



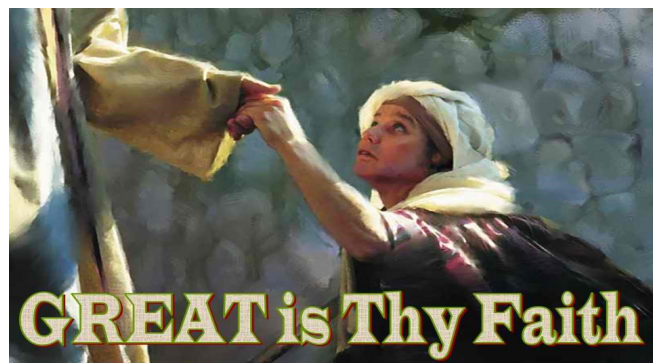
PARISH OFFICE: 44 Margaret Street, Launceston 7250 **PHONE:** 6331 4377
E-MAIL: apostles@bigpond.com
OFFICE HOURS: 10.00AM - 3.00PM on MONDAY - FRIDAY; CLOSED ON WEDNESDAYS
PARISH TEAM: Fr Ben Brooks, Fr Chathura Silva, Fr Jessie Banez
Carolyn Gutteridge—**Parish Secretary**
Rosie Caelli —**Sacramental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

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (YEAR A) - 20 AUGUST 2023

FIRST READING

Isaiah 56:1.6-7

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest. Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 66:2-3 5-6. 8. R. v.4

(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!

1. O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help. (R.)
2. Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth. (R.)
3. Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him. (R.)

SECOND READING

Romans 11:13-15. 29-32

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice. Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom
and healed all who were sick.**

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 15:21-28

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.

A VOCATION VIEW

***It is so easy to push people out of our lives.
But the Lord knows no boundaries, races, or
colours.***

***Spread the Good News that we are all God's
people.***

We are located on the country of the Tyerenotepanner, the Panninher and the Litarimirina people of the Stoney Creek Nation. We acknowledge and pay respect to the Traditional Owners, who have cared for land, sea, waterways and sky, as the ongoing custodians, for thousands of years. We honour Elders, past and present.

We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.

Dear Parish family,

Throughout history tension has existed between different nationalities, cultures, religions, and denominations within religion - such as Christianity. It is a human tendency to think that "we" are in the right – the truth has been revealed to us and we are saved, whereas those who are different may have part of the truth, but not all. The good news we hear in the Gospel is that yes, we are saved – but not to the exclusion of the rest of the world!

We are reminded in today's Gospel that God's grace isn't restricted to an elite community, rather the abundance of God's love is more than enough for the needs of all people.

Faith is a gift offered to all, and the roads that are travelled on to get there are numerous, and quite unique to each of us. No-one can claim that they "have it all", because the relationship we have with God is something that God himself has opened up to us. Nor, do we need it all, as the Canaanite woman astutely comments that "even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table"!

We should celebrate the strong faith which comes from what seems to be a small amount of grace, but very much grounded in humility, in the woman, and in those in our world today who despite having fewer opportunities than us lead lives of happiness, peace and generosity. Let's be grateful for the grace that we have all received through the invitation to live the Christian life, and reflect on just how alive and active our own faith is.

We continue to keep in our prayers our candidates on whom Archbishop Julian will confer the Sacrament of Confirmation this Thursday evening at the Church of the Apostles. May they, and their families, be open to the Holy Spirit's gifts in their journey of faith.

Have a blessed week!

Fr Ben Brooks



CONFIRMATION AND FIRST EUCHARIST PROGRAM

Archbishop Porteous will confer the Sacrament of Confirmation on Thursday, 24th August at 7.00pm in the Church of the Apostles. All parishioners are warmly welcome to join the candidates and their families in this significant moment in their life of faith.

Enquiries: Rosie Caelli, Sacramental Co-ordinator 6331 4377 or email: apostles@bigpond.com

PRAY EACH DAY FOR OUR FIRST EUCHARIST & CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

Loving God, we ask you to bless these children. May they always feel your presence in their hearts and lives. We take them to our hearts as you take them to your heart. We pray that by our word and example we will help them along their journey of faith. May our Parish community always be a place where they feel welcome and cherished. We make this prayer in Jesus' name. Amen.



Aid to the
Church in Need
ACN AUSTRALIA

Together we can keep the faith alive - Aid to the Church in Need (ACN)

Did you know that across the world tens of millions of Christian families are in exile following persecution because of their faith?

Aid to the Church in Need is a spiritual and pastoral charity which seeks to keep the flame of faith alive in those places where it is at risk of extinction.

This weekend we welcome **Mary-Anne Johnson** an ACN speaker to the Vigil and 10.30am Mass, who will share with us about the work of Aid to the Church in Need and how we can help our suffering and persecuted brothers and sisters.

YOU ARE ASKED TO PRAY

FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK: Sr Mary of the Holy Ghost OCD, Deacon Vinco Muriyaden, Michael Varger, Fr Martin Aye Ngwe, Fr Terry Yard, Kim Izard, Alana Oehm, Kathy Aldred, Tina La Palombara, Greg Hopwood, Ellen O'Dea, Noelene Bye, Peter Brumby, Rod Badcock, Maria Holton, Teresa McMahon, 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, Bev Callahan, Helen Wright, Alfred Weeding, Maureen Saunders, Mary Morgan, Mary Carter, Scott Bailey, Ralf Roston, Kristel Latham, 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: Agnes Bok, who have died recently, Nick D'Alessandro, Miranda Marshall, Brenda Hallam, Cesare (Chess) Perri, Marion Roberts, Tammie McCarthy, Patricia Sampson, Doreen (Molly) McGrail, Cherylene Elmer, Margaret Hay, Esther Warburton, George Spiranovic, Rosa and Bruno Spangaro, 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

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: ph: 6334 1082

LECTO DIVINA Every Friday morning 10.30 am for 1 hour, at the Pastoral Centre, Lectio Divina - Contemplating and praying the scriptures for the upcoming weekend Mass readings. A time to slow down, to listen with the ears of your heart. Everyone is welcome.

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

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

Copies of the latest edition of The Catholic Standard are available in the Church and the foyer of the Pastoral Centre or look for the online version on the Archdiocese of Hobart website.

PARISH DINNER RAFFLE FUNDRAISER

Proceeds to Vinnies Winter Appeal

Tickets sold at the Parish Dinner - \$2 each or 3 for \$5

Donations for Prizes can be left at the Parish Office by Monday 21st August.

Suggestions: Giftcards, wine, chocolates

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR AUGUST:

For World Youth Day

We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives.

Emerging Women and their Encounters with Jesus

Reflection Day—Saturday 2nd September

10am—3pm

Emmanuel Centre, Newstead

Women of all ages and stages are invited to a day of prayer and reflection. Through Scripture stories of women's encounters with Jesus, discover God's story of life and love emerging through you.

Cost \$40. BYO lunch (morning tea supplied). Facilitated by Belinda Chapman and Maureen O'Halloran. Please book by 29th August by phone (Maureen) 0400 038 095 or email (Belinda) belindachapman.sd@gmail.com

Evangelium Conference for 2023

The Annual Conference will be in Bellerive this year, with keynote speaker Jude Hennessy – Director of the office of Renewal and Evangelisation for the Wollongong Diocese, and Catholic musician, song writer and worship leader Stephen Kirk!

When: Saturday 16th September 10 am – 4:30 pm

Cost: \$35 Early Bird finishing on August 31st

Register:

<https://evangeliumconferencetas23.eventbrite.com.au>

More information:

evangeliumproject@aohas.org.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	<i>Apostles (April—September)</i>	

WEEKDAY MASSES 21st-26th August

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,*

DINING WITH FRIENDS

**An initiative of the St Vincent de Paul Society
together with the Launceston Parish.**



*If you are feeling lonely, would like to
make new friends, or would just enjoy a
FREE home cooked meal prepared by
and shared with people who care, please
come along to Dining with Friends.*

**Next gathering: Tuesday, 5th September at
6.00pm in the Pastoral Centre.**

Bookings are essential for catering

Enquiries and RSVP phone 6326 5551

Children's Corner

**The Canaanite woman persisted because of her
strong belief that Jesus would cure her daughter.
Use the words below to find out what Jesus said.**



_____, you have
_____.
____ your ____
be ____.

**granted wish
faith Woman
Let great**

GOSPELS FOR THE COMING WEEK:

Monday 21st:	Matthew 19:16-22
Tuesday 22nd:	Matthew 19:23-30
Wednesday 23rd:	Matthew 20:1-16
Thursday 24th:	John 1:45-51
Friday 25th:	Matthew 22:24-40
Saturday 26th:	Matthew 23:1-12

**NEXT SUNDAYS READINGS:
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Isaiah 22:19-23
Psalm 137:1-3,6,8
Romans 11:33-36
Matthew 16:13-20**



Ponder and pray the living Word of God

Encountering Christ Retreat

Behold I Make All things New! (Rev. 21:5)

NOVEMBER 3-5th, 2023 @ The Emmanuel Centre

Catholic women, single or married, ages 18+, are invited to a weekend of prayer, talks, silence, and fellowship, hosted by the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia. This retreat will help you grow in your love for and devotion to the gift of the Holy Eucharist. The retreat begins Friday evening, 3 November, and concludes Sunday midday, 5 November. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be part of the retreat. Retreatants may select overnight accommodation or day attendance only. All meals are included. Live in retreat fee: \$300.

Full retreat - Day only attendance: \$150.

Please email emmanuelcentre@aohtas.org.au to register or call (03) 6334 1082 / 0458 003 642.

This year, 2023, marks the 70th anniversary of the commencement of Dr John Billings' research in finding a natural, reliable method of Fertility Awareness for couples. During **Natural Fertility Awareness Week**, in August, a special, free webinar in recognition of Dr John Billings' work, entitled "**Understanding Couple Fertility: the Male Perspective**" will be held on Monday 21st August 2023 at 7.30pm AEST.

As well as highlighting the male perspective in using the Billings Ovulation Method®, couples will reflect on how it has helped them in understanding their joint fertility, as well as benefiting their relationships and family life.

Please follow the link to register for the Webinar on Eventbrite.

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/understanding-couple-fertility-the-male-perspective-webinar-tickets-678382479257?aff=oddtcreator>



The Catholic Parish of Launceston embraces and whole-heartedly supports the Archdiocese of Hobart Safe Communities Policy and Framework.

Enquiries: Safe Communities officer- Parish Office 63314377 or email:

launceston@aohtas.org.au

Safe Communities Information flyer available in the Church