



**Sacred Heart / Emmaus Parish
St Albans / Sydenham Western Plains Deanery
Parish Priest: Fr. Maurie Cooney**



Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A - 20th August 2023

Parish Details:

Address: 4 Winifred Street, St Albans 3021
Phone: 9366 2146

Finance: Lorraine Stafford: StAlbans.Finance@cam.org.au

Parish Office: Lauren Maslaris: StAlbans@cam.org.au

Office Hours:

Monday & Tuesday: 9:30am—4:00pm

Wednesday-Friday: 9:30am—2:30pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Sacred Heart English Saturday 10.30am
Maltese every 4th Saturday 4.00pm

Baptism: Eight weeks notice is required

Marriage: Six months noticed required

Sacred Heart Mass Times:

Weekdays:

Tuesday - Friday 7.30am

Saturday 9.00am

Weekend:

Saturday 5:00pm

Sunday 7:30am, 10:30am

Polish 9.00am

Slovene 2nd Sunday of month at 5:00pm

Emmaus Mass Times:

Saturday 6:30pm

Sunday 9:00am

Website: <http://pol.org.au/stalbanssydenham/Home.aspx>

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Sacred Heart/Emmaus Parish is committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and people at risk in our community. The Parish takes a zero-tolerance approach to child abuse and upholds that child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of every adult. To report issues and concerns, contact: stalbans.csc@cam.org.au or 0413 841 936

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Sacred Heart-Emmaus Parish acknowledges the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation, the traditional owners of the land where we gather. We pay our respect to their elders past, present and emerging.

READINGS

This Week: First Reading: Isaiah 56:1, 6-7 Second Reading: Romans 11:13-15, 29-32 Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28
Next Week: First Reading: Isaiah 22:19-23 Second Reading: Romans 11:33-36 Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

REFLECTION

A GOSPEL FOR WHOM?

This week's gospel provides a fascinating illustration of Jesus' response to those in need. Jesus has travelled to the area of Tyre and Sidon – part of modern day Lebanon. He moving aside from the place of his very active ministry and taking a break. When the Canaanite woman approaches Jesus and his disciples, she is an interruption; a nuisance. Jesus is at first very abrupt with her. The woman is persistent and again asks Jesus to help her. The woman persists and turns Jesus' metaphor back on him, saying that even the dogs get to eat the scraps that fall from the table.

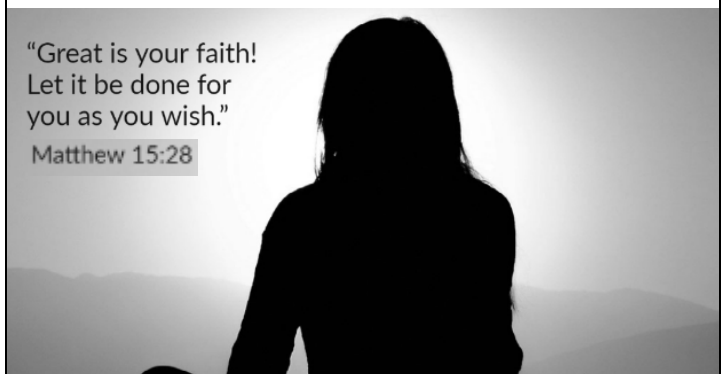
The woman's persistence and faith pay off. Jesus is moved by her faith and heals the woman's daughter. Despite his initial abruptness and reluctance, Jesus responds with compassion to her request.

This is an important story in Matthew's gospel which was written predominantly for Jewish Christians, whereas this story reveals that the ministry of Jesus and the reign of God are open to all.

It sits in the middle of a group of three stories that make up Chapter 15 of Matthew's Gospel. The first story deals with Jesus challenging traditional views of cleanliness and uncleanness – one of the great separators between Jews and Gentiles. The story of this week's gospel follows with its account of the Canaanite woman's great faith being recognised. Finally, Matthew's gospel relates the story of the feeding of the four thousand – a dramatic sign by Jesus of the open invitation to receive his message and ministry. The three stories, taken together, form a powerful chapter that makes clear that the message of Jesus has no 'special group' in mind.

"Great is your faith!
Let it be done for
you as you wish."

Matthew 15:28



WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

RECENT DEATHS: Sebastiano Sensiano, Mario Busuttill, Luka Tivic, Cia Tran, Salvino "Sam" Bonnici, Galina Mifsud, Graeme Whittingslow

ANNIVERSARIES: Angela Xuereb, Michael & Josephine Piacentini, Joe Xuereb, Lewis, Paul & Joe Psaila, Sam & Luke Cassar, Margaret Borg, Emmanuel & Frank Grech, Amelie Grech, John Borg, Tessie Farrugia, Giuseppe Del Casale, Paul & Grace Mifsud, Rosina Del Borrello, Domenico Schivello, Maria Schiavello, Paul Reubens, Collin Clance, Joeanne Martin, Clarrie James, David Sacco, Gus Westen, Peter Muscat, Fr. Joshua, Muscat Family, Charlie Camilleri, Carmenu Falzon, Lily Zammit, Joseph Zammit, Father Micheal & Mother Mickellma & Brothers & Sisters, Frank & Peter Mifsud, Miguel Deleon, Buttigieg Family, Ciantar Family, Paul & Grace Mifsud, Lucille & Geoffrey Williams, Pero Kilsanin, Paul Aquilina, Paul & Grace Mifsud, Aaron D'Souza, Guy D' Cunha, Ivica & Marija Varvopic, Josephine & Ebenezer Guest, Cecilia & Frank Cordina, Joseph & Maria Orsini, Sonja Vella, Marianne Zammit

OUR PASTORAL, SOCIAL & SCHOOL EVENTS



Through our Parishioners support throughout the year, the Church will be making a Donation to CatholicCare of \$5000 this August!



DO YOU REMEMBER THE DAY OF YOUR FIRST COMMUNION?



Young Parishioners at our Cana Catholic Primary School come to the altar of Eucharist and share in our Holy Meal for the first time this weekend: remember them and their families in your prayer!

God bless those who suffer from the common cold.

*Nature has entered into them;
Has led them aside and gently lain them low
To contemplate life from the wayside;
To consider human frailty;
To receive the deep and dreamy messages of fever.*

We give thanks for the insights of this humble perspective.

We give thanks for blessing in disguise.

Amen—Michael Leunig



Ministry Update

WOW!!! Following Ann's and Tony's call for new members of our Ministry to Aged Care/Nursing Homes, thirty-two – yes, 32 – Parishioners spoke with current Team members in the foyers after Masses last weekend. The process is underway now to negotiate their allocation into particular Teams and particular days, and to get the induction/training started. Some of these new members are re-joining after having a break from this Ministry, some are stepping into this Ministry for the first time. Thank you to current Teams members, to new members: and to Ann and Tony for 'stirring the Spirit' amongst us!

Quatrefoils Restaurant - New August Menu

This August join us in Quatrefoils for a new menu prepared by our fantastic cookery students. Brad will be introducing new cocktails, mocktails and teaching our students about our great selection of beers and wine available in the bar. Bookings are available for 6.30pm on:

Tuesday 22nd, Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 24th of August

To RSVP for these evenings please email quatrefoils@crccs.vic.edu.au with: Your name, The date you are booking for, Phone number, Number of guests who are attending & Any dietary requirements

Entree

Chicken and corn chowder served with housemade corn-bread
Or
Slow cooked pork ribs, bourbon bbq sauce, grilled rosemary polenta, celeriac and apple slaw

Main

Buttermilk fried chicken sliders, brioche roll, coleslaw, sriracha mayo, battered pickle, Shoestring fries, ketchup
Or
Spiced sous-vide salmon fillet, wild rice, avocado and black bean salsa, fresh lime, coriander

Sides to share

Waldorf salad with greens from our gardens, apple and walnuts

Dessert

Baked lemon cheesecake, berry coulis, vanilla cream, pistachio praline, candied lemon
Or
Oreo Bombe Alaska with cherry compote, freeze dried berries and fresh mint
salad with greens from our gardens, apple and walnuts



Majellan media-Faith Guide

The AI-powered app delivering swift, reliable answers to all your questions about Catholic teaching

<https://majellan.media/faithguide/>

How to use FaithGuide

Start by entering the topic you want an answer to. For example: Type in 'Baptism' in the space under "Your Topic" and then click on submit.

A response will be received after a few seconds. You can copy the text generated or download it and save on your computer.

In most cases you can type one or two words e.g. "marriage" or "Attending Mass".

If you don't get the response you expected simply clear the answer and modify your question slightly.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

Love one another, and help one another.

Mary MacKillop 9th. July 1873