

PIUS VOICE

24th Sept, 2017, 25th Sunday



UNDER THE PASTORAL CARE OF THE OBLATES

Parish Priest

Fr. Mathewraj OMI

Assistant Priest

Fr. John O'Doherty OMI

Parish Manager

David Cunningham

Mass Times

Tuesday , Wednesday &

Friday 9.15 am

Thursday 9.30 am

Saturday 6.30 pm

Sunday 9.30 am & 5.30 pm

Daily Morning Prayer

Tues, Wed, Fri 8.40 am

Thurs 8.55 am

Rosary: Tues, Wed,

Fri 8.55 am & Thurs 9.10 am

Reconciliation

Saturday 11.30—12.00 noon

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Letter from Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP of Sydney

Dear Parents and Carers

In these days and coming weeks you will have the opportunity to participate in the postal survey on marriage, and to consider whether marriage should be redefined in Australian law so that individuals of the same sex can marry. We realise that you will all be reflecting on this question and respect your right to do so. However, given the significance of this issue and its implications for you, our Church and our Catholic schools, we thought we should write to you directly.

Amidst all the high emotions of the current debate, there's a risk that people may lose sight of what marriage actually is. Put simply, love and mutual respect always matter but not all loves are marriages. Our Christian understanding of marriage is that it is between a man and a woman, that it is life-long, and that it is open to children. This truth is revealed in the Bible and the Catholic tradition. It has been forcefully restated by Pope Francis, who thinks redefining marriage would be "a step backwards for humanity". As he points out, this understanding of marriage is by no means just the view of Catholics or Christians: until very recently people of all religions and none, and of every major civilization, culture and legal system we know of, thought the same about this "natural institution".

Some people argue that we should distinguish between marriage as defined in civil law and marriage as understood by the Church. Of course, the traditional understanding of marriage has always informed and been protected by the civil law in Australia, as is still the case in the vast majority of countries around the world. But for many people, whatever the law calls a marriage will be all that marriage is. Therefore, redefining marriage will not only undermine the traditional understanding even amongst Christians of husband, wife and children, but also have ramifications for everyone in our community. We already know how hard it is to sustain marriages and marriage-based families in a culture that is so often unsupportive, let alone in one that is even more confused about what marriage is.

Overseas experience suggests that once marriage is redefined in this way, it compromises many of our freedoms, especially

our freedoms of speech, religion and association. In those places, schools and school-teachers have found themselves having to teach views that are contrary to their religious faith and parents no longer have any say in what their children are taught in relation to the family, human sexuality and personal identity. These ideas are forced upon all teachers and families; it is faith-based schools that have the most to lose.

It is important to realise that no protections of our freedoms have been proposed so far by those who are pressing us to vote Yes. We are being asked to vote blind, without seeing what changes will be made to the law and what rights, if any, will be guaranteed.

We've all heard the arguments for redefining marriage: "Love is love, after all... All love is equal.... Anything else is discriminatory." But much of this public 'debate' has been very one-sided, with well-known politicians, corporates, media and sporting organisations supporting the Yes campaign, and the voices of ordinary Australians being drowned out along the way. Sadly, there has been a campaign to label all those who support traditional marriage as 'bigots' and 'homophobes', so as to silence all opposition. So let us say very clearly no to bigotry. Most of us know and love someone who is same-sex attracted and we want only the best for them. But we also love marriage as traditionally understood and want to maintain what is special about this relationship. We are being pressured to choose one or the other. But we are determined to keep respecting both. Saying 'no' to same-sex marriage doesn't mean that you love anyone any less.

We are aware that many Australians have strongly held views about the marriage debate, while others are yet to make a decision. In forming your opinion on this issue, we would urge people to be respectful of others and consider all the consequences of changing an institution that has been the foundation of our society.

As leaders within the Catholic community, we encourage you to reflect upon the core question -'What is Marriage really about?' -and on the likely significant consequences of redefining marriage for faith-based schools and believers in traditional marriage. This vote and any subsequent law will affect us all. We will be voting NO and encourage you to do the same. God give us all compassion, wisdom and courage.

Yours Sincerely in Christ
Most Rev. Anthony Fisher OP
Archbishop of Sydney



Melbourne Cup Luncheon

Oblate Melbourne Cup Luncheon to raise money for the Missions—Fr George Thorley hall. Tues Nov 7th 12.30pm – 2 course meal \$25 per ticket, BYO drinks, sweep tickets on sale from 11.30 am. To Book contact Carmel on 0421 270 164

Musical Evening

The Modbury SVDP conference is hosting a musical evening by The South Australian Police Band at 7pm on Friday 20th October at St John 23rd Centre, Reservoir Road, Modbury. Cost \$8.

Ukes4charity

UKULELE Group putting on a concert for charity Friday 22nd September at 7pm, at St John 23rd Centre, featuring the magic duo, The Tricksters. Tickets \$7 which includes a light supper – no b.y.o. Tickets available from the Modbury parish Office on 8264 7590

Brigidine Day Mass

This mass with the Students of Kildare next Tuesday 26th September 9.15am will run slightly longer than the usual 30 minutes.

KNIGHTS of the SOUTHERN CROSS DERNANCOURT BRANCH

On Saturday 18th NOVEMBER 2017 the Knights at Dernancourt will celebrate 30 years since the Branch was inaugurated with the assistance of the late PP Fr Paul Siebert OMI. We will hold a celebration Dinner in the Church Hall after the 6.30pm Mass and all Parishioners are welcome. The cost is \$30 per person with a 2 course meal; b.y.o drinks. To book a table contact either Rod Hern: 0400 196 779 or Peter Roberts: 8396 0554.

Thank You

Mrs Marie Smith would like to thank Fathers Mathew, John and parishioners for their prayers, calls and support since she broke her hip.

PLEASE REMEMBER THE SICK OF OUR PARISH IN YOUR PRAYERS

Alison Hellams, Charlie Bell, Cynthia Edwards, Denzil Simmons, Elisabeth Burns, Graham Smith, Frank, Fr Pat Moroney OMI, Helen Durkin, Ian Wallace, Margaret Baughn, Mary Meatheringham, Maureen Simmons, Pam Tully, Roger Price, Tony Petrie and Vic.

Parish Prayer Network:

Prayers for any need. All you need to do is call one of the following: Marie 8264 9569, Maureen 8261 6906 or Beth 8396 2079

Adoration

Adoration is held 10am-12pm and 6pm-9pm every Friday of term time. Everyone is encouraged to come and spend some time before the Blessed Sacrament to pray for their needs and the needs of the world.

Mass Intentions this week

This Week's Saints

27th St Vincent de Paul, 29th Sts Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, 30th St Jerome

Next Week's Readings 26th Sunday of Year A:

Ezek 18:25-28; Phil 2:1-11; Mt 21:28-32

Vinnies Food Bank

This week— WEETBIX, BREAKFAST CEREAL, RICE, FULL CREAM LONG LIFE MILK, PASTA, PASTA SAUCE, Cans of Tomatoes, Milo, Vegemite. Items for baby layettes: cotton vests, socks or booties, nappies, nappy pins, disposable nappies, cotton blankets, cotton sheets, towels, soap, wipes, wash cloths, baby shampoo, bibs, onesies, wool.

Diary Dates for October 2017

Sat 7th October— Our Lady of Rosary, the Rosary begins at 9.10am followed by Mass at 9.30am in the church.

Sat 14th October— Centenary of the Fatima Apparitions, Mass in the church at 9.30am and at 2pm Rosary will be recited in the Park at Balmoral Reserve—Balmoral Road, Dernancourt. Come, let us glorify God through our Blessed Mother.

Saint of the Week—St Vincent de Paul

Born of a humble peasant family, St Vincent found his calling in the ministry to the poor, first among the country estates of the Gondi family and later in Paris. He founded the lay Confraternity of Charity, the Daughters of Charity, and the Congregation of the Mission. Through his many efforts, St Vincent ministered to the whole spectrum of human need: the sick, prisoners, foundlings, prostitutes, slaves, beggars and outcasts. He instructed his followers, "If a needy person requires medicine or other help during prayer time, do whatever has to be done with peace of mind. Offer the deed to God as your prayer." St Vincent died in 1660. He is the universal patron of all works of charity.

Ministry Roster 30 September/1 October

6.30pm C Sr Pat Keane, R1 Patricia Beaven, R2 Huguette Rignanese E1 Bill Edmonds, E2 Estelle Curtale, E3 Patricia Rice, E4 Jim Kelly, M James Lloyd.

9.30am C Jos Hensing, R1 Sue Griffith, R2 John McManus, E1 Charlie Baldacchino, E2 Tommy Morrison, E3 Doris Taylor, E4 Marie Sterai, M Anne Alilio

5.30pm C Philip Matthews, R1 Alex Kaminski, R2 Susan Timpani E1 Sunjay Mohanaraj, E2 Sunil, Mohanaraj, E3 Esma Gagliardi, E4 Maria Cid, M Sonia Mohanaraj & Group

Church Cleaners: Team E: Pearce/Kaminski/Charlie & Val

Altar Linen: Jackie

First Reading Is 55:6-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near. Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him, to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks. Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 144:2-3, 8-9, 17-18.

(R.) The Lord is near to all who call him.

I will bless you day after day and praise your name for ever. the Lord is great, highly to be praised, his greatness cannot be measured. (R.)

The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures. (R.)

The Lord is just in all his ways and loving in all his deeds. He is close to all who call him, who call on him from their hearts. (R.)

Second Reading Phil 1:20-24, 27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake. Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

Gospel Acclamation Acts 16:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 20:1-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'