

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



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SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
(YEAR B) 17TH JANUARY 2021

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: 1 Samuel 3:3-10, 19

A reading from the first book of Samuel

Samuel was lying in the sanctuary of the Lord where the ark of God was, when the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' He answered, 'Here I am.' Then he ran to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me'. Eli said, 'I did not call. Go back and lie down.' So he went and lay down. Once again the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' He replied, 'I did not call you, my son; go back and lie down.' Samuel had as yet no knowledge of the Lord and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. Once again the Lord called, the third time. He got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli then understood that it was the Lord who was calling the boy, and he said to Samuel, 'Go and lie down, and if someone calls say, "Speak Lord, your servant is listening"'. So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

The Lord then came and stood by, calling as he had done before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel answered, 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.'

Samuel grew up and the Lord was with him and let no word of his fall to the ground.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 39:2, 4, 7-10

R. Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

I waited, I waited for the Lord and he stooped

down to me; he heard my cry. He put a new song into my mouth, praise of our God. **R.**

You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings, but an open ear. You do not ask for holocaust and victim. Instead, here am I. **R.**

In the scroll of the book it stands written that I should do your will. My God, I delight in your law in the depth of my heart. **R.**

Your justice I have proclaimed in the great assembly. My lips I have not sealed; you know it, O Lord. **R.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

The body is not meant for fornication; it is for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. God who raised the Lord from the dead, will by his power raise us up too. You know, surely, that your bodies are members making up the body of Christ; anyone who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him.

Keep away from fornication. All the other sins are committed outside the body; but to fornicate is to sin against your own body. Your body, you know, is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you since you received him from God. You are not your own property; you have been bought and paid for. That is why you should use your body for the glory of God.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation: John 1:41, 17

Alleluia, alleluia! We have found the Messiah: Jesus Christ, who brings us truth and grace. Alleluia!

Gospel: John 1:35-42

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

As John stood with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God.' Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, 'What do you want?' They answered, 'Rabbi,'- which means Teacher - 'where do you live?' 'Come and see' he replied; so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day. It was about the tenth hour.

One of these two who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' - which means the Christ - and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas' - meaning Rock.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

[MASS TIMES AND LINKS THIS WEEK](#)

Sunday 17th Jan at 8.30 am

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

[MASSES IN JANUARY](#)

- We welcome Fr John with much joy as he celebrates Mass for us this morning!
- A prayer service will be held at Our Lady of the Snows in Marysville on Thursday 21st Jan at 10.30 am
- Mass will be celebrated at St Aloysius in Yarra Glen on Sunday 24th Jan at 5 pm.

[LAWN MOWING & MAINTENANCE](#)

We can no longer afford to employ a contractor to keep our lawns mowed. We now have a ride-on mower to handle the larger areas, but still require volunteers who can drive the ride-on, whipper snip and mow smaller areas, preferably using their own equipment. A big thanks to those who are already generously helping out with this considerable task. Please contact the office if you can give even a

little of your time. We would like to put together a roster that will help spread the load for all. We also have some odd jobs to do, requiring a handyman. Please contact Debbie.

[HELLO FROM OLD FRIENDS](#)

A big hello from some special friends to all in our Parish. Best wishes and prayers come from Lizzy Jansen, Henny and Coen, Lyn, Sr Colleen, Sr Patricia, Marie and Tony

[SOME THOUGHTS FROM DEBBIE](#)



Awhile ago, I included a photo in one of my articles of my fat old dog, sound asleep, with his head buried beneath his bowl, under the caption 'hope'. Very fitting, he spends a lot of time lying next to his bowl in the hope that food will drop into it as an unexpected surprise. This week I include his photo yet again, this time under the title of 'faith'. The new photo is almost identical to the first one, taken perhaps years after the original. From my dog's perspective, not much has changed in that time. Yet, I as an observer can, tongue in cheek, notice that he has gone from 'doggy hope' to 'doggy faith'. Through experience, he has developed unswerving faith that the magic will happen. His hope has been rewarded again and again, and his confidence levels are now high. 'Doggy hope' has become 'doggy faith' with time, with experience and with the repetition of routine. And he mostly sleeps through it all, oblivious to labels.

I wonder what hope and faith really are, and how they actually work in our lives. I can see what they do, it is clear to me that they are critical to our mental and spiritual wholeness. There are of course text book definitions. Most of us have never read

them. Yet I can see that our lives are powered by the energy that faith and hope produce, they are gifts, freely given, and they are prizes, hard won. How that works defeats my powers of perception or description. We open our hearts and God does the rest. We come along to Mass when we can, we call ourselves Catholics, and we try our best to live lives worthy of being called the friends of Jesus. Hope and faith operate within our lives on a level that is not always connected to our senses. Our souls are the powerhouse of our stamina, our equilibrium, our compass, and they are the tabernacle that gently holds the spark of the divine that we each carry within us. Our hope in God is somehow tangled up with our faith, convincing us that he loves us and knows exactly who we are. Our hearts do indeed burn within us, radiating God's love through the faith and hope that empower our next steps, our memories, and our fitful sleep. Experience convinces us that we are never alone, but we cannot usually list off the dates and times when our energising encounters with God happen. Like people of generations past and forward, we share our human experience with Jesus. Like our ancestors and like our descendants, we learn from experience, or don't learn, at least until we are forced to. We can feel driven to be the best we can be, no matter how small we are. And sometimes we don't have the energy to be anything other than what we are right now. Somewhere, in the middle of all of that, God 'is'.

As usual, I have questions. What does it mean to say that God 'is'? (I am not actually kidding!) How do hope and faith hook in to who, where, when and how God is with us? I know why he is there – with certainty. Because he loves us. The rest is a mystery. I am aware of God's presence with me in every moment, but I can't draw it, or even describe it with words. He is with me, but I am not yet in heaven. Some things make full sense, others none. For instance, generations have wondered about the concept of heaven being 'up there' – after all, Jesus raised his eyes to heaven many times as he prayed. Yet we have now been 'up there' in space ships, there is a lot of space 'up there', but the astronauts saw no green meadows of flowers or angels playing harps while sitting on the clouds. We can't take photos of heaven. Heaven is the fullness of

God's presence, and our earthly journeys propel us slowly but surely forward, day by day, to where we meet God face to face in a way that is different to how we are together today. We follow Jesus, who calls us, just as he called his apostles, who dropped everything to follow him. Why do we follow when we can't see him? Hope and faith sum it up, instinctively driving us forward with a sense that just out of our reach, just out of our sight, the miracle of God's presence lies millimetres from our senses. We wait with hope and faith to touch something wonderful!

PARISH PRAYER LIST

WE PRAY FOR ALL WHO HAVE DIED AND FOR THOSE WHO ARE 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, Dorothy Fraser, 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, Carina Warton, Anne Bateman, Veronica Ireland, Lauren, Brooke, Anthony, Michelle, Judy.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES ARE IN JANUARY

Henny Puschmann (08.01.07), John Gentle (14.01.84), Giuseppe Panozzo (14.01.83), Maria Jansen (14.01.08), Stephen Sotko Snr (20.01.09), Kathy Heath (21.01.07), Stephen Sotko Jnr (28.01.06), Garry Sweeney (21.01.17), Ethel Lalor, Philip Plant, Bern Porter, Judy Robertson.