



## ONE MISSION, TWO PARISHES

Saint Timothy's & Saint Luke the Evangelist  
Catholic Parishes, Forest Hill & Blackburn South

Parish Office for both Parishes: 17 Stevens Road Forest Hill Vic 3133

Parish Office tel: 03 9412 8499; Presbytery tel: 03 9877 2292

Email: [foresthill@cam.org.au](mailto:foresthill@cam.org.au) | Web: [sttimothys.org.au](http://sttimothys.org.au)

Email: [blackburnsouth@cam.org.au](mailto:blackburnsouth@cam.org.au) | Web: [blackburnsouth.org.au](http://blackburnsouth.org.au)

**WEEKLY BULLETIN: SUNDAY 27 AUGUST 2023**

**TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A**

**BEING THE GOOD NEWS ... BY PROMOTING GOD'S HOSPITALITY**



**Readings this week: Is 22:19 - 23; Ps 137; Rom 11:33 – 36; Mt 16:13 - 20.**

### Gospel Reflection ~ Greg Sunter

Like last week's gospel, this week's story takes place in a region that was outside predominantly Jewish territory. Caesarea Philippi (north of Galilee and in the region of modern day Syria) had long been a centre of pagan worship. It was used originally by the Canaanites as a site of worship; the Greeks built a temple to one of their gods there; in 20 BCE Herod the Great built a temple to Caesar Augustus; and after his death, Herod's son, Phillip, renamed the city Caesarea Phillipi after Tiberius Caesar and himself. It is intriguing that Matthew's gospel chooses such a site as the location for such a significant revelation of faith. Jesus asks the disciples who people say he is. They report that people associate Jesus with one of the great prophets of Jewish tradition. By people identifying Jesus with other great prophets they were projecting Jesus into the same mould as that prophet. What they were saying was that Jesus will be a great leader in the style of John the Baptist, or Elijah or even Jeremiah. The expectation of a messiah was running very high at the time of Jesus and everyone had their own idea about what that messiah would be like – usually aligned with some previous leader. They didn't seem to understand that Jesus was breaking the mould and was not going to fit in with any of those expectations. To see him as one of the great prophets come again is always going to be an inadequate understanding of Jesus as messiah. When Jesus pushes the disciples for their own ideas, it is Simon Peter who speaks up and identifies Jesus as being the Son of the living God. Making a play on Peter's name (in Greek, petros = Peter and petra = rock), Jesus states that hereafter, Simon Peter will be known as Peter and upon the rock of his profession of faith the church will be built.

**Have you thought? What's in a name?** On many occasions in the Bible a character is given, or takes on, a new name when they take on a new role or move to a new level in their faith and relationship with God. Abram became Abraham; Sarai became Sarah; Jacob became Israel; and Saul became Paul. In all of these circumstances the person took on a new name to reflect their new relationship with God. This tradition has continued right to this day. Men and women entering religious life have traditionally taken on a new name to indicate the new life they are entering. When Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger became pope he took on the name Benedict to indicate the new role and the new life he was beginning. **Living the Gospel ... Who do YOU say I am?** The question that Jesus asks the disciples is a question he asks of all of us. How we answer that question reflects our relationship with Jesus. But more importantly, how we answer that question reflects the way we live our life in response to who we believe Jesus to be. If we truly say that we believe in Jesus as the son of God, then how do we live our lives in such a way that we act on that belief? The gospel shows us that an inadequate answer to that question leads to missing the point of all that Jesus is.

**Gospel Focus:** Jesus' words to Peter, 'on this rock I will build my church', are obviously the gospel writers' words and not the words of Jesus himself. (Jesus did not set out to build a church community; that did not emerge until later.) In fact they appear only in this particular gospel. The other synoptic gospels have Peter's confession of faith but not these words attributed to Jesus. The words are sometimes understood as asserting that Peter himself is the rock on whom the church will be built, rather than his declaration of faith being the rock. This has then sometimes become confused with the line of popes beginning with Peter.

## BEING THE GOOD NEWS

Whitehorse Deanery  
Eastern Region  
Archdiocese of Melbourne

Rev Father Gerard

**Parish Priest**

Sonya O'Farrell

**Part-time Parish Secretary**

**Wednesdays,**

**Thursdays & Fridays**

**10.00am – 2.00pm**

**SUNDAY MASS**

**ST: & SL: Saturday Vigil @ 6.00pm**

**Sunday ST: @ 9.00am Australian  
Vietnamese – 5.00pm**

**& SL: @ 8.30am & 10.30am**

**WEEKDAY MASS & SL: ROSARY**

**ST: Weds. & Thurs. @ 9.15am**

**Fri. @ 10.00am**

**1st Wednesday of the month  
@ 10.00am Mass of Anointing.**

**SL: Tues. @ 5.00pm**

**Weds., Thurs. & Fri. @ 9.30am**

**Sat. @ 9.00am**

**RECONCILIATION**

**SL: Saturday 9.30am – 10.00am &  
5.30pm – 5.50pm**

**SL: EXPOSITION & BENEDICTION**

The Blessed Sacrament is exposed  
for Adoration Wednesday

Start: 7.00pm | End: 8.00pm

**MACS Catholic Primary School  
21 Stevens Road, Vermont, 3133 Vic  
Tel: (03) 9878 4188**

Ms. Anne Maree Jones **Principal**

Email: [principal@sttims.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@sttims.catholic.edu.au)

Website: <https://sttims.catholic.edu.au/>

**MACS Catholic Primary School**

**46 Orchard Grove,**

**Blackburn South Vic 3130**

**Tel: (03) 9877 4023**

Mrs. Clare Ryan: **Principal**

Email: [principal@slblackburnstn.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@slblackburnstn.catholic.edu.au)

Website: [slblackburnstn.catholic.edu.au](http://slblackburnstn.catholic.edu.au)

**Prayer to Saint Timothy**

O God, who adorned Saint Timothy  
with apostolic virtues, grant,  
through his intercession that, living  
justly and devoutly in this present  
age, we may merit to reach our  
heavenly homeland. 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. Amen.

*Patron Saint of stomach and  
intestinal disorders.*

**Prayer to Saint Luke the Evangelist**

O St. Luke, you were chosen to  
reveal in preaching and writing  
God's love for the poor. Moved by  
the heavenly Spirit of Love, you  
detailed the life of Jesus, showing

His divinity and His genuine  
compassion for all human beings.

Help those who already glory in  
God's name to persevere in one  
heart and one mind and inspire all  
people that they may hear the Good  
News of Salvation. Amen

*Patron Saint of artists, physicians,  
surgeons, students and butchers.*

## WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

this weekend all who are sick,  
Terry Wells, Caratha McKerrow, Tony Keaney, Kathryn Holmes, Therese  
O'Donoghue, Stewart Davis, Trevor Stowe, Jerry Donoghue, Veronica and all  
those Parishioners unable to be among us this weekend. For all who have died  
recently especially Jessica Chapman & Nancy Clements, for those who have  
died in the war in Ukraine and for those whose anniversaries occur about this  
time especially Annie Kelly, William Curtain, Luigi Lazzari, Arthur Willett,  
John Bailey, Claire McCorquodale, Irene Munsey, John Patrick, Ann Collins,  
Yvonne Blanchfield, Basil Bingham, Bill Hurley, Antonio Monzon, Benita Loos,  
Joseph & Angela Cappodona, Walter Thompson, Susan Lovass, Therese Byrne,  
Rudolph Getto, Mary Nolan, Mollie King, Frank Smith, Peter Sullivan,  
Peter Farrelly and Mary Thi Dao Le. May they rest in peace.

**THE ARCHBISHOP** is visiting and **accompanying** us this weekend. May his  
presence in our *One Mission Two Parishes* be a blessing for all of us.

**LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK:** **Ordinary Time ~ Monday:**

St Augustine, bishop, doctor; **Tuesday:** The Passion of St John the Baptist, martyr;

**Friday: Spring Ember Day; Saturday:** Mass of Virgin Mary. **Masses this weekend:**

Eucharistic Prayer I, Eucharistic Acclamation II.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY** is 27 August and the new ACBC Social Justice  
Statement, ***Listen, Learn, Love: A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres  
Strait Islander Peoples*** was launched on Thursday 17 August. The new Social  
Justice Statement is issued in an important year for Aboriginal and Torres Strait  
Islander Australians and, indeed, for all Australians.

**CATHOLICARE VICTORIA SUNDAY APPEAL 2023: (UPDATE)** Thankyou  
to all **SL & ST** Parishioners who supported this Annual appeal. Strangely at **ST**  
further envelopes were discovered in the St V de P collection box by the  
Church front door after Sunday morning Mass last weekend which now brings  
**ST** contribution up to \$390.10 this year.

**ANNUAL PRF FATHER'S DAY APPEAL NEXT WEEKEND:** The collection  
is for the Priests Retirement Foundation who cares for our Retired Priests of the  
Archdiocese of Melbourne. Please donate using the envelopes on the pews or  
electronically by clicking [here](#) and making your donation through Paypal.  
Donations can also be made by mail (***cheque or money order***), made payable  
to "Priests Retirement Foundation". Please send to PO Box 615, East Melbourne  
VIC 8002. Donations are 100% tax-deductible. Thank you for your generous  
support of all the Retired Priests.

**MELBOURNE CATHOLICS:** No matter what vocation we've been called to,  
or what profession we find ourselves in, we can all faithfully offer the daily work  
of our lives to God. Even the smallest, most seemingly insignificant act can be  
a gesture of hope and trust, a way to open ourselves more intentionally to  
God's love. ***Read Dr Edward Simons reflect on how Catholic schools can act as  
beacons of light***, not just for school students and their families, but for a world  
that needs more than ever to be transformed by faith, hope and love.

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Many of us fear people in authority as authority can be  
used rightly or wrongly. As Christians, we are called to see power as service. We  
shall all be judged on love.

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER:** "Or who has given the Lord anything that he may  
be repaid?" *Romans 11:35* St. Paul reminds us of a central fact of stewardship.  
We cannot give God anything - He already owns it all. God made everything,  
including us. Since we are made in His image, we too, are called to be  
generous. How we use our God-given gifts becomes our gift back to Him.  
Gratitude for all we have been given opens our hearts to joyful generosity! And,  
through our generosity, we just may be the answer to someone else's prayer.  
(**ST: Weekly First Collection Presbytery: \$474.55; Thanksgiving Stewardship  
Envelopes this week: \$145.20; Vietnamese Donation: \$227.10; Monthly direct  
debits for Stewardship \$1124; Monthly direct debits for Presbytery \$246; Monthly  
credit cards for Stewardship \$495; Monthly credit cards for Presbytery \$235 SL:**  
Last week's Church Stewardship Envelopes: \$377; Last week's Presbytery  
Stewardship Envelopes: \$276 Monthly direct debits for Stewardship \$1871.50;  
Monthly direct debits for Presbytery \$1652.50; Monthly credit cards for  
Stewardship \$1177.50; Monthly credit cards for Presbytery \$932.50).

**WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS** who have walked  
upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the  
continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait  
Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of  
Reconciliation.

## **WEEKEND PARISH MINISTRY ROSTER**

### **MINISTERS OF THE WORD**

**SATURDAY**      **6:00 PM SL**  
**6:00 PM ST**  
**SUNDAY**        **8:30 AM SL**  
**9:00 AM ST**  
**10:30 AM SL**  
**5.00PM ST**

### **26 AND 27 AUGUST**

Shirley Prabha  
Peggy D'Cruz  
N/A  
Alfred Lee & Joelle Roussety  
**9:30 AM SL** G. Hemsley  
Thu Ngo & Dieu Nguyen

### **2 AND 3 SEPTEMBER**

Janice D Souza  
Hubert Lobo  
May McKeown  
Alfred Lee & Trevis Yee  
Mia Perang  
Thuy Nguyen & Nhat Nguyen

### **EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST**

**SATURDAY**      **6:00 PM SL**  
**6:00 PM ST**  
**SUNDAY**        **8:30 AM SL**  
**9:00 AM ST**  
**10:30 AM SL**  
**5.00PM ST**

### **26 AND 27 AUGUST**

Olive Hammill  
Rachel Greal  
N/A  
Daphne Hickman  
**9:30 AM SL** TBC  
Hoang Nguyen

### **2 AND 3 SEPTEMBER**

Godfrey Thong  
Susan Chen  
Sonya O'Farrell  
Chin L Tay  
Val Gardiner  
Hung Dinh

### **SLIDE OPERATORS**

**SATURDAY**      **6:00 PM SL**  
**6:00 PM ST**  
**SUNDAY**        **8:30 AM SL**  
**9:00 AM ST**  
**10:30 AM SL**  
**5.00PM ST**

### **26 AND 27 AUGUST**

Tony Lobo  
Michelle Chen  
N/A  
Lee Min Yee  
**9:30 AM SL** TBC  
Toan Tran

### **2 AND 3 SEPTEMBER**

Choir  
Michelle Chen  
Megan McLean  
Lee Min Yee  
Manny Gonzalez  
Toan Tran

### **SL WELCOMERS 26/27 AUG**

**6:00 PM** John Ryan  
**9:30 AM** Joe Brogno

### **SL CHURCH CLEANING**

2<sup>nd</sup> Sept. – Bianca's Team  
Bianca Broccio, Shirley Prabha,  
Libby Theodore, Merlyn Tauro  
& Franca Leo

### **SL CHURCH FLOWERS**

26<sup>th</sup> Aug – Marie Parker  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sept – Ellen Donoghue

### **ST CHURCH FLOWERS**

Parishioners

### **ST COUNTERS**

This week Team 1:  
Owen Greal & Anthony Yeo  
Next week Team 2:  
Raj & Violet Fonn

### **HOSPITALITY**

### **THE BASIC LITURGICAL MINISTRY**

### **SL WELCOMERS 2/3 SEPT**

**6:00 PM** Genevieve Hemsley  
**9:30 AM** Marie Pekish  
**10:30 AM** Volunteer

### **ST CHURCH CLEANING**

9<sup>th</sup> Sept @ 2pm  
Toan Tran, Dao Dinh, Hieu  
Nguyen & Dieu Nguyen

**ON THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK:** Fr Chima Ofor says Peter's declaration about Jesus also forms the foundation of our call to social justice. Mother Hilda tells how the Word of God has power to change your life. Plus, Fr Tony Percy on the beginning of Catholic Social Teaching with Pope Leo XIII, Bishop Vincent Long launching the 2023 Social Justice Statement, Listen, Learn, Love: A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

**CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES VICTORIA:** CSSV August 2023 [Newsletter](#).

**MAJELLAN FAMILY MEDIA:** Dignity for All: The Church's commitment to social equality.

**JESUIT AND IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY AUSTRALIA:** [6 Days Until Season of Creation Begins](#) The Season of Creation starts with the World Day of Prayer for Creation on 1 September and ends with the Feast of St Francis of Assisi on 4 October. Pope Francis is calling us to 'hear the cry of the poor and the cry of the earth'. To send me Weekly Contemplations each week, click [here](#)

**AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED** is running an emergency campaign for Pakistan. Recently up to 24 churches, hundreds of Christian homes and a Christian cemetery were targeted in an attack in Pakistan which was sparked by reports of blasphemy allegations against two Christians accused of desecrating the Qur'an. ACN is working with project partners on the ground to aid the current needs of the Christian people. To learn more and to make an offering visit [www.aidtochurch.org/pakistanappeal](http://www.aidtochurch.org/pakistanappeal)

**THE SISTERS OF SAINT JOSEPH** have prepared an Australian Pilgrimage, "In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop" commencing in Melbourne on 17 October, journeying through Victoria and South Australia, and ending at Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney on 28 October 2023. During the pilgrimage we visit many places associated with Mary MacKillop's life and ministry. Please contact at [national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au](mailto:national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au) or on 89124818 for further information.

**SAFETY STATEMENT:** We are committed to a safe and nurturing culture for all children and vulnerable persons in our Church. Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish Blackburn South holds the care, safety, wellbeing of children and vulnerable persons as central and fundamental responsibilities of the Church. This commitment is drawn from and inherent to the teaching and mission of Jesus Christ, with love, justice and the sanctity of each human person at the heart of the Gospel.

*by Promoting God's Hospitality*

## **Parish Groups & Contacts**

Lectors, Registrars, Collectors,  
Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist,  
Slide Projector Operator & Rosters

**ST:** Corrie Quimbo 9412 8499

**SL:** Margaret Gearon 0409 807 135

### **Baptism Preparation**

**ST:** Mary Italiano 9412 8499

### **Vietnamese Community**

Hoang Nguyen 0422 400 116

Andy Tran 0422 382 109

### **Vietnamese Youth**

John Dinh 0448 977 037

### **Parish Collection Preparers**

**ST:** Barry Silvester &

Michael Kawalevski

### **Stewardship Counters**

**SL:** Dale Dixon - 0433 885 087

Steve Kilroe-Smith - 0404 864 232

### **Parish Pastoral Council**

**ST:** T.B.A.

**SL:** T.B.A.

### **Parishes Safeguarding Committee**

Theresa Nguyen, Mary Italiano,  
Darren McLean - 0417 774 504

Janette Clark - 9877 2292

Fr Gerard - 9877 2292

### **Parish History**

**SL:** Margaret Gearon - 0409 807 135

### **Whitehorse Deanery - Fr Gerard**

### **Finance Committee**

Bernard Negline

Parish Accountant

### **SL: Hall Hire**

Sonya O'Farrell @ the  
Parish Office - 9877 2292

### **Church Sacristan**

**ST:** Margaret King & Hoang Nguyen

**SL:** Greg Grant - 0401 644 474

### **Church Housekeeping**

**ST:** Margaret King 9412 8499

### **Church Cleaning & Flowers**

**SL:** Megan McLean - 0419 347 693

### **Church Linen**

**SL:** Beryl Kanagalinggam

### **Parish Garden Maintenance**

**ST:** Des Connors, Leo Watson,  
Anico Yee & Vietnamese Community

**SL:** Darren McLean - 0417 774 504

### **Holy Communion to the housebound - Fr Gerard**

### **Emmaus College School Advisory**

### **Council Parish Rep.:**

**SL:** Bernard O'Malley

### **Parish Choirs**

**ST:** Mary Italiano & Theresa Nguyen

**SL:** Lina & Maria Mafi

0411 136 043

### **Parish & School Fete Committee**

**SL:** Mrs. Clare Ryan - 9877 4023

### **School Advisory Council**

**ST:** Ms. Anne Maree Jones 9878 4188

**SL:** Mrs. Clare Ryan - 9877 4023

### **School Parents' Association**

**ST:** Ms. Anne Maree Jones 9878 4188

**SL:** Mrs. Clare Ryan - 9877 4023

### **St Vincent de Paul Conference**

For Assistance: 1800 305 330

(Freecall: Monday to Friday 10am-3pm)

### **Parish Contacts:**

**ST:** John McCoy

**SL:** Tony Lobo &

Steve Kilroe-Smith



**Raise your voices ... Entrance Antiphon:** 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.

**Response to the Psalm:** Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

**Gospel Acclamation:** 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!

**Eucharistic Acclamation:** When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

**Communion Antiphon:** 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.

**SL: 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY WINES FOR OUR PARISH:** Please contact the Parish Office at your convenience. Bottle \$15, 2 Bottles \$25, 6 Bottles \$75, 12 Bottles \$140; (Will mix, red/white).

**SL: MARGARET GEARON'S HISTORY OF THE PARISH & SCHOOL PART II** is now available for @ \$15 each.



## Who do you say I am?

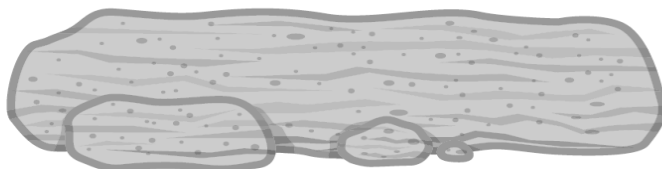


21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

### Who do you say Jesus is?

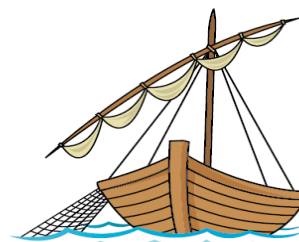
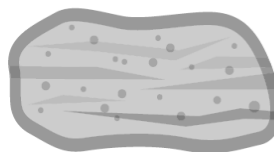
Write some words which describe Jesus.

Jesus said to Peter "You are the rock on which I will build my Church." Draw your church on the rock below.



What makes strong foundations for the church?  
Write your answers on the rock.

Match up each of these symbols of St Peter with its correct story



Jesus asked his disciples, "Who do you say I am?" Peter replied, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Jesus told Peter that he would be the foundation upon which the church would be built.

When Jesus first met Peter and his brother Andrew he said to them, "Follow me!" Immediately they stopped what they were doing and followed Jesus.

Jesus told his disciples that they would desert him. Peter told Jesus he would never desert him, but Jesus predicted that Peter would deny him three times.

Jesus said to Peter, "You are Peter; to you I will give the keys to the kingdom of heaven."



# Who do you say I am?

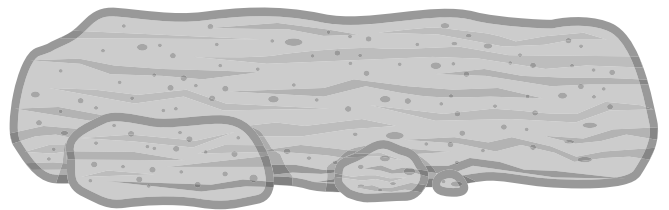


21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

## Who do you say Jesus is?

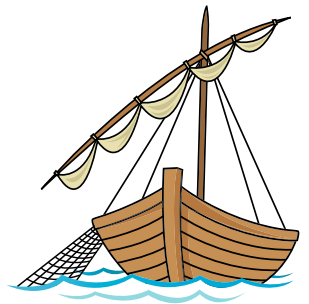
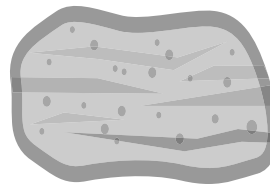
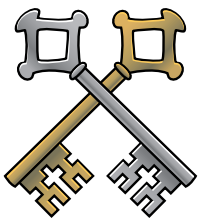
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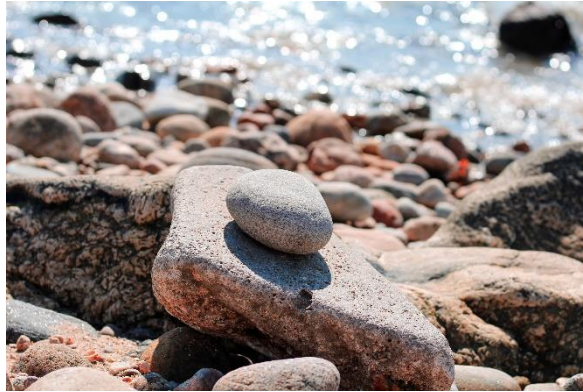
# SUNDAY READINGS

## READ AT HOME

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

27 August 2023



### Collect

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,  
one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

### Readings and Commentaries

“But you,” Jesus said, “who do you say I am?” Peter, impulsive as ever, dares to say, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God”. We make the same profession whenever we recite the creed, but more out of habit than with audacity. The Australian Jesuit poet and preacher Peter Steele had this to say in a homily at the turn of the millennium:

“To say that we believe in Christ our Lord, who is God’s only Son and his last word, is to say that we will never give up trying to love those whom God loves into being, and into being the siblings of Christ.

“If we are frank, this can seem an impossible agenda, when we look at some of ‘the others,’ and when we look at ourselves. . . There is a way for each of us, however dismayed or dejected or disarrayed we may be, a way for each of us to rise to courage and generosity; a way for today – and that is truly Christ’s way, is truly Christ *being* our way. And he is never more ‘Our Lord’ than when he is being that way”  
(*Bread for the Journey*, Melbourne: David Lovell, 2002, 247).

## **A reading from the prophet Isaiah      22:19–23**

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.

## **First Reading**

This enigmatic oracle from the prophet Isaiah appears to relate to the reign of King Hezekiah in Judah some seven hundred years before the birth of Christ. While Hezekiah was a significant reformer and an active player in the geo-political games of the day, this oracle relates to internal palace affairs.

It seems that the master of the palace, Shebna, had failed in his duties. He is therefore summarily dismissed. The violent language describing his fate – he's to be "wound up into a ball" and "hurled into an immense country" where he will die – has been omitted from the lectionary. The bulk of the passage is devoted to the investiture of his replacement, Eliakim, who later proved to be a disappointment.

Eliakim's installation is described in grandly poetic terms – impressive garb, extensive authority and the promise of glory. The justification for the choice of this obscure text comes into view when we hear reference made to the key of the kingdom and Eliakim's power to open and close. We will be reminded of this when we get to today's gospel reading.

Except for those who are biblically literate, this reading will not be readily understood. As usual, the reader's task is not to offer explanations, but to proclaim the text as intelligibly as possible. It proceeds by way of short statements that drive the action forward and call for clear and strong delivery.

## **Responsorial Psalm      Ps 137:1–3, 6, 8**

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

## **Responsorial Psalm**

After Isaiah's oracle dealing with the inner workings of the king's palace, the responsorial psalm brings us out into boundless space. Psalm 137/138 is a sunny hymn of praise and thanksgiving to God. There are slight allusions to the fact that the psalmist's thankfulness may arise from deliverance of some sort, such as "On the day I called, you answered," but if so, the problem is not dwelt on. The focus is on God's outstanding qualities.

God listens to prayer, is faithful and loving, gives strength, and attends to the lowly. God's goodness encompasses heaven and earth, angels and humankind, time and eternity. In praising God lavishly, the psalmist acknowledges our complete dependence on divine bounty, hence the plea, "do not forsake the work of your hands".

Provided they announce the two-line response carefully, making sure the assembly hears it in full before responding, readers have every reason to enjoy leading everyone through this pleasing prayer.

**A reading from the letter of St Paul  
to the Romans**

**11:33–36**

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.

**A reading from the holy Gospel  
according to Matthew**

**16:13–20**

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.

**Second Reading**

After wrestling for three chapters with the vexed issue of Jewish rejection of Jesus, it's no wonder that Paul bursts into praise. He had come to a conclusion of sorts, as we heard last Sunday. As he saw it, the Gentiles' faith in Jesus was intended to make Jews jealous of what they were missing. They remained within the wide arc of God's mercy and would be saved in God's good time.

Nonetheless the whole situation remained humanly inexplicable. All that Paul can do is praise God for the mystery of it all. God's wisdom and knowledge are beyond human comprehension, as the prophet Isaiah had long since acknowledged (40:13) and Job confessed. God remains everlastingly transcendent and sovereign, encompassing all that is. When human understanding is brought to its limits, there is nothing left to do but confess God's glory.

This is a precious jewel of a text. It is suffused with wonder, awe and admiration. It deserves to be proclaimed with deep faith and respect.

**Gospel**

Since the lectionary omits the intervening events that Matthew recounts, we find Jesus again in an alien place. Caesarea Philippi may not be as remote as the homeland of the Canaanite woman in last Sunday's gospel, but it's still a long way from Galilee in geographic, political and religious terms. It's striking, therefore, that Peter's confession of faith should occur in a place so powerfully associated with pagan rites and imperial power.

Mark and Luke are content to record that Peter declared Jesus to be the Messiah. Matthew goes much further. He has Peter confess that Jesus is "the Son of the living God". This full-blown affirmation of Jesus' divine status may well have found its way here from the post-resurrection narratives. The only time the Greek word "ekklesia" is used in the four gospels is at this point and again a little later on (Mt 18:17). Here it is translated as "Church," there as "community".

The nature and extent of the authority Jesus conferred on Peter in this episode remains a matter of dispute both within and between the Christian Churches, but two things are clear. Peter is singled out for leadership, and the community is assured of Jesus' protective power. Plainly this is a significant event in the gospel story. As well-known as it is, the reading warrants a delivery that sounds fresh and lively and that does justice to the consequential exchange that takes place between Jesus and Peter.



## Concluding Blessing

May the Lord bless us and keep us.

**Amen.**

May he let his face shine upon us  
and show us his mercy.

**Amen.**

May he turn his countenance towards us  
and give us his peace.

**Amen.**

And may the blessing of almighty God,  
the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
come down on us and remain with us for ever.

**Amen.**

(Adapted from the Solemn Blessing for Ordinary Time I, Roman Missal p 714)



## ARCHBISHOP'S VISITATIONS TO BOTH PARISHES

AUGUST 25, 26 & 27 2023

### ***ONE MISSION, TWO PARISHES***

The Visitation to our Parishes is a wonderful opportunity for the Archbishop to meet with, and celebrate with, our communities. The following key areas encapsulate what we may like to share:

- **TELL ME YOUR STORY:**

Culture | Life | History

- **GIVE ME AN ACCOUNT OF WHAT IS HAPPENING:**

Missionary | Sacramental | Charitable | Formation | Spiritual

- **HOW ARE YOU STRUCTURED and GOING ABOUT THINGS?**

Who are doing things and what is their involvement?

- **HOW ARE YOU PLANNING and RESOURCING?**

Now and into the future

- **HOW ARE YOU COMMUNICATING YOUR ENGAGEMENT?**

- **WHAT ARE YOUR CHALLENGES?**



... both  
&



## EPISCOPAL VISITATION: ST LUKE THE EVANGELIST, BLACKBURN SOUTH & ST TIMOTHY'S, FOREST HILL

**All activities/visits/meetings etc. listed to be attended by the Parish Priest unless otherwise denoted or free time.**

### FRIDAY

Focus – Both Schools, Parish Leadership and both Parishes

<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Archbishop Arrives @ St Luke's</b> Met by Parish Priest Meet one-on-one with PP to talk through the visitation, personal well-being, Parish
<b>10.15am</b>	<b>ST Visit to St Timothy's School</b> Meeting with both Principals and both Staff Executive Leaderships
<b>11.00am</b>	<b>ST Morning Tea</b> with staff and student leadership
<b>11.30am</b>	<b>ST Tour</b> St Timothy's School – visit classrooms, meet students and teachers
<b>12.15pm</b>	<b>SL Tour</b> of St Luke the Evangelist School – visit classrooms, meet students and teachers
<b>1.00pm</b>	<b>SL Lunch</b> (very light – no formal lunch)
<b>2.00pm</b>	<b>ST &amp; SL Parish</b> Meeting with Parish Staff (Secretary) Tour buildings and review registers
<b>4.00pm</b>	Free time (nothing scheduled)
<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>ST Dinner and Meeting</b> with Combined Parish Pastoral Council, both Parishes Finance Councils + local Parish Representatives for Take the Way of the Gospel
<b>8.30pm</b>	Evening concludes

### SATURDAY

Focus – ST & SL Parish Communities

<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Meet at ST with those involved in ministries at both ST &amp; SL:</b> Safeguarding Committee; Liturgical Ministries; Catechetical Ministries; Maintenance; Counting; Choirs; St V de P Conferences
<b>11.00am</b>	<b>ST Morning Tea with everyone from ST &amp; SL</b>
<b>11.30am</b>	<b>ST Parish Forum (no clergy)</b> Opportunity for <b>ALL</b> of <b>SL &amp; ST</b> Parishioners to speak with the Archbishop about priorities, goals and challenges. <b>Question posed:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tell me where you find Jesus in the life of your Parish? (What is evangelisation)</li> <li>- Think about how and where you would like to see the Parish in 5-10 years... and How are WE going to get there? (What is Mission?)</li> </ul>
<b>1:00pm</b>	<b>ST BYO Lunch:</b> with <b>ALL ST &amp; SL</b> Parishioners and Archbishop
<b>2.15pm</b>	<b>Visits to the sick or homebound</b> Communion to those in nursing homes / retired or elderly Clergy / sick or elderly parishioner or family (2-3 visits total)
<b>4.00pm</b>	Spare time
<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>ST Archbishop Vigil Mass</b>
<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>ST Dinner Archbishop with Vietnamese Community – inc. Leadership and Youth</b>

**EPISCOPAL VISITATION: ST LUKE THE EVANGELIST,  
BLACKBURN SOUTH & ST TIMOTHY'S, FOREST HILL**

**SUNDAY**

Celebration of Masses across both SL & ST communities

<b>9.30am</b>	<b>SL Archbishop at Sunday Mass</b>
<b>10.45am</b>	<b>SL Parish Morning Tea</b>
<b>12.30pm</b>	<b>Meeting and Lunch with Clergy</b>





# *St. Luke's Fete* *& 60th Anniversary*

**60TH ANNIVERSARY ST LUKE'S WINE:**

**1 BOTTLE \$15**

**2 BOTTLES \$25**

**6 BOTTLES \$75**

**12 BOTTLES \$140**

**(WILL MIX, RED / WHITE)**





# THE ARCHBISHOP'S Father's Day 2023 COLLECTION FOR RETIRED & SICK PRIESTS

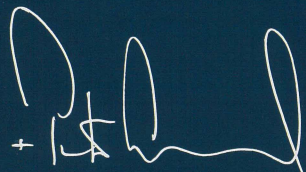


## DEAR FRIENDS,

It has been a wonderful custom in the Archdiocese of Melbourne to allow the faithful of the Archdiocese to show something of their own appreciation through an annual Father's Day Appeal. The appeal goes to the care of retired and sick priests by providing suitable accomodation, medical assistance and a comfortable standard of living for them.

In a time like no other we have experienced, I am especially mindful of the great love that God's People have for the spiritual and pastoral care offered to them from the heart of the priestly ministry. I am deeply thankful for the ways in which you are the face of Christ for our priests, and the support that you give to them. May I commend the Appeal to you.

Please pray for your priests, as they pray for you!



**+PETER A COMENSOLI**  
Archbishop of Melbourne

**ALL DONATIONS  
OF \$2 AND MORE  
ARE FULLY TAX  
DEDUCTIBLE!**

**PRIESTS RETIREMENT  
FOUNDATION**



*Caring for those who cared*

CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE  
PRIESTS RETIREMENT FOUNDATION  
PO BOX 615, EAST MELBOURNE, VICTORIA, 8002 Web: [www.melbournecatholic.org/foundation](http://www.melbournecatholic.org/foundation) Tel: (03) 9926 2472

The Foundation is a Deductible Gift Recipient (900 299 353) and this status can be confirmed by visiting the ABR website—[www.abr.business.gov.au](http://www.abr.business.gov.au) and keying in the ABN of the Foundation—68 330 354 094

Main image—retired priests with Archbishop Peter A Comensoli (L–R): Fr Joe Browne, Fr Bill Gill, Mons Peter Kenny, Fr Terry Bergin, Fr Kevin Eaton, Fr Arnold Heredia, Fr Brian Cosgriff, Fr Pat Purcell and Fr Anjou Soares.  
Image 1 (L–R): Fr Bill Gill, Mons Peter Kenny and Fr Terry Bergin. Image 2 (L–R): Fr Des Magennis and Fr Gerard Dowling.





## The Journey

- Starting in **Melbourne**, experience the early life of Mary and the MacKillop Family.
- Continue the story by coach to **Hamilton**, **Portland** and **Port McDonnell**.
- Spend two nights in **Penola** connecting with the Mary MacKillop and Fr Julian Tenison Woods' stories.
- Coach into South Australia and visit Our Lady Star of the Sea - a church built by Fr Julian Tenison Woods at **Robe**.
- Continue on to **Adelaide** where Mary professed her vows as a Sister of Saint Joseph and immerse ourselves in the unfolding story of the Congregation.
- Fly to **Sydney** and spend three nights at Mary MacKillop Place where Mary lived and died. Visit her burial site in the Memorial Chapel.
- Extra cost for those who wish to spend a couple of extra nights in Sydney before they return home.

A full itinerary is attached to the application form.



## Booking & Enquiries

**For further information or to make an application, please contact the Australian Pilgrimage Co-Ordinator**

### Email

[national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au](mailto:national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au)

### Telephone

02 8912 4818



MARY MACKILLOP PLACE

OUT OF THE *Ordinary*



## IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MARY MACKILLOP

**An Australian Pilgrimage led by a Sister of Saint Joseph & the inaugural Director of the Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre Melbourne**

17 October – 28 October 2023

For detailed information visit our website:  
[www.marymackillopplace.org.au](http://www.marymackillopplace.org.au)



## Pilgrimage

The notion of going on a pilgrimage and being a pilgrim is a very ancient one that belongs to the spiritual tradition of all great faiths.

Since early times Christians have been known as pilgrims because they journeyed to the sacred places throughout Christendom. These places of pilgrimage beckoned people to touch and become caught up in the atmosphere and spiritual realities that belonged to their origins.

Today we recognise that each of us is on a daily journey of faith but there is a time in life when we feel called to join with others; seeking, listening, reflecting and seeing the hand of God at work in our own lives.

Mary MacKillop Place offers such an opportunity to journey to significant places in Australia made holy by Saint Mary MacKillop. While on pilgrimage we are invited to reflect on Saint Mary MacKillop's life and to recognise her relevance in our own lives. Such reflection can encourage us to emulate her courage, perseverance, joy and deep faith.

Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney is recognised as a national place of pilgrimage in Australia and is made sacred by Australia's first canonised saint being entombed in the Memorial Chapel.

## IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MARY MACKILLOP

### An Australian Pilgrimage

This pilgrimage has been prepared by the Sisters of Saint Joseph to help you enter more deeply into Mary and Julian's stories and spirituality.

The opportunity for prayer and reflection is a significant part of the Pilgrimage which is led by a Sister of Saint Joseph & the inaugural Director of the Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre Melbourne.

Participating in 10 days of sharing a journey will draw you more deeply into the story of the foundation of the Congregation by Julian Tension Woods and Mary MacKillop in Penola, and how their vision has unfolded.



'God is truly good to us all.'  
Mary MacKillop, 9.7.1873

### COST – all inclusive

Costs include airfares – port of origin, Adelaide/Sydney, Sydney/port of origin; accommodation, coach travel, admission fees and all meals (but not drinks). Pilgrimage begins on the evening of 17th October & concludes on the morning of 28th October.

Ex Brisbane	\$4230	Ex Perth	\$4925
Ex Melbourne	\$3950	Ex Hobart	\$4230
Ex Sydney	\$3950	Ex Canberra	\$4570
Ex Adelaide	\$4150	Ex Cairns	\$4600

Single Supplement all areas \$970.

**GET IN EARLY! These prices are fixed until 30th June 2023. After this date prices may need to be negotiated dependent on oil and fuel costs.**

### Insurance

Cancellation and/or travel insurance is recommended and available upon request.

### Deposit

\$500 of which \$250 is non-refundable and non-transferable.

### Application

For an application form or further information telephone Annie Bond rsj 02 8912 4818. Applications close 8th September 2023. Pilgrims must be vaccinated.

#### PLEASE FORWARD TO:

Cardigan Touring Services, Mary MacKillop Pilgrimage  
PO Box 4010, Alfredton VIC 3350  
- Application Form  
- Photo ID which includes your name e.g. Photocopy of Driver's Licence; or Passport; or State Identification Card

#### PLEASE FORWARD A COPY OF THE COMPLETED APPLICATION FORM & PHOTO ID TO:

Australian Pilgrimage Co-Ordinator, Mary MacKillop Place  
PO Box 1081, North Sydney NSW 2059 or  
email to [national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au](mailto:national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au)