

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

RECENT DEATHS: Jelena Baresic; Maria Nemec; Nellie Benson; Gerard Ithier; Peter Kelly; Bishop Hilton Deakin; Hall, Carmen Dobson.

ANNIVERSARIES: Michael & Josephine Piacentini, Lewis, Paul & Joe Psaila, Sam & Luke Cassar, Margaret Borg, Eusebio Eje, Zoe & Joseph Camilleri, Arthur & Lina Mattocks; Mary Agius Benac; Silvo & Janina Simcic, Anthony Agius; Sam & Mary Tabone, Pauline Bajada; Aloysius & Annie Perera; Aaron D'Souza, Peter & Clara Parnis; Maria Noi Pham & Dominic Hung Hoanh; Charlie Portelli; Lira Sequeira & Brenda Wright; Guzeppi, Rozanna & Dolor Falzon; Lily Zammit & Carmen Farrugia; Leli Bugeja & Charlie Camilleri; Paul Galea; Michael & Josephine Piacentini, Paul Aquilina, Fr Joshua, Peter Muscat, Maria & Anthony Machia; John Coliero, Gatano & Antonia Zerafa; Ferdinand Debono; Cvita Holjev; Maria Augusta & Stanislaus Quadros; Gerry, Moira & Trevor Smith, Thomas & Elizabeth Meyn; Cecilia & Frank Cordina, Joseph & Maria Orsini; Pero Klisanin.

OUR PASTORAL, SOCIAL & SCHOOL EVENTS

RCIA

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the process by which those who are part of other faith traditions, and those whose Baptism into the Catholic Church has not been developed come into full communion with the Catholic Church. This process culminates in the liturgies of Easter in the following year after the process began. A new RCIA group journey in our Parish has commenced on 19 July 2022, and registrations are open. If you or anyone you know, would like to take this journey to share in the Sacraments of the Church and join in full communion with the Catholic Church, please contact the Parish Office for more information.



SACRED HEART / EMMAUS PARISH Parish Commitment Weekend – Sat 22 & Sun 23 October 2022

PARISH RENEWAL PROGRAM 2022

Welcome to the final week of our Parish Renewal Program – the Parish Commitment Weekend.

Last week we considered our **engagement** in parish life and heard from parishioners Fran Thorn (Sacred Heart) and Les Milroy (Emmaus) about the importance of the parish in their lives. This week we turn our attention to **parish finances**. How do we provide the financial resources for the priorities identified in our Program brochure and discussed at our 5 Parishioner Forums? Thanksgiving Income is the major source of parish income and has declined nearly 50% on pre COVID-19 levels. This must be turned around and we have identified the need to return Pledged Thanksgiving Income from the current \$6,500 to pre COVID-19 level of \$9,000 per week.

WE ASK FOR YOUR FINANCIAL COMMITMENT TO SUPPORT THE PARISH

What does my financial support pay for?

Supporting pastoral care – including the employment of a Pastoral Support Person
The maintenance of our churches and parish facilities
The operating costs of the parish – staff wages, insurance, utilities etc.

How much should I pledge?

It is now 5 years since we conducted a Renewal Program, so we are asking all families to review and renew their commitments. As a guide - how do you use your discretionary income after paying the essentials. Is support of your parish a priority for you? We ask that your financial support to Thanksgiving is a meaningful one in your own individual circumstances. Remember that a simple daily cup of takeaway coffee can cost \$30 per week or \$130 per month

We ask those with the greatest capacity to contribute the most – reserving special thanks for those on restricted incomes whose continued support is very much appreciated

How do I pledge?

Make your new commitment at all Masses this weekend – Sat 22 & Sun 23 October - using the Commitment form from the Program brochure or the Commitment cards available in the pews

If you won't be at Mass this weekend – please return to the Parish Office by Wed 26 October

THOUGHTS FOR REFLECTION

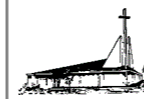
Q: Why do you think it is important to support our parish financially through our Stewardship Program?

"It is very simple. Our parish community has a financial component just as my family has a financial component. Both need a defined and regular income to meeting outgoing costs and needs."



St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

"I hope that you have had more charity and trust, and that you have not judged by appearances."
Mary MacKillop 5 March 1900



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



30th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C - 23rd October 2022

PARISH DETAILS

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

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

Office Hours:

Monday – Wednesday: 9:30am – 4:00pm

Thursday & 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:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Tuesday – Friday | 7.30am |
| Saturday | 9.00am |
| Saturday | 5:00pm |
| Sunday | 7:30am, 10:30am |
| | Polish 9.00am |
| Slovene 2nd Sunday of month at 5.00pm | |

Emmaus Mass Times

| | |
|--------|-----------------|
| Sunday | Saturday 6:30pm |
| Sunday | 9:00am |

If you would like to receive the weekly 'Parish Update' emailed to you, please send your email address to the Parish: stalbens@cam.org.au

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: stalbens.csc@cam.org.au or 0413 841 936

READINGS

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|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| This week: First Reading: Sir 35:12-14, 16-18 | Second Reading: 2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18 | Gospel: Lk 18:9-14 |
| Next week: First Reading: Wis 11:22 – 12:2 | Second Reading: 2 Thes 1:11 – 2:2 | Gospel: Lk 19:1-10 |

REFLECTION

STAYING AWARE OF WHO GOD IS

Do you remember two weekends ago that the tenth leper acknowledged this, and turned to speak with Jesus about it? And last week Jesus urged his followers to persevere in their prayer?

In today's Gospel, the 'publican' acknowledges who God is in his life. The other man seems to use his prayer time to speak about himself, trying to 'prove' himself in the sight of God.

Prayer takes many forms, of course: familiar words with which we've worn out the beads over the years, thoughts and reflections and silence, songs, formal prayers that the whole Church uses, Sacraments with their symbols and meanings. We ask God for things in prayer, praise God, thank God, express puzzlement to God, speak out frustration, and ask for forgiveness.

In all its different shapes and forms, prayer is always to be our acknowledgement of God, and our acknowledgement that God is part of our lives.

The particular shape to the man's prayer in the Gospel is 'repentance'. Remember the other three classic shapes to prayer – thanks, praise, intercession: it's important to include all four in the cycle of our prayer. Reflecting on this week's parable, one of the writers comments:

We are weak and fallible and selfish in some proportion. We intend and forget. We promise and do not deliver. We propose and do not pursue. At times we barely manage to camouflage our pettiness and our touchiness about our little empires. We see creations of delicacy gobbled up by the ravages of passion. The more we know about our motives, the more shabby some of them are revealed to be. If we have to get all of that right before God accepts us we are without hope. However we are people of great hope! We may not be able to forgive ourselves, others may not forgive us, history may not forgive us. But God does, and not conditionally. It is not only if we have first shined and combed ourselves and put on our best suits and made ourselves respectable enough to appear in his presence that he does so. He does it anyway.

(Vincent MacNamara, *The Truth in Love*)