

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.

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE - 26 November 2023

Dear sisters and brothers,

Today's Gospel story, popularly referred to as the "Last Judgment", has captured the minds and imaginations of people down through the ages; most famously, perhaps, in and through Michaelangelo's famous painting in the Sistine Chapel in Rome.

In reflecting on this dramatic story, however, I suggest it is not so much about a "last judgment" but about the judgments (or decisions) we make in the everyday circumstances of our lives. The real point of the story is that we encounter the Lord – and so share in his risen eternal life – in the encounters, in our day-to-day lives, with the *hungry*, the *thirsty*, the *stranger*, the *naked*, the *sick* and the *imprisoned*. The "kingdom" that we are invited to inhabit is a realm of peace and justice in which all – but especially those indicated above – are included and welcome. This kingdom is one we are invited to share and to build in our earthly lives and in which we will share fully in the heavenly realm where it is fully established.

As we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King today, we celebrate that Jesus welcomes all, especially the poor and those most in need, to share in his life and love. Today's 1st Reading from the Prophet Ezekiel foreshadows the sort of "king" that Jesus is: a king who is primarily a shepherd, rather than a judge. He "rescues" his flock when they lose their way, he "pastures" them – sees that they are nourished, he gives them "rest" when they grow weary, "looks for" and finds the "lost one", "brings back the stray, bandages the wounded and makes the weak strong ... and watches over the fat and healthy ... being a true shepherd to them".

Any judgment involved in our relationship with God is a judgment we make on ourselves by our limitations in accepting the invitation to the "kingdom" to which we are invited. Today, in honouring Christ as King, we honour him as a Shepherd-King who never ceases to extend a loving welcome to all to his kingdom, no matter how resistant we might be to take up the invitation. We give thanks today for

Continued on page 4

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

5.00pm (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

After Hours Phone Number 0419 136 030

Email parish@sj-mc.org.au

Parish Website www.sj-mc.org.au

Carmelite Website www.carmelites.org.au

Office Hours:

Tuesday - 9am - 4pm Wednesday - 9am-4pm Friday - 9am-12pm

(CLOSED MONDAYS & THURSDAYS)

Parish Priest

Fr Paul Cahill, OCarm

Parish Secretary

Cathy Garbellini

Pastoral Assistant Kelly McEnhill

Mark Zanon

Business Finance Manager

Sacramental Co-Ordinator

Baptism - Angela Cox First Reconciliation - Angela Cox First Eucharist - Aimee Nguyen Confirmation - Sally Diserio

Safeguarding Officer

Frances Correa

Facilities Manager

Dave Fletcher

Galilee Regional Catholic Primary School

Bank Street, South Melbourne 3205 *Telephone* 03 9699 2928

THIS WEEK

Monday 27 November

9.00am Mass, St Joseph's

Tuesday 28 November

9.00am Mass, Mt Carmel

Wednesday 29 November

9.00am Mass, St Joseph's

Thursday 30 November

9.00am Mass, Mt Carmel

Friday 1 December

9.00am Mass, St Joseph's

Saturday 2 December

9.00am Mass, Mt Carmel 5.00pm Mass, Mt Carmel

Sunday 3 December - First Sunday of Advent - Year B

9.00am Mass, St Joseph's

10.30am Mass, Mt Carmel - Live Music

WE REMEMBER

Those who are sick or ill and in need of prayer: Victor Acciarito, Deepa Ariff, Lawrence Bassett, Grace Callaghan, Mary Hong Cao, Mary Tam Cao, Shawn Ceasar, Robert Chaminda, Mrs Chan, Josephine Clayton, Paul Cox, Daphnie Cramer, Mary Dalli, Michael De Nittis, Maureen Dickason, Leonie Dimes, Bernadette Falckh, Gigi Falk, Lyn Falk, Maria Fatima, Rebecca Fernando, Tony Fernandez, Father Des Fitzgerald CSSR, Jill Foster, Gus Gleason, Amelia Grace, Evelen Greach, Brendan Gurry, Michael Gurry, George Grzyb, Nova Hack, Christine Hall, Shawn Handricks, Portia Hendrick, Carol Higginson, Jason Ho, Marija Jelinic, Sr Martin Jones, Mary Loc, Christine Lyell, Maria Teresa Marques, Robert Masquiren, Sean McPhee, Sharon Beverly Mendes, Marta Menjivar, Alba Middleton, Sam Neill, Mary Nguyen-Loc, Mary Paradise, Dan Quickley, Helen Quickley, Rafal Rafakski, Daphnie Rasika, Shawn Raymond, Jill Ridge, Elise Rimington, Michael Risteviski, Keith Ryder, Sharmini Senanayeke, Chris Silkok, Ailbe Sheehy, Sash Somerset Beauverie, Dorothea Spencer, Jim Sullivan, Danielle Szeto, Angela Trigar & Tami Yap.

Those who have died recently:

Those whose anniversaries of death occur about this time: Ron Porter & Carmelites John Curtain & Joe Philips.

IN OUR PARISH



Vinnies THANKYOU...

Thankyou for the donations for the young mother expecting twins in January.

Kind parishioners reached out to their networks and sourced the goods she needed.

Vinnies need your **HELP** ...

A gentleman is seeking a 3 seater leather couch. If anyone can help, can you please contact **Kevin Wilks** on 0420 923 075.



The **Parish Craft Group** will be holding a **STALL** at the **Parish Christmas Social** on 7 December, selling various items that have been lovingly hand knitted throughout the year. Cash preferred.

Thankyou to all the ladies for their contributions.



Advent Reconciliation Services

St Joseph's -Tues, 12 Dec 2023, 9:00am

OLMC - Wed, 13 Dec 2023, 7.00pm

Food Cupboard

The last Food Cupboard opening for this year will be held on Friday, 15 December 2023.

The cupboard will reopen on Friday, 3 February 2024.

A huge THANKYOU to all the Volunteers for their efforts each Friday and to all Parishioners and Community donors who have supported the Cupboard throughout the Year.

2/3 December 2023 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR B 5.00pm Mount Carmel (Vigil)

Commentator: Tris Tanumihardjo

Reader: Des Collins

Offertory: Kevin Wilks

Communion: Tris Tanumihardjo

Music: Kelly McEnhill

9.00am St Joseph's

Commentator: Brian Harrison

Reader: Ron Cassano

Offertory: Elaine Chaffer

Communion: Danielle Craievich

Counters: Cathy Garbellini & Nova

Hack

Music: Kelly McEnhill

Hospitality: TBD

10.30am Mount Carmel

Commentator: Sally Diserio

Reader: Kathleen Kiernan

Offertory: Sally Diserio

Communion: Peter Thomas

Music: Organist / Cantor

Hospitality: Denis Churkovich

Communion to the Sick: Marco Gomes: 3-9 Dec 2023

THANK YOU

for your generosity last weekend Parish Stewardship Offerings

Envelopes \$ 310.00 Credit Card \$ 280.00 Direct Credit \$ 460.00 Loose Plate \$ 939.80 Tap & Go \$ 165.00 Total \$2,154.80

BSB: 083-347

Account Number: 58 216 8515 Name: Port Melb / Middle Park Parish

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his gracious and constant invitation and pray that we might accept it graciously through our loving welcome and acceptance of all those who are also invited into this kingdom.

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Parish Leadership and Exploration Group

At our meeting last Tuesday night, we confirmed a commitment to a "Christmas Project". This project is to extend a Christmas greeting to our neighbours in the local community of Port Melbourne, Albert Park and Middle Park. We will do this by printing 3,000 postcard size cards, wishing our neighbours *A joyous and blessed Christmas to you and your loved ones*. The cards will also express a warm invitation to attend one of our Christmas Masses, especially the Christmas Eve Family Mass, in which interested children will be invited to participate.

We hope that many parishioners will assist with the distribution of these cards to the households in their neighbourhood. The cards will be bundled into groups of 100, with each bundle accompanied by a map of a specific area in which the cards may be distributed. We plan for the bundles of cards and accompanying map to be available for collection from our Churches on the weekend of 9/10 December and that they will be distributed in the week that follows. Please consider being one of the parishioners who might distribute a bundle of cards.

Congratulations Fr Matthew

This coming Thursday, 30 November, Fr Matthew McPhee celebrates the 70th anniversary of his 1st Profession as a Carmelite ... a wonderful milestone. Please remember Fr Matthew especially in your prayers on this occasion.

Prayer Cards for Peace in the Middle East

These cards have been produced by the Church's humanitarian aid organisation, Aid to the Church in Need. The prayer is printed elsewhere in this newsletter. There are also a number of **cards** containing this prayer available for collection at the Church entrances. Please continue to pray for peace.

Newsletter distribution by email

As a result of the recent parish census, we now have an expanded list of parishioners' email addresses. Consequently, we plan to distribute our weekly newsletter by email to all parishioners whose email address we hold. If you do NOT want to receive the newsletter by email, please let Cathy know at the parish office (Cathy@si-mc.org.au or 9681 9600).

Please note: We will continue to print the weekly newsletter for collection at the Churches each weekend.

Blessings for the week ahead.

PRAYER FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST



Lord Jesus Christ,

The Holy Land is once again struck by voilence, hatred, and death. Lord look with mercy upon the land that was your earthly home.

Receive the deceased into your presence. Comfort those who mourn, are wounded, or forced to flee. Be close to all who are full of fear and despair.

You are peace and the light of the nations, put an end to the spiral of terror and suffering in the Holy land and the whole Middle East.

Let peace and justice flourish at the holy sites. You are our refuge. Let the people be safe in your Love.

Have mercy on us and on our time. Amen.

PORT MELBOURNE/MIDDLE PARK PARISH - CHRISTMAS 2023

Christmas Eve - Sunday 24 Dec 2023	Family Mass	Mt Carmel 5.00pm
	Mass	St Joseph's 7.00pm
Christmas Day - Monday 25 Dec 2023	Mass	St Joseph's 9.00am
	Mass	Mt Carmel 10.30am
New Year's Day Monday 1 Jan 2024	Mass	St Joseph's 9.00am
	Mass	Mt Carmel 9.00am

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REFLECTION Being the living presence of God

Only Matthew tells us this story of final judgement in the Kingdom of God. He paints a picture of the glorious arrival of the King and the assembly of all the nations of people who are then separated into two groups, sheep and goats.

Judgement is then pronounced - not on the basis of physical beauty, wealth, power, status or even religious practice.

What determines who will inherit the eternal life of the Kingdom are the works of service done to fellow human beings in need: the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick and those in prison.

Perhaps surprisingly, there is no mention in the list of religious duties like prayer, liturgical worship, fasting, giving tithes or indeed any identifiably religious practice.

Very likely these things are presumed to be present in all the assembled people. But, the difference between the two groups is how they responded to fellow human beings in need.

At the end of the day, the disciple is called to be the Kingdom (living presence) of God in the world and to transform the suffering of its people into joy by deeds of loving kindness. The goats appear to have made horrible situations suffered by human beings worse by their neglect, their lack of love.

The virtuous disciple is the living presence of Jesus in the world. He or she realises that Jesus has entrusted the kingdom into his/her hands. In the Kingdom of Jesus, the disciple is not master but 'servant' - remember how frequently we have heard about the first being last and the last first?

The whole idea of 'kingdom' has been thoroughly re-written in the teaching of Jesus: there is only one master and you are all brothers... The disciples are indeed kings – they have the power of Jesus' spirit in them. But this power is not to be exercised in the classical sense 'having power over others', but by being true servants. The power of the spirit of Jesus fuels deeds of loving kindness for the brothers and sisters of Jesus – reversing horrible human conditions, and bringing healing and salvation.

This is, once again, a 'warning' parable for disciples to make sure that they are living the life of the Kingdom properly. It is not meant as a 'prophecy' about the last day. It is meant for careful consideration by the disciples in their attempt to live the life of the kingdom which has been entrusted to them.

Disciples of Jesus are not to repeat the mistake of the Pharisees in objectifying faith in God and reducing it to external observance.

Disciples are to seize the life (grace) of the Kingdom within them, to work industriously with this great gift so that the life of Jesus at work in them overflows into deads of loving kindness; so that becoming one in heart and mind with Christ

into deeds of loving kindness; so that, becoming one in heart and mind with Christ (as St Paul puts it), the disciples becomes Christ in his/her moment of history - seeing, thinking and acting as Jesus would.

David Hofman, O.Carm. Celebrating at Home, Carmelite Communications, Melbourne

OUR LITURGY

10:30am Mass Only (Choir):

PLEASE NOTE, THE HYMNS FOR THE 10:30AM MASS WILL BE ON A SEPARATE SHEET AND THE MUSICAL PARTS OF THE MASS WILL BE AS PER THE NEWSLETTER.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: SEEK YE FIRST - VERSE 1, 2 AND 4



^{*}May be sung as a two-voice canon.

Text: Matthew 5:33, 7:7; adapt. by Kairen Lafferty, 5:3948. Time: SEEK VE HISST: Irregular, Kairen Lafferty, 5:3948. D 1972; CXIO Missie: Universal Missie: Extrativodo Berssim Publishing Ladmin. Capital KMGPd/bishing.com/







FIRST READING

Mass of Renewal Curtis Stephan

Ezekiel 34:11-12. 15-17

The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view. As a shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest – it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them.

As for you, my sheep, the Lord says this: I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and he-goats.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 23: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Response: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
In verdant pastures he gives me repose.
Beside restful waters he leads me;
he refreshes, refreshes my soul.

Response

He guides me in right paths for his name's sake.

Even though I walk in the dark valley
I feel no evil, for you are at my side with your rod and staff and you give me courage.

Response

You spread the table before me in the sight of my foes;

you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Response

Only goodness and kindness follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD for years to come.

Response

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:20-26. 28

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all people die in Adam, so all people will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death. And when everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will be subject in his turn to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all.



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GOSPEL

Matthew 25:31-46

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left. Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?" And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me." Next he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me." Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?"Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me." And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.'

APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead;

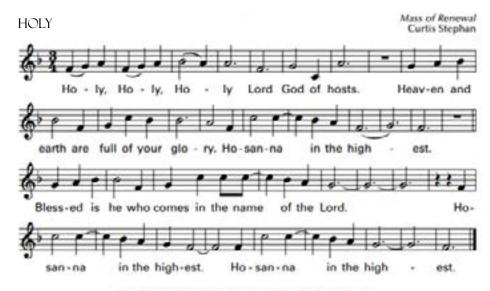
he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERTORY - As We GATHER AT YOUR TABLE

As we gather at Your table
As we listen to Your word
Help us know O God Your presence
Let our hearts and minds be stirred
Nourish us with sacred story
Till we claim it as our own
Teach us through this holy banquet
How to make Love's vict'ry known.

Turn our worship into witness In the sacrament of life Send us forth to love and serve You Bringing peace where there is strife Give us Christ Your great compassion To forgive as You forgave May we still behold Your image In the world You died to save.

Gracious Spirit help us
Summon other guests
To share that feast
Where triumphant Love will welcome
Those who had been last and least
There no more will envy
Blind us nor will pride
Our peace destroy
As we join with saints and angels
To repeat the sounding joy.



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Cel: 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.

All: Lord I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION HYMN - TAB;LE OF PLENTY

Verses 1 - 3



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RECESSIONAL HYMN: Bring Forth the Kingdom



Text: Marty Haugus, 9.1950 Time: Marty Haugus, 9.1950 C 1996, GLA Publications, Inc.

PARISH CHRISTMAS SOCIAL



Thursday 7th December 2023 6.00pm - 8.30pm St Joseph's Hall, Port Melbourne

Cost: \$40.00 per person

Come along for a great night and take the opportunity to get to know other parishioners. Cost includes savoury & sweet Finger Food, Beer, Wine, Bubbles, Soft Drinks, Coffee/Tea & a ticket to all the prizes:

- one Raffle ticket *
- one Lucky Door Prize ticket
- one Lucky \$50 Note ticket

We need **PRIZES** for our raffle! If you are able to donate a prize, please contact Cathy on 9681 9600 or leave it at the parish office.

To book select one of the following methods:

- contact Cathy at the Parish Office (9681-9600 or cathy@sj-mc.org.au) & pay using the DONATE button on the Home page of the parish website (www.sj-mc.org.au)... be sure to select **Christmas Social** and specify your **First name** and **Last name**.
- see Marlene Carlin after the 5.00pm Mass at Mt Carmel.
- see Ann Rochford after the 9.00am Mass at St Joseph's
- see **Denis Churkovich** after the 10.30am Mass at Mt Carmel.

For catering purposes, payment MUST be made by **Sunday 26 November 2023.**









The Parish of Port Melbourne and Middle Park is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people and vulnerable adults.

^{*} Everyone will receive **ONE RAFFLE** ticket to ensure prizes are distributed more evenly amongst all guests.