

St Therese's Parish Essendon

15 & 16 January 2022

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C



First Reading Is 62:1-5 A reading from the prophet Isaiah

As the bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so will your God rejoice in you.

About Zion I will not be silent, about Jerusalem I will not grow weary, until her integrity shines out like the dawn and her salvation flames like a torch.

The nations then will see your integrity, all the kings your glory, and you will be called by a new name, one which the mouth of the Lord will confer. You are to be a crown of splendour in the hand of the Lord, a princely diadem in the hand of your God; no longer are you to be named 'Forsaken', nor your land 'Abandoned', but you shall be called 'My Delight' and your land 'The Wedded'; for the Lord takes delight in you and your land will have its wedding. Like a young man marrying a virgin, so will the one who built you wed you, and as the bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so will your God rejoice in you.

Gospel Jn 2:1-11 A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

The first of the signs given by Jesus was at Cana in Galilee.

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee. The mother of Jesus was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited. When they ran out of wine, since the wine provided for the wedding was all finished, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' Jesus said, 'Woman, why turn to me? My hour has not come yet.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' There were six stone water jars standing there, meant for the ablutions that are customary among the Jews; each could hold twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, 'Fill the jars with water,' and they filled them to the brim. 'Draw some out now' he told them, 'and take it to the steward.' They did this; the steward tasted the water, and it had turned into wine. Having no idea where it came from – only the servants who had drawn the water knew – the steward called the bridegroom and said, 'People generally serve the best wine first, and keep the cheaper sort till the guests have had plenty to drink, but you have kept the best wine till now.'

This was the first of the signs given by Jesus: it was given at Cana in Galilee. He let his glory be seen, and his disciples believed in him.



The readings that are offered to us as we begin Ordinary Time carry over some of the themes that we considered during the Christmas season. Then we celebrated the new era that God inaugurated through the birth of Jesus. Now we look deeply into our minds and hearts to see just how open we are to the demands of that new year. Last Sunday we considered the manifestation of the Spirit at the time of the baptism of Jesus. This Sunday we contemplate the various manifestations of that same Spirit in our own lives. Finally, we are brought to realise that this variety of Spirit-filled ministries is intended to be a source of Christian unity and not of fragmentation or division.

One of the major themes gleaned from the readings for today is that of the call to newness. God summons us to something new, gives us a new name, provides us with new experiences, launches us into new ministries, and calls us to sing a new song of praise. Even Jesus experienced a call to newness. Through Mary, God called him out into ministry, a ministry that would bring the fruits of the eschatological age of fulfilment to the whole world. We may be inclined to think of Pentecost as the season of the Spirit, but in reality the newness of God always comes to us through the Spirit regardless of the season of the year. In the world of the new age, the real glory of Jesus will be manifested in the variety of the gifts of the Spirit given to the church. © Dianne Bergant CSA

Dear friends,

I write with the sad news that long term faithful parishioner, our friend Bryan Guiney died last Sunday, peacefully at home. Bryan has been an active member of this parish for many, many years and contributed much to parish life over numerous decades. Bryan was a familiar figure to many who didn't know his name as the main caretaker of the church gardens and surrounds. Our gardens are filled with roses grown by him from cuttings and he tended them all with care.

When I first arrived here in October 2017, Bryan offered to build me a wall of bookshelves in the parish office and in my house, as well as installing a side gate in my driveway for quicker access, including two concrete steps! There appeared to be no limit to his handyman skills and generous heart. His growing tomato plants outside my front door are one of his last generous gestures, with tomatoes well on the way!

Bryan was father to Debra, Anthony (Dec), Geoff and Janine, father in-law of Klaus and Susi and Pa of Seven Grandchildren and One Great Granddaughter, and brother to Josephite Sister Pat and dear friend of Betty. Bryan will be sadly missed here at St Therese's. His Requiem Mass will be held on Tuesday 18 January at 11:00am.

John Hannon PP

Let us bring our intentions before the Lord, who we trust in love.

We pray for our Church, that the variety of the gifts of the Holy Spirit given to all the baptised for a good purpose, will be recognised, honoured and shared by everyone and for everyone. Lord, hear us.

We pray for family life, that as we continue to reflect on Pope Francis' letter on Family Life and Love, the miracle at the wedding feast will be a source of encouragement for many. Lord, hear us.

We pray that the work of the Plenary Council will continue with honesty, so that the Spirit's presence in people will ensure that no one is excluded or disregarded, but all are respected and included in the life of the Church. Lord, hear us.

We pray for our world and nation, still struggling in the pandemic, that all will care for each other, receive the vaccine, and that our government will, as a matter of justice, make it available to our neighbours who lack resources. Lord, hear us.

We pray that the violence in Myanmar will come to an end, the tensions between Russia and Ukraine ease, food be available in Afghanistan, Madagascar, Yemen and Ethiopia, and religious freedom be given to all who are persecuted. Lord, hear us.

We pray for those who are ill, especially: Jim Ruth, Sister Mary Dennett, Cas Lukauskas, Vera Lynch,
We pray for our own special needs. Lord, hear us

We pray for those who have died recently: Bryan Guiney, John Carriss, Michele Papaleo, Joe Callery Wilma Wilson, Sebastiana Pirruccio. And for those whom we remember at this time, especially: George and Margaret Conlan, Morry and Margaret Lonergan, Marie Clifford, George Fewster, John Rodrigues, Sean O'Sullivan, Betty Heslop, Arthur Gleeson and Thomas Maher. Lord, hear us.

Loving Father, you turn the water into our new wine of eternal joy. Hear our prayers and help us to trust in your word as we live your Gospel. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

BIRTHDAY WISHES to our dear friend and parishioner Seamus Devlin who reaches his 96th birthday this weekend!

PARISH DATES		
Tuesday 18 January 2022	Funeral Mass for Bryan Guiney	11:00am
Sunday 23 January	Parish Baptisms	12:00pm
Monday 24 January 2022	Parish office resumes regular hours	9:00am
Wednesday 26 January 2022	Australia Day Public Holiday	
Monday 31 January 2022	Prep school students begin for short sessions	
Wednesday 2 February 2022	School term begins for all St Therese's school students	

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: John Hannon john.hannon@cam.org.au

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Child Safety Officer: Olivia Metcalf essendon.safeguarding@cam.org.au

Office opening hours - Monday to Friday 9:00am – 3:00pm

Office Telephone: 9401 6330 – after hours Fr John: 0490 956 610

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St Vincent de Paul helpline: 1800 305 330 WEEKDAYS 10:00am–3:00pm

Mass Online:

Follow this [link here](#)

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday to Friday 10:00am

Weekend Masses

Saturday 6:00pm, Sunday 9:00am, Sunday 10:30am

St Therese's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country of the land on which our church stands and recognize their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to them and to Elders past, present and emerging.