

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A 12th/13th September 2020 Vol 47, No 35

St Dominic's Parish 816 Riversdale Road, Camberwell, VIC, 3124 Tel nr. 9912 6870 ext. 3 E-mail: secretary@stdominics.org.au Website: stdominics.org.au

St DOMINIC'S PARISH CHURCH – Mass Times

We are currently live-streaming Mass from St Dominic's Church at **11.00am on Sundays**, and **at noon on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.**

These can be accessed from our website <u>https://www.stdominics.org.au/liturgies--homilies.html</u> or from our Facebook page <u>www.facebook.com/StDoms816</u>

Pre-recorded Mass can also be accessed from these sites at any time.

The Parish office will be closed till further notice. You can continue to contact the Parish staff and priests at the phone number 9912 6870 or via email secretary@stdominics.org.au.

PASTORAL TEAM

PARISH OFFICE: Manuela Brambilla 9912 6870 X310 OFFICE HOURS: Mon-Thurs: 9am-12noon; 1pm - 4pm Friday: 9am-1pm Public Holidays and Weekends: Closed PRIORY: 9912 6880 PARISH PRIEST: Fr Peter Toan Nguyen OP peter.toan@op.org.au ASSISTANT PARISH PRIEST: Fr Martin Wallace OP PARISH BUSINESS MGR: Adrian Wayland Mon/Tues & Thurs 9912 6870 X330 PASTORAL ASSOCIATE: Damiana Alvares 9912 6870 X320 YOUTH COORDINATOR: Br Oliver Bajon OP 9912 6870 X310 youth.worker@stdominics.org,au DOMINICARE: Peter Charles/ Marianne Zabukosek 0481 296 547 SCHOOL PRINCIPAL: Patrick Green 983 6 8300 PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: ppc@stdominics.org.au CHILD SAFE CONTACT PERSON: Denis Fitzgerald safety@stdominics.org.au PARISH CALENDAR: 13th—20th Sept 2020 Sun 6th 24th Sunday in Ordinan Time Sun 6th 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mon 14th The Exaltation of th The Exaltation of the Holy Cross Tue 15th

Tue 15thOur Lady of Sorrows9:45am Exercise classes—onlineWed 16thSt CorneliusThu 17th9:30am Exercise classes—onlineSun 20th25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

INFINITE FORGIVENESS



Peter must have felt pretty satisfied with himself. When he asks Jesus how many times you must forgive the offending brother/sister, he suggests, "Seven times? How surprised he must have been to hear Jesus' answer, "Not seven times, but seventy-seven times." Peter's willingness to forgive seven times indicates he was beginning to learn what Jesus required of his disciples - forgiveness.

But Jesus doesn't put a limit on forgiveness as Peter is learning today - "seventy-seven times."

So surprising is Jesus' statement that he follows it immediately with a parable meant to illuminate and support his demanding teaching. He leads into the parable by saying, "That is why the kingdom," - as if to say, "This parable will illustrate the reason for my radical teaching on forgiveness." It's clear from what Jesus has instructed about love of neighbour and even enemies, that forgiveness must be the hallmark of his disciples. But as important as this teaching is, that doesn't make it easy to put into practice. It's one thing to know what we should do and another thing to be able to do it! Hence today's striking parable.

The sequence in today's story is important. It begins with the servant owing his master an amount so huge that he cannot possibly repay. Still, he begs for forgiveness, promises to repay (not possible) and he gets it; not by reason of personal merit or the promise to repay, but because of the king's extraordinary generosity. The servant who owed the debt to the king didn't earn forgiveness by anything he did first. Forgiveness is what happens first, gratuitous forgiveness when requested by someone who can't claim to deserve it or earn it. There's the heart of the gospel message.

The parable makes it quite clear that once forgiveness was given something was expected of the released servant. If we haven't been changed by forgiveness and then forgive others in turn, we haven't fully accepted and acted upon the gift we have received. Like the unforgiving servant, in the end, we are not released from our debt. It's as if the king said, "Don't you realize the treasure I gave you by forgiving you? How come you weren't changed by it?"

The world certainly isn't a model of forgiveness for us, where shall we turn for help? We are reminded today that on our own we cannot become forgiving people - not in the way Jesus expects of us. But we are not on our own, for Christ is in our midst whose words of forgiveness can transform us and empower us to forgive. He is the one who does first what he asks us to do - forgive "from your heart."

Fr Peter Toan Nguyen OP, PP

Deadline for Bulletin: **10.00am** Thursday

PASTORAL SERVICES

PRAYERS WRITERS: 20 SeptSr Julianna Drobik OP

COLLECTION STATISTICS

Ave	Thanksgiving	Dom Priests	Loose
July	\$2,156.00	\$81.60	\$ 0.00

DOMINICARE Dominicare has been part of the parish for decades and is chance for people to help out a fellow parishioner with little tasks like lifts, shopping, nursing home visits and even changing light bulbs. In this time of social distancing and home isolation for older members of our Parish Community we want to stress that you should feel free to make contact with us. If you are in need of help, we will do our best to find someone to help out. Leave us a message on 0481 296547 or call the Parish office at 9912 6870 ext. 3. Please also call if you would like to help out.

PARISH AND PRIESTS CONTRIBUTIONS Parishioners who normally contribute to the Parish Stewardship with envelopes and others who wish to contribute to the Parish may do so by either bank transfer (EFT) or by setting up a credit card direct debit. If you wish to use EFT please contact the Parish Office by phone or by email and you will be sent the Parish's bank details. If you wish to set up a credit card direct debit, you should contact the Parish Office and you will be sent a form to be completed. Any questions please ring 9912 6870 or email secretary@stdominics.org.au

If you wish to contribute to the Priests as well you can do it by EFT (ring the Parish Office) or sending an email to bursar@op.org.au.

NEW PARISHIONERS are very welcome at St Dominic's. You are invited to complete the Membership Form available on our website <u>www.stdominics.org.au/forms.html</u> Completed form can be returned to the Parish Office by email at secretary@stdominics.org.au or dropped into the Parish green letterbox, which is situated in the front of the Church.



"Never tire of praying, it is what is essential." St Padre Pio

Stay safe everyone and remember that this will pass! Let us remember the words from Exodus 15:2

The Lord is my strength and my song; he has given me victory. This is my God, and I will praise him— my father's God, and I will exalt him! God bless you all and keep you all safe! --Br Oliver --



Hymn: How Beautiful - Catholic Version by Paris Twila **Facebook:** St. Dominic's Youth Camberwell – SDYC **Instagram:** sdyc_ WE PRAY FOR THOSE RECENTLY DECEASED: Fr John Langtry, Mark Wheeler, Sr M. Pacis Di Maggio PDDM, Sr M. Severia Battistino PDDM For those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

THE SICK OF OUR PARISH: Mandy, Ilena Wilson, Shirley Kennedy, Alina Kobylanski, Barbara Dunstan, Sarah Cumming, Yvette van den Driesen, Patricia McInnes, Kathleen Conlan, Martin Blake, Grace Dunn, Michael Taveira, Grazyna Van Egmond, Victoria D'Astoli, Ken Petersen, Patricia Mooney, Joe Markham, Albert Mahoney, Sr Julie Thomas CSB, Ann Stewart, John Meehan, Baby Gracie Bresolin, Janet Hudin, John Carroll, Fr Karl Emerick OP, Joy Patrick, Annette Fleming, Arden Nelson, and those visited by St. Vincent de Paul Society this week.

MASS INTENTIONS				
Sun	13 [™] Sept	9:45am	For the People of the Parish	
Mon	14 th Sept	7:00am 12:00pm	Dominican Vocations Special Intention	
	16 th Sept	12:00pm	Marjorie June Whelan	
Thu	17 th Sept	7:00am	Barry Hickey	
Fri	18 th Sept	7:00am	Deceased Dominicans	

If you want to have a Mass offered,

please call the office at 9912 6870 ext 3.





St Dominic's Centre of Studies Library Closed till further notice

Enquiries: Librarian 9836 2632, or email: stdomslibrary@op.org.au https://opau.follettdestiny.com

EXERCISE CLASSES have resumed but in a different way. As the Parish centre is closed

Amanda is conducting her classes online

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through Zoom. You are more than welcome to join the chair-based classes on Tuesdays at 9.45am or the active adults classes on Thursdays at 9.30am If you wish to join one of these classes or both of them please call **Amanda at 0410 685 224 or acubit@bigpond.net.au** and she will send you the invitation. What you need is a computer/ tablet, a towel, drink bottle, a chair preferably without arm rests, a cushion a couple of weights (two cans of soup or equivalent or milk cartons filled with liquid or half full depending on your strength). All are welcome.

WEEKLY PARISH RESOURCES We currently send the Dominican and other parish information by weekly email, as well as place them on our website. Please let us know of anyone who would like to go on our mailing list. We deliver hard copies to those without internet access. Again, please let us know if you or anyone else would like these delivered to your mailbox. Contact the parish office at 9912 6870 or via email secretary@stdominics.org.au.

24th SUNDAY YEAR A A reflection on Today's Reading from St Paul



The early Christian communities in Palestine, Asia Minor and Greece, were a mix of converts from paganism and Judaism. Understandably at times tensions arose over the observance of dietary laws and Jewish feasts. The church at Rome was no different and Paul addresses these conflicts

in the final part of his Letter to the Romans from which this morning's reading is taken.

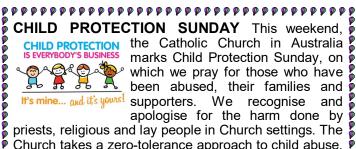
Paul writes, leading into today's reading, "Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. . . Some judge one [festival] day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike." He regarded these matters as peripheral to Christian faith and life and thus counselled community members to recognize that all parties to the disputes were in good conscience and were acting with the motive of honouring or living for the Lord. Paul continues in this vein in today's reading, extending what he had said in the context of the disputes to cover the whole Christian life: "We do not live for ourselves, and we do not die for ourselves."

Earlier in his letter Paul had written, "all of us, in union with Christ, form one body, and as parts of it, we belong to each other Love each other as much as brothers and sisters should, and have a profound respect for each other." Now in today's reading he says, "We live, not for ourselves, but for others". And more than this, he reminds the Roman Christians, "If we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's." Paul seems to be saying that their disharmony over dietary and other practices, which were uncalled for, had blinded them to their mutual bonds and their shared relationship with their Lord.

Earlier this month we celebrated the feast of St Gregory the Great, who was pope from 590 AD-60 4AD, years of political and social upheaval, but also a time of growth of the faith in Western Europe. In a sermon of his in the Office of Readings for his feast day he laments his own shortcomings, while expressing his thanks to God for what had been given him, and in particular, for "the grace to see life whole."

Pope Gregory did not explain what he meant by the phrase, "to see life whole", but might we not consider that Paul had been inviting the fractious Christians at Rome through his account of their life in Christ "to see life whole"? Might not Paul be helping us also receive this gift with his reminder that "we live for others and for the Lord"?

Fr David Willis OP



priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. The Church takes a zero-tolerance approach to child abuse. We recommit to practices that support survivors and make the Catholic Church and its ministries the safest possible place for children and people at risk.

JUSTICE & PEACE GROUP NOTES

The Season of Creation is an annual celebration of prayer and action by Christian churches and ecclesial communities worldwide to protect God's creation, our common home. Starting on September 1, with the World Day of Prayer for Creation, it continues until October 4, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology, who is greatly revered by many Christians across denominations.

We are invited to take part in the month-long Season of Creation. At this time, prayer, reflection with some "close-to-home" tasks may be appropriate?

St Dominic's East Camberwell Parish Invites you to a webinar on TO LIVE LIFE THE EU 'Mental health is not simply the absence of illnesses but having the capacity and opportunity to thrive – that is, to participate in the fullness of life to which Jesus invites us (Jn 10:10). We are a unity of body, mind and spirit.' (from 'To Live Life to the Full', the <u>2020 Social Justice</u> Statement from the Catholic Bishops of Australia). A webinar to explore mental health in Australia today, and what parish communities can do in response 7.30 – 9.00pm Wednesday 30 September 2020 Speakers include: Bishop Terry Brady, Social Justice leader Dr Caroline Johnson, General Practitioner Trish Mowbray OAM, disability and mental health advocate with discussion time for all Mental Health is a major issue in our community, exacerbated by increased pressure on all of us in the coronavirus era. The Bishops' statement is a resource we can draw on, and challenges to us to do something. For whom: St Dominic's parishioners and anyone with an interest in local faith community responses to mental illness in our midst Register online at https://www.trybooking.com/BLKPG **Registration closes on 28 September** Enquiries: Manuela Brambilla 9912 6870 ext. 3

secretary@stdominics.org.au

FREE FIREWOOD There is some free firewood stacked at the bottom of the church carpark. Parishioners are welcome to help themselves.

ECUMENICAL JOURNEY AT ST DOMINIC'S

We pray for our fellow Christians



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Christ prayed in his farewell discourse that 'all may be one' (John 17:21). As part of our commitment to ecumenism at St Dominic's, we are a member of the <u>Canterbury Council</u>

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☆ Of Churches. We pray in particular this ☆ A month of September for the community at St Dunstan's ☆ Anglican Church in Wattle Valley Road and their Vicar ☆ the Revd Roberta Hamilton. ☆

Entrance Antiphon

PROPER OF THE MASS: 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Hear the prayers of your servant, and your people Israel.

as I have loved you. Alleluia!

The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger, and rich in compassion. Alleluia, alleluia! I give you a new commandment; love one another

How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true.

Responsorial Psalm Gospel Acclamation

Communion Antiphon

Today's Readings

in the shadow of your wings. (24thOrd, Year A) Sirach 27:30–28:7; Psalm 102; Romans 14:7-9; Matthew 18:21-35 Next Week's Readings (25thOrd, Year A) Isaiah 55:6-9; Psalm 144; Philippians 1:20-24, 27; Matthew 20:1-16

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NATALIE DAW helloworld Camberwell 9963 1280. Fax: 9882 4499. Vic Licence 32491. For all your travel requirements: 941 Burke Road, Camberwell 3124

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ORTHODONTIST