

HORNSBY CATHEDRAL PARISH

Letter from Fr Peter de Souza

12 July 2020



**Pope Francis's prayer intention for the month of July:
We pray that today's families may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance.**

My dear Parishioners,

Matthew's Gospel, Chapter 13, Jesus taught on the shore of the Sea of Galilee. The parable of the sower. According to the traditional Palestinian farming practices, sowing often precedes ploughing. We can assume that the sower intended to come back and plough the seeds into the soil.



This parable is a story of God's, abundance in sowing seeds right and left, in abundant measure, so that we constantly receive the word in our hearts from a generous sower. God is always at work scattering the seeds of His kingdom around us whether we deserve them or not, so that when the soil of our hearts is ready for the seed to germinate, the seed is already there. Even the tiniest seed of God's love can produce in us a harvest beyond our imagining. We too are called to sow the seed, trusting in the power of the word of God.

Our prayer be: "God of the heavens, God of the earth, all creation awaits your gift of new life. Prepare our hearts to receive the word of your Son, that His gospel may grow within us and yield a harvest that is a hundredfold." Alternative Opening Prayer (from 1998 ICEL Missal).

With all good wishes...
Fr Peter d.

Please remember in your prayers, those who are sick, and have died recently and whose anniversaries occur during this time. May I request you to keep all those who are struck with the virus, those tested positive and those in isolation in your special prayers.

We pray for all our Catechists going back in Term 3, to our local public schools.

Meeting of Senior Servers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

May I request all those in the above-mentioned ministry be present for the same, at the Cathedral this Thursday 16th July 2020 at 7.00pm. It's important that all in the Ministry, please join in the same.

RSVP to the Parish office.

Planned Giving Envelopes: To all those on our planned giving system I wish to acknowledge with gratitude your generosity. Your contribution is a great help to the Mission of the Church and especially to our Community, within and beyond the Parish. I am ever grateful for your on-going support. This year the new envelopes were delayed due to uncertainty of the situation. For your continued support **may I request you to please if possible:**

1. Please **collect your planned giving envelopes from both the Churches OR**
2. Switch over to a direct debit system, through the Parish, ask our staff to help you out.

For our Non planned givers: your continued offering is a great support, thank you for your generosity in your own way. May I request you to join our planned giving programme. It gives us a better understanding in terms of budgeting. Together we all make a difference, in various ways.

2019-2020 Tax receipts for Charitable Works Fund & Caritas (Project Compassion): If you wish for a printed copy or an email copy of the same, we are happy to support your request. Please call or email the parish office. Receipts for planned giving envelopes are also available. But please note only donations to Project Compassion & Charitable Works Fund are Tax Deductible.

Email: cathedral@bbcatholic.org.au

Phone: 8379 1700 (Monday-Friday 9am-4.20pm)

My Gratitude to those Parishioners who have come forward to clean up after our Masses during this time. Thank you for your generous service to the community. We still need many hands to continue the good work, please feel free to support us.



On the feast of Corpus Christi, I did mention to you all that I'm looking forward to restoring one of our old Monstrance that is in the Cathedral cupboard. It dates back to the 1900s, and homemade by W J Sanders & Company with all its ornate intricacies. It's worth good money today. To restore it to its original glory, does cost us \$ 7,700/- which includes GST but with your generosity, it may take shape, can we keep the conversation going. *I acknowledge with gratitude those who have already mentioned their support and contributing for the same. I'm excited to know your keen interest in the restoration process too. Thank you in advance.*

The word **Monstrance** comes from the Latin word *monstrare*, while the word *ostensorium* came from the Latin word *ostendere*. Both terms, meaning "to show", are used for vessels intended for the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. (Wikipedia)

Term two holidays: have a relaxing break, stay safe and healthy, and return with great passion for term 3.

Apostleship of the Sea Sunday (Sea Sunday) – 12 July 2020

The Annual Sea Sunday Appeal is to be held this Sunday, 12 July 2020.



On Sea Sunday, the church prays for all those who live and work at sea.

This year marks the centenary of the Apostleship of the Sea. In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the vulnerability of seafarers working on cruise ships, risking exposure to the virus, prevented from returning home and caught in critical situations of isolation on sea vessels.

An annual appeal runs on this day to support this ministry. Further information can be found at: <http://www.aos-australia.org/>