

Twenty-first Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sunday 22 August 2021



**Readings
for this
Sunday**

Joshua 24:1-2,15-18
Ephesians 5:21-32
John 6:60-69



Readings for
next week:

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8
James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23



Liturgical Jottings

Gospel Interruption

When a Gospel covers a few weeks it is normally mentioned in this column. As would be the case from 17th to 21st Sundays in Ordinary Time. We missed the first two weeks because of the lockdown and the next two weeks for the Solemnities of St Mary of the Cross and of the Assumption of BVM. We had a break from the semi-continuous readings from Gospel of Mark with chapter 6 of John's Gospel. The five passages are:

- Miracle of the Loaves and Fishes
- I am the Bread of Life teaching
- Whoever eats this bread will live
- My flesh and blood I give to you have eternal life
- To whom shall we go? – Lord, you have the words of eternal life!

Focus on the Gospel

The changing of water into wine at the wedding feast of Cana brought good cheer and widespread popularity. Jesus teaching on the Bread of Life, as we hear in the Gospel of the day brought confusion, anger and rejection by much of the crowd. It was difficult for many to move from the multiplication of the bread, to its symbolic meaning as Jesus, the bread of life and then to the sacramental understanding of Christ's body and blood as food and drink for eternal life.

We cannot listen to this passage coolly and unattached. We are really involved. We are aware of the controversies over the Eucharist in the past and also in our present time. We are also aware of the challenge to respond to the invitation to accept, believe and participate. Some Christians find it hard to believe, some have obstacles in participation and many have conflicts about commitment.

We are reminded of the words of Pope Francis that the Church is not a tollhouse but a field hospital. The Eucharist is not so much a reward for the just but a remedy for the sinner and the marginalised. And St Peter, who speaks up for himself and the others, declares his commitment: "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the message of eternal life."

The Gospel of John

is considered by many scripture scholars to have four major sections: The Prologue (1.1–18), The Book of Signs (1.19–12.50), The Book of Glory (13.1–20.31), and The Epilogue (ch. 21).

The Book of Signs contains seven miracles or manifestations of Jesus' salvific power accompanied with lengthy dialogue, they are:

- 1: Changing Water Into Wine (John 2:1-11)
- 2: Healing the Royal Official's Son (John 4:46-54)
- 3: Healing the paralytic at the pool (John 5:1-18)
- 4: Feeding over 5,000 with fish and loaves (John 6:1-14)
- 5: Walking on the water (John 6:15-25)
- 6: Healing a man born blind (John 9:1-41)
- 7: Raising Lazarus from the dead (John 11:1-46)

Text for the Day from the Gospel Acclamation

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life:
you have the words of everlasting life. Alleluia!

On the Lighter Side

Who's the coolest person in the hospital? The Ultra Sound guy. Never lie to X-ray technicians. They can see right through you. Why did the doctor laugh at the X-ray of an arm? He found it humerus. © 2021 Diocese of Sandhurst



	Those who are recently deceased and those who are grieving	Theresia Elmecker
	For those whose anniversary occurs at this time	Vincenzo Cassetta (1 year), Showrilu Pasala, Tom Deane Monica Taglabue, Mary Smith
	Our sick and their carers	Mary Lalor, Denise Woodman

Mass Timetable Week commencing 16th August

Weekday Mass

Monday 23 rd August	No Mass
Tuesday 24 th August	No Mass
Wednesday 25 th August	9:15 am Liturgy
Thursday 26 th August	No Mass
Friday 27 th August	9:15 am Mas

Weekend Mass

Saturday 28 th August	5:30 pm Mass
Sunday 29 th August	9:30 am Mass

Reconciliation (4th Saturday of the Month)
Saturday 28th August 11:30 am

CHANGE TO MASS TIMES COMMENCING SEPTEMBER

Commencing Saturday 4th September and Sunday 5th September, the times for Mass will be altered and Saturday Mass will be celebrated on alternate weeks. Details are as follows:

Saturday Mass

1st and 3rd Saturday of the month at 6:00 pm

Sunday Mass

Every Sunday 10:00 am

Anointing Mass

1st Wednesday of the month 9:15 am

Reconciliation

1st Saturday of the month 11:30 am

'Pondering Grief' (Reflection event via ZOOM),

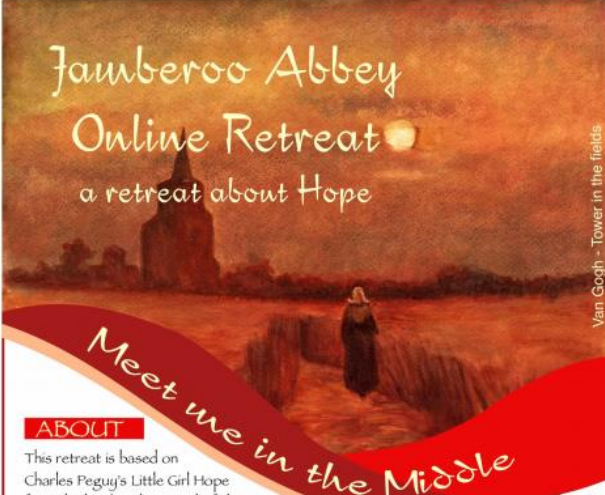
Saturday 4 September 2021, 10am-3.30pm (AEST). Facilitated by qualified Counsellor/ Supervisor/ Educator Linda Espie, this event provides the opportunity to reflect on and honour our inner life of change and transition. With creativity, space and gentle guiding support, this workshop will offer a sacred place for the breadth of human experiencing and spirit to guide individual exploration. Limited to 10 participants. Cost \$60. Bookings and payment via Trybooking at <https://www.trybooking.com/BTQNX>. For more information, contact Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation, email secretary@heartoflife.melbourne or tel (03) 9890 1101.

COVID Requirements

Everyone needs to:

- check-in to each Mass service either using the QR Code or the sign in sheet.
- Wear a face mask
- Use hand sanitiser
- Maintain a social distancing (1.5m)

After each Mass service, cleaning has to take place, if you are able to assist that would be greatly appreciated.



Jamberoo Abbey Online Retreat
a retreat about Hope

Meet us in the Middle

ABOUT
This retreat is based on Charles Peguy's Little Girl Hope from the book: "The Portal of the Mystery of Hope". Hope is both a virtue and a mystery. It is desirable yet elusive. Many dismiss it, misunderstand it, shrug it off and turn their backs on it, extolling faith and charity instead. Whilst faith and charity are absolutely critical in these times of uncertainty and fear in society, there is now a need for hope as never before since World War II.

DATE
Retreat begins Sunday, September 5, 2021.
All videos and texts will be available on our website for as long as you need access.

DETAILS
There are 6 conferences with two being uploaded each week. There are also questions for reflection. Take your time as there is no need to complete the two conferences within the one week.

COST
The cost of the retreat is \$250. Pensioners can apply for a reduced price- see website for details

CONTACT
Register online at: jamberooabbey.org.au/retreats/online-retreats

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Bishops Urge Action to Care for the Earth, Care for the Poor

In the just-released Social Justice Statement 2021-22 Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor, the bishops commit to a seven-year journey towards ecological sustainability via the seven *Laudato Si'* Goals.

The online launch of the Statement was attended by myself and five of our Caritas/Justice Parish Reps. We congratulate the Bishops on this initiative and are grateful for the inspiration and encouragement it offers in the work for climate justice.

Speaking about the Statement in Bendigo last week, Bishop Shane said, "I urge everyone to read the Statement. It is an excellent document and I look forward, with the people of Sandhurst, to this Statement being a guide and encouragement for our diocesan journey towards ecological conversion and action".

Bishop Shane also noted "In the light of the recent Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change Report, Pope Francis' words from 'Laudato Si' are even more prescient, 'Doomsday predictions can no longer be met with irony and disdain ... The effects of the present imbalance can only be reduced by our decisive action, here and now. We need to reflect on our accountability before those who will have to endure the dire consequences' (LS 161)."

The bishops invite us to "uncover the sacramentality of creation" in recognising the divine presence in the world, and to respond with wonder and awe. They call for a "profound conversion expressed in a new way of living, both personally and collectively."

"We are being called to a new way of thinking, feeling, understanding and living."

The Statement explains that the '*Laudato Si'* Goals "aim to put Pope Francis' [2015] encyclical into practice, making communities around the world sustainable in the spirit of the integral ecology of '*Laudato Si'*'".

The statement urges families, schools, parishes, dioceses and organisations to join the bishops in signing up to the '*Laudato Si'* Action Platform.

The platform, an initiative of the Vatican Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, will gather ideas for action from around the globe to help participants in their journeys. The Bishops' Conference Office for Social Justice has been involved in developing the platform.

Social Justice Sunday which we celebrate on August 29, leads, by happy coincidence, into the Season of Creation, September 1 to 4 October. Reflective resources and prayers will be provided by the Sandhurst Care for Creation Group for each Sunday. All parishes are encouraged to use these resources as a way of nurturing the process of eco-conversion. A change of heart is the necessary first step towards action.

**By Kerry Stone Sandhurst Coordinator
Caritas/Justice**

Spirituality in the Pub at the Terminus Hotel, Shepparton on **MONDAY 30th August 7.30 – 9pm** (meals from 6pm optional).

The Plenary Council's First Assembly is in October. The Agenda has been announced and the delegates (members) are in the final stages of preparation. What are the priorities for the Plenary from your perspective?

Sandhurst delegates, Ruth Lawlor & Cathy Jenkins, are coming to listen.

Come & join this opportunity to reflect together in the lead-up to the Plenary Council.

More information on fliers at back of church.
(Venue capacity during COVID is 60 so plenty of room!)

Enq: Kerry 0408 579904
Frank 0407 587527
Fran 0409 012228

Legion of Mary Centenary Celebration

The Legion of Mary Centenary Celebration will be held at Mary Help of Christian's in Heathcote on Saturday 4th September.

Program

10am Mass
11am Holy Hour and Benediction,
12 noon Talk,
1pm Lunch,
2pm Talk,
3pm Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

All are welcome.

Enquiries - Fr. Peter - 5433 2030 or 0430 964224.

Frank Duff founded the Legion of Mary in Dublin, Ireland, in 1921, and it is now a world-wide Lay Apostolic Organisation at the service of the Church, and under Her guidance. It has the two-fold purpose of the spiritual development of its members, and of advancing the reign of Christ in our world through the Blessed Virgin Mary. Legionaries attend a weekly Meeting of Prayer, Spiritual Readings, and instruction, and they perform two hours of Apostolic work each week for the Church.

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:28

Our Planned Giving

Each November is the start of the Planned Giving Program. I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who is part of our Planned Giving Program. As you know our Parish relies on the generosity of our parishioners to cover all our expenses. The only income we receive is from the planned giving, weekly collections, stole fee and the odd donation.

COVID has impacted every one of us in so many different ways and for many people it has been difficult financially and emotionally. How has it impacted our parish? Overall our income is down 30% compared to our last non-COVID year, but our expenses have remained the same. Last year when we were getting government support and support from the Chancery managed to cover all our expenses. This coming year maybe more difficult, but with Gods Blessings we will manage. .

The positive is that the rent from the CEO for the Convent is covering our loan repayments and the interest on the loan. We are also able to put aside a small amount each month for maintenance work that will be required from time to time. In addition to the loan for the Convent, it also required us to use all our reserves.

If you are not already part of our Planned Giving Program, please consider becoming part of the program. If you are already part of the program, it would be wonderful if you could manage to increase your gift a little bit. Every little bit helps our Parish, even \$1 a week can make difference.

If you would like to become a planned giver, or you would like to increase your current weekly gift, please fill in the form in this bulletin. Simply put form in an envelope and put it into the collection plate next week or drop it into the office next Wednesday. Mary will make contact with you to organise your gift.

Thank you and God bless you

Fr John Paul Pasala

Prayer for First Eucharist Confirmation Candidates

Lord,

You send out Your Spirit to touch the hearts of all people, so that they may believe in You and in Jesus whom You sent.

Look kindly on all candidates as they listen to Your voice. Open their hearts to Your Spirit and bring to fulfilment the good work that You have begun in them.

As we prepare these children for Confirmation, make each of us an instrument of Your love. Teach us to appreciate what is holy in others, and to be patient with what we do not understand.

Deepen our faith in the Gospel and help us to pass it on by our example. We pray that You will continue to guide us and sustain us.

Through Christ our Lord,

WE NEED YOUR HELP

In September we will be putting out the Monthly Roster for help at our Mass services.

We need people who can be:
Commentators
Readers
Special Ministers
Cleaning

If you can help that would be wonderful for our Parish. Please put your name on the list in the Narthex.

Name:.....

Telephone Number:

- ☐ I am already on Planned Giving and would like to increase my gift
- ☐ I would like to become part of the Planned Giving program.

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

1 Peter 4:10

Sacred Heart Parish,
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03 5824 1049, e: tatura@cdos.org.au
The presbytery office is open on
Wednesdays & Fridays from 9:00 am until 4pm