



*What does the LORD require of you
but to act justly, to love
Tenderly and to walk humbly with
your God. MICAH 6:8*

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Parish Pastoral Council
Chairperson.

Jim Prendergast
Parish Finance
Chairperson

Donna McFadzean
Our Lady of the Way
Principal 4777 7200

Tania Cairns
Penola Catholic College
Principal 4728 8100

Parish Account
details: *For online*
banking only!!!!
EMU PLAINS
CATHOLIC CHURCH.
BSB 067 950
A/c No. 00000289.

ENVELOPES: You
may drop your
Planned Giving
envelope to the
Parish office on
Tuesdays between
10am and
12 Midday.
Thankyou.

World Day of Prayer for Creation & Season of Creation

Pope Francis has designated September 1 as the *World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation*. Join Pope Francis and Christians around the globe in praying for and taking action for our common home on 1 September and during the Season of Creation (1 Sept – 4 Oct). For more information, resources, and activities in the Diocese of Parramatta, visit parracatholic.org/seasonofcreation

Fan the Flame – Towards Plenary Assembly One October 2021

'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me.' Mark 8:27-35

There can be no shortcuts, no bypassing the cross or the tomb, to encounter the resurrection. For new life and new hope to emerge, we need to acknowledge that we are a broken, hurt and traumatised Church... by standing in solidarity and compassion with each other, particularly the wounded, the poor and the traumatised. (*Humble, Healing and Merciful – Discernment Paper pp. 12 and 18*)

www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fantheblade/

Caritas Australia responds to humanitarian crises in Afghanistan and Lebanon

In Afghanistan, people have been forced from their homes, with half of the population in urgent need of food, water, shelter and protection. In Lebanon, the country is running out of power, water, fuel, medicine and food. Please donate to Caritas Australia respond to crises like these by visiting caritas.org.au/lebanon or www.caritas.org.au/afghanistan or call 1800 024 413 toll-free to provide much needed support.

APPEAL FOR RETIRED CLERGY

We currently have 20 retired clergy in the Diocese—1 Bishop, 17 Priest and 2 Deacons. Ongoing assistance includes independent retirement living, aged care, or nursing home accommodation for frail priests; meals, transport and medical care as required. **Please give generously via the Clergy support Foundation website: parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal or call (02)88383482**

DEAR PARISH VOLUNTEERS: We all have to upgrade our volunteer accreditation with the Diocese—a legal requirement—if you have not received information regarding the *new required* Safeguarding training program, please email the parish office with your details or call the office number 4735 1041, leave a message and we will get back to you. Zoom sessions will commence 21st September.

Thanksgiving to God for the gift that you are to our parish community. May we continue to grow in love of God and neighbour.

Please pray for Recently Deceased Robert Anthony Campbell and the Anniversary of Wal Payne and for all those who are sick in our community.

Grace Perry, Karen Gulliksen, Harry Beasley, Maddison Farrugia, Leone Kirton Vicki Wells, Mark Simmonds, Max Scott, Anita Glynn, Libby Lawson, Paul Dalton, Shirley Coburn, Michelle Gardam, Jacqui Walker, Mary Berkout, Patricia Knoke, Brian Payne, Mervin McCaster, Marie Mahoney, Jeffrey Ridley, Michael Mercieca, Carmen Smith, Beryl Page, Frances Payne, Gregory Clare, Judy Chesters, Emma Woods, Brian O'Hara, Bruce Gillett, Ray Dukes, Barbara Grant, Mavis Thompson, Laurie Doohan, Nathalie Dhyon, Mike Sayer, Terry Simpkin, Nicole Unsal, Debra Gleeson, Paul Ziberras, Ken Ridley, Joseph Stipich, Joyce Dukes, Tyler Kennedy, Catalina Labra—Knox, Teresa & Larry Dunn, Graham and Christine Hall, Lorraine Lindsay, Maria Chircop, Nerida Fabri, Graeme Hardy, Lynette Hill, Frances Grove, Jennifer Stonehouse, Peter Graham, Megan Hallam, Mandy Parer, Patricia Lynch & Bob Campbell.

Homily for 24th Sunday year B Fr. Michael.

In the book called *this I believe* there's a series of essay by famous people. They describe what affected them deeply in their lives.

One of these episodes is that of the Du Pont Company in his episode he recalls what happened to him when he was seven years old. He tells his story that one midnight he awoke out of a deep sleep. His mother was sobbing loudly, it was the first time he would ever hear her cry.

He described the incident this way, "My dad's voice was low and troubled as he tried to comfort mother-and their anguish they both forgot about the nearness of my bedroom. I overheard them".

Then he continues "although their problem..... has since been solved and forgotten, the big discovery I made that night is still with me; namely 'Life is not all roses and flowers; its hard and cruel... much of the time'".

Most of us can relate to that seven-year-old boy lying in bed, listening to his mother cry. We too remember hearing our mother cry, we too remember the impact it had on us, we too remember how it made us aware, perhaps for the first time, that life is not all roses and flowers that sometimes life is cruel and hard.

Maybe that is what we are even feeling during this time of lockdown, but the big question is to whom we shall turn to.

This brings us to today's Jesus' message of the Gospel when he says, if anyone wants to become his follower, he must forget him/herself., carry his cross and follow him. In other words, suffering and sorrow are like storms and waves, they are part of life, there is no way we can escape them. The challenges of following Jesus are tough, but they must be borne.

Jesus went on to say something remarkable, He says whoever wants to save his own life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the sake of the Gospel will save it.

For Jesus important things in life isn't the sorrow and suffering that befall us. The important thing is how we respond to that suffering, the important thing is, what we do about them.

Although in life we cannot avoid sorrow and suffering, we can define what to do with them. We can opt to turn them into something constructive not destructive, to turn them into something that is life giving, not death-dealing. We can turn them into something that makes us better and not bitter.

Important thing in life is not sorrow and suffering that befall us no, important thing in life is how we respond to that suffering, remember Jesus' call and invitation "whoever wants to become my disciple let him carry his cross and follow me". If we refuse to accept sorrow and suffering, if we refuse to pick up crosses in our life and carry them for Jesus' sake, we end up losing our life.

On the other hand, if we pick them up and carry them courageously, as Jesus did, we can turn them into something positive. We can turn them into something life-giving.

Sometimes God allows sorrow and suffering into our lives to fashion us into better people- warmer people, humbler people, more compassionate people and more understanding.

A case on hand is what is going on in the world now with Coronavirus pandemic, the language we hear is "social distance" take a moment and think of millions of people because of their dreadful situations they cannot social distance they don't have space to social distance. Think of millions of families; ten children, a single room, a room which is everything for them from dining room to bedroom.

Sorrows and sufferings can open our eyes to a richer and more beautiful life than we ever dreamed possible, they can help us to enrich others, and by reaching those others we reach out to Jesus and carry his cross.

PLEASE NOTE: PARISH REFLECTION DAY VIA ZOOM HOSTED BY FR. EMIL MILAT
Fr Michael has invited Fr. Emil to give a reflection via zoom in lieu of the Parish
Retreat day which was postponed from 3rd July. Session 1—11.30am *Growing in*
Holiness—an introduction to the gift of living in the Divine Will and
Session 2 at 2pm

Reflection on Pope Francis' book *LET US DREAM*. Links for meeting have been sent to our email list. Link below for those who have not received by email.

Topic: Fr. Emil Milat's Zoom Meeting

Time: Sep 12, 2021 Session 1. - 11.30am Session 2 - 02:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6486731697?pwd=c1ZpcmNFdS9raVQ4K0lYcTVRWnZwdz09>

Meeting ID: 648 673 1697

Passcode: 2602

COPY LINK INTO GOOGLE URL IF IT DOES NOT OPEN FROM BULLETIN SOURCE.