### St Therese of Lisieux Catholic Parish Moonah-Lutana

St Therese of Lisieux Church In the care of Missionaries of the Sacred Heart (MSC)

## Sunday, 24th February, 2019 SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

## FROM THE PASTOR

In 1970, the famed British writer, Iris Murdoch, wrote a novel entitled, *A Fairly Honourable Defeat*. The story had numerous characters, both good and bad, but ultimately took its title from the travails of one character, Tallis Browne, who represents all that is decent, altruistic, and moral among the various characters. Despite being betrayed by most everyone, he stays the course in terms himself never betraying trust. But the story does not end well for him.

On the basis of his seeming defeat, Murdoch poses the question: Where's justice? Where's fairness? Shouldn't goodness triumph? Murdoch, an agnostic, suggests that in reality a good life doesn't always make for the triumph of goodness. However, if goodness sustains itself and does not betray itself, its defeat will be honourable.

So, for her, what you want to avoid is a *dishonourable* defeat, meaning: Defeat you will face, your goodness notwithstanding. Sometimes you cannot save the world or even the situation. But you can save your own integrity and bring that moral component to the world and to the situation and by doing that you preserve your own dignity. You went down in defeat, but in honour. Goodness then will not have suffered a dishonourable defeat.

That's a beautiful stoicism and if you aren't a believer it's about as wise a counsel as there is: Be true to yourself! Don't betray who and what you are, even if you find yourself as unanimity-minus-one. However, Christianity, while respecting this kind of stoicism, places the question of victory and defeat into a very different perspective.

Inside our Christian faith, defeat and victory are radically redefined. We speak, for instance, of *the victory of the cross*, of the day Jesus died as "Good" Friday, of the transforming power of humiliation, and of how we gain our lives by losing them. Earthly defeat, for us, can still be victory, just as earthily victory can be a sad defeat. Indeed, in a Christian perspective, without even considering the next life, sometimes our defeats and humiliations are what allows depth and richer life to flow into us and sometimes our victories rob us of the very things that bring us community, intimacy, and happiness. The paschal mystery radically redefines both defeat and victory.

## **FROM THE PASTOR**

But this understanding doesn't come easily. It's the antithesis of cultural wisdom. Indeed, it didn't even come easy for Jesus' contemporaries. After Jesus died in the most humiliating way a person could die at that time, by being crucified, the first generation of Christians had a massive struggle with both the fact that he died and particularly with the manner in which he died. First, for them, if Jesus was the long-awaited Messiah, he wasn't supposed to die at all. God is above death and certainly beyond being killed by humans. Moreover, as a creedal doctrine, they believed that death was the result of sin and, thus, if someone did not sin, he or she was not supposed to die. But Jesus had died. Finally, most faith-perplexing of all, was the humiliating manner of his death. Crucifixion was designed by the Romans not just as capital punishment but as a manner of death that totally and publically humiliated the person's body. Jesus died a most humiliating death. No one called Good Friday "good" during the first days and years following his death. However, given his resurrection, they intuited without explicitly understanding it, that Jesus' defeat in the crucifixion was the ultimate triumph and that the categories that make for victory and defeat were now forever different.

Initially, they lacked the words to express this. For several years after the resurrection, Christians were reluctant to mention the manner of Jesus' death. It was a defeat in the eyes of the world and they were at loss to explain it. So they remained mostly silent about it. St. Paul's conversion and his subsequent insights changed this. As someone who was raised in the Jewish faith, Paul also struggled with explaining how an humiliating defeat in this world could be in fact a victory. However, after his conversion to Christianity he eventually understood how goodness could take on sin and even "become sin itself" for our sake. That radically flipped our conceptions of defeat and victory. The cross was now seen as the ultimate victory and, instead of the humiliation of the cross being a source of shame, it now became the crown jewel: "I preach nothing but the cross of Christ." That gave us the passion narratives.

We live in a world that, mostly, still defines defeat and victory in terms of who gets to be on top in terms of success, adulation, fame, influence, reputation, money, comfort, pleasure, and security in this life. There will be plenty of defeats in our lives and if we lack a Christian perspective then the best we can then do is to take Iris Murdoch's advice to heart: *Realistically, goodness will not triumph, so try to avoid a dishonourable defeat.* 

Our Christian faith, while honouring that truth, challenges us to something more.

Fr Ron Rolheiser OMI ©

In the Heart of Christ.

Fr Mark MSC.

## **NOTICES**

## VINNIES TASMANIA BUSHFIRE APPEAL DONATE TODAY AND HELP REBUILD LIVES

PHONE 13 18 12 OR VISIT VINNIES.ORG.AU



#### 88TH BIRTHDAY OF PARISH AND SCHOOL

Thursday, 28th February 2019, marks the 88th Birthday of our Parish and School.

#### **PROJECT COMPASSION**

Project Compassion boxes or Envelopes are available in the foyer of the Church.

#### SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL (SVdP) 2019 BUSHFIRE APPEAL

Thank you for donating to the Saint Vincent de Paul, 2019 Bushfire Appeal. Our leaving collections raised \$1,001.45. THANK YOU.

## CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE CRAFT SHOP

The Catholic Women's League Craft shop has re-opened. The shop is located at 16 Criterion Street Hobart and is open from Monday to Friday 10am to 3pm. If you are looking for a unique gift, come and see what is available.

#### **OLD VIRGILIANS' LUNCHEON**

The next Old Virgilians' Association

Luncheon will be held at the Austins Ferry campus commencing at 12 noon on Tuesday, 26th February, 2019. A two course meal with drinks is provided (\$30). All Old

Virgilians and friends are invited. Please notify attendance to SVC office 6249 6555 or email: adminsvs@stvirgils.tas.edu.au.

Peter Imlach, Secretary.

#### **CAR BOOT SALE**

There will be a CAR BOOT SALE at St Paul's Bridgewater Carpark from 8:00am - 1:00pm. Saturday, 23rd February. To book the space (\$10) please call on Pam Clark: 0407 872 675.

#### **SACRED CONCERT - DAVID PARKES**

Irish singer, David Parkes, will be giving a Sacred Concert on Tuesday, 26th February at Claremont. It will commence with Mass at 6.30pm at St. Bernard's Church, 27 Wyndham Road with the concert to follow in the Parish Hall at approximately 7pm. During the concert David will give his testimony about his miraculous healing from Crohns disease when prayed over by Fr. Peter Rookey in Medjugorje. John Canavan, Director of Divine Mercy Publications in Australia, will also give his personal witness on how Divine Mercy dramatically changed his life. Entry is free but a collection will be taken up to help with expenses. David's latest CD "Remember Me" will be available to purchase. The evening will end with supper. Enquiries: Maree Triffett 0429 024 621.

#### **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

"Come - Everything is Ready." Come celebrate World Day of Prayer on Friday, 1st March 2019 at St John's Catholic Church, 62 Bowden Street, Glenorchy, commencing at 11:30am. Light refreshments will be available after the service. See the notice board for all deatils.

#### **AUSTRALIAN BYZANTINE CHOIR CONCERT**

The Sydney based 'Australian Byzantine Choir' is to perform at a one only free concert: at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church of Hobart, 50 Warwick Street, Hobart stories will help shape this historic process on Saturday 2nd March at 6:00pm. His Grace, by forming the agenda for the Plenary Bishop Ezekiel of Dervis (an Assistant Bishop of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia) and other special guests will be Listening and Dialogue stage. If you haven't attending the concert. Copies of the choir's CDs will be on sale at the concert.

#### **ST PATRICK'S PILGRIMAGE**



The annual St Patrick's Pilgrimage walk from Richmond to Colebrook will be held on 16-17 March 2019. This overnight pilgrimage will offer a chance to journey, reflect, pray, sing, chat and spend some quality time with other pilgrims and with God. You are sure to enjoy both the serenity of the walk and the fellowship of the pilgrims journeying with you. The pilgrimage is open to young people between the ages of 16-35 and costs \$55 which covers lunch, breakfast and dinner meals. For more information or to register, journey from age to age. visit eventbrite.com.au and search "St Patrick's Pilgrimage".



#### **PLENARY COUNCIL 2020**

Over the past nine months, more than 68,000 people have generously shared their stories and experiences of life, faith and the Church with the Plenary Council. Those Council sessions in 2020 and 2021. Thank you to everyone who has participated in the yet shared your story, you have until March 6, 2019 - Ash Wednesday - to do so visit <a href="http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/">http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/</a> resources/have-your-say/ to learn how you can get involved.

#### **PLENARY COUNCIL 2020 PRAYER**

Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost. Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land. O God, bless and unite all your people in Australia and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary Council.

Give us the grace to see your face in one another and recognise Jesus, our companion on the road.

Give us the courage to tell our stories and to speak boldly of your truth.

Give us ears to listen humbly to each other and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying.

Lead your Church into a hope-filled future, that we may live the joy of the Gospel. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, bread for the

Amen.

Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us. St Mary MacKillop, pray for us.



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#### **LOVE YOUR ENEMIES**

The commandment to love one's neighbour, that is one's fellow Israelite, and as an extension of this, to love the foreigner who lives in Israel, is a fundamental demand of the law. (Lev 19:18) Jesus takes this commandment much further. The love that Luke speaks about is a love of choice. It is not the love one has for one's spouse or one's friends. It is a radical love - a love of choice.

This is a radical call at the very root of our discipleship. The call to love our enemies (Lk 6:27) is based on God's love. Jesus was always ready to point out that the Father loves the good and the bad; he sends his rain and his sunlight on both good and bad. The beatitudes in Luke are set directly on the poor – those who rely not on themselves Fr Noel Mansfield MSC © but on God alone. God's love for us is totally gratuitous. We can never earn his love. This divine love is the root of the supreme demand made by Jesus: "Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; pray for those who persecute you." (Lk 6:27)

These enemies do not have to become our friends before we begin to love them. No, we must take the initiative just as God has taken it in our lives. People disagree with us. That is normal and to be expected. The Gospel is asking much more than that. We are asked to make friends with people we

consider to be enemies. Blessing them and praying for them are practical concrete steps towards loving them. This does not mean hiding the reality of our differences. Rather it means not getting suffocated by reality, not allowing that reality to overpower us.

Forgiving means giving life. David had found Saul asleep in the camp. Saul had fiercely and unjustly persecuted David. Yet David would not kill his enemy Saul, even when Saul was at his mercy. In doing this he was putting his own life at risk because Saul was determined to kill him.

This is the sort of moral strength that Jesus is demanding of his disciples. The golden rule stands out: 'Treat others as you would like them to treat you.' (Lk 6:31)



## Love your enemies

# do **good** to those who hate you

bless those who curse you

pray for those that mistreat you



#### **STEWARDSHIP**

"But rather, love your enemies and do good to them, and lend without expecting anything back." (Luke 6:35)

Easier said than done, right? But, if we are to imitate Christ, most of us need to practise mercy and compassion more frequently. Start with the little daily annoyances that we experience, the unkind word or hateful glance we receive. Instead of plotting revenge on that person, try saying a quick prayer for that person. Mercy and compassion will put us on the path to holiness.

#### **WEEKLY COLLECTION**

Envelopes: \$ 1,519.50

Loose: \$ 774.15

TOTAL: \$ 2,293.65

Week's Budget Collections:

<u>\$ 2,538.00</u>

Loss

\$ 244.35

Thank You!

## LET US PRAY FOR The Sick

Thanh Huynh, Shirley Lehner, Olga Woods, Susan Wilson, Josh Stokes, Lise Levaque, Mary Hughes, Drina Paradzik, Jay Jennings, Tony Dalton, Elsa Bazan, Bev Murray, Kayden Edwards, Marie Morrisby, Lorna Brazendale, Leo Manning, Jan Grubb, Felicity Matthews, Alicia Stroud, Elsa Natoli, Peter van Loggerenberg.

#### **Anniversaries**

Beattie Jones, Editha Gabriel Malicdan, Graeme Bresnehan, Elizabeth Trojanowski, Francis Robert Young, Gavin Davey, Pawel Cichon, Kathleen D. McCabe, Vale Stanwix, Nancy Veronica Cullen, Stanislaw Czachor, Humphrey Beckitt, Grant Brazendale-Brooks, Lucy Frazik, Susanne Brazendale, Emilia Gabriel Abueva, Helena Niemczyk, Fr John Eldridge MSC, Tess Triffett, Boleslawa Kemp, Stefan Adam Jedyka, Esmay Haney, Michelle Ann White (Read), Jack Webster, Shirley Etjel May Thomas, Michael Noonan, Grace Phyllis Dance, Karol Michalowski, Elaine Voss, Ieva Andrikonis, Bert de Groot, Stephen Horne, David Blake, Thelma Dalton, Bertram Williams, Bridget Beckwith, Fr Harold Bridgwood, Margaret Mills, Benjamin Bresnehan, Tara-Ann Radcliffe, Pauline Krushka Brown, Irene Scanlon, Margaret Monaghan, Max Watson, Elvie J. Keenan, Denis Francis Duggan, Marj Symmons, Denis Henry Scanlon, Marion Keenan, Stefan R. Zelek, Walenty Bodel, Ingrid Leszczynski, Laurie Belcher, Leokadia Sadkowski, Wladyslaw Osuckowski, Giuseppe Cugino, Rex Graham Morrisby, Marjorie Williams, Joanne Maree Read, Pauline Watts.

#### Recently Deceased

Fr Adrian Meaney MSC, Dino Bighin, Marie Knight.

#### **PARISH OFFICE AND PRESBYTERY**

24 Hopkins Street, Moonah PO Box 819, Moonah 7009

**Phone:** 03 9412 8471

Email: <a href="moonahlutana@aohtas.org.au">moonahlutana@aohtas.org.au</a>
Web: <a href="http://cdtas.org.au/moonah">http://cdtas.org.au/moonah</a>
Facebook: StTherese OfLisieux

Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday & Friday 9:30am - 4:30pm,

**Parish Priest:** Fr Mark Hanns MSC

**Phone:** 03 9412 8472

Email:

pastormoonahlutana@aohtas.org.au

**<u>Deacon:</u>** Rev Michael Hangan

**Phone:** 03 9412 8471 **Mobile:** 0438 243 533

Email: michael.hangan@aohtas.org.au
Polish Chaplain: Fr Jozef Migacz SChr

**Phone:** 03 9412 8429 **Mobile:** 0407 785 721

Email:

polishchaplainmoonah@aohtas.org. au

#### **ST THERESE'S SCHOOL**

24 Hopkins Street, Moonah

**Phone:** 03 6272 1403

**Principal:** Mr Cameron Brown

Email: <a href="mailto:sttherese@catholic.tas.edu.au">sttherese@catholic.tas.edu.au</a>

#### **RECONCILIATION:**

Saturday 11:00am-11:30am

#### **BAPTISMS AND MARRIAGES:**

By appointment

#### **ARCHDIOCESAN WEBSITE:**

www.hobart.catholic.org.au

#### **SAFE COMMUNITIES:**

<a href="https://hobart.catholic.org.au/content/safe-communities">https://hobart.catholic.org.au/content/safe-communities</a>

#### **TOWARDS HEALING HELPLINE:**

Phone: 1800 356 613

#### **PLENARY COUNCIL:**

http://www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au

#### **READINGS**

#### 23rd/24th February, 2019 Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time -Year C

#### **ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:**

O Lord, I trust in your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has bee bountiful with me.

#### **FIRST READING:** (1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23)

The Lord has put you in my power, but I will not raise my hand against you.

**PSALM:** (Psalm 102:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13) The Lord is kind and merciful.

#### **SECOND READING:** (1 Corinthians 15:45-49) Just as we have carried the earthly image, we must carry the heavenly image.

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** (John 13:34)

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL:** (Luke 6:27-38)

Be merciful as your Father is merciful.

#### **MASS TIMES**

## **Monday 25th February to Sunday 3rd**

	<u>March 2019</u> English	Polish
Monday	9:15am	
Tuesday	No Mass	9:00am
Wednesday	12:00 noon	
Thursday	9:15am	
Friday	12:00 noon	9:00am
Saturday	6:30pm	
Sunday	9:00am 4:30pm	10:45am

#### **READINGS/ROSTERS**

#### 2nd/3rd March, 2019 Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time -Year C

#### **ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:**

The Lord became my protector. He brought me out to a place of freedom; he saved me because he delighted in me.

#### FIRST READING: (Sirach 27: 4-7)

Do not praise someone before they have spoken.

**PSALM:** (Psalm 102:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13)

Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

**SECOND READING:** (1 Corinthians 15:54-58) Victory has been given to us through Jesus Christ.

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** (Phillipians 2: 15-16)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life.

Alleluia!

**GOSPEL**: (Luke 6:39-45)

A person speaks from what is in his heart.

#### Saturday 6:30pm

Readers Threesa K, Ed Sianski Phil Blake, Steve Randell **Ministers** 

Anne Thuringer **Projector** 

#### Sunday 9:00am

Readers Brendan McManus, Fadi Elbarbar **Ministers** Simone McManus, Monica Sianski Monica Sianski Sick Maureen Pangrazzi Projector

#### Sunday 4:30pm

Readers Kerri Morrisby, Peter Flint **Ministers** Rexine & Gerard Synott **Projector** Daniel Duharte Altar Fran Smith Cleaning Syro-Malabar Community

Goldie McGuinness **Counters** Kerrie Morrisby