

**Sunday
29 August 2021**

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



Readings: Sunday, 29 August 2021

First Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8

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

Gospel Reading: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Readings: Sunday, 5 September 2021

First Reading: Isaiah 35:4-7

Second Reading: James 2:1-5

Gospel Reading: Mark 7:31-37

Parish website:

www.altonacatholic.org.au

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

First Reading

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8

In this reading, Moses explains to the people the reason that they follow the Law: it is in order that they may have life. It is never an end in and of itself: it is a sign of God's closeness to the people.

Second Reading

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

This Sunday, we begin our reading the Letter of James. In today's reading, James reminds his hearers – and us as well – that all good gifts come from the Father of all light. Our response is simple: we must be doers of the word, not just hearers.

Gospel Reading

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

We return to our reading of Mark's Gospel this Sunday after our long excursion in John's gospel. In today's reading, Jesus is at odds with the Pharisees about what is clean and what is unclean. Minor laws and observances about ritual cleanliness do not and cannot replace the supreme law of love.



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

Humanitarian crises unfolding in Afghanistan and Lebanon

As the situations in **Afghanistan** and **Lebanon** deteriorate, you can help to support families caught up in the crises.

In **Afghanistan**, people have been forced from their homes, with half of the population in urgent need of food, water, shelter and protection.

In **Lebanon**, the country is running out of power, water, fuel, medicine and food. Even hospitals are facing massive fuel shortages and will soon have to turn off the lights.

Please donate to Caritas Australia so that we are able to respond to crises like these and others across the world.

Visit caritas.org.au/lebanon or www.caritas.org.au/afghanistan or call 1800 024 413 toll free to provide much needed support.

"Be doers of the word and not hearers only..." JAMES 1:22

It's easy to understand the definition of stewardship – living a grateful and generous life. The hard part is doing it! How do your actions reflect God's word? Do you share your time in prayer with God? Do you use your talent to help those in need? Are you generous with your financial resources? If not, what are you waiting for?

Major earthquake hits Haiti

Caritas Australia's thoughts and prayers are with the people of the Haiti who have been devastated by a **7.2 magnitude earthquake**.

Over 1,400 people have died, and thousands more left injured. Homes, churches and schools have been damaged in the quake, and reports indicate that **more than 30,000 families have been left homeless**.

The country also continues to grapple with COVID-19, poverty, and ongoing political instability and violence.

There is immediate and urgent need for food, water, shelter, hygiene kits and first aid on the ground.

To provide support, you can donate to **Caritas Australia's Emergency Response Appeal**.

Donate today at www.caritas.org.au or by calling 1800 024 413 toll free.

A message from Aid to the Church in Need Australia: Emergency Aid for Haiti.

Aid to the Church in Need (ACN International) has expressed its solidarity in prayer with Haiti and immediately approved an emergency aid package of half a million Euros (\$800,000 AUD) for the Haitian people. In response to this, ACN Australia has set up an emergency appeal to provide help for our brothers and sisters in Haiti who are going through a very hard time. To donate visit **www.aidtochurch.org/haiti**



Recently Deceased:

Ermanno (Peter) Valentinelli

Anniversaries:

Paul Cassar; Frank & Maria Micallef

Mass Offered For:

Charles & Joseph Micallef; Joseph Falzon;
Marianne Cachia;

Prayers For The Sick:

Connie Cassar

Latest update from the Archdiocese of Melbourne regarding Covid-19 Restrictions (Update #45 - 21 August)

can be viewed on our parish website www.altonacatholic.org.au under the heading 'Covid 19 Restrictions'.

'Pondering Grief' (Reflection event via ZOOM), Saturday 4 September 2021, 10am-3.30pm (AEST). Facilitated by qualified Counsellor/ Supervisor/ Educator Linda Espie, this event provides the opportunity to reflect on and honour our inner life of change and transition. With creativity, space and gentle guiding support, this workshop will offer a sacred place for the breadth of human experiencing and spirit to guide individual exploration. Limited to 10 participants. Cost \$60. Bookings and payment via Trybooking at <https://www.trybooking.com/BTQNX>. For more information, contact Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation, email secretary@heartoflife.melbourne or telephone (03) 9890 1101.

In the spirit of Mary MacKillop, we invite you to bring life to "the poorest and most neglected parts of God's vineyard."

Your donation to Mary MacKillop Today will support thousands of people in Timor-Leste, Peru, Papua New Guinea, Fiji and here in Australia with education, health and finance and livelihoods opportunities, bringing hope to communities for generations to come.

To make a donation please go to:

www.marymackilloptoday.org.au/donate

Or contact us at: Mary MacKillop Today, P O Box 1646, North Sydney NSW 2059

Ph: (02) 8912 2763.

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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