



St Francis of Assisi Parish

290 Childs Road, Mill Park 3082 phone: 9407 6700

web: www.cam.org.au/millpark email: millpark@cam.org.au

Parish Bulletin Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time 13th September 2020

PARISH PRIEST	Fr Anthony Girolami	ASSISTANT PRIEST	Fr Jose Mathew
PASTORAL ASSOCIATE	Sr Ignacia Coching - 9407 6720	YOUTH MINISTER	Carmel Walsh - 9407 6704
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR	Bernice Quinn - 9407 6700	PARISH BOOKKEEPER	Cheryl Langford - 9407 6722
SCHOOL PRINCIPAL	Mark Basile - 9407 3100	DEACON	Rev Simeon Anthony

STREAMING OF MASSES

Mass is being streamed every Sunday at 9:00 am and Wednesday at 8:00 am. To access the stream, please visit our website www.cam.org.au/millpark and click on the link provided on the homepage.

ONLINE PAYMENT PORTAL

We now have an online parish payment portal, CDFpay for Parishes.

You can set up a recurring payment, if you haven't done so already, or you can choose a one-off offering. The St Francis of Assisi Mill Park site can be found via the link on our website www.cam.org.au/millpark

You can select to contribute to either the parish or presbytery. Please note that contributions to 'presbytery' will not be recorded towards your family's thanksgiving contributions.

We ask that you please enter your current envelope number under the 'notes' section. If you don't know your number please email millpark@cam.org.au or call 9407 6701.

Thank you to all who are supporting our parish.

Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus, 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.

The newsletter will be available each week in the Presbytery foyer and on our website www.cam.org.au/millpark

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Recently Deceased: Lina Frezza.

Death Anniversaries: Rico Girolami, Tom Donahoo, Pakde Adi, Gerry Tagapan, Victorino Martin (Jr), David Calimposah, Anthony Pillai, Emmanuel Marcou.

Those who are ill: David Wallace, Anthony Lethbridge, Sam Pisani, Maria Concepcion Alcedo, Danuata Plaskota, Rebecca Scaringi, Marina Manabat, Isau Issac, Sharon Barber, Flor Madio, Brian Rooney, John Pathinathan, Alfio & Giovanna Tringal, Herve Incoul, Maria Ljutic, Inaam Jerjis, Nilcar Gacula.

Dear Parishioners,

This Sunday marks Child Protection Week. The Archbishop has written a letter to all the faithful about Child Protection. We have included it in today's newsletter.

Also we will continue with the serialisation of the life of St Bernadette Soubirous.

Yours in Christ, Fr Anthony Girolami.

TIME OF PRAYER LIVE STREAM

Facebook Live & YouTube Thursdays 7 pm

Visit our website www.cam.org.au/millpark to access the YouTube link or visit our Facebook page for the Facebook live stream.

Dear Friends

In Child Protection Week, our whole nation is invited to 'put children first'. In fact, that is the theme in 2020, which marks thirty years of Child Protection Week in Australia.

Although the Pandemic has changed the way we are all living and working, it doesn't change what is most important. For Christians, the Lord Jesus shows us that at all times, the most vulnerable among us are those requiring our greatest care. In particular, the safety and the protection of children is one of our most important priorities.

My heart breaks for those who were not cared for and protected in the past. When a child is neglected or abused, the pain and suffering endures throughout their whole life. I am sad and angered that the Church has not always been a place that has put children first. We continue to address the horror of abuse, to walk with those in need, and to build a culture of safety and protection for our most vulnerable. Personally, I will continue to meet with survivors of abuse; listening to them, hearing them and trusting them, and helping our Church be continually converted.

Please pray with me that we would put children first always, and protect their safety.

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli
Archbishop of Melbourne

HOW THE CHURCH HAS CHANGED THE WORLD Pilgrimage into Poverty

To whom should the Virgin Mother appear? To such as Bernadette Soubirous. Her family lived in terrible poverty. At the time the visions came, their rented home was an old jail cell, twelve feet square, with a stinking privy in the back. Bernadette was only beginning, at age fourteen, to learn to read. Lourdes was a forgotten village in the foothills of the Pyrenees. "Can anything good come from Nazareth?" asked Nathanael, but that was before he met Jesus.

On a cold and rainy day, 11 February 1858, Bernadette, her sister, and a friend went out gathering sticks for firewood. Think of Elijah and the widow and her son, in the years of famine. The grotto of Massabielle had no glorious spired basilica on it then. It was a muddy and miserable place, a watering hole for pigs, where the Gave River washed up all kinds of rubbish, some of which the poor children would gather up and sell.

Bernadette wasn't there to play a game. The other girls had crossed the river, which was so cold it made them cry. Bernadette needed to get across too, so she asked the girls to toss some rocks into the water for stepping stones, while she was busy sitting down, taking off her stockings. That was all she was thinking of, the practical matter of getting across the river without bringing on an attack of her asthma or ruining the stockings.

Then she turned and saw a lady dressed in white, silently saying the rosary. She didn't know who it was. She even told the girls to keep quiet about it. She didn't trust her judgement. That's why she brought holy water to the grotto the next time she felt drawn to visit it, to splash upon the lady, in case it was an evil spirit. But the lady smiled.

She told Bernadette to come to the grotto every day for a fortnight. We might say that the pilgrimages began then. Her family came with her. People in the village came. The police had to come to keep order: Curiosity seekers came. Scoffers and sceptics came. Christians came.

What did they come to see? On 25 February, the lady made Bernadette smaller than ever: she told her to do two things that no one could understand. She was to go crawl underneath a projecting rock and drink from the "fountain" there; and to eat some of the grass. There was no fountain.

It was a small puddle, more mud than water. Bernadette scratched at it until she could drink a little, and she ate the grass, too. Imagine her muddy face, flecked with weeds. Who could believe in her visions now? Even her family lost heart.

But the spring bubbled up beneath the mud. After the miraculous cure of a paralytic woman, the crowds re-turned, much to the chagrin of the local police. In all of this, Bernadette never put herself forward. All she did, was to keep her promise to the lady, to return to the grotto, where she prayed silently, her countenance glowing with both sadness and joy.

Come Along Online!

During the pandemic the Parish Cells of Evangelisation are meeting online each week and we would like to share this opportunity with our fellow parishioners. You are invited to come and join with a group to share fellowship and friendship with like-minded people belonging to St Francis parish. You are welcome to make contact with people on the list below – we will help you link in online if you need. (There is no future obligation to become a member of a Cell group).

Meeting Times:

Monday 7:00 pm
Monday 7.30 pm
Monday 7:30 pm
Monday 7:30 pm
Monday 7:00 pm
Tuesday 10:30 am
Wednesday 7:30 pm
Wednesday 7.30 pm
Friday 7:30 pm
Friday 7:30 pm

Zoom
Zoom

Zoom
Skype

Zoom
Zoom
Zoom

Contacts:

Regina Di Pasquale 0448 732 113 H: 9408 5230
Marcelle Henderson 0426 213 118 H: 9408 9118
Paul Crocitti 0408 680 976
Alex Notari 0408 208 238
Margaret Samuel 0425 816 590 H: 9440 2011
Ruth Lees 0449 688 748 H: 9404 4877
Chiara De Simone 0439 612 694 H: 9436 8254
Rosebud Mathias 0411 088 971
Khoi Nguyen 0481 208 886
Trish Spiteri 0438 010 018

reginadp@bigpond.com.au
marcellehenderson@gmail.com
Paul@gasgep.com.au
anotari1@bigpond.com
dms@bethanyhouse.com.au
Ruth.Lees@cam.org.au
desimonefamily@bigpond.com
rosebud.mathias@gmail.com
khoinguyenau@gmail.com
trish.spiteri@gmail.com