

St Finbar's Catholic Parish

86 Centre Rd, Brighton East, VIC, 3187

Presbytery/Office: 9593 2122 School: 9592 4479





Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

19th November - 2023

Parish Staff

Parish Priest: Fr Ian Ranson

Retired Priest: Fr Clemente Cafarella

Parish Secretary: Mrs Carmel Cristiano (Tues & Thurs, 9.00 am—3.30pm)

St Vincent de Paul: 1800 305 330

Acting School Principal: Ms Michelle Hill

Weekday Masses

Monday - Friday 9.30am

Weekend Masses

Saturday: 9:30am, 5:30pm Sunday 9:00am, 11:00am

Baptisms & other sacraments: please call the office to organise.



Let us pray

For peace in Israel and Palestine.

For peace in Ukraine.

Anniversary:

Clive Holmes Pauline Hamilton Isidoro Turcarelli Kathlene Mc Cormack Maxine Darcic



Befriending Time

God's plan for human happiness is mostly frustrated by a good person burying his or her personality traits, what one might call one's talents, which is really to bury oneself and to become invisible.

In the old language of my schoolboy catechism, we should be concerned not just with sins of commission, but with sins of *omission* – failure of courage, failure to take risks, failure to put everything on the line with the personality and the moment in time given to you and to me.

As Shakespeare says in Julius Caesar:

'There is a tide in the affairs of men which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune; omitted, all the voyage of their life is bound in stillness and in miseries.'

The Divine Tide is flowing through human history. We should trust ourselves to that tide which can carry us to the shores of Heaven. Failure to take risks leads to Hellish stillness and miseries.

We could pause for a moment to pray that we might use our talents so as to hear: 'Well done, good and faithful servant ... come and join in your Master's happiness.'

© Fr Michael Tate



The parable of the talents is sometimes misused to validate an overemphasis on material wealth in many Western societies. There can be an attitude that says 'more is better'; that possessions are a sign of success. Such advocates point to the favour bestowed on the servants who doubled their money and the punishment dealt to the lazy servant who simply returned to his master what he was given. Proponents of the increasingly popular 'gospel of prosperity' hold that God wants Christians to be materially and financially rich and that their wealth is proof of God's love. This stands in stark contrast to Jesus' vision of the Kingdom.





November is when we remember in our prayers those who have passed and offer masses for the repose of their souls.

NOVEMBER—Souls in Purgatory

20th St Benignus

21st The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

22nd St Cecilia

23rd St Columbian, St Clement I

24th St Andrew Dung-Lac 7 Companions



Thank you to Fr Clem Cafarella & Fr Stephen Hamilton for your help over the 3 weeks I was away. Fr Ian Ranson



Roster for Next Week

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of	5.30pm	9.00am	11.00am
the Universe Year A			
26.11.23			
Lector	Julie McInerney	Rod Watson	Richard Wakeham
Minister	Volunteer	Mary Callea	Jenny Reiche
Audio Visual Operator	Carmel Cristiano	volunteer	Teresa Myer

Advent Program 2023—Living in Harmony Lenten Program Year B

Starting Thursday 7th Dec after 9.30am morning mass. Where: Marian Room Material will be provided.

Come along and prepare for this wonderful time in welcoming the Birth of Our Lord Jesus.

Night of the Witnesses

Night of the Witnesses is an evening of testimony, prayer, song, adoration and reflection to honour the witness of modern-day Christian martyrs and to stand in solidarity with Christians around the world who are suffering persecution for their faith in Jesus Christ.

Wednesday 22 November 2023, 7.00pm-8.30pm, St Patrick's Cathedral, 1 Cathedral Place East Melbourne

The evening will be presided by Archbishop Peter A Comensoli, with special guest speakers:

- **His Beatitude, Patriarch Joseph Absi** of the Melkite Greek Catholic Church, Patriarch of Antioch, Alexandria, Jerusalem and all the East
- **Mr Xavier Bisits**, ACN Head of Projects, Lebanon, Syria and Egypt.
- **Sr Majella Dogonyaro OP**, Dominican Sister, Northern Nigeria.

Christmas Giving Tree – Our St Finbar's Parish community is again helping to bring the Spirit of Christmas to people who have been forced to flee their homes and seek refuge. The Brigidine Asylum Seeker Project (www.basp.org.au) – with a small army of volunteers – gives assistance throughout the year to many families and young men and women trying to get started on a new life in Australia. As for the last few years, you're invited to make up a small Christmas hamper ... which we will deliver to BASP in week one of December. The tags on our Christmas Giving Tree give brief details of various family groups or households of young men and women. There are also some tags that are simply 'a shopping bag of food/household goods'. The tags don't always state gender or ages of children ... just remember that basic foods are always appreciated, and Christmas fare and some sweets will bring joy!

PLEASE RETURN YOUR OFFERING UNDER THE CHRISTMAS TREE

Your support brings Christmas joy into households. Thank you!