

## 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A 4 October 2020

# AN OPEN LETTER FROM THE BISHOPS OF VICTORIA - 25 September 2020

Dear Premier,

It has been very encouraging to see COVID-19 numbers dropping so dramatically in recent weeks. We are grateful for the efforts and commitment of the government and health officials in containing the second wave of the pandemic, and for the clear leadership you have provided personally in your daily communication updates for all Victorians.

Throughout the various changes in restrictions over the last six months, the Catholic dioceses of Victoria have shown themselves to be resilient, well-managed and safe, carefully communicating each set of restrictions and ensuring their implementation, even when this caused much hardship.

However, people of faith across regional and metropolitan Victoria have raised serious concerns about the unfairness and inconsistency in the numbers allowed for religious gatherings by comparison with other sectors in the current 'third step'. We are being asked what the reason is for this dramatic difference, and we are unable to provide an answer, even after several meetings with DHHS in which we have sought explanations.

Over the last two weeks, we have worked cooperatively with members of the government and health authorities, and have resolved a number of inconsistencies and communication difficulties. However, a pressing need remains to address the unfairness of the disparity in numbers.

In the most simple of measures, the current restrictions in regional Victoria literally fail the 'pub test': if people of faith can gather in a restaurant or bar catering for a particular number of patrons (and remove their face covering), they ought to be able to put on their mask, cross the road and worship in their faith community with the same numbers, provided equivalent COVID-safe practices are in place.

We ask that this disparity be rectified urgently and that the principle of fairness be applied for each subsequent step on the roadmap to reopening. Catholic communities have shown their commitment to acting responsibly and cooperatively throughout the pandemic, and they will be greatly encouraged in this if they can see that people of faith are being given the same consideration as other sectors of the community.

You remain in our prayers and we look forward to finding a constructive solution to this issue, which is causing unnecessary pain and distress for people of faith across Victoria.

Yours sincerely,

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli Archbishop of Melbourne Most Rev Paul Bernard Bird CSsR Bishop of Ballarat Most Rev Shane Mackinlay Bishop of Sandhurst

Rev Peter Slater Delegate of Diocesan Administrator, Sale

### PRAYER FOR **BISHOP-ELECT GREG BENNET**

Eternal God, our Shepherd and Guide We bless and thank you for the appointment of your servant, Greg Bennet, as the tenth Bishop of Sale. May your Holy Spirit grace him with the gifts of wisdom and strength,

gentleness and compassion,

as he prepares to take up his role as our pastor and teacher.

May he be a shepherd after your own heart,

who will walk in your ways and, with loving care, watch over your people.

May he be a leader of vision and a teacher of your truth.

home among us,

may we welcome him joyfully into our Diocesan community,

now entrusted to his care and leadership.

May we, as the Body of Christ in the Diocese of Sale.

through our work and praver

together bear witness to Christ and the building up of your kingdom.

We ask this through your Son Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

One God, for ever and ever. Amen,

Our Lady of Perpetual Help prav for us St Mary of the Cross MacKillop pray for us.



31 CLUB REMINDER for 27 Sep - 4 October. Please pray for vocations.

THE VALLEY REGION is hosting a Zoom virtual presentation by Rev Dr Austin Cooper OMI, "Spiritual Thoughts During a Pandemic" on Thursday 8 October from 7.30 - 8.30 pm. This event is free and we welcome interested participants, however, bookings are essential in BOOKINGS: https:// order to attend. tinyurl.com/Austin-Cooper-talk. You will receive your personalised link once you register online.

#### Postponement of Ordination & Installation of Bishop-elect Greg Bennet, Diocese of Sale

In light of the current circumstances of Covid-19 restrictions in the State of Victoria and following the announcement of "Steps" by Premier Andrews for Regional Victoria and Metropolitan Melbourne, it is necessary to postpone the planned Ordination and Installation of Bishop-Elect Gregory Bennet which had been scheduled for 20th October at St Mary's Cathedral, Sale. The Steps for Regional Victoria prevent public religious worship within the Cathedral and other settings (with special exemption for restricted funerals) until 23rd November 2020.

The Diocese of Sale wishes to support the State Government in its efforts to ensure the health As Bishop-elect Bennet prepares to make his and safety of all Victorians. We are mindful of the many other important occasions which people have delayed or have been unable to celebrate. Once the Diocese is able to receive FAITH AND EQUALITY PETITION You may advice that we are able to proceed with the liturgy of Ordination and Installation of Bishop-Elect Bennet you will be notified immediately. As you would understand the lituray will respect all restrictions as required. In any event the Ordination will be live-streamed in order that we can gather as One people in faith in welcoming our new bishop among us.

Peleo Stato

Yours sincerely in Christ, Rev Fr Peter Slater

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY Pope Francis said: ' The Rosary is an effective means of opening ourselves to God.' Each time we pray the Rosary 'We are taking a step forward, towards the great destination of life' -Heaven. The Rosary will be said in the Cathedral at 10.30am on Wednesday 7 October. Your Priests. Dean Peter. Fr Edwin and Deacon Jithin. invite Parishioners to join in solidarity with them. in their homes, to say the Rosary with the intention of the recovery from the Coronavirus pandemic

MASSES: There is no provision for Indoor or or tel 03 9890 1101. Outdoor public Masses, even with small groups, at present due to Coronavirus restrictions.

## PARISH PRAYER.

God our loving Father, we give you thanks and praise for our Cathedral Parish of Sale, for your people and your Creation. Nourish us by your daily Word and Eucharist. Enrich us in our faith, hope and love. Strengthen us with the spirit of your mercy and grace. Make us grateful for your gifts as we journey through our lives together. May we be a welcoming and servina community. always discerning and doing your will for one another. We make this prayer through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

have already received this but just in case you haven't. It is a petition asking for a fairer treatment for faith communities in the Roadmap, Please consider signing up and encourage your family and friends to do the same. https://www.ipetitions.com/petition/ faith-equality

ARE YOU CALLED TO BE A SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR? - The Siloam Program is a full-time or part-time program to form Spiritual Directors. It is suitable for those who wish to companion others on their spiritual journey, helping them to notice the movement of God in their hearts and in their lived experience. The program, which commences on 4 Feb 2021, blends academic and supervisory work to foster a discerning, contemplative approach. The program may be offered face-to-face, online via Zoom, or a combination of both. It may be studied as a Graduate Diploma in Spiritual Direction at the University of Divinity, with Fee-Help available to qualifying students. Apply to Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation. Brochure and application form at www.heartoflife.melbourne

BAPTISMS: By arrangement through the Parish Office or with Veronica, phone 5144 4100. ADORATION of the Blessed Sacrament, Friday after Mass 1130am-12.00noon First Friday of the Month 11.30am-4.00pm At St Rose of Lina, Rosedale on 1st Wednesday of each month 9.30am-10.30am RECONCILIATION: Cathedral: Friday 11.30am after Mass . Saturday After the 9.30am Mass—10.30am Stratford and Briagolong on Sunday or Rosedale on Saturday evening: Before or after Mass or anytime by arrangement with the priest. MARRIAGES: Not less than six months notice please.

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND: Planned Giving: \$920.00 Presbytery: \$210.00 Credit Cards: \$30.00 **Direct Debits:** \$569.00

With thanks from a grateful parish.



#### Mass Timetable this week 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A 4 October 2020

Day/Date	Time	Place
NO MASSES UNTIL		
FURTHER NOTICE		
<b>DUE TO COVID-19</b>		
RESTRICTIONS		

PARISH MASS ON YOUTUBE we invite you to pray our Parish Mass at 9.30am each Sunday the YouTube link is <u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/</u> UCiD2hf8AlxPXAJVG3nEYTZQ. Alternatively, you can find the link on our Parish website at: http://www.stmaryscathedralsale.com.au/ This week's livestreamed Mass:

Sunday 4 October at 9.30am - 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

## MASS INTENTIONS

Sun 4 October: Ines Ramos (ill health) Tues 6 October: Roma & Eddie Jansen (A) Wed 7 October: John McCrohan (A - 6 October) Fri 9 October: John Thomas Pritchett (Birthday Anniversary)

We offer prayers for those who have died Kevin Cooper, Margaret Cahill (Glengarry), Dean Jones, David Aitken, Stella Ashley and those whose anniversaries occur about this time John McCrohan, Ines Ramos, Roma Jansen, Eddie Jansen, Emilia Turra, William Turra, Fr William O'Brien, Fr John Walsh, Fr Michael O'Leary. We pray for those who are sick Sue Barr, Barry Lyon, Daryl Leggett, Celie Smith, Carolyn Everard, Robert Hopkinson, Fr Brian O'Connor, Zita Sutherland, Kim Yacoub, Joan Whitford, Bill Harkin, Cynthia Freshwater, Angela Jones, Ann Formaran, Fr Bernard Buckley and Maureen O'Kane. We pray in thanks for all who care for the sick.

## **CATHOLIC MISSION SUNDAY 18 OCTOBER**

Our Vision: That all may have life in Christ. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. (*John 10:10*)

Our Mission: As the Pope's international mission agency we respond to the call to love God and to love our neighbour by forming individuals and communities as missionary disciples of Jesus who share their faith in action and through prayer.

Love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another (*John 13:34*)

## HEART OF LIFE

'Walking with Wisdom' Contemplative Sessions (via Zoom) – **Thursdays**, **10am-12.30pm (AEST) on 8, 15, 22 & 29 October 2020**. We invite you to join us for a series of contemplative sessions with Carole Carmody rsm and Marlene McGrath, providing opportunities for Deep Listening: to oneself at this unique time in our lives; to Divine Wisdom in the Heart, and in the Hearts of Others; and to engage in a gentle, creative response. Join for one or all sessions. \$85 for the Series or \$25 per session. Bookings at **www.trybooking.com/BLILH**. Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation, tel 03 9890 1101, www.heartoflife.melbourne

NEW TO THE PARISH? CHANGED ADDRESS IN THE LAST YEAR? NEED PLANNNED GIVING ENVELOPES OR TO UPDATE THE PARISH RECORDS? Please let us know we'd like to meet you! NAME: ADDRESS: PHONE: EMAIL: Please tick: If you would like to join the Planned Giving Program

If you would like to join a Family Group

Please place on the plate at Mass or drop into the Parish Office

Be present to those in need in these difficult times,

and all therein contained.

Loving God, Creator of Heaven, Earth,

Open our minds and touch our hearts, so that we can be part of Creation, your gift.

especially the poorest and most vulnerable. Help us to show creative solidarity as we confront the consequences of the global pandemic. Make us courageous in embracing the changes required to seek the common good.

Prayer for the Year of Laudato Si'

Now more than ever,

may we all feel interconnected and interdependent.

Enable us to succeed in listening and responding to the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor. May their current sufferings become the birth-pangs of a more fraternal and sustainable world.

We pray through Christ our Lord, under the loving gaze of Mary Help of Christians, Amen.



Missionary parishes transform lives and yield a growing army of disciples for whom worship and sacraments come to life and whose ministry and service flourishes.

You are invited to this continuation of the series of interactive sessions with global leaders in missionary parish renewal.

From the comfort of your home, be inspired by a hope-filled vision for your parish and discuss practical ideas with fellow leaders. The final two sessions:

Thursday 15 October, 7.30-9.30pm

Growing missionary disciples in your parish with Sherry Weddell

Thursday 29 October, 7.30-9.30pm

Making missionary disciples in our parish with Fr Mauro Conte and Vanessa Comninos

VENUE Zoom Link sent upon registration

REGISTER www.trybooking.com/BKDAZ Sessions are free

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Within your will, O Lord, all things are GOSPEL: established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heavens and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

#### FIRST READING:

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me sing to my friend the song of his love for his vineyard. My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. He dug the soil, cleared it of stones, and planted choice vines in it. In the middle he built a tower, he dug a press there too. He expected it to yield grapes, but sour grapes were all that it gave.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, I ask you to judge between my vineyard and me. What could I have done for my vineyard that I have not done? I expected it to yield grapes. Why did it yield sour grapes instead?

Very well, I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on, and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on. I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug; overgrown by the briar and the thorn. I will command the clouds to rain no rain on it. Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the House of Israel, and the men of Judah that chosen plant. He expected justice, but found bloodshed, integrity, but only a cry of distress.

#### The Word of the Lord

#### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

You brought a vine out of Egypt to plant it you drove out the nations. It stretched out its branches to the sea, to the Great River it stretched out its shoots. (R.)

Then why have you broken down its walls? It is plucked by all who pass by. It is ravaged by the boar of the forest, devoured by the beasts of the field. (R.)

God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see. Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted. (R.)

And we shall never forsake you again: give us life that we may call upon your name. God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved. (R.)

#### SECOND READING :

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians 4:6-9

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord.

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia! I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 21:33-43.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son," he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures:

It was the stone rejected by the builders that became the keystone. This was the Lord's doing and it is wonderful to see?

'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

The Gospel of the Lord

#### **COMMUNION ANTIPHON:**

The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.

### 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



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**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** Not being held until further notice **RECONCILIATION:** Cathedral Not being held until further notice

### **READINGS NEXT WEEK:**

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A First Reading: Second Reading: Gospel:

Isaiah 25:6-10 Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20 Matthew: 22:1-14

MARY'S SOUP KITCHEN CHAPTER HOUSE



Cancelled currently due to Coronavirus restrictions.

SUND/	AY MASS TIMETABLE - No Public Masses until further notice.
Saturday	Loch Sport - 11.00am (1st Saturday of the Month)
Saturday	Cathedral - 5.30pm Vigil
Sunday:	Cathedral - 9:30am (Live-streamed)
	Rosedale - 9.30am (2nd & 4th Sunday of the Month)
Sunday	Stratford - 9.30am (1st & 5th Sunday of the Month)
	Briagolong - 9.30am (3rd Sunday of the Month)
•	Cathedral - 5.30pm