peter was being called from the ordinariness from his everyday life to move forward and do extraordinary things.

What made this possible was Peter's obedience. He had toiled all night without catching one fish when Jesus told him to put the nets out to deeper water. Peter responds by telling Jesus what had taken place but then hastens to add, 'at your word' and goes on to try again.

Like Peter Jesus knows our life history and yet calls us to follow him. He wants to move our lives from the ordinary to the extraordinary but whether this happens depends on our obedience.

There will be times in our lives where we are feel we are getting nowhere and will want to say to the Lord things like 'I have tried to get a job, make my family life work and improve my relationships with my children/parents. I have toiled for a long time without success.' Whatever it is for us is it possible that Jesus is asking us to go deeper?

Perhaps our prayer for today could be, Lord help me to leave behind old ways that are not life-giving for me so that I may free myself to follow you. At those times when I feel like giving up may I find the strength to say 'But at your word' and try again.



**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

**Readings: 1 Corinthians 4:1-5; Luke 5:33-39**

**BEING IN GOD'S PRESENCE**



In today's Gospel Jesus was basically asked by the Scribes and the Pharisees, 'why are your disciples not acting in the expected religious way?' It seemed like a fair question since fasting was one of the three most important religious duties, along with prayer and almsgiving. In his answer Jesus compared his earthly ministry to a wedding feast and himself as the bridegroom. He then compares the disciples to guests at a wedding. To fast at a wedding would have been a big insult to the bride and bridegroom and their families.

While the Scribes and the Pharisees were more concerned with religious practice and outward appearance the Lord was more concerned about his disciples just being in his presence. What other religious purpose can there be other than to enter and remain in the presence of God? What is prayer, fasting and almsgiving if it does not lead us into the presence of God? Religious practices are not ends in themselves, they are means to a goal. That goal is to be in loving union with Christ, our bridegroom.

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

**Readings: 1 Corinthians 4:6-15; Luke 6:1-5**

## **DEBATES ABOUT THE SABBATH**

In this Gospel we see Jesus being challenged by the Pharisee regarding his behaviour and the behaviour of the disciples in relation to the Sabbath. They asked Jesus was he acting lawfully not realizing that they were in fact asking God if he was acting lawfully? The Pharisees were obsessed with what was right and what was wrong. The problem with being obsessed is that one is trying to do this on one's own and God is forgotten in the process. The Sabbath is a gift from God to humanity. Its purpose is to give us rest, to give us time and opportunity to worship God.



The Pharisees saw that the action of the disciples in picking ears of corn, rubbing them in their hands and eating them as a violation of the Sabbath. Jesus quickly came to their rescue and defends them by citing that incident made by David where he and his companions ate the bread in the temple only a priest could do. Jesus implied that David understood that, basic need took precedence over rules and ritual regulations. He was hoping the Pharisees would see that the Sabbath was a gift and that they would move away from their legalistic ways. The rest that Jesus was talking about was not just physical rest but also resting from self-righteousness and knowing that God is righteous and faithful. Ultimately God cannot be put into a box. We are called to allow God be God.

### **CLIMATE ACTION GROUP AT ST JOSEPH'S MALVERN**

Hi, my name is Brian Regan. I am a member of the Parish Pastoral Council here at St Joseph's parish.

Some members of the Parish Pastoral Council, including myself, have a keen interest in raising awareness of these issues with the parish community of St Joseph's Parish and the broader community. I am presently doing an Animator course with the Global Catholic Climate Action Group which is a world wide environmental group that has taken up the cause of *Laudato Si*, Pope Francis's encyclical that calls for action on the environment and the plight of the poor. If you are interested in being involved in a group such as this or would like to discuss this important issue please contact either:

Brian: [bregan52@hotmail.com](mailto:bregan52@hotmail.com)

John: [john@daviesfamily.com.au](mailto:john@daviesfamily.com.au)



### **What is The Season of Creation?**

Pope John Paul II in 1990 named environmental care as integral to the Catholic faith and named St Francis of Assisi as the patron of ecological conversion. Pope Benedict XVI reinforced this Catholic vocation delivering homilies and speeches asking world leaders to take action. Pope Francis, in his 2015 Encyclical *Laudato Si'* detailed the call to See, Judge, Act on care for our common home.

Every year, Christians of all denominations join in prayer and action for our common home and celebrate the **Season of Creation** starting on 1 September, the Day of Prayer for Creation and ending on 4 October, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi.

## SENIOR WORDSEARCH

### Take up your cross and follow me

M P G L E T G F W T V U J E L A G  
E H J I K T K G H R E X T K G B M  
L G U I J I I R S Z J M N B C U Q  
A R E T E P E D I I M N Q Y N G C  
S C F K W E G E V I I G Y Q X O V F  
U R I S E D R S L Y U F I Q I W Q  
R O L D B M F W S M O N B V A S T  
E M G S P Y O N E O T P E I A E S  
J X D Z P O L O V C R S D T G E L  
P U Q I J Z L T O E X C A R L N D  
Q E I I U L O U J W F N O P G I S  
U E S G T P W F N S W F I Z Z Q N  
E D W W G V I P K F O C A D T B F  
U F I P W N Y L N X S K R E S F W  
N R I Q D F I A H I S L A R Z K P  
P A M L E Z L U D C I T Z E A M A

Try to find these words:

cross  
disciples  
find  
follow  
forget  
give  
Jerusalem  
life  
Peter  
rise  
Satan  
three

# ST JOSEPH'S PARISH—Mass Times



## Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil—MASS ONLINE  
Sunday—NO MASS

## Weekday Masses

Monday—NO MASS  
Tuesday—MASS ONLINE  
Wednesday—MASS ONLINE  
Thursday—MASS ONLINE  
Friday—MASS ONLINE

## Reconciliation

by appointment only

## PLEASE NOTE!!

All Mass Intentions are being said by Fr Alan each morning at a private Mass.



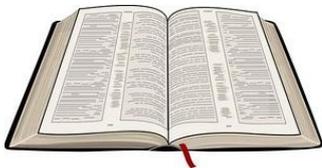
Parish Office is closed until further notice.  
Please ring, 9401 6390 before you stop by to make sure there is someone in attendance.

## CLOSURE OF CHURCH UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Due to the new restrictions announced by the Victorian State Government on Sunday 2nd August 2020, it is with much regret that the Church still needs to remain closed for the next 6 weeks. Unfortunately this means personal visits to the Church are not permitted until further notice.

## 22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

**FIRST READING:** Jeremiah 20:7-9  
**SECOND READING:** Romans 12:1-2  
**GOSPEL:** Matthew 16:21-27



### Next Sunday's Readings

23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
Ezekiel 33:7-9  
Romans 13:8-10  
Matthew 18:15-20



## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

### BAPTISM:

**THE SICK:** John & Marie Horan, Mim Nerlich, Barbara Westcott, Janet Murphy, Mal Logan, Anne Peric, Br Paul Smith fsc

### RECENTLY DECEASED:

Desmond Clacherty, Pat Horrigan

### ANNIVERSARIES:

Brett Metcalf



## MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday August 29                      Brett Metcalf (an)  
Tuesday September 1  
Wednesday September 2  
Thursday September 3  
Friday September 4  
Saturday September 5                      Leo O'Bree (an)

If you are wanting to book a Mass Intention, please call the Paris Office on 9401 6390 or [info@stjosephsmalvern.org.au](mailto:info@stjosephsmalvern.org.au)

## Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge that we are meeting on the traditional land of the Boon Wurrung and Wurundjeri people and offer our respects to the elders past, present and future. We recognise and respect the cultural heritage of this land.