

SACRED HEART/ EMMAUS PARISH

ABN 56 751 544 850

Telephone: 9366 2146 Fax: 9366 9876

Email: stalbans@cam.org.au

Website <http://pol.org.au/stalbanssydenham>

4 Winifred Street
ST ALBANS VICTORIA 3021

7th October

PARISH UPDATE 81

*"The current COVID lockdown means that **our churches will remain closed** for the duration of the lockdown – date and details are not clear at the stage. The exception is for funerals, with ten 'mourners' permitted. There will be no other activity in our churches over that time. See attachment for information for accessing Mass on TV and online."*

Greetings, everyone!

As I start to prepare this letter it looks like the best of spring weather out there. (it's Wednesday: what will tomorrow bring? Through the week, several days have shown that spring hasn't arrived properly yet - and we're a week into October! I recall, however, that for many years it was always difficult to get the cricket season under way because of rain in October.)

A major happening for the Catholic Church in Australia formally assembled this week: the Plenary Council. You may recall that we participated in its earliest stages by writing responses to the question 'what do you think God is asking of the Church in Australia?' Our responses were forwarded to the central organising group. The responses from across Australia have been the substance that has shaped up the agenda for the Council. An attachment with this Letter outlines the six areas of the Council's agenda: Conversion, Prayer, Formation, Structures, Governance, Institutions. Another attachment indicates the process of the Council: *Getting ready for the Plenary Council: A quick refresher.*

We wait to hear ... and we pray. The 'Plenary Council Prayer' is at the end of this Letter.

This weekend is the 70th Anniversary of the group 'Al-Anon'. Al-Anon's purpose is to help families and friends of alcoholics or someone abusing alcohol to recover from the effects of living with someone whose drinking is a problem.

Similarly, Alateen is their recovery program for young people. Alateen groups are sponsored by Al-Anon members. Alateen provides support for teenagers affected by the problem drinking of a parent or other family member. The program of recovery is adapted from Alcoholics Anonymous and is based on the Twelve Steps, the Twelve Traditions, and the Twelve Concepts of Service. The only requirement for membership is that there be a problem of alcoholism in a relative or friend. Al-Anon/Alateen is not affiliated with any other organisation or outside entity.

There are two key ways to find support for those who feel that they have a problem with a family member, work colleague or friend's drinking. Anyone interested can go to their national website: www.al-anon.org.au and/or call the [Helpline](http://www.al-anon.org.au): 1300 252 666 for confidential enquiries.

That brings to mind the well-known 'Serenity Prayer'. It is commonly quoted as:

*God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change,
courage to change the things I can,
and wisdom to know the difference.*

The writer of the prayer (Reinhold Niebuhr, 1892–1971) originally asked for courage first, and specifically for changing things that *must* be changed, not things that simply *can* be changed: *Father, give us courage to change what must be altered, serenity to accept what cannot be helped, and the insight to know the one from the other.*

The prayer spread rapidly, and was adopted and popularised by Alcoholics Anonymous and other twelve-step programs.

An attachment with this letter reflects on the prayer, saying that 'the scope and power of this prayer is clearly suited for all of us'.

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If we were gathered in our churches this weekend, we would be pointing to the service of 'Mercy Palliative Care' (formally 'Mercy Health'). Over the years we have been very generous in our support. And the proceeds from the Piety Stalls in our churches are donated to this very important ministry. This year our Parish will forward a donation from your Thanksgiving contributions.

Parishioners can also contribute directly to *Mercy Health* through their website:

<https://www.mercyhealthfoundation.org.au/how-you-can-give>

In this weekend's Gospel Reading, there is a wealthy man who boasts about all the commandments he has kept - and Jesus is not satisfied with that minimum. He says: 'There is one thing you lack.' That would have got the rich man's attention: the suggestion that he was missing something. The question from Jesus is: What do you have to do to expand your heart: to become big hearted enough to allow my heartbeat to become your heartbeat?

'Lord, there is something you want me to do to enlarge my heart. There is something I must give up to enable this to happen. Lord, give me courage and trust. Lord, look steadily at me and love me, and help me to become as you want me to be.'

There's something of the Serenity Prayer in that, isn't there?

Let us pray for fruitful outcomes from the Plenary Council:

PlenaryCouncilPrayer

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 to 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 journey from age to age.

Amen.

Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us.

St Mary MacKillop, pray for us.

Blessings and prayers for all!

Maurie Cooney
(Parish Priest)

Sacred Heart and Emmaus churches are closed in compliance with COVID-19 restrictions.

**MASS is available through
STREAMING and TV**

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Other Options/Alternatives to view Mass

Mass for You at Home, (MFYAH), is celebrated in St John Vianney Co-Cathedral, Wollongong. It shows at 6.00am Sundays on Channel Ten and is repeated multiple times a day on Foxtel's Aurora channel.

This Sunday Mass is also available on demand on Channel Ten's platform www.tenplay.com.au/mfyah.

This Mass is also available on Wollongong's YouTube channel which can be accessed on www.massforyou.com.au as well as the Diocesan website, www.dow.org.au. There are also links to it on their Diocesan Facebook page and the MFYA Facebook page.

Channel 31 (usually found at '44' on digital TV's):

Mass at 11.00am Sundays from St Patrick's Cathedral or **online at:**

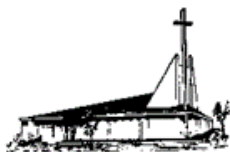
<https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass> at 11.00am on Sundays and at 1.00pm on weekdays

Mass continuous daily from Lavender Bay Parish, Sydney, **online at:**

<http://bit.ly/MassOnDemand>

Parish of Sacred Heart/Emmaus

St Albans & Sydenham



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ST ALBANS VICTORIA 3021

**Pray—Work—Share
Together**

MINISTRY VOLUNTEERING IN THE PARISH

“I would like to participate in the Ministry of our Parish”

PARISH OFFICE

4 Winifred Street, St Albans 3021

Telephone: (03) 9366 2146

E-mail: stalbans@cam.org.au

Website: pol.org.au/stalbanssydenham

PARISH SAFEGUARDING

Mobile: 0413 841 936

E-mail: stalbans.safeguarding@cam.org.au

CHILD SAFETY POLICY

Sacred Heart/Emmaus Parish is committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and people at risk in our community. The Parish takes a zero-tolerance approach to child abuse and upholds that child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of every adult.

September 2021

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Safeguarding Sunday –September 12, 2021

This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday.

The Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne and Sacred Heart/Emmaus Parish are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and people at risk in our community. Safeguarding and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of every adult.

A significant impact of COVID lockdowns for the Sacred Heart/Emmaus Parish has been that we have had to limit severely all our Ministry activity.

When restrictions begin to ease we will be in a position to reassemble our various ministry groups. That will be the opportunity to re-engage with our community in those well-established 'tried and true' ways, to re-form our groups and invite new participation, and to offer 'formation for ministry' as a refresher or an introduction.

To get ready for that, there are some administrative details that we can prepare. It is the policy of the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne that *everyone* in *every* Ministry within each Parish must hold a valid Working With Children Check (WWCC).

I invite all who have previously been involved in Ministry and also those who wish to participate for the first time to build up this aspect of our Parish's life again! There is a list of our Ministry areas on the next page.

To ensure that all involved in Ministries have complied with the requirement for holding a Working With Children Card, please complete the information on the attached form and send it to the Parish Office: this will indicate your choice for participation in Ministry.

If you have a WWCC already, include a copy of that.

If you do not have a WWCC, the procedures for acquiring one are on a following page.

When a Card is sent to you, forward a copy to the Parish Office.

Maurie Cooney
(Parish Priest)

September 2021

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PARISH MINISTRY GROUPS - SACRED HEART/EMMAUS **recommencing post-COVID 2021/2**

SACRED HEART AND EMMAUS AND CANA

BAPTISM PREPARATION

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

COMMUNION TO AGED CARE/NURSING HOMES

COMMUNION TO PRIVATE HOMES

FAIR COMMITTEE

PARISH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PARISH SCHOOLS ADVISORY COUNCILS

PREPARATION FOR THE SACRAMENTS - Public Schools

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

ST VINCENT DE PAUL (participating in the Keilor Downs Conference)

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SHOP (St Albans)

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PLEASE SEND THIS FORM TO THE PARISH OFFICE WHEN COMPLETED

“I would like to participate in the Ministry of our Parish”:

Please complete in Capital letters

Area/s of Ministry interested in:	
Name:	
Address:	

SACRED HEART

ALTAR SERVERS

ALTAR LINEN WASHING

CHURCH CLEANING

CHURCH MAINTENANCE

COLLECTORS AT MASS

DIGITAL PROJECTOR Operator

MUSIC AND SINGING in LITURGY

PRAYER GROUPS

READER OF THE WORD OF GOD at

Masses

SPECIAL MINISTERS OF COMMUNION

at Mass

EMMAUS

ALTAR SERVER GOWN Washing

ALTAR SERVERS

CHURCH CLEANING

CHURCH MAINTENANCE

COLLECTORS AT MASS

DIGITAL PROJECTOR Operator

MUSIC AND SINGING in LITURGY

PIETY STALL

PRAYER GROUPS

READER OF THE WORD OF GOD

at Masses

SPECIAL MINISTERS OF

COMMUNION at Mass

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Telephone Number:			
Email:			
Are you over 18 years old <i>If YES please complete the questions below</i>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Do you have a current Working with Children Check (WWCC) card	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
<i>If YES, have you provided a copy of your WWCC to the Parish.</i>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
<p><i>It is essential that the Parish has a copy of your WWCC for your participation in Ministry. You can scan and email a copy of your WWCC card to stalbans.safeguarding@cam.org.au, or bring it/post it to the Parish Office.</i></p> <p>*****</p> <p><i>If NO (you do not have a Working With Children Card), see next page for the process for completing and submitting a WWCC application: You can apply only online at www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au. There is no cost associated with Working With Children application for volunteers.</i></p> <p>If you are unsure of the procedure please contact the Parish Office on 9366 2146 for assistance.</p>			

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To apply for a Working With Children Check

The Working With Children Check application form is available ***only online*** at www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au

Outlined there is the process that needs to be followed.
In the application, identify yourself as 'volunteer': there is no cost associated with an application as 'volunteer'.

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When you receive back your Working With Children Check, it is essential that you lodge a copy with the Parish Office:

- Email a copy to, stalbans.safeguarding@cam.org.au

OR

- Drop a copy at the Parish Office or into the letterbox at Sacred Heart, St Albans

OR

- AustraliaPost to the Parish Office.