



St Bernard's Parish Belmont

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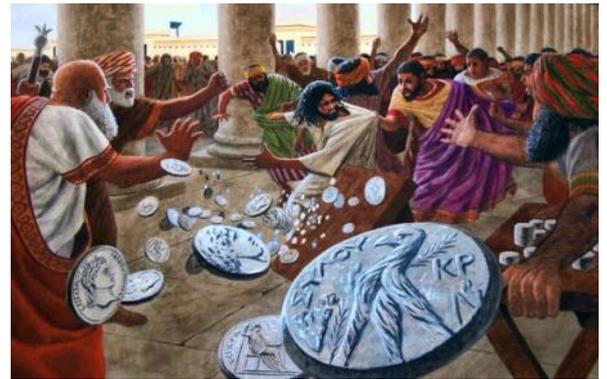
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4th March 2018

Third Sunday of Lent Year B

Overturing mammon's tables.

If one single thing got Jesus crucified above all others, it was when he drove the money changers out of the temple. He was of course challenging the chief false God of his day and ours, namely mammon. Mammon is something more than money. It is the entire system of calculated meanness, egotism, injustice and greed that always occurs when love of money is our master. So when Jesus tosses aside the tables, where hard roman currency was exchanged at exorbitant rates for temple coin, he brought both the wrath of state and institutional religion down on his head. Jesus defied mammon and mammon had him killed for his defiance.



This element of our gospel story today has a direct bearing on the account of the Ten Commandments, as outlined in our Exodus reading. Not infrequently over the years, some more muscularly moral brethren have asked me why I don't more militantly preach the commandments. Being moral and correct, they go on to rightly point out, that God requires absolute faithfulness and so the people need to hear the hard word. In earlier days I would demure awkwardly and attempt a quick running jump at preaching the 'hard word', always aware that in some sense my own 'keeping' left a lot to be desired.

These days I am less polite. I point out that the older I get, I am more dependent on getting forgiveness rather than permission. More pertinently, I like to point out that even most, if not all hard muscular moralists also fail to keep the commandments. Take the first one. We are back to the cult of money and self-interest, which is a false God we all at times worship. Then take the last commandment, to not covet. Really! What was God thinking back on Mount Sinai? The whole of our capitalist consumer juggernaut system is directly dependent on as many people coveting as much as possible

Every day on our screens and on the airways, pundits and wealth managers speak in hushed and awed tones about the 'Market'. For many inside the global elite, there is no qualm of conscience for those manipulating and preying on others, in pursuit of the bottom line. Money can move at the speed of light, it can dematerialize and reappear out the digital hall of smoke and mirrors, without regard for the cost and cares of labour, or our responsibilities for one another. Money is free to go where it will, but not people. Our own hard moralist Peter Dutton, is now offering juicy visas to those cashed up enough to get a place on the gravy train.

The Russian American writer Ayn Rand had a sense of where this love of markets leads. She was the high priestess of unrestricted free markets and a major influence on the power brokers of our times. She despised altruism and disdained all efforts to work for a common good. There was only one God to be raised over the earth, one God to grant peace, joy and pride, "This god, this one word: I"

But today Jesus shows us what we love is what we serve and what we serve will determine more than just our own freedom.

Fr Vincent Jewell PP

We remember those who have died :

Margaret Level Angus Mackintosh
Alice Osborn

We pray for those who are unwell :

Noelene Goonan Vincent Daniels
John Orders John Condon
Tulli Seabert (6 yr old)

Special prayers for :

Mohammad Rahmani still awaiting the decision of Minister Peter Dutton, whether he can remain in Australia.

Noura Kka, former parishioner, now in Iraq and in danger.

May God hold them all in the palm of his hand.

Wednesday 7th March, 12noon

Sisters of the Holy Angels Luncheon
Holy Spirit Hall. Cost \$10 – all welcome!

Thursday 8 March 7pm

Circle of Mercy Expressions of Faith
Maeve Heaney *Merging Music and Theology*
Celies Dining Room, SHC

Tuesday 13th March, at 6.15pm

Geelong Catholic Diners' Club
Capri Receptions, 258 Pakington St, Geelong West.
Guest speaker : **Danny Lannen**. Cost \$33.00.
Enquiries and RSVP Michael Belleville
0431 959 584 by *Friday 9th March*.

Saturday 17th March

St Patrick's Day Races

Geelong Race Course. Free entry and entertainment for children (17 and under). Dining packages, Marquee and Umbrella packages available.
Enquiries : 0409 007 913 or book online at: country.racing.com/geelong-stpats.
Brochures are available in foyer.



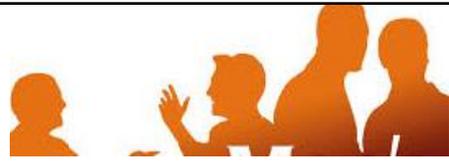
The Coffee Processing Plant will benefit many generations of people at Mannya.

Direct bank transfer : BSB 063 504
acc number : 008 005 74.
Bank reference : 'Coffee & your surname'.

Cheques : 'St Bernard's Church Mannya acc'.
Contact the Office for further information.
Thank you

'The Lord is kind and merciful'

"Let us never forget that mercy is the keystone of the life of faith and concrete way with which we give visibility to the Resurrection of Jesus" Pope Francis



Men's group – are you interested?

We have received several enquiries about establishing a 'Men's Group' at St Bernard's.

Interested men are invited to morning tea on the **second Tuesday** of March – 13th March at 10am

- Retired men
- Meet in the church café at 10.00am for a 'cuppa' & chat
- Self-directed group

If you can't come on Tuesday 13th, but are *interested*, please contact the Parish Office.

St Bernard's Playgroup

Gather on Tuesday morning in the Big Space from 9am to 10.30am.

Enquiries :

ariordan@ccsbelmont.com.au
OR ph 0429 312 851



Volunteer with Palms Australia-

Myanmar, PNG, Samoa, Timor Leste, Kiribati and Kenya, seek volunteers to mentor locals and build capacity. If you have teaching, medical, business, admin or trade skills, share them with our global family!

Contact Christine at Palms on 02 9560 5333 or go to www.palms.org.au/volunteer/



Mercy Works is recruiting *volunteers to support Refugee Students and Asylum Seekers in the Melbourne Archdiocese.*

(half a day per week each term).
Contact Sr Mary Lewis for application form and enquiries.

Ph : 9326 1895 Email: somml@bigpond.com
www.mercyworks.org.au

Australian Catholics
in the foyer today



Memorial Niche Wall.

Ashes may be laid to rest in the wall in the church grounds. Contact Office.

Parish records & Thanksgiving :

We welcome all new parishioners to our parish community. If you are *new* to the area, or have *changed your address*, we invite you to fill in a **census card**, from the bracket, beside the door to the Projection Room.

Thanksgiving 'sign up' sheets are available there too.

Project Compassion 'For a Just Future'

Bayan is a young Syrian girl in Jordan. She struggled to overcome the trauma of living in a conflict zone, facing the prospect of missing out on school. With Caritas Australia's support, Bayan is excelling in her studies, with ambitions to become an ophthalmologist.



Spiritual renewal during Lent: Pope Francis

Fast from hurting words and say *kind words*.

Fast from anger and be filled with *patience*.

Fast from pessimism and be filled with *hope*.

Fast from worries and have *trust* in God.

Fast from complaints and contemplate *simplicity*.

Fast from pressures and be *prayerful*.

Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with *joy*.

Fast from selfishness and be *compassionate* to others.

Fast from words and be silent so you can *listen*.

Fast from grudges and be *reconciled*.

If you do away with the yoke of oppression,
the clenched fist, malicious talk;
if you give bread to the hungry
and relief to the oppressed,
your light will rise in the darkness
and your night will become like the noon.

Australian Catholics

Gospel Meditation

Today's dramatic story challenges us to think about what is truly central to our lives. As Christians, is the centre of our daily lives following the way of Jesus? Or are we narrowly focused on our attempts to get by in this world.

As humans, we tend to latch onto material, rather than spiritual goods.

What is most important for human life is not buildings or financial security, but faith in God.

Blessed and Broken

Look for slavery-free Easter eggs in your supermarket

Ten years ago there was almost no slavery-free chocolate in our supermarkets. Now, because of *public pressure*, most supermarkets have it on the shelves. eg ALDI has a huge range of slavery-free chocolate. When you go to your local supermarket, *look for these three symbols*.



The **annual Clairvaux Classic** was held on March 1st. This is an amazing school community event and fundraiser for our *sister school*, **St Aloysius in Mannya**. It is a 4km



walk, stroll or run along the Barwon River, starting and ending at Fyansford.

All proceeds go St Aloysius, to ensure no child in that community is *denied a place in the school*. Our donation also provides *one meal a day* and this, for many students, is the only food they might get to eat.

International Women's Day 8th March

'Time is now: Rural and Urban activists transforming women's lives'



This year, International Women's Day comes on the heels of the unprecedented global movement for women's rights, equality and justice. Sexual harassment, violence and discrimination against women has captured headlines and public discourse, propelled by a rising determination for change.

International Women's Day is an opportunity to transform this momentum into *action*, to *empower* women in all settings, rural and urban and *celebrate* the activists who are working relentlessly to claim women's rights and realise their *full potential*.

International Women's Day also draws attention to the rights and activism of rural women, who make up over a quarter of the world population and majority of the 43 per cent of women in the global agricultural labour force.

Women till the lands and plant seeds to feed nations, ensure food security for their communities and build climate resilience. Yet, on almost every measure of development, because of deep seated gender inequalities and discrimination, rural women fare worse than rural men or urban women.

We pray for women and men in our Church, that we may highlight the needs of rural women and work relentlessly for justice and equality.

Amen

Aust Catholic Bishop Conference,
Council for Aust Catholic Women

Each Wednesday - 21st Feb—21st March:

Music at the Basilica 'Reflections' 12.30—1pm.
7th March Patrycja Radzi-Stewart—violin.

Sunday 18th March 2—5pm

The Geelong Chorale presents **Opera Choruses**
St Luke's Uniting Church Highton. Cost \$15.
Bookings essential. Contact Anne : 0412 524 316
pandapilgrim@gmail.com Flyers in foyer.

HOUSE FOR FREE! The Parish Office at St Simon's
Rowville is to be replaced. Portable building, could be a
substantial family home. No cost if you are willing to
remove and transport. Enquiries Fr Kevin Dillon
(0421 777 360) or Brian Dalton (0419 349 382).

Chanel College 60th Anniversary Reunion 28 April
for students of The Marist Fathers Era [1958-1970].
For details - email : chanel.geelong@gmail.com OR
send postal details to : PO Box 3069 Geelong West 3218

*Clairvaux are collecting Coles **Sports to School** vouchers.
Vouchers can be placed in box in foyer*

Catholic Secondary School Open Days

Clonard College Friday 16th March.
Information session, followed by tours 1 & 4.30pm.
Enrolments close on Friday 18 May 2018. Pre-
register online www.clonard.catholic.edu.au

Saint Ignatius College
18th March, 2018 11am-2pm
Information sessions: 11am and 12.15pm.
www.ignatius.vic.edu.au

Discovery Day at Sacred Heart College.
Tuesday 20th March, 4pm
Explore the College from 4.00pm - 6.30pm
Please RSVP [ww.shcgeelong.catholic.edu.au](http://www.shcgeelong.catholic.edu.au)
Enrolments close Friday 18 May 2018.

St Joseph's College
Visit : www.sjc.vic.edu.au to book a College Tour.

Parish Office Hours

Mon : 10.00—3.00
Tues : 8.30—4.30
Wed : 8.30—4.30
Thurs : 8.30-1pm
Thurs pm—CLOSED
Friday : 8.30-4.30

Please Note: Church
car park gates are locked
at 1.00pm each Sunday

Week 2: 10/11 March

St Bernard's Mass Times

Saturday: 6.00pm
Sunday: 9.00 am and 10.30 am
5.30pm at *St Mary's*
Wednesday : 12 noon
Friday: 12 noon
Mass on the radio: 7.00am Light FM 89.9;
10.00am Pulse FM 94.7

If you need a priest urgently,
phone Fr Vincent
0417 837 565

St Bernard's Playgroup

*Tuesdays during
school term.*
9.00-10.30am
in the Big Space,
entrance Fryers Rd.
All welcome

Charismatic Prayer

1st & 3rd Tuesday
10.00am
in the Church.

Christian Meditation

Wed 7.30pm
in the church

Tai Chi : Fridays

9.30-10.30
in the Church café



www.cathnews.com.au

A free website,
keeping you in touch
with catholic news
around the world.

Setting up for Mass	6.00pm	R & B Campbell
	9.00am	L Madden
	10.30am	J Ross M Charman
Eucharist Ministers	6.00pm	B Campbell U Emanuel N Edhouse S Foley J Spiteri
	9.00 am	M Walker M O'Brien P Lewis C Doyle B Poel
	10.30am	M Gill A Buttigieg A Chirawu
Readers	6.00pm	S Kenworthy D Turnbull
	9.00 am	M Walker A Monk
	10.30am	T Gulli
PowerPointers	6.00pm	J & T O'Neill
	9.00 am	K Marshall
	10.30am	A De Grandi
Musicians	6.00pm	Marg, Tess L Eleanor
	9.00am	Kevin Harbison and group
	10.30am	Kevin Harbison and group
Book Nook	9.45am	F O'Reilly
Coffee Shop		Doris Deirdre Mary M
Cleaners : 14		J Earle J Honner J van Rossum C Raj E Rayson
Flowers		Lent
Bread Roster: blue		L Dowling L & N Jaques C Raj G Mugavin J Harte R & J Gollan
Communion at home		D Turnbull—co-ord. Contact Office to arrange.

This week:

Ex 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17 Ps 18: 8-11
1 Cor 1: 22-25 Jn 2: 13-25

Next Week:

2 Chron 36: 14-16, 19-23 Ps 136
Eph 2: 4-10 Jn 3:14-21