

St Martin de Porres Parish

158 Military Rd, Avondale Heights Vic 3034
Website: www.cam.org.au/avondaleheights

Parish Priest: Fr. Nhàn Le
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The Augustinian Sisters

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Avondale Heights
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NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome you and ask that you make yourself known to us by completing this form and leaving it in the collection basket.

First Name: _____

Surname: _____

Phone No. _____

Address: _____

PARISH SUPPORT PROGRAMME

(Thanksgiving): If you would like to join our programme please take a brochure from the foyer or call the Parish Office.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Sick:

Pat Loft; Josefina Cortez; Sandra Oliver; Anna Nguyen Thi Ban; Tecla Alessi; Anna Giunta; Christopher Greenwood; Reynaldo & Max Salvador.

Recently Deceased

Phaolo Ho Van Tin; Denise Waldron; Silvie Robertson; Werner Kann; Anne Gordon (Ireland); Anna Tran Thi Lai; Mike Paulusz; Maria Cardaci; Dominico Phan Van Duong; Anna Tran Thi Ngoc Ngoan; Salvatore Lentini; Giuse Bui Ngoc Gang.

Anniversaries & Remembrances:

Teresa Grima; Concetta Borg; Anna, Grace & Salvatore Mazzurco; Frank Giunta; Charlie Sciberras; Victor Micallef; Joseph Giusti; Felix, Paul, Carl & Tony Galea; Victor Apap; Maria Moore; Maria & Francesco Falzon; Francis, Bernarda, Joseph & Consiglia Grima; Emmanuel, Teresa, Menu & Tonina Sammut; Carmelo & Rita De Bono; Dominic Cumbo.

MASS ONLINE celebrated by Fr Nhàn on St Martin's home page

Youtube St Martin de Porres Avondale Heights
www.facebook.com/StMartinDePorresAvondaleHeights

COLLECTIONS

The parish is still functioning and needs your support during this challenging time, so we encourage parishioners to complete and submit the direct debit form on our website.

Collections: Weekend 24/25 October

Presbytery: \$347 Thanksgiving: \$1,642

Pledge: \$3,004 Shortfall \$1,362

The Parish of St Martin de Porres, Avondale Heights and the Diocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community.

Our message is that child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of every adult.

Mass During Current Restrictions

Masses are at the usual times on weekdays and weekends. Those wishing to attend Mass are requested to email or ring the parish office to register their attendance- currently 20 people per Mass.

OUR COMMUNITY - WHAT'S NEWS!

All Souls Day Mass this Monday 2nd Nov.

Mass usually celebrated at Keilor Cemetery will be available online on our website, on YouTube and on Facebook from 10am this Monday 2nd November.

Christmas Cards for Sale in Parish Office:

Majellan cards \$9 pack of 10.

Columban handmade cards \$20 pack of 10



CATHOLIC
THEOLOGICAL
COLLEGE



UNIVERSITY
OF DIVINITY

2020 Knox Public Lecture

Thursday 5th November at
7.00pm Online

**Safe Church: Commitment,
awareness & action for
cultural change**

Facilitator: Sheree Limbrick
CEO Catholic Professional Standards.

Book here

or visit our website to book:

ctc.edu.au/knox-public-lecture

Enq: sarah.styring@ctc.edu.au or
Phone 9412 3333

In May 2019 Catholic Professional Standards Ltd (CPSL) published the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards. More than 20 church entities have been audited to date to assess the extent to which they are implementing necessary safeguards for children, with audits revealing a strong commitment and dedicated action to create child safe environments. Since late 2019, CPSL has been working to expand the Standards to include protections for adults engaging with Church ministry.

This lecture will explore some of the trends and findings emerging from CPSL's audit work, as well as the directions of the groundbreaking framework for the safeguarding of adults.

The Tree That Appears In Fog

Michael McGirr

God of misty mornings,
We thank you for moments of clarity.
There are times when life feels like winter,
Cold and foggy.

We want to stay under the blankets.
But then we catch a glimpse of you,
A bit like something taking shape in the mist,
And slowly we discern your presence,
Not always clear but unmistakable.

Lead us this day to know you a little more
deeply

And to surrender to you,
as St Ignatius prayed,
Our liberty, memory, understanding,
our entire will.

Give us only your love and your grace.
That is enough.
Amen.



Melbourne Archdiocese Professional Standards Unit

The eSafety Commissioner has recently published a free e-book resource 'Online safety for grandparents and carers' which provides advice about online safety issues that children and young people may experience. This resource provides "key advice about online safety issues that can affect children and young people" including practical tips to help grandparents and carers to talk about these issues with children and young people and manage them. Helpful topics include: setting up devices safely; managing time online; preventing unsafe contact from strangers as well as a guide to some of the most popular sites and apps.

Grandparents and carers - order a hard copy or download and view the resource online: <https://www.esafety.gov.au/seniors/online-safety-grandparents-carers>

Parish Magazine

Invitation to parishioners to send articles especially how they have been managing during COVID19 Lockdown. We would like to hear your stories.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 11:28

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord. Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 5:1-12

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle:

they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn:

they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:

they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful:

they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart:

they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers:

they shall be called sons of God.

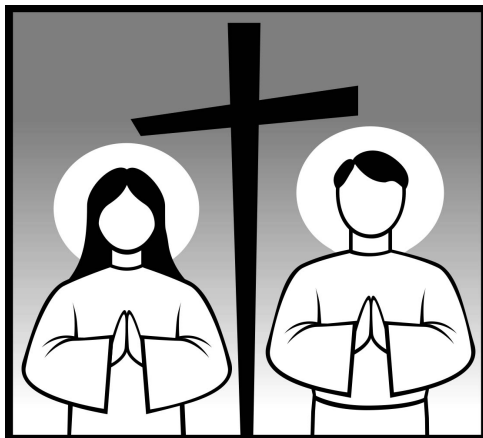
Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:

theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



Reflection by Greg Sunter

Saints are sometimes regarded as 'Catholic superheroes'. Stories of miraculous and remarkable deeds abound, though more in the vein of conversions and cures than speeding bullets and tall buildings. But to get caught up on the Saints of the stained glass windows is to overlook the vast majority of saints. You see, a saint is anybody whose soul is in heaven. The Church celebrates a certain number of Saints whose lives provide a glimpse of God for the rest of the Church. But there are many, many more saints whose glimpse of God was only ever experienced by their family, friends and those with whom they worked. The feast of ALL Saints is an opportunity to remember and reflect on the lives of those saints who've been known and loved by just a few and whose sphere of influence was such that they will never be recognised as Saints by the universal Church.

Today's gospel, the Beatitudes, from the Sermon on the Mount describes perfectly those 'lower case s' saints we celebrate in this feast day. The Beatitudes are sometimes referred to in parallel with the Ten Commandments. However, the Beatitudes are not 'rules' or 'instructions' for life as the Commandments are. They are more in line with a strategy that today we would call 'positive reinforcement'. They celebrate those who respond to God's call through particular attitudes towards life and towards others. Jesus presents them to the disciples and the crowd as images to inspire imitation. They're not hard and fast rules for life, but attitudes for life; the Beatitudes, so to speak. Those who live with these attitudes in this life are to be celebrated – 'Happy are you' – for they will be saints. They will be welcomed into communion with God in heaven.

ST MARTIN DE PORRES

Catholic Parish

Avondale Heights

Today's Celebration is on pages:

Old Missal: 911 New: 1025



All Saints

1 November 2020

First Reading Revelations 7:2-4. 9-14

I saw an immense crowd, beyond hope of counting, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language.

I, John, saw another angel rising where the sun rises, carrying the seal of the living God; he called in a powerful voice to the four angels whose duty was to devastate land and sea, 'Wait before you do any damage on land or at sea or to the trees, until we have put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.' Then I heard how many were sealed: a hundred and forty-four thousand, out of all the tribes of Israel.

After that I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. They shouted aloud, 'Victory to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels who were standing in a circle round the throne, surrounding the elders and the four animals, prostrated themselves before the throne, and touched the ground with their foreheads, worshipping God with these words, 'Amen. Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and strength to our God for ever and ever. Amen.'

One of the elders then spoke, and asked me, 'Do you know who these people are, dressed in white robes, and where they have come from?' I answered him, 'You can tell me, my Lord.' Then he said, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb.'

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 23:1-6. R. see v.6

(R.) Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

1. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness, the world and all its peoples. It is he who set it on the seas; on the waters he made it firm. (R.)
2. Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord? Who shall stand in his holy place? The man with clean hands and pure heart, who desires not worthless things. (R.)
3. He shall receive blessings from the Lord and reward from the God who saves him. Such are the men who seek him, seek the face of the God of Jacob. (R.)

Second Reading 1 John 3:1-3

We shall see God as he really is.

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is. Surely everyone who entertains this hope must purify himself, must try to be as pure as Christ.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

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All Souls' Day Homily by Deacon Clement Baffoe

Today we celebrate All Souls' Day. It is a day to pray for all the departed brothers and sisters who are destined for heaven but are not yet there due to some minor stains.

Most of us are used to the process of doing laundry. After washing, we sometimes may realize that even though everything has been washed clean, there may be a shirt or dress with a stain. What do we do to the stain on clean clothing? We neither add the stained clothing to the spotless clothes, next week's dirty laundry nor start the machine again to rewash this particular dress or shirt since it would be a waste of water, power and time. All we often do is spray the stain and wash the specific spot with our fingers to remove the stain.

Many of us must have questioned where the dead go? Is life ended after we die? No! As the first reading said, "the souls of the virtuous are in the hands of God." We Christians then believe that our souls go to God after we die. However, St. John speaking about the New Heaven in Revelation 21:27 says "but nothing unclean will enter it..." And so the Church teaches that "All who die in God's grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven" (CCC1030). Against this background, those who die with 'clean and washed clothes' but with minor stains and failures do not go directly to heaven as the saints do. Like our laundry process where the stained clothes do not go back to the machine, the people who die with minor failures and sins do not have to come back to this earthly life to start afresh. They go through the state of purgatory where the stains are purged by the purifying love of God. Purgatory is a state of purification and sanctification. Instead of purgatory being a place of torment and suffering, it is a state of being transformed so that the soul can fully embrace and enjoy God's presence. All Souls' Day is an opportunity for each of us to pray for those souls that are still in the state of purification in order that their process of purgation may be hastened.