

Sunday 22nd August 2021

Mass Times: Monday - Friday 9.30am, Saturday: 9:30am, 5:30pm Sunday 9:00am, 11:00am

Baptisms & other sacraments: please call the office to organise.



Parish Priest:

Fr Ian W Ranson

Parish Secretary:

Mrs Carmel Cristiano

Office hours:

Tues & Thurs

9.00am –3.30pm

Telephone:

+61 3 9593 2122

Email:

BrightonEast@cam.org.au

St Vincent de Paul

1800 305 330

School Principal:

Mr Patrick Berlingeri

School Telephone:

+61 3 9592 4479

St Finbar's Catholic Parish

86 Centre Rd, Brighton East, VIC, 3187

Year B

Telephone: +61 3 9593 2122 Website: <http://pol.org.au/brightoneast>

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B



The decisions called for in today's readings are life decisions. The people at the time of Joshua had to decide which god they would worship. The disciples of Jesus had to decide if he was the one who would fulfill their messianic expectations. We have life decisions to make as well. How will we choose?

The choices we make determine the character of our union with God. God called us out of the slavery of sin and protected us throughout the journey of our lives. Jesus walked with us through the challenges of life and performed wonders for us. Why should we look elsewhere? Because we face new challenges. The new demands placed on us may be so great, or the commitment required of us may be so demanding that we feel that we can no longer walk with him. The church may be changing in ways we do not appreciate, or it may not be changing in the ways we believe it should, and so we may feel that we can walk with him no longer.

If we decide to commit ourselves, we will enter into a union with God that is deeper than anything we have previously known. However, this union will be based on faith. We may understand no more than we did in the past, things may be no more to our liking. But, 'to whom shall we go?' Jesus is God's holy one; he has the words of eternal life.



© Dianne Bergant CSA

LIVING THE GOSPEL

Message and Medium

We live in a world that is saturated by advertising and marketers trying to persuade us to think certain things, want certain things and even act in certain ways. At times the message and the medium of the message blur and it's not always clear where one stops and the other begins. For Christian people the medium – the person – IS the message (or at least should be!). We are called to live what we believe. That can be tough at times, especially in our modern world, but the challenge comes from the example Jesus gave.

GOSPEL FOCUS

Peter's faith

Having laid out a fairly difficult teaching to the crowd, Jesus is faced with the fact that many of those who were following him couldn't cope with what he was saying and they walked away from him. Jesus turns on the Twelve and demands of them, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' One can almost hear the frustration and weariness in his voice. Peter's response must have been a great relief to Jesus. Peter declares that Jesus has the message of eternal life and is the Holy One of God. He still hasn't quite got the full picture but it's something Jesus can continue to work with!

Please refer to the following Archdiocesan guidelines and resources for the COVID-19 pandemic:

<https://www.cam.org.au/Guidance-for-Parishes-COVID-19>

AUGUST: The Immaculate Heart of Mary

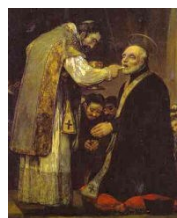
23rd St Rose of Lima



24th St Bartholomew, Apostle



25th St Louis of France; St Joseph Calasanz



26th St Monica



27th St Augustine



COVID REMINDERS

CHURCH IS CURRENTLY CLOSED DUE TO OUR STATE'S LOCKDOWN RESTRICTIONS.

FUNERALS ARE PERMITTED WITH 10 PERSONS AND OTHER CONDITIONS APPLY.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM IS ON HOLD.

Prayer for the current times.....

Eternal Father, You have made the whole world stop walking for a while.

You have forcibly silenced the noise that we have all created around us.

You have made us bend our knees and ask for miracles.

You closed Your Churches so that we realize how dark our world is without You in it.

You humiliated the proud and powerful. The economy is collapsing, businesses are closing.

We have been very proud to think that everything we have, everything we own, have been the result of our hard work.

We have forgotten that it was Your grace, Your mercy, that made us who we are and has given us everything we have.

We are going around in circles looking for some cure for this disease, when in fact we need to humble ourselves and ask for guidance and wisdom only from You.

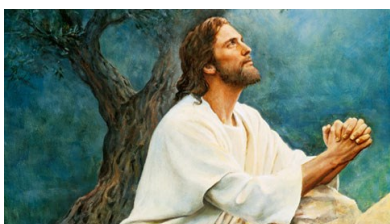
We have been living our lives as if we are here on Earth forever, as if there is no Heaven, no Purgatory, no Hell.

Perhaps this virus is actually Your way of purifying and cleansing our souls, bringing us back to You.

Today, as these words travel the internet, may all who see them join their hearts and hands in prayer, asking for forgiveness, asking for healing and protection against this virus, but above all, asking that Your Holy and Divine Will be done and not ours.

GOD we beg You, deliver us from all evil on Earth if it is Your will!

Father, You have been patiently waiting for us to turn our faces to You, to repent of our sins. We are sorry to ignore Your voice! Selfishly, sometimes we have forgotten that You are GOD!! Lord, I am not worthy to have you come into my house, but one word from you will be enough to heal me!



You Lord only need to say the Word and our souls will be healed.

We ask You for healing and deliverance in Jesus' name! By the infinite merits of his Most Sacred Heart and of the Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary. Amen.

Pope Francis



Humanitarian crises unfolding in Afghanistan and Lebanon

As the situations in **Afghanistan** and **Lebanon** deteriorate, you can help to support families caught up in the crises.

In **Afghanistan**, people have been forced from their homes, with half of the population in urgent need of food, water, shelter and protection.

In **Lebanon**, the country is running out of power, water, fuel, medicine and food. Even hospitals are facing massive fuel shortages and will soon have to turn off the lights.

Please donate to Caritas Australia so that we are able to respond to crises like these and others across the world.

Visit [caritas.org.au/lebanon](https://www.caritas.org.au/lebanon) or www.caritas.org.au/afghanistan or call 1800 024 413 toll free to provide much needed support.

SAFETY OF CHILDREN AND ALL VULNERABLE PEOPLE

St Finbar's Parish hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and all vulnerable people as a central and fundamental responsibility for our community.