



# St Finbar's Catholic Parish

86 Centre Rd, Brighton East, VIC, 3187

Presbytery/Office: 9593 2122 School: 9592 4479

Parish Email: [brightoneast@cam.org.au](mailto:brightoneast@cam.org.au) Parish Website: <http://pol.org.au/brightoneast>



## Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

17th September - 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.

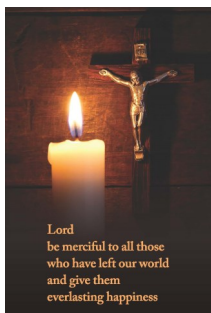


### Let us pray

**Sick:**  
Mary McManus

**Recent death:**  
Joseph Monaghan

**Anniversary:**  
Pina De Losa  
Louise Thomas  
Ninetta Fiumara  
Michelle Sabatino  
Francesco Sirianni  
Vivienne Coghlan  
Barbara Bartley  
James Fitzsimmons  
Nell Oeslner



Lord  
be merciful to all those  
who have left our world  
and give them  
everlasting happiness

### Forgiveness

I don't like the phrase: 'Forgive and forget'. Remembering can be an important part of healing. Forgiving is about giving up the desire 'to get even', making sure that the 'punishment fits the crime'. It is that sort of forgiveness which we dare to ask of God for ourselves. But here's the catch: it is that sort of forgiveness which we must practise towards others.

When we don't, we are like the principal debtor in Jesus' story. In harshly dealing with a minor debtor, he refused to share his king's quality of forgiveness. If we don't pass on this aspect of God's life to others, then we are warned that we will end up in a hellish situation unable to share in the fullness of Divine life.

It is easy to talk 'Big Picture' forgiveness. It is much harder within the family or circle of acquaintances. It seems impossible to simply will it. But we have to ask for the grace to do it.

We could pause for a moment to pray:

Our Father who art in Heaven . . . forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.'

© Fr Michael Tate

**The Parish would like to congratulate Patrick Berlingeri as new principal of St Patrick's Mentone.**

## gospel focus

### How many times?

Peter says, 'How many times should I forgive? As many as seven times?' Peter probably thought that he was being pretty generous. The religious law of his time required people to forgive three times, so by suggesting seven times, Peter would have thought that he was really going the extra mile. To forgive someone seven times is a pretty big call. But the number seven has great significance in scripture; it is regarded as a number of perfection. Peter is suggesting that there is an ideal number of times that one should forgive. Jesus blows this out of the water by saying, take that perfect number of times and multiply it by seventy. There is no perfect number of times to forgive.

"Be patient with me,  
and I will pay you  
back in full."

Matthew 18:26

Forgive to Move On



## SEPTEMBER—Month of Our Lady of Sorrows

18th St Joseph of Copertino

19th St Januarius

20th Sts Andrew Kim Taegon & Paul Chong Hasang & companions

21st St Matthew

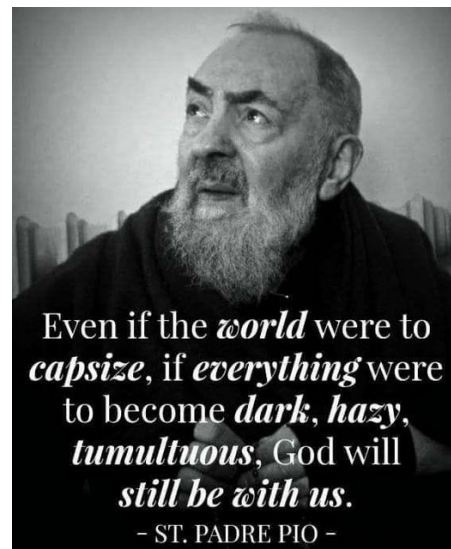
22nd St Maurice

23rd St Pius of Pietreclina

### READERS NEEDED DESPERATELY FOR 9AM MASSES

No experience **required**.

*Fear not, because God is with you. St Pio*



25 <sup>th</sup> Sun in Ord Year A 24.9.23	5.30pm	9.00am	11.00am
Lector	Julie McInerney (Clare Swap)	Red Watson (volunteer pls)	Richard Wakeham
Minister	Volunteer	Mary Callea	Jenny Reiche
Audio Visual Operator	Carmel Cristiano	volunteer	Teresa Myer

## Why Go to Church?

A churchgoer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. "I've gone for 30 years now," he wrote, "and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time and the preachers are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all."

This started a controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column, to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

"I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals but I do know this: They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"

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**Theology @ the Pub** is a monthly event for those aged 18–35. It is a chance to listen to terrific guest speakers talking about theology, history, apologetics, faith and prayer, relationships, ethics, society and much more.

The talk will be followed by a Q&A with the speaker and plenty of discussion with friends. Have a meal, a drink and meet new people from all over Melbourne! Priests and religious of all ages welcome.

*Doors open for dinner at 6pm. Talk starts at 7.30pm.*

St Patrick's Cathedral, 1 Cathedral Place, East Melbourne

Thursday, September 21, 2023 6:30pm / Thursday, September 28, 2023 6:30pm

[Home | Theology @ the pub \(theologyatthepub.com.au\)](http://theologyatthepub.com.au)

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### SAFETY OF CHILDREN AND ALL VULNERABLE PEOPLE

St Finbar's Parish hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and all vulnerable people as a central and fundamental responsibility for our community.