



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."

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B 12th/13th June, 2021

Our COMMUNION PROCESSION—Until we have another COVID crisis, you are invited to come own the **centre aisle in pairs.** (*Don't forget to sanitise your hands as you do please.*)

Euthanasia is a very current topic with lots of mis-information. It is a great tragedy that many do not realise the reality of **what Palliative Care can do** for a sick person AND their family and friends. Over the next couple of weeks, I'm re-printing an article by Archbishop Mark Coleridge in 2019. Here it is.:



FOR THE COMMON GOOD – LOVE IS STRONGER THAN DEATH

(continued from last week)

I acknowledge that it may be tempting to think of euthanasia as more humane, more compassionate, more loving. I do not dispute the fact that many of those who support the idea do so because they really believe that



it is a loving solution to suffering. Seeing loved ones suffer and wanting to end that suffering is of course a response motivated by care, and concern, and love.

Yet this fails to recognise not just the resilience but the power of the human spirit in

the face of the most intense suffering. Love, and meaning, and intimacy can find unique and full expression in the care we show those who suffer. Euthanasia puts an end not merely to a person's life, but to the profound meaning and intimacy that can arise from it, even at the very end.

Blanche d'Alpuget spoke recently of her of caring for Bob Hawke in his dying days, remarking on the unique intimacy of caring for somebody in so debilitated a state. Hers is one of many stories of the intimacy and meaning that can be born of suffering.

Of course, this rich experience of human love and concern in times of suffering can only occur if we are not abandoned to our fates. Anyone who has personally known acute physical suffering understands how pain can be depressing and lead to thoughts of escape, even by death. There is another pain that can lead to thoughts of death, and that is loneliness, which often goes hand in hand with depression. Loneliness, depression and acute physical pain are a powerful cocktail which seems to be fuelling the call for euthanasia.

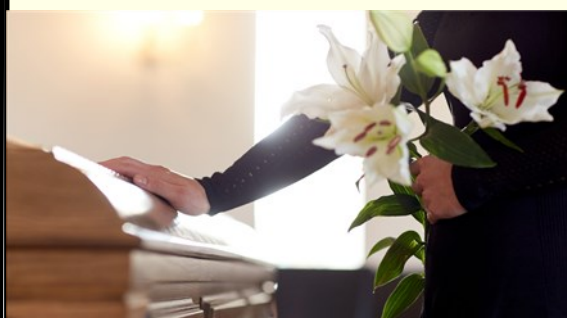
And yet the irony of it all, is that these are all things

that we can do something about that does not entail legalising the killing of those who experience these things.

Love is a power stronger than any pain. I firmly believe this. It cannot remove all the pain. But it can alleviate the fear, the feelings of being a burden, the feeling indeed that one is not worth anything.

A person suffering intense pain can still love and be loved. In moments of the most intense suffering, love finds its deepest expression. It's the faithful wife at the bedside, the daughter or son holding the hand of the sick mother, the lifelong friend staying in the hospital room while the sick friend sleeps, the priest who ministers the grace of the sacraments to the dying. It's this love that inspires the sufferer to endure pain in order to be with the beloved for just a while longer.

Still, we are not talking merely about individuals and their experiences of suffering. We are also talking about laws, and especially our responsibility as a society to ensure compassionate and just laws. In his statement to the inquiry into aged care, end-of-life and palliative care and voluntary assisted dying, the Anglican Archbishop of Brisbane, Phillip Aspinall made the following important point. A simple principle—'you do not take human life'—has been a social, legal and moral cornerstone of civilised society for thousands of years. If the Queensland government wants to propose legislation that would make legal the taking of human life in the form of 'voluntary assisted dying', then it must provide a cogent rationale for such a fundamental change. As recently as the 1990s, many Australian states, the Federal Senate and the House of Lords in the UK all inquired into euthanasia and all recommended against it.



What has changed since the 1990s to warrant altering such a fundamental social, legal and moral principle?

Why should

these relatively recent inquiries now be considered to be in error socially, legally, morally or logically? I agree with Archbishop Aspinall's contention that there have been no such changes in our society to warrant legalising assisted suicide and euthanasia.

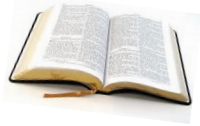
So I ask you, do we, as a society, really want to introduce a law that suggests, however subtly, that we are wrong to want to be with our loved ones for just a little while longer, that our suffering is meaningless, or that we reach a stage where we are worthless? Let us not allow our society to be one in which love has been

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

1st Reading: Job 38:1, 8-11

2nd Reading: Corinthians 5:14-17

Gospel: Mark 4:35-41



Daily Mass Readings

eclipsed to the extent that we are willing to accept the logic not only that someone's life is not worth living, but that we as a society should provide the means to end that life.

Let us not make the mistake of thinking that we are respecting freedom when we provide the means for someone to kill themselves, or of thinking that we are being loving and compassionate when we intentionally and actively hasten a person's death. We respect freedom when we are sure that our social structures and laws don't make anyone feel that they or society would be better off if they were dead. We are compassionate when we ensure that our society and its laws leave no one feeling that their life is not worth living or that they are under some subtle obligation to end their lives.

I favour a society which says yes to meaningful living and no to

'voluntary assisted dying', physician-assisted suicide, and euthanasia; I favour a truly human society which knows that love is stronger than death. Yours in Christ

For further consideration: Dying at Peace

There is strong evidence to suggest that where individuals, couples or families have discussed their wishes and plans for critical or terminal health situations well in advance, they can more confidently meet any health situation that arises, without the fears which drive many of the calls for assisted suicide and euthanasia.

With forethought and planning, individuals can die at peace, and with dignity, knowing that their affairs are in order, their health wishes will be honoured and a properly funded palliative care system will accompany them and alleviate their pain at all stages.

Some examples of good Advanced Care Planning resources, put together by Catholic entities, can be found at: <https://myfuturecare.org.au>
<https://www.cha.org.au/publications355446/273-advance-care-planningdocuments>

Produced by the Catholic Archdiocese of Brisbane, October 2019

We are hoping to restart our "cuppa", initially **on the weekend** the PPC makes its presentation and perhaps also to reintroduce our Christmas in July talks later this year. To do this, and to comply with regulations, we need a few people to complete a **TAFE Food Handling certificate**. There is no cost. It is done online and you can use a Parish Computer if you don't have your own. **If you are interested, give your name to one of the Parish Councillors or ring the office and tell Debra.** If you already have a **Covid safe work training for dining in certificate** and are interested in helping please let us know so we can add you to our food handlers register.



<https://covid safework.tafeqld.edu.au/course/126/covid-safe-work-training-for-dining-in>

BE CAREFUL OF FAKE EMAILS pretending to be from the parish and/or Denis Scanlan. Besides asking for gift cards or money, some are talking about "urgent tasks" and inviting you to reply.

Volunteers needed—(especially for Saturday 5pm Mass) - People to give the church a "covid clean" - it takes about 15 minutes AND people to **operate the computer** (training required). In both cases, see Michael over at the computers or email the parish.

"Your light must shine before all so that they may see goodness in your acts." (Matthew 5:16) We should view our giving in gratitude to God by considering how blessed we are... using our gifts and talents for the good of others. A gift in any amount given through your Will benefits future generations of parishioners. For more information on naming Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Parish or our Endowment Fund in your Will, please call the Catholic Foundation at 3324 3200 or call the parish office.



*Discovering Sophia: God's Wisdom Within
– A Quiet Weekend Retreat for Women*

A Quiet Weekend with opportunity to explore our life story and our experiences of the wisdom growing within us since the moment of our birth...Sophia, the wisdom of God within. Come and experience a time of guided prayerful reflection.

*Facilitated by Grace Harwood (Dragonfly Ministries)
Dates: Friday 18 June 6pm to Sunday 20 June 3pm
Place: Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Wellington Street, Ormiston*

Cost: \$370 (\$340 for pensioners, f/t students and unemployed) includes all accommodation, meals (an addition-

al fee for special diets of any kind), resources, spiritual direction and facilitation.

To register or enquire contact:

grace@dragonflyministries.net.au or 0409 524 283

THE REAL PRESENCE—An extract from an article published in “Liturgy News” from Brisbane Liturgy Summer 2020 written by Dr Tom Elich who Rev Dr Tom Elich studied the history of liturgy and sacraments in Paris and is Director of Liturgy Brisbane .. (The full article was sent out in the Friday Emails over the last couple of months).

Here is the concluding paragraph:

A Final Image

A husband on his wedding anniversary goes to buy a red rose for his wife. He chooses one and brings it to her as a gift.

From a materialistic point of view, it is exactly the same as the dozens of other roses in the bucket at the florist shop.

From a sacramental point of view, it is an entirely different object. What happens next is crucial.

Whether the wife puts the rose in a vase or in the bin reveals, not what she thinks of flowers, but her response to her husband's love. The flower has become a symbol, a sacrament one might say. Nothing about the rose has changed; yet everything has.

Or to put it more technically—(also from the article)

A Sacramental Reality

Sometimes people are dismissive of a sacramental, non-literalist understanding of the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist. There may be a fear that the ‘real’ is being downplayed in favour of something which is merely ‘symbolic’. But this is to misunderstand the structure of the sacramental reality.

For Aquinas, a sacrament has three inter-related dimensions, none of which can be disregarded:

Sacramentum – the sacrament itself, which is the bread and wine. (Rose in ‘image’)

Res – the ultimate reality or purpose, which is our unity with God as the Mystical Body of Christ. (Loving relationship)

Sacramentum et res – the intermediate or bridging sacramental reality, which is the Body and Blood of Christ (Rose given and received)



“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil.” - 2 CORINTHIANS 5:10

We are all accountable for all of the gifts God has given us – our time, our talent and our treasure; everything we have and everything we are. Each of us is accountable not only for our own life but for the lives of others as well. One day God will ask each of us what did we do with the gifts we were given. How will you respond?



The LITURGICAL MUSICIANS' TRAINING DAY was held on Saturday 15th May at St Laurence's College. We were fortunate to have four dedicated musicians from our parish attend the day. It was a day of practical formation for liturgical musicians, run by people who are experts in the field. Several streams were on offer including vocal, choral, organ, keyboard, guitar, composition, orchestral, and congregational singing. We look forward to seeing the fruits of their labour! Thank you for giving your time and energy to attend this workshop.

The Queen Of Apostles Men's Group

meets on the third Friday of the month. It is open to any senior gents in the parish - married, widowed, single, clergy, retired or working. They will meet on **Friday 18th June** at Café 63, **Stafford City** 10.30am. All Welcome. **Phone Gary McLean (ph 3863 4149) for more information.**



COVID COMPLIANCE — COVID compliance for everyone's safety. Anecdotal reports have come through that the Qld Government is also seeking to ensure compliance by conducting spot checks of places of worship. Another Christian denomination was the subject of a spot check on their church in Cairns last week.

What's on this week at Stafford

Mon 14th	8.30am	Mass
Tues 15th	8.30am	Morning Prayer with Communion
Wed 16th		
Thurs 17th	8.30am	Mass
Fri 18th	9.00am 10.30am	Mass Men's Group
Sat 19th	5.00pm	Mass with Livestream Zoom—see page 4 for details.
Sun 20th	9.00am	Mass with Livestream Zoom—see page 4 for details.

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: Ben Campbell
APA: Leanne Murray
APRE: Kym Waters
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.



Let Us Pray

We pray for those who are unwell:

Elizabeth Martin, Crad Smith, Sr Dorothy, Glenda Honan, Fay Barrett, Pam & Norm Ward, Isaac and Brendan Camille, Bob Devine, Nicole Dyer, Caitlyn Lengkeek, Rupert Officer Jnr, Brian Officer, Mary Axisa, Beryl Cowie nee Officer, Sonia & Fernando (snr) Palmer, Peter O'Donnell, Paul Glynn and Sonia Officer.

We pray for those recently deceased: Peter Rogers, Joan Goldby, John Dove, Maria Calini, S Khan, Dean Sarra, Nerida White, Faye Gundy, Laurence Rooney, Dorothy Jones, Gordon Jardine and **those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Maud Menezes and all deceased parishioners, their families and friends, and all our brothers and sisters in Christ maimed, killed or dispossessed because of their faith.



The caring staff at Holy Cross Funerals assist families at the death of their loved ones, to ensure that the Funeral Services are conducted with dignity and compassion.

For however you choose to say goodbye.

*Burials *Cremations *Repatriations

*Pre-Arrangements *Funeral Bonds

Find us on

www.holycrossfunerals.com

Phone: 07 3293 0555

Email: info@holycrossfunerals.com

An Outreach of the Catholic Church

Funerals with Faith

Live Stream Mass via Zoom

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81808532313>

Meeting ID: 818 0853 2313

Passcode: eucharist One tap mobile

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+61861193900,,81808532313#,,, *698241838# Australia

Dial by your location

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+61 8 6119 3900 Australia

Passcode: 698241838



The Catholic Leader June issue is available now for \$4. Featured in this month's issue:

- Married couple of 31 years who faced extraordinary medical challenges talks faith and family
- Springfield sees eight parishioners step forward in public ministry including women acolytes and new deacon
- Meet the newest fully professed Sisters of St Paul de Chartres
- Focus on Marriage: resources and ministries in Brisbane for married couples
- Marlon Riley on Reconciliation

