

Subject: Easter Greetings from St. Judes Parish, Scoresby

Dear St Jude's Parishioners,

There is no doubt that many of us who belong to St Jude's Parish have a multitude of feelings stirring in us at the moment; maybe anxious and bewildered about what is going on in the world with the Coronavirus. Also, possibly feeling a little bit lost because for the first time, since the parish was established, 50 years ago, we find ourselves without a pastoral leader.

The Pastoral Council is still active, and Parishioners are very much in our thoughts. We are concerned for the wellbeing (physically or spiritually) of all Parishioners and their families, especially the elderly and those who are vulnerable or ill. We will make every effort to support you and them in any way we can. If you (or any Parishioner that you know) need assistance or help in any way, please get in contact with us via email at pastoral.stjudes@gmail.com.

There is every indication that the current crisis will not diminish quickly, and this initial email is simply to assure you that we have not forgotten you. So, for the foreseeable future, we will communicate with you through regular emails and will also upload all communication, including the weekly Newsletter, onto the Parish website (<http://pol.org.au/scoresby>).

If you know of any Parishioner not receiving an email from us, please pass this email on to them and have them (or you) contact Preethi in the Office so that we can update our records to ensure that they receive future emails.

During this time, our Parish Office Staff, Preethi Pais (Secretary), Mirani Perera (Pastoral Worker) and Nihal Lawrence (Accounts Officer) are predominantly working from home. However, they are still contactable via the Parish Office phone number, 9763 7302 or via email at scoresby@cam.org.au.

The Pastoral Council have prepared a Parish Profile that has been provided to the Vicar General, Fr. Joe Caddy, who has advertised the position of Parish Priest at Scoresby. Given the absence of a pastoral leader in our parish, parishioners may direct enquires to Monsignor Tony Ireland, Episcopal Vicar for the Eastern Region of the Archdiocese on 9412 8425 or via email, anthony.ireland@cam.org.au.

As most parishioners are aware, the St Vincent de Paul, Scoresby Conference is very active and particularly so in times of need. We mention this for two reasons:

- Contact them if you need assistance,
- If you can assist with a donation then please contact them to get details as to how best this can be done.

Contact: Carmel Quiney, President of the Scoresby Conference on 0400 485 874.

As we comply with government guidelines about social distancing you all would be aware that there is no Mass being celebrated at St Jude's or in any other parish at the moment. However, there are many opportunities via television and/or online for you to hear Mass. This is especially relevant for us as we come to the most important week in the church's liturgical calendar – Easter Week. Not only is it important for liturgical reasons, but it is also one of those weeks where parishioners reconnect with each other. Remember all those wonderful Easter breakfasts we shared, the sausage sizzle and more recently warm, fresh hot cross buns. We may not be able to be there physically this year but through our faith in God and taking a few quiet moments we can send prayers and warm wishes to all in our parish.

The Archdiocese has announced that there will be televised Holy Week liturgies from St. Patrick's Cathedral on:

- Channel 31 (<https://c31.org.au/tune-in/>),
- Website (<http://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass>) and
- YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/user/archmelb>)

Watching Mass online or on television is no substitute for fully present participation, but it is not wholly without value either, as it helps us to find God in the midst of chaos and then enjoy the great consolation that is the fruit of prayerful worship and spiritual communion. More information can be found on the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne website (www.cam.org.au) for latest resources and guidance.

The simple and loving act of Spiritual Communion (written by St. Alphonsus Liguori) can be made when we are unable to attend Mass and receive the Eucharist. Pray these words:

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,

I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul.

Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

The Parish Pastoral team wishes you a blessed Easter and may God's blessings be with you and all your family throughout this coming Holy Week. Stay well, stay safe, and look after each other.

Your Pastoral Team,

Peter Madden, Ann Doyle, Xavier David, Leon Raj, Mary King, Joe Fonseka, Robyn Pinches

Should you not wish to receive these Pastoral email updates going forward, please reply with the subject line "Please Cease".

Hallelujah - The Ten Tenors (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M9R6FBEe_10)

New Version of an Old Favourite (a Tom Jones Parody of "Don't Help Yourself")

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BryllYufO2A>

