

HORNSBY CATHEDRAL PARISH

Letter from Fr Peter de Souza

26 July 2020



“A man who can own pearls does not bother about shells, and those who aspire to virtue do not trouble themselves over honours.” St. Francis de Sales

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

My dear Parishioners,

(1 Kings 3:5-6) God said to Solomon, “Ask what you would like me to give you.” Solomon replied, “Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil.” As we continue to pray for the gift of discernment as our guide in making decisions, there is a pearl in each of us (Mt 13:45). And there is a price for each one to pay. A price tailored to each individual circumstance. Detachment is that price. To be able to walk away from what we cherish most without so much as looking back with regret. Our tragedy is not that we cannot find the pearl but that we are unwilling to pay the price. Everything has innate value. I need to loosen my grip on what is a passing reality, and seek what is eternal, in the spirit of discernment, and know the ultimate treasure on which my life depends. Pause and give thanks to God for what brings deep joy in life.

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.

Calling forth... but under COVID19 restrictions:

I do understand, and given the situation, we do not have Congregational Singing within the Community. Yes, it is true, so that we minimise the risk of spreading the virus. But there are ways without engaging the community in singing. We can make our worship meaningful and beautiful in our responsibility for one another and uplifting for a God experience. So therefore, can I ask instrumentalists who would like to offer their talent “that priced Pearl” to play at various Masses over the weekend, I personally am happy to help you out in this venture. Please come forward, and make no hesitation, remember as a **disciple gifted with that priced pearl, you are helping and touching someone on their journey of faith and being enriched yourself, “for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Cor 9:7).**

Fr Peter D

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

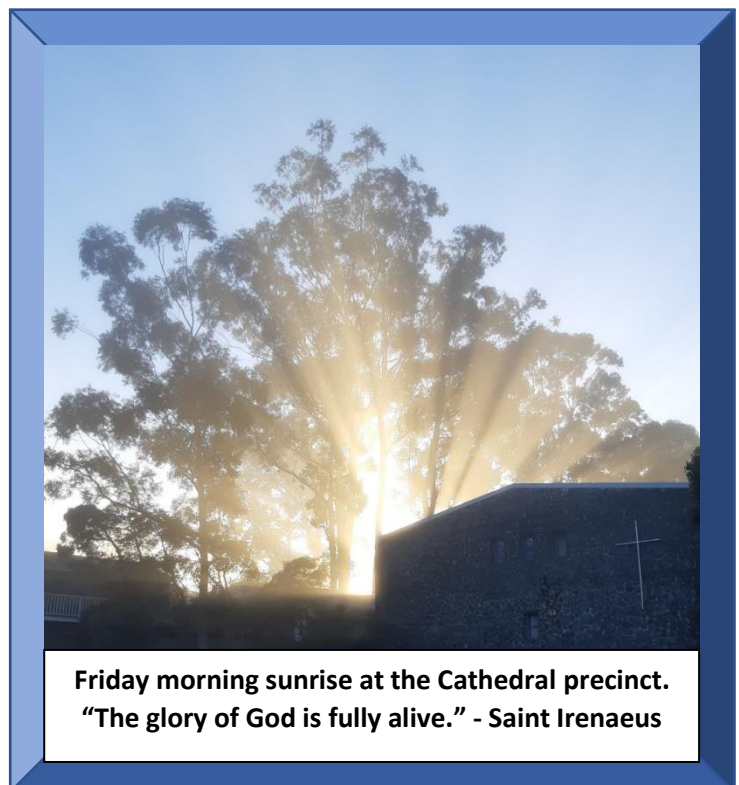
Phone: 8379 1700 (Monday-Friday 9am-4.20pm)

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.

My Gratitude to those Parishioners who have taken on board the live-streaming project, trained and practiced too. Some of you have moved from the **L-plates to Green & Red Ps.** Your generosity, and that of your family too, has been tremendous. It's a sign of You and Us journeying in faith together. I pray that together we continue to make a difference.

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)



Friday morning sunrise at the Cathedral precinct.
"The glory of God is fully alive." - Saint Irenaeus