

# St Bernadette's Parish

Under the Pastoral Care of The Paulist Missionaries 59B Westmoreland Road, North Sunshine

Presbytery 9311 2977 - School 9311 8872 - Augustinian Sisters 9312 3953 Parish Email: sunshinenorth@cam.org.au - Parish website: stbernadettesparish.com.au



### **Second Easter of Sunday**

Year C 24<sup>th</sup> April 2022

### Parish Staff

Fr John Taliana MSSP Parish Priest
Miss Amanda Browne Pastoral Worker

Mrs Joyce Cutajar Parish Secretary (Mon, Thurs & Fri)

Mrs Bev Tessari Office (Tuesday)
Miss Josie Desira Office (Wednesday)
Mr Brendan Gill School Principal

### Weekday Masses

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> St Mark, Evangelist 9.15 am

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> St Louis Grignion de Monifort

9.15 am

**6.30 pm** Novena, Rosary followed by

**7.00 pm** Mass

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> St Peter Chanel

9.15 am

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> St Catherine of Siena

9.15 am

### Weekend Masses

Saturday - 6.30 pm Vigil Mass, Sunday - 8.30 am, 9.45 am (Polish) 11.00 am, 12.30 pm (Vietnamese) and 7.00 pm.

### Reconciliation

Saturday - By Appointment

### **Baptisms**

By Appointment Only Held on 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the Month at 11.00am



# **Divine Mercy Sunday**

What a grace-filled day this is! It is the eighth and final day of the Octave of Easter. On this eighth day of Easter we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. It is a day when the flood-gates of mercy are opened wide and God lavishes us with more than we could ever hope for. There is no limit to how much we are loved by our God of perfect mercy. Turn your eyes toward our merciful Lord and be open to all that He wishes to bestow.

Lord of Mercy, help me today to begin to understand what mercy is all about. Help me to first be open to the mercy You wish to bestow upon me. As I receive Your own Divine Mercy, help me also to be an instrument of that mercy for all to see. Jesus, I trust in You.



Fr John will be on Retreat this week.

We thank Fr Noel Bianco for his ministry whilst Fr John is away.

### **Please Pray For**

All who have died recently, for all whose Anniversaries occur at this time and for all those who are sick and dying.





### **SCRIPTURE REFLECTION**

Our Scripture reflection sessions are on Thursday evenings.

These sessions are via ZOOM video platform so

you do not need to leave the comfort of your own home to attend.

If you haven't already attended these sessions, but would like to, please send Amanda an email to brownieab75@gmail.com and she will send you the ZOOM link weekly.

These sessions focus on reflecting on the scripture for the following Sunday and they are a chance for you to connect, not only with the Word of God, but also with the other Parishioners that join.

# SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

Working with Children Checks

Ministers who have not yet done so, please apply for your Working with



Children Check or update the organisations where you volunteer at as soon as possible.



### **PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES & ENVELOPES**

From next week please return your Project compassion boxes and envelopes.



### MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR **HEALTH & AGED CARE WORKERS**

Sunday 1 May, 11am · St Patrick's Cathedral Melbourne

The last two years have impacted all of us, but especially on members of the aged-and health-care service sectors. This Mass will be offered in thanksgiving for their ongoing care and those working in these sectors are especially invited to attend.

### MASS TO COMMEMORATE THOSE WHO HAVE DIED DURING THE COVID PANDEMIC

Sunday 22 May, 11am · St Patrick's Cathedral Melbourne

In recognition of the significant impact of COVID in our families and communities, Archbishop Comensoli will celebrate a memorial Mass for all those who have died during the COVID pandemic and could not be mourned properly due to pandemic restrictions. Parishes and individuals are invited to submit the name(s) of those you would like remembered during the Mass by visiting the Holy Souls Chapel (inside St Patrick's Cathedral) during May or online https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GZKP7QF.

The names will be placed in a basket at the base of the altar, to be prayed for during all Masses over the weekend of 21-22 May.



### **CAROLINE CHISHOLM CATHOLIC COLLEGE OPEN DAY - SUNDAY, 29 MAY**

Join us for our College Open Day and enjoy a tour of all three campus', meet and greet our students and staff, have the opportunity to ask questions and learn more about our College, plus hear from our College Principal.

For more information please visit cccc.vic.edu.au, contact registrar@cccc.vic.edu.au or call (03) 9296 5311 We look forward to seeing you at our College Open Day!



### 'Pondering Grief', Saturday 30 April 2022, 10am-3.30pm.

Facilitated by qualified Counsellor/Supervisor/Educator Linda Espie, this reflection day offers an invitation to reflect on and honour our inner life of change and transition. With creativity, space and gentle guiding support, this workshop offers a sacred place for the breadth of human experiencing and spirit to guide individual exploration. Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral 📗 Formation, Rear 41 Stanhope St, Malvern. Cost \$80 (Materials provided, BYO lunch). Book and pay via www.heartoflife.melbourne, or

email info@heartoflife.melbourne or tel 9890 1101.

### MISSION EXPERIENCE

with the Paulist Missionaries in the Philippines Join the Mission Experience with the Paulist Missionaries between January 5 and January 21 in 2023. Together the group will: work in

a Paulist Missionary Parish in Bataan; minister to the community on 13th Street, New Manila; do prison ministry; visit an orphanage; visit schools and work with the sisters of Mother Teresa in Manila. First preference will be given to applicants between the ages of 18 and 35 who have never joined on one of these

experiences. Applicants over the age of 35 are welcome to apply and will be considered if vacancies arise. Total cost: AUD 2,000. For more information or to express interest in participating in this programme email: mission2023@mssp.org.au or call: 0431984689. Applications close June 30 2022.

### **CATHOLIC REGIONAL COLLEGE SYDENHAM**

2022 Family Tours with the Principal. A tour of the College will provide a view of the incredible facilities they have to offer for every student every pathway. Tuesday 10 May and Monday 30 May at 9.30am, Wednesday 8 June 11.00am and Wednesday 15 June 4.00pm. Register for a tour: **crcs.vic.ed.au** Join there Community Book a Tour <a href="https://crcs.vic.edu.au/join-our-community/book-a-">https://crcs.vic.edu.au/join-our-community/book-a-</a> tour/



Mother's Day Dinner and Christmas in July Dinner at the Quatrefoils Restaurant. Refer to the notice board in the foyer for more information.



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### **Treasuring Our Later Years**

Wednesdays in August and September 10am - 12.30 pm.

Awakening to new possibilities 3rd August, Spirituality 10th August, Meaning in my life now 17th August, Relationships 24th August, Gratitude 31st August, Death – mystery 7th September

St Joseph's By The Sea, 16 Esplanade, Williamstown 9397 6012 admin.sjbtsw@sosj.org.au

Presenter: Nicole Rotaru rsm.

Cost \$20 per session RSVP by 22/7/2022 (Phone or email) **BYO Lunch** 

Our stories and experiences around these themes will enrich our time together and enable us to see the treasure that our later years can be.

First Reading: Acts 5:12-16

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 117:2-4. 22-27

Response: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Second Reading: Revelation 1:9-13. 17-19

A reading from the Book of the Apocalypse

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, 'Write down all that you see in a book.' I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle.

When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, 'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One. I was dead and now I am to live forever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: John 20:29

Alleluia, Alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Gospel: John 20:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.

'As the Father sent me so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord,' he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you,' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

### **EDUCATION IN FAITH**

With all the initial joy and energy of the Resurrection passing; we are now faced with a dose of reality: fear, confusion and doubt. Not everyone believed that Jesus had truly risen from the dead. After all, they had seen him being condemned, beaten and crucified.

They had witnessed him die on the cross and they had seen him being buried, so how could he be alive? We are told in the first line of the gospel this Sunday that 'the doors were closed in the room where disciples were, for fear of the Jews.'

The friends of Jesus were hiding because the Romans were also looking for any of his followers. So they were hiding because they were sad, disappointed and afraid after all they had seen and experienced a few days earlier.

And so, what seems to be out of nowhere, Jesus appears and causally says, 'Peace be with you.' To prove beyond all doubt that it is him, Jesus shows them the signs of his sufferings; his hands and his side. Clearly, they needed concrete proof and evidence to convince them! Then Jesus commissions them with carrying on his ministry and mission. However, one of the group is missing; Thomas. When he returns, the others tell him that Lord had appeared to them and had spoken to them. However, just like them earlier, he not convinced and he too needs some real proof and evidence before he believes what they have told him. He wants to see Jesus with his own eyes!

Eight days later, Jesus appears and Thomas is with them. Again, Jesus wishes them peace. Then he speaks directly to Thomas and invites him to puts his fingers into his wounds as proof of his presence and resurrection. Jesus even asks for Thomas' hand, but we are not actually told that Thomas did in fact put his finger into the wounds of Jesus. Instead, he prays the great prayer that we still use today, 'My Lord and my God!' This is not the prayer of one who doubts, but the prayer of someone who has faith and believes.

It is worth noting that when Jesus appeared again, he did not give out to or judge Thomas for his apparent lack of faith. He simply accepted Thomas and all those who doubted the resurrection as he found them. When we have doubts, there is no need to panic, worry or get too upset. We all go through times when our faith is not strong as we would like it to be. Jesus stands with us as he stood with Thomas. Jesus accepts us as he accepted Thomas.

When we are struggling with our faith, can we look to this great disciple of faith, Thomas and make his prayer our own today, 'My Lord and my God.'

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