



PARISH OFFICE: 44 Margaret Street, Launceston 7250 **PHONE:** 6331 4377
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OFFICE HOURS: 10.00AM - 3.00PM on MONDAY - FRIDAY; CLOSED ON WEDNESDAYS
PARISH TEAM: Fr Ben Brooks, Fr Chathura Silva, Fr Jessie Banez
Carolyn Gutteridge—**Parish Secretary**
Rosie Caelli—**Sacramental Co-ordinator**
FACEBOOK: @CatholicParishLaunceston

Fifth Sunday of Easter (YEAR A) - 7 MAY 2023

FIRST READING

Acts 6:1-7

1 Peter 2:4-9

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 32:1-2. 4-5. 18-19. R. v.22

**(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.**

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.
Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp,
with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. (R.)
2. For the word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love. (R.)
3. The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine. (R.)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

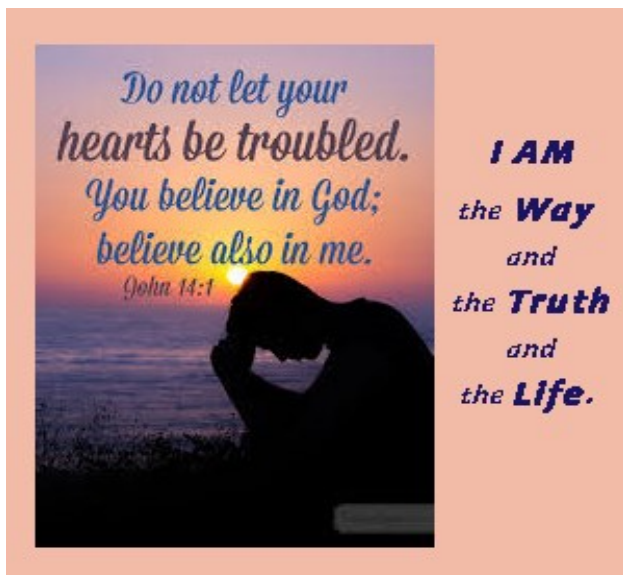
Alleluia, alleluia!

***I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord;
no one comes to the Father, except through me.
Alleluia!***

GOSPEL

John 14:1-12

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am now going to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen him.' Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me? 'To have seen me is to have seen the Father, so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself: it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work. You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason. 'I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father.'



A VOCATION VIEW

The institution of the Diaconate is mentioned in today's Scripture. Perhaps the Lord is calling you to assist with the charitable, educational, or liturgical needs of the Lord's People today.

Dear Parish family,

“Home is where the heart is” – is a well known phrase indicating our tendency to attach ourselves to a place, family or community as our home where we can be certain of our acceptance despite our weaknesses or failings, where we can be ourselves without having to put on a mask to pretend that all is OK when it is not, and where we can celebrate the positive aspects of life with those who are closest to us.

Jesus assures his disciples, in today’s gospel, that our true home is closer than we might think. Our home, life in the Father, is to be found in Jesus himself. For the disciples this meant that God was with them as they listened and learned from Jesus’ teachings and actions. For us, we can be assured that God is present in the community as we gather each week to listen to the Word proclaimed and participate in the Eucharist. Where is your heart this week? There are multiple focusses in our lives that we might invest our hearts and our energies in – are our hearts in the right place, or do we need to re-adjust how we are approaching this? This week, let’s be grateful for our homes and families who are signs to us of the everlasting home we are invited into, and keep in our prayers those in our community who are struggling to find a home for themselves and their families in these current times of financial hardship.

Have a blessed week!

Fr Ben Brooks

Food for thought.....Reflection by Sr Dianne Bergant CSA



FROM THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

- The Social Justice team will be sharing information about the Uluru Statement from the Heart with parishioners.
- Following the **5:30pm Mass on Pentecost Sunday 28 May**, there will be a ‘**Fire Pot**’ gathering where parishioners are encouraged to stay after Mass around the ‘Fire Pots’ and enjoy some hot soup and great company. Soup will be available for a gold coin donation, with the funds raised going to assist our young parishioners heading to Word Youth Day.
- Please **save the date** for our **Parish Dinner** to be held on **Friday 25 August**. This will be a wonderful celebration within our parish community.



WORLD YOUTH DAY QUIZ NIGHT FUNDRAISER—Upstairs in the Parish Centre **Saturday 21st May, 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start**

Can you help support Tasmania’s 35 pilgrims to World Youth Day in Portugal?

On **Saturday 21st May**, parishes from around the State will be competing for prizes in a live online quiz streamed from Sheffield, Tas. **Cost:** \$25 per person and prior Registration is required. Please bring a plate of food to share. **Registration:** email: apostles@bigpond.com, Ph: 6331 4377 or contact Fr Chathura: 0469 661 578. **Please come along, it should be fun!**

EPICLESIS RETREAT

Following the success of the 2022 Evangelium Project and Evangelium Conference, we are excited to invite you to the upcoming a one-day event aimed at deepening our spiritual lives and making us more effective instruments of God in sharing our faith with others. The retreat will be led by Fr Dave Callaghan MGL, and will include talks, times for prayer and reflection, music, and a shared meal. **When: Sunday 14th May** from 10:00 am – 3:45 pm **Where:** St Francis Hall, Riverside **More Information:** evangeliumproject@aohtas.org.au **Register Now:** https://epiclesis_launceston_event-brite.com.au

YOU ARE ASKED TO PRAY

FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK: Fr Martin Aye Ngwe, Fr Terry Yard, Greg Hopwood, Noelene Bye, Peter Brumby, Rod Badcock, Maria Holton, Myra Conway, Kathy Aldred, Teresa McMahon, Kim Izard, Danielle Evans, Louisa Buttazzoni, Lalla Smethurst, Sally Griffin (Smethurst), Patsy Heath, Alex Thrower, Marie Cousins, Alida Moolenschot, Archivaldo Pechon, Sharon Manzone, Suzy Fenton, Elizabeth Nettlefold, Shirley Ambrose, Qian Zhang-Allchin, Carole Cleary, Bev Callahan, Elizabeth Howell, Ellen O’Dea, Helen Wright, Alfred Weeding, Maureen Saunders, Mary Morgan, Mary Carter, Scott Bailey, Ralf Roston, Tony Long, Kristel Latham, Joan Keefe, Jennifer Dowell, Andrew Campbell, Bill Lewis, Vincent Burke, Eduardo Bilanes, Brian Hudson, Brian Beardwood, Jane Gillard, Joel Wilkinson, Jesse Moore, Elaine Blake, John Walsh, Clare Maddox, William Siegrist, Anne Harris, Jane Savaro, Amelia Eckert, Allison Thambugala, Ava Woolley, David Lewis, Christian Barrett, Xavier Banks, George Donovan, Max Jamieson, Jan McClean and Peter Marshall.

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED: Fran O’Sullivan, Gwiliel (Julie) Gough, Dawo Zhang and Peggy Brogan who have died recently, Fr John Williams, Michael Brock, Maria and Leno Rossi, Mario and Angelina Colla, Alida Moolenschot (Senior), Brian Welch, Matteo Arvia, Maurice Scully, Leo Leyden, Wayne Harris, John Virtue, Ella Earley, Geoffrey Murray, Lino Quagliotto, Frances Heritage, Irene Hudson, John De Wit, Philip Hesselman, Raffaele Casteller, we remember all victims of the COVID-19 virus and all whose anniversaries occur at this time and for the Holy souls in Purgatory.

FOR OUR PARISH FAMILY AND THE WIDER COMMUNITY: As the COVID virus continues to affect our lives, we pray in a special way for all those involved in frontline services. We pray for the gift of healing and peace for all who contract the virus, especially for those who are in hospital, and for their families.

PARISH ACTIVITIES, INFORMATION AND NEWS

ONE HOUR WITH JESUS *This Sunday, 7th May at the Carmelite Monastery.* You are welcome to join the Carmelite nuns in spending some time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament: 2.00pm Office of None (afternoon prayer of the Church); 2.15 - 3.00pm Silent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament; 3.00pm Benediction

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE monthly meeting will be held at the Parish Centre, Margaret St., on **Tuesday, 9th May**, starting at 1pm. (Please bring tinned fish or meat for St V de P collection.) Following this meeting at 2pm on Tuesday, 9th May, the Launceston CWL will hold its AGM. Please bring a small plate. New members welcome. Ph Victoria (Sec) 0408398785

PRESENTATION ASSOCIATES will be holding a **Remembrance Prayer Time** for deceased Associates and Sisters on Saturday, **13th May** at the Launceston Parish Centre **commencing at 2 p.m.**

MONDAY NIGHT ROSARY is being held each Monday night in Church of the Apostles at 7.30pm. Come along and offer your thanks to "Our Blessed Mother Mary" for the Blessings she bestows on us each day. **All Welcome.**

MORNING MEDITATION at the **Emmanuel Centre Tuesdays at 11am.** Newcomers are welcome.

Enquiries: phone 6334 1082

FRIDAY HOLY HOUR Adoration and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place for one hour every Friday after the 12noon Mass at the Church of the Apostles.

THE CARMEL SHOP: 7 Cambridge Street, West Launceston is open on Wednesdays between 11.00am - 4.00pm

St Vincent de Paul Leaving Collection at all Masses this weekend.

Morning Tea after 10.30am Mass—Church of the Apostles. All welcome



CATHOLIC
THEOLOGICAL
COLLEGE



UNIVERSITY
OF DIVINITY

Corpus Christi College & Catholic Theological College

Good Shepherd Sunday Appeal

Support the training of priests for tomorrow's Church

Your tax-deductible donation will support the costs of Corpus Christi College seminarians.

<https://ctc.edu.au/community/good-shepherd-sunday-appeal/>



DIRECTED RETREAT

Emmanuel Centre, Launceston, **29 May to 4 June, 2023.** Hosted by Sr Jenny Scally and Maureen O'Halloran. Cost: \$800. A time of deep silence and encounter with God, with opportunity for daily spiritual direction.

Enquiries: Sr Jenny jenny.scally@sosj.org.au or Maureen 0400 038 095



SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

150th Year Anniversary, Sunday 18th June 2023

Mass at 10.30am at Church of the Apostles will be followed with refreshments and a tour of the school. RSVP essential for refreshments and the tour by 7 June. Enquiries: shsl@catholic.tas.edu.au/ 63311011

SACRED HEART OLD COLLEGIANS ASSOCIATION

All Old Collegians are invited to attend the **150th year and Final Reunion Lunch on Saturday 17th June 2023 at 12noon at Riverside Golf Club. Cost \$38.** For payment details RSVP by 1st June to Hetty Binns: 0438 321 435 or hbinns@west.com.au

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday	6.00pm Vigil	Sacred Heart, Newstead
Sunday	7.30am	Carmel
9.00am	St Finn Barr's	Invermay
9.00am	St Patrick's Chapel	Prospect
10.30am	Apostles	
5.30pm	Apostles (April—September)	

WEEKDAY MASSES 8th –13th May

7.30am Monday to Saturday at Carmel

Tuesday:	12noon	Newstead
Wednesday:	5.30pm	Apostles
Thursday:	12noon	Invermay
Friday:	12noon	Apostles
Saturday:	7.30am	Carmel

RECONCILIATION

Saturday:	9.30am -10.30am	Apostles
	5.15pm –5.45pm	Newstead

Bank details for direct debit donations to support the financial needs of your Parish:

Account Name: Launceston Catholic Parish
BSB: 067 000; Account No: 1031 6153.
Reference: "your surname"

MASS LIVE-STREAMED

Each and every Sunday at 9am

On Facebook @catholicparishlaunceston

if you don't have a Facebook account go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/CatholicParishLaunceston/videos/>

Sunday Mass is also televised every Sunday Morning on WIN and WIN HD, 6.00am - 6.30am.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION



*My Jesus,
I believe that You
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.*

Come to the Quiet—A Contemplative Prayer Day

Saturday 20th May, St Brendan Shaw College, Devonport

An opportunity to put aside our busy lives and spend time listening and attending to who we are and who God is for us. Suitable for both experienced practitioners and those who are new to contemplative prayer. You will be introduced to some contemplative practices including Centering Prayer, chanting and the psalms, which help us open ourselves to God's presence and action.

Enquiries and registration: John Lee-Archer 0419 523 867

GRIEVING YOUR WAY is a workshop for Christian women who would like some strategies to find and navigate their way through loss. Facilitated by Karen Mace, this workshop will help you to acknowledge, open to, and begin to work through grief associated with loss. You will learn how to integrate your faith, how to see God in even the darkest experiences, and how to recognise Our Lord as He not only walks with you, but often carries you on this part of your life journey. **Wednesday, May 24th at The Emmanuel Centre 9:30am-12:30pm.** For Enquiries & Registration please contact Karen: kammace@me.com or info@karenmace.com

GOSPELS FOR THE COMING WEEK:

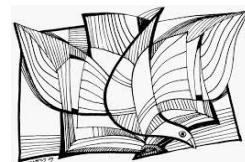
Monday 8th: John 14:21-26
Tuesday 9th: John 14:27-31
Wednesday 10th: John 15:1-8
Thursday 11th: John 15:9-11
Friday 12th: John 15:12-17
Saturday 13th: John 15:18-21

Ponder and pray the living Word of God

NEXT SUNDAYS READINGS:

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:5-8,14-17
Psalms 65:1-7,16,20
1 Peter 3:15-18
John 14:15-21



Children's Corner

**THE
WAY**



Draw an arrow next to the words below which describe the Way, the Truth and the Life that Jesus wants us to follow.



LOVE
PEACE
GREED
FORGIVENESS
CONFLICT
JUSTICE
SELFISHNESS
COMPASSION
HONESTY
HATRED

LAUNCESTON PARISH YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Enquires: please contact Fr Chatty 0469 661 578



YOUTH GROUP for young people from grades 5 to 12 - Music, Sport, Adventures, Social Work, Faith **meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays, 6.00pm - 7.30pm St Ailbe's Hall.**

Next meeting 11th May

Young Adults Group: 2nd and 4th Sundays
12noon @ the Pastoral Centre

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION **FOR MAY:**

For church movements and groups

We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.