OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A — **09 FEBRUARY 2020**

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE! We all have our special gifts, but sometimes we fail to recognise this. We may feel that we have little to offer others. That is never true. As Jesus says: 'You are the salt of the earth! You are the light of the world!' Let us ask Jesus to help us recognise our unique gifts and share them with others.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON
Ps 94:6-7

O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.

GREETING
P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
R. Amen.
P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
R. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT
P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.
P. You were sent to heal the contrite of heart: Lord, have mercy.
R. Lord, have mercy.
P. You came to call sinners: Christ, have mercy.
R. Christ, have mercy.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us: Lord, have mercy.
R. Lord, have mercy.
P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.
R. Amen.

GLORIA
Glory to God in the highest, / and on earth peace to people of good will. / We praise you, / we bless you, / we adore you, / we glorify you, / we give you thanks for your great glory, / Lord God, heavenly King, / O God, almighty Father. / Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, / Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, / you take away the sins of the world, / have mercy on us; / you take away the sins of the world, / receive our prayer; / you are seated at the right hand of the Father, / have mercy on us. / For you alone are the Holy One, / you alone are the Lord, / you alone are the Most High, / Jesus Christ, / with the Holy Spirit, / in the glory of God the Father. / Amen.

COLLECT
P. Keep your family safe, O Lord, with unfailing care, that, relying solely on the hope of heavenly grace, they may be defended always by your protection. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING
Isa 58:7-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
Your light will shine like the dawn.

Thus says the Lord:

Share your bread with the hungry,
and shelter the homeless poor;

clothe the man you see to be naked
and turn not from your own kin.
Then your light will shine like the dawn
and your wound be quickly healed over.

Your integrity will go before you
and the glory of the Lord behind you.
Cry, and the Lord will answer;
call, and he will say, 'I am here.'

If you do away with the yoke,
the clenched fist, the wicked word,
if you give your bread to the hungry,
and relief to the oppressed,
your light will rise in the darkness,
and your shadows become like noon.

The word of the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM
Ps 111:4-9. R. v. 4

R. A light rises in the darkness for the upright. (*or* Alleluia!)

1. He is light in the darkness for the upright: / he is generous, merciful and just. / The good man takes pity and lends, / he conducts his affairs with honour. R.

2. The just man will never waver: / he will be remembered for ever. / He has no fear of evil news; / with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord. R.

3. With a steadfast heart he will not fear; / open-handed, he gives to the poor; / his justice stands firm for ever. / His head will be raised in glory. R.

SECOND READING
1 Cor 2:1-5

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians
I came to you to proclaim Christ crucified.

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

The word of the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
Jn 8:12

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
the man who follows me
will have the light of life.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL
Mt 5:13-16

P. The Lord be with you.
R. And with your spirit.
P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.
R. Glory to you, O Lord.
You are the light of the world.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men.

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH APOSTLES' CREED
Or the Nicene Creed may be said.

I believe in God, / the Father almighty, / Creator of heaven and earth, / and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, / who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, / born of the Virgin Mary, / suffered under Pontius Pilate, / was crucified, died and was buried; / he descended into hell; / on the third day he rose again from the dead; / he ascended into heaven, / and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; / from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. / I believe in the Holy Spirit, / the holy catholic Church, / the communion of saints, / the forgiveness of sins, / the resurrection of the body, / and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

After the priest raises the paten with the bread and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to each prayer:

R. Blessed be God for ever.
P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.
R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS
P. O Lord, our God, who once established these created things to sustain us in our frailty, grant, we pray, that they may become for us now the Sacrament of eternal life. Through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER
P. The Lord be with you.
R. And with your spirit.
P. Lift up your hearts.
R. We lift them up to the Lord.
P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
R. It is right and just.

PREFACE I-VIII OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME
After the Preface, we sing or say:

All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION
P. The mystery of faith.
All: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

COMMUNION RITE

P. At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:
All: Our Father, who art in heaven . . .
P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray . . .
All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.
P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said . . .
R. Amen.
P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.
R. And with your spirit.
P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.
All exchange a sign of peace

LAMB OF GOD
All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION
P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.
R. Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON
cf. Ps 106:8-9

Let them thank the Lord for his mercy,
his wonders for the children of men,
for he satisfies the thirsty soul,
and the hungry he fills with good things.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
P. O God, who have willed that we be partakers in the one Bread and the one Chalice, grant us, we pray, so to live that, made one in Christ, we may joyfully bear fruit for the salvation of the world. Through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.
R. And with your spirit.
P. May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.
R. Amen.
P. Go in peace.
R. Thanks be to God.

REFLECTIONS ON THE GOSPEL

BE SALT AND LIGHT

To appreciate what Jesus has in mind in the images of 'salt' and 'light' we need to recall the setting of the sermon that continues in the Gospel for today. Jesus is addressing his disciples in the presence of a great crowd of burdened and afflicted people gathered on the plain below (Matt 4:23-25).

In the opening words of the sermon Jesus called 'blessed' people prepared to live in the vulnerable, non-grasping ways listed in the nine beatitudes. Now it becomes clear that they thereby become a blessing not just for themselves but for the burdened mass of humanity as well. As those who really lift other people's burdens, they become and remain the 'salt of the earth' and 'light of the world'.

Salt can hardly 'lose its taste'. Nevertheless, if it is contaminated and so (in the days before refrigeration) rendered useless for preservation, it is only good for salting the path outside the house, where it will be trampled underfoot. Disciples who fall away from their vocation may face a similar fate.

Jesus' comments in relation to 'light' fall into two parts. First, in biblical tradition Jerusalem was the archetypal 'city built on a hilltop'. When the Temple was illuminated at night, Jerusalem could well be described as 'the light of the world'.

Secondly—and more mundanely—one does not go to the trouble of lighting a lamp and then hiding it.

So we are to be like lamps kindled by God. Schooled by Jesus, our good works are to give light and hope in a darkened world.

BRENDAN BYRNE, SJ

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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St Agnes' Catholic Parish, Highett

Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD 8th & 9th February 2020- YEAR A

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Elizabeth Sebastian (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday)

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Ph (Parish) 9532 1794
Jessica Casey (R.E.L.)
Ph: 9532 0344
School Office
Peterson Street, Highett 3190
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MASS TIMES:
Weekend
Saturday Vigil 6pm
Sunday 8am & 10am
Weekday
Wednesday 9am Communion Service
Monday, Tues ,Thurs, Fri 9am preceded by Rosary

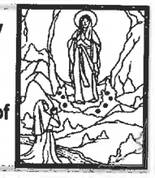
SPECIAL DEVOTIONS
Friday after 9am Mass
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Novena, Benediction

RECONCILIATION
Saturday 5.15 - 5.45pm or by apt

BAPTISMS
Are held during the10am Sunday Mass.
Enquires are to be directed to the Parish Office.

LITURGY OF THE WORD: 8TH & 9TH FEBRUARY - 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
1st Reading: Sir15:15-20 **2nd Reading:** 1 Cor 2:6-10 **Gospel:** Matt 5:17-37

FEAST DAYS: 10 February - **St Scholastica;** 11 February - **Our Lady of Lourdes;** 14 February - St Cyril & St Methodius



ST AGNES' PARISH NEWS

2020 STRENGTH IN WEAKNESS CONFERENCE - 15th Feb 2020 9am-6:30pm, 400 City Road, Southbank (Planetshakers Centre) A day of prayer and renewal for all Christians to come together and be strengthened and encouraged in their faith. Guest speakers include Atchbishop Peter A Comensoli, Archbishop Christopher Prowse, Fr Ausugtine Vallooran V.C, Leynce Willason, Fr Ken Barker MGL & Lalith Perera. We invite everyone to this FREE EVENT. Visit www.strengthinweakness.com.au for more information and free registration. Flyer on Notice boards.

AUSTRALIAN FAMILY ASSOCIATION: is hosting a movie fundraiser, **A Hidden Life.** This movie received a rare private screening at the Vatican Film Library in December 2019. **Date:** Sunday 16 February 2020 **Time:** 2:00pm **Venue:** BALWYN PALACE CINEMA **Enquiries:** 0438 088 681.

WORKING BEE - ST AGNES PARISH PRESBYTERY: Thankyou to all those who attended the working bee on 8th February.

OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART COLLEGE: Bentleigh. Open Morning: Thursday 13 February, starting at 9:15am. Registration is essential at: www.olsh.vic.edu.au Flyer on Noticeboards.

WWCC & POLICE CHECK: We are seeking to set up a team to manage the WWCC and the Police Check. Tamara Cugnetto has been appointed as Safeguarding Officer for the Southern region by the Melbourne Archdiocese. Training workshops have been planned for the coming months and anyone interested in learning more about key safeguarding topics and/or interested in being part of a team representing St Agnes, please contact the Parish House.

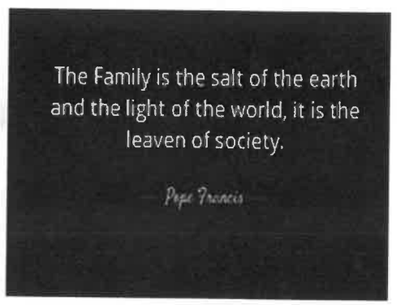
WEEKDAY MASS: With effect from 3 February weekday Mass will be on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 9am. There will be a Communion Service on Wednesday at 9am.

NOTICES FOR BULLETIN: If you would like to put a notice in the Bulletin please send it to the Parish Office by 1:00pm on Thursday.

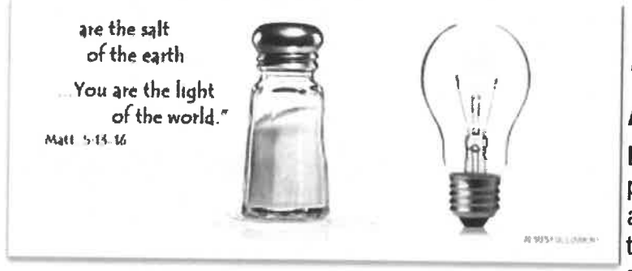
ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY: The parish St Vincent de Paul group visits underprivileged families in our area, and helps with urgent necessities. New members welcome. Call Rob 0448 492 099.

ST AGNES SCHOOL STAFF COMMISSIONING MASS: The staff of our School will make their commitment at the 10am, Sunday, 9th February. We pray for the Principal, Lachlan and all the staff that they carry out and fulfill the mission of Jesus as they teach the children committed to their care.

'SPIRITUALITY OF HUMAN LIFE STAGES', 'DISCERNMENT': 'The Human Experience of God' and other seminars and reflection days are soon to begin, the 1st course starts on 17 Feb 2020 at Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation at its new premises in Malvern. For more information and bookings, visit www.heartoflife.melbourne or email info@heartoflife.melbourne or tel 9890 1101.



GOSPEL



Gospel Reflection

"Your light must shine in the sight of men."

Application

Lighthouses are often built in or close to inhospitable places. There is something enigmatic about them. They are there as immovable objects in places of danger and they share one thing in common - they unashamedly shine their light and save lives. Lighthouses all have one job, which is to be an unfailing beacon and sign of hope to the traveller on the waves. They may all have their own architectural style but at the end of the day they shine brightly and can been seen for miles, and that's all that matters.

Just as lighthouses are all very different in their appearance, so are we. We all have our unique gifts and talents; we all have our way of interacting with each other and the world. As Christians, though, what we share in common is our overarching story. The central message of the whole Gospel is that God is love, and that we find freedom in Christ, who suffered, died and was raised from the dead for us. Baptised into Christ, and with the Holy Spirit in us, we are all called to share God's love as we grow in holiness according to our vocation. This vocation - be it marriage, single life, the religious life, or priesthood - is our way in which we share the light of the Gospel. It is our way of being light.

One of the most attractive things about parishes where people are fully alive and filled with the light of Christ is that they know how to worship. The psalmist tells us that God dwells in the praises of God's people. Where there is great devotion and lively, heartfelt worship, light is emitted powerfully. A place of worship can become a lighthouse, spreading grace into the local community. A family regularly praying together can become a transmitter of light to the local neighbourhood. A faithful community of religious sisters or brothers can be a bright emitter of light across a wide area. Of course, this light is invisible, for it is the light of grace and it acts upon human hearts without people realizing. The principle of the lighthouse applies here, though. Christians gathering to listen to, receive and respond to the light of the world do so as gifted individuals. When we share that light through our works of charity, we are doing so collectively because we are truly the body of Christ. We may all be different but we are enlightened from the same source and shine forth our witness to that same source - Jesus the one, true light.

Personal Experience: Reflect on what it is in your life that gives you zest and flavor and preserves you. What guides your behavior and gives you strength to keep going? What is 'salt' to you?

From The Living Word

Please keep in your prayers -
Sick: Francis Xavier & Margie Arokiasamy, Nicholas Lourdes, Fr David, Cecily Anthony, A Mary, Phillip Greco, Bill Power, Leslie Raymond, Hilary Palman & Christina Vargis.
Anniversaries: Antonio Cesario
Deaths:

ROSTER		© = NURSING HOME				
DATE & TIME	**READERS**	**COMMUNION MINISTERS**	**COUNTERS**	**CLEANERS**	**OVERHEADS**	**LINEN**
8th February - Vigil	Michelle Vella & Antonia Vella	Natalie Cerovac & Patricia Dwyer		Group 2		
9th February - 10am	Frank Forbes	Patricia Palman, Helen Reece & Frank Forbes © Patricia Palman & Helen Reece	Group 2		**TBA**	John Duscher
15th February - Vigil	Mila Rivera & Simone Pereira	Rachael Pereira & Monica Pereira		Group 3		
16th February - 10am	Mary Moran & Emilka Paplinski	Margaret Bilston, Frank Forbes & Priya Wickremasinghe © Frank Forbes & P Wickremasinghe	Group 3		**TBA**	**TBA**