

# Mt Barker/Strathalbyn Catholic Parish



C/- 7 Mann Street, Mount Barker  
South Australia 5251



*We are a Community learning to be disciples of Jesus.*

## Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 12 August 2018

### WEEKEND MASS TIMES

**Our Lady of Mercy  
Mt Barker**

**SATURDAY VIGIL 6.00 PM  
SUNDAY MORNING 9.00 AM**

**The Good Shepherd  
Strathalbyn**

**SUNDAY MORNING 10.45 AM**

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will follow Mass on Thursday and Saturday mornings for half an hour.

Reconciliation will be available during and after Exposition, or by appointment.

### Weekday Masses This Week

Tue 14/8	St Maximillian Mary Kolbe	8.15am	St Francis de Sales College
Wed 15/8	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	12 noon	Our Lady of Mercy
Wed 15/8	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	6.00pm	The Good Shepherd
Thu 16/8		9.30am	Our Lady of Mercy
Fri 17/8		12 noon	Our Lady of Mercy
Fri 17/8		6.00pm	St James the Less
Sat 18/8		9.30am	The Good Shepherd

### *Faith in Jesus Allows us to Carry out God's Works*

Pope Francis invited believers to abandon themselves with joy to God's plan for their lives and seek spiritual nourishment in order to go forward in their journey of faith. His words came during the Angelus in St. Peter's Square on Sunday 5 August. Reflecting on the liturgy that tells of a crowd that has been nourished by Jesus and that sets out in search of him, Pope Francis explained that for Jesus, it is not enough that people simply search for him, He wants the people to know him and to understand that He came to bring us more than material satisfaction, opening our lives to a horizon that is broader than the daily concerns of eating, clothing oneself, a career, and so on. "He, the true 'bread of life', wants to satisfy not only bodies but also souls, offering spiritual nourishment that can satisfy the deepest hunger".

Commenting on how often we too do not understand the Lord's invitation not to "work for food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life", Francis said it is "a common temptation to reduce religion to the practice of the laws" thinking that it is enough to perform good actions in order to please God. Jesus gives an unexpected indication: "This is the work of God, that you believe in the one he sent". "These words are



addressed to us as well, today: God's work does not consist so much in "doing" things, but in "believing" in Him whom He has sent" he said.

And "better still, the Pope continued, faith in Jesus allows us to carry out God's works. If we let ourselves be involved in this relationship of love and trust with Jesus, we will be able to carry out good works that have the perfume of the Gospel, for the good of our brothers and sisters.

The Lord, Pope Francis concluded, invites us "not to forget that, if it is necessary to be concerned about material needs, it is even more important to cultivate our relationship with Him, to strengthen our faith in Him who is the "bread of life", the one who came to satisfy our hunger for truth, justice and love.

#### The Parish Team:

Fr. Richard Morris PP 8391 1053

Fr. Ian Wilson, Assisting Priest

Michelle Muller, Parish Secretary (Wed/Fri) 8391 1053

Sue Eckert, Ministry Coordinator, Strathalbyn 8537 3053

**Fr. Richard's email address:** morrisri@bigpond.com

**Website:** [www.barkerstrathcatholic.com](http://www.barkerstrathcatholic.com)

**Email Address:** [mbstparish@adam.com.au](mailto:mbstparish@adam.com.au)

Our Lady's Rosary Garden

8391 1471

**St Francis de Sales College**

Gavin McGlaughlin - Principal

8393 1000

## *Please Pray For...*

### **Sick**

Win Mott, Mark Clark, Ashlee Lloyd, Byrnece Cobiac, Damien Callery, Bill Weir, Patricia Jones, Sarah Hocking, Michael Dzungza, Helen Meijer, Rose Carr, Susie White, Ingrid Szandro, Peter Szandro, Alida van Dijk, Rina Papini, Pauline Hoskin, Theresa Caruana, Ann-Marie Caruana, Geraldine Griffin, Noelene Kane, Leanne Sersli, John Fiora, Brian Hockings, Margaret Nykiel.

### **Recently Deceased**

Barbara Thomson, Fr John O'Doherty OMI,  
Theresa Caruana.

### **Anniversaries**

Dennis Farrissey, Herman Van Eyk, Erica Alberts, Jan Jasica, Vic Kowalewski, Giovanni Danetto, Raymond Hassan, Dino Bonnetti, Rina Raimondo, Mercy Stanslaus, Martin Byrne, Kath White, Melva Richards, Anne Dunning.

## *Parish Pastoral Council*

Neil McGoran (Chair), Fr Richard Morris (Ex Officio), Gavin McLaughlin (Ex Officio), Sue Eckert (Secretary), Sandra Lloyd, Yesamma Hendry, Jo Manalo, Mike Galea, Navin DeSilva, Jan Sobotta, Andrew Wajwoda, Catherine Wajwoda, Gerrard Doyle.

## *Parish Finance Council*

Tom Hardy (Chair), Michelle Muller (Minutes Secretary), Fr Richard Morris, Noel Duffield, Jim Mann, John Barton, Hilary Raimondo.

### **Collections Last Week**

<b>1st Collection</b> (supporting our priests)	\$ 922.10
<b>2nd Collection</b> (supporting the parish)	
Envelopes	\$ 917.00
Loose plate	\$ 451.80

## *Meetings this Week*

Mon 9.45am	Arty Crafty Ladies	OLOM Foyer
Mon 10am	Catechesis of the GS	St James the Less
Tue 11.30am	Prayer Group/Lunch	The Rosary Garden
Tue 7.30pm	Parish Finance Council	Parish Office
Wed 1.15pm	Legion of Mary	The Rosary Garden
Thu 10.30am	Christian Meditation	Parish House
Thu 6.30pm	Sacraments Info Session	OLOM Foyer

## *On the Noticeboard*

Aug 18 Loyola Centre: A Day of Quiet Reflection  
Sep 6 Genesis presentation: The Problem with Porn  
Sep 21 OLOM Organ Concert - details to come  
Sep 26 Multicultural Mass at St Francis Xavier Cathedral  
And much, much more - check your Church noticeboard!

## *Ecumenical Prayer at Strathalbyn*

An ecumenical gathering to pray for Strath and district. Come, join in, and help begin what God wants to do here. Sunday 12 August at the Catholic Church.



## *Reflection on the Scripture Readings*

Last week Jesus called his audience to be open to the gift of faith that will enable them to appreciate the Eucharistic mystery. In today's reading he explains further what this faith implies. Understanding that this passage is a meditative recollection of what Jesus had done for us, we are able to share in the outlook of the community in which this gospel was written. This passage echoes many of the themes that were fundamental to the faith of that community. John's gospel begins with a declaration of faith in the Incarnation: 'The Word became flesh'. This momentous truth is constantly reaffirmed in the writings of this community. Jesus is confronted, in our passage, by the complaints of those who find it hard to accept: 'Come down from heaven! This is Jesus the son of Joseph'. The faith to which Jesus calls us, however, is not an embarrassing burden. It is a blessing that comes to us from the depths of the divine generosity and freedom - we are 'drawn by the Father', setting out on a journey which leads to 'eternal life' in God.



The Father and the Son share in all things, and so he declares that faith is also his gift, a gift that will be ours when we 'come to him' - we must live in his company as his first disciples did. For Christian faith, Jesus is the revelation of the Father - he has truly 'come from God', and 'has seen the Father' - an echo of the memorable words of the gospel's opening: 'it is the only son who is close to the Father's heart who had made him known'. The teaching is like a commentary on his words at the Supper: 'Eternal life is this: to know you [Father], the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent'. Those who live by the faith Jesus is offering share in the divine wisdom itself; they 'hear the teaching of the Father and learn from it'. ('Knowledge' in the Scriptures, and in the outlook of the community of John's gospel, has a rich and profound meaning; it is personal and life-giving, far more than the gaining of information.) Referring to the manna - symbol of God's caring for the people of the Exodus - Jesus reminds his listeners that the time of foreshadowing has ended. (Our first reading mirrors this theme - in the strength of heavenly food, the prophet walks for forty days until he reaches 'Horeb, the mountain of God' - another name for Sinai where the old covenant was given). The faith Jesus offers recognises that all the promises that sustained Israel's faith are being fulfilled: 'I AM the living bread come down from heaven'.

Jesus has prepared his listeners for his announcing of the Eucharistic mystery. Through this mystery he will be nourishing bread for the world, not in metaphor only, but in reality: 'The bread that I shall give is my flesh for the life of the world'. These climactic words clearly echo the words of the Eucharistic ritual familiar to the community of John's gospel: 'This is my body, given for you'. 'Jesus came in the flesh' is one of the formulas of this community's Incarnation faith.

Paul's teaching from Ephesians continues to chime in with our theme: let your communion be shown by genuine friendship; show forth the Christ-life you share in through the Paschal Mystery.

John Thornhill SM

## Question of the Week

Jesus said, 'I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I give for the life of the world is my flesh'. (John 6: 51)

Adults: When has the bread of life given you the strength you needed to face a difficult situation in your life?

Young People: How might your understanding of communion change if you envision yourself sharing part of your host with people you see each day of the week?

Children: What will you ask Jesus to help you with when you receive Holy Communion this week?

## Children's Mass - Saturday 6pm Vigil

Children from year 2 and 3 classes at St Francis de Sales College have prepared the Liturgy for this weekend's 6pm Vigil Mass at Our Lady of Mercy Church, Mt Barker, and they will lead us all in prayer.

Families who attend other schools might also like to attend this Mass, together with all our parishioners and visitors.

## Celebrating our Volunteers

We thank all our many volunteers for the roles that they take on in our Parish, both as part of the Masses and all the work that is done behind the scenes.

Strathalbyn took the opportunity to honour their volunteers last Sunday at morning tea after the 10.45am Mass. Mount Barker will host celebratory gatherings after the 6pm Vigil and 9am Sunday Masses. Please stay to be a part of this important event and if you have not already joined a roster, why not speak to Fr Richard about the talents you have to offer?

## The Feast of the Assumption

On Wednesday this week we celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady. This is now one of the few holy days of obligation in Australia. We make every effort to get to Mass on that day. There will be a Mass at midday at Our Lady of Mercy, Mt Barker and 6pm at The Good Shepherd, Strathalbyn.



## Sacraments Program

### Information Session - This Thursday

Reminder - there will be an information session in Our Lady of Mercy Church foyer at 6.30pm on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> August. At this meeting we will look more closely at the process of preparing for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Holy Communion, and offer enrolment forms for the children. A letter describing the Initiation Process more fully is available in the foyer. Before the first week in September every family will be invited to meet personally with a member of the team to be sure they understand what the process involves.

## Organ & Piano Concert

There will be a concert at 7.30pm, Friday 21 September, to begin fundraising for the instruments, so block out the date in your diary. And in the meantime, enjoy!

## National Vocations Awareness Week

In this Year for Youth and Vocational Discernment, we pray for the young people of our parish and family - that our prayers and support will assist them to discern God's plan for their life. Special Collection This Week:

To coincide with National Vocations Awareness Week, there will be a special collection for Vocations at all the Sunday Masses in our Parish. Through this appeal you will be contributing to the formation of Priests and the promotion of vocations for service in the Archdiocese.

## Art Smocks for the Atrium

Mary Mackillop Atrium (Catechesis of the Good Shepherd) is in need of six or so child-size art smocks. Are there any parishioners who sew, who would like to make these? Please contact Teena Cobiac on 0499 172 740.

## Staff Service Day

The staff of St Francis de Sales College are preparing to spend a day reflecting on their role of service. They will be looking for opportunities within the parish to connect with those who would appreciate some special work of service on that day. This could be some gardening or housework or just spending time with those who would enjoy a visit. Friday 31st August is the day that has been set aside for these visits and acts of service. Please contact Oreste Farrugia APRIM on 0417 892 109 or Ofarrugia@stfrancis.catholic.edu.au if you would like to register to receive an act of service or visit.

## Plenary Council 2020

Adelaide will host the opening session of the historic Plenary Council in October 2020 with a follow-up session in an eastern state in early 2021. That might seem far away, but now is the time for Catholics like you to help shape the process by taking part in a Listening and Dialogue session.

The last Plenary Council was held in Australia 80 years ago in 1937.

A Plenary Council is the highest formal gathering of all local churches and is an opportunity for the bishops and other representatives of dioceses and eparchies to discern what God is asking of us in Australia at this time. It has the authority to make church laws based on the results of this discernment.

A brochure describing the process of the Listening and Dialogue process and how to feed into the national picture is now available - check your foyer to pick up a copy.

## WYD Adelaide - Street Team Applications Open

The Catholic Office for Youth and Young Adults (COYYA) is inviting those aged between 16 and 35 to apply to be members of a Street Team for this coming January's World Youth Day (WYD) Adelaide festival. The Street Team will be formed by creative communicators and influencers who will help generate excitement for the upcoming festival in school and parish settings across the Diocese. To apply please email Mary-Anne Maio, Diocesan Youth Communications Officer - mary-anne.maio@cesa.catholic.edu.au, or phone 8301 6109. See World Youth Day Adelaide on Facebook.

**12-AUG-18 - 19 ORDINARY**

**1ST READING (JB): 1 KINGS 19:4-8**

A reading from the first book of the Kings

*Strengthened by the food, he walked to the mountain of the Lord.*

Elijah went into the wilderness, a day's journey, and sitting under a furze bush wished he were dead. 'Lord,' he said 'I have had enough. Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors.' Then he lay down and went to sleep. But an angel touched him and said, 'Get up and eat.' He looked round, and there at his head was a scone baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again. But the angel of the Lord came back a second time and touched him and said, 'Get up and eat, or the journey will be too long for you.' So he got up and ate and drank, and strengthened by that food he walked for forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**RESP PSALM: Ps 33:2-9**

**R.** Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times,  
his praise always on my lips;  
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.  
The humble shall hear and be glad. **R.**

Glorify the Lord with me.  
Together let us praise his name.  
I sought the Lord and he answered me;  
from all my terrors he set me free. **R.**

Look towards him and be radiant;  
let your faces not be abashed.  
This poor man called; the Lord heard him  
and rescued him from all his distress. **R.**

The angel of the Lord is encamped  
around those who revere him, to rescue them.  
Taste and see that the Lord is good.  
He is happy who seeks refuge in him. **R.**

**2ND READING (JB): EPHESIANS 4:30 - 5:2**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

*Walk in love, just as Christ.*

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God who has marked you with his seal for you to be set free when the day comes. Never have grudges against others, or lose your temper, or raise your voice to anybody, or call each other names, or allow any sort of spitefulness. Be friends with one another, and kind, forgiving each other as readily as God forgave you in Christ.

Try, then, to imitate God, as children of his that he loves, and follow Christ by loving as he loved you, giving himself up in our place as a fragrant offering and a sacrifice to God.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**ACCLAMATION: JOHN 6:51**

*Sung antiphon*

I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord;  
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

*Sung antiphon*

**GOSPEL (JB): JOHN 6:41-51**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John  
*I am the living bread come down from heaven.*

The Jews were complaining to each other about Jesus, because he had said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven.' 'Surely this is Jesus son of Joseph' they said. 'We know his father and mother. How can he now say, "I have come down from heaven"?' Jesus said in reply, 'Stop complaining to each other.

'No one can come to me  
unless he is drawn by the Father who sent me,  
and I will raise him up at the last day.

It is written in the prophets:  
They will all be taught by God,  
and to hear the teaching of the Father,  
and learn from it,  
is to come to me.

Not that anybody has seen the Father,  
except the one who comes from God:  
he has seen the Father.

I tell you most solemnly,  
everybody who believes has eternal life.  
I am the bread of life.

Your fathers ate the manna in the desert  
and they are dead;  
but this is the bread that comes down from heaven,  
so that a man may eat it and not die.

I am the living bread which has come down from heaven.  
Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever;  
and the bread that I shall give  
is my flesh, for the life of the world.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**



**August 19th, 20th Sunday in Ord Time, Year B**

*My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.*

**First Reading: Proverbs 9:1-6**

**Psalm 33:2-3. 10-15**

**Second Reading: Ephesians 5:15-20**

**Gospel: John 6:51-58**