



**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 Ph: 5962 4026

24th OCTOBER 2021

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year B)

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:7-9

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

The Lord says this:
Shout with joy for Jacob!
Hail the chief of nations!
Proclaim! Praise! Shout!
'The Lord has saved his people,
the remnant of Israel!'
See, I will bring them back
from the land of the North
and gather them from the far ends of earth;
all of them: the blind and the lame,
women with child, women in labour:
a great company returning here.
They had left in tears,
I will comfort them as I lead them back;
I will guide them to streams of water,
by a smooth path where they will not stumble.
For I am a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my first-born son.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 125

**R. The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.**

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
it seemed like a dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs.

**R. The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.**

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels
the Lord worked for them!'
What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad.

**R. The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.**

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.

Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap.

**R. The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.**

They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves.

**R. The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.**

Second Reading: Hebrews 5:1-6

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Every high priest has been taken out of mankind and is appointed to act for men in their relations with God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins; and so he can sympathise with those who are ignorant or uncertain because he too lives in the limitations of weakness. That is why he has to make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people. No one takes this honour on himself, but each one is called by God, as Aaron was. Nor did Christ give himself the glory of becoming high priest, but he had it from the one who said to him: You are my son, today I have become your father, and in another text: You are a priest of the order of Melchizedek, and for ever.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: cf 2 Timothy 1:10

Alleluia, alleluia!

Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death,
and brought us life through his gospel.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 10:46-52

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

As Jesus left Jericho with his disciples and a large crowd, Bartimaeus (that is, the son of Timaeus), a blind beggar, was sitting at the side of the road. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout and to say, 'Son of David, Jesus, have pity on me.' And many of them scolded him and told him to keep quiet, but he only shouted all the louder, 'Son of David, have pity on me.' Jesus stopped and said, 'Call him here.' So they called the blind man. 'Courage,' they said 'get up; he is calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he jumped up and went to Jesus. Then Jesus spoke, 'What do you want me to do for you?' 'Rabbuni,' the blind man said to him 'Master, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has saved you.' And immediately his sight returned and he followed him along the road.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

**My Jesus,
I believe that You
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there and
unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me
to be separated from You.
Amen.**



The Parish office is closed during lockdown. Staff are working from home during this time and available

by phone Debbie's phone number is 0448 664 731 and Sharon's is 0448 658 418.
Parish email: healesville@cam.org.au

Try booking link for this week's weekday & weekend Masses. Please note each mass is capped at 10 people with vaccination status unknown.

<https://www.trybooking.com/BUZPU>

Given that we have limited places available we will have to do our best to share around the opportunities to attend Mass - eg. no more than once per week. We thank you for your understanding.

Mass times - All Souls

All Souls – Tuesday 2nd Nov @12noon

Bookings can be made on the below link.

<https://www.trybooking.com/BUZPV>

After a world record-breaking 262 days of lockdown Melbournians are being tentatively released from their cages in what has been popularly dubbed "Freedom Day." There is something almost poetic in the fact that on the last day of lock down we recorded 2,232 new daily cases of COVID for a lockdown that was triggered with just a handful of cases. But the great news is *now* we're safe to open. Because that's science.

But let's put all this behind us because now we are free again. Of course, it is "freedom" that comes with a veritable manual of terms and conditions and some rather extravagant fines for the non-compliant. Nor is it freedom for everyone in equal measure. Just in case you missed it, society is now stratified into two classes, the employable and the unemployable (AKA the vaccinated and unvaccinated). Like every apartheid regime rest assured it's for the "greater good" – just so long as you're in the privileged class.

For our churches 'freedom' means permitting 10 people to attend Mass, (or up to 20 for segregated services). To manage such small numbers we will revert to the TryBooking system. Given the length of time the people of God have been deprived of the sacraments, this is incredibly disappointing and also places priests in a pastorally impossible situation, much like a mother having to decide which of her children to feed. In order to increase accessibility to the Sacraments, even if you are unable to attend Mass, you are welcome to come to the church after Mass to receive Holy Communion. This can be done in groups of 10 at a time, once the congregation has left the church. This means from 9:30am at St Brigid's and from 11:30am at St Patrick's. All the norms of social distancing and hygiene will apply, as per Masses.

Weekday Masses will also resume at 9:15am, the only exception being the Saturday 9:15am Mass which is cancelled until further notice. As per Sundays, Holy Communion will be available at the end of Mass (9:45am) on weekdays from Tuesday to Friday for those unable to book a place. We're also not too far away from the feasts of All Saints and All Souls. There will be a 6:00pm Mass on Monday 1st November (All Saints) at St Patrick's and 2 Masses for All Souls on 2nd November: 9:15am at St Patrick's and 12:00pm at St Brigid's.

Finally, we remember in our prayers all those who have been affected by the pandemic in all its aspects: those affected by the virus and those suffering adverse-effects from the vaccines, our health workers and the recently unemployed, those affected by the lockdowns and the

mandates. This has been an incredibly distressing time for so many families and individuals. Our entire society seems to be quite traumatised; many are hanging on by a thread. Realistically as things open up we can also expect an increasing number of people to contract COVID, and already there are a number of parishioners affected by the virus. We hold them in our prayers. God hears the cry of the poor and the broken-hearted, and we pray Christ will bring his much-needed solace to a world in turmoil. Our Lady assures us that in the end her Immaculate Heart will triumph, and with renewed confidence in her intercession we entrust our cause to her.

Yours in Christ,

Fr Francis Denton

From ABp Peter Comensoli:

Every session of the Second Vatican Council began with the prayer *Adsumus, Sancte Spiritus*, "We stand before You, Holy Spirit," This same prayer was invoked during the first Session of the Plenary Council, and I share it with you now...

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.

Debbie's Thoughts

I wrote last week about the constant tension in our lives between reality we can touch, and reality that we can't. Of all who have ever lived, ours is the generation that lives with super-extraordinary technology at our fingertips. We are the ones who are most likely to demand and find 'proof' of almost everything important to us, from the microscopic to whatever exists beyond our planet's boundaries. We can physically see that the earth is not flat because our companions have been carried into space to film the sight of our world as a globe spinning beneath them. We can argue proof after proof with clever debate. Yet, regardless of our capabilities to see what generations past could not, the knowledge that may fill our heads does little to satisfy the deepest yearnings we each experience within our depths. Like our ancestors before us, we, too, need hope. We, too, need faith. Many try their best to fill the void they cannot ignore with leisure, or alcohol, or by being as busy as they can, trying hard to resolve that tension between reality we can touch and reality that we somehow know exists but can't quite grasp. Thank God, we as a family of faith have been blessed with the priceless gift of simply turning our yearning hearts to the Lord, asking to be filled with his love. Somehow, we know that we can't seek proof, we are content to seek what we cannot see or touch with faith and trust. Why have we been so blessed? I can't answer that, but I know that we should simply say 'thank you' with all our hearts.

Can we control our own relationship with God?

Interesting question! We can open ourselves more and more to his love, we can choose to be quiet, to ask for his touch, we can pray for direction, yet it is God who works miracles deep within us, and it is God who fills us, not the other way around. Most often we have no idea of how he is touching our hearts, we just feel the effects. Each of us is his much-loved creation, the individual work of his creative love. Some of us can read and retain volumes, others can't remember a jot. Some of us are great thinkers, some of us are great do-ers, some of us are great pray-ers, spending hours and hours on our knees. Many of us are not, and that is ok. We are each unique, and the way that God fills us and uses us suits his own purpose, his own plan, his own design. It is just right for us. We are who we are because he encourages us towards our potential according to his own secret, creative nurture. Our willingness to rest in him creates miracles within us. We don't need to control it. How can we? We can ask for specific gifts or talents, but it is completely God's choice as to what he does with us in the secrecy of our souls. Our role in our relationship with God is to open ourselves to his will, and to listen for his promptings.

I love the story of Jonah, who heard God speaking to him, telling him to go to the people of Ninevah and to stand on a soap box. God instructed Jonah to tell the people of a very large, very rough city to get over their evil behaviour, to quit all the stuff they were very happily indulging in, to repent, to say 'sorry' to God, and to live good lives from then on in. Sounds great on paper, or as a movie script for someone else to act in, but this is the impossible stuff that actually gets you beaten up! Jonah tried running from God, but he wound up asking himself the same question that others have faced over the centuries when God has asked them to do impossible things. If you try to hide from God, where is there to go? Where can you possibly hide when God's promptings empty you and fill you at the same time? Jonah let go, and let God, as they say, and thousands were converted. Billions more have heard his story, and have found inspiration in his struggle with God's will for him, as it is one of the most famous accounts in the Old Testament. Winding up in the belly of a whale and living to tell the tale is a feat that warrants a place in history. Our own story is not likely to be that dramatic! We may not have that big a job to do in God's service, but Jonah reflects the journey of each of us in God's service and in our own unfolding, complicated relationship with him. We may not like where we are being dragged at times, but it is not our role to resist, or to control God's will for us. It is our job to hold on and try to enjoy the ride.

I know for myself, the ultimate prayer for me, and I am not making this up, has come from deep within me at times when I have been totally cornered, and have turned to God with words right from my very guts. My prayer? No thees or thous, simply "are you nuts?????" I quote!

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, 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, Con & Lynn Doensen

FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES ARE IN OCTOBER

Michael O'Meara (04.10.80), Vincent Jones (05.10.04), Barbara Smythe (05.10.07), William Howie (07.10.94), Andre Smith (08.10.08), Florence Walker (09.10.07), Sarah Field (12.10.58), Ella Morley (14.10.08), Ronald Stevens (17.10.00), Robbie Ireland Jnr (20.10.90), Angelina Pretto (Mioni) (21.10.00), Shirley O'Meara (22.10.10), Christopher Perry (23.10.01), Jacinta Chandler (24.10.01), Sam Galletti (27.10.13), Betty Ireland (29.10.97), Enid Jarrett (28.10.93), Frank O'Halloran (31.10.12), Filippo Mingerulli, Francesca Bellucci, Anne Ashdown

Care Group Bread Run

The Care Group manages bread distribution from Wild Grains Bakery three afternoons a week with their left-over bread, rolls and some pastry goods.

Around 20 rostered volunteers are taking this to 70-100 families, relieving strain on budgets and giving joy. It's best to sort and package appropriate items for each recipient before driving from the bakery, not so easy if it's raining. Especially the downpour last June. Did the round with young Laura, we got drenched! Every time we got out of the car to take the goods to a house, the rain got heavier. By the time I left Healesville for home in Yarra Glen, flash floods blocked the Healesville -YarraGlen Rd. as well as the alternate back road. Got home safely on Maroondah Hwy.to Coldstream, then Melba Hwy. Dark when reaching home, so so soggy, but strangely elated and amused.

Marg

Lockdown Light—week eight

A weekly series bringing 'light' to this time of lockdown

...

As we slowly emerge out of lockdown, aware of that many aspects of life—including our parishes are only able to open up gradually, here's one last edition of Lockdown Light for your coming week.

Podcasts for Christian living: Parenting teens

In this podcast, well known Catholic speaker Jason Evert discusses how to keep an open and ongoing dialogue with your children around topics related to love, dating and other serious issues as well as tips for internet and phone safety. Listen here www.bit.ly/ChristianLiving8

Getting to know your Bible: The Acts of the Apostles—The Church begins

Getting Started: In this interesting video introduction to the Book of Acts, The Bible Project provides an overview of Pentecost and the beginning of the early Church. Watch at www.bit.ly/BibleGettingStarted8

Going Deeper: In this video, Bishop Barron speaks about the spread of the Gospel during the early Church, challenging us to share in the same work as St Paul and the early Apostles in proclaiming the message of Jesus to the world. View here www.bit.ly/BibleGoingDeeper8

