



A WORD FROM THE PASTOR..



Dear friends,

I have been here for two years and it certainly feels like home! I am very grateful for the welcome that you have given me and the support that I enjoy in the parish. We are indeed blessed by the Lord to be in this wonderful parish with a wonderful patron saint. In this 60th year of our church building it is a time also to honour the pastors who have gone before me and made this parish what it is today. I pay tribute to them and pray for them. In particular, our foundation pastor, Fr McQuillan, who gave us this beautiful church. May he enjoy the reward of his labours with the Lord.

This Sunday’s Gospel is a challenging one for us, as well as an instructive one. We hear the Lord asking the disciples to put words on who they think He is. St Peter’s bold proclamation , ‘You are the Christ’, can be an invitation for us to think about what answer we would give to the same question. Would we be as bold as St Peter? Would we be lost for words ? Would we know what to say? It is a question worthy of our personal reflection to ponder our relationship with the Lord Jesus.

The Gospel also gives us the commission of the Lord to St Peter as the first Pope, the ‘keeper of the keys’. From St Peter as the first Pope, to Pope Leo as the 267th Pope, the Lord has guided the Church with the Holy Father as the visible head and centre of unity.

I would make two points about this. Firstly, to pray for the Holy Father regularly. He has an awesome responsibility to lead the Church and to teach, govern and sanctify. He needs our prayers. Secondly, to give thanks for the Petrine ministry that we have in the Church. As Catholics, we are blessed to belong to the ‘One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church’, we are joined in faith and practice under the leadership of the Pope. Our unity is a great gift and a great strength. Other Christian denominations do not enjoy this gift of unity in teaching and practice that we do. Let us give thanks for the unity of the Church, and to do our best to preserve that unity in our lives, our parish and our Church. The more united we are, the stronger we are and the more that we can do to proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom of God.

Archbishop's Campaign

The annual Archbishop's Campaign is almost over. Envelopes are still available for your contributions. 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. Please return any donation envelopes by Sunday 30 August.

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 this Sunday, to celebrate Fr David’s second anniversary as Parish Priest here. Please join us and enjoy the first batch of home made ‘St John Bosco biscuits’

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: \$822

2nd collection: \$1,779

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; Antonietta Russo; Ralph Erna; Mario Christofi

Recently Deceased

Lucia Cardamone; Antonette Augustus, Fiona Reilly

Anniversaries and Remembrances

Emilio Sessarego; Robert McKenzie; Norrie McKenzie; Michael Keogh; Harry Brereton; Ray Vallence; Christopher Danaher

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

Blessing and Dismissal.

We bow our heads to receive a blessing. As the priest names the Trinity—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—we make the sign of the cross. The priest or deacon then dismisses the assembly: “Go in peace.” And we give our liturgical “yes” by saying, “Thanks be to God.”
sdcatholic.org

Our Spiritual Life

Tips for praying:

- Find a quiet place and time. Prayer can be done anywhere but it is good to have a place that is conducive to relaxing and focusing our attention on God. Finding a regular time to pray each day can also be helpful to making prayer an important daily routine.
- Calm yourself and put away distractions. It is important to be relaxed when we pray by finding a comfortable posture.
- Use formal prayers or speak what you feel to God, or a combination of each. It is important to note that there is no “right” way to pray. Experiment with styles and forms of prayer. Prayer is an ongoing, developing relationship with God.

From www.cathedralstm.org

Bible Study Group

The parish Bible Study Group is a long-term group which meets regularly for prayer and discussion in the church. All are welcome to join. The next meeting will be Saturday 29 August at 2.30pm. Please join us. No prior knowledge is necessary. Beginners welcome!



Thought for the Week

Christians ought to declare by life and by lip that God is exactly what he says He is.

Wisdom of the Saints

Saint John the Baptist: "Jesus must increase; I must decrease." (cf. Jn 3:30)



When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, ‘Who do people say the Son of Man is?’ And they said, ‘Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.’ ‘But you,’ he said, ‘who do you say I am?’ Then Simon Peter spoke up, ‘You are the Christ,’ he said, ‘the Son of the living God.’ Jesus replied, ‘Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.’ Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

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. O Lord, who gained for yourself a people by adoption through the one sacrifice offered once for all, bestow graciously on us, we pray, the gifts of unity and peace in your Church. 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: When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,
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 cf. Ps 103:13-15

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord;
you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Complete within us, O Lord, we pray, the healing work of your mercy and graciously perfect and sustain us, so that in all things we may please you. Through Christ our Lord.
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

WHO DO YOU SAY I AM?

Who is Jesus? What would I want to say to him? Today’s Gospel brings us to one of the most important questions posed by the evangelist to the Gospel’s audience – and to us: Who is Jesus for us?
Jesus first asks the disciples about the gossip circulating concerning him and who they believe him to be. Their response reflects how the disciples understand Jesus and how they will follow him as they draw closer to Jerusalem, the city where Jesus’ ministry will conclude in his death and resurrection. The disciples respond to Jesus’ question as to what others say about him: He is John the Baptist, or Elijah who will return at the end of time, or one of the prophets. Then Jesus asks them, ‘Who do you say I am?’ Simon Peter, speaking for the group, acknowledges Jesus as ‘the Christ’, the Greek for the Hebrew word ‘Messiah’, literally ‘the anointed one’. Jesus is God’s emissary anointed with the Spirit. Jesus affirms Peter’s response as divinely inspired and declares that Peter – Petros, ‘rock’ – will be the foundation or ‘rock-base’ for the growth of the Jesus movement.
For Matthew’s audience, this is an affirmation of the movement’s authority through time and history. It is within this graced community that we gather today. As contemporary followers of Jesus, we are invited to give our response personally and communally as to Jesus’ identity: Who do you, who do we say Jesus is? Our response will shape how we act, with whom we engage and the kind of community of Jesus’ followers we will be.

FR MICHAEL TRAINOR

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAULS

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OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

23 AUGUST 2026

WHO DO YOU SAY I AM? Jesus asks his disciples this question in today’s Gospel. He asks us the same question. He is not seeking a textbook response or for us to repeat what others have said about him. He wants to hear our personal response. May we answer his question as truthfully as possible, and then listen as he speaks to us.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ps 85:1-3
Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me;
save the servant who trusts in you, my God.
Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
R. Amen.
P. The Lord be with you.
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. Lord Jesus, you have revealed yourself as the way to the Father: Lord, have mercy.
R. Lord, have mercy.
P. You have poured out on your people the Spirit of truth: Christ, have mercy.
R. Christ, have mercy.
P. You are the Good Shepherd, leading us to eternal life: 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 Most High, / Jesus Christ, / with the Holy Spirit, / in the glory of God the Father. / Amen.

COLLECT

P. O God, who cause the minds of the faithful to unite in a single purpose, grant your people to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, amid the uncertainties of this world, our hearts may be fixed on that place where true gladness is found. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.
R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Isa 22:19-23

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
I place the key of the House of David upon his shoulder.

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace:
I dismiss you from your office,
I remove you from your post,
and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah.
I invest him with your robe,
gird him with your sash,
entrust him with your authority;
and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the House of Judah.
I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder;
should he open, no one shall close,
should he close, no one shall open.
I drive him like a peg into a firm place;
he will become a throne of glory for his father’s house.

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

RESP PSALM Ps 137:1-3, 6, 8. R. v. 8

R. Lord, your love is eternal;
do not forsake the work of your hands.

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, / you have heard the words of my mouth. / Before the angels I will bless you. / I will adore before your holy temple. R.
2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love / which excel all we ever knew of you. / On the day I called, you answered; / you increased the strength of my soul. R.



3. The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly / and the haughty he knows from afar. / Your love, O Lord, is eternal, / discard not the work of your hands. R.

SECOND READING Rom 11:33-36

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans
From him, through him, and in him are all things.

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Mt 16:18

Alleluia, alleluia! / You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church / the gates of hell will not hold out against it. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mt 16:13-20

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.
You are Peter, to you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven.