



**CATHOLIC PARISH OF HEALESVILLE, INCORPORATING HEALESVILLE (ST BRIGID'S),  
YARRA GLEN (ST ALOYSIUS) & MARYSVILLE (OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS)**

Address: 15 High Street, Healesville, Victoria, 3777  
Postal Address: PO Box 73, Healesville, Victoria, 3777  
Website: <http://www.stbrigidshealesville.cam.org.au>

Administrator: Fr. Francis Denton  
Secretary: Mrs Sharon Jacob 0448 658 418

Pastoral Worker: Mrs. Debbie Edwards 0448 664 731  
Email: [Healesville@cam.org.au](mailto:Healesville@cam.org.au) Ph: 5962 4026

**28<sup>th</sup> August 2021**

**TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year B)**

**First Reading: Joshua 24:1-2,15-18**

A reading from the book of Joshua

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people: 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.'

The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**Responsorial Psalm: Ps 33:2-3, 16-23**

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

The Lord turns his face against the wicked  
to destroy their remembrance from the earth.  
The Lord turns his eyes to the just  
and his ears to their appeal.

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

They call and the Lord hears  
and rescues them in all their distress.  
The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;  
those whose spirit is crushed he will save.

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

Many are the trials of the just man  
but from them all the Lord will rescue him.  
He will keep guard over all his bones,  
not one of his bones shall be broken.

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

Evil brings death to the wicked;  
those who hate the good are doomed.  
The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.  
Those who hide in him shall not be condemned.

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

**Second Reading: Ephesians 5:21-32**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives submit to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body - and we are its living parts. For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**Gospel Acclamation: cf John 6:63, 68**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life:  
you have the words of everlasting life.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel: John 6:60-69**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Lord, whom shall we go to? You have the words of everlasting life.

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before?'

'It is the spirit that gives life,  
the flesh has nothing to offer.

The words I have spoken to you are spirit  
and they are life.

'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him.

Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Due to the lockdown, we are **not able to attend Mass** this week. Fr Francis will be recording Mass and it will be available on the you tube channel on Sunday morning.  
The link is accessible through St Brigid's Healesville's website, <http://www.stbrigidshalesville.cam.org.au/> or by searching St Brigid's Healesville on You Tube, or using the link: <https://bit.ly/StBsHville>

### Thanksgiving

#### St Brigid's Healesville, -27/6/21

Thanksgiving: \$467.35  
Presbytery: \$148.10  
Peters Pence \$187.70

#### St Brigid's Healesville, -4/7/21

Thanksgiving: \$516.05  
Presbytery: \$165.55

#### St Brigid's Healesville, -11/7/21

Thanksgiving: \$401.45  
Presbytery: \$131.65

#### St Brigid's Healesville, -1/8/21

Thanksgiving: \$512.00

Presbytery: \$262.50

### Our Lady of the Snows, Marysville 15<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Thanksgiving: \$71.00

### Rosters

#### 5<sup>th</sup> September 2021:

Reader: A. Lehman

Cuppa: Volunteer

Church cleaning: A. Lehman

#### 12<sup>th</sup> September 2021:

Reader: J. Barrett

Cuppa: J. Drummond

Church cleaning: Tony & Cath O'Halloran

**QR CODE APP** - Please download the Services Victoria app from the Apple App Store for iPhones (<https://bit.ly/SBHCO>), or the Google Play Store for Android phones (<https://bit.ly/SBSAFE>). This will make check in a bit more efficient. Our Covid Marshall will be checking the 'ticks' so please remember to QR Code. Help is available for those who find this difficult to do.



*"I had to stop watching the news—it was making my own problems seem insignificant."*

*"Then the Lord God said 'It is not good for man to be alone'" (Gen 2:18)*

Last week Melbourne reached a sombre new milestone: 200 days of lockdown. The human cost of this policy – the destruction of our economy, the prolonged isolation of the vulnerable, the suspension of all religious and community activities, etc. - is haemorrhaging with lethal severity. Solitary confinement is the worst punishment a prison can inflict on its inmates. It is a form of psychological torture used to break the spirits of the non-compliant. How it has become a normal state of life for ordinary citizens defies belief. It is nothing short of Orwellian.

The mental health toll is a growing concern, as a perceptible shift is developing. For many, frustration and anger have given way to a sense of persistent anxiety, despondency and numbness. In the hearts of many a sinking sense of despair has begun to set in – what you would expect of the prisoner in solitary confinement. The effect on young people seems to be especially pronounced. On 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2021 Life Line had 3,345 calls in one day – the highest number on record. Normally robust and healthy people are finding themselves completely crushed. Hope is vanishing as a growing number of small businesses owners come to the realisation that they will come out of this lockdown completely bankrupted and unable to continue. Perhaps many people are under the illusion that once we immerge from the lockdown we will bounce back to how things were pre-2020. I'm less optimistic. In the months ahead how many shop fronts will be shuttered with 'for sale' signs on their windows, each representing a family and homes deprived of a livelihood. As the economy coughs and splutters back into action the ongoing restrictions will hold the surviving businesses in a choke grip.

Termites are a nuisance, and if left unchecked they can cause serious damage to a house. Without underestimating the problem, most people understand that the best solution to controlling termites is not to burn the house down to the ground, (even though it would admittedly be a very effective means of controlling termites). The Premier doesn't seem to understand this principle. His determination to stop this virus at *any* cost is resulting in an astronomical bill in financial and human figures that ultimately, he will never have to pay. The people of Victoria (and indeed, their grandchildren) are the ones paying the price for the State's policy of zero COVID. At this point of the pandemic a zero-COVID policy is delusional. It is devastating our state and indeed the nation, beyond anything the virus could do. As the rest of the world has worked out, there is no way of putting the virus back in the lab where it came from. COVID is with us to stay. It will over time weaken as herd immunity develops (as with every other virus in human history, including many far more deadly than COVID). The world must learn to live with COVID as with every other virus in existence. We need to come to terms with the fact that COVID will eventually go through our communities and a small percentage of people will inevitably die. But then no one gets to cheat death forever, however long we lock ourselves in our homes.

The overwhelming majority of countries throughout the world have had fewer than 100 days of lockdowns. As a point of reference, Quebec, Canada has thus far had 18 days of lockdowns; Glasgow, 21 days. Even with its bungled handling of COVID with

Governor Cuomo's disastrous decision to put COVID patients into nursing homes, virus-ravaged New York was only in lockdown for 83 days. Victoria's knee-jerk policy made some sense at the beginning of this pandemic, before we really understood what we were dealing with. As doctors improve the means of treating those with COVID, the global deaths attributed to the virus are plummeting. Eighteen months into this situation applying extended lockdowns as a long-term solution to a pandemic that can be managed with good health care, looks nothing short of deranged. In the meantime, we will all be strung along, waiting week by week for permission to leave our homes, to go to work, to visit loved ones and to live our lives. The State of Victoria began as a penal colony and so it is once more, except this time we're the ones who pay our goaler's wages. It's time to say 'enough'.

After this weekend I'll be taking my annual leave returning for the weekend of 25-26 September. What happens in the weeks ahead will depend on the rate at which the State opens up again. Should Masses be permitted by the authorities during September a supply priest will be saying the regular weekend Masses (Sat 6:00pm Lilydale; Sun 8:30am Healesville; Sun 10:30am Lilydale). Unfortunately, the weekday Masses will be cancelled through this period (31 August- 24 September). In the event that the lockdown continues the YouTube Mass will not be recorded. Please be assured of my daily prayers for all the parishioners of Lilydale, Healesville, Yarra Glen and Marysville, as I know many of you are really struggling. I ask of your charity to pray for me too.

Now for something a little more light-hearted:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ozdu06E0WLE>

*Yours in Christ,  
Fr Francis Denton*

#### **Debbie's Thoughts**

Last week I wrote about just some of the little things that As parents trying to fulfil our responsibilities to the little lives entrusted to our care, I think it is fair to say that our hope as nurturers, guides, teachers and guardians is to raise well-rounded adults who can care for themselves, and for others, with confidence and generosity. Through our dedication and energetic parenting, we hope that the children we love will grow strong, and be able to cope with life as self-sufficient, whole people, who can take on life's challenges full frontal, rolling with the waves they will encounter personally, whilst having enough in the tank to help others to do the same. We nurture and treasure our children as individuals, teaching them to be responsible, generous and co-operative members of the wider human family to which we all belong. We strive to help them to

interact with others respectfully and bravely, and, most importantly, we hopefully bring them to an awareness of God, who will do more for their physical, mental and spiritual wellbeing throughout their lives than any person on the planet can do. As parents, it is our responsibility to pass on to them an unfailing sense of hope that is grounded in an awareness of God's faithful and loving presence, enabling them to grow to be self-sufficient adults with a healthy sense of their well-deserved place in society, and a strong sense that they are never alone.

Hope underpins our physical, mental and spiritual health. We begin life as babies hoping for the next satisfying drink, and in the fullness of time, we progress to the hope of old age, seeking comfort and peace, and a little rest, as the pace of our lives slows. Hope is the fuel that keeps us keeping on, and those who run out of hope struggle to get through the day as a whole person. In introducing God to our children from their first days of life, they learn to hope in him without thinking about it. Their friendship with him can grow naturally, and creatively. As a parent and grandparent of a whole tribe, I feel that I have done the best that I could have done in trying to connect my loved ones to God. Could I have done better? Possibly, probably, but I know I tried. I still aspire to lead them to know him as their support and their hope. I want them to know that God loves them, no matter what they do, and that he may not always like their behaviour, but he will always love them. I want them to know that he will be there for them today and tomorrow, in the same way that he was when they were born, in the same way that he will be when they draw their last breath. As they mature, their friendships with God eventually become their own responsibility. I want no control, I just want to know that I tried to do the very best I could for them while it was my place and my responsibility to do it.

I often have discussions with parishioners who worry that their children do not seem connected to the Faith that their parents or grandparents hold so dear. They tell me that they pray for them, hoping that something will eventually click, but that they worry that they cannot see signs that the lessons that they tried to pass on to their kids during their childhood have made a difference. I ask if their children are good people, and the answer is invariably 'yes'. Enough said. I point out that their own faith is a beacon to their family, no words need to be voiced, their example speaks volumes to those who know them and love them. And I point out that their prayers for their children are always heard, although they may not yet see the fruit that will flourish from their appeals for their loved ones. God hears, and God cares. The Mass is perfect prayer, and one Mass said for our families is a direct line to perfect grace, a direct line to the very heart of God. A wise woman of faith once observed to me that she has every intention of going to heaven, where she will be perfectly happy in the fullness of God forever. (Love the confidence!) She also mused that she could never be happy if her children were not with her for eternity, therefore, she expects that they will be with her, in her perfect happiness. The loose ends of how that all worked she was leaving up to God. Who can take that sort of faith on?

## **PLEASE NOTE: CHANGE OF DATE**

Yarra Glen Mass will be rescheduled to Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September.

## **HICCI AGM change of details**

The HICCI (Healesville Interchurch Community Care Inc) Annual General Meeting will take place on September the 19th, from 3.00pm, online using Zoom. Unfortunately, we will not be able to meet in person, again, this year. Details of how to join in on the meeting will follow in the next couple of weeks.

Secondly, If you would like to nominate as the Saint Brigid's representative on the HICCI Committee of Management, please contact Rod on 0409 523 031.

## **PARISH PRAYER LIST**

### **Recently Deceased:**

**Sick:** Babies Emmett, Noah Glen Christie, Tedi and Santi; Roman, Blake Smith, Trish Leahy, John Snell, Abby Sharp, Peter Munro, Megan, Bernie Jansen, Andrew Sharp, John, Glenn, Lyn Francis, Dorothy Barber, Fiona, Annie Preuss, Michelle Ryan, Damian, John, Alison, Heather, Julie Bates, Garry Dettman, Bradley Jordan, Jeanette Henkel, Richard Galbraith, Debbie Huby, Geoff Lucas, Sandra Donkin, Glen, Fred Bullas, Fred Coullas, Evie Gleeson, Indy Dawes, Rade Krstic, Megan Williams, Michael Wood, Bill Howie, Jennie, Michael, Margo & Stephen Youngberry, Marie Hammond, John Mulholland, Rhiannon Days, Val Savitt, Ron Garland, Jaz Nueber, James Cooney, Robert, Mary & Gerard Bariola, Tilly Van der Zee, Lydia, Joyce Slattery, Lawrie Field, Annie, Bob Ireland, Val & Michael Christie, Ted & Peter Bowling, Natasha, Mia, James, Richard Adams, Mitchell & Wynn Wilson, Anne Bateman, Veronica Ireland, Wendy Turner (Ireland), Lauren, Brooke, Anthony, Laura Baosde Pinto, Michelle, Judy, Annette Fromholtz, John Wray

### **FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES ARE IN AUGUST**

John McDonald (03.08.93), Patricia Newell (06.08.07), John Youngberry (07.08.79), Barbara Pollard (11.08.09), Andrew Sotko (14.08.07), Fr Loughnan (15.08.02), Bernadette Hanley (18.08.09), Mary Thomas (19.08.07), Douglas Ireland (21.08.79), Zandor Hunka (22.08.06), Alison Snell (25.08.02) Maria Slawinski (25.08.82), Gerald Slattery, Derek Beeby, Tilly Blackburn, Thea Humphries, Maggie Lloyd-Smith, Margaret Pomeroy (23.08.19), Rosemary Fries (10.08), Albert Slawinski, Maureen Fogarty, Bob Barclay.



ST BRIGID'S  
ST ALOYSIUS  
OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS  
**Child safe**  
PARISH