

**Sunday
19 September 2021**

**Twenty-Fifth Sunday In
Ordinary Time
Year B**



Readings: Sunday, 19 September 2021

First Reading: Wisdom 2:12, 17-20

Second Reading: James 3:16-43

Gospel Reading: Mark 9:30-37

Readings: Sunday, 26 September 2021

First Reading: Numbers 11:25-29

Second Reading: James 5:1-6

Gospel Reading: Mark 9:36-43, 45, 47-48

Parish website:
www.altonacatholic.org.au

Please note that everything in this
bulletin is subject to change.

**Social Services Sunday, 19 September
– a time to reflect and give thanks**

On 19 September 2021, we mark Social Services Sunday within the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne. On this day we invite all to give thanks and pray for all who stand with and provide support to those who are marginalised and vulnerable within our communities. We recognise with deep gratitude, those working within Catholic Social Services Victoria's 43 member organisations, the 7,000 staff and 17,000 volunteers, who together, serve more than 200,000 people in need each year. We also give thanks for all in our parishes, who are so often at the forefront of providing practical support and care to those in need within their local communities, and beyond. We call to mind the recent 2021/22 Social Justice Statement – *Cry of the Earth Cry of the Poor* – released by the Australian Catholic bishops, which reminds us of the social mission of the Church and which urges us to reflect on 'the bigger picture' and to act together on social, economic and ecological issues. Together, we all have a role to play in building a just and equitable society, where all have equal opportunities to flourish and prosper.

Prayer for Wonder and Awe

God of wonders,

you show us your beauty in all created things.

Help us to pay attention:

to the taste of the ocean on our lips,

the warmth of the sun on our hands,

the song of birds in the morning and evening,

the fragrance of the earth after rain,

and to the star that guides us.

Creator God,

we stand in awe of all that you have made.

Fill our hearts with gratitude for every good gift, great
and small,

that feeds and forms us,

inviting and enabling us to become people who are fully
alive in your amazing grace.

Amen

This

**Please note: Due to the latest Government
Restrictions, there will be NO MASSES
until further notice.**

***While many of us are unable to gather for
Mass, and prayers, you are invited to
consider ways of supporting your local
Church. We understand that this is a
difficult time for everyone.***

***If you are able to continue supporting
financially you can do so by Bank Transfer
to St. Mary Help of Christians Parish Church
Account:***

BSB: 083347

Account: 644 449 954

***Reference: Your Thanksgiving Envelope
Number (if you have one) or your full name.***

***If you would like to support Fr. Michael
directly, these are the bank details:***

***St. Mary Help of Christians Parish House
Account:***

BSB: 083347

Account: 644 390 868

***Thank you for your understanding and
consideration.***

***"If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be
the last of all and the servant of
all." (Mark 9:35)***

Jesus teaches us that we are called to love
one another. Love involves
sacrifice. Sacrifice is a word that many of
us don't like to hear. We think it means
that we must give up something that we
want. However, the literal meaning of
sacrifice is "to make holy," from the words
"sacer" = sacred and "facere" = to
make. In other words, we make our lives
holy by sharing our gifts in the service of

"Treasuring Our Later Years" (Reflection series via ZOOM), 6 x Wednesdays, 22 September to 27 October 2021, 12.45pm - 3pm

Facilitated by Nicole Rotaru rsm, this series offers participants the opportunity to explore new possibilities that ageing offers daily. It will include input, conversation and the opportunity to depth and integrate reflections and learnings through personal reflection and creative expressions. Topics covered include: ageing; spirituality; relationships; meaning; gratitude; death. Cost \$180 for the series, or \$30 per session. Bookings and payment via Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation website at www.heartoflife.melbourne

For more information, contact email: secretary@heartoflife.melbourne or telephone: (03) 9890 1101.

Lockdown Light - Week Three: *A weekly series bringing 'light' to this time of lockdown ...* Well and truly done with sourdough starters? Not interested in another DIY project? To help fill the void during lockdown, each week we'll suggest some inspiring content to bring 'light' to this difficult time. Pop on the kettle and check out the recommendations below.

Resources for Christian living: Making the most of lockdown. In this blog post, local Melbourne mum of six, Kate Moriarty, shares some fun and creative ideas to help families make the most of their time together in lockdown. Find out more at www.bit.ly/ChristianLiving3

Getting to know your Bible: Opening up the Old Testament

Getting Started: This video by Bible Snap brings you the Old Testament in 8 minutes, with a comprehensive overview of where the books and people fit in the timeline of history. Watch at www.bit.ly/BibleGettingStarted3

Going Deeper: Exodus is one of the key books of the Old Testament. Hear about the pivotal events in Exodus from a range of other Christian Biblical scholars and theological experts in this 10-minute video. View here www.bit.ly/BibleGoingDeeper3

Congratulations to Fr. Clem Cafarella who turned 90 years old on the 13 September. Fr Clem served as parish priest in Altona for 24 years. We wish him well. Watch his interview on our fb page or click on the link below:

[Holy Trinity Parish Bentleigh East Live Stream.](#)



Anniversaries:

Mary Sultana

Mass Offered For:

Grace Thom; Frank Micallef;
George Calleja; Dr. Bill McCoy

Latest update from the Archdiocese of Melbourne regarding Covid-19 Restrictions (Update #47 - 10 Sept) can be viewed on our parish website www.altonacatholic.org.au under the heading 'Covid 19 Restrictions'.

Are You Called to be a Spiritual Director? A Pastoral Supervisor? Or a compassionate listener to others?

We invite you to a **Taster Session (via Zoom), on Saturday 2 October 2021 at 9.30am-11am AEST** to explore whether one of these ministries may be for you. Come and experience in a facilitated group via Zoom: a) the Siloam Program for the Formation of Spiritual Directors, b) the Emmaus Supervision Program, or c) Let the Heart Listen. Each of these courses is available in 2022 in-person (Covid-permitting) or via Zoom. To register for the free Taster event, please click the link on our home page at www.heartoflife.melbourne, or contact us at secretary@heartoflife.melbourne or telephone (03) 9890 1101.

A message from *Aid to the Church in Need Australia: One Million Children Praying the Rosary:*

ACN invites you to join the prayer campaign 'One Million Children Praying the Rosary' for unity and peace in the world on the 18th of October. Be part of this prayer campaign and join many others! Register and learn more at www.aidtochurch.org/one-million-children

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

Joshua 1:9

Our Parish Prayer

Almighty God, deepen in our hearts our love of Mary Help of Christians.
 Through her prayers and under her protection,
 may the light of Christ shine over our land.
 May Australia be granted harmony, justice and peace.
 Grant wisdom to our leaders and integrity to our citizens.
 Bless especially those who care for the poor and who seek to promote
 justice and peace for all who call Australia home.
 We ask this through Christ Our Lord.
 Amen.

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