Caloundra Catholic Parish

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST (CORPUS CHRISTI) 6TH JUNE 2021

Proper of the Mass First Reading: Ex 24:3-8 Second Reading: Heb 9:11-15 Gospel: Mk 14:12-16, 22-26

PARISH PRIESTS

Fr Peter Brannelly, PP Fr Joshua Whitehead Fr Joseph Hien Van Vo Fr Dang Nguyen

PARISH OFFICE

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Our LADY OF THE ROSARY PRIMARY SCHOOL Caloundra 07 5491 4522 Principal: Michael Stewart

UNITY COLLEGE Caloundra South 07 5490 5777 Principal: Dan McShea



Today's celebration of the Body and Blood of the Lord originated in the Diocese of Liege in 1246 as the feast of Corpus Christi. In the reforms of Vatican II, the feast was joined with the feast of the Precious Blood (July 1) to become the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of the Lord. Today we celebrate the gift of the Eucharist, the source and summit of our life together as the Church. Yet as Catholics we are so comfortable with the Eucharist that sometimes we struggle to put words around what it means for us! This was the experience of the Canadian Oblate theologian Fr Ron Rolheiser who explains it this way.

There's a story told of a young Jewish boy named Mortakai who refused to go to school. When he was six years old, his mother took him to school, but he cried and protested all the way and, immediately after she left, ran back home. She brought him back to school and this scenario played itself out for several days. He refused to stay in school. His parents tried to reason with him, arguing that he, like all children, must now go to school. To no avail. His parents then tried the age-old trick of applying an appropriate combination of bribes and threats. This too had no effect.

Finally, in desperation they went to their Rabbi and explained the situation to him. For his part, the Rabbi simply said: "If the boy won't listen to words, bring him to me." They brought him into the Rabbi's study. The Rabbi said not a word. He simply picked up the boy and held him to his heart for a long time. Then, still without a word, he set him down. What words couldn't accomplish, a silent embrace did. Mortakai not only began willingly to go to school, he went on to become a great scholar and a Rabbi.

For Fr Rolheiser, that parable wonderfully expresses how the Eucharist works. **In it, God physically embraces us.** Indeed that is what all sacraments are, God's physical embrace. Words, as we know, have a limited power. In critical situations they can often fail us. When this happens, we have still another language, the language of ritual. The most ancient and primal ritual of all is the ritual of physical embrace. It can say and do what words cannot. Jesus instinctively knew this!

Remember, for most of his ministry, Jesus used words. Through words, he tried to proclaim God's love and forgiveness and wrapped it up in his message of the Good News. His words, like all words, had a certain power. Indeed, his words stirred hearts, healed people, and affected conversions.

But at a time, powerful though they were, his words too became inadequate. Something more was needed. So on the night before his death, having exhausted what he could do with words, Jesus went beyond them. **He gave us the Eucharist, his physical embrace, his kiss, a ritual within which he holds us to his heart.** For Fr Ron Rolheiser the Eucharist is God's physical embrace – and that is what we celebrate today on this Solemnity of Corpus Christi.

In Transition

We pray for *Marie Parker & John Lindberg*, who died and their funerals were celebrated at OLR last week.

We also pray for *Mary Palmer -McEwan* who died on Wednesday and her funeral will be at OLR next Wednesday, 12noon. May their souls and all our deceased priests, religious and parishioners **Rest in Peace**.

Thank you! We had a great celebration last Wednesday night as 57 of our young parishioners were confirmed by Bishop Brian. The Confirmation ceremonies were solemn and beautiful and we offer thanks to the many who worked so hard to make it a wonderful celebration.

In a special way, we thank Bishop Brian for his presence and ministry at our parish, the Choir of OLR School and musicians, Mrs Fran Griffin and Mr Bernie McKenna, with their beautiful voices adding such beauty to the celebration.



We especially wish to thank our sacramental team, Mrs Justine Ashworth, Mrs Donna Gordon and Ms Kelli Phillips who helped to plan and prepare the candidates for this important day. They showed wonderful energy and wisdom in leading the sessions this year, accompanied by their hard work and commitment in assisting parents as they share their faith journey with their children. Also, a very special thankyou to Vicki and Eileen who are always wonderful in coordinating behind the scenes. We are grateful for all of you.

Finally, we congratulate and thank the 57 newly confirmed for committing to Christ as young adults through our parish sacramental program. They have done so in a very public and communal way and that is most commendable. The parish celebration of Confirmation gives the candidates strength in their faith and our parish and Church hope for the future. Now these newly confirmed must continue to grow in the faith and guide their lives by the gifts of the Holy Spirit. I ask you to continue to pray for them that they will stay close to Christ and His Church and bear witness to the Lord in their lives.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF VOLUNTARY ASSISTED DYING (VAD) LEGISLATION

On May 25 the Premier did the 1st Reading of so called Draft 'Voluntary Assisted Dying' legislation at Parliament House. When she flagged doing so a week earlier Archbishop Mark issued the following:

"Today's announcement that Queensland is a step closer to euthanasia is unsurprising but deeply disappointing.

We join with the many medical professionals who say we should do all we can to protect Queenslanders rather than assist them in dying.

The State Government talks about providing "choices" for Queenslanders but the truth is that very few regional, rural and remote Queenslanders have a choice because of the dire underfunding and lack of availability of palliative care.

It's extraordinary that the Government is prepared to spend so much time, energy and resources on legislation that affects so few rather than spend on proper palliative care which affects so many. Such spending would be a small part of the State health budget.

But the focus on palliative care has been lost amid the haste to introduce euthanasia. That leaves those Queenslanders without the dignified end to their life that they deserve. Instead of being offered palliative care, they will be offered death.

Serious questions remain about the consultation of Queensland's First Nations people. We say they should have a voice, and they are speaking on this, but the State Government hasn't listened.

This announcement also comes at a time when the State continues to discuss reducing our devastating suicide rate. That's a difficult message to promote when the State Government is also paving the way for Queenslanders to take their own lives, with a law that says suicide is an acceptable option, with even a medico to assist.

As with any new laws, there will be those who look to exploit them. The risk of elder abuse and the vulnerability of Queenslanders with disability will in-crease despite the promise of so-called "safeguards". There will be exposure for agedcare and healthcare providers unless the legislation includes conscientious objector provisions for individuals and institutions. In some rural and remote parts of Queensland, faith-based organisations are the only providers of care for the elderly. They should not be forced into assisting in the deaths of their residents.

We urge thorough and informed debate on the proposed legislation with all sectors of the community; and we hope there will eventually be a genuine conscience vote, with the consciences of the 93 parliamentarians properly formed."

The Most Reverend Mark Coleridge Archbishop of Brisbane

The second reading of the legislation will take place in early September and be accompanied by de-bate and a conscience vote by MPs. All members of the Parish are encouraged to write to your local state member of parliament and express your views. Our local members are:

<u>Caloundra</u> - Hon. Jason Hunt 1A 20 Ormuz Avenue, CALOUNDRA QLD 4551 Caloundra@parliament.qld.gov.au <u>Maleny</u> - Hon. Andrew Powell PO Box 727, MALENY QLD 4552 Glass.House@parliament.qld.gov.au

BOOK LAUNCH

Jack Wilcox, who gave us the life and times of Father John Dobson with his book *A Parish Odyssey*, has turned his attention to the weather. *Looks Like Rain: Maleny 1880-2016* is a book about the cyclones and floods and their impact on people in Queensland, especially the Maleny region (spanning the Caloundra Parish).

The book will be launched at 10am on Saturday 12 June at the Maleny RSL. All welcome.

POSITION VACANT

The Parish office is looking for an Accountant (retired or not) or an experienced Bookkeeper for approx 10 hours paid work per week. Please phone Dale Rolls 0439780122 for more details.

Parish Diary

Monday 7 June Mass (OLR) 9am

Tuesday 8 June Mass (OLR) 9am Mass (Maleny) 9am

Wednesday 9 June School Liturgy (OLR) 9am

Thursday 10 June Mass (Unity) 8.30am Mass (OLR) 9am Mass (Currimundi) 9.30am

<u>Friday 11 June</u>

The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Mass (**OLR**) 9am Mass (**Landsborough**) 9am

<u>Saturday 12 June</u> The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary Confession (OLR) 8.30am

Mass (OLR) 9am

Vigil Mass Mass (**OLR**) 5pm Mass (**Beerwah**) 5pm

Sunday 13 June 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass (OLR) 6.30am

Mass (**Landsborough**) 7am Mass (**Unity**) 8am Mass (**Kawana**) 8am Mass (**Maleny**) 9am

Mass (Currimundi) 9.15am Mass (OLR) 9:30am Mass (Lt Mt) 10.30am Family Mass (Unity) 5pm

WATCH MASS LIVE

To watch live-stream Mass go to the Caloundra Catholic Parish Facebook https://www.facebook.com/ caloundracatholicparish/



CEO SLEEPOUT Michael Stewart & Fr Josh

This winter, we will be raising money for people experiencing homelessness in

we will include a link to donate. Your donation will help the St Vincent

de Paul Society provide housing, food and empowering support to the people

who need it most. Go to our Website to support.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sunday 6th June: The Most Holy BODY and BLOOD of CHRIST

♦ Kid's Club at OLR 9.30am Mass

- Maleny morning tea in the Pat Daley Centre after Mass; Covid-safe regulations will apply.
- \blacklozenge Please join us for a cuppa after the 8am Unity Mass, bring a plate to share.
- Please stay and join us for a cuppa after the OLR 9.30am Mass.
- Illuminate Youth Group at Unity for grades 9-12 6-8pm

Monday 7 June:

- ♦ Adoration after the OLR Mass each Monday.
- The OLR craft group meet every Monday 9am-12noon in the Parish Centre. For more information please contact Helen McGlynn on 0409 050 722.
- Charismatic Prayer Group gathers to praise God and to give thanks for all God's blessings, every 1st & 3rd Mondays of the month 7-8.30pm in the AED room. Contact Dorothy for details - 0403175714

Tuesday 8 June:

- Women's Prayer and Friendship Group every Tuesday in the Parish Centre from 9.30-10.45am. All welcome, any enquiries contact Vivienne 0400291979
- The Caloundra Cards Group meets at the Parish Centre from 8:30 -12noon.
- Maleny Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 8.30am, Mass 9.00am Maleny Rosary 9.30am after Mass.
- ♦ OLR St Vincent de Paul meet every Tuesday at 3pm in the Parish Centre. We make daily visits to those in need. New members welcome. Phone Dawn 5430 9390 for further enquiries.

Wednesday 9 June:

- ♦ Art class with Jude this week in the Parish Centre 10-12noon.
- OLR Men's Sharing Group 10am-11:30am. In the Parish Centre meeting rooms. 2nd & 4th Wed each month.
- ♦ Maleny Cards 6pm in the Pat Daley Centre.
- ◆ State of Origin *Maroons to WIN!!*

Thursday 10 June:

 Members of Caloundra's, Our Lady of Good Counsel Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society meet at the Parish Centre at 9:30am. New members welcome. Further enquiries contact Peter 54924402

Friday 11 June:

- ♦ Landsborough Mass this week will be at 9am followed by adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Confession available while adoration is on. Prayers for Priests in the Ron Hickey Centre with morning tea following Mass.
- Spirituality Group meets in the OLR Parish Centre 9.45am-12noon every 2nd Friday of the month. A special screening will be on "The Future of Catholicism in Australia". Please see web site for bookings and more information.
- ◆ Lighthouse Youth Group for grades 6-8 in the Parish Centre 5:15-7:15pm

Saturday 12 June:

♦ Maleny RSL 10.00am Jack Wilcox book launch; all welcome.

Sunday 13 June: 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- ♦ Kid's Club at OLR 9.30am Mass
- Maleny Sacred Heart Feast Day celebratory sausage sizzle after Mass. All welcome.

The Gift of Adoration

This past week we had our senior youth group participate in an experience of adoration. We had been leading up to this night for the past few weeks and as it approached I started having trouble trusting that it would all turn out well. I found myself asking "Will students actually come? Will they experience Jesus? What if nothing happens?" We can't control these things, we can do the best we can to lead our students to Jesus but at the end of the day, we must trust that Jesus will work. Our ministry requires a lot of faith and prayer, so please join us in praying for the young people of our community that they would come to find the beauty that a life in Christ has to offer. **NET team**



With the end of the Financial Year it is timely to give a snapshot of our financial position. At **the Parish Finance Committee** meeting held last week our audited parish accounts were presented and forwarded to the Archbishop.

Looking at our weekly collections and Planned Giving, over the past twelve months we banked \$411.102 which is down 10.44% on a year by year comparison. Considering the impact of the Coronavirus, this is a tremendous result and a tribute to every member of the Parish and your generosity.

During this time we were able to reduce our expenditure by 11.41% which left us with an operating deficit for the Financial Year of \$105.237.

The Coronavirus is still causing understandable uncertainty in all our lives. Moving forward as we look to the new Financial Year, we will still keep an eye on expenditure, ensuring that we keep within our budget. At the same time we will continue to depend, as always, on the generous support and trust of each and every member of our Parish Family.

Thank you. Parish Finance Committee

The Evangelization & Pastoral Council held its meeting last Wednesday (June 2nd, 2021). After the welcome and opening prayer, the major items discussed included:

- The audited financial accounts of the Parish were tabled and discussed. Some of the current challenges facing the Parish were discussed. These challenges had to be viewed through the lenses of the future growth of the Parish and our responsibility to provide a solid foundation for future pastoral opportunities and ministry. The members of the Council were conscious of the sacrifices made by fellow parishioners during the uncertainty of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- The Archbishop has received the Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) from the working group and has written to all parishes inviting them to embrace the recommendations. *"At the heart of the Gospel is reconciliation between humanity and God and between human beings. As St Paul declares: "All this is from God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and has given us the ministry of reconciliation" (2 Cor 5:18)."*
- After discussion, the members of the Council agreed that it was important to build upon the work of reconciliation and recognition that has already taken place in our community and intentionally engage in strategies to support reconciliation. In the coming weeks, as a united parish, we will introduce an acknowledgement as part of our welcome and introduction to Mass. Appropriate acknowledgements will be included on our Parish webpage and newsletter. It is also important to recognize and support the work of our Parish Social Justice Group for their continuing work of reconciliation.
- Fr Brannelly gave a progress report on the refurbishment of the parish centre at Our Lady of the Rosary. The internal work has been completed with two meeting rooms, a servery and kitchenette and a disabled toilet completed. We are awaiting the final approval from certifiers and engineers so that we can complete the covered area and concreting.
- The future size of our Parish and its pastoral implications were discussed. With the addition of 170,000 people moving into the boundaries of the Parish within the next 10 years the face of the parish will change dramatically. Joining with Brisbane Catholic Education, who plan to open 3 schools in the next 10 years (Aura, Palmview & Beerwah East), the Council members discussed how we effectively minister to these new members of our Parish. Other questions that arose included what will our Parish look like in ten years time? What are the implications for current communities as we respond to the new demands placed upon our limited resources?
- Fr Whitehead informed the Council that work was already underway to explore different ministry options in these new residential suburbs. A meeting with the Archbishop has already taken place and hopefully by the next meeting of the Council, a proposed roadmap will be available which will set out a timetable for the beginning of a pastoral presence in Aura and beyond.
- Covid has disrupted many plans and the Plenary Council has been one of them. It was envisioned that the first Assembly of the Plenary Council was originally slated to take place in Adelaide, October 2020. This would have been followed by a second Assembly in Sydney, July 2021. It was decided that the assemblies would be postponed due to social distancing measures preventing the ability to facilitate delegate formation and making logistical preparation difficult. The two assemblies for the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia will now take place in October 2021 and April 2022 and will employ a "multi-modal" format for the first assembly, combining in-person and online engagement. More information will follow.

The next meeting of the Evangelization & Pastoral Council will take place on Wednesday, 1st September 2021

The monthly edition of *The Catholic Leader* is available from this weekend. Limited copies are available at each community and the cost is only \$4 each.

Men Reserve this Date:

Thursday 24 June 10:00-11:30am: Kawana Good Shepherd Centre

Your continued generous support is appreciated and not taken for granted – a grateful Parish says *thank you.*

Fr Josh Whitehead will be there to share with the men of the parish.

