

St Bernard's Parish Belmont



Office 74 Fryers Rd Belmont PO Box 6291 Highton 3216
T : 03 5243 2739 belmont@cam.org.au
F : 03 5241 2304 www.stbernards.org.au

Parish team Fr Vincent Jewell (*Parish Priest*)
Helen Brislane (*Parish Manager*)
Len Monk (*Pastoral Associate*)
Muriel Powell (*Monday School*)

Clairvaux Catholic School 45 Reynolds Rd Belmont 3216
T : 03 5243 7102 www.ccsbelmont.com.au
Basil Flynn bflynn@ccsbelmont.com.au

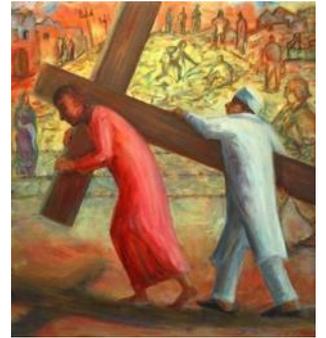
Geelong Catholic Deanery geelongdeanery.cam.org.au

16th September 2018

Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

Getting 'behind' Jesus

The central question of identity, of whom and what we are is one that returns again and again throughout our lives. On one level the question of who we are never gets finalised. Often we find out more of who we are in our suffering and brokenness. The mystery of our identity and our self-understanding is not fixed at one point. Life itself interrogates us and sifts us continually from the cradle to the grave. Frequently it is our suffering and brokenness that can draw us out of ourselves. I have never met someone with a deeply generous and compassionate spirit who has not suffered. Conversely those who insulate themselves in indifference and pain avoidance almost invariably fail to even have a modicum of generosity or compassion.



So the question Jesus asks in our gospel "who do you say I am?" cannot be resolved once and for all by rote appeal to catechism or religious authority. What such a question calls from us is not about what we say but is about what we do. How we answer that question determines our identity. Like Peter we might speak the right formula and tick the right box but until we have walked the path of our own questioning and found our own humble pilgrim path of discipleship our understanding is second hand at best.

In today's gospel Jesus makes it clear there is no 'getting' who he is without getting the Cross. He is not the triumphant messiah of popular expectation but one instead who 'empties' himself in suffering service. We need to acknowledge that there is so much about the Cross that subverts and inverts our dominate cultural agendas that even when we think we are 'getting' Jesus right, we are more likely to be 'getting' him wrong. In particular, despite what some ultra traditionalists may assert about the church having comprehensively defined and formulated the identity of Jesus, the last word regarding his mystery will never be closed down and sealed by a single tidy amen.

Some years back the counter cultural American journalist Bob Bageant (now deceased) wrote a provocative book entitled "Deer Hunting with Jesus" His main concern was about class war in America and how a certain under class were manipulated to vote against their own interests. Bob had extensive experience of this coming from an Appalachian hillbilly poor white evangelical background. This was before we saw the rise of Trump. Out of this cultural mix emerged what some may call a kind of fundamentalist red meat, red neck, Donald Trump voting Jesus. The wider point to be made is how we are all very good at creating a Jesus in our own image. Our cultural baggage very easily gets in the way. Every one of us must encounter our 'own personal Jesus' but this does not mean we have him in our pockets. Yes, he is entirely personal but he will not be made in our own image, contained by our own projections or held to ransom or as mascot to our dominance agendas.

Part of the problem is that we have frequently found it easier to worship Christ rather than getting 'behind' him and following him. Placing Christ on a high pedestal and fawning in obsequious adoration might create some kind of pious satisfaction but can too conveniently remove the obligation to become transformed.

Fr Vincent Jewell PP

We pray for those who are unwell :

John Wedding	Judith Herron
Pat Alldis	Brittany Schultz
Noelene Goonan	Alan Ansell
Vincent Daniels	John Orders
Tim Coakley	Tulli Seabert

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.

Upcoming Meetings

St Bernard's Widowed and Social Group

Monday 17th September at 10.30m in the Fitzpatrick Room. Guest Speaker. Bring lunch to Share. New members welcome. Enquires Mary 5243 2673

Thurs 20th Sept 6pm

St Joseph's College Annual Fashion Dinner President's Room GMHBA stadium \$100. 2 course dinner.

*Raising funds to support the communities of **Mannya & St Joseph's PS Kensekka.***

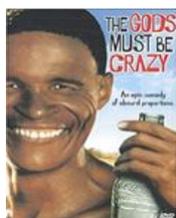
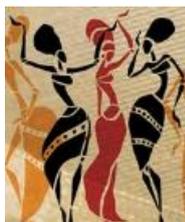
Online booking : www.trybooking.com/XGOG

Wednesday 26th Sept 7pm.

Movie night 'The Gods must be crazy'. Fund-raiser for the

Geelong Inter-Church Social Justice Network Forum on Climate Change & Sustainability.

St David's Uniting Church crn Aphrasia & Talbot Sts Newtown. \$25 at door; \$10 concession \$20 online : www.socialjusticegeelong.org.au



During September, Pope Francis has called for a **month of prayer for the Season of Creation.**

Visit The Campion Centre of Ignatian Spirituality <http://www.campion.asn.au/nature-2018/>



Espod Geelong Inc
Emotional Support for
Pregnancy Outcome Decisions.
www.espodgeelong.org.au.

Membership \$20.00. Information brochures/ membership forms in the foyer.

This Friday 21st
September at 12noon
will be **an Anointing**
Mass.



Child Safety at St Bernard's

St Bernard's Parish has the responsibility to :



- Be proactive to reduce the likelihood of risks emerging or escalating, rather than responding when harm has occurred.
- Provide training to identify, prevent and reduce risks.
- Consider both 'usual' risks and risks posed by specific activities eg a fete
- Ensure contractors are compliant with child safe standards.

It is a criminal offence not to act to reduce or remove risk & fail to protect children from sexual abuse

Update on Mannya Coffee Processing Machine (Huller)



Thank you to all who have helped so generously - we have almost enough money for current needs : transport from Kampala to Mannya (\$1900), electricity connection (\$tba), installation & training operators (\$3,600).

Direct bank transfer :

BSB : 063 504

Acc number : 008 005 74.

Bank reference : Coffee & surname

Cheques :

'St Bernard's Church Mannya acc' or leave **money at the Office.** Thank you

Pope summons bishops to Rome to address crisis



Pope Francis has called all of the presidents of the world's various conferences of Catholic bishops to Rome for a February meeting on clergy sexual abuse, in the first such global summons by a pontiff.

Australian Catholic Bishops Conference President Archbishop Mark Coleridge said such a meeting is "unusual, but it is appropriate and justified as the Church internationally must stand united to eliminate this evil from our midst". Cathnews

The End of the World

People are forever predicting the end of the world.



In Christian circles, this is generally connected with speculation around the promise Jesus made at his ascension, namely, that he would be coming back, and soon, to bring history to its culmination and establish God's eternal kingdom. There have been speculations about the end of the world ever since.

Our real worry should not be that the world might suddenly end or that we might unexpectedly die, but that we might live and then die, asleep, that is, without really loving, without properly expressing our love, and without tasting deeply the real joy of living because we are so consumed by the business and busy pressures of living that we never quite get around to fully living.

Hence being alert, awake, and vigilant in the biblical sense is not a matter of living in fear of the world ending or of our lives ending. Rather it is a question of having love and reconciliation as our chief concerns, of thanking, appreciating, affirming, forgiving, apologizing, and being more mindful of the joys of living in human community and within the sure embrace of God.

Buddha warned against something he called, "slouching". We slouch physically when we let our posture break down and become slothful. Any combination of tiredness, laziness, depression, anxiety, tension, over-extension, or excessive pressure can bring down our guard and make our bodies slouch. But that can also happen to us psychologically and morally. We can let a combination of busyness, pressure, anxiety, laziness, depression, tension, and weariness break down our spiritual posture so that, in biblical terms, we "fall asleep", we cease being vigilant, we are no longer alert. So we need to be awake spiritually, not slouching.

But, still, what about the question of when the world will end?

Perhaps, given the infinity of God, it will never end. Because when do infinite creativity and love reach their limit? When do they say: "Enough! That's all! These are the limits of our creativity and love!"?

Ron Rolheiser, OMI

Francis tells new bishops to reject clericalism

Pope Francis has urged newly-ordained bishops to fight abuse and reject what he termed the "clerical" culture that has seen a series of abuse scandals rock the Church.



"Dear brothers, turn away from clericalism. Just say no to abuse, of power, conscience or any type means saying no forcefully to all forms of clericalism," Pope Francis told 74 new bishops at the Vatican on Saturday.

"Be men who are poor in material goods and rich in (human) relations, never harsh or confrontational but affable, patient, straightforward and open," Francis said, urging dedication to the poor and the young in particular, even if the latter might sometimes appear "hedonistic".

He also warned the bishops against succumbing to apathy or mediocrity. Warning of the evils of materialism, the Pontiff added: "Do not forget that the devil enters via your pockets." News.com.au 10 Sept 2018

Jack's 'Fiver for a Farmer' campaign hits \$1m

The fundraising campaign launched by a 10-year-old Catholic schoolboy who



wanted to help farmers affected by the drought has exceeded all expectations after surpassing the \$1 million mark.

Jack Berne, a Year Four student at St John the Baptist Catholic School in Freshwater, Sydney, was the instigator of "Fiver for a Farmer" at the start of August.

He was inspired to help after learning in class about the struggles of those on the land.

"I heard that there are kids that are skipping school to help out on their farms. Kids that are our age!" He called on students and workers to unite on August 13 by dressing as farmers while donating \$5 to the cause.

With the funds the charities, Drought Angels and Rural Aid, will be able to give struggling farmers care packages, hay bales and access to counsellors. Yahoo7 News 10 Sept

Saturday, 22nd September 1-3.30pm. **Pastoral Healthcare Network Pamper Day.** Range of treatments : hand, shoulder and foot massage, Bowen and Myotherapy, blood pressure testing, meditation and afternoon tea. St Bernard's church foyer. \$10. Please RSVP 0403 500 279. RSVP 19th Sept

Monday 24th September 1.30pm

The Belmont Rhythmic Singers at Belmont Seniors Hall, 52 Thomson St Belmont. Cost \$5.00 Tea and coffee provided .

Fri 12th Oct 7pm **St Mary's Parish Pantry**

Fundraiser St Mary's Football Club, Kardinia Park West Oval. Dancing, Door Prize, Table Lotto, Raffles ... \$50pp from : St Mary's Parish Office - 5222 1977; Gary McIlvena - 0447 599 059; Catherine - 0409 007 913 or cmoon2@bigpond.com

Home-share accommodation available in Newtown. Contact Maureen 0438 297 165 or 5229 7165

Volunteer Overseas - The Cagliari Project, Salesians of Don Bosco for January 2019 departure, working with disadvantaged young people in Salesian communities throughout Cambodia, Samoa, Zambia & Solomon Island. Applications close October 15th. Send us an inquiry - www.cagliari.org.au

Asylum Seeker Food Bank @ The Welcome Place



(Wesley Centre Geelong)

Please see the noticeboard, or **take a flyer from the window ledge**, for details of how you can help :

- vouchers
- *culturally appropriate* non-perishable food
- toiletries and cleaning items
- Financial donations are also welcome.

There will be a box under the green noticeboard for donated goods.

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 : 4 23/24 Sept

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.

Setting up for Mass	6.00pm	C & C Raj
	9.00am	M & B O'Brien
	10.30am	J Earle D Gielen
Eucharist Ministers	6.00pm	M Dias E Kent C Kenworthy C Raj
	9.00 am	D Butler B Gleeson A Morris S Gillett C Wilkin
	10.30am	D Martin L Rimmer J Earle
Readers	6.00pm	P Lewis C Raj
	9.00 am	M King L Pomeroy
	10.30am	F Khan
PowerPointers	6.00pm	H Brislane
	9.00 am	J & J Burgess
	10.30am	M & G Burns
Musicians	6.00pm	Kevin E
	9.00am	Marg, Tess C and Anna
	10.30am	
Book Nook	9.45am	Joanna
Coffee Shop	Edna Mary M Pauline	
Cleaners : 9	L Jaques N Carr M Wedding S Iacano F & A Meesen B Pendergast	
Flowers	Janine	
Communion at home	D Turnbull—co-ord. Contact Office to arrange.	

This week:

Isa 50:5-9 Ps 114:1-6, 8-9
 James 2:14-18 Mk 8:27-35

Next Week:

Wis 2:12, 17-20 Ps 53:3-6, 8
 James 3:16-4:3 Mk 9:30-37