



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.*

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

29 August 2021

Hi Everyone,

MICHAEL MURRAY – RETIREMENT

After three attempts now, Mike has decided to enter into retirement full time to pursue hobbies and the like. He actually made the decision last year but stayed on to help us during the COVID lockdowns especially through his marvellous contributions to our weekly emails. He will finish at the end of September.

It will be difficult to manage without him, however, that shouldn't interfere with the praise that is rightly due to him. Mike came to work with us during David's time as PP and, after his 1st retirement, he came back to work with us again and his contribution to the life of the parish has been extraordinary.

His gentle and kind disposition, along with a great sense of justice and outreach, has been immeasurably good for us all. Most of you see him in a public way, but behind the scenes, Mike has been a stalwart that helps to keep the parish ticking over. His outreach to the sick, the various parish ministries, the sacramental life of the parish and his quiet background work have been extraordinary.

When you are a Pastor, you get to be the front person. But behind you, you know that the real work is done behind the scenes and by others. I have always felt that Mike, along with Anne, Shane and Ken, are there filling in the gaps, often in an unacknowledged way and they cover a "multitude of sins" for the clergy. As an office staff we have been truly blest by Mike's presence and we and as well as the parish community will miss him greatly.

On behalf of everyone, I want to express tremendous appreciation for his work within our community. He is going to be very difficult to replace, if such is possible, but we have all been enriched by his presence, his gifts and his personality and we have all become greater for the experience.

Mike, enjoy your retirement, and remember that we love you and the door is always open. I know that you have quite a few projects in mind for the future, including your painting, but truly hope that you can enjoy a more relaxed life and for many years to come. Ad multos annos, and don't be a stranger! And most of all, thank you.

If you want to write to Mike, the best address is michael@sj-mc.org.au.

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 Fakkah, 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, Jonathon Wil, Vivienne Williams, Tami Yap.

Those whose have died recently: all those affected by COVID_19 throughout the world.

Those whose anniversaries of death occur about this time: and Carmelites, Tarcisius Licari and Elias Magennis.

IN OUR PARISH

PRAYERS PLEASE

Please remember in your prayers a 10-year-old girl, Annaliese, who didn't wake up one morning. Her family and friends would be especially grateful for your prayers.

Also, Eden's sister in the Philippines who died of pneumonia at the age of 60.

We have also heard that the people of Zumalai Parish in Timor Leste have been hit badly with the virus. Apparently, the town is really in a bad way with virtually all families, including the children, becoming ill. Please remember them all as there is very little chance of a vaccine getting to them.

ADVANCE NOTICE: DIACONATE ORDINATION OF BR ALBINO.

Albino will be ordained a deacon at OLMC on Saturday evening, 20 November at the 6:00pm Mass. He will be ordained by our new regional bishop, Tony Ireland. Please pray for him as he takes this important step in his life and ministry.

SUNDAY'S GOSPEL

The Gospel this Sunday is taken from Mark's Gospel and it is the story of the Pharisees and scribes criticizing Jesus because his disciples weren't washing their hands after picking corn. (They didn't have COVID then!) Well, needless to say, Jesus really went to town on them (the Pharisees and scribes) and told them that they are all bloody (oops!) hypocrites – more concerned about church rules rather than the important things in life. He then went on to tell them that what comes out of the human heart is what makes someone good or not. Well, there you have it!

By the way, if you are picking corn these days, please use sanitiser.

Blessings, peace, courage and hope.



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.

THE CARMELITE CENTRE

Carmelite Zoom Meet Up - how are you doing?

5pm - 5.45pm Sunday 29 August, ALL WELCOME!

***Let's do the next best thing to catching up in person – have a meet up on zoom!
It's disappointing to miss so many of our planned catch ups in person
but we can still connect.***

We're interested in how you are doing at this time. If you are free to join us in a zoom meet up conversation Sunday 29 August 5pm – 5.45pm approx please contact us to receive the link. Feel free to bring your 'woofa', cat, cuppa, wine, recommended book/s, series or movies or just yourself!

An opportunity to talk about what is happening for you, how you are finding lockdown, sharing ideas on looking after ourselves (mentally, physically and socially) and generally just to say hello. We look forward to seeing you if you can join us. ***Irene & Damien***

Carmelite Conversation, Looking to the Plenary Council:

A Carmelite Response, with Paul Cahill OCarm, Via Zoom

10.30am - 12 Midday - Wednesday 1 September

This session will be facilitated by Paul Cahill, OCarm Provincial, based on the themes in his article "Looking to the Plenary Council" written for the JPIC June newsletter. You can read the article written by Fr Paul at: <https://www.thecarmelitecentremelbourne.org/wp-content/uploads/Plenary-Council-article-Paul-Cahill-for-JPIC-June-2021.pdf>

ZOOM LINK the PLENARY COUNCIL

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87560823450?pwd=ZlZqeVVMnB6bXBJQldLOTBTbzNKQT09>

Meeting ID: 875 6082 3450

Passcode: 276691

Dial by your location

+61 2 8015 6011 Australia

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/koQPXcKfv>

Cost: \$10

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

BISHOP TONY IRELAND

Meet Our New Bishop Tony Ireland for the Southern Region

Anthony (Tony) Ireland, ordained Bishop on 31 July at St Patrick's Cathedral is now responsible for the Southern Region of our diocese. From a strong Catholic family, Bishop Ireland was born in Caulfield and attended De La Salle College in Malvern. He heard God's calling when in his twenties and undertook his formation at Corpus Christi, Clayton. He has served as Parish Priest in Grovedale and Torquay, Mentone, Sandringham, Langwarrin and Frankston, and for the last 12 years at St Gregory the Great in Doncaster.



As part of his training, he has received higher degrees in Moral and Spiritual Theology, including a doctorate. He went on to lecture in Moral Theology at the Catholic Theological College, becoming Head of the Department of Moral and Practical Theology for eight years. He has tutored at Corpus Christi Seminary, Carlton, holding the positions of Dean of Studies and Rector for some years.

Bishop Ireland has also held the position of Spiritual Director to the St Vincent de Paul Society State Council and Episcopal Vicar for Health and Aged Care. In an interview with Fiona Basile in [melbournecatholic](#) (online), Bishop Ireland stated of his ministry that mostly, it:

“... has been spent living in parishes, being with people and at the pastoral service of the people. Prayer and life with the people have always been an emphasis of my ministry.

‘And for me, the thing that is really important is being with people at the right moment, for the right moment. Being with them in the right moment. It could be with someone who is vulnerable on their death bed, or someone who is joyful about the announcement of an engagement, or the celebration of their marriage. It’s about being with the people in those moments.’

BISHOP TONY IRELAND (CONT'D)

The important thing is to be there at the significant times in the lives of people from womb to tomb, from birth to death.'

The article goes on to say that Bishop Ireland hopes to be a living witness to the words he has chosen for his episcopal motto – "Confirm, Strengthen, Support" (1 Peter 5:10).

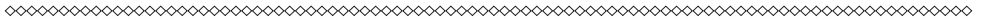
He explained, 'Peter is writing to the early Christians who are being persecuted and he is saying to them, you will only have to deal with these challenges for a certain amount of time. He then goes on to say, "The God of grace, who called you in Jesus Christ will confirm, strengthen and support you". The Ministry of an Auxiliary Bishop is to confirm, strengthen and support the priests and local communities in the region to which he is sent.'

Recognising that the Church faces many challenges, and inspired by his own personal relationship with Jesus Christ, Bishop-elect Ireland said he intends to be a bearer of hope 'in this moment'.

'We're in the wilderness and we're not alone. God meets us in the wilderness. The wilderness is a place of promise and that gives us hope.'

[Source: Melbourne Catholic (online publication), writer: Fiona Basile; published 28 July 2021, melbournecatholic.org.au]

Let us pray for Bishop Ireland as he embarks on his new ministry in our region.



REFLECTION ON THIS WEEK'S READINGS

I read a terrific book the other day entitled 'Shadows and the Dark'. It is by Australian Jesuit Fr John Cowburn who is Professor of Philosophy at Jesuit Theological College, Melbourne. This book explores how we can hold to a loving God in the face of evil.

The idea for the book came when Fr John fell from his bicycle, broke his collarbone and was awaiting surgery in hospital. While there, an old religious sister came to his room to give him Holy Communion before going to the operating theatre. Fr John told her about the accident. Sister said, 'Well Father, God must have known you needed a little holiday, so he arranged for your fall'. John replied, 'If that's true Sister I'm pleased God didn't want me to take a sabbatical!' From Jesus' day to ours, when bad things happen to good people it seems easier to blame God or Satan. By his own admission Fr John had an accident because he didn't take enough care on his bike. End of story. That God can bring something good out of such an accident is grace building on nature. What Jesus confronts in today's Gospel is 'The-devil-made-me-do-it' theology. And his response is as challenging now as it was in first century Palestine.

For as long as we blame our most destructive behaviour on evil acting upon us in all its guises, empty promises and powers, then we remain some way from taking the sort of responsibility for the condition of our hearts that might see them fully converted by Christ's saving love. This is not to say that evil does not exist or that it cannot have a powerful effect upon us, quite the opposite. Just as grace builds on love and goodness, evil grows out of estrangement and hatred. As Christians we hold that God has given us free will, and evil's hold on our hearts is often the result of the poor choices and smaller compromises we have made along the way.

The way we look at the evil in our lives and the world also affects our compassion. For if we're not in touch with the greed that leads to theft, the anger that leads to murder, the desire for power that leads to rape, or the alienation that leads to terrorism, then it's hard for us to be compassionate toward the perpetrators of these evil acts. The degree to which we know what our hearts are capable of leads us to be grateful for the graces we receive and cultivate, and to be compassionate toward those who have missed out on this good news and who, by nurture or free will, have chosen evil as their fundamental option.

May this Eucharist enable us to take in the broken body of Christ because we know we are a broken people in need of its power, and as Christ's blood is poured for us, may we be poured out in love, so that, through us, others might hear His call to a conversion of heart.



Lectionary Art and Reflection by Jenny Close

Jesus often affronted traditionalists by breaking the rules. Here he reprimands the Pharisees for replacing heartfelt devotion with soulless laws. It is possible to be faithful to traditional laws and yet have a wicked heart – so often our laws have emerged from human traditions rather than ‘the commandment of God’. The greatest commandments are to love God and love our neighbour. The first commandment is most frequently expressed in the love and care that we show towards others – ‘to care for orphans and widows’ as the letter of James suggests in the second reading. Certainly care for persons rather than rules is foremost in the values of God’s reign as witnessed by the ultimate sacrifice of Jesus.

OUR LITURGY

Deuteronomy 4:1-2. 6-8

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 14:

THE JUST WILL LIVE IN THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD

Psalm: 14:2-5. R. v.1

Response: ***The just will live in the presence of the Lord.***

Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?
He who walks without fault;
he who acts with justice
and speaks the truth from his heart. **Response**

He who does no wrong to his brother,
who casts no slur on his neighbour,
who holds the godless in disdain,
but honours those who fear the Lord. **Response**

He who keeps his pledge, come what may;
who takes no interest on a loan
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.
Such a man will stand firm for ever. **Response**

James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created.

Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves.

Pure, unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

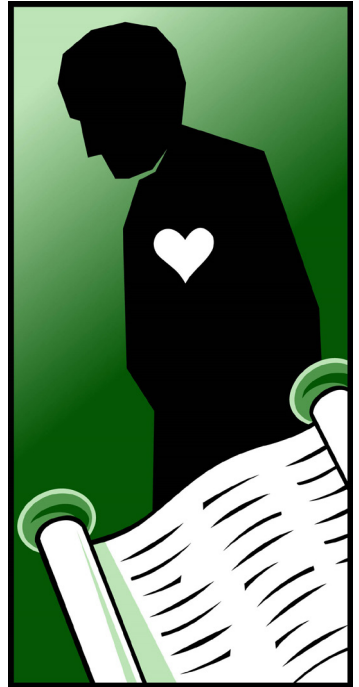
GOSPEL

Mark 7:1-8. 14-15. 21-23

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:

This people honours me only with lip-service,
while their hearts are far from me.

The worship they offer me is worthless,
the doctrines they teach are only human regulations.



You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.'

He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'

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