



**Embracing Villa Maria and
St Patrick's Fortitude Valley**

15th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

Year C

14th July, 2019

The community of the Cathedral of St. Stephen acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which our parish stands.



There was a lawyer who, to disconcert Jesus, stood up and said to him, "Master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "What is written in the Law? What do you read there?" He replied, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself." "You have answered right," said Jesus.
"Do this and life is yours."

Readings: Deuteronomy 30:10-14; Colossians 1:15-20; Luke 10:25-37

Who is your neighbour?

Back in the earlier days, when I was still a kid, there were at least three gospel stories which we all knew: the Nativity story, the Prodigal son, and the story of the Good Samaritan. These three stories were often played in school dramas since they are easy to remember with a clear plot and meaning. The story of the Good Samaritan, for example, was often told since it has a clear message for all the kids: help and love your neighbour. However, the more we reflect on this story, the richer it becomes. It transcends the notion of doing good things for your neighbour. The story tells us about the discussion between Jesus and a lawyer who asked Him, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus replied: "How do you understand the law?" Without a doubt, the lawyer answered correctly: "Love God wholeheartedly and your neighbor as yourself". After getting the affirmation and order to do as he understood, the man pursued Jesus further by asking a very interesting question: "Who is my neighbour?" Eventually, Jesus told the man the parable of a Priest, a Levite and a Samaritan; and their response in seeing a wounded victim laying helplessly on the street. As a final conclusion Jesus asked him: "Which of these three was neighbour to the robber's victim?"

It is quite a straight-forward-multiple-choice question, and all of us should be able to answer it correctly. Likewise, the man seemingly did so. But, did he really? He was not able to acknowledge and express clearly that it was the Samaritan who was the neighbour to the wounded man. Replying to Jesus' question, he answered "*the one who showed mercy on him*". This man was in a dilemma and decided to avoid the word "Samaritan" which to him might be an unclean word. In the first century in 'Jewish' context, a Samaritan was considered a heretic, rebel or more, an enemy. Nothing good would come from them. This man, like most of the Jews at that time, must have had a strong prejudice that Samaritans equates wickedness. This man's answer reflected an irony in his life. He wanted to inherit eternal life; he knew what to observe according to the law. However, he couldn't apply the teaching when it involves the outsiders, even only with words. Another irony is that this man might not know much about the life of the Samaritans nor might he have a Samaritan friend in his life. But he kept in mind the judgement about them which was carried from one generation to another. We could see how powerful a judgement is. It dwells in our subconsciousness and affects our words and actions.

cont'd over page



Most Reverend Mark Coleridge
Archbishop of Brisbane

Cathedral Staff: Fr Anthony Mellor (Dean); Fr Odinaka Nwadike (Associate Pastor);
Fr Thomas Ismoyo; Fr Joshua Whitehead

Director of Music: Dr Andrew Cichy; **Cathedral Organist:** Miss Rachael Shipard

Sacristan: Mr Hayden Kennedy; **Cathedral Office Co-Ordinator:** Ms Carmel Devery

Local Safeguarding Representative: Dr Barbara Reynolds-Hutchinson (ph: 0418 401 609)

Cathedral Office Telephone: 07 3324 3030 **Cathedral Email:** cathedral@bne.catholic.net.au

Cathedral Mass Times this week

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri

8.00am Chapel; 10.00am Cathedral; 12.30pm Cathedral; 5.10pm Chapel

Wednesday

8.00am Chapel; 10.30am Priests Jubilee Mass; 12.30pm Cathedral; 5.10pm Chapel

Saturday

9.30am Villa Maria; 11.30am Cathedral

Sunday

Cathedral of St Stephen

Saturday 6.00pm (Mass in anticipation of Sunday)

Sunday

8.00am; 10.00am (Solemn Mass); 12 noon; 7.30pm

Sunday

9.00am; 12 noon.

St Patrick's, Fortitude Valley

Sunday 9.30am

Villa Maria, Spring Hill

Reconciliation

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri

10.30-11.30am; 1.00-1.30pm; 4.30-5.00pm

Wednesday

1.00-1.30pm; 4.30-5.00pm

Saturday

10.00-11.00am; 4.30-5.30pm

Exposition

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 10.30am – 12.15pm

Benediction Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri

12.15pm

The moral of today's Gospel reflection inspires us in at least two different ways personally and as a community. Firstly, discipleship, according to Luke's perspective challenges us as Christians to open our minds and hearts to those whom the society - and even the Church- perceives as outsiders or non-believers. Just as the Good Samaritan man was a means of salvation to the victim; saving him and caring for him until full recovery; Jesus highlights that 'outsiders' too could become great means of evangelization, leading us to true discipleship . We, as Christians need to work more inclusively

with our neighbours to build a better society. Despite our differences, we all have the same heart which longs for God. The story of the Good Samaritan inevitably confronted us to remove all prejudice we might have about others or particular groups of people, which could generate from time to time and even strengthened by the media and society. So, who is your neighbour? As you are reading this, please take a moment to pause and ask yourself, who are these people in my life right now, who are my neighbours?

Fr Thomas Ismoyo

prayer for vocations

Loving God,
With one voice we lift up our hearts
to thank you today for our lives,
our vocation and all your gifts to us.
Inspire us all to know and live our vocation.
Give courage to young people,
to listen and follow the call,
to serve you in the Archdiocese
as your priests, religious and lay ministers.
Bless us, your family of Brisbane.
Help those you call to listen
to what your Holy Spirit is saying to us.
Guide them to serve in your vineyard,
that they may fulfill your holy will and
make all things new.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen



PLENARY COUNCIL PRAYER

Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost.

Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land.
O God, bless and unite all your people in Australia
and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary
Council.

Give us the grace to see your face in one another
and to recognise Jesus, our companion on the road.

Give us the courage to tell our stories
and to speak boldly of your truth.

Give us ears to listen humbly to each other
and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying.

Lead your Church into a hope-filled future,
that we may live the joy of the Gospel.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
bread for the journey from age to age. Amen.
Our Lady Help of Christians, **pray for us.**
St Mary MacKillop, **pray for us.**

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

For the past 6 weeks there have been information pieces about the Parish Pastoral Council in the Newsletter. Currently there are vacancies for a few positions on the Council and Nomination Forms will be available on the next two weekends (July 20-21 and 27-28) at the Mass Coordinator's desk. If you are considering nominating for one of these vacant positions please complete the Nomination Form and return it as indicated on the form. Contact the Council at cathedralppc@bne.catholic.net.au if you require further details.

THE CATHEDRAL OF ST STEPHEN ART GROUP

COSSAG invites you to their annual art prize and exhibition. The theme this year is "Go forth with peace, hope and courage". The exhibition is open **12 July to 15 July** from 10am to 4pm in the Hanly Room, Francis Rush Centre. For more information email cossagart@gmail.com

JUBILEE OF ORDINATION

Our annual Jubilee of Ordination Mass will be celebrated on **Wednesday 17 July at 10.30am**. All are welcome to this Mass. Please note that there will be no **10am Mass or 10.30am Sacrament of Penance**.

Our Jubilarians this year are:

Diamond: Pat Dowd, Vince Hobbs, Denis Long, Jerome Watt O'Carm

Golden: Bill Morris, Peter Casey, Leo Coote, Joe Duffy, Bernie Gallagher, Jim Spence

Ruby: Peter Dillon, Gerry Hefferan, John Kilinko

Silver: David Batey, Mauro Conte, Damian McGrath, Paul Murphy, Thomas Kessy CSSp, Gaspar Mushi CSSp, Albert Wasniowski OSPPE

3RD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH CUPPA AFTER MASS

Next weekend is the 3rd weekend of the month. Please join us after the 6:00pm (Saturday) and 8:00am & 10:00am Mass for a cuppa after Mass and enjoy fellowship with your fellow parishioners. A new co-ordinator for the supper after the 6:00pm Mass is required. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the Cathedral office on cathedral@bne.catholic.net.au.

BRISBANE CATHOLIC HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING AUGUST 6

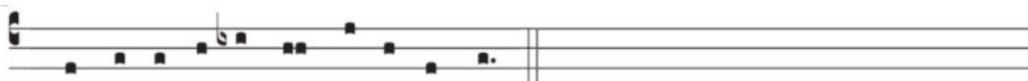
Please note the upcoming topic of interest on Tuesday August 6 - **"Fr Bernard O'Shea and the Beginnings of the Catholic Education"** presented by Fr Jim Browne. The Brisbane Catholic Historical Society normally meets at 5.30pm in the Hanly Room of the Francis Rush Centre, besides the Cathedral of St Stephen. Annual Membership of the Society is \$35 per person / family.

MUSIC AT THE CATHEDRAL

The music is drawn from the Catholic Worship Book II for all Masses, available from our Welcomers at the entrances or on the pew seats. The Cathedral Choirs are in recess. Choral services will resume on July 21st.

All Masses are led by a cantor.

	6:00PM 8:00AM 12:00PM	10:00AM Solemn Mass	7:30PM
Processional	CWB 512	CWB 512	CWB 498
Kyrie	CWB 22a	CWB 22a	CWB 22a
Gloria	CWB 22b	CWB 22b	CWB 22b
First Reading			Deuteronomy 30:10-14
Responsorial Psalm			Ps 18:8-11



R The precepts of the Lord gladden the heart.

Second Reading		Colossians 1:15-20
Gospel Acclamation		John 6:63, 68



R Al-le- lu- ia, al-le- lu- ia, al-le-lu- ia.

Gospel		Luke 10:25-37
Offertory		CWB 488
Sanctus	CWB 22c	CWB 22c
Memorial Acclamation		CWB 12a
Agnus Dei	CWB 22h	CWB 22h
Communion Hymn	CWB 469	CWB 469
Recessional	CWB 621	Organ Improvisation
		CWB 621

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020:

National Theme for Discernment #4

How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church
that is Humble, Healing and Merciful?

This National Theme for Discernment is inspired by the voices of the People of God who expressed a deep and faith-filled trust in God and a need for lament and healing within the Church, acknowledging the sexual abuse crisis as a turning point for the Church in Australia.



Find out more at www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au

ST VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL

The SVDP Winter Appeal has been launched. Give Australians facing poverty another choice. You can donate on-line @ vinnies.org.au, phone 131812 or collect one of the appeal envelopes at the doors of the church.

HELP END THE PAIN OF
POVERTY THIS WINTER

DONATE NOW ►

Vinnies
good works





Spiritual writer Fr. Ron Rolheiser has updated the parable to the good Samaritan for a contemporary setting. Here is how he describes Jesus' parable:

Who is my neighbour? What does it mean to be neighbour to one another?

Jesus once answered this by telling us the parable of the Good Samaritan. In essence, as he told it, the parable runs something like this: A man was taking a walk one day when he was beaten up by thieves and left for dead in a ditch by a road. A priest saw him there, but passed him by. Later still, a scribe also passed by without stopping to help him. Finally, a Samaritan, the kind of person you would have least expected to respond, saw him, was moved by compassion, and stopped and helped him.

One of the interesting things in this parable is that those who did not stop to help him, the priest and the scribe, did so for reasons that go far beyond the question of their individual selfishness and selflessness. They did so for certain ideological, religious reasons. Thus, the priest did not stop because he feared that the man was dead and, being a priest, if he touched a dead body he would be ritually defiled and thereby unable to offer sacrifice in the temple. The scribe had his own religious reasons for not stopping. The Samaritan, who had the least to lose religiously, was able to be moved by simple human compassion.

Given this background, the parable might, in our own language and categories, be recast to read like this:

One day a man was taking a walk in a city park when he was mugged, beaten up, and left for dead by a gang of thugs.

It so happened that, as he lay there, the provincial superior of a major religious order walked by and saw him. He realized instantly that the man was in a desperate way and he felt that he should respond. However, he thought to himself: "If I help this man, I will set a dangerous precedent. Then what will I do? Having helped him, where will I draw the line? Will I have to stop and help everyone who is in need? Will I then have to give money to every panhandler, every beggar, every charity? If I give to this one, then on what basis am I justified in refusing any charity? Where will it stop? This would be dangerous precedent. I simply cannot help everyone I see in need and, thus, it is best not to help this one. This is ultimately a question of fairness." And thus he passed him by.

A short time later, a young woman, a theology student, happened to come along. She too saw the man lying wounded. Her first instinct was to stop and help him, but a number of thoughts made her hesitate. She said to herself: "In that course on pastoral care we just took, we were taught that it is not good to try to

rescue someone. We must resist the temptation, however sincere and religiously motivated, to naively wade in and try to be someone's rescuer. That's simply a saviour complex which doesn't do the other person any good in the long run and comes out of a less than pure motivation besides. I would only be trying to help that person because it makes me feel good and useful. It would be a selfish act really; ultimately only this man can help himself." She too, this person preparing for ministry, despite much good intention, passed by the wounded person.

Later still, a third person chanced to come along, the chairperson for the local diocesan commission on social justice. He too saw the wounded man and he too was, instinctually, moved. However, before he was able to reach out and touch the wounded man, a number of hard questions surfaced: "This man really is not the issue. The more important question is how he got here. What things within the larger picture - our social and economic system - produce the conditions that make for this type of violence and hurt? To help this man is simply a band-aid, solving nothing. It does not address the deeper issue of justice and why our society perpetually creates this kind of victim. To help this individual is simply to do the Mother Theresa thing, but it doesn't solve anything really. It's the old temptation really - it's easier to give bread to a hungry person than it is to address the issue of hunger!" This man too, for all his dedication and sincerity, like the religious superior and the theology student before him, passed by the wounded man without stopping.

Finally, it so happened that the CEO of a big tobacco company happened to be out joy riding in the new BMW he had just purchased. He chanced to see the wounded man lying there and he stopped to have a closer look. When he saw the face of that wounded person, something in him suddenly changed. A compassion he didn't even know he possessed took possession of him. Tears filled his eyes and, deeply moved, he got out of his car, bent over, and gently picked up the man. He carried him to his car and gently laid him in the back seat, oblivious of the fact that blood was staining the clean white upholstery. Arriving at the emergency entrance of the nearest hospital, he rushed in and yelled for the paramedics. After a stretcher had brought the man into the emergency room, they discovered that he had no medical insurance. The CEO produced a Visa Gold Card and told the hospital staff to give the wounded man the best medical attention possible as money was to be no object. He promised to cover all hospital expenses.

Who was neighbour to the wounded man?