

Sunday
25th October 2020
Thirtieth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Year A

Readings: Sunday 25 October 2020

First Reading: Exodus 22:20-26

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10

Gospel Reading: Matthew 22:34-40

Readings: Sunday 1 Nov 2020

First Reading: Revelations 7:2-4, 9-14

Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-3

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:1-12a



Please note: Our new parish website is
www.altonacatholic.org.au

Fr. Michael will lead a Prayer Service for five parishioners at a time, in the Memorial Garden with the distribution of Communion at the following times:

Tue to Sat morning: 9.15am & 9.30am
Saturday evening: 6.00pm & 6.15pm
Sunday morning - 8.30am 8.45am
10.30am & 10.45am

Please ring the parish mobile on 0434 088 900 by 4pm the previous day with your name, telephone number and the time you wish to attend. You will be notified only if your chosen time is full.

Finding Christ in a COVID Christmas - being offered by the *Proclaim: Office for Mission Renewal*. Beginning on Thursday 20th October 2020 and offered over four weeks, these Advent formation sessions are looking to bring the season to life in their local communities in this time of uncertainty with COVID restrictions. **In the first two weeks**, guest speaker Ria Greene will offer an overview of the Gospel of Mark (Year B of the liturgical cycle) and the Advent readings. **In the third week**, musician and liturgist Fiona Dyball will explore developing a suitable seasonal repertoire as we begin to celebrate a new liturgical year, then **in the final session** the *Proclaim: Office for Mission Renewal* will explore the practical implications for parish services in the current Covid-19 climate. These sessions will all be held virtually via zoom. Further details of the speakers, session times and registration can be obtained on our website www.altonacatholic.org.au (please note there is no charge to attend but prior registration is essential).

A VOCATION MUST BE NURTURED for a lifetime, not just until ordination or the taking of vows. You can help nurture the vocations of priests, sisters and brothers by praying, listening, and expressing appreciation. A life of service needs support from those served.

Parish Finances during the Coronavirus Pandemic:

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 please go to our new website www.altonacatholic.org.au and use one of the three options available ie CDF Electronic Transfer; Direct Debit or Bank Transfer. Thank you for your understanding and consideration.**

The Parish Finance Team

Thanksgiving Envelopes: If you wish to collect your Thanksgiving Envelopes dated 2nd August, to 29th November, 2020, please phone the parish office to make arrangements to pick them up. Please have your Envelope Number handy.

The latest **COVID Guidelines** can be found on our parish website www.altonacatholic.org.au for your information. You will also find them updated on the Archdiocesan website.

There were small changes announced, and we certainly welcome what has been brought forward for regional Victoria. Let us pray that continued conversations and negotiations will permit further increases more broadly across Victoria in coming days.

For your information, you may like to read the Archbishop's Op Ed in Monday's Herald Sun. If you are wondering where our Catholic voice is in the current landscape, this might help: <https://melbournecatholic.org.au/News/ArtMID/416/ArticleID/24685/People-of-faith-deserve-hope-not-exile-Archbishop-Comensoli>



Proclaim: *The Office for Mission Renewal* has produced a unique offering, which we hope may be a source of inspiration and enjoyment for families, encouraging them to come together to pray. *The [Ready, Set, Pray! Children's Liturgy of the Word @ Home](#)* video series provides an engaging space for families to encounter Jesus through the Sunday gospel. Each week, families are invited to create and gather in their own prayer space, to sing, hear the Gospel, pray and respond creatively through an activity. This weekly resource follows the familiar Children's Liturgy of the Word format provided in many parishes – but moved to an online setting. Each weekly session runs for 15–20 minutes. It may be used by families in their homes, and also by teachers and catechists. The series will continue each Sunday until Christmas. We hope this experience of gathering for prayer will encourage families at a time when they cannot gather for parish celebrations of the Eucharist. The series is produced by Proclaim: The Office for Mission Renewal. Follow the YouTube link for a sample of last week's session, 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A: youtu.be/ulNi7D_zG9Q.

The **eSafety Commissioner** has recently published a free e-book resource '**Online safety for grandparents and carers**' which provides advice about online safety issues that children and young people may experience. This resource provides "key advice about online safety issues that can affect children and young people" including practical tips to help grandparents and carers to talk about these issues with children and young people and manage them. Helpful topics include: setting up devices safely; managing time online; preventing unsafe contact from strangers as well as a guide to some of the most popular sites and apps. Grandparents and carers can order a hard copy or download and view the resource online:
<https://www.esafety.gov.au/seniors/online-safety-grandparents-carers>

"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind." – Matthew 22:37

Do you put other "gods" before God? Is your love of money, power, status, comfort or some personal possession greater than your love for God? Do you really recognize that everything you have and that everything you are is a gift from God? The good news – it's not too late to put God first in all things in your life



Recently Deceased:

Neil Totney

Anniversaries:

Gloria Rapson, Bridget Baxter
David Thomson, Mary Camilleri

Prayers for:

Elisea Bulan

Thailand Ordinations: Bro James Wijitwong (the Redemptorist student who was with us at different times during the past two years) is being ordained a priest in Bangkok on Saturday (24th). The ceremony will be live streamed from Holy Redeemer Church at 2pm (Melbourne time). We keep James, and his mother and siblings, in our prayers on this important day in his life.

Word on Fire are offering a free screening of their acclaimed **Catholicism Series** - 10 wonderful videos, over 500 minutes of content, to celebrate its 10 year anniversary. This is great opportunity for parishes to celebrate their Catholic Faith. Just follow this link:
https://catholicismseries.com/watch?fbclid=IwAR3Or0H9ADhDKVTPnBRmWHJDamczLn85N6W1VmQmczdol_qRG8fMsEKk1KA


'Meditation & Mindfulness - Reflection event via Zoom', Saturday 7 Nov 2020, 10am-1pm. Facilitated by Carol Dyer (B.A. (Psych), Transpersonal & Experiential Psychotherapy Level 5 (Trainer), Cert. Spiritual Direction), this event provides the opportunity to broaden your ways of accessing your inner world and listening to what God is inviting you to at this time. There will be some input to enable participants to learn some theory of meditation and mindfulness practices as well as time away from the Zoom screen for meditation and mindfulness practise. Cost \$25. Bookings and payment via Trybooking at <https://www.trybooking.com/663916> For more information, contact holsc@bigpond.com or tel 9890 1101.

Catholic Theological College, 2020 Knox Public Lecture. Thursday 5th November at 7.00pm. Sheree Limbrick. Safe Church: Commitment, awareness & action for cultural change. Bookings and Info: ctc.edu.au/knox-public-lecture. Enq: sarah.styring@ctc.edu.au or Phone 9412 3333


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