

Catholic Parishes of Warragul and Drouin
St. Joseph's, Warragul, St. Ita's, Drouin, St. Ignatius', Neerim South
'Forming Missionary Communities'.

Sunday 9th August 2020 – 19th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME – Year A

Pastor:

Father Peter Slater
Presbytery: 3 Witton Street
Warragul.
(PO Box 275
Warragul 3820)
Phone 5623-1642
Email: Peter.Slater@cdsale.org.au

Associate Pastor:

Father Sunil Francis IVD
Phone 5623-1642
Email: Sunil.Francis@cdsale.org.au

Deacons:

Deacon Mark Kelly 0427 748 646
Email: Mark.Kelly@cdsale.org.au

Deacon Paul Zaher 0405 069 253
Email: Paul.Zaher@cdsale.org.au

Churches:

St. Joseph's: Witton Street
Warragul.

St Ita's: Victoria Street,
Drouin.

St. Ignatius: Main Road,
Neerim South.

Parish Office:

19 Connor St,
Warragul.
(P.O. Box 275
Warragul 3820)

Phone: 5623-1642
Email: Warragul@cdsale.org.au

Parish Staff:

Secretary:

Prue Walkinshaw

R.C.I.A. Coordinator

Joan Robertson 5623-1642
Email: Warragul.rcia@cdsale.org.au

Sacrament & Catechist Coordinator

St Joseph's & St Ita's

Thérèse Meggetto 5623-1642
Email: Warragul.sacraments@cdsale.org.au

Youth Minister

Bethany Allen 0476 273 279
Email: Warragul.Youth@cdsale.org.au

Schools:

Marist-Sion College 5623-5944
Principal: Mr. Peter Houlahan

St. Joseph's Primary School 5623-2943
Acting Principal: Mr. Ronan O'Mahony

St. Ita's Primary School 5623-7222
Principal: Mr. Andrew Osler

**DUE TO STAGE THREE RESTRICTIONS
THERE ARE NO PUBLIC MASSES BEING
CELEBRATED AT PRESENT.**

A LETTER FROM FR PETER

Dear Parishioners,
Well the increasing number of infections of COVID 19 has held our attention over recent times. Now the state government has moved "Melbourne" areas to even stricter Stage 4 restrictions and reimposed Stage 3 restrictions on the rest of Victoria.

That means we are back to the situation of not celebrating public masses at all. It is disappointing but we need to keep doing what we can to halt the spread. Similarly, if you wish to celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation you are asked to call the parish and make an arrangement.

The "stay at home" requirements affect us as well. Pastoral and sacramental visits to homes are now restricted to serious situations. Should anyone envisage going to hospital it might be better to contact us beforehand. It may not be easy for a priest to gain admittance afterwards.

You may be interested to know that baptisms are to be postponed except for urgent and grave pastoral reason. Weddings are limited to five people, that is just the witnesses; and ten mourners are permitted at a funeral. While not everyone is affected by these restrictions there are many who are.

However, the parish team are still "on deck" even if working from home. We are happy to speak with anyone who needs a chat, or to call anyone you know of who might appreciate a call.

Meanwhile thanks to those many of you who are observing the restrictions while finding ways to keep in connection with others such as family, neighbours or friends. You are making a difference.

Regards,
Fr Peter.

**CATHOLIC CARE SUNDAY
APPEAL**

This weekend is the CatholicCare Sunday Appeal. CatholicCare delivers family and relationship counselling, refugee and settlement support, education and school programs, and pastoral services. Donations from our parish community will help care for the most vulnerable families in our community. Your support and generosity will help break barriers to social inclusion and strengthen families and communities to live life to the full. You can donate online at www.ccam.org.au/SundayAppeal or call (03) 9287 5513. All gifts of \$2 and above are tax deductible. You can also place a donation in an envelope marked CatholicCare and hand in at the Presbytery or office.

Please see the link below to see a video about the appeal.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dUtZbK-2SXg&>



Check out our Catholic Parishes of Warragul & Drouin Facebook presence. We hope to post Mass each Sunday

CATHOLIC PARISHES OF WARRAGUL AND DROUIN OUR VISION - FORMING MISSIONARY COMMUNITIES

We are engaged together in the **mission** of Jesus today; as we seek to make God known and to love God and neighbour. Anything that helps people live in their full dignity and freedom, that serves the kingdom of God, is mission. We do this in **community** because we are more than individual believers and parishioners. We are one community made up of smaller communities: two parishes, three churches, our parish schools, ministry groups and families. We constantly need **formation** in our following of Jesus and we seek opportunities to grow in community for mission.

SUPPORTING OUR PARISH AND PASTORS.

Thank you to those who have brought your offerings in to the parish. The parish office is closed while the general restrictions apply. It is still possible to give support transferring your offering via direct deposit. The account numbers are as follows:

First Collection (to support our Pastors)
083879 941199437
St Joseph's & St Ita's Presbytery account.

Second Collection (Plan Giving)
St Joseph's Church Account
083879 489045334

St Ita's Church Account
083879 568166097

If you choose to deposit to these Accounts, please put your name or envelope number as a reference to make sure that we know who it is from.

Or alternatively contacting Prue on
0499 116 428.

Or by popping envelopes into the letter slot at the front door of the presbytery.

Thank you so much for your continued support.

PRIESTS' AVAILABILITY.

Please know that Frs Peter and Sunil are available for pastoral ministry if required. This may be for sacraments such as reconciliation or anointing, or for conversation. Just phone the presbytery 5623 1642 or their email contacts

COLLECTIONS

Sunday 2/8/2020

	Warragul	Drouin
Planned Giving	\$ 4318.50	\$ 2943.00
Presbytery	\$ 1157.45	

Planned Giving includes Direct Debit and Credit Card Transactions. Weekly target for Warragul Parish to meet all church and Presbytery running costs is \$5000. Thanks to all who give regularly and generously.

Cash is not held on the premises Overnight

EPISCOPAL ORDINATION

The Episcopal Ordination and installation of Bishop-elect Gregory Bennet as Tenth Bishop of Sale will be held on Tuesday 20th October in St Mary's Cathedral Sale commencing at 11am.

Mindful of the seriousness of the current COVID pandemic, all arrangements will be planned with due respect of restrictions concerning public safety.

Further information such as the live streaming details will be made available in due course.

Let us pray for our incoming bishop and our diocese in a particular way over these weeks.

HAPPY NEWS

As it looks like we will be subject to restrictions for some time I am asking Parishioners to share some HAPPY NEWS so that we as a Parish Community can share one another's joys. If you have a significant birthday, an anniversary, the birth of a child, grand child or great grandchild etc, please share the joyous occasion with the rest of us. I'm also aware that some of our Parishioners have come to grief over the "shutdown". Maybe we could brighten their day if we knew. We cannot publish such information without your permission so please ring Prue at the Office or myself M 0407231297 and we will create a HAPPY NEWS/GET BETTER COLUMN. I look forward to your response to help us "keep in touch". Thoughts and prayers to you all. Keep smiling.
Susan Collis

ST VINCENT DE PAUL DROUIN CONFERENCE THANK YOU

On behalf of St. Vincent de Paul Society, St. Ita's Conference Drouin, THANK St. Ita's & St. Ignatius' Parishioners most sincerely for their generous response to our Winter Appeal. Donations from St. Ita's and St. Ignatius' Communities totalled \$2035. Your gift of money really helps us to provide much needed support for our brothers/sisters who are less fortunate than ourselves, as does your continued gifts of food, clothing, and blankets etc. Without these our Conference would find it very difficult to support those in need, especially now during the COVID-19 Crisis. We sincerely appreciate your continued and extremely generous support.

FAITHFUL LISTENING

Peter getting the wobbles and beginning to sink gives us all a slight chuckle. Each of us can relate to Peter's momentary loss of faith (Matt 14:22-33). Especially in our extraordinary and difficult times we all waver a little both about the present and the future. "Where are you in all this, Lord?"

Battling a heavy sea with a head-wind in a small open boat would have been frightening enough. The storms threatened to overwhelm the disciples so when they encountered the ghostly Jesus they were doubly petrified. Peter summoned the courage to venture forth towards the Lord but facing the enormity of conditions he panicked and Jesus rescued him. "Man of little faith, why did you doubt?" Jesus asks Peter and he might well ask us.

It ever there was a time for quiet confidence in the Lord this is it. In the 1 Kings passage immediately preceding this, Elijah is afraid, fearing his life's mission has been a failure and has pretty much had enough but he is persuaded in a dream to take nourishment to journey up the mountain seeking what God wants of him.

Like Elijah we feel battered by circumstances. Elijah's story gives us direction. God appears, not in catastrophic wind or in earthquake or fire, but in silence. Elijah (1 Kings 19) needed to listen for God's voice as we do today. Underneath the swirl of terrible events, grand pronouncements and forecasts we need to listen for the gentle breeze, cover our face with our cloak in reverence of God and wait faithfully to hear what God wants of us. God's Word at the moment is likely to ask small simple things of us.

Being especially aware of the many blessings showered upon us and the many worse off; being alert to the safety needs of the whole community and to needs of others around us. Stepping into the unknown with calm perspective and hope in the future, confident Jesus has our backs.
Deacon Mark Kelly

PRAYER FOR BISHOP-ELECT GREG BENNET



Eternal God, our Shepherd and Guide
We bless and thank you for the appointment
of your servant, Greg Bennet,
as the tenth Bishop of Sale.
May your Holy Spirit grace him
with the gifts of wisdom and strength,
gentleness and compassion,
as he prepares to take up his role as our pastor and teacher.
May he be a shepherd after your own heart,
who will walk in your ways and, with loving care, watch over your
people.
May he be a leader of vision and a teacher of your truth.
As Bishop-elect Bennet prepares to make his home among us,
may we welcome him joyfully into our Diocesan community,
now entrusted to his care and leadership.
May we, as the Body of Christ in the Diocese of Sale,
through our work and prayer
together bear witness to Christ and the building up of your
kingdom.
We ask this through your Son Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy
Spirit,
One God, for ever and ever. Amen,

Our Lady of Perpetual Help pray for us
St Mary of the Cross MacKillop pray for us.

**Please pray for the following of our
Parishes:**

ANNIVERSARIES: Margaret Walkinshaw, John Smolders, Paul
Daniels, Norma Dunne and Margaret Johnson, Helena Schellekens.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

That every person in Australia will follow the advice of our
health leaders during this COVID-19 pandemic and not be a danger
to themselves or to others, praying especially for the people of
Melbourne and Regional Victoria.
Lord, hear us.

That following the Solemnity of St Mary of the Cross yesterday,
all Australians will be encouraged by her trust in the providence of
God and her extraordinary commitment to the poor.
Lord, hear us.

That those injured in the massive explosion in Beirut in Lebanon
will receive assistance, those killed be given eternal rest and their
families be comforted.
Lord, hear us.

That healthcare workers may they be given patience and
determination to mirror Christ's compassion in their ministry of
healing.
Lord, hear us

That those in quarantine or isolation will remain patient and hopeful
Lord, hear us

For those who have died: We especially remember Margaret
Walkinshaw, Helena Schellekens, John Smolders, Paul Daniels,
Norma Dunne and Margaret Johnson whose anniversaries are
around this time: that they will be gathered into God's arms.
Lord, hear us

PASTORAL SERVICES

Parish Office: 19 Connor Street Warragul
Monday-Friday 9am-3pm

Baptisms: Celebrated on Sundays by
prior arrangement including participation
at an information meeting for Parents
(and Godparents)

Marriages: By prior arrangement, six months
notice requested.

Reconciliation: By prior arrangement

CatholicCare: Services include counselling Individual,
Family & Natural Family Planning
Counselling Ph 1800 522 076

**St. Vincent de Paul
Conference helpline:**
Warragul Ph: 5623 6741
Drouin Ph: 5625 4715

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading 1 Kgs 19:9.11-13

A reading from the first book of the Kings

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8

(R.) Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace.

His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land. (R.)

2. Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced.

Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven. (R.)

3. The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit.

Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 9:1-5

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ – it is the truth – my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 19:38

Alleluia, alleluia!

I hope in the Lord,

I trust in his word.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 14:22-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord,' he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



Next Weeks Readings:

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 56: 1, 6-7;

Rom 11: 13-15, 29-32;

Mt 15: 21-28

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