



St Finbar's Catholic Parish

Parish Priest:

86 Centre Rd, Brighton East, VIC, 3187

Year A

Fr Ian W Ranson

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Parish Secretary:

Mrs Carmel Cristiano

Office hours:

**PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED
DUE TO STAGE 4
RESTRICTIONS**

Please feel free to email or call Fr Ian or Carmel if you have any special intentions.

Please refer to the links on parish website for further information regarding COVID regulations.

Telephone:

+61 3 9593 2122

Email:

BrightonEast@cam.org.au

St Vincent de Paul

1800 305 330

School Principal:

Mr Patrick Berlingeri

School Telephone:

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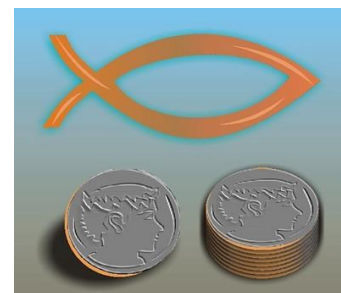
TWENTY-NINETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The frequency with which we consider the question of insider-outsider is an indication of how important universalism and the breaking down of boundaries is within our religious tradition. All peoples, all lands are called on to praise God. Furthermore, God cares about and cares for all people (see Is 19:25), and God works through all people to accomplish good in the world: Gandhi, a Hindu of Indian origin; Martin Luther King, Jr, a Baptist minister; Susan B. Anthony, a suffragist; Nelson Mandela, a Black South African, etc. Human beings have always realised that, in comparison with the grandeur and expansiveness of the universe within which they live, they

neither gender, nor race, nor age, nor class nor culture qualifies one for being an insider, what does? Today's readings suggest that it is service of others. In breaking down the walls of prejudice, the social activists of our own age liberate not only the oppressed groups to which they belong, but also those who oppress them. The lives of these dynamic people show us that service of others draws them into our circles and encircles us in theirs. With open arms God invites all into an embrace of divine love. As God has embraced us, so we are called to embrace all others. are weak and vulnerable creatures. This has led them to believe in and

offer homage to a divine being, or beings. Praise of God has always been an expression of awe and gratitude as well as humility.

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NO MASSES ARE TAKING PLACE OUTDOORS AT ST FINBAR'S CURRENTLY.

Should you have a special intention, pass it onto Fr Ian via email or office phone and he will place it in his personal daily mass intentions.

NOTIFICATION OF MASSES WILL BE MADE ONCE CONSENT FROM THE STATE GOVERNMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH COVID RESTRICTIONS IS GRANTED.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Pray for the Sick

Rita Maguire

Anniversaries

Carmel Mulvany

Different View

A simple question?

This gospel passage is sometimes interpreted as Jesus' endorsement of the Christian responsibility to state authorities. It has been interpreted as affirming the obligation to pay taxes and participate in the processes of government. In fact, Jesus neatly avoided the direct question put to him and never gave a response to the question of paying taxes. Rather, he made the question a much broader one and reminded people that their first obligation was to God, not the state. It is an excellent example of the need for critical interpretation of scripture. A simple, literal reading of this text leads us to drawing simple, literal conclusions about whether or not we should be paying taxes.

Equality for Faith Petition

Dear Parishioners of St Finbar's,

Places of worship are being treated in an inequitable way by the Victorian government's current restrictions in the 'Roadmap for Reopening'. A small group of people of faith have started an online petition to immediately correct this inequality. We need your help! We ask you to read, consider signing and distribute the petition to people you know.

The petition can be found at www.equalityforfaith.com.au or on the last page of this bulletin.

Your support will be critical in enabling the petition to influence change! #equalityforfaith

Sincerely, Fr Ian Ranson



During the period of suspension of public liturgies in response to the Coronavirus crisis, Catholics can take heart from one of the key decrees of the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965) on Christ's presence in the liturgy:

"Christ is always present in his Church, especially in its liturgical celebrations. He is present in the sacrifice of the Mass, not only in the person of his minister, 'the same now offering, through the ministry of priests, who formerly offered himself on the cross' but especially under the Eucharistic elements. By his power he is present in the sacraments, so that when a man baptises it is really Christ himself who baptises. He is present in his word, since it is he himself who speaks when the holy Scriptures are read in the Church. He is present, lastly when the Church prays and sings, for he promised: 'Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them'"

(Mt 18:20).

[Vatican Council II, Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy (1963) art. 7]

If parishioners pray at home at the same time they would normally be together praying at Mass, there is a very real sense in which two or three are gathering in Christ's name, in the unity of their prayer rather than of their physical person.

Individual and family prayer based on the Liturgy of the Word at Mass, the Liturgy of the Hours and other sources provides members of parishes and families with an opportunity to honour Christ's presence in the domestic Church as those present pray to God in thanksgiving for gifts received, and for the needs of the Church and the world.

PREPARED BY THE AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE

Finding Christ in a COVID Christmas

Offered over four weeks, these Advent formation sessions are ideal for liturgy and parish leadership teams looking to bring the season to life in their local communities in this time of uncertainty with COVID restrictions. In the first two weeks, guest speaker Ria Greene will offer an overview of the Gospel of Mark (Year B of the liturgical cycle) and the Advent readings. In the third week, musician and liturgist Fiona Dyball will explore developing a suitable seasonal repertoire as we begin to celebrate a new liturgical year; then in the final week, Proclaim: The Office for Mission Renewal will explore the practical implications for parish services in the current COVID-19 climate. For further information: Proclaim: Office for Mission Renewal | Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne Teresa Rhynehart: teresa.rhynehart@cam.org.au | Lorraine McCarthy: lorraine.mccarthy@cam.org.au

Easy online *thanksgiving* payments can be made via this link:

<https://secure.artezpacific.com/registrant/donate.aspx?eventId=52905&spid=5635700>



Live telecast of 11am Sunday Mass,

Ch 44 or online

<https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass>



OCTOBER—MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY

18th St Luke, Evangelist, Patron of Physicians & Surgeons

20th, St Paul of the Cross, Priest

22nd St John Paul II, Pope

23rd St John of Capistrano, Priest



Petition to the Premier of Victoria

EQUALITY FOR VICTORIA'S PEOPLE OF FAITH

Dear Premier Daniel Andrews,

We, people of Victoria's faith community, request that the 'Roadmap for Reopening' be amended so that people of faith and places of worship are treated equitably and fairly.

The 2016 national census indicates that approximately 60% of Victorians identify as religious. For people of faith, the ability to practise our beliefs – including through public worship – is essential to our wellbeing. As it stands, the 'Roadmap' suggests that our wellbeing has not been given due consideration.

We are particularly concerned about the inequitable treatment of people of faith under 'Step 3' of your 'Roadmap'. For example, 'Step 3' permits cafes and restaurants to seat up to 20 people indoors and 50 people outdoors yet restricts religious communities to outdoor gatherings of only 10 people and indoor private worship to household bubbles.

There is no logical reason for this discrepancy. People of faith are able to attend a service in a place of worship whilst wearing a face mask; physical distancing is not a challenge in what are often very large venues; services are time-limited and rigorous infection-control measures are able to be implemented. A place of worship can and should be accessible in a COVID-safe way.

Religious organisations should be afforded the same opportunity to open for indoor worship with density quotients equivalent to those seen in other parts of the community such as hospitality. We were afforded the opportunity as we emerged from the first lockdown; we deserve to be afforded the same opportunity again as we emerge from the second lockdown.

Premier Andrews, we, people of Victoria's faith community, request that you adjust the 'Roadmap for Reopening' in a way that secures the equitable treatment of religious communities and grants us the opportunity to practise our faith in a COVID-safe manner.

Signed,

People of all faiths, Victoria

Sign at

www.equalityforfaith.com.au

