



The Parish of

St Anne & St Bede

Parish Office: 1 Severn St, Balwyn North

Office Hours: Closed during Stage 4 Restrictions.

Phone: 9401 6355
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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, 31 October, to watch Mass Online, celebrated by our priests:

<https://youtu.be/oBZvlfY0yo4>

First Reading - Apocalypse 7:2-4,9-14

I, John, saw another angel rising where the sun rises, carrying the seal of the living God; he called in a powerful voice to the four angels whose duty was to devastate land and sea, 'Wait before you do any damage on land or at sea or to the trees, until we have put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.' Then I heard how many were sealed: a hundred and forty-four thousand, out of all the tribes of Israel.

After that I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. They shouted aloud, 'Victory to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels who were standing in a circle round the throne, surrounding the elders and the four animals, prostrated themselves before the throne, and touched the ground with their foreheads, worshipping God with these words, 'Amen. Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and strength to our God for ever and ever. Amen.'

One of the elders then spoke, and asked me, 'Do you know who these people are, dressed in white robes, and where they have come from?' I answered him, 'You can tell me, my lord.' Then he said, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 23(24):1-6

R. Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.

It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm. **R.**

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with the clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things. **R.**

He shall receive blessings from the Lord,
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob. **R.**

Second Reading – 1 John 3:1-3

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us,
by letting us be called God's children;
and that is what we are.
Because the world refused to acknowledge him,
therefore it does not acknowledge us.
My dear people, we are already the children of God
but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed;
all we know is, that when it is revealed
we shall be like him
because we shall see him as he really is.
Surely everyone who entertains this hope
must purify himself, must try to be as pure as Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel – Matthew 5:1-12

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples.
Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit;
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Happy the gentle:
they shall have the earth for their heritage.
Happy those who mourn:
they shall be comforted.
Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:
they shall be satisfied.
Happy the merciful:
they shall have mercy shown them.
Happy the pure in heart:
they shall see God.
Happy the peacemakers:
they shall be called sons of God.

Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL

On this festival of faith, as we celebrate the glory of countless millions of people who, down through the centuries, have gone home to God, we are given a glimpse into our ultimate future.

Those who are now gathered in heaven with Christ were men and women who strived and suffered for the love of God. They took their faith seriously enough to follow it to shape their lives in order to complete the task that God had given them. Few of them held important positions and many went unnoticed in their communities. They did nothing out of the ordinary and in a short time were forgotten. The fact that their names do not appear on the church's official role of honour, reminds us that those who are canonised are only small part of God's friends.

The Beatitudes advise us a way of life, inviting us to identify with the poor, those who mourn, the meek, and those who hunger and thirst after justice. They challenge us to be compassionate people, to be men and women who are pure in heart, and to become the peacemakers in our dealings with one another, in our families, our community and in the society at large.

The gospel paints a picture of the qualities Jesus considers necessary for making a person a saint, and they differ from what constitute earthly success and honour. He lets us see the values of a humble daily life and how precious it can be if we take up our cross and follow him.

The saints are put before us for our imitation to show us the way and point out the path we have to travel. We need human faces and firm friends to help us in our search for God. The example of their lives encourages us and spurs us on, telling us that our future is with God because we are already his children. The saints remind us to keep seeking love until our whole being is drawn into the fire of God's love.

On the feast of All Saints the church invites us and challenges us to walk the walk, and gives us fresh courage to renew our resolve and to thank God for giving ordinary folk like us the ability to become saints. As we honour the saints, we pray that where they are we also may one day be.

Fr Toan Nguyen

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Celebrant: God has created us to live in faith with one another. We offer these prayers as a sign of our fidelity to the covenant renewed through Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

We pray for Pope Francis and all leaders of our Church. May they be strengthened by the Holy Spirit to minister to their people with compassion and faithfulness to the Gospel.

Lord hear us

We pray for our Church in the Communion of Saints. Sharing in their baptism, we acknowledge their goodness and strive to live by their example.

Lord hear us

In these final weeks of the academic year, we pray for students facing exams. May their continuous study and efforts through challenging times bring the fruits of success and joy in their results.

Lord hear us

In this month of November, we remember and pray for all the faithful departed, especially our family, friends, parishioners and all those mentioned in the Book of the Dead. May God welcome them into the Eternal Kingdom.

Lord hear us

We pray for the sick of our parish, especially **Roma Matheson and Thina Raman**. May they receive the comfort of God's love from those engaged in caring for them.

Lord hear us

We also pray for those who have died recently, especially **Mr Nicola De Thomasis and Peter Hamden** and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially **Annelise Peyton, Frank Paoli, Joaquin Andrade, Richard D'Souza, Winnie Teo, Arthur and Teresa Stephenson**. May they find peace in eternal life and be united with the Communion of Saints.

Lord hear us

Celebrant We have received the gospel as the Word of God. May these intercessions be a sign of the work of this Word in us, through Christ our Lord. Amen

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.

PARISH NEWS

Dear Parishioners,

This week has seen a significant opening up of our society, and – after some hard bargaining by representatives of faith communities – of our churches.

As of this weekend, our timetable will be:

Saturday:	St Anne's	4.30pm	6.00pm	
	St Bede's	4.30pm	6.00pm	
	St Bridget's	5.00pm		
Sunday:	St Joachim's	8.00am		
	St Anne's	9.30am	11.00am	
	St Bede's	8.00am	9.30am	11.00am
	St Bridget's	10.00am	5.30pm	

All parishioners are welcome to book in at any Mass across the affiliated parishes. Please arrive at least 5 minutes prior to the beginning of the Mass so that:

1. You can be temperature checked;
2. You have time to hand sanitise;
3. You are marked off as an attendee.

Parishioners must book in via Trybooking. The link will be sent out each Thursday. If you do not have the internet, then ring the parish office on Thursday morning to be booked in. If you find – after booking – that you are unable to attend, please cancel so that someone else can use the place. There is a strict limit of ten people at each Mass. Social distancing applies, and no-one may be admitted unless wearing a mask (except people with a medical exemption).

It is important that we carefully observe the conditions set down for us to open up, so that further easing of restrictions can occur later.

Weekday Masses will be linked by a separate Trybooking bulletin:

Tuesday:	St Bede's	9.15am
Wednesday	St Anne's	10.00am
Thursday	St Bede's	9.15am
Friday	St Bede's	9.15am
	St Anne's	10.00am

In addition, there will be 8.30am Mass at St Bridget's on First Fridays.

Broadcast Mass

We will continue to offer the broadcast Mass each week, rotating around our churches.

Friday Afternoon Prayer

Jo Ryan will take over hosting Evening Prayer from next week.

Kind regards,
Fr John Salvano

Celebrating Children's Week: 24 October to 1 November 2020

From the Professional Standards Unit, Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne.

Children's Week is a national celebration that recognises children and their rights. The theme for this year's Children's Week is drawn from Article 15 of the United Nations Conventions on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC): *Children have the right to meet together and join groups and organisations as long as it does not stop other people from enjoying their rights. In exercising their rights, children have the responsibility to respect the rights, freedom and reputations of others.*

'During this Children's Week, our focus is on encouraging the rights of children', said Archbishop Peter A Comensoli, 'their right to feel safe and to be listened to, to grow in their faith and their right to contribute to our communities.

'Here in the Archdiocese of Melbourne, we are committed to creating a culture of safety and care for all children and adults, and we know that our communities will only flourish when everyone is enabled to flourish.

'Our young ones have had a pretty tough year – haven't we all! – but they've been unable to enjoy the usual experiences of being at school with their classmates and peers, or being outside in significant numbers and so on. As we begin to come out of this time of isolation and look to a new way of being together as a community, I pray that our young ones will have their voice heard, that they can contribute to this new way of being – continuing to care for one another, just as Jesus cares for us.'

Children and young people are at the heart of our parishes within the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne, and Children's Week provides the opportunity to reflect on the ways in which this is made manifest in our communities – the ways in which we support our young people, ensuring that they feel welcome, safe and able to grow in your faith.

- [Download the Rights and Responsibilities of Children \(A3 poster\)](#)
- [Download Creating a Code of Conduct for children and young people](#)

For more information, activities and liturgical resources for children, please visit the following link:

[Children's Week 2020](#)

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.