



St Francis of Assisi Parish

290 Childs Road, Mill Park 3082 phone: 9407 6700

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Parish Bulletin Divine Mercy Sunday 19th April 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 and Wednesday at 8.00am. 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

During this time, when visits to our Church are suspended, we are striving to ensure that our parishioners remain connected through new and creative pastoral programmes. While we continue to help those in our community the parish continues to incur ongoing overhead costs and we need your help. The good news is that Catholic Development Fund (CDF) and the Archdiocese of Melbourne have partnered to build an online parish payment portal, CDFpay for Parishes.

This site enables you to make quick and easy online thanksgiving payments – 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 is live and can be found via the link on our website www.cam.org.au/millpark

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.

We thank you in advance for supporting our parish community.

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: Maureen Peyton.

Death Anniversaries: Ella & Austin Pereira, Raymond, Mildred & James D'Mello.

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 Incouf, Maria Ljutic.

Dear Parishioners,

During this last week we have been hearing of not just the medical threat of the coronavirus, but also the psychological impact of people needing to socially distance and isolate. Many people are missing family and friends and the warmth of personal closeness. And from all accounts this will continue for the foreseeable future.

So how can we support each other in such times? First of all our attitude towards this situation is up to us to develop. As an example, that I have on good authority, that in prisons, prisoners say, either you do the time or the time will do you. Which means the attitude or mental approach you have to any situation is of the greatest importance.

At the moment we can't count down the days because we don't know how long restrictions will last, but we can utilise this time productively. Might I suggest we could phone friends, neighbours and other parishioners. Many people in the parish are part of groups or even informal associations of friends. Please contact others if you are able.

On another level we need to remind ourselves that we are not alone. The Good Lord is present with us. By virtue of our Baptism God dwells in our hearts. Let us look for those opportunities to pray to Him. Another suggestion is possibly reading the Bible. If I might make a suggestion - why not read the Acts of the Apostles which we have as a first reading at Masses during the Easter Season.

Whatever you may decide to do please be assured of my prayers. And as we recall on this feast day of Divine Mercy 'Jesus I trust in you'.

Yours in the Risen Lord, Fr Anthony Girolami.

Mass Intentions

A number of people have asked me about having Masses offered for peoples intentions. While Fr. Jose and myself are not offering public Masses we are still offering Mass privately everyday. If you would like a Mass offered you can fill out the Mass intention envelopes at the Parish Office, or simply use your own envelope and leave it in the box, set aside for Parish contributions in the presbytery foyer.

Project Compassion

Project Compassion boxes and envelopes can be returned to the Parish Office at anytime. Please place them in the baskets provided.

SAINT WHO?

Saints Who Suffered Serious Illness

Saint Alphonsa of the Immaculate Conception

Virgin (t 1946)

Feast: 28 July

A native of Kerala, India, Anna was orphaned at a young age. Her aunt planned a great marriage for her, but Anna wanted to be Christ's bride. At length, her aunt yielded, and Anna went to the Clarist Sisters, becoming Alphonsa of the Immaculate Conception.

The Clarists were teachers, but Alphonsa taught for only one full school term, because of repeated serious illness: haemorrhages, sores, typhoid fever, pneumonia. When a thief entered her room one night, she suffered a severe shock and lost her memory for several months. In the midst of these trials, Alphonsa suffered gladly. She spoke words of wisdom to those who visited her. Sometimes overcome by the burden she was on her community, she wished that her suffering would end. Yet she affirmed, "When I think of the many indignities Our Lord suffers at the hands of his own chosen people, I wish to suffer not only this, but far more until the end of the world. ... A day without suffering is a day lost."

Alphonsa died at the age of thirty-five, and her tomb quickly became a place of prayer and miracles. Saint John Paul II said of her. "She came to love suffering because she loved the suffering Christ. She learned to love the cross through her love of the crucified Lord."

Loving Father, through the intercession of Saint Alphonsa of the Immaculate Conception, let my sufferings contribute to the salvation of the world.