






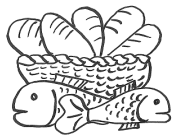
17th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B

 <p>Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for July</p> <p>Social Friendship</p> <p>We pray that, in social, economic and political situations of conflict, we may be courageous and passionate architects of dialogue and friendship.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Vox Episcopi - The Voice of the Bishop</p> <p style="text-align: center;">My dear sisters and brothers in Christ,</p> <p>A little over three years ago, I had the pleasure of being at the launch of a new initiative called <i>Fire Up Ministries</i> (fireupministries.com). Along with several hundred young people, I gathered at Epping for the launch of this marvellous initiative by Simon and Madeleine Carrington.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(To read the full message go to our website or facebook page)</i></p>
--	--



First Reading 2 Kg 4:42-44	Responsorial Psalm Ps 144:10-11,15-18 R.v.16	Second Reading Eph 4:1-6	Gospel Acclamation Lk 7:16	Gospel Jn 6:1-15
--------------------------------------	--	------------------------------------	--------------------------------------	----------------------------

<p style="text-align: center;">Reflection by Seminarian Adi Sugiarto</p> <p>When was the last time we did an examination of conscience? To have a reflective life as a Christian, this (examination of conscience) is an important aspect of our faith. When we do a proper examination of conscience, we are simply asking ourselves if we have been life-giving towards one another.</p> <p>This process when done honestly, will allow us to see if we are moving closer or further away from God and things that are life-giving. It is through the examination of conscience that we attempt to observe the alignments and discrepancies in our life to the perfect model of man in Jesus Christ, Our Lord.</p> <p>Often, we struggle to begin this 'life that is worthy of our vocation', as St Paul in the second reading implored us (Ephesians 4:1-6). We frequently do not know where and how to begin. I think the Gospel this Sunday is giving us a simple example of where and how to begin. Let us all learn from this small boy "with five barley loaves and two fish" (John 6:1-15). Surely, no one in their right mind would think this small offering would suffice to feed the five thousand or to change the world. But with Jesus on our side, the little generous offering that we offer up could be turned into deeds of everlasting value.</p> <p>Let us use this time of lockdown and solitude to do some soul-searching and intensify our desire to begin anew; a life that is worthy of eternal life. Start small. Let's begin at our own homes and use this opportunity to really get to know each other as families and learn to treat one another more lovingly by offering more of us.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">First World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly Sunday 25 July 2021</p> <p>As part of the celebrations for the Year <i>Amoris Laetitia</i> Family, Pope Francis has set aside the fourth Sunday in the month of July as World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>PRAYER FOR THE FIRST WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY</p> <p>I thank You, Lord, for the comfort of Your presence: even in times of loneliness, You are my hope and my confidence, You have been my rock and my fortress since my youth! I thank You for having given me a family and for having blessed me with a long life.</p> <p>I thank You for moments of joy and difficulty, for the dreams that have already come true in my life and for those that are still ahead of me.</p> <p>I thank You for this time of renewed fruitfulness to which You call me.</p> <p>Increase, O Lord, my faith, make me a channel of your peace, teach me to embrace those who suffer more than me, to never stop dreaming and to tell of your wonders to new generations.</p> <p>Protect and guide Pope Francis and the Church, that the light of the Gospel might reach the ends of the earth.</p> <p>Send Your Spirit, O Lord, to renew the world, that the storm of the pandemic might be calmed, the poor consoled and wars ended.</p> <p>Sustain me in weakness and help me to live life to the full in each moment that You give me, in the certainty that you are with me every day, even until the end of the age.</p> <p>Amen.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>
--	---



SAFEGUARDING MESSAGE: The Pastoral Care of the elderly is a priority that must form part of a Safeguarding Action Plan of any Parish community. In the encyclical *Fratelli Tutti*, Pope Francis reminds us that “no one is saved alone. With this in mind, we must treasure the spiritual and human wealth that has been handed down from generation to generation.”

My dear parishioners

On this weekend, as the Church all over the world celebrates Grandparents day we acknowledge with gratitude the gift of grandparenting. As grandparents today in some instances take on the role of fulltime parenting. We assure you of our prayerful support, our constant encouragement and our acts of gratitude.

Our primary school here at OLOR Waitara had prepared a beautiful Liturgy included in Mass to celebrate your persons. Unfortunately, due to Covid restrictions we can't gather and we can't make it happen. We shall celebrate it at a later date. While restrictions and physical distancing are in the forefront we assure each of you of a virtual hug, prayer and eternal rest for those who have gone ahead.

Blessings to each of you and your families.

Fr Peter and Parish Team.

THANK YOU TO OUR PARISHIONERS

for your generosity to the various appeals the parish has to assist in the work of Evangelisation. I am grateful for your financial contributions and pray that you will be blessed by our loving God.

Fr Peter deSouza

TAX RECEIPTS 2020-2021

Parishioners who would like to receive a Tax Receipt for their Project Compassion or Charitable Works Fund donations can do so by emailing or phoning the parish office.

Project Compassion & Charitable Works Fund carry a 100% tax deductibility.

Please note that Planned Giving and Peter's Pence carry a 0% tax deductibility. If you would like a receipt for your Planned Giving contributions please also email or phone the parish office.

COVID Update Our Church buildings are closed but our livestreaming service is still available from our Cathedral on Sunday mornings at 9.30AM as well as weekdays at 7AM.

Mass For You at Home This weekend's Mass for the 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time features our own Fr David Ranson, with Br Bernard Fonkulsrud and Selina Hasham reading.

You can watch the broadcast at 6.00am Sunday 25th July.

Congratulations to Aris and Jen Alarcon who celebrated their 15th Wedding Anniversary this week. May God bless you and your family too.

May I ask you to pray for those who are sick, those who are struck with the virus, those tested positive, those in isolation, and those vaccinated for COVID-19.

We remember those who died recently –

Sister Sylvia Markulin (Sisters of St Joseph) ● Graciela Rojas ● Jan Theunissen ● Vincenzia Randazzo ● Eileen Velasco

Anniversaries – Sr Phil Tiernan ● Manoj Koshy ● Gabrielle Small ● Fr Frank Vaughan

We pray for the sick – Lisa Hogarth ● Megan Sarich

CARE WHEN YOU NEED IT

The further COVID-19 restrictions are having a huge impact on our day-to-day lives. They may cause anxiety and depression. If you need to talk to someone please consider calling CatholicCare 131819, Lifeline 131114 or Beyond Blue 1800 512 348. The Australian Govt is subsidising mental health sessions from a psychologist, GP or other eligible allied health workers. Call/contact your GP to discuss your needs.

Many of these organizations also recommend the following:

- Try to think of it as time to spend at home and with your family.
- Try to avoid watching unlimited COVID coverage.
- Try to stick to your usual routine. i.e. sleep pattern, meal plans, washing days.
- Try prayer/mindfulness.
- Perhaps start a new hobby or try to develop a new skill. e.g. juggling, puzzling, music lessons, painting.
- Learn how to use Facetime or Messenger to video call friends and family.
- Try to get outdoors for a walk or exercise, especially with some sunshine.
- Listen to your favourite music, or write some songs.

Dear Parishioners

Please know that we are praying for you and yours, especially at this time.

If anyone is bored, lonely or you just want to see a different face and have a chat, please join us on Zoom by clicking on the below link:

Wed, 28th July at 11am:

<https://bbcatholic.zoom.us/j/96167008144?pwd=V21TUzVNZWWhPN1dyWDMrRWJOTTZQZz09>

Thurs, 29th July at 11am:

<https://bbcatholic.zoom.us/j/91815267415?pwd=ejZ6SkpKWDDcQkErdW9PNTE3dUkydz09>

Looking forward to seeing you soon.

Regards *Louise Spencer and all the Catechists*

Foster Care campaign

Are there families in your Parish that may be able to take a child into their loving and supportive homes?

For more information on what is involved in Foster Care see

<https://www.catholiccaredbb.org.au/foster-care/>



ONLINE PARISH GIVING

In light of the extraordinary circumstances, we are experiencing due to pandemic, please know that ONLINE Parish Giving is available. To donate, please click on the button below.

1st Collection is used for the support of the Bishop and priests of the Diocese.

[Donate to our Parish](#)

2nd Collection is used to meet Parish running costs, maintenance of Church, Presbytery, offices, other buildings and grounds. It is also used to pay for all our Ministries' expenses and staff salaries and superannuation.