



The Parish of
St Anne & St Bede

Parish Office: 1 Severn St, Balwyn North

Office Hours: Closed during Stage 4 Restrictions.

Phone: 9401 6355
in case of emergency 9401 6368

E-mail: balwynnorthkeweast@cam.org.au

Website: parishofstanneandstbede.org.au

For those wishing to contribute to Stewardship or Priests' collection, the Parish account details are listed below for electronic funds transfer.

1st Collection

Account name: St Bede's Presbytery Account
Presbytery Account BSB: 083 347 **Account no.**
666017079

2nd Collection

Account name: St Bede's Church Account Church
Account BSB: 083 347 **Account no.** 458706734

Please click on the link below from 5pm on Saturday, 5 September, to watch Mass Online, celebrated by our priests: https://youtu.be/yx_8G9HNqeM

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

Wishing all fathers, grandfathers, great grandfathers and all those who provide a fathering role in our community, a very blessed and happy Father's Day.

First Reading - Ezekiel 33:7-9

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: ‘Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.’

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm – Ps 62:2–6, 8–9

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your heart

Come, sing with joy to God,
shout to our Saviour, our Rock.
Enter God's presence filled with praise,
enter with shouting and song. **R.**

God cradles the depths of the earth,
holds fast mountain peaks.
God shapes the ocean and owns it,
formed the earth by hand. **R.**

Come, bow down and worship,
kneel to the Lord, our maker.
This is our God, our shepherd,
we are the flock led with care. **R.**

Second Reading – Romans 13:8-10

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel – Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

‘I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.

‘I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour.

Romans 13:10



REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL

The readings carry a very clear message concerning our responsibility towards the salvation of others within the community. No man is an island and in Christ we are all brothers and sisters and members of the one family. Life is short and we all have to take seriously the duty of doing good while we can by helping those who are weak or in need of our assistance.

Each person on this earth can have an effect for the good or evil of our society, and God will call us to an accounting at the end of our lives. At many different times, God tells us that we are responsible for each other's well-being.

In the second reading for today, Paul sums up, in the simplest summary possible, the whole meaning of Christianity, the whole meaning of our religion; and it is simply this: "Love your neighbour as yourself." That's it.

He is saying that love is the key to obeying each of the commandments. The most important thing is not the law and how we keep it, but rather people and how we treat them. Real love, the love which looks out for the interests of other people. For a person who really loves, other people come first. As we celebrate Father's Day this weekend in a very strange way, let's take a few moments to reflect on how the love of our own father, alive or has gone to heaven, has for us, impacted on us, nurtured us and on how it will continue to be with us on our journey of life. Honestly, I have prepared a short simple video clip which I sent to my Dad back in Vietnam, with collected photos and a blessing song recorded for Father's Day. Hopefully he's watched and enjoyed it.

Let us really hear St Paul today when he tells us how simple it all really is. In the midst of all the confusion and uncertainties and changes of life because of Covid19, let us never forget the scriptural summary of Christianity: Love your neighbour as yourself.

"A small act of kindness can make a big difference."

Fr Toan Nguyen

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Celebrant: St. Paul tells us that all we owe others is to love them. This debt of love shapes our prayers for all who seek God's mercy.

On this Sunday we enter the Catholic Season of Creation. We pray for guidance for Pope Francis and all Bishops of our Church. When gathering in Jesus' name, may they show leadership that is open to mutual love, respect and shared responsibility for all creation.

Lord hear us

We pray for all fathers today. May the Holy Spirit give them the wisdom to rightly carry out the responsibilities of fatherhood and may they be blessed in their children.

Lord hear us

We pray for all those who sacrifice themselves to care for people on the margins of society and for earth as our common home. May they be appreciated for their selfless efforts.

Lord hear us

We pray for our faith community. May we always be aware of what it means to be a member of the Church, the family of disciples. May we be graced in solving the problems that arise with honesty and respect.

Lord hear us

We pray for the sick of our parish and for those who care for them. We remember all those residents in our nursing homes and those who care for them.

We pray for those who have died recently, especially **Elaine Brady, Patrick King and Daphne Nicholls**, and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially **John Conheady, Lybil Levick, Lorraine Mascini and Frank Sandy**. May they now rest in the love of Christ.

Lord hear us

Celebrant: Gracious God, receive our prayers so that all people may live their lives in peace and tranquillity. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

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:

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.

PARISH NEWS

PRIESTS' RETIREMENT FOUNDATION: Caring for those who cared

The annual Father's Day Appeal for the PRF is on this weekend. This appeal is a vital support to the 90 or so retired priests in the Archdiocese of Melbourne who are cared for by the Foundation.

This year, there are three ways that you can make a donation:

1. Go online to www.cam1.org.au/foundation/, and make a PayPal donation, or download the credit card donation form.
2. Write a cheque to the "Priests Retirement Foundation" and drop it in at the parish office, including your full name and address for a receipt
3. Use the envelope in your Stewardship pack and drop that in at the parish office.

We would appreciate if those dropping envelopes off did so before 1.00pm on Monday or Tuesday at St Bede's Parish, into the mailbox at the front door. Or if you live closer to St Anne's you can drop it off in the mailbox at the front door of the presbytery.

Thank you for your faithful support both for our retired priests, and the priests currently serving in our parishes.

VICTORIAN BISHOPS RESPOND TO LATEST VOLUNTARY ASSISTED DYING REPORT

This week, the Voluntary Assisted Dying Review Board released their annual report into the first year of the euthanasia and assisted suicide scheme in Victoria. Alarmingly, 124 Victorians have used the scheme to end their lives in the past twelve months alone, despite assurances that numbers would remain low in its early years. 'The latest report is not a celebration of good healthcare, but a sad story of the loss of hope and care for vulnerable people.' To view the Bishops' statement please visit our website:

<http://parishofstanneandstbede.org.au/news/>

VICTORIAN CHRISTIAN MEDITATION COMMUNITY DAY VIA ZOOM ON 19 SEPTEMBER, 10 AM - 3 PM.

Theme: Meditation & Ageing

Presenter: Susie Hii

A range of topics will be discussed relevant to those in second half of life, including; Practising Reminiscence; Letting go in second half of life; Becoming aware of death.

If interested, please contact April Blackwell on lirpa@comcen.com.au

(On registration you shall be given the Zoom link. Donation \$10 suggested. Payment may be made directly to ACMC bank account or by bank card or cheque).

Bank details are:

ACMC Victoria.

BSB: 013128

A/c: 256186646

If paying by credit card, please send your details to April and if by cheque mail to Mary Hartwig, 65 Princess St, Maffra, 3860.)

SAFETY OF CHILDREN AND ALL VULNERABLE PEOPLE

We hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and all vulnerable people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our parish. The Parish Statement of Commitment and Reporting Process are on display in all churches and all Parish Policies are available on the website or at the parish office.