Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday will be celebrated throughout Australia this Sunday – despite NAIDOC week occurring later in the year. NATSICC feels it is important that we celebrate as Australians during these difficult times. Archbishop Pat O’Regan will celebrate a nationally livestreamed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday Mass at 11.30am EST. The link will be available at www.natsicc.org.au

Looking at the Readings:
The Gospel, today, begins with Jesus praying to the Father. The Gospels give us eleven prayers that Jesus said, nine references (without text) of him praying and four or five times of grace before meals. Here he is thanking God for revealing the mysteries to children and the childlike. Again he calls God, Father, expressing the intimacy he has in prayer and inviting us to the same intimacy. The second section of this passage is a call to be a disciple and offers comfort to the weary and heavily burdened. The hard demands Jesus makes in the earlier chapter 10 (last week’s Gospel) are not negated or considered light. We still take up the cross but have Christ with us to ease the heavy burden and the hard demands.

This gospel passage also gives us an insight into the person of Christ: he is teacher and master, servant and close to the Father, meek and humble of heart. He prays in thanksgiving for his disciples who believe in him, but he does not curse those who had rejected him in the earlier scenes.

The Prophet Zechariah
Zechariah lived and wrote in the sixth century before Christ. His book, mostly devoted to the coming of the Messianic Age, is in two distinct sections, chapters 1-8 and 9-14. The latter section was written about 200 years later by other authors. From this section we have only two passages in the three year Sunday cycle, today and the 12th Sunday in Year C. In the two year weekday cycle we have three passages from the first section. Despite its rarity in our Lectionary, it is the second most quoted book of a prophet in the Gospels, second only to the Prophet Isaiah.

Quote of the Week
‘Let all guests who come be received like Christ’. Rule of St Benedict

Saint of the Week St Benedict Saturday 11 July
Benedict and his twin sister Scholastica were born in 480 in Nursia, Umbria. By forming communities of monks and writing a rule of life he is considered the father of Western monasticism. His practical life and examples of prayer have helped many in their Christian lives. Note: Bishop Daly was born on the feast of St Scholastica and ordained Bishop of Sandhurst on the feast of St Benedict.
First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-10

The Lord says this:
'Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion!
Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem!
See now, your king comes to you;
he is victorious, he is triumphant,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
He will banish chariots from Ephraim
and horses from Jerusalem;
the bow of war will be banished.
He will proclaim peace for the nations.
His empire shall stretch from sea to sea,
from the River to the ends of the earth.'

Second Reading: Romans 8:9,11-13

Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him, and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.

Gospel: Matthew 11:25-30

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children.
Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do.
Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father;
and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened,
and I will give you rest.
Shoulder my yoke and learn from me,
for I am gentle and humble in heart,
and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'
Recent Deaths: Neridah Mildren (teacher at CCW 1984-2015)

Anniversaries: Brian Sully, Jack & Neta Hanlon

Sick: Zak Oliver, Kath Twycross, Salome Ramirez, Ric Glavocih, Mary Shaddock, Ricky Ellul, John Radcliffe, parishioners who are ill, their families & Carers

They were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other Apostles, "Brothers - what then must we do?" Acts 2:37

The ACBC National Catholic Men’s Gathering for 2020 is now being offered as an online event for registered participants. This modified program will be delivered in four pre-recorded sessions of approximately 1 hour in length. Each session will offer input from a variety of speakers and musicians, along with a response and questions for group discussion or individual reflection. The program offers flexibility so that you may participate individually or gather with others from your parish/diocese or men’s ministry group.

Aim: To inspire and encourage all Catholic men with a vision for personal discipleship, service and mission in the family, parish, diocese and the world.

Cost: FREE Registration: Available from Monday 29th June

Event Program: Available from Saturday 15th August, 2020

Go to: www.catholicmensgathering.com.au
20 people are allowed to be in our public liturgical celebration; I know many of you loved going to Mass to partake in Holy Communion and just enjoy the company of each other as a community of faith.

Yet to adhere with the directives we are to put some things in place. When you come to Mass, please observe social distancing (1.5 metres) apart. The seats in the Church are marked where you are to sit. Please use the hand sanitiser provided or if you have your own, bring this with you.

To facilitate the cleaning of places in the Church that we may be in contact with, we will just be using one entry and exit point.

At Sacred Heart Church, we will be using the main front Doors. These will be opened before the Mass and closed once Mass begins.

For booking please Phone the Parish Centre (please do not email) Ph: 60243366 - weekdays between 9:30 am and 3:00 pm

If you are feeling unwell (or coughing, sneezing, etc), stay home.

Masses Schedules as follows:

Sacred Heart Church

**Tuesday - Friday:** 9:15 am
**Saturday:** 5:00 pm: Sacred Heart Church
**Sunday:** 8:30 am: Sacred Heart
**Sunday:** 11:00 am: Sacred Heart

*(If necessary we will run a 5:00 pm Mass on Sunday @ Sacred Heart Church)*

Holy Hour (including Evening Prayer, Holy Rosary and Benediction will also be live streamed at Wodonga Catholic Parish Facebook Page most evenings at 6:00 pm.

For more query ring myself Ph: 0459356917 or the Parish Centre: Ph: 60243366

Looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Yours in Christ

Fr Junjun