



THE CARMELITE

Parish of Port Melbourne and Middle Park
in the care of the Carmelites since 1882

We acknowledge the Yaluk-ut Weelam Clan, the traditional owners and custodians of this land. We pay our respects to them. May we walk gently here.

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time 12 September 2021

Hi Everyone,

I am thinking of creating a youtube channel to send videos via email or to place on the website. We are going to have a trial this weekend, so check for it on our website.

Most importantly, I want you to know that you are constantly in my thoughts and prayers and a big thank you to those who write and tell me about what they are doing or who may be unwell or just plain lonely.

I don't know whether you read my piece on "languishing" in last week's email and bulletin but thank you to those who mentioned it in emails and hopefully, it does some good.

Well, like you I'm languishing in lockdown. Although it feels like prison-time, I've become very mindful of the world around me.

It's often the world in miniature like watching Leo's orchids come into bloom, or seeing Elaine hard at work on the little patch of garden she has been cultivating for some time now next to the palm tree at St Joseph's.

Just last week, when we had the burst of hot weather I spent a considerable amount of time watching green-bottle dragonflies attaching themselves to various plants in the garden. It wasn't earth-shattering I know, but it was wonderful nevertheless.

Talking about nature, I watched a fabulous show on Netflix called "Fantastic Funghi". Now I've never been a great lover of mushrooms and their ilk but it was absolutely absorbing to watch the way fungi are conquering the world. On a humorous note, I thought if organic matter allows fungi to grow from decomposition, then you and I are going to end up becoming mushrooms; not only that, someone might eat us. Just hope we produce the magical variety that leads to a pleasant psychedelic trip.

Both our Churches are fitted with a hearing induction loop. Please use the 'T' or other appropriate switch on your hearing aid. Please tell us if you experience any difficulty.

OUR PARISH

Churches

St Joseph's
cnr Rouse & Stokes Streets
Port Melbourne

Our Lady of Mount Carmel
cnr Richardson & Wright Streets
Middle Park

Sunday Masses

6.00pm (Sat) Mount Carmel
9.00am Saint Joseph's
10.30am Mount Carmel

Reconciliation

after 9.00am Mass Saturday

Carmelite Parish Office

274 Rouse Street
Port Melbourne Vic 3207

Telephone 03 9681 9600
Facsimile 03 9681 9608

After Hours Emergency
0408 754 283

Email parish@sj-mc.org.au

Parish Website www.sj-mc.org.au

Carmelite Website
www.carmelites.org.au

Office Hours 9am-4pm (non COVID times)

Monday, Wednesday, Friday (CLOSED TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS)

Parish Priest

Fr Hugh Brown OCarM

Parish Secretary

Anne Ierardo

Pastoral Life Co-ordinator

Michael Murray

Finance Officer

Shane Harrison

Facilities Manager

Ken Chaffer

Safeguarding Officer

Frances Correa

Galilee Regional Catholic Primary School

Bank Street
South Melbourne Vic 3205
Telephone 03 9699 2928

THIS WEEK

IMPORTANT NOTICE RE THE PARISH OFFICE

Given the change in circumstances due to Stage 4 restrictions, the Parish Office will **NOT** be opened at all until further notice.

This means that no-one will answer phones and emails as regularly however, in a genuine emergency, please ring me on

0408 754 283

If I can't answer at the time, leave a message and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

WE REMEMBER

Those who are sick or ill and in need of prayer:

Tommy Bednar, Paul Caghi - Cao, Nawal Cox, Maria De Nittis, Kelly Edwards, Judy Fairhall, Gigi Falckh, Frances Farrugia, Lyn Faul, Rose Fennell, Gary Finn, Maurice Fitzpatrick, Gerard Friary, Ivy Hermence, Chris Kowalski, Marino Mihocic, Felicity Morgan, Marie O'Connor, Sylvia Poliakova, Rafal Rafalski, Michael Ristevski, Lucie Carmen Rodriguez, Dennis Rohan, Lorraine Rohan, Keith Ryder, Sarah Abdel-Said, Teresa Sheehan, Jane Spiteri, Helen Stanley, Jim Sullivan, Maureen Toohey, Troy Vincent, Julie Wain, Sr Barbara Walsh RSG, Vivienne Williams, Tami Yap.

Those whose have died recently: Robert Stanley Wallace, all those affected by COVID_19 throughout the world.

Those whose anniversaries of death occur about this time: Sr Geraldine Stapleton csb, and Carmelite, James De Laurier.

IN OUR PARISH

Another thing that has been absorbing me is a podcast with a fellow called Ben Crowe. Ben did his secondary schooling with us at Whitefriars, and he has gained a very good reputation as a motivational speaker and mentor to many athletes, including Ash Barty. He has a delightfully simple and truthful way of inviting people to discover the person each one is and to use it for good. He reminded me that we are far more that what we do - our goal in life is be fantastic people. The good parts come from being that and not necessarily from what we do in life. You can catch the podcast on youtube in an interview with Dylan Buckley.

Another thing that has been on my agenda has been doing more theological studies. Now I know that I'm a bit of a 'has been', but it really keeps my brain active and, hopefully away from Dementia.

Anyway, I'm trying to write an essay on Jesus as Saviour and it's fun relearning things I once knew and gaining new insights into who Jesus is for me.

On a humorous note, I found a marvellous cartoon recently. It's a picture of the stable in Bethlehem where Jesus, Mary and Joseph are staying. Anyway, in the cartoon, four, not three, wise men actually turn up to worship the baby, but the fourth one was turned away because he only brought a Fruit cake. Perhaps I'm the 4th wise man who didn't get the right present!

On a serious note, this Sunday is Child Safeguarding Sunday. Now we don't have any children around us at present because of lockdown, but our small committee led by Frances Correa, all the way from India, has done a great job in keeping us up to speed with the things we need to do. Sometimes, I think a lot of the demands are ridiculous, but

ARCHDIOCESE

Archdiocesan Hotline for COVID-19

In light of changing advice and circumstances, please keep visiting this webpage: www.cam.org.au for quick access to the latest news, information and resources. Should you require any further information specific to a parish concern relating to COVID-19 and the guidelines produced by the Archdiocese, please contact the newly established service desk for our Priests and Parishes:

Phone: 9926 2469

Email: covid-19@cam.org.au

This phone line and email will be monitored Monday to Friday, 8am-6pm, by Archdiocesan staff.

THANK YOU

We understand that these are very unusual circumstances and difficult times for many people both emotionally and financially.

Thank you to our parishioners who have been continuing to send in their thanksgiving envelopes. If you would like to continue supporting our parish you might like to consider changing your contributions to EFT, direct debit or credit card deductions. Please contact the parish office by phone and leave a message or email to organise this.

OUR PARISH NEWS

more importantly, it's very good to remind ourselves that children need our protection and our love. I do apologise the fact that some of you will need Working with Children Checks and Police Checks. This is absolutely no reflection on you. It is a legal requirement so please don't be put off and if you need any help Frances will be more than willing to provide it.

I know that many of us are finding this latest lockdown somewhat demoralising, but you know, every cloud has its silver lining. We have more time to pray and reflect and to focus on the wonderful things that have been or still are in our lives.

Look after yourselves and remember that you are loved and missed, certainly by the parish priest. If you think this is worthwhile continuing with a video, drop me a line and we'll do something again. If you think it's a waste of time, you can just delete me.

Take care and every blessing.



THE CARMELITE CENTRE

'... listen. The River is singing.'

**Mary Oliver and the gift of learning to pay attention, with Carol O'Connor,
10.30am to 12 midday Wednesday 15 September**

Mary Oliver's poetry is full of questions: about life, the natural world, the way we inhabit our environment. This session, facilitated by Carol O'Connor is a brief introduction to her poetry, a time to discover together some of her insights and share their meaning for us today.

Carol O'Connor is a writer, teacher and the Manager of St Peter's Bookroom in Melbourne. She has a Masters in English Literature; a particular interest in poetry, meditation and Celtic spirituality; and follows her own mystical path.

The monthly Spiritual Reading Group sessions are facilitated by Philip Harvey, the Carmelite Librarian. All are welcome to join the zoom session. Please contact the Carmelite Centre for the Zoom Link Invitation.

The Carmelite Centre is a joint venture of the Carmelites of Australia and East Timor and our Parish of Port Melbourne/Middle Park.

Address: 214 Richardson Street, Middle Park Vic 3206 (Mel Ref 2K C10)

T: (03) 9690 5430 Website: www.thecarmelitecentremelbourne.org

Carmelite Centre Program Bookings

T: 9690 5430 (leave message if unattended) or reregistration@thecarmelitecentremelbourne.org
via website: www.thecarmelitecentremelbourne.org

Hi Everyone,

FREEDOM IS A CHOICE!

It's 3:30 am on Friday morning as I pen these words because I woke up full of a sense of the power of FREEDOM. It was a good experience, even though I think I'd rather be still in bed sound asleep.

This Sunday's Readings are pretty tough going – they speak of a Jesus who knew that the direction of his life was taking him in the direction of death. But still, he continued on his journey. Why?

Because he was free!

He was free to decide that even though people didn't always like what he had to say, he had the freedom to continue to do what he believed God was calling him to do. And he always remained free, even when he was tortured, humiliated, and crucified.

You and I are feeling the pain of restrictions on our freedoms – sure, we can't go out as much as possible; sure, we're locked in a prison of fearfulness about a virus; sure, we resent the fact that important things like family contact are denied us. All that is true. But we are still free!

You see freedom isn't about physical limitations; it isn't about whether you can or can't do this or that. Freedom is about a choice we make not to let these things diminish us or rob us of our dignity.

Three people come to mind:

Victor Frankl, a prisoner in a concentration camp, decided that he was free despite what the Nazis were doing to him and millions of others. Free because he had the power to choose how he would respond in moments when others were trying to break him. He had the freedom to choose to either hate his captors or to not let them rob him of his freedom to choose forgiveness.

Rosa Parks, a black woman from the deep south of the US, decided she was free to sit among white people in a bus. She paid the price for that, but she was free. Free to either sit at the back with the "coloured people" or free to sit in the front with the "non-coloured" people. She exercised her freedom!

Nelson Mandela, imprisoned for 20 or so years by the power of apartheid, was free! When he was released from prison, he was free to either hate his captors or to use his intellect and will to rebuild a nation. And that's what he did!

Every day, every moment, you and I have the choice to be free.

We can decide to either let life get us down OR to embrace what we have and delight in it.

We can decide to let resentment and frustration take hold of us, OR to forget about ourselves and trust that in everything God walks with us.

We can decide to hate governments and politicians of any ilk, OR to put aside our cynicism and sarcasm and to know that others who have greater power than us are very human and very limited, but they too are loved by God.

We can decide to let our languishing mood pull us into an abyss of "despair," OR we can choose to see that physical limitations cannot rob us of our dreams and hopes and the power to be more loving people.

You and I are Free. Isn't that wonderful?
Jesus was free.

Even when they were obscenely torturing him, he could say, "Forgive them, Father, for they know not what they do."

Even when his energy was totally spent, he could say, "Father, into your hands, I commend my spirit!"

Happy Freedom Day and blessings and peace!

I'm going back to bed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hugh". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

SEASON OF CREATION 2021

Sunday 2 – Season of Creation Year B 2021

Introductory Comments

As we began the Season of Creation last Sunday, we heard the encouragement of Isaiah to “Be strong and fear not,” relying on God’s faithful presence. We were invited to recognize God in the opening of eyes and ears to the crises Earth is suffering. We were encouraged to discern and accept God’s invitation to share in the work of saving Earth and all the communities whose home it is.

Today again we hear the call to listen to God’s Word coming in the Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor. We are urged to put our faith into action and to expect resistance and suffering, our share in the cross of Christ. As we begin today, let’s enter into the quiet of our spirits, ... conscious of Earth, our home and the home of every other living and inanimate creature we know ... just a dot in the vast expanse of the Milky Way ... the Milky Way itself but a small dot in the vast expanse of the Universe... conscious of the destruction and suffering on Earth from overconsumption, exploitation, and the crisis of dangerously-rising temperatures globally ... yet home to millions of people rising up to restore, heal, and save our common home...witnesses to this truth. But God is our help.

The scriptures of the second Sunday warn that when God opens our ears and we hear, we must expect to suffer. When we act on the call that we hear to care for Earth, we will face resistance and conflict, as Isaiah did, as Jesus did, and as Jesus called his disciples to.

Ecological Education. This goal seeks curricular and institutional reform to foster ecological awareness and transformative action. Actions could include ensuring access to education for all, promoting human rights, fostering Laudato Si’ themes, and encouraging ecological leadership and restoration activities.

General Intercessions

For ever-deepening trust in the faithful presence and loving work of God in us, among us, and through us to respond effectively to the Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor, we pray...

For the success of the work of ecumenical and interfaith communities to promote global unity and restore Earth as a nurturing home to all its creatures, we pray...

For the urgent, generous, and effective response of the global community in the upcoming United Nations conferences on biodiversity and climate change, COP 15 and COP 26, we pray...

That we may take up our prophetic responsibilities in this time of urgent crisis to speak God's Truth to each other and to call each other into ways of living on Earth wisely, sustainably, justly, and reverently, we pray...+

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We have been working on safeguarding processes in our parish to ensure we have a community in which all especially children and young people feel safe. Our safeguarding committee has introduced safeguarding into the childrens' sacramental programme encouraging parents and carers to be jointly responsible for the safety of children and young people and provided them with resources to help.

The committee has also addressed the Reporting of Child Abuse and safety related misconduct and updated the website. Anyone can make a report on child abuse or safety related misconduct. All clergy, employees and volunteers are required to make a report if they have formed a "reasonable belief" that a child or young person has experienced or is experiencing abuse or is at risk of harm from safety related misconduct. All reports will be treated with sensitivity, investigated, and acted upon with subsequent disciplinary action.

The poster on **Page11** explains the process to be followed to report abuse or safety related misconduct.

You can find out more about safeguarding on our parish on our website at <https://sj-mc.org.au/> under the Safeguarding tab.

If you have any concerns, feedback, questions, please contact the safeguarding committee on sj-mc.safeguarding@com.org.au

**THE PARISH OF PORT MELBOURNE AND MIDDLE PARK
IS COMMITTED TO THE SAFETY,
WELLBEING AND DIGNITY OF ALL CHILDREN,
YOUNG PEOPLE AND VULNERABLE ADULTS.**

FIRST READING

Isaiah 50:5-9

The Lord has opened my ear.

For my part, I made no resistance,
neither did I turn away.

I offered my back to those who struck me,
my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;
I did not cover my face
against insult and spittle.

The Lord comes to my help,
so that I am untouched by the insults.
So, too, I set my face like flint;
I know I shall not be shamed.

My vindicator is here at hand.
Does anyone start proceedings against me?
Then let us go to court together.
Who thinks he has a case against me?
Let him approach me.
The Lord is coming to my help,
who dare condemn me?

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 114:

I WILL WALK IN
THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD

Ps 114:1-6. 8-9. R. v.9

Response: ***I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.***

I love the Lord for he has heard
the cry of my appeal;
for he turned his ear to me
in the day when I called him.

Response

They surrounded me, the snares of death,
with anguish of the tomb;
they caught me, sorrow and distress.
I called on the Lord's name.
O Lord my God, deliver me!

Response

How gracious is the Lord, and just;
our God has compassion.
The Lord protects the simple hearts;
I was helpless so he saved me.

Response

He has kept my soul from death,
my eyes from tears
and my feet from stumbling.
I will walk in the presence of the Lord
in the land of the living.

Response

SECOND READING

James 2:14-18

Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty,' without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead.

This is the way to talk to people of that kind: 'You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds – now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.'

Mark 8:27-35

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said, 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked, 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

He called the people and his disciples to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'



SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

REPORTING ABUSE OR SAFETY-RELATED MISCONDUCT

STEP 01 WHO CAN REPORT?

Anyone:

- Child or young person and/or their parent or carer
- Adult
- Staff member or volunteer
- Clergy or religious person
- Any other person e.g. witness to an incident

STEP 02 WHAT TO REPORT?

Abuse or safety-related misconduct:

- Current or historical disclosures of abuse or harm
- Current or historical allegations, suspicions or observations
- Breach of the Code of Conduct

IF YOU SEE SOMETHING SAY SOMETHING

STEP 03 HOW?

- Verbal report in person or by telephone
- Written report via email or mail

If you feel comfortable and it is appropriate to do so, report the matter to a person in a leadership position within your parish, as they can assist and support you to make a report.

STEP 04 WHO TO?

All reports are to be directed to:

Professional Standards Unit

Phone: 9926 5621 Email: psu@cam.org.au

Or you can contact Victoria Police directly.

Remember! Always call 000 if a child or adult is in immediate danger.

STEP 05 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

The Professional Standards Unit will:

- Offer support to the person(s) involved
- Initiate risk management processes to ensure the safety of the person and others, clarify the nature of the complaint and commence disciplinary processes
- Report the matter to relevant authorities in accordance with legal requirements and duty of care as soon as possible e.g. Child Protection, Victoria Police
- Wait for clearance from authorities before starting an investigation
- Report the matter to regulatory bodies (if applicable) e.g. Commission for Children for Children and Young People

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS UNIT Phone: 9926 5621 Email: psu@cam.org.au

This flowchart is adapted from the Commissioner for Children and Young People, Victoria, Flowchart: Child Safety Reporting Process & from the National Office for Child Safety, Australian Government, Flowchart: Child Safety Reporting Process Within an Organisation.



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE
OF MELBOURNE