



St Mel's Parish

Est. 1915

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Parish Priest: Fr. Peter JOSEPH

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Parish Secretary: Diane Daher

Parish Office hours: 9:30am-3:00pm on Tuesday and Friday

St Mel's Catholic Primary School: 9789 3800

PARISH MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil: 5pm
Sunday: 8:30am, 10am
Weekdays: 9am Tuesday, Thursday, Friday.
Wednesday: 7pm followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament till 8pm.

SACRAMENTS

Confession: 4pm to 4:50pm Saturday, and before the two Sunday Masses.
Baptisms: By arrangement. Please download an application form from the parish website or call the Parish Office.
Weddings: By arrangement with at least three months' notice.
Care for the sick: Please call presbytery or contact Fr Peter Joseph.

DEVOTIONS

Rosary: Every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday after the 9am Mass.
Adoration: After Wednesday 7pm Mass (7:30-8:00pm)
First Friday Adoration: Mass at 9am, followed by Adoration and Rosary; ends at 10am.

SAINTS AND FEAST DAYS THIS MONTH

Monday 1 st August	St Alphonsus Liguori (bishop, Doctor of the Church)
Tuesday 2 nd August	St Eusebius of Vercelli (bishop) St Peter Julian Eymard (priest)
Wednesday 3 rd August	St Dominic (priest)
Thursday 4 th August	St John Vianney (priest)
Friday 5 th August	Dedication of the Basilica of St Mary Major
Saturday 6 th August	The Transfiguration of The Lord (Feast)
Monday 8 th August	St Mary of The Cross (virgin)
Tuesday 9 th August	St Teresa Benedicta of The Cross (virgin, martyr)
Wednesday 10 th August	St Lawrence (deacon, martyr)
Thursday 11 th August	St Claire (virgin)
Friday 12 th August	St Jane Frances de Chantal (religious)
Monday 15 th August	The Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation)
Saturday 20 th August	St Bernard (abbot, Doctor of the Church)
Monday 22 nd August	The Queenship of The Blessed Virgin Mary
Wednesday 24 th August	St Bartholomew (apostle)
Saturday 27 th August	St Monica
Monday 29 th August	The Passion of St John the Baptist (martyr)

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7th August, A.D. 2022 (Year C)

Entrance Antiphon: Look to your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

First Reading *Wisdom 18:6-9*

That night had been foretold to our ancestors, so that, once they saw what kind of oaths they had put their trust in, they would joyfully take courage. This was the expectation of your people, the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies; for by the same act with which you took vengeance on our foes you made us glorious by calling us to you. The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in secret and this divine pact they struck with one accord: that the saints would share the same blessings and dangers alike; and forthwith they had begun to chant the hymns of the fathers.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 32*

R. Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.
They are happy, whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen as his own. (R)
2. The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. (R)
3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield.
May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you. (R)

Second Reading *Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19*

Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commended. It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. By faith he arrived, as a foreigner, in the Promised Land, and lived there as if in a strange country, with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. They lived there in tents while he looked forward to a city founded, designed and built by God. It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore. All these died in faith, before receiving any of the things that had been promised, but they saw them in the far distance and welcomed them, recognising that they were only strangers and nomads on earth. People who use such terms about themselves make it quite plain that they are in search of their real homeland. They can hardly have meant the country they came from, since they had the opportunity to go back to it; but in fact they were longing for a better homeland, their heavenly homeland. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their God, since he has founded the city for them. It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: it is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead; and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead. *The word of the Lord.*

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Be watchful and ready: You know not when the Son of Man is coming. Alleluia!

Gospel *Luke 12:32-48*

Jesus said to his disciples: "There is no need to be afraid, little flock, for it has pleased your Father to give you the kingdom. 'Sell your possessions and give alms. Get yourselves purses that do not wear out, treasure that will not fail you, in heaven where no thief can reach it and no moth destroy it. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.' Peter said, 'Lord, do you mean this parable for us, or for everyone?' The Lord replied, 'What sort of steward, then, is faithful and wise enough for the master to place him over his household to give them their allowance of food at the proper time? Happy that servant if his master's arrival finds him at this employment. I tell you truly, he will place him over everything he owns. But as for the servant who says to himself, "My master is taking his time coming", and sets about beating the men-servants and the maids, and eating and drinking and getting drunk, his master will come on a day he does not expect and at an hour he does not know. The master will cut him off and send him to the same fate as the unfaithful.

"The servant who knows what his master wants, but has not even started to carry out those wishes, will receive very many strokes of the lash. The one who did not know, but deserves to be beaten for what he has done, will receive fewer strokes. When a man has had a great deal given him, a great deal will be demanded of him; when a man has had a great deal given him on trust, even more will be expected of him." *The Gospel of the Lord*

Communion Antiphon: The bread that I will give, says the Lord, is my flesh for the life of the world.

We remember in our Masses

Lord, we commend to your loving care all the sick of our parish: Kalim Morad, Anthony Raymond

Recently deceased: Maura Turiya, Dr. Tuyet Dang, Richard Harvey, Maya Sahabu, Bolos Hadid, Leila Abboud, Joan Grech, Julia Coorey, Ron Coorey, Michael Moses,

We also pray for all the souls of the faithful departed:

Francesco Viterale, Sayed Saad, Bac Trong, Georges Azzi, Alegria Diaz, Peter & Remy Karam, Balbadeh Kaream, Tony Karam, Raya & Youseff Karam, Jamil Moussa, Tunis & Salima Abraham, Yousif Abraham, Brian Abraham

We pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Joan Antida Grech, Olga Dahdah, Vincent Samia, Michael Samuel, Therese Nehmeh, Vince Samuel, Reynaldo Estanislao, William McFarlane, Maria Dang, Sam Abraham, Amira Moussa, Joseph Maree, Teresa Nguy, John Khoi Viet Tran, Frederick & Victor Schinkel, Helema Moses, Adoracion P. Coronado, Maria Camacho, Manuel Feixeir, Ane Khong, Dominic Vu,

May they rest in peace.

Tax Receipts for the 2021/2022

Tax receipts for the 2021/2022 financial year have been mailed for those who have requested a receipt for the following funds: Charitable Works Fund, Priest Retirement Foundation and Project Compassion.

The Bishop's Blend Breakfast

Looking to network with other young Catholic professionals and learn how to live your faith in the workplace? Then join Bishop Richard Umbers, Auxiliary Bishop of Sydney on **Monday 8th August at 7am at the Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel Sydney** for The Bishop's Blend Breakfast for Young Professionals. Online booking is essential. For more information and to purchase tickets go to:

<https://sydneycatholic.eventsair.com/the-bishops-blend/tbbx> or contact us at bishopsblend@sydneycatholic.org

Men's Breakfast with Bishop Daniel Meagher

"Men- Who are you and what is your purpose?"

Join Bishop Daniel Meagher on **Saturday 13 August** at St Thomas More Catholic Church, 298 Bay St, Brighton Le-Sands. The Cost is: \$20. Starting at 8am-12pm (includes Adoration/Reconciliation/ Mass and Discussion on the talk). Please register at : www.trybooking.com/CAZAV

Support your Archdiocese of Sydney newspaper *The Catholic Weekly*

In this week's edition:

- We can end homelessness
- The photographer who paints LIFE with LIGHT
- Time for the ABC to explain
- Australia's faith by the numbers
- Movie review: *Building a Bridge*
- Eddy Borovnjak: Man of faith

Special Masses for August 2022

Monday 8th August: Feast of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop – **Mass at 12midday.** (school children in attendance)

Monday 15th August: Solemnity of the Assumption (Holy Day of Obligation) **Masses at 9am and 7pm.**

Charitable Works Fund

The Charitable Works Fund (CWF) August Appeal is happening this weekend and we need your help. Our six ministries are all working hard at ensuring the most vulnerable in our communities receive the support they need. The devastation of the last two years has especially taken its toll on the unemployed, the homeless, those with mental health concerns, and broken families. Special envelopes are on your pews. Please place your donation in the special collection being offered at Mass today. You can also learn more and donate securely at: www.ourfaithourworks.org/cwf. Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

Gospel Reflection

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

A Life Without Possessions

“Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one’s life does not consist of possessions.” Luke 12:15

Imagine what your life would be like if you had no possessions. Imagine that all you had was the clothing you wore and you went through life relying upon the generosity of others. Though, at first, this may seem like an irresponsible way to live, there are some who are called to a form of this life for a sacred reason. Those called to strict religious life are called to embrace the life of poverty, owning nothing themselves, for a reason.

The reason is highlighted in this Gospel.

Too often in life we become consumed with our possessions. It’s true that material things can add “spice” to life. They can be fun, entertaining, comforting, etc. But the danger of becoming attached to the things of this world is that we begin to rely upon the pleasure they bring more than we rely upon the spiritual possessions which are of much greater value. It’s not that material possessions are bad, in and of themselves; rather, it’s that the spiritual possessions God wants us to obtain are of infinitely greater value.

Most are not called to live lives of material poverty, but all are called to live lives of poverty in spirit. This means that, though we live in the world, we are not to be of the world. We are to keep our hearts attached only to the greatest treasures of life: faith, hope and charity. When greed and love of material possessions draw us from these spiritual treasures, we must recommit ourselves to the discovery of their great value.

Reflect, today, upon any struggle you have with greed. If that does not sit well with you and if you find yourself immediately trying to justify your attachment to material things, then you may need this reflection more than you know. The Lord wants to give you so much more than this world can offer you. Do not make the choice to become attached to that which is “cheap” from an eternal perspective. Strive to embrace those true riches that will remain with you forever.

Lord of true riches, help me to always keep my heart set on the riches You bestow and to never settle for those things that can never fully satisfy me. I desire the wealth of Heaven, dear Lord, not the riches of Earth. Help me to live the spiritual poverty I am called to live so as to obtain all that You desire for me. Free me from greed and selfishness and help me to find true joy in Your holy will.

Jesus, I trust in You.