



Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Parish, Stafford

A Parish of the Brisbane North West Deanery

Vision: "To follow the example of Jesus by serving others."

The 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A 17th/18thth October, 2020



This is a shortcut to our mass booking links.

I hope this makes things a little easier for you. This is also on our home page of our website. You no longer

need to open the newsletter online to book a seat at mass. This should work for all devices including phone and tablets. Of course nothing is foolproof. If you do experience problems, please contact the office.

This weekend please make welcome Fr Harry Chan. Fr Harry is our neighbour from Kedron parish. He will be celebrating mass on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning. Our own parishioners will be presiding at the 7am ZOOM liturgies while Fr Denis is away.



Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83050318304>

Meeting ID: 830 5031 8304

Passcode: away

One tap mobile

+61370182005,,83050318304#,,,,,0#,,492790# Australia

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+61 3 7018 2005 Australia

+61 7 3185 3730 Australia

Meeting ID: 830 5031 8304

Passcode: 492790



World Mission Sunday

One of the constant messages that the team at Catholic Mission receive from missionaries around the world is 'thank you'. The people that we support, with the generosity of our donors, know how blessed they are by the Church here in Australia. That same note of gratitude is heard in today's second reading, where Paul, Silvanus and Timothy all acknowledge the other members of the Thessalonian faith community in their prayers and give thanks for each of them. Missionaries that we support and uphold express similar gratefulness. When you contribute to the Catholic Mission appeal this weekend, you can be assured that you, your parish and others like it, will be remembered in prayer by those in places like Cambodia. Whether you give through a text message (**Text** the word *GIVE* to 0488 854 436, enter your parish name in the notes and follow the prompts), donate online (catholicmission.org.au/Cambodia) or give via the traditional appeal envelope, you are helping missionaries like Bishop Kike reach out and bring life to some of the most needy people in the world. On behalf of all of them, we, like Paul, give thanks.

"It is like I have a new life"

Khean Chen's childhood in Pailin, western Cambodia was much like the thousands of other children growing up across the country in the aftermath of the Khmer Rouge regime.

His days were filled school, helping his family at home, searching for bamboo shoots, mushrooms and other fresh foods with his brothers on the nearby hillside and impromptu soccer matches with friends at every opportunity.

It was while searching for bamboo shoots that, at the age of 16, everything changed for Chen. He stepped on a landmine as he was walking through the undergrowth on the hill beside his home. His younger siblings witnessed the accident and ran for help. Chen was rushed to hospital and his life was saved, but he lost both of his legs. Chen spent weeks physically recovering, but the greatest battle he faced was adjusting to just how different his life would be.



The 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

1st Reading: Exodus 22:20-26

2nd Reading: Thess 1:5-10

Gospel: Matthew 22:34-40



"Immediately at the time of the accident, it was difficult to accept, since I used to be able to walk normally..."

Chen admits he reached his lowest point as he feared his permanent disability would mean becoming a burden for his family.

But, when Bishop Kike and his team arrived on Chen's doorstep to invite him to the Arrupe Centre in Battambang and offer him a supportive home and the chance to continue his education, Chen felt hope again.

Ten years on from the accident, Chen has completed his secondary education and with the help of the Arrupe centre, he has gone on to study information technology processing at university, and gain employment at the La Paloma Textiles Centre, a Church-run social enterprise in Battambang.

"For me to complete my studies to the end and continue on to enter college, and in addition now I have a job to earn some income ... it is like I have a new life."

But it is not just technical skills that Chen has learned during his years at the Arrupe Centre. As one of the older residents at the Centre, Chen is a role model for the younger residents. Chen was supported through his greatest challenges and now supports other young people through theirs.

"At the Arrupe Centre, in my free time I teach the children and help to oversee things in the Centre too. There are many things to do here; we can grow vegetables or raise animals, and sometimes, we play sports together."

Chen has experienced first-hand the lifechanging work of the Arrupe centre. With everything he has gained and achieved he dreams of a living a life that will help others in turn.

"I would love to work at any place that can help other people"

"In the future I hope to have a good job so I will be



able to help my family to be in a better situation."

"His family gave to him his strengths, yes because he gets love, but also his

family gives him a reason to go ahead"

Bishop Enrique Figaredo Alvargonzalez

Chen's strength and determination have meant that he has made the most of every opportunity that the programs at the Arrupe Centre have offered him.

He now has a hopeful future and is ready to change his family's circumstances and shape his country.

If Chen's story inspires you, donate now to continue the work of the Arrupe Centre to ensure the same opportunities for others like Chen.

The theme of this year's Social Justice Statement is "To Live Life to the Full – Mental Health in Australia Today".

At our meeting, members of the Parish Social Justice group reflected on some aspects of this fine and comprehensive Statement of the Australian Bishops. The section highlighted in this extract is not easy for us to face, but we offer it for your reflection.

First Nations people and communities continue to be over-represented on key measures of disadvantage including lower life expectancy, poverty, imprisonment



and ill-health, both physical and mental. With mental health for instance, the death rate from intentional self-harm is twice as high for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as for non-Indigenous Australians. In 2017, Indigenous Elders and leaders from around Australia gathered at Uluru for the Aboriginal and Torres

Strait Islander Referendum Convention. They issued the Statement from the Heart, which emphasised the nation's need for greater truth-telling and Indigenous empowerment in decision-making: The Statement from the Heart calls for constitutional reforms to establish a First Nations Voice and Makarrata Commission to underpin agreement-making with government. The empowerment of an Indigenous voice and self determination in all decisions that affect the lives of their communities is aimed at bringing the values of fairness, truth and justice to Australia's relationship with First Nations people and communities. It is about stepping up to the unfinished business of our past and ensuring the right of each person to flourish and live life to the full. That call is yet to be answered in a spirit of national solidarity.

The marginalisation and incarceration experienced by the First Australians raise real questions about our commitment to the common good. We are called to reach out to these people at the fringes who have been ignored and harmed by our society. They too must share in the good of all of us.

NEW Planned giving envelopes are available now. The new envelopes began on 4th October. They can be collected before Mass or from the Office Foyer **(when Office is open during the week.)** If you are needing assistance to collect your envelopes, please call Debra to make alternate arrangements. Please discard any unused envelopes from last campaign.

As we are creeping closer to the end of the year, some of the 'normal' things we do in parish life are coming around again. The liturgical year finishes on 22nd Nov with the feast of Christ the King. For

those on our reading roster, you will need to order a copy of Break Open the Word. **I would like to place an order by 3rd November for delivery to you before the end of November.** The cost is \$18. Please phone or email the parish office to place an order for your copy. The cost is discounted if we place one order. If you do miss the cut off date (3rd Nov), you may pay \$22 plus postage for your copy. Thanks Debra



Adore Advent & Christmas Daily Reflections 2020

In the day-to-day reality of our lives, especially during the busyness of end-of-year activities, it is easy for us to lose sight of what we are truly preparing for during Advent and celebrating at Christmas—the Incarnation. The magnitude of this event was not lost on the shepherds and the Magi who came to *adore* the Child who is truly Emmanuel: God-with-us.



Inspired by the shepherds, Magi and our Blessed Mother, this year's reflection book, **Adore**, provides a wonderful opportunity for us to take a quiet step out of our daily lives and refocus our attention on the Lord in adoration of what he has done for us through his Son. Orders can be placed with Debra. Cost is \$4.

Jesus called the children to him and said "let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs." (Luke 18:17)

YET WE LOCK UP CHILDREN AS YOUNG AS TEN!

Australia currently has one of the lowest ages of criminal responsibility in the world where children as young as 10 years of age can be arrested by police, taken to the watch house and locked up! (Most countries minimum age is 14 years, only India, Myanmar and Thailand with age 7 and the USA with zero age limit are worse than us! Surprisingly, Brazil, Uruguay and Peru have the best with minimum age being 18)

Last year in Australia 600 children between 10 and 13 were locked up and thousands more faced the trauma of our justice system. A great number of them were First Nations children

How can a child understand what is happening to them! They are children and cannot fully comprehend what is happening or understand the system.. **Locking children up is not only cruel it is also not the answer.** More than likely they'll be caught in the system and re-offend.

The best way to help these kids and to prevent them from falling

into crime is to provide better community support services, including mental health care, mentoring, education and employment opportunities. Family support is needful.

A new report released from Jesuit Social Services which tracks the outcome of children held in remand in Victoria in 2017-18, highlights the urgent need for stronger community support to stop children being stuck in the youth justice system. "Instead of remand being used where a young person is in trouble we should be ensuring all children have access to specialised diversion programmes that keep them in the community and help them take responsibility for and make amends for their actions"

The report also "identifies children under 14 as a key group risk. Raising the legal age from 10 to 14 years, to ensure primary school children stay in school and not in detention is an immediate way we can keep children safe and supported"

Jesus also said "Never despise any of these little ones for I tell you their angels in heaven are continually in the presence of my Father in heaven" (Matt 18)

"Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." - Matthew 22:21



Everything we are and everything we have belongs to God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has given each of us. All God is asking is that we give back a portion of what He gave us. This is the essence of Stewardship. God should be our first priority in everything. All else comes second, especially our money.

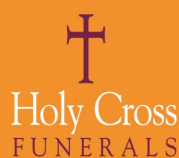
What's on this week at Stafford

Mon 19th	8.30am	Mass (Booking required)
Tues 20th	8.30am	Morning Prayer with Communion
Wed 21st	10.30am	
Thurs 22nd	8.30am	Morning Prayer with Communion
Fri 23rd	8.30am	Morning Prayer with Communion
Sat 24th	5.00pm	Mass (Booking required)
Sun 25th	7.00am 9.00am	Zoom Liturgy Mass (Booking required)

Tennis Courts for Hire with Lights

CHEAP RATES!

Bookings available through the office Monday to Thursday



The only funeral service owned and operated by the Catholic Church

Ph: (07) 3293 0555 Web: www.holycrossfunerals.com

Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Parish Office

Address: 70 Appleby Road, Stafford
Parish email: stafford@bne.catholic.net.au
Parish WEBSITE: www.staffordcatholicparish.org.au
Parish Administrator: Fr Denis Scanlan
Fr Denis' E-mail: pp.stafford@bne.catholic.net.au
Parish Pastoral Council: ppcstafford@gmail.com
Parish Secretary: Debra Visser
Office Hours: Mon/Tues 9 - 3.30pm Thurs 9-1
Office Telephone: 3356 7155

Parish Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Representative:

Cath D'Hage
STOPline Service: 1300 304 550 or
AOB@stopline.com.au or
www.bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com

Queen of Apostles School Contacts

Address: 10 Thuruna Street, Stafford
School email: pstafford@bne.catholic.edu.au
School Principal: Nigel Bird
APA: Leanne Murray
APRE: Ben Campbell
School Office Hours: 8.00am - 4.00pm (Mon-Fri)
Phone (Thuruna St:) 3352 9200
Phone (Chuter St:) 3326 0400

BAPTISMS in this Parish occur at 10.30am on the Third Sunday of each Month (**except during Lent and OCTOBER**). **For BAPTISM BOOKINGS** please contact the Parish Office.



AN OINTING OF THE SICK

IF you are **going to hospital unexpectedly** for an op, let Fr Denis know and we can celebrate this Sacrament beforehand.



You may add a **sick person's name to the list by phoning the** Parish Office (3356 7155). **To keep the list 'fresh'** the last names will be removed. If their illness continues, let us know and we'll add them to the start of the list.

We pray for those who are unwell

Tom Tartan	Madonna Power
Sonia Officer	Dianne Stevens
Noel Hall	Glenn Stevens
Pam Ward	
Norm Ward	
Kate Sigtenhorst	
Barbara Flynn	



November is Remembrance month.

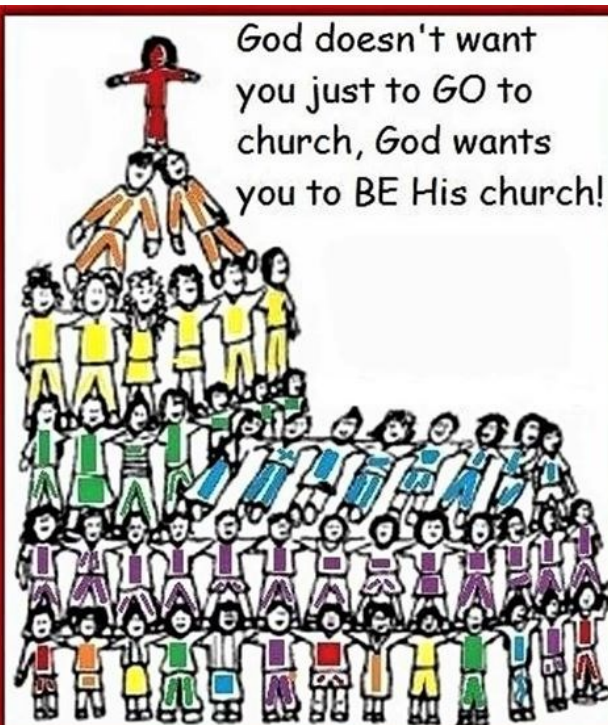
To place your loved one to in our Book of Remembrance, please contact me in the office by phone or email. I will need their date of death and full name. Debra

We remember those whose anniversary of death occur about this time including

Gloria Patalinghug, Aludia Tolentino, Francesca and Domenico Antonaglia, Angelo Di Mauro, Laurie Fischer and all deceased Parishioners, their families and friends, and all our brothers and sisters in Christ maimed, killed or dispossessed because of their faith.

We pray for those recently deceased including:

Yvonne Graham
Ronald Harriss
Terry McGlone
Pauline Clayton
Helen Maria Eluwa
Carmel Remphrey
Fr Joe McGeehan
Marie Daley
David Watson
Salvador Pineda
Mary Law



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