

TODAY: Isaiah62:1-5;Ps95:1-3,7-10;Corinthians12:4-11;John2:1-11

NEXT WEEK:Nehemiah:2-6,8-10;Psalm18:8-10,15;Corinthians12:12-30;Luke1:1-4,4:14-21

PURIFIERS: 20TH January: Helen Haggarty
27th January: Lisa Harris

RECENTLY DECEASED: Vicar William Alan Beagley, Denis Clare

ANNIVERSARIES: Maureen Gamble, Peter Cassidy, Barbara Taylor, Kevin Andrews, Gustavo Rivera, Mary Duscher, Vjekoslav Madjarevic, Marco Paoli, Kevin Hickey, David Robinson, Anthony Patrick Joseph Brenna, Jenny Needham, Mai Molloy, Eileen Fitzsimons, Lorna Tyrrell, Barry Pownall, Brigid Lloyd Jones, Peg Libbis.

ARE YOU NEW TO OLA PARISH? Please take a copy of our Welcome Kit which includes a copy of our Parish History, then tell us about yourself by completing our new parish census card with all relevant details.

PLEASE FILL IN THE FAMILY BOOK: You are invited to write in the names of those you would like us to include in our prayers. When entering names of deceased loved ones we ask parishioners to please **PRINT**, and add your name and phone number even if the deceased is not a family member.

BAPTISMS/WEDDINGS: Baptisms are celebrated at 12.15 pm most Sundays of the year with 4/5 weeks' notice required for bookings. Any Catholic is very welcome to use OLA Church for their marriage celebration. 95836161.

BAPTISM WELCOME:

11.00am: Talia Harrison, daughter of Catherine and Sam.

We, the people of OLA, acknowledge and pay respect to the Boonwung people of the Kulin Nation, the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand. May we walk gently here.

PSALM REFLECTION:

Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations

How do you experience God in the small, the insignificant, the ordinariness of life?

How might these experiences be 'marvellous deeds' just for you?

Liturgy times:

Monday, Tuesday 21/22 January:

Communion Service 9.15am.

Wednesday – Friday 23/25 January:

Mass 9.15am

Saturday 26th January:

Mass 9am (Australia Day)

Mass 6.30pm Vigil 3rd Sunday

Ordinary Time Year C

Sunday 27th January:

9am and 11am Mass 3rd Sunday

Ordinary Time Year C

CONFESSIONS:

Wednesday 9.45am

Saturday: 9.30am & 6.00pm

God let us be serious.

Face to face.

Heart to heart.

Let us be fully present.

Strongly present.

Deeply serious.

The closest we may come to innocence.

Amen



Michael Leunig



Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Cheltenham

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Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Matheson

Pastoral Associates: Frances North and Christine Dunne

Psychologist: AnneMaree Eddy

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C – 20th January 2019

The hot weather returned this week with a vengeance! Pity our pilgrims returning from the blessed cool of the Holy Land. School holidays are drawing to a close and students and teachers will soon be gearing up for another year in the adventure of learning. Saturday marks Australia day, and again there is debate over the suitability of the date. For many it's a public holiday, a day of celebration, of fun, beach, barbecues, but let us not forget that for many of our aboriginal brothers and sisters it's a day of deep sadness.

The liturgy of this Second Sunday of Ordinary Time focusses on the wedding feast at Cana that began the change in the course of human history according to the Gospel of John. Most of the gospels this year, for Cycle C, will come from the gospel of Luke. However this Sunday we begin with this story from John where water was turned into wine. One of the most attractive features of the fourth gospel is that Jesus begins his ministry in the context of something so homely as a village wedding where the wine runs out. Of the seven miracles recorded by John this is the only one with no parallel in the traditions recorded by Matthew, Mark and Luke. It is the first of the signs worked by Jesus according to John. The abundance of new wine of the very best vintage reflects the abundance of the new creation that Jesus brings.

The first reading from Isaiah contains the great message of hope for God's people at one of the lowest moments of their history, as they returned home from exile. Jerusalem lay in ruins. The city's plight reflected that of the nation as a whole. In attempting to describe the relationship between God and his people, the Bible uses the image of a bridegroom and his bride. Israel, once God's bride, was now like a widow bereft of children. However, God has not forgotten her. There will be a new wedding feast. God will restore his people.

The second reading reminds us that the Holy Spirit has communicated a distinct gift to every believer for the building up of God's family. It is the work of the Holy Spirit to build community, operating through the gift given to each one. **Thank you to all in our Parish who so generously share their gifts in a myriad of ways, that our community may thrive. Rosters for all 2019 Liturgical ministries are available in the foyer today.**

From Fr. Peter on Sabbatical



Sunday morning here in Bethlehem and we have a free morning after our 3 am wake up call yesterday to go and do the Way of the Cross along the Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem before saying Mass at the altar of the Resurrection in the Holy Sepulchre church at 5.30 am. Only four Masses a day are allowed to be celebrated at the altar over the slab that is said to have held the dead body of Jesus as he awaited the resurrection and they have to be over in 25 minutes. It was certainly a highlight of the trip. The small tomb area is only large enough for the celebrant and the rest of the group stay in the antechamber just big enough for our group. It was a rather moving and powerful experience which was felt by all the group. Yesterday we visited the pools of Bethesda

and Siloam, and the house of Joachim and Ann where Mary was born. She was a Jerusalem girl, not a girl from Nazareth. And also Hezekiah's tunnel. In between all that we travelled through the Judean wilderness to Jericho where we had a lovely Palestinian luncheon in a garden in pleasant 19 degree temperature. Dust storms on the way back signalled a dramatic change in the weather, with thunder and lightning, rain and hail. Snow covered the upstairs terrace of our hotel and the whole of Jerusalem. There are many changes to the Holy Land since I was last here in 1981. Magdala for example was just an area near the shore of the Sea of Galilee when I was last here. They found it under a farmer's field about ten years ago and have uncovered it totally since.

We celebrated Mass this afternoon Dominus Fleuit where Jesus wept over the city.

PARISH MISSION 16th – 22nd February: Home Gatherings

An opportunity to meet with other parishioners in an informal setting and consider the topics for our upcoming Mission:

- Session 1: Family and How We Communicate
- 2: Grief, loss and the mystery of human suffering
- 3: Sharing Faith with our Children
- 4: Prayer and Spirituality
- 5: Reconciliation and Eucharist

Thank you to all who have volunteered to host/lead a gathering. Sign-up sheets are in the foyer, offering a variety of dates and venues. These are not discussion groups, rather an opportunity to share.

THANKSGIVING OFFERING ENVELOPES: PLEASE COLLECT YOUR LETTER FROM FOYER.

Again, sincere thanks for your continued generous support of our Parish.

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020: WHAT IS GOD ASKING OF US IN AUSTRALIA AT THIS TIME? To find out more visit <http://www.cam.org.au/plenary>

FOR THE DIARY IN MARCH: HELDER CAMARA LECTURES: BECOMING A HUMBLE, LISTENING AND LEARNING CHURCH. Friday 22 March, 10am–1pm, The Oratory, Newman College, 887 Swanston St, Parkville. A seminar with input from Dr Austen Ivereigh, Cardinal Oscar Rodriguez SDB and local theologians and bishops. A contribution to the forthcoming Plenary Council of the Church in Australia. For further information, contact Br Mark O'Connor.

Email: mark.oconnor@marists.org.au

FOOTPRINTS OF JESUS: Trace the journey of Jesus from the land of his birth to the way he carried his cross and gave the eternal sacrifice in this 14-day Holy Land pilgrimage to Jordan & Israel. This pilgrimage features places from the Old & New Testament and includes Petra, Bethlehem, Jericho, Sea of Galilee and Jerusalem for an all-inclusive price of \$5690. The fare includes Return Economy Airfares + Local Transfers in Deluxe coaches + Stay in Premium Hotels + All Meals + Catholic Priest + English speaking professional guides. For enquiries & bookings call 8839 6615 or 1300721561 or email us pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au. Available Departures Dates: Fr. Sebastian (24 March 19), Fr. Kenneth (26 May 19), Fr. Colin (31 May 19) and Fr. Richard (2nd June).

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with a course, seminar or reflection day at Heart of Life.

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and go to our Seminars & Courses tab. You can Book & Pay online or email us at holsc@bigpond.com for more information and bookings. Spiritual direction is also available at any time.

Phone Heart of Life on tel 9890 1101.

ROSTERS: Are now available in the church foyer for Readers, Commentators, Powerpoint Operators, and Ministers of the Eucharist. Thank you once again.

