

PARISH NEWSLETTER

PARISH PRIEST: Father Joseph Kanatt MCBS

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Local Safeguarding representative: Caren Rosenberg-O'Brien 0491 634 855

Office hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday (8:30am – 3:30pm) CLOSED MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS

Parish Secretary: Liz Kelly Finance Officer: Angela Smith

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A - 28 June

FOLLOW THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS

The common theme of the readings of this weekend is the work God gives us to do as the followers of Jesus: to love God and our brothers and sisters through hospitality, generosity, commitment, and charity. They also remind us of the sacrifice demanded of Jesus' disciples and the suffering they will endure for their Faith when they bear witness to him.

In the first reading we see the generosity of the Shunem couple towards Elisha brought them the blessing and joy of their life. There is much to be learnt from this reading. They were sensitive to the plight and immediate need of the man of God. Hence, through this act of generosity, hospitality and sensitivity, everything turned around for their good. Their desire of the ages was fulfilled.

The second reading, taken from Paul's letter to the Romans, reminds the Roman Christians, and us, that by Baptism we have been baptized into Jesus' death, buried with him, and now look forward to resurrection with him (Rom 6:5). As Jesus died to sin, we, too, must be dead to sin and "live for God in Christ Jesus." Since Baptism is our entrée into this new life in which we are made part of the Body of Christ and Christ is truly present in us, the one who welcomes us welcomes Christ and becomes eligible for a reward. Thus, since those who care for the followers of Jesus are caring for Jesus himself, those who show hospitality to any one of them are eligible for a reward.

The Gospel lesson concludes Jesus' great "missionary discourse" in which he instructs his twelve disciples on the cost and the reward of the commitment required of being a disciple. So the call for us in this time is to be prepared to opt for Jesus when the going gets tough. Opting for Jesus means a willingness to follow him till the end. This will result in finding true life; life in all its fullness

Fr. Joseph Kanatt MCBS Parish Priest

FIRST READING: (Kings 4:8-11, 14-16) One day as Elisha was on his way to Shunem, a woman of rank who lived there pressed him to stay and eat there. After this he always broke his journey for a meal when he passed that way. She said to her husband, 'Look, I am sure the man who is constantly passing our way must be a holy man of God. Let us build him a small room on the roof and put him a bed in it and a table and chair and lamp. Whenever he comes to us he can rest there.'

One day when he came, he retired to the upper room and lay down. 'What can be done for her?' he asked. Gehazi (his servant) answered, 'Well, she has no son and her husband is old.' Elleisha said, 'Call her.' The servant called her and she stood at the door. 'This time next year,' Elisha said 'you will hold a son in your arms.'

SECOND READING: (Romans 6:3-4, 8-11) When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death. In other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life.

But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ as we know, having been raised from the dead will die again. Death has no power over him anymore. When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with God and in that way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL: (Matthew 6:3-4, 8-11) Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who prefers son or daughter to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who does not take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me. 'Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me.

'Anyone who welcomes a prophet because he is a prophet will have a prophet's reward and anyone who welcomes a holy man because he is a holy man will have a holy man's reward.

'If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is a disciple, than I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'



WEEKDAY MASSES

All Masses (provide details upon entry – no booking required.)

Brighton

Monday: 9:15am

Sandgate

Tuesday: 7am
Thursday: 5.30pm
Friday: 7am

WEEKEND MASSES

All Masses (for 80 people only). Provide details upon entry - no booking required.

Brighton

Saturday: 5pm **Sunday:** 7am

Sandgate

Sunday: 9am and 5pm



Saturdays at Sandgate 11.30am (1st Rite)

Bookings via Parish Office required.



PARISH NEWSLETTER



PARISH OFFICE: The Parish Office will be return to normal opening days from Monday 6 July. The Secretary will be working on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and the Finance Officer will be working on Thursdays. The Parish Office will be closed on Wednesdays. We appreciate your understanding during this time.

MASS UPDATE: We are now able to accommodate up to 80 parishioners at weekend and weekday Masses observing social distancing protocols. There is no longer a need to pre-book for weekend or weekday Masses. Individual seating will be at each end and middle of every 2nd pew. Family members who live in the same household are able to sit together in one pew. All are required to provide contact details and sign-in at the church door each time they enter the Church. Please BYO pen. Single use pencils will be made available. All are to sanitize using the product provided and sit in the pews where directed by the usher. In order to have these necessary protocols completed before Mass begins, please arrive at least 15 minutes early.

Due to the greater numbers expected at 9am Sandgate Mass, regular 9am parishioners are **temporarily** encouraged to attend other weekend parish Masses if they are able to. Numbers will be monitored each weekend by volunteers who will be at the church door.

With the increase of available Masses, all parishioners who are able are encouraged to return to the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist – the source and summit of our Catholic faith.

ANOINTING MASS: Next Saturday, 4 July at 9am, Fr Joseph will be celebrating an Anointing Mass at Sacred Heart Church. All Welcome! Those wishing to attend are to sign-in at the Church door and sit in the designated pews where indicated.

RECONCILIATION: Bookings are still required for Saturday morning Reconciliation at Sandgate. Penitents are to provide name and contact details and sanitize their hands with the product provided before entering to the church.

Only one penitent is to be in the church at a time. Others are asked to wait outside (observing social distancing protocols) until previous penitent leaves the church. Penance is unable to be offered by penitents in the church following Reconciliation.)

CONGREGATIONAL SINGING: In line with the Industrial Safe Plan allowing churches to open for increased numbers, singing at each Mass will be limited to a cantor. We ask that parishioners refrain from joining the singing at this time. The Industrial Safe Plan is in place until 10 July. After this time we expect to, once again, return to congregational singing at all Masses.

THANK YOU: I would like to thank the dedicated team of parishioners whose tireless work has been invaluable to ensure that many in the parish community are able to

return to Mass. Please show your appreciation by assisting, with good grace, in the abovementioned protocols which is allowing our church to be open for so many, so often.

COLLECTIONS: Collections at weekend Mass will now resume with collectors waiting at the end of each pew. The plate is <u>not able to be passed around</u> at this time. Thank you for your consideration.

CLEANING ASSISTANCE: With more parishioners attending regular Mass, the church is required to be cleaned after each Mass. If you are able to assist, even for 15 minutes, please let the Sacristan know before Mass begins.

<u>UPDATE CONTACT DETAILS</u>: We encourage all parishioners to check their contact details are up-to-date to allow the Parish Office to provide all current information in a timely manner.

PLANNED GIVING: Thank you to all parishioners who are continuing to support the parish through the planned giving program either via direct debit, credit card, envelopes or donations via the parish locked letterbox. Donations may also be made on-line via the parish website sandgatebrightoncatholic.org.au under the Giving/Policy tab. All contributions, especially during this time, are greatly appreciated.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM: The families in the <u>current</u> Sacramental Program (preparing for Sacrament of 1st Holy Eucharist) are invited to a meeting in Sacred Heart Church on **Sunday 19 July at 10.30am**. At this meeting, Fr will provide an update on the preparation and celebration planned for the end of July. While this meeting is taking place, the children are to attend a workshop in the Sandgate Parish Hall.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2020: Parents of children currently in Year 3 and above who wish to enrol in the next Sacramental Program beginning with the Sacrament of Confirmation are to attend a compulsory Parent Night on either Monday 3 August or Thursday 6 August in the Sandgate Parish Hall at 7pm. Attendance at either Parent Night is to be booked via the Parish Office to ensure social distancing is maintained. This is a change of date (including preparation dates) from the date previously advertised due to the Covid restrictions.

<u>VOCATION VIEW</u>: Jesus knew that when we are committed to whatever we are doing no obstacle can prevent us from reaching our goal. So Jesus could say: "If you will not take up your cross and come after me you are not worthy of me."

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK: Phillipa MORPHETT, Bob MUNRO, Meredith KELLY

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE ETERNAL REPOSE OF THE SOULS: For Lorna LEIGH, Ellenor POWER and Dianna WILLIAMS who died recently and for Joseph McKEOWN whose anniversary occurs around this time.