



# SAINT FIACRE AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION'S Parish

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OFFICE HOUR:  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
(8.00 am - 13.00 pm)

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) - SUNDAY, 21 JUNE 2020

IN THIS ISSUE

## FROM THE HOUSE-TOPS

by Fr Greg Sunter

### Gospel Reflection

'Do not be afraid' is one of the most commonly repeated sentences in the Bible. In one form or another, the command to 'be not afraid' or 'fear not' appears several hundred times throughout the Old and New Testaments. Today's gospel passage is part of the sending out of the Twelve that occupies all of Chapter 10 in the gospel. It follows a little later in the chapter from last week's reading in which Jesus called the Twelve and sent them out as Apostles. The remainder of the chapter provides an extended teaching on what it means and what it costs to take the message of Jesus out into the world. Jesus teaches the Twelve that the message they bear will not always be well received and there will be those who will seek to silence the Apostles through violent means. But then the teaching comes to the section of today's passage and Jesus commands the Twelve, 'Do not be afraid'.

The message to not be afraid is as much for the original intended audience of the gospel as it was for the apostles. The community for whom this gospel was written were on the verge of being 'squeezed out' and forced into secret. The passage reminds them to have courage and to have the courage of their convictions; to shout from the house-tops

their message, not whisper it in darkness. It is a reminder of the abundant love of God who cares for them and sees all their efforts to continue to live out the message and ministry of Jesus.

It is equally a message for us, today. We are called to continue the spread of the gospel message, continuing the work of those early Christian communities, the Twelve and Jesus himself.

### Living the Gospel

One of the messages of Jesus to his disciples and, through him, of Matthew to the original community, is to have courage and to have pride in their belief. No matter what threat or persecution they are to endure, the command is to proclaim the message of Jesus from the house-tops. They are to be proud of what they believe and be prepared to share it with others. In a world today that is not always open to the message of Jesus, we too are called to be proud of what we believe and not whisper it in the darkness.

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Click here to watch our live streaming:  
[www.facebook.com/stfiacreparish/live](https://www.facebook.com/stfiacreparish/live)

### MASS TIME AND CONFESSION

- ❖ DAILY MASS: Monday-Saturday, 7.00 am
- ❖ SUNDAY MASS:
  - Vigil Mass (Saturday afternoon), 5.30 pm
  - English Mass, 8.00 am (at St Francis' church, Lilyfield)
  - English Mass, 9.30 am
  - Italian Mass, 11.00 am
  - Adoration & Mass for Young Adults, 4.00 pm
- ❖ CONFESSION: Every Saturday, 4.45 pm (or by appointment. Please contact parish office)

### DO YOU WANT TO BE INVOLVED IN PARISH ACTIVITIES?

A parish will be vibrant if the parishioners are united and willing to be actively involved. At present, our parish is looking for more volunteers to clean the church, arrange flowers, musicians, singers, altar servers, and good readers during the Holy Mass. Let us not only be spectators but be actively involved. God will surely bless everyone who wants to give his/her time, talent, and energy for Him. Please contact Fr Pionius for more information.

## MASS ON SUNDAY

### Entrance Antiphon

The Lord is the strength of his people, a saving refuge for the one he has anointed. Save your people, Lord, and bless your heritage, and govern them for ever.

### Collect

Grant, O Lord, that we may always revere and love your holy name, for you never deprive of your guidance those you set firm on the foundation of your love. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**First reading** *Jeremiah 20:10-13*  
**He has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of evil men**

Jeremiah said:

I hear so many disparaging me, "Terror from every side!" Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"

All those who used to be my friends watched for my downfall, 'Perhaps he will be seduced into error. Then we will master him and take our revenge!'

But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero; my opponents will stumble, mastered, confounded by their failure; everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be theirs.

But you, O Lord of Hosts, you who probe with justice, who scrutinise the loins and heart, let me see the vengeance you will take on them, for I have committed my cause to you.

Sing to the Lord, praise the Lord, for he has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of evil men.

### Responsorial Psalm

*Psalm 68(69):8-10,14,17,33-35*

**R: Lord, in your great love, answer me.**

☞ It is for you that I suffer taunts, that shame covers my face, that I have become a stranger to my brothers, an alien to my own mother's sons. I burn with zeal for your house and taunts against you fall on me. **(R)**

☞ This is my prayer to you, my prayer for your favour. In your great love, answer me, O God, with your help that never fails: Lord, answer, for your love is kind;

in your compassion, turn towards me. **(R)**

☞ The poor when they see it will be glad and God-seeking hearts will revive; for the Lord listens to the needy and does not spurn his servants in their chains. Let the heavens and the earth give him praise, the sea and all its living creatures. **(R)**

### Second reading

*Romans 5:12-15*

**The grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit**

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

### Gospel Acclamation

*John 15: 26,27*

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord, and you also will be my witnesses. Alleluia!

### Gospel

*Matthew 10: 26-33*

**Do not be afraid of those who kill the body**

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the housetops.

'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. 'So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven.

But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.'

### Prayer over the Offerings

Receive, O Lord, the sacrifice of conciliation and praise and grant that, cleansed by its action, we may make offering of a heart pleasing to you. Through Christ our Lord.

**Communion Antiphon** *Ps 144: 15*

The eyes of all look to you, Lord, and you give them their food in due season.

### Prayer after Communion

Renewed and nourished by the Sacred Body and Precious Blood of your Son, we ask of your mercy, O Lord, that what we celebrate with constant devotion may be our sure pledge of redemption. Through Christ our Lord.

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### PSALM RESPONSES FOR THIS WEEK

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup>: St John Fisher (Memorial)**  
 Help us with your right hand, O Lord, and answer us.

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup>:**  
 God upholds his city for ever.

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup>: The Birthday of St John the Baptist (Solemnity)**  
 I praise you, for I am wonderfully made.

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup>:**  
 For the glory of your name, O Lord, deliver us.

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup>:**  
 Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup>:**  
 Lord, forget not the life of your poor ones.

### THIS WEEK WE REMEMBER:

Sun 8:00am..... † Elisa Quintal

..... † Celestino Lira

Eternal rest, grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Amen.

## Reflection

**So do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows**

Jesus instructed his twelve apostles to be courageous as they shared his mission of announcing God's reign. Despite the coming darkness and opposition, they should be fearless in proclaiming the light and truth of the gospel. Fear of persecution and death should not deter them. They should be more afraid of the Evil One who could lead them to eternal destruction. Jesus encouraged his followers by reminding them of their worth before God. Sparrows were eaten by the poor, and were the cheapest of all the birds. If God cared for these tiny birds how much

more were God's children valued? No ill-treatment on earth could compare with the ultimate fate of one who had been guilty of infidelity to God. If the apostles remained faithful to their witness, Jesus would testify to their fidelity at the final judgment.

<http://www.togetherwithgodsword.com>

### TO LOVE AND TO SERVE

Do I defend the faith when I am opposed?

Lord Jesus, help me to recognize my worth in God's sight.

### PLEASE SUPPORT OUR PARISH

Saint Fiacre's Parish and the Capuchin Friars extend their gratitude to all parishioners and friends who are helping during these difficult times! Donations can be made by EFT to:

- Account Name: **St Fiacre's Catholic Church**
- BSB: **062 784**
- Account No: **0457 5001**
- ❖ If you require a **30% tax deduction**, please write your **Envelope Number** in the reference box.
- ❖ Tax deduction is only available to those givers who are enrolled to the Second Collection at St Fiacre's.
- ❖ If you wish to join the program, please contact the Parish office at **02 9518 0650** or [fiacre@capuchinfrs.org.au](mailto:fiacre@capuchinfrs.org.au)

## From the Archdiocese

### PLENARY COUNCIL DISCERNMENT PAPERS RELEASED

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic the National Plenary Council Assembly has been postponed to October 2021 (Adelaide) and April 2022 (Sydney). Importantly as part of the journey towards the national Assembly, the discernment papers foundational to the development of the working paper and ultimately the agenda for the Assembly are available on the National Plenary Council webpage under the Discernment tab:

<https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/continuing-the-journey-of-discernment/>

**Appeal for Blankets** - As winter approaches, the Jesuit Refugee Service is in need of new blankets for their clients. If you are able to donate new blankets please contact Amelia Savage at [Amelia.savage@jrs.org.au](mailto:Amelia.savage@jrs.org.au) or on 9098 9336 and see the attached image for drop off points (drop off points as for food bank donations).

**Petition by Catholics to ask that No One Is Left Behind** - As the COVID-19 pandemic tightens its grip, people seeking protection and migrants in vulnerable situations have been left with no safety net. Please join us by signing and sharing the Catholic petition to leave no one behind during the COVID-19 Pandemic: <https://www.change.org/nooneleftbehind>

## Second Collection Envelopes

Dear donors, many thanks for your kind and generous donations.

To help our counters and to ensure that mistakes are not made, please write the amount of your donation at the front of your envelopes.

### READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: 2 Kings 4:8-11,13-16 | 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Romans 6:3-4,8-11  
Gospel: Matthew 10:37-42

## XII DOMENICA DEL TEMPO ORDINARIO



**Cristo re e sacerdote in eterno.** Dal trattato «Sulla Trinità» di Faustino Luciferiano, sacerdote

Il nostro Salvatore divenne veramente «Cristo» secondo la carne e nello stesso tempo vero re e vero sacerdote. Egli è l'una e l'altra cosa insieme, perché nulla manchi al Salvatore di quanto aveva come Dio.

Egli stesso afferma la sua dignità regale, quando dice: Io sono stato consacrato re da lui sul suo santo monte Sion (cfr. Sal 2, 6). Il Padre inoltre attesta la dignità sacerdotale del Figlio con le parole: «Tu sei sacerdote per sempre al modo di Melchisedek» (Sal 109, 4).

Nell'antica legge il primo ad essere consacrato sacerdote col crisma dell'unzione fu Aronne. Non si dice però «secondo l'ordine di Aronne», perché non si creda che anche il sacerdozio del Salvatore gli sia stato conferito per successione. Il sacerdozio di Aronne si trasmetteva per via ereditaria, non così invece quello del Cristo, perché egli stesso resta eternamente sacerdote. Si dice infatti: «Tu sei sacerdote in eterno secondo l'ordine di Melchisedek».

Il Salvatore dunque, secondo la carne, è re e sacerdote. L'unzione però da lui ricevuta non è materiale, ma spirituale. Infatti coloro che presso gli Israeliti erano consacrati re e sacerdoti con l'unzione materiale dell'olio, diventavano re e sacerdoti, non però tutte e due le cose insieme, ma ciascuno di loro era o re o sacerdote. Solo a Cristo compete la perfezione e la pienezza in tutto, poiché era venuto ad adempiere la legge. Quantunque tuttavia nessuno di loro fosse re e sacerdote insieme, quelli che erano consacrati con l'unzione materiale, o re o sacerdoti, erano chiamati «cristi». Il Salvatore però, che è il vero Cristo, fu unto dallo Spirito santo, perché si adempisse quanto era stato scritto di lui: Per questo «Dio, il tuo Dio ti ha consacrato con olio di letizia a preferenza dei tuoi eguali» (Sal 44, 8).

La sua unzione eccelle al di sopra di quella di tutti i suoi compagni perché egli è stato unto con l'olio di letizia, che altro non significa se non lo Spirito Santo.

Che questo sia vero lo sappiamo dallo stesso Salvatore, il quale, preso il libro di Isaia e avendovi

letto: «Lo Spirito del Signore è sopra di me; per questo mi ha consacrato con l'unzione» (Lc 4, 18), proclamò davanti a quelli che lo ascoltavano che la profezia si era adempiuta allora nella sua persona. Anche Pietro, principe degli apostoli, dichiara che quel crisma, da cui il Salvatore è stato manifestato, è lo Spirito Santo, cioè la stessa potenza di Dio, quando negli Atti degli Apostoli tra le altre cose dice al centurione Cornelio, uomo pieno di fede e di misericordia: «Incominciando dalla Galilea, dopo il battesimo predicato da Giovanni, Dio consacrò in Spirito Santo e potenza Gesù di Nazaret, il quale passò beneficiando e risanando tutti coloro che erano sotto il potere del diavolo» (At 10, 37-38).

Anche Pietro, dunque, come hai potuto renderti conto, afferma che Gesù uomo è stato unto di Spirito Santo e di potenza. E' vero perciò che lo stesso Gesù è diventato «Cristo» in quanto uomo, perché con l'unzione dello Spirito Santo è stato consacrato re e sacerdote in eterno..

<https://www.maranatha.it>



### ARE YOU STRUGGLING IN THIS TIME OF CRISIS?

**Depression. Anxiety. Loneliness. Conflict. Stress.**

CCareline 13 18 19 is a free and confidential helpline for counselling, relationships, parenting, ageing, disabilities, addictions and mental health.

### CatholicCare Marriage Preparations

Marriage Education Goes Virtual: CatholicCare has quickly adapted to social distancing laws, providing marriage education virtually from mid March. If you are engaged and are planning on getting married soon, CatholicCare is still able to provide you with your marriage education course during this time. We expect demand to surge when social distancing rules are relaxed further, so don't miss out. Book now! Call 13 18 19. "Considering we were attending remotely, [the educator] still made the experience feel collaborative and a safe space in which to share.

### Friar's Van Winter Appeal:

The Friar's Van needs blanket and raincoat donations. During these colder months, living rough on the streets is harder than ever, especially trying to keep warm and dry. The items need to be light and easy to carry. For example, the rolled fleece blankets you see at supermarkets or discount stores like Target/K-mart/Big W/Dollar King etc are perfect. The raincoats could also be rain ponchos or the ones that roll up to a small pouch. As always, you can donate the individually wrapped chocolates to the Friar's Van. (Note: Mars Bars, Snickers and Bountys are the most popular!!!) You can leave your donations at the Parish office or in the tubs at the back of the Church.

### familywintersleepout@home

The event is set for the evening of **Friday 26 June** (end of Week 9). The Family Winter Sleepout @ Home initiative invites families to take time to engage in conversation, experience the discomfort of being on the cold, hard ground at night and to pray together as a family for those without safe, secure housing. All across Sydney Catholic Schools and Parishes, families will be participating and donating money & food to their local Vinnies. This is a great opportunity for families to spend time together to raise awareness and be advocates for the homeless.



The initiative involves four tasks:

- Make a card, write a message and attach a snack to donate to Vinnies Night Patrol.
- Come together as a family and make some soup for when you are sleeping or sitting outside.
- Experience what it's like on the street. Use cardboard to sleep on and drink soup to keep warm.
- Come inside, light a candle and pray for those who are homeless.

Please [click here](#) for the Instructional Video.

St Fiacre's has its own [fundraising link](#) for the [#familywintersleepout@home](#) where you can donate directly and all monies raised go to our local Vinnies Conference.