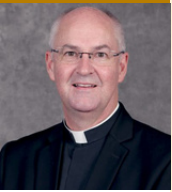




A WORD FROM THE PASTOR..



Living the Gospel in Times of Social Division. Catholic Bishops Social Justice Statement 2026 Statement of Archbishop Costelloe, President of the Australian Catholic Bishops

We are living through an era of heightened community tension and a growing normalisation of abusive behaviour, incendiary language and violence. In such moments of tension, the temptation is to retreat into trenches of suspicion or to treat those who differ in their views as opponents rather than as people. The Gospel offers a different path. It calls us back to Jesus Christ, who meets division not with hostility but with mercy; not with the logic of ‘us and them’ but with the costly love that heals and transforms. Living the Gospel in these times is not a private devotion. It is a public witness that human dignity is not negotiable, that truth matters and that peace is more than the absence of conflict - it is the fruit of justice, reconciliation and communion. In Australia, the strain on social cohesion has been made painfully visible by a disturbing rise in antisemitism. Jewish communities have reported unprecedented levels of abuse, intimidation, vandalism and, in the case of the Bondi Beach attack, shocking deadly violence. It has left many to feel unsafe in places that should be secure, such as schools, synagogues, streets and public events. Such hatred is an affront to God. Catholics stand in solidarity with our Jewish brothers and sisters. We must unequivocally denounce antisemitism and work to rebuild trust, safety and mutual respect in our communities. Indeed, both tolerance and respect for people of all religions, cultures and ethnicities are the essential foundations for such a rebuilding. How are we to live the Gospel in these times? First, by remaining close to Christ in prayer and the sacraments, allowing the Lord to convert our hearts before we seek to change the world. Second, by practising a “culture of encounter”: listening before reacting, seeking to understand the fears and hopes of others and choosing relationship over caricature. Third, by exercising restraint in what we say - especially online – rejecting gossip, slander, dehumanising labels and the sharing of unverified claims. Christians must be known as people who speak truthfully, argue respectfully and never delight in humiliation. Fourth, by concrete acts of compassion and justice: standing with those targeted because of their faith or background, supporting families under economic pressure, welcoming migrants and refugees and working for the common good through parish, school and community initiatives. We offer Jesus and the hope born of his death and resurrection. When we choose forgiveness over enmity, hospitality over isolation and solidarity over vilification, we help to create the conditions in which a more peaceful society can prosper.

The full statement can be viewed at www.catholic.au

Archbishop's Campaign

The annual Archbishop's Campaign has now commenced. Envelopes will be available for your contributions over the next several weeks. This campaign takes the place of several collections that were taken separately in previous years. More information is in the brochures in the church foyer.

St Vincent de Paul

If anyone is interested in volunteering on a regular or occasional basis for the work of visitation to those in need in the parish, please see Geraldine or Fr David, or contact the parish office this week.

Morning Tea

We will have morning tea after the 10.30am Mass next Sunday, to celebrate Fr David’s second anniversary as Parish Priest here. Please join us !

The Parish of St John Bosco and the Archdiocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and the vulnerable in our community. Protection and the dignity of every person is our responsibility.

Contact Us

Parish Priest
Fr David Cartwright
T: 9337 9994
E: Niddrie@cam.org.au
W: melbournecatholic.org/s/niddrie
F: St John Bosco’s Catholic Church Niddrie Parish Office
29 Muriel Street Niddrie Vic 3042
Mon, Wed, Fri: 10am - 4pm
Charles Meneze, Secretary

Pray With Us

Holy Mass Times

Wednesday - Friday: 9.30am Mass
Saturday: 5pm Vigil Mass
Sunday: 10.30am Mass
Holy Days and Feast Days as announced

Reconciliation (Confession)

Saturday 4.30pm
First Friday 9am, or any time on request
Please call Fr David on 9337 9994

Rosary

Recited at 9am before weekday Mass

Benediction

First Friday after 9.30am Mass

Baptisms

1st Sunday of the month 11.45am, please contact the office. Or by arrangement.

House Blessings/ Anointing of the Sick

Please contact the presbytery

Support Us

Thank you for your generosity toward our parish: physically, spiritually and financially. If you are not a regular contributor, we invite your support- please contact the Parish Office.

Tap and Go machines are available at the weekend Mass in the narthex.
Direct Credits can also be made:

Presbytery Account (1st collection, for clergy and presbytery support)
- BSB:083 -347 Acc No.: 6616 52479

Parish Account (2nd collection, for parish expenses) BSB:083 - 347 AccNo.: 6568 74974

The parish relies solely on your support. We receive no funding from external sources or the Archdiocese. We thank you for your ongoing support which enables us to continue the work of the Gospel.

“God loves a cheerful giver!”

Parish News

New to the Faith? Want to Know More?

Are you interested in becoming a Catholic, seeking baptism & reception in the Church? Please contact the Parish Office or speak to Fr David.



Do you know someone who would like to become Catholic? Ask them? Invite them to talk to Fr David. We would love to welcome new members into the Church and our parish.

St John Bosco’s 60th Anniversary of the Opening of the Church August

Parish Local pilgrimages. An opportunity to visit some different places for prayer and fellowship.

Pilgrimage suggestions:

A church dedicated to St Francis in this Jubilee year of St Francis, to obtain a Plenary Indulgence (St Francis, city, Mill Park).

A visit to St Patrick’s Cathedral (perhaps for Mass and confession).
A visit to St Mary’s Star of the Sea, West Melbourne (perhaps for Mass and Confession. This is the Archdiocesan Shrine of the Holy Family- a place to pray for our own families.

A visit to the church of your baptism to renew your baptismal promises.

A visit to the St Mary of the Cross (McKillop) Heritage centre in East Melbourne.

A ‘home pilgrimage’ where you invite family and friends to pray together and share a meal.

A pilgrimage to our own church for an extra Mass during the week or invite family or friends to join you on a weekend.

September

Mini parish Mission. A time to grow in faith, to learn about our faith, and to spiritually prepare for our celebrations.

October

18 October 10.30am: Anniversary Mass and luncheon. Mass to give thanks to God for 60 years of worship in our beautiful church and fellowship together.



Don’t forget ‘Frank and Joan’, our friendly Tap and Go machines in the church foyer!



Stewardship

The first collection is for the support of the Parish Priest, for retired and sick priests, parishes in need and the Archbishop.

The second collection is for parish expenses like wages, utilities, insurance etc.

Last week:

1st collection: \$1,146
2nd collection: \$1,834

You can also donate to our Presbytery & Parish accounts using this QR code:



We recall in Prayer

Those who are sick
Maurice & Loretta; Javier Dillon; Alexander Francis

Recently Deceased
All the recently deceased in our community

Anniversaries and Remembrances
Ampelio Marin; Annie Chapman; Pauline Farren; Mary Revell; Harry Runting; Margaret McIntosh; Paul Downes

Mass Intentions this week

Wednesday: sick in our parish
Thursday: vocations
Friday: Anne Rodrigues Pereira
Saturday: our parish
Sunday: Pro populo

Our Liturgical Life

COMMISSIONING

(Concluding Rites)

The burdens we have laid down at the door of the church for this Eucharist, we know we must now bear again—but now strengthened by this Eucharist and this community.

sdcatholic.org

Our Spiritual Life

Prayer of Thanksgiving

This form of prayer helps us to be grateful for God’s many blessings, spiritual and temporal, and helps us to recognize and appreciate all the good things God gives to us. Reserving some time to praise and thank God for his gifts—the gift of life; the gift of our families and friends; the gift of food, clothing, and shelter; and the numerous other gifts we often take for granted—helps us to form a true spirit of gratitude.

From www.cathedralstm.org



Baptisms

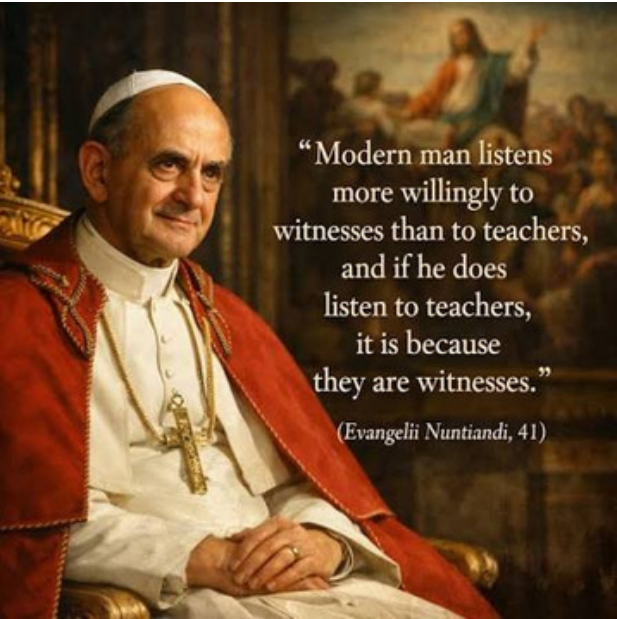
This weekend we welcome Javier, who is to become a member of the Church through Baptism. Let us make him welcome and pray for him and his parents and godparents.

Thought for the Week

The children of the King should use the language of the court.

Wisdom of the Saints

Saint Gabriel the Archangel: "Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you."



pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.’ But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. ‘Give her what she wants,’ they said ‘because she is shouting after us.’ He said in reply. ‘I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.’ But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. ‘Lord,’ she said ‘help me.’ He replied, ‘It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the house-dogs.’ She retorted, ‘Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master’s table.’ Then Jesus answered her, ‘Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.’ And from that moment her daughter was well again.

The Gospel of the Lord.
R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY
I believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:by the power of the Holy Spirit
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is adored and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins,
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

After the priest raises the paten with the bread and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to each prayer:

R. Blessed be God for ever.
P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.
R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P. Receive our oblation, O Lord,
by which is brought about a glorious exchange,
that, by offering what you have given,
we may merit to receive your very self.
Through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. The Lord be with you.
R. And with your spirit.
P. Lift up your hearts.
R. We lift them up to the Lord.
P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
R. It is right and just.

PREFACE I-VIII OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

After the Preface, we sing or say:

All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P. The mystery of faith.
All: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

COMMUNION RITE

P. At the Saviour’s command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven ...
P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray...
All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.
P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said...
R. Amen.
P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.
R. And with your spirit.
P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.
All exchange a sign of peace

LAMB OF GOD

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.
R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Ps 129:7
With the Lord there is mercy; in him is plentiful redemption.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Made partakers of Christ through these Sacraments,
we humbly implore your mercy, Lord,
that, conformed to his image on earth,
we may merit also to be his coheirs in heaven.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
R. Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.
R. And with your spirit.
P. May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.
R. Amen.
P. Go in peace.
R. Thanks be to God.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

BEYOND THE EXPECTED

In today’s Gospel Jesus travels beyond his usual and familiar abode. He is in today’s southern Lebanon, areas around Tyre and Sidon. This is foreign or pagan territory, unfamiliar to Jews. Here Jesus encounters a woman from the region who pleads for him to exorcise her demonically possessed daughter. Jesus’ disciples want him to deal with her quickly so that they won’t be bothered by her. Then comes the clear missionary statement of Jesus for Matthew’s Jewish audience, ‘I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel’, and, later, ‘It is not fair to take children’s food and throw it to house-dogs’. The focus of his ministry and healing is clearly on the Israelite people, the ‘children’, rather than on gentiles (‘house-dogs’!). Jesus’ derogatory comment to the woman is met by her witty repartee, ‘Yes, sir, but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from the master’s table’.

Her clever verbal joust meets his respectful acknowledgement. He affirms the woman’s great faith in engaging him in a manner that respects the priority of his mission to the Jewish people (and Matthew’s Gospel audience) while acknowledging that non-Jews can also be recipients of his ministry. This results in the Canaanite woman’s request being granted. Her daughter is healed.

From this episode, it seems as though even Jesus had to learn and to extend his healing reach beyond the expected. That same insight is an invitation to us and our faith communities as we too are invited to offer hospitality and a welcome to the foreign and unexpected that we come across.

FR MICHAEL TRAINOR

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAULS

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TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

16 AUGUST 2026

WOMAN, YOU HAVE GREAT FAITH! The Canaanite woman in today’s Gospel enjoyed no status in the eyes of the Jewish people of her time. She was someone to be scorned and ignored. Yet, in her deep love for her daughter and her great faith, she is a model of the true disciple of Jesus. She reminds us that what identifies us as Christians most fundamentally is our faith, our hope and our love.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Ps 83:10-11
Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
R. Amen.
P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
R. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.
P. You were sent to heal the contrite of heart: Lord, have mercy.
R. Lord, have mercy.
P. You came to call sinners: Christ, have mercy.
R. Christ, have mercy.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us: Lord, have mercy.
R. Lord, have mercy.

P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.
R. Amen.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, / and on earth peace to people of good will. / We praise you, / we bless you, / we adore you, / we glorify you, / we give you thanks for your great glory, / Lord God, heavenly King, / O God, almighty Father. / Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, / Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, / you take away the sins of the world, / have mercy on us; / you take away the sins of the world, / receive our prayer; / you are seated at the right hand of the Father, / have mercy on us. / For you alone are the Holy One, / you alone are the Lord, / you alone are the Most



SECOND READING Rom 11:13-15, 29-32
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans
The gifts and call of God are irrevocable.

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice.

Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

The word of the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Mt 4:23
Alleluia, alleluia! / Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom / and healed all who were sick. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mt 15:21-28
P. The Lord be with you.
R. And with your spirit.
P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.
R. Glory to you, O Lord.
Woman, you have great faith.
Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, ‘Sir, Son of David, take