



18th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B



**Pope Francis' Prayer Intention
for August**

The Church

Let us pray for the Church, that she may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.

Vox Populi - The Voice of the People

This week's *Vox Populi* comes from Carmel and Tony Smith. They have lived in the same home in Belrose for their 55 years of marriage. They are members of Frenchs Forest Parish, St Martin de Porres community in Davidson. They have four children plus a son who died aged 7 hours and 11 grandchildren. Apart from their many Parish ministries, Tony and Carmel are involved in the St Vincent de Paul Society. They are Poppy and Apple (Granny Smith) to their grandchildren.



The joy of being Grandparents

(To read the full message go to our website or facebook page)

First Reading Ex 16:2-4, 12-15	Responsorial Psalm Ps 77:3-4,23-25,54 R.v.24	Second Reading Eph 4:17,20-24	Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:4	Gospel Jn 6:24-35
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Reflection by Fr Manoj Manuel



Jesus the Bread of Life is our Daily Bread

The Gospel passage of this week is taken from the bread of life discourse. It is in chapter 6 of the Gospel of John. The chapter begins with the narration

of the multiplication of bread and feeding so many hungry people. The resource available was only five loaves and two fish. So people were in search of Jesus even the next day. Why? "...because you had all the bread you wanted to eat."

Jesus then took their attention from the earthly bread to the bread of life from heaven. Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life." If we believe in Jesus and go to him, we will never hunger or thirst.

In the prayer 'Our Father' we ask for daily bread ("...give us this day our daily bread..."). What are we here praying for? Are we not taught here by the Lord Jesus to ask everything we need to live faithfully as children of God? When we pray the 'Our Father,' do we only ask for our earthly food and other material needs, or do we ask the Heavenly Father to give us Jesus the bread of life? What do we really need the most every day? We need faith, hope, love, readiness to accept God's will, a heart to understand others, and so on.

When we ask for daily bread, we acknowledge the fact that our entire existence depends on God. When we pray each time the prayer "Our Father," let us remind ourselves what we need most is Jesus the Bread of Life."

St John Vianney exhorts us thus, "Let us not put off till the end of our life the care that we ought daily to take of our souls, let us labour while there is time."

My dear Parishioners

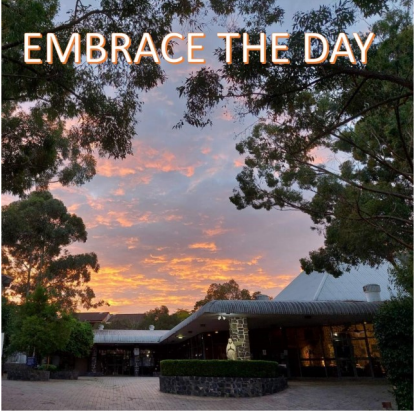
As we continue to navigate ourselves through this period of lockdown, all we hear of is doom and gloom. But I am sure that in that doom and gloom that you are watching the Olympics and enjoying the harvest of medals. While all this is happening I am encouraged to share some of my personal reflections which you might be already used to. If not try to use them.

In Lockdown...

- Value school/work/retirement. Dress up every morning for action, embrace the day.
- Value the lockdown silence, not an empty one but a creative one. Be positive.
- Value the lockdown 'time of being together' to bind together.
- Value the lockdown—to breath afresh as you walk an extra mile.
- Finally, in lockdown are you contemplating of getting vaccinated.

With prayerful wishes

Fr Peter deSouza



SAFEGUARDING MESSAGE: A child safe and friendly Parish values children and understands safety doesn't just happen. A commitment to protecting children is embedded in the Parish's culture and is understood and accepted by everyone.

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.

National Homelessness Week, 1 - 7 August 2021

On any given night, 116,000 people in Australia are experiencing homelessness, which, is not 'rooflessness'. Only 7% of people without a home are sleeping rough. The vast majority of homelessness is hidden – people in crisis accommodation, rooming houses, insecure housing, overcrowded dwellings, or couch surfing. A home means security, stability, privacy, safety, and being able to control your space.

CatholicCare Broken Bay is the welfare agency in our Diocese and they provide a range of services to assist those experiencing homelessness.

During Homelessness Week, one practical way you can help is by making an online donation to CatholicCare's '**Shout a Mate a \$6 plate**' fundraiser for Mary Mac's Place. The link to the website is <https://www.catholiccaredbb.org.au/shout-a-mate-a-plate/>.

CatholicCare can help with Coles or Woolworths vouchers.

Times are tough. You might have lost work due to the lockdown, or you might be finding it hard to pay the bills or to put food on the table. Please call CatholicCare on (02) 9481 2600 or email them at info@catholiccaredbb.org.au. They are here to help our parish families.

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 –

Patrick Rock • Sister Sylvia Markulin (Sisters of St Joseph) • Graciela Rojas • Jan Theunissen • Vincenzia Randazzo

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

We pray for the sick — John Bolster • Lisa Hogarth • Megan Sarich

Congrats and Thank you.....

The students of St Leo's "Leo's in Lockdown" have raised \$12,000 for the Vinnies winter appeal. Congrats and thank you for being and helping the less fortunate of our society... God Bless your efforts.

Catechist Corner

ARE YOU HOMESCHOOLING AT THE MOMENT?

K-12 encounter Jesus. Faith formation, not just information about religion. READY TO MAKE TIME FOR GOD?

Age appropriate resources developed for students from Kindy to Yr 12. Easy, engaging lessons, no experience required.

There are [Special Religious Education Home Learning Resources](#) now made available for **all children in all schools**.

The Department of Education has let schools know to pass on this link to families in public schools as they attend Scripture lessons.

Lessons are narrated with videos, songs, bible stories, prayers and activities. Scripture (SRE) is an important part of the School Curriculum as well as for well-being. What a blessing to be able to include these lessons with what the schools are sending home.

K-12: <https://www.cress.org.au/learning-from-home-sre-lessons/>

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/>



You're invited! Please join us for a series of on-line talks about Euthanasia, Dying and the Dignity of the Human Person

It's anticipated that a Bill allowing for the legalisation of euthanasia will be presented to the NSW Government in September. You are invited to a series of online talks by theological and medical specialists on the topic over three Mondays in August, co-hosted by the Dioceses of Broken Bay and Parramatta. You'll also have a chance to submit questions. **Fr David Ranson, VG**, will give the first session to be held on **2 August at 7.30pm**.

For more information or to register please visit: parracatholic.org/euthanasiatalks or contact Emma Baker at emma.baker@bbcatholic.org.au

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.

[Donate to our Parish](#)

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

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.