



# St Patrick's Parish

PO Box 547, 65 Clarke St

Lilydale 3140

<http://stpatrickslilydale.org.au>

**Administrator: Rev. Fr. Francis Denton**

**Secretary: Mrs Sharon Jacob**

**Pastoral Worker: Mrs Debbie Edwards**

**Email: [lilydale@cam.org.au](mailto:lilydale@cam.org.au) 9739 5977**

**19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> June 2021**

## **TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year B)**

### **First Reading: Job 38:1, 8-11**

A reading from the book of Job

From the heart of the tempest the Lord gave Job his answer. He said:

Who pent up the sea behind closed doors  
when it leapt tumultuous out of the womb,  
when I wrapped it in a robe of mist  
and made black clouds its swaddling bands;  
when I marked the bounds it was not to cross  
and made it fast with a bolted gate?  
Come thus far, I said, and no farther;  
here your proud waves shall break.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### **Responsorial Psalm: Ps 106:23-26, 28-31**

**R. Give thanks to the Lord,  
his love is everlasting.**

Some sailed to the sea in ships  
to trade on the mighty waters.  
These men have seen the Lord's deeds,  
the wonders he does in the deep.

**R. Give thanks to the Lord,  
his love is everlasting.**

For he spoke; he summoned the gale,  
tossing the waves of the sea  
up to heaven and back into the deep;  
their soul melted away in their distress.

**R. Give thanks to the Lord,  
his love is everlasting.**

Then they cried to the Lord in their need  
and he rescued them from their distress.  
He stilled the storm to a whisper:  
all the waves of the sea were hushed.

**R. Give thanks to the Lord,  
his love is everlasting.**

They rejoiced because of the calm  
and he led them to the haven they desired.  
Let them thank the Lord for his love,

the wonders he does for men.

**R. Give thanks to the Lord,  
his love is everlasting.**

### **Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:14-17**

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

The love of Christ overwhelms us when we reflect that if one man has died for all, then all men should be dead; and the reason he died for all was so that living men should live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised to life for them.

From now onwards, therefore, we do not judge anyone by the standards of the flesh. Even if we did once know Christ in the flesh, that is not how we know him now. And for anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### **Gospel Acclamation: Luke 7:16**

Alleluia, alleluia!

A great prophet has appeared among us;  
God has visited his people.

Alleluia!

### **Gospel: Mark 4:35-41**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

With the coming of evening, Jesus said to his disciples, 'Let us cross over to the other side.' And leaving the crowd behind they took him, just as he was, in the boat; and there were other boats with him. Then it began to blow a gale and the waves were breaking into the boat so that it was almost swamped. But he was in the stern, his head on the cushion, asleep. They woke him and said to him, 'Master, do you not care? We are going down!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, 'Quiet now! Be calm!' And the wind dropped, and all was calm again. Then he said to them, 'Why are you so frightened? How is it that you have no faith?' They were filled with awe and said to one another, 'Who can this be? Even the wind and the sea obey him.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

### **General Intercessions**

### **LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**



## PARISH PRAYER LIST

### Recently Deceased:

#### Anniversaries:

**Sick:** Joan Keuken, Angela Del Guidice, Lynne Fleming, Anne-Maree Sullivan, Aurelia Di Ciero, Tony Cunningham, Claudette & Gilbert, Florens, Kate, Tim Lawson, John Hopper, Cassandra, Mary and John Hamilton, Carmel O'Healy, Michelle, Pat Robb, Robert Taylor, Nancy Leonard, Brian Walsh, Michael Paola, Barbara De Vincentiis, Emma, Wayne, Julian Monteiro, Dolly Maher, Salvacion Santos, Ricky, Giovanna Zammit, Sam Lawson, Geoff, Bianca, Stephen, Gael Holliday, Rob Meridith, Bill Meyer, Cathie & Jose Grima, Roman De Angelis, Tedi & Santi, Stephen Wakeham, Gwen Weaver, June, Jenny Goh, Rose Roberts, Ellie Keefe, John Phillips, Geogi Didumo, Justin Calle, Michael Di Ciero



### Knitting Group

Do you like to knit? Would you like to learn how to knit? We knit for little treasures charity! Come and join us on Wednesday afternoons 12noon -2.30pm in the community centre. Call Maureen if you would like any further information 0438 782 275.

### YOU MUST QR CODE SCAN BEFORE YOU ENTER THE CHURCH

Please use these QR codes to download the Services Victoria app to check-in.

For Apple iPhones (<https://bit.ly/SBHCO>):

For Android Phones (<https://bit.ly/SBSAFE>): This will save you time as you scan the code when you arrive at Church. **PLEASE ARRIVE EARLY IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE.** Covid officers will be on hand to help those who need it. Please help someone else if you can.

Please support our volunteers during this time

#### Reconciliation:

**Tuesday & Wednesday:** 8.45am-9.10am

**Friday:** 8.45am-9.10am & 9.45am -10.25am

**Saturday:** 8.30-8.55am – 10am-11am

**Anointing of the sick** By appointment

**Marriages:** Please give at least six months' notice.

**Baptism:** Please contact parish office for details.

**Parish office** - Please call 0448 658 418

**Pastoral worker** - Please call 0448 664 731

**St Vincent de Paul** - If assistance is required please contact 1800 305 330 Mon-Fri 10.00am – 4.00pm

**Care group** Contact Parish Office 0448 658 418

### MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

Mass Times: Lilydale	Healesville
Tuesday 9.15am	Thursday 9.15am
Wednesday 9.15am	Sunday 8.30am
Friday 9.15am	
Saturday 9am Latin Mass	
Vigil 6pm	
Sunday 10.30 am	
	12 Noon

Trybooking:

<https://www.trybooking.com/BSGNV>

**Mass, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction** every Friday following 9.15am Mass. Fr Francis will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation before and following Mass.

#### Rosary Group

Each **Wednesday following the 9.15 am Mass:** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and recitation of the Rosary, concluding with simple Benediction.

#### Italian Prayer Group

Adoration, Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet  
Tuesday mornings following 9.15am Mass in the church.

### WEEKLY THANKSGIVING

**Weekly Pledged Amount to Parish  
(Thanksgiving only)**

**\$1404.50** – 13<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Thanksgiving Collection \$	2329.00
Presbytery \$	762.00
Restoration \$	TBA

#### **Save the dates!**

Our social committee has been busy planning. Please put the following dates in your diary. More details to follow:  
June 26<sup>th</sup> – Bingo Night –  
Postponed

**August 14<sup>th</sup>** - Pasta Night

**October 30<sup>th</sup>** – Trivia Night



#### **"PETER'S PENCE"**

Annual Collection for the Holy Father. 29th June is the Feast of Sts. Peter and Paul and the annual collection for the Holy Father is made universally on the weekend of **26/27<sup>th</sup> June**. Our contributions will be combined with those from around the world to help the Holy Father reach out to those in need.

## Solemnity of the Birthday of St John the Baptist



*"...you shall call his name John.  
And you will have joy and gladness,  
and many will rejoice at his birth;  
for he will be great before the Lord,  
...and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit,  
even from his mother's womb."  
(Luke 1:13-15)*

There are three birthday's that the Church celebrates in her liturgical calendar: the birth of Christ (25<sup>th</sup> December), the birth of Mary (8<sup>th</sup> September), and the birth of John of the Baptist (24<sup>th</sup> June). All three are ranked as Solemnities (1<sup>st</sup> Class feasts). Whilst the importance of the birth of Jesus Christ and Mary might be self-evident given their unique roles in salvation history, it's interesting that John the Baptist's birth should be accorded such significance. There are no liturgical feast days for the birthdays for St Joseph, St Peter or St Paul, for example.

Two questions might emerge from this feast:

- 1) how do we know John the Baptist was born on the 24<sup>th</sup> June?
- 2) why would we need to celebrate John's birthday when we already have a feast day for his martyrdom (29<sup>th</sup> August)?

To answer the first question, it would be nice if we could say that we found a copy of his birth certificate! Too bad there are no such documents! The answer is connected to the date of the birth of Christ. Jesus' birth has from ancient times been celebrated on the 25<sup>th</sup> December which (in the northern hemisphere at least) is the Winter Solstice – it has the shortest hours of daylight in the year. This was interpreted symbolically. Christ the light enters into the darkness of the world, and so from that day forward the days become increasingly longer. The Prologue of John's Gospel says, speaking of Christ: "his life brought light to everyone. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it" (John 1:4-5).

What does this have to do with John's birthday? Well, Luke's Gospel tells us that at the Annunciation (fittingly celebrated on the 25<sup>th</sup> March, nine months before Christ's nativity) the Archangel Gabriel told Mary that her kinswoman, Elizabeth was in the sixth month of her pregnancy with the future John the Baptist. So, it would stand to reason that John was born about three months after the Annunciation. In the northern hemisphere the 24<sup>th</sup> June is the Summer Solstice (the day with the *longest* daylight hours in the year) and therefore John's birthday takes on a symbolic meaning. When John is asked whether he is the Messiah, he renounces all claim to the title: no, there is one coming after him who is greater than he is, and

he is not fit to undo the strap of his sandal. John declares: "He must increase, I must decrease" (John 3:30). Following the Summer Solstice, the days become increasingly shorter as the season progresses towards winter, until they reach the winter solstice on the 25<sup>th</sup> December, the birth of Christ.

Perhaps the answer to the first question goes some way towards answering the second question: Why would we need to celebrate John the Baptist's birthday anyway? Again, we can turn to scripture. The Gospels of Luke and John are remarkably different in their telling of the birth of Christ. Luke presents a very human account of the birth of Christ in Bethlehem, wrapped in swaddling clothes. John presents a mysterious other-worldly account of the Word who became flesh. But interestingly, as different as these accounts are John the Baptist features very prominently in both. Luke's Gospel begins with a detailed account of the wondrous circumstances of John's birth. We are told: "All the neighbours were filled with awe, and throughout the hill country of Judea people were talking about all these things. Everyone who heard this wondered about it, asking, "What then is this child going to be?" For the Lord's hand was with him." (Luke 1:65-66).

It is clear that God has big plans for this child John. The divinely ordained mission of John the Baptist is made equally clear in the Gospel of John: "There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light." (John 1:6-8). The whole of John's extraordinary vocation is one of preparing the way for Jesus. John the Baptist is the forerunner of Christ, the herald who announces the coming of the king, the last and greatest of the prophets. His greatness lies in the Christian paradox of recognising his smallness: "*He must increase, I must decrease*".

This is not to say that John was a shrinking violet. On the contrary, he was so utterly divested of self-interest and the need for human respect that he was a fire brand, scorching the conscience of Israel. He offends the cultural elites, calling the pharisees "you brood of vipers!" (Matt 3:7) and he infuriates the ruling, self-satisfied classes, particularly those living in sin, such as King Herod (Luke 3:19). Alas, prophets have a knack for pricking guilty consciences by speaking truth to power. On account of this King Herod has John imprisoned and eventually executed, not because it was just, but because it was socially expedient in order to please his dinner guests and a dancing girl at his own birthday party (John 14:1-12). Scripture drips with blood and irony in equal measure.

Jesus would later declare "among those born of women there has risen no one who is greater than John the Baptist" (Matt 11:11). As we come to celebrate the nativity of John the Baptist this week may we seek to imitate the lesson of his greatness by allowing Christ to increase in our lives.

Yours in Christ,  
Fr Francis Denton



**St Vincent de Paul Society**  
VICTORIA  
*good works*

**POSTPONED**

**ST VINCENT de PAUL WINTER APPEAL**

The Winter Appeal will take place when we can. The Lilydale Conference relies heavily on your contributions Either through

blankets & warm socks, gloves and hats or monetary Contributions. This will greatly assist us in aiding those we assist in the area. Please give generously as you have in the past. Thank you in anticipation.

### **Debbie's Thoughts**

A couple of weeks ago, we made available Archbishop Peter's Pastoral letter entitled '**Take the Way of the Gospel**'. ABp Peter sent out his

letter at Pentecost 2021, setting out his vision for the direction that the Church in the Archdiocese of Melbourne will take over the next few years, which is still in the early stages of planning. Some of our parishioners will have read his letter, others will have missed it as we have drifted in and out of lockdown. Whichever way it goes, there is no escaping the momentum that will follow from the tiny beginning that this letter heralds. Change is a-coming! What an exciting if not disconcerting time we are in for. Change is never comfortable. We love to feel secure and settled, and change disrupts and shifts us, often to unexplored new horizons we can't yet know and may not expect, but there is a general sense of hopeful expectation as we stand at the threshold of something new.

This is a very big moment for our Church in Melbourne, and as we decide which direction to take going forward, Archbishop Peter is deliberately centring our gaze on our predecessors, the Apostles, sent out at Pentecost with the fire of the Holy Spirit propelling them onwards in their first steps of their mission to take the Gospel to the world. As always, the Gospel should be at the centre of everything we do, the launching point, the energy and 'the way'. He also takes us back to the early choices of ABp Goold as he established our local Church when Melbourne was being settled. From there, ABp Peter's vision for us propels us forward in every way. An information session was presented for Clergy of the Archdiocese in early May, followed by a second information session for lay representatives from each of the 209 Parishes in the Melbourne Archdiocese. I was able to attend that session on behalf of St Patrick's and St Brigid's. The next formal gathering for us, which has necessarily been deferred until August, will be a regional session that will focus on our specific situation in the Eastern region of Melbourne. More representatives from each Parish will be encouraged to join the active discussion at that session.

What we do know so far is that our local Church is being re-imagined, clustered into mission communities, each mission comprising a family of local faith communities. Concrete details of the ultimate shape of what our Archdiocese will look like in 5 years time have yet to be worked out, much less finalised. Clustered families of faith communities may be formed geographically, culturally or with faith movements in mind. There is a trial cluster currently up and running in the Camberwell area for instance, where 2 Priests share ministry in 5 parishes, with assistance from retired clergy. Centralised staffing administers and supports the parishes in the cluster, sharing resources where appropriate, and parish councils and groups on the ground from each of the 5 parishes in the Mission Community co-operate closely with each other. They are working together to build a sense of family worship that promotes enthusiasm for a shared journey, rather than negotiating the way as individual communities. In our case, Lilydale and Healesville Parishes have been successfully sharing our Parish Priest / Administrator and Parish staff for years, running 4 churches and preserving the dignity and culture of each community as we go, a great example of how co-

operation between parishes can work really well. How a larger mission community model is to work in our area where there are big distances between local parishes is an interesting question, just one of the many that have yet to be answered. The clear message from ABp Peter is that whatever we do, our aim is to rejuvenate our Archdiocese. It is obvious that the current shape of the Church in Melbourne is not working to the full benefit of our young people, or of families, and the numbers of faithful attending Masses are telling a story. The message I heard again and again is that it is not about making convenient choices because of a shortage of Priests or low numbers in the pews, it is about re-energising our faith communities, working towards making them the life of our local neighbourhoods as they have such great potential to be. The clear aim is that the change will happen very carefully, and respectfully, enabling our local Church in Melbourne to be as energised and relevant to today's reality as we can encourage it to be.

The restructure is currently at the vital early stage of prayer and discernment, asking the Holy Spirit's direction and guidance. Discussion with anyone who wants to add their voice to the planning, from clergy to the faithful in the pews, is beginning to happen. We all have the ability and the opportunity to take part in the process, to add our voice as a parish and as individuals. Our parishioners are encouraged to join the conversation. Zoom workshops with team members from the Archdiocese are to run in the weeks to come, commencing with initial sessions on June 18<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm and June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7.30 pm. More will be scheduled in due course. These sessions are designed to prayerfully engage participants in the heart and the vision of 'Take the Way of the Gospel', rather than in the process and the mechanics of forming Missions, which will come later. Groups will be limited in number, the trybooking link is: <https://www.trybooking.com/BRYSQ> Each of us has a vital part to play in this new chapter in our story. Our most important resource as individuals and as a Parish is our prayer, conversation with our Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, the secure foundation of every step we take. Please pray for our Archdiocese, and for those making decisions that will affect our future for generations to come. Please pray for us all as a family of faith. Please pray for our Parish. **Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and enkindle in us the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and we shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth.**



We are a child safe Parish.