



St Thomas the Apostle Parish Camp Hill



No. 28

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st August 2021

After letting the Parish in on what my last days and weeks would look like last weekend, our parish has been given a new pastor whose reign of leadership takes effect as from 2nd November 2021. He is Father Dantus Thottathil [MCBS]. We will start to finalise our hand-over and the process of welcoming our new parish priest. By God's grace we know that our parish is in good hands. Our parish embodies a tradition which spans through time: a tradition of welcoming, acceptance, and supporting our priest. Our parish abounds with a plenitude of volunteers and intelligent minds to help a new priest settle down; an aesthetic vision that helped shaped this parish for many years. So we'll give the same support to the coming priest and we wish Father Dantus well in all his doings in the parish.

What's then is next for your outgoing pastor? Nothing really! Fly out of Australia, present yourself to your local bishop and he assigns you a new parish back home! No big deal! Then what do you really wish? The truth is that we may not eliminate uncertainty and the ups and downs of life. I've tried to use the present state of things going through my mind at the moment as part of faith formation. One day things are just fine, then next day you're faced with volatility: the reality of leaving a group of people and friendships behind or trying to cope with fast approaching days leading towards the departure terminal and struggling to accept these changes. Then I say to myself: maybe if you worry for long enough you'll be surprise how much you can control what is to come. Maybe if I beat myself over and again long enough to deny it, just maybe, I might find a solution lurking round the corner. But none of these seem to work. I've seen myself robbed of energy instead; I can't even finish the novel am reading; and going to bed late seems normal for many reasons. It seems what is left is adjusting my mindset. It is a constant struggle between what is and what I think should be.

Maybe the best solution is to disengage from fighting what you cannot control, a "priest is not his own"! And allow yourself the discomfoting experience of the uncertainty and emotions; it is human and will always be there. Instead focus on the present moment of life and the ticking of time.

We would expect God to react angrily towards the people of Israel at their grumbling at the feeling of uncertainty as soon as they left Egypt. God did not punish them. Instead, what He did is rather surprising: He sends Manna! The First reading this weekend examines the content of living life as humans and the normalcy in having times of depression and feelings of fear. We may even yearn to stay back in a place already comfortable. For sure, God doesn't get angered by our show of fragility and weakness. He draws close to us and makes present with signs his love for us. The Gospel says that the best way God showed his love for us is revealed in Jesus, the bread come down from heaven; the bread of life. In every Mass we attend and receive Communion we are filled with strength in a personal way never found elsewhere. As St. Augustine rightly said: we're God's agriculture. From the outside, receive the work of the planter and waterer; but from the inside, receive the work of the one who makes us grow."

God Bless, *Fr Christopher*

2021 First Holy Communion



We welcome the children in our parish who are preparing for First Holy Communion and wish them all the best on this wonderful journey.

Further preparation dates are:

- Commitment Weekend** - 7/8 Aug
- Activity Weekend** - 14/15 Aug
- Activity Weekend** - 21/22 Aug
- Workshop** - Saturday 28 Aug 4-5pm
- First Holy Communion** - 4/5 Sept & 11/12 Sept



*The greatest
love story of all
time is contained
in a tiny
white host*

~ Archbishop Fulton Sheen ~

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st reading: Exodus 16: 2-4, 12-15 *I will rain bread from heaven upon you.*

2nd Reading: Ephesians 4: 17, 20-24 *Put on the new person that has been created in God's image.*

Gospel: John 6:24-35 *Whoever comes to me will never be hungry; whoever believes in me will never thirst.*

Parish News & Notices

HOUSE MASS THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to our school and parish team for another successful House Mass last Sunday when we celebrated with families from the Kelleher House (blue).

It was wonderful to see the church full and to see the children engaging with the Mass through welcoming the congregation, processing into the church, reading and collecting.

Special thanks to Mike Armstrong, Paula McConnon and Tish Lee from St Thomas' school for all their work and support and also to our very own Trish Buckle and Trish McGrath who worked closely with the school on the celebration.

The remaining two House Masses for the year will be Sunday 29th August and Sunday 24th October. Stay tuned for more details!



SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT LAUNCH

The theme *Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor*, affirms that "we human beings need a change of heart, mind, & behaviour". It draws from Scripture, from the theological tradition, from Catholic Social Teaching, and from the wisdom of the world, including the insights of the First Nations.

The Brisbane launch by Bishop Ken Howell will take place at St James' Coorparoo:

Date: 25 August 2021

Time: 7pm

Place: St James' Parish Hall, 92 Kirkland Ave, Coorparoo.

To register go to: <https://app.tickets.org.au/eb/sjstatement>

The statement will be available for download from August 5th at this link: <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/>

Going Deeper

an online exploration of the Catholic faith

An initiative of Evangelisation Brisbane, 'Going Deeper' is a 10 session online series of video discussions about the heart of the Catholic faith. No matter your faith background or experience, Going Deeper is suited for you.

To find out more or to register, go to www.goingdeeper.org.au

CONTACT DETAILS:

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W: camphillcatholicparish.org.au

F: <https://www.facebook.com/StThomasCatholicParishCampHill/>

Office hours

8:30 am - 1:30pm: M/T/Th/F

PARISH TEAM:

Parish Priest - Fr Christopher Obi
obic@bne.catholic.net.au

Children's Ministry Coordinator

Sr Analissa Balderama
cmc.stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Secretary

Ms Lisa Moroney
stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au



FRIENDSHIP, PRAYER, SERVICE

If you are looking to get involved in a group that provides Friendship, Prayer and Service, you may be interested in getting to know the Josephite Companions in your area. Companions are women and men who share the values and spirit of Mary MacKillop and Julian Tenison Woods. Together with the Sisters of St Joseph and Josephite Affiliates we embrace the Josephite charism as we live the Gospel in our daily lives. The Qld Josephite Companions have local groups in North and South Brisbane as well as across the state.

For more information please contact our Queensland Office at qld.companions@sosj.org.au or Ph: 0474 947 296.



We remember in our prayers

The sick: Joan Scott, Humberto Villalta, Nes Mustafa, Jolanda Villalta, Dan Bishop, Shirley Murphy, Olive Kiely, Sue Douglas, Tom Grant, Lauren Balcombe, Lola Radford, Sonia Mendez, Fr Ron Mollison, Marjorie Cusack, Joe Sherlock, Sue Lamb, Jacob Mu, Megan Bowden, Camel Horn, Fr Ian Wren, Lynn Toon, Shirley Owen

The Recently Deceased: Isabella Marjorie Drew (much loved grandmother and great-grandmother of parishioners Christie and Harvey)

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Joan Dennis, Arpad (Jack) Glockner, Mary Ellis, Hilda Burke, Elizabeth Ives, Corliss Newman, Terence Sullivan, Dorothy Traynor, Maureen Morrissey, Eulalie Patterson, John Seppanen, Graham Underwood, John Proudfoot, Eileen Dendle, Athol Wild, Lee Hunt, Amy Campbell, Ted Hanns, Bill O'Brien, Helen Bemrose, Fay Gee, Lurlene Kent, Annie Buckley, John Ashwell, Dermott Casey, Margaret Moffat, Peter Riley, Alice Pacey, Lynette Buesel, Diana Calvisi, Lance Fry, Shirley Tessmann, Daphne Waller and Aidan Hunt

PASSING ON THE FLAME

All women of the Archdiocese of Brisbane are invited to an evening of conversation as Catholic women share their experience of church, their call to discipleship, challenges and their hopes for the Church of the future.

Date: Thursday 19th August, 5:45pm – 8pm
Place: Hanly Room, Francis Rush Centre (249 Elizabeth Street Brisbane City)
Cost: \$20 (\$15 concession)

For more information or to register, head to <https://app.tickets.org.au/eb/spiritedwomen>



Lighthouse Relationships

Shine a little light on your love

Lighthouse Relationships is a new organisation offering Group Pre-Marriage Preparation Courses at our New Farm location, as well as Individual Pre-Marriage Sessions (Prepare Enrich Program) at our New Farm office or online for couples across Australia and New Zealand.

Archbishop Mark Coleridge has offered his support for this service.

All information can be found at www.lighthouserelationships.com.au.



Fan the Flame

Towards Plenary
Assembly One October 2021

'I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never be hungry; he who believes in me will never thirst.'

Matthew 28:16-20

The ethical and missionary implications of the Eucharist for the Church's communion of faith will always be incomplete while the poor go hungry, for "we cannot properly receive the Bread of Life without sharing bread for life with those in want".

(Pedro Arrupe, "Address prior to Eucharistic Congress 1976", The Portal to Jesuit Studies, accessed 23 April 2021)

www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fanthe flame/



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TASTER SESSION SILOAM 2022

Becoming a Spiritual Director
through Heart of Life...

Come and see for yourself...Saturday 14 August 2021,
9.30am-11am via Zoom or in-person at Heart of Life, Malvern

- Register via this link (<https://www.trybooking.com/BSUNV>) or call or email us for further information - (+61 3) 9890 1101, office@heartoflife.melbourne
- 2022 Siloam Program applications close on 30th November 2021.
Our places are limited and so we encourage applications as early as possible.



Heart of Life

Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation

Rear 41, Stanhope Street, Malvern VIC 3144
03 9890 1101 • info@heartoflife.melbourne • www.heartoflife.melbourne





WE NEED YOUR HELP - AND ACTION

We need you to help us ensure the euthanasia Bill is defeated.
We need your action - **NOW**.

The State government has introduced draft legislation for assisted suicide in Queensland.

We need you to help us ensure the Bill is defeated. We need your action - **NOW**.

It is imperative all sectors of the community affected by this legislation but still not heard - **ARE HEARD**. Namely; first nations people, disabled people, palliative care providers, mental health providers, multicultural and multifaith groups.

'Euthanasia' and 'assisted suicide' are not only contrary to the teachings of the Church but also the principle of 'do no harm' which has governed the medical profession forever.

We support the many health professionals who say we should do all we can to protect Queenslanders rather than assist them in dying.

We believe every Queenslanders has a right to high quality palliative care.

Many members of parliament (MPs) say the Bill provides a 'choice'. This is not and will not be the case until palliative care is available to ALL Queenslanders - including those in regional, remote and rural areas.

It's extraordinary the Government is prepared to spend so much time, energy and resources on legislation that affects the few rather than the many.

Only a tiny percentage of Queenslanders may access Euthanasia, but 100% of Queenslanders will require palliative care - and the cost of proper palliative care is small compared to the colossal State health budget.

Even the Queensland Law Reform Commission's recommendations to the Government on legislation urges;

"Any scheme for voluntary assisted dying should complement, not detract from, the provision of high quality and accessible palliative care."

QLD State Health budget - \$23 BILLION

**Current committed palliative care funding
- \$138 Million per annum**

**Additional palliative care funding required
- \$275 Million per annum**

**Funding required per annum to provide palliative care to
ALL Queenslanders - \$385 Million per annum**

The cost of 3 klm of Motorway upgrade - \$400 Million

<https://statements.qld.gov.au/statements/91971>

HOW YOU CAN HELP

1. Pray all Queenslanders might respect Church teaching that life is sacred from conception until natural death and that our MPs support a fully funded palliative care system, negating the need for assisted suicide.

2. Arrange a meeting with YOUR local Member of Parliament

To find who they are

CLICK HERE

OR TYPE IN

<https://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/members/current/list>

3. Please also email your views to YOUR local Member of Parliament

CLICK HERE

OR TYPE IN

https://www.no euthanasia.org.au/petition_2105_ocp_qld

4. Familiarise yourself with the various points in this pack - use them in your conversations or emails with the local MP

5. In your local community identify, engage and encourage community groups - disability, mental health, indigenous, multi faith and multi cultural - **TO DO THE SAME**.

6. Provide them with the information and resources provided in this pack.

QUESTIONS FOR MPS

1. Ask whether they support or oppose VAD, and how they intend to vote
2. Ask whether they will support an annual increase in funding to palliative care services
3. Ask if they know 107 of 109 World Medical Associations oppose euthanasia as it isn't a medical treatment
4. Ask how introducing VAD fits with government targets to halve suicide rates by 2026
5. Ask is VAD compatible with the priority of protecting the elderly or vulnerable established under COVID19
6. Ask why health and aged care providers opposed to VAD will be forced to partake in it on their premises
7. Ask if it is fair to deliver lethal VAD substances to regional and remote areas which have no palliative care
8. Ask if they know providing palliative care to all Queenslanders costs less than 3 kilometres of motorway upgrade.

**Please stand with the Queensland Bishops and medical experts in opposing this legislation.
Dying with dignity already exists - it lies in being able to access high quality palliative care statewide.**