

St Bernard's Parish Belmont



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Geelong Catholic Deanery

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22nd July 2018

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

Taking time to care

The words of the prophet Jeremiah in today's first reading should strike terror into the heart of any priest or pastor of the Christian faith: "Doom for the shepherds who allow the flock of my pasture to be destroyed and scattered". Alas, across history many abuses have occurred. Our present moment in history has witnessed the wholesale destruction of lives and community, resulting from clerical sexual abuse. Of course this has done untold damage to the standing of the church in wider society and has all but made its pastors pariahs. Other abuses can also be very destructive. Abuses of authority of one sort or another are common. Theological abuse has also been common, when ministers use the pulpit or the confessional to pour negative and punishing notions of God on to vulnerable souls. Then there are those times when simple faith or piety is derided, or times when adult and thinking people are infantilised or patronized. And, let us never forget how often women have been treated as second class human beings, or how often self-service, rather than service of the people, has been the dominant drive.

But it is easy enough to off load on the priests and excuse ourselves for our own lack of caring. Rather, caring is everyone's business. Or to put it simply, love does not take holidays and when it comes to loving, none of us is exempt from the call.

This is evident in today's gospel. The disciples return from their mission enlivened, but exhausted. Jesus, in his care for their efforts, bids them 'come away to some lonely place and rest for awhile'. And to add poignancy to our story, Jesus has only just heard the news that his mentor and friend John the Baptist has been martyred. One can imagine Jesus himself having great need for rest and retreat, yet the crowd second guess them and as we see, Jesus abandons his own need for peace because they "are like sheep without a shepherd."

This does not mean we should abandon the need to find the place of rest and peace so needed in our hyperactive and strenuously busy lives. Indeed the ability to deeply care for another is contingent on our own spiritual self-care, allowing for places of quiet, solitude and reflection. But neither can we wrap ourselves up in isolation and disregard for the needs of others.

Indeed, the reality is we need connection with one another, in mutual care and interdependence. As we see, there is an epidemic of loneliness in our society. We hear of our young people experiencing more loneliness than previous generations, despite digital wonders. It seems when it comes to community, machines will not cut it. There is no replacing direct human touch. Yet we are losing touch and on the other end of the age spectrum are the disturbing statistics cited by Relationship Australia, that one in four of every resident in aged care does not have a single visitor, on any single day of any year! An amazing indictment of our society and a fact that should rouse us all out of self-involvement, into care for one another, especially the vulnerable.

Loneliness in fact can be a direct cause of mortality, so fundamental is our need for social connection. The shepherd in every one of us needs to awaken.

Fr Vincent Jewell PP



We remember those who have died :

Dot Stevenson **Pat Sims**
Dorothy Aulsebrook **Mitchell Dowling**

We pray for those who are unwell :

Pat Alldis **John Shawcross**
Brittany Schultz **Barbara Donovan**
Noelene Goonan **Peter Harbison**
Alan Ansell **Vincent Daniels**
John Orders **Tim Coakley**
Tulli Seabert

We welcome for Baptism :

Max Learey
Annabel Johnston
Alice Prime
Eden & Louis Dakovic
Charlie Heffernan
Lottie Partridge



Special prayers for :

Mohammad Rahmani. At present, his solicitors are applying for a copy of his department file, under a Freedom of Information request.

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



Every Friday morning, a number of people gather, then take communion to those who are sick at home, or in Nursing Homes.

If you are interested in assisting with this very special ministry, please contact the Parish Office.

Wed 1st Aug 12 noon.

Sisters of the Holy Angels Luncheon
Holy Spirit Hall, Bostock Ave, Manifold Heights.
Cost \$10.00

Wed 8 Aug 10am-3pm

Broken Bay Institute National E-Conference :
'Synodality in practice:

Listening to the Spirit and leading change'.

On-line in the Fitzpatrick meeting room.

Prominent international and national speakers will discuss their *future vision and hopes* for the Catholic Church in Australia.

Speakers : Archbishop Mark Coleridge, Mrs Lana Turvey-Collins, Professor Massimo Faggioli, Professor Richard Lennan and Dr Gemma Cruz.

Tues Aug 14, 5.30 – 7.30pm

LIFEBOAT GEELONG

A fundraiser at the Royal Geelong Yacht Club.

Guest Speaker : **Brian Cook**, CEO of Geelong Football Club.
Finger food. Tickets **\$60pp**.
Please purchase online at:

www.lifeboatgeelong.com.au



'Healing a nation through education'

This year's **Catholic Mission Church Appeal** highlights the important work of Catholic Mission in **Myanmar.**



In 2018 Catholic Mission will be rebuilding this fragile nation, by empowering teachers and healing through the gift of education - positively impacting children, parents and whole communities.

Years of conflict have decimated the country's infrastructure and caused harm to generations of its people.

It has also had a significant impact on the nation's education system. With public investment in Myanmar among the lowest in the world, the Church is aiming to *train teachers, develop infrastructure and establish a nationwide alternative school system.*

A key aspect is the training of teachers who are then placed in some of the most remote and underserved communities. Thousands of poor and vulnerable children are being supported through their education by the Church - *providing the framework for young people to become future leaders for their community and country.*

A collection will be taken up at each mass to support the work of Catholic Mission

St Vincent De Paul

now have a larger **storage area for house furniture items.**



Do you have any unused items, particularly *mattresses, bases, kitchen tables/chairs or lounge suites* in good condition, to supply our needs for welfare recipients.

To arrange pick-up, ph 1800 621 349



Melbourne Catholic magazine July edition is out now.

Visit : melbournecatholic.org.au to subscribe

Every Thursday 11.30am :

Mass at St John of God Hospital Chapel.

The Chapel is located on the Ground Floor, near Reception and Café Costa.

Prayer the key to relationship with God

We don't pray to change God's mind. God doesn't 'answer' because we pray or because of how hard we pray; such a God would be either arbitrary or cruel.

Why would God grant one person's heartfelt prayer and not another's?



Prayer is about participating in the relationship God offers us. We pray because part of being in relationship is *sharing* the things that are weighing heaviest on our hearts. Friends or family may already know what I am going through, but I still want to talk about it. *They listen and are present to my experience.* The same is true of God in prayer.

We pray to know we are *not alone*. We pray because God created us to be in *relationship*, and relationship requires *communication* and *communion*. We pray to *be with God*.

Heidi Russell, Loyola Uni Chicago. US Catholic 13.3.18

Child Safety at St Bernard's



As a Parish we must :

- * Embed child safety into everyday thinking.
- * Take a zero tolerance approach to child abuse.
- * Ensure leadership is aware of allegations and responds to protect children.
- * Promote a culture of reporting.
- * Respect, embrace and support the diversity of children.
- * Adopt a continuous improvement approach



Stella Maris offers comforts of home for lonely seafarers

Every day, foreign seafarers working on international cargo ships arrive in Australian ports and for nearly **100 years** the Stella Maris ministry has been helping them regain their 'land legs'. In some cases, they have been at sea and *away from their families for nine months or longer* and are longing for some home comforts in a faraway country.

Stella Maris, also known as *Apostleship of the Sea*, is a Catholic ministry which has **11 centres** around Australia and more than **300 ports** in more than **30 countries** around the world.

CathNews 21.2.18

And Jesus said, "Chill Out!"

That's what Jesus wants for his disciples in this week's Gospel. They've just come back from doing his work. They could keep working; there were plenty of people who needed help. But Jesus says, "Come away ... and rest".



In other words, take time to chill out. Authentic discipleship requires *downtime for prayer, laughs, naps, and talk about life*.

Our society seems to get busier and busier. We seem to have more responsibilities and less time to relax. But life gets more complicated, more painful, less rewarding and less Christian when it gets too busy.

Overworked people pray less, which means they lose God's guidance. Overworked people lose their patience more quickly, which makes it easy to snap at friends or family and difficult to forgive. Overworked people think less thoroughly and listen less often, which makes it easy to make bad decisions.

So, make sure you *get away*. Life is about *building relationships*, not completing tasks. Given the pressure in our society to stay busy, you might even have to *schedule downtime*. Then *take it*. God wants it for you.

Take time with friends. Laugh. Hang out. Take naps. Build in ten-minute 'rest stops' with God, when you just close your eyes and imagine Jesus wrapping his arms around you. You'll find life more rewarding and Christian living more doable.

In other words, *just chill out*. GPBSeNews

Coffee Processing Plant Funding :

Direct bank transfer :

BSB : 063 504

Acc number : 008 005 74.

Bank reference : Coffee & surname'

Cheques :

'St Bernard's Church *Mannya acc*'.

Contact the Office for further information.

Thank you

The coffee machine is due in Mombasa on the east coast of Kenya on 12 August.

It then has to be transported by **truck across Kenya** and on to Kampala.

Then, processing in Kampala for **tax exemption**.

After that - another **truck** to take the 40 ft.

container **to Mannya** (4 – 5 hours).



Sat 28th Jul 9.30-3.30 **One day retreat**, run by the *Legion of Mary*. St Francis Xavier Church Corio.
A light lunch will be served. Ph Adela Buaya 0409 135 589

Mon 30th July 1.30 pm **Sing Australia** : Belmont Seniors Concert Hall, 52 Thomson St. Geelong's very own professional singing group, who will delight with a wide range of musical talent. \$5. Tea & coffee after.

Sunday 12th Aug 2-5 pm **For the Joy of Singing the Classics : Dona Nobis Pacem**,
by Ralph Vaughan Williams. Wesley Church 100 Yarra St. *Singers & listeners* most welcome. \$15.
Bookings essential pandapilgrim@gmail.com or 0412 524 316 (see noticeboard)

2nd September **14-day pilgrimage** Fr Jerald (Doncaster East) features Warsaw, Krakow, Vienna, Zagreb, Sinj, Medjugorje. Call now for a closing discount of \$500 (\$5490) on the price available. Last 4 Seats.

7th October **17 day HOPE PILGRIMAGE** - PORTUGAL, SPAIN, FRANCE & ITALY with Fr Stephen (Highett) to Avila, Fatima, Santiago, Medjugorje, Lourdes, Milan, Padua, Assisi and Rome. \$7200.
Ph 03 8513 0680 & 1300 721 561 or email pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au

Prayer Shawls & Pocket Hearts from the Pastoral Healthcare Network. Ideal comfort for the sick, bereaved, or those needing hope. PHNA Office, 100 Yarra St Geelong (Thurs) or ph 5249 5799 for delivery.

'The Journey'. Australian Catholic Radio Subscribe or listen www.jcr.org.au
OR download the app www.itunes.jcr.org.au

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 5 : 28/29 July

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.

Men's Group

*Second Tuesday
of the month*
10am
in Church café.
Come along for a
cuppa & chat

Wednesday cards

*Join us for a friendly
game of 500*
1-15 - 4pm in the
Church café.

Christian Meditation

Wed 7.30pm
in the Church

Tai Chi : Fridays

9.30-10.30
in the Church.
Resumes 20th July

Setting up for Mass	6.00pm	H Brislane
	9.00am	B & M O'Brien
	10.30am	
Eucharist Ministers	6.00pm	M Dias M Purcell Sr J Eudey
	9.00 am	D Butler B Gleeson
	10.30am	P Horan
Readers	6.00pm	J Hagan
	9.00 am	A Corda D Barker
	10.30am	M Inei
PowerPointers	6.00pm	H Brislane
	9.00 am	D Turnbull B Arnup
	10.30am	G Caruana C Caruana
Musicians	6.00pm	Men's Choir
	9.00am	
	10.30am	
Book Nook	9.45am	Joanna
Coffee Shop	D Irwin L Rastas	
Cleaners : 3	M Patterson R Gladki K Burby N Brislane	
Flowers	Denise & Rosemary	
Communion at home	D Turnbull—co-ord. Contact Office to arrange.	

This week:

Jer 23 : 1-6
Eph 2: 13-18

Ps 22 : 2
Mk 6:30-34

Next Week:

2 Kings 4: 42-44
Eph 4: 1-6

Ps 144 10-11, 15-18
Jn 6: 1-15