



# PARA HILLS MODBURY CATHOLIC PARISH

## PARISH TEAM

FR MANU KUMBIDIYAMACKAL  
MSFS

(PARISH PRIEST)

JEN SHERLOCK  
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PAULINE LAI  
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## PARISH ADMIN OFFICE

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HOPE VALLEY 5090  
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## EMAIL:

office@paramodcath.com.au  
bulletin@paramodcath.com.au

## OFFICE HOURS:

TUESDAY-FRIDAY: 9AM-2PM

## HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

171 KESTERS ROAD,  
PARA HILLS 5096

## ST JOHN XXIII CHURCH

50 RESERVOIR RD,  
HOPE VALLEY 5090

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY  
CELEBRATED AT  
10AM MASS**

## BAPTISMS

BOOKINGS TO BE MADE  
THROUGH THE PARISH OFFICE.

## MARRIAGES

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

## REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

**ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S**  
(PRIMARY) 8251 9500  
CARIGNANE ST,  
WYNN VALE 5127

**GLEESON COLLEGE**  
(SECONDARY) 8282 6600  
40-60 SURREY FARM DRIVE,  
GOLDEN GROVE 5125

## PARISH CHILD PROTECTION OFFICER

THERESE MEYERS: 0421 533 761  
TASH SOUTER: 0422 270 655

13th September 2020

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A - Green

Bulletin Vol.17  
Issue 34

**We acknowledge the Kurna people as the custodians of this region.  
Let us share and learn together for reconciliation and justice.**

## *MASS TIMES*

### **ST JOHN XXIII Hope Valley**

Monday 9.15am  
Tuesday 9.15am  
Thursday 9.15am  
Saturday 6pm  
Sunday 8am



### **HOLY TRINITY Para Hills**

Wednesday 7pm  
Friday 9.15am  
(Adoration Before Friday Mass  
commencing 8.30am)  
Saturday 9.15am  
Sunday 10am

**Due to space restrictions and the need to socially distance  
we are currently restricting attendance to  
100 people at Holy Trinity & 120 people at St John XXIII  
Please contact the Parish Office to book your place at Mass.**

## *PRAYER MEETINGS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES*

|            |                  |                |                 |                      |
|------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| <b>Tue</b> | <b>15th Sept</b> | Legion of Mary | 11.30am         | <b>Holy Trinity</b>  |
| <b>Fri</b> | <b>18th Sept</b> | Craft Group    | 9.30am - 12noon | <b>St John XXIII</b> |

## **It is in Pardoning that We are Pardoned**

Our readings for this Twenty-Fourth Sunday concern forgiving our offenders and being reconciled with them. All three readings today remind us of the path to forgiveness, mercy and reconciliation and challenge us to walk this, the only Way to Life. The Gospel specifically emphasizes two ideas. The first idea, found in Jesus' reply to Peter's question, is that the disciples of Jesus must forgive one another always ("seventy times seven times"), without limit. The second idea, found in the parable, is the communal dimension of forgiveness.

Peter asked Jesus how often he ought to forgive his brother, and then answered his own question by suggesting that he should forgive seven times. It was the Rabbinic teaching that a man must forgive his brother three times. The Biblical proof for this was taken from the first and second chapters of Amos where we find a series of condemnations on the various nations for three transgressions (Am.1:3, 6, 9; Am.1:11, 13; Am.2:1, 4, 6). From this it was deduced that God's forgiveness extends to three offenses, and that He visits the sinner with punishment at the fourth. Also, seven was a holy number to Jewish people, symbolizing perfection, fullness, abundance, rest, and completion. Peter expected to be warmly commended. But Jesus' answer was that the Christian must forgive "seventy times seven." In other words, there is no reckonable limit to forgiveness.

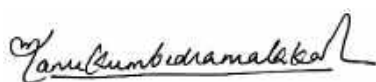
Jesus explains this after teaching the prayer, Our Father, saying, "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your Heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses" (Mt 6:14-15). This means that Divine and human forgiveness go hand in hand. In the parable, the first servant owed his master 10,000 talents, an incredible debt. 10,000 is the highest number used in reckoning, and the talent is the largest currency unit in the whole of the Near East. The modern equivalent would be about ten million dollars! Surely Christ is exaggerating here because, according to Roman tax records of the time, all Israel's taxes for one year amounted to about \$800,000. We are told that this was an amount equivalent to 15 years of wages to

*Cont...*

a labourer in that day. The first servant would have taken 15 years to pay off the debt while the other only, three months of work. What Jesus means is that this man was hopelessly indebted. The accumulated sum of all our sins makes us greater debtors before God than the first debtor in the story. But God is ready to forgive us unconditionally. The sum total of all the offenses which our brothers and sisters commit against us is equivalent to the small debt of the second debtor in the parable, namely 100 denarii, one denarius being "the normal daily wage for a labourer". 100 denarii could have been carried in a pocket, and it was one five-hundred thousandth of the debt which the first servant owed. Our own merciless behaviour towards our fellow human beings is both shocking and sad. It resembles that of the forgiven first servant who turned toward his fellow servant in the same household and refused to forgive a much smaller debt. The moral of Jesus' story is that members of the community must treat one another as God has treated each of us. Here is a Divine call to throw away the calculator when it comes to forgiveness. We must choose the more honourable path and forgive one another "from the heart." We have been forgiven a debt which is beyond all paying and if that is so, we must forgive others as God has forgiven us. Otherwise, we cannot hope to expect any mercy. Jesus' answer comes in the form of an idiom, "seventy times seven times" which means that at all times and in all places, we are to embody God's forgiving grace. Forgiveness involves more than absolution of guilt. It involves the reconciliation of our past and the healing of our brokenness. It involves intentional work to heal and be reconciled with another.

Neither in God nor in the Christian community, do forgiveness and reconciliation mean the indefinite tolerance of evil and unjust behaviour. The king was perfectly ready to forgive the senior official. But how could reconciliation take place when the official later behaved in such an abominable way to a brother? We can be ready to forgive the sinner indefinitely, but we must fight against sin without counting the cost. God and the Church can forgive the repentant sinner, but they cannot condone behaviour without repentance, a source of real evil and suffering. God cannot be reconciled with the sinner who chooses to stay in sin, nor can the Christian community fully incorporate a member who refuses reconciliation and the healing of the behaviours that are against truth and love. With God in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, forgiveness is easily available to the individual Christian, but along with the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we must seek a mutual healing of wounds and a real change of mind and evil behaviour.

In the light of eternity and the shortness of our span of life, harbouring old grudges is pointless. Neighbours who remained hostile and unforgiving till their death are buried a short distance from one another in the same cemetery. Our ability to forgive is the measure of the depth of our Christianity. The forgiveness that we offer others is the indispensable condition which makes it possible for us to receive God's forgiveness and to pray meaningfully: "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." Let us remember St. Francis of Assisi's prayer: "It is in pardoning that we are pardoned."



Readings for next Sunday, 20th September 2020

|             |      |               |
|-------------|------|---------------|
| 1st Reading | Is   | 55:6 - 9      |
| 2nd Reading | Phil | 1:20 - 24, 27 |
| Gospel      | Mat  | 20:1 - 16     |

### Saints/Feast Days Of the Week

|           |                                  |
|-----------|----------------------------------|
| 14th Sept | The Exaltation of the Holy Cross |
| 15th Sept | Our Lady of Sorrows              |
| 16th Sept | Sts Cornelius & Cyprian          |
| 17th Sept | St Robert Bellarmine             |
| 19th Sept | St Januarius                     |

### Our Community's Prayer Petitions

**PLEASE NOTE: THE NAMES ON THE SICK LIST WILL REMAIN FOR TWO MONTHS ONLY UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTIFIED.**

**BULLETIN PRAYER LIST:** Please note that names can only be added to this list by immediate family, or the ill person themselves (for reasons of privacy).

**Please Remember in your Prayers  
THOSE WHO ARE SICK, especially:**

Sandra Dini, Joan Walmsley, Ursula Moore, Lil Buckley, Jason Mittiga, Pat Collins, Ruby Brokensha, Anne Van Der Arend, Margaret Pitt, Patricia Kopf, Darcy Ridley, Paul Holmes, Father Peter Milburn, Maria Hand, Emma Gammon, Asher Caudle, David North, Elijah Neri, Wayne Collins, Marg Dolman, Sean Molloy, Antoinette Pascale, Charlotte Fussell, Phyllis Anthony, Reta Lockyer, John MacGrath, Ken Robinson, Graham Armstrong, Mary Redmond, Graham Speed, Marlen Piineda, David Truman, Bruce McAndie, Rosa Maria Santos, Betty Roper, Imperia De Ionno, Julie Reimann, Jim Marlow, Gerry Canavan, Jayden Lee, Marie Boulton, Gary Lockyer, Yvonne Summers, Rita Robinson, Sr. Marleen Dewar OLSH, Kay Kennedy

### Recently Deceased

Mary Grace Tabone

### Spam Emails

**Please note that parishes and priests do not solicit donations by email.**

We have had reports of people being approached via email by someone falsely claiming to be Fr Manu and asking the recipient to purchase vouchers or gift cards.

If you should receive such an email please do not respond, or purchase vouchers or gift cards.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY SEPTEMBER BABIES

|           |                                     |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| 13th Sept | Marcus Jackson                      |
| 14th Sept | Sean Norris,<br>Nelia Javier-Barton |
| 16th Sept | Margaret Penny                      |
| 17th Sept | Michael McLoughlin                  |
| 18th Sept | Danielle Ellis                      |
| 19th Sept | Joan Norris                         |



**RESPONSORIAL PSALM: the Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.**

## ST VINCENT DE PAUL

HQ: 1300 729 202 from 9.00am — 1.00pm  
or [www.vinnies.org.au](http://www.vinnies.org.au)



### St Vincent de Paul Modbury Conference

Back to “normal” providing food and clothing in home visits in response to five calls for assistance. One included providing some (\$300) assistance through Emergency Relief Funding for a \$3200 gas account

Our immediate needs in the pantry are  
Breakfast Cereal, Tinned Fish,  
Tinned Tomatoes and Jam.

If you can, please put any or all of these in the basket. We appreciate the assistance this provides us in keeping the pantry stocked against the assistance demand.



### DEVELOPMENT FUND 2020

Congratulations  
No. 52  
Margaret Robinson  
Drawn by Tony McGarry

If you would like to be included in the draw  
Please contact: Barbara Mathews 8258 8806

### Holy Places Appeal

This collection, normally held on Good Friday, was rescheduled this year by Pope Francis due to the closure of churches over Holy Week due to COVID-19 restrictions.

The new date is Sunday, September 13th 2020, just before the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross on September 14th.

This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to the local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment and housing. Parishes, schools, orphanages and medical centres throughout the Holy Land rely on assistance from the Holy Places Appeal.

### Christian Life Program (CLP) For Women



#### Watch this space, for women only!

Are you new to the parish or would like to know more people who you could share your faith with?

If you would like to hear more, please contact  
Angela Zakarias 0401 205 636,  
leave your name & number and brief message  
and Angela will call you back to discuss further.

### THE SOUTHERN CROSS

The September edition of The Southern Cross is available from both Mass Centres and the Parish Office at a cost of \$2 or online at [www.thesoutherncross.org.au](http://www.thesoutherncross.org.au)



### Parish Prayer

The PPC was delighted to have received feedback submissions from many parishioners to the first draft of our parish prayer.

Some of those submissions were in the form of a complete rewrite while others suggested amendments. We would like to acknowledge the efforts of everyone who has made a submission.

After lively discussion and prayerful consideration, a 2<sup>nd</sup> draft of the prayer is being prepared. It will be published next week for your further feedback.



## SEASON OF CREATION

*A Jubilee for the Earth*  
**1<sup>st</sup> September – 4<sup>th</sup> October**

The Season of Creation is a time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through repenting, repairing, and rejoicing together. It is a time when we join the ecumenical family in prayer and action for our common home.

This year, amid crises that have shaken our world, we're awakened to the urgent need to heal our relationships with creation and each other. During the season this year, we enter a time of restoration and hope, a jubilee for our Earth, that requires radically new ways of living with creation.

The Season of Creation unites the world's 2.2 billion Christians around one shared purpose, to come together and show the world how to love each other and creation.

As Catholics we are called by Pope Francis to encourage the People of God to accelerate their walks towards new paths for the Church and for an integral ecology by planning activities for the Season of Creation.

In keeping with the theme, drawn from the Old Testament, we can focus on reducing our impacts on Earth and on the most vulnerable people. Activities might include a special Eucharist or pilgrimage walk, sustainability practices or advocacy initiatives to respond to “the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor.”

The Adelaide and Port Pirie Dioceses are developing a “Council for Integral Ecology” to encourage all parishioners and Catholic bodies to embrace the teaching of Laudato Si' in practical and faithful ways. For information about future events, including details of times and registration go to <https://seasonofcreation.org/events/>

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! I give you a new commandment:  
love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia!**



This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Child Protection Sunday, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. The Church takes a zero-tolerance approach to child abuse. We recommit to practices that support survivors and make the Catholic Church and its ministries the safest possible place for children and people at risk.

Find out more at:  
[www.catholic.org.au/childprotectionsunday](http://www.catholic.org.au/childprotectionsunday) and  
[www.catholicreligious.org.au/safeguarding](http://www.catholicreligious.org.au/safeguarding)

### *Child Protection Sunday Prayer*

Gracious God,  
 you love and care for all of your children,  
 especially the smallest and most vulnerable.  
 We entrust to you the lives of children and adults  
 at risk who have been sexually abused,  
 and whose trust and innocence  
 have been destroyed.

Help us to hear their cries of pain  
 and to take responsibility for those  
 whose lives have been broken.  
 Help us to recognise the hurt felt by  
 those wounded by abuse,  
 and the failure to be heard.

We pray that with the help of your grace  
 communities and families will find  
 understanding and support,  
 so that now and in the future their wounds  
 may be healed and they may find lasting peace.

Let your grace and love fall gently  
 now upon our children,  
 giving them the inner strength,  
 peace and resilience  
 to seek out assistance when required.

We ask this prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
 your Son, who lives and reigns with you  
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
 God forever and ever. Amen

### **St Vincent de Paul Para Hills Conference**

Para Hills Conference invites new people to join them in helping those in need. The role involves assessing applicants for assistance and providing food, clothing and financial aid as required.

The time involved is 1 – 2.5 hours  
 on a Monday or Friday.

Volunteers also attend a monthly meeting held late afternoon at Vinnies shop at Valley View.

For further information,  
 contact the Para Hills Conference President, Helen,  
 at Vinnies shop T: 8369 3627 or M: 0450 006 428.



### **Para Hills Modbury Catholic Parish Sacramental Program Confirmation and First Holy Communion**

Celebration of Confirmation and First Holy Communion  
 will be held on

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2020 7pm at St John XXIII.

There are 24 children who will be  
 Confirmed and receive their First Holy Communion.

Everyone attending this celebration needs to  
 register their name and phone number with  
 Jen Sherlock before attending.

There will not be supper after the Celebration.  
 We ask that the parish community pray for these  
 children and their families at this time.

### ***Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows***



will be celebrated on  
 Wednesday 16th September  
 at Holy Trinity Church  
 beginning with Adoration at 6:30pm  
 followed by Holy Mass at 7pm.

Holy Mother, pierce me through,  
 in my heart each Wound renew,  
 of my Saviour crucified



### **Catholic Charities 2020 Appeal**

September is Catholic Charities Month.  
 Catholic Charities supports front-line agencies that  
 work tirelessly to support people in need.  
 Information brochures including a tear off envelope are  
 available at each Mass Centre, for those who wish to  
 donate in this way.  
 These envelopes can be placed on the collection plate  
 at any Mass during September.



### **SAFETY FIRST**

Please remember the carparks are  
 shared zones and for safety  
 the speed limit is 10kph (walking pace).