



ST PATRICK'S, ST JOHN VIANNEY'S, STELLA MARIS & ST JOSEPH'S

Partnered Parishes of Mentone-Parkdale and Ricketts Point (Beaumaris & Black Rock)

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 20th July 2025

St Patrick's, 10 Rogers St, Mentone

St John Vianney's, Cnr Warren Rd & Brisbane Tce, Parkdale

Stella Maris, 2 Charlotte Rd, Beaumaris

St Joseph's, 542 Balcombe Rd, Black Rock

SUNDAY MASS

Saturday Vigil: 6:00pm (*Mentone*)

Sunday: 8:00am (*Black Rock*)

Sunday: 9:00am (*Parkdale*)

Sunday: 9:30am (Ordinariate Mass) (*Mentone*)

Sunday: 10:30am (*Beaumaris*)

Sunday: 11:00am (*Mentone*)

Sunday: 5:00pm (*Mentone*)

'It makes me happy to suffer for you, as I am suffering now, and in my own body to do what I can to make up all that still has to be undergone by Christ for the sake of his body the Church.' (Col 1:24)

These words of St Paul in our Second Reading cast a new light on the mystery of suffering. Another translation says, 'I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his Body, that is, the Church'.

The mystery of suffering and evil

Suffering is part of the life of every person, and no religion can take that away. And on the face of it, suffering is sometimes a challenge to faith. Sometimes we hear of some terrible suffering, or perhaps experience that suffering ourselves, and we might ask, 'How can the God of love allow these things?'

We do always need to keep in mind that no theory we come up with is ever going to completely 'solve' the mystery of suffering and evil. On the one hand, we believe in a God of infinite goodness, wisdom and power; and even apart from faith, we have strong reasons supporting us in that belief. At the same time, we find evils existing in our world: physical evils of suffering and death, and the moral evil of sin (incommensurably more harmful). It is hard for us to grasp how these two truths fit together - the love of God and the existence of evil.

Yet, we should not be surprised at the presence of mystery. Our minds are limited, and our ideas and knowledge are just a drop in the ocean compared with

the reality of God and his plan for the universe.

But with that in mind, we can ask what light is shed on this mystery by our faith in Christ. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* tells us, 'The fact that God permits physical and even moral evil is a mystery that God illuminates by his Son Jesus Christ who died and rose to vanquish evil. Faith gives us the certainty that God would not permit an evil if he did not cause a good to come from that very evil, by ways that we shall fully know only in eternal life.' (n. 324)

So: because God is Infinite Love, he does not create evil – but sometimes in his wisdom, he 'withholds his hand' from preventing it, at least for the moment, because in the bigger picture, he wishes to draw a greater good out of the evil. For example, it is often through experiencing suffering that we come to grow in love.

Indeed, there are certain kinds of love and goodness that can *only* exist as a response to suffering and evil – for example, patience, courage, mercy. These are all beautiful things that make the world a greater place, a fuller reflection of the glory of God (the ultimate purpose of creation).

Suffering in union with Christ

All these acts of love that we make in response to evil and suffering are not just passing moments. If Christ is living in our hearts by grace, then all our loving actions are truly *his* actions even more than our own, and take on a divine value. In love and obedience to his Father [cont. p. 3]

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Justin Ford **Assistant Priest:** Rev Fr Joseph Nguyen

Presbytery: 10 Rogers St, Mentone 3194 **Office:** 3 Mitchell St, Mentone 3194 **Office hours:** 9am-5pm, Monday - Thursday.

Phone: 9583 2103 **Email:** mentoneparkdaleeast@cam.org.au **Website:** www.sspjv.org

WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon 21st July	11:00am (<i>Mentone</i>)
Tue 22nd July	Feast: St Mary Magdalene 9:15am (<i>Mentone</i>)
Wed 23rd July	9:15am (<i>Mentone & Black Rock</i>)
Thu 24th July	9:15am (<i>Mentone</i>) 9:15am (<i>Beaumaris</i>) (<i>Class Mass</i>) 9:15am (<i>Parkdale</i>) (<i>School Mass</i>)
Fri 25th July	Feast: St James, Apostle 9:15am (<i>Mentone & Black Rock</i>)
Sat 26th July	Memorial: Sts Joachim & Anne, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary 9:15am (<i>Beaumaris</i>) Mass of Reception into Full Communion, Confirmation & First Holy Communion 9:15am (<i>Mentone</i>)

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
at **St Patrick's Mentone**
every Friday following 9:15am Mass
until 4:30pm **Benediction.**
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
at **Stella Maris Beaumaris**
every Saturday 9:45-10:15am.

RECONCILIATION / CONFESSION

Wednesdays following 9:15am Mass (*Mentone*),
Saturdays following 9:15am Mass
(*Mentone & Beaumaris*) and at 5:15pm (*Mentone*).

Baptisms:

For bookings and enquiries please
phone the Parish office 9583 2103
or email mentoneparkdaleeast@cam.org.au



Recently Deceased:

Sr Elizabeth Browne-Russell, Mary Licciardo,
Terry Godfrey

Anniversaries:

Cecily Heath, Joscelyn Ford, Emma & Eric Nelson,
Beatrice Rodrigo, Doreen Bryant

We pray for those who are sick:

Patricia Hood, Val Phelan, Janis Williams, Alan Laver,
Ching Price, Tim Noonan, Max Byers, Jim Lacey,
John Nicholson, John O'Donoghue, Mirella Townsend,
Delia Fisher, Margaret Rose Durston, Carol Camerino,
Michael Papworth

**Please note, names added to the prayer list will remain for four weeks then removed. If any name needs to be added or removed, please ring or email the Parish office.*

Our Parishes are committed to the safety, well-being and dignity of all persons. A copy of our Child Safety policy is on the noticeboard in our churches and on our website www.sspjv.org

ROSTERS 26/27 July 2025

St Patrick's - Mentone

6:00pm	Commentator/Reader	J Dillon
	Extraordinary Minister	B Razga
11:00am	Commentator/Reader	R Smith
	Extraordinary Minister	S Tobin
5:00pm	Commentator/Reader	J Renden
	Extraordinary Minister	C Giosis

St Joseph's - Black Rock

8:00am	Reader	L Brick
	Commentator	J Shannon
	Extraordinary Minister	T Papworth

St John Vianney's - Parkdale

9:00am	Reader	B Atherton
	Commentator	M Webster
	Extraordinary Minister	K Lowe
	Extraordinary Minister to the sick	K Lowe
	Flowers	B John
	Pilgrim Statue	G & R Tregonning

Stella Maris - Beaumaris

10:30am	Reader	E Moews
	Commentator	G Stockdale
	Extraordinary Minister	Sr Patricia

Readings next week: 17th Sunday Ordinary Time Yr C

Genesis:	18: 20-32
Colossians:	2: 12-14
Luke:	11: 1-13



The Annual Propagation of the Faith Appeal is today, 19/20 July.
Reach out. Give life.

You're invited to partner with the Church in Zambia to help women overcome poverty and mothers giving birth safely.



The Women's Cooperative led by Sr Jane will provide women with the training and support required to break the cycle of scarcity, and the Chilonga Mission Hospital is determined to ensure every woman and baby receives a safe and dignified start to life.

We are called to be 'Missionaries of hope among all peoples', and we invite you to extend Christ's love to those in need in Zambia. You can support this work by using the appeal envelopes. Your gift will also assist many other church programs around the world.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible

Next session **Friday 1st August, 6:30 - 7:30pm**
in the **Parish Centre, 3 Mitchell St, Mentone**,
fortnightly Friday sessions until 10th October.
BYO snacks (optional). Contact Casey or Emily
stpatrickbsg@gmail.com - **0424 397 022.**

[continued from p. 1] he fully entered into our human suffering and experienced the ultimate injustice on the Cross. And united with him, our loving actions also enter into his victory over evil in the Resurrection. Each of our graced and loving acts will bear an amazing fruit.

This is firstly with spiritual power *in this life*. In the same way that God uses our prayers, he also uses our acts of love and our acceptance of suffering – to help others, to bring grace to others, in ways we will never know until heaven. And secondly, each of those actions of ours, in union with Christ, will bear fruit in an *eternal* reality beyond our understanding. In union with Christ, nothing is lost, nothing wasted.

And so God comes into the very heart of each place of human suffering and injustice, and draws it into the Resurrection – but very importantly, that only happens to the full if we are willing to respond to his grace and bring love into those places ourselves.

The Church, the Body, in union with Christ, the Head

We come back to the words of St Paul – ‘In my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ’s afflictions for the sake of his Body, that is, the Church’. This raises the question, how can anything be ‘lacking’ in Christ’s sufferings, which were sufficient for the complete redemption of humanity?

The answer is that Jesus has suffered in his own *physical* body, but in another way, the Church is his Body, and the sufferings of this ‘Mystical’ Body according to God’s plan will only be ‘completed’ in the course of history.

This is another application of the great principle of the *superabundance* of all that Christ the Head is and does – to the extent that it ‘overflows’ into his Body the Church. Head and Body are closely and inseparably united.

Christ’s redemption is all-sufficient, but he chooses to use the Church - and us, her members - as his instrument in making his unique redemption a present reality in every time and place. The extent to which this happens depends partly on our free acceptance of the great dignity he offers us of being subordinate sharers in his work.

Just as all prayer depends on Christ, the One Mediator, yet God still wants us to actually pray ourselves as well, so likewise, our sufferings take on great spiritual power, as part of Christ’s Body and in union with him – when we accept them in accordance with God’s will, just as Jesus accepted his sufferings.

That does not mean that we always have to go looking for suffering (although sometimes we will make acts of self-denial and penance). It does not mean that when we are sick we should not go to the doctor. Even Jesus said to the Father, ‘If it be possible, let this cup pass from me.’

So at one level, normally we rightly and prudently try to prevent our own suffering. But when we have done all we can, and the suffering is still there at least for the moment: that is when we accept it, offering it up in union with Christ’s sufferings – as his instrument of reparation for our own sins and the sins of others, for the salvation of souls and the good of the whole world.

SAINT OF THE WEEK

22 July: St Mary Magdalene, ‘Apostle to the Apostles’

Mary of Magdala appears in the Gospels as one of Jesus’ principal disciples. With other women she accompanied him on his journeys (*Lk* 8:1-3); was present at the foot of the Cross (*Jn* 19:25), and was the one to whom Jesus ‘appeared first’ (*Mk* 16:9) after his resurrection (*Mt* 28:1-10; *Lk* 24:1-12; *Jn* 20:1-18). As the one who reported the resurrection to the Twelve, she is sometimes called ‘Apostle to the Apostles’ (since ‘apostle’ in Greek means ‘one who is sent’, ‘messenger’). The Gospels tell us that Jesus had ‘cast out seven demons’ from her (*Mk* 16:9; *Lk* 8:2).

Traditionally she was identified with the sinful woman who washes Jesus’ feet with her tears (*Lk* 7:36-50) and / or with Mary of Bethany, the sister of Martha and Lazarus. Scholars today question that there is solid evidence in Scripture for this identification of the three with each other.

Indeed, the *Roman Martyrology* (the closest thing to an ‘official list’ of saints) has commemorated Mary of Bethany separately - on 29th July, along with Martha and Lazarus. We hear of Martha and Mary in today’s Gospel, as well as in the famous account of the raising of Lazarus by Jesus.

Only a relatively small number of the thousands of saints in the *Roman Martyrology* are honoured with universal *liturgical* celebrations; and previously, Masses on 29th July celebrated the Memorial only of St Martha.

In 2021, Pope Francis - having already in 2016 raised the celebration of St Mary Magdalene on 22nd July from a Memorial to a Feast - now raised St Mary and St Lazarus to be celebrated liturgically on 29th July in a joint Memorial alongside their sister St Martha.

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HYMNS:

Mentone 6:00pm Vigil Saturday

Parkdale 9:00am Sunday

Mentone 5:00pm Sunday

Mass Setting: Mass of Our Lady Help of Christians

Entrance: 508 I Come With Joy, A Child of God

Offertory: *Bercesse Op. 31 No.19* - L Vierne

Communion: 551 Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

Recessional: 621 The Voice of God

Postlude: *Fanfare* - K. Leighton

Mentone 11:00am Sunday Choral Mass

Mass Setting: Mass of Our Lady Help of Christians

Entrance: 508 I Come With Joy, A Child of God

Offertory: *Bercesse Op. 31 No.19* - L Vierne

Communion: 551 Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

Recessional: 621 The Voice of God

Postlude: *Fanfare* - K. Leighton

Black Rock 8:00am Sunday

Entrance: 644 Christ Our Lord the Prince of Ages

Offertory: 793 Make Me A Channel of Your Peace

Communion: 743 Love is His Word

Recessional: 738 Lord of All Hopefulness

Beaumaris 10:30am Sunday

Entrance: Sing To The Mountains

Offertory: Centre of My Life

Communion: Only A Shadow

Recessional: Lord, Be My Vision



Responsorial Psalm: The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! Happy are they who have kept the word with a generous heart and yield a harvest through perseverance. Alleluia!

Memorial Acclamation: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection, until you come again.

Reception into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church, Confirmation and First Holy Communion

We pray especially at this time for Alan Cook, who will be received by Fr Ford into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church at 9:15 am Mass at Mentone this coming Saturday 26th July, and will complete his Christian Initiation in that Mass by receiving Confirmation and First Holy Communion.

Alan serves at Mentone-Parkdale as the Parish Music Director, which includes his roles as organist and choir director. Baptised in the Presbyterian Church and nurtured in his faith in different Christian communities, after prayer and study Alan has asked to be received into the Catholic Church.

During the ceremony, the candidate states his acceptance of the Catholic Faith: 'I believe and profess all that the holy Catholic Church believes, teaches, and proclaims to be revealed by God.'

And the celebrant responds: 'The Lord receives you into the Catholic Church. His loving kindness has led you here, so that in the unity of the Holy Spirit you may have full communion with us in the faith that you have professed in the presence of his family.'

We welcome Alan into the Church with joy and thanksgiving to God.

Hey I'm Jack...

I'm going to ACYF,
will YOU come with me?



For
more info

Up and coming surveyor by day, and fearless Young Adult Group Leader by night.

You might see me at Mass and wonder – who's that guy? What makes Jack tick?

Adoring the Lord in the Eucharist is one, but I also really want to see other young people grow in their faith with Jesus. So I've put my hand up to be our parish's ACYF pilgrim leader.

Maybe you'd like to better understand your faith, or would like to spend time with some great friends? If you're 15-25, ACYF is your chance!

Scan the QR code to get in touch with me and find out more!