



SAINT FIACRE AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION Parish

Admin.: Fr. Pionius Hendi, OFM Cap.

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

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) ~ SUNDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER 2020

IN THIS ISSUE

EXCITEMENT FOR THE NEW ENCYCLICAL



Dear parishioners,

I believe that you have heard some rumours that Pope Francis will publish a new encyclical next month. The encyclical is a papal letter sent to all bishops of the Church and usually deals with some aspect of Catholic teaching or current issues. The Pope's latest encyclical will be entitled *Fratelli Tutti* (All Brothers).

The Pope will sign his third encyclical at the tomb of St. Francis in Assisi, the 3rd October, and on the eve of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. Judging from the title and the place of the signature, we can predict that this encyclical will contain some essential points of the spirituality of Saint Francis of Assisi.

This was also confirmed by Matteo Bruni, the Vatican spokesman, that this encyclical would be on fraternity and social friendship. This encyclical will be published to coincide with the fifth anniversary of the publication of previous encyclical *Laudato Si'*, which was released in 2015.

As the parishioners of St Fiacre's Parish, Leichhardt, we welcome this good news with joy. At least, there are three reasons why we deserve to be joyful. First, the spirituality of Saint Francis of Assisi - the spirit of poverty, brotherhood with all creation, and the option for the poor - will be widely recognised by the world community. Second, this encyclical arrives at the right time when the spirit of brotherhood among human beings in the world is currently experiencing challenges due to individualism, consumerism, and secularism. Third, our Parish is also served by the Capuchin Friars, who are also the followers of Saint Francis of Assisi.

Therefore, I would like to invite you all to anticipate and explore this valuable encyclical. Hopefully, the encyclical can be translated into English as soon as possible so that we can have access to read and meditate on it.

Have a happy Sunday and a nice celebration. God bless you all.

Yours in Christ,

Fr Pionius Hendi, OFM Cap.
(Administrator)

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 – 5.15pm.
 - Every Sunday 4.00pm – 5.00pm (during the Adoration for Young Adults).
 - Other time, by appointment. Please contact the Parish Office.

COVID-19 Update

The NSW Government has recommended parishioners wear face masks when attending religious services as an additional safeguard to help combat the spread of COVID-19.

THE CHURCH IS A SACRED PLACE - PLEASE REMEMBER TO TURN YOUR MOBILE OFF

MASS ON SUNDAY

Entrance Antiphon *Cf. Sir 36:18*

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

First reading *Sir 27:30 – 28:7*

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner. He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin. Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord? Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins? Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his sins? Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments. Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 102:1-4. 9-12. R. v.8

(R.) **The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.**

Second reading *Rom 14:7-9*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

Gospel Acclamation *Jn 13:34*

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

Gospel *Matthew 18:21-35*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times seven.

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times. 'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time," he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me", he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said. "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

Communion Antiphon *Ps 35:8*

How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

THIS WEEK WE PRAY FOR

Sat 5.30pm	Silvio Di Pasquantonio Giovanni & Amanda Stefanucci
Sun 8.00am	Roula Moses
Sun 9.30am	Francesco & Giuseppina Dal Pra Julie Bozzi & Davide Mattei
Sun 11.00am	Damiano & Domenica Surace
Mon 7.00am	Mariana Guerrero
Tue 7.00am	Koula Miches
Wed 7.00am	Elpida Petrides
Thu 7.00am	Milic Petrovic
Fri 7.00am	Luigi Serio
Sat 7.00am	Joaquim Lopes

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

SUPPORT OUR PARISH ONLINE

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@capuchinfriars.org.au

PSALM RESPONSES FOR THIS WEEK

Monday 14 September: Don't forget the works of the Lord!

Tuesday 15 September: We are his people: the sheep of his flock.

Wednesday 16 September: Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

Thursday 17 September: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

Friday 18 September: Lord, when your glory appears, my joy will be full.

Saturday 19 September: I will walk in the presence of God, with the light of the living.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

1st Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9

2nd Reading: Philippians 1:20-24,27

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

Gospel Reflection

by Richard Leonard

Charged with the rape and murder of a young woman, it only took the jury twenty minutes to return a guilty verdict for the three men in the dock. The courtroom erupted in cheers as the verdict was read out.

As the men were being led out of the courtroom the mother of two of them ran toward the dock yelling, 'I think what you've done is despicable, but I want you to know that I love you.'

Outside the courthouse, the media were expecting the parents of the victim to advocate capital punishment for the criminals. Instead, they said they wanted to forgive the perpetrators of this vicious crime. Everyone listened in disbelief.

No one at that courthouse was running away from the heinous nature of the crimes, nor from the punishment the men deserved, but the parents involved chose to focus on either love or forgiveness.

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us we should forgive each other seventy-seven times.

Numbers are not randomly used in the Bible. 1, 3, 7, 12 and 40 all have specific meanings. To number something as seven is to describe it as being perfect. When we hear Jesus use this phrase we recall the story in the Book of Genesis of the seven days of creation where, on the seventh day, God looks at the result of his creative love and sees that it is very good. Jesus, using some shorthand, says that not only is forgiveness good, but that it is a creative act that gives life to the world and gives glory to those who exercise it.

In the 5th Century St Augustine said that forgiveness was like a mother who has two wonderful daughters named justice and compassion. In using such a metaphor Augustine knew that forgiveness was not a once-off event, it was a process that involved other virtues as well. Jesus teaches a similar lesson in today's Gospel, where he uses the image of the King settling his debts. Because the King is just, compassionate and forgiving, he rightly expects that, in turn, his steward will be so as well.

It's easy to be forgiving in the big picture. We can preach strongly about war, peace and reconciliation. It's quite another to forgive those closest to us. Sometimes the hardest place to be compassionate and just is our own home. If we are not speaking to a husband,

wife, child, parent, sibling or friend then today's Gospel has a strong challenge right where we live.

Part of the problem is that we could have accepted the film Love Story's motto, 'Love means never having to say you're sorry'. This idea is many things, but it's not Christian. For followers of Jesus the exact opposite is true. We seek opportunities to forgive and ask for forgiveness.

Jesus doesn't tell us that forgiveness is easy, just necessary. To forgive someone in our family, our workplace, our circle of friends or in our Church is not to pretend that a sinful situation did not occur, but to face it head on and demand justice with compassion.

For when we stand before God with the weakness and sinfulness of our own life, God will not settle old scores, take revenge and exact retribution. Rather God will be perfectly just and completely compassionate. When we choose forgiveness over revenge, and love over hate we begin to glimpse God's creative goodness coming to perfection in us, because forgiveness is a participation in the very heart of God.

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CATECHESIS FOR ADULTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE - ST FIACRE'S PARISH HALL

STARTING 14 SEPTEMBER 2020 MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS 7:30 PM

If you have any questions or you need help with transport do not hesitate to call David Piccolo on 0418 245 159 or Fiona Piccolo on 0412 481 377



TRANSITUS OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI THIS YEAR

Coinciding with the signing of the new encyclical from Pope Francis, our Parish will also celebrate the Transitus this year on Saturday, 3rd October. This celebration will be a momentous event for all members of the Franciscan Order as we will commemorate the death of St. Francis of Assisi, our Seraphic Father. Therefore, let join the Capuchin Friars, members of the Secular Franciscan Order, and other parishioners to attend this meaningful celebration. More details will be announced in the bulletin next week.

One of the real expressions of the spirituality of Saint Francis of Assisi is a willingness to serve the poor and the marginalized. In this regard, the Capuchin Friars in Leichhardt – together with volunteers from young adults (18 - 35 years old) – dedicate themselves to serving homeless people in Sydney. They provide hot drinks to the homeless every Friday evening, from 7.30 PM to 9.00 PM, at the corner of Cathedral Street & Riley Street, Woolloomooloo. If you are interested in supporting this ministry, you can contact: friarsvan@gmail.com.

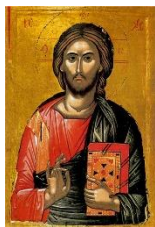


ST FIACRE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Do you want your child to receive a good education, both in academics and in his/her religious life? You are at the right place. Enrolling now: Phone: (02) 9560 2225 | School Principal: Catherine Cameron | Web: <https://sites.google.com/a/syd.catholic.edu.au/stfleichhardt/home>

XXIV DOMENICA DEL TEMPO ORDINARIO – **Pastori siamo, ma prima cristiani**- Inizio del «Discorso sui pastori» di sant'Agostino, vescovo

Ogni nostra speranza è posta in Cristo. E' lui tutta la nostra salvezza e la vera gloria. E' una verità, questa, ovvia e familiare a voi che vi trovate nel gregge di colui che porge ascolto alla voce di Israele e lo pasce. Ma poiché vi sono dei pastori che bramano sentirsi chiamare pastori, ma non vogliono compiere i doveri dei pastori, esaminiamo che cosa venga detto loro dal profeta. Voi ascoltatelo con attenzione, noi lo sentiremo con timore.



«Mi fu rivolta questa parola del Signore: Figlio dell'uomo, profetizza contro i pastori di Israele predici e riferisci ai pastori d'Israele» (Ez 34, 1-2). Abbiamo ascoltato or ora la lettura di questo brano, quindi abbiamo deciso di discorrerne un poco con voi. Dio stesso ci aiuterà a dire cose vere, anche se non diciamo cose nostre. Se dicessimo infatti cose nostre saremmo pastori che pascono se stessi, non il gregge; se invece diciamo cose che vengono da lui, egli stesso vi pascerà, servendosi di chiunque.

«Dice il Signore Dio: Guai ai pastori di Israele che pascono se stessi! I pastori non dovrebbero forse pascolare il gregge?» (Ez 34, 2), cioè i pastori non devono pascolare se stessi, ma il gregge. Questo è il primo capo di accusa contro tali pastori: essi pascono se stessi e non il gregge. Chi sono coloro che pascono se stessi? Quelli di cui l'Apostolo dice: «Tutti infatti cercano i propri interessi, non quelli di Gesù Cristo» (Fil 2, 21).

Ora noi che il Signore, per bontà sua e non per nostro merito, ha posto in questo ufficio — di cui dobbiamo rendere conto, e che conto! — dobbiamo distinguere molto bene due cose: la prima cioè che siamo cristiani, la seconda che siamo posti a capo. Il fatto di essere cristiani riguarda noi stessi; l'essere posti a capo invece riguarda voi.

Per il fatto di essere cristiani dobbiamo badare alla nostra utilità, in quanto siamo messi a capo dobbiamo preoccuparci della vostra salvezza.

Forse molti semplici cristiani giungono a Dio percorrendo una via più facile della nostra e camminando tanto più speditamente, quanto minore è il peso di responsabilità che portano sulle spalle. Noi invece dovremo rendere conto a Dio prima di tutto della nostra vita, come cristiani, ma poi dovremo rispondere in modo particolare dell'esercizio del nostro ministero, come pastori.

Let's BE COVIDSAFE together
Download the App
<https://www.health.gov.au/resources/apps-and-tools/covidsafe-app>

Vocation as a Capuchin Friar

Are you interested in becoming a priest or a religious brother? Then, let join the Capuchin Friars. Maybe, you think that you are not ready yet. However, the reality of life shows that we will never be 100% ready in all aspects of life. Readiness will only emerge if there is the courage to say **YES**, here and now. So, if you are interested, you can contact one of the Capuchin Friars serving in this Parish, or you can contact the Vocation Director, Fr John Nguyen, OFM Cap. You can reach him at: vocations@capuchinfriars.org.au

St Fiacre's Parish

Wednesday 7 October 2020 - 7:00pm

The **Padre Pio Prayer Group** invite you and your family to participate to a Mass in memory of

Fam. Torresan & Papa

Capuchin Young Adults

The Capuchin Young Adults (CYA) is a group of young Catholics inspired by the life of St Francis of Assisi and supported by the Capuchin Friars. Through our three pillar of Fraternity, Formation and Ministry, we look to get closer to Christ following the footsteps of St Francis. We invite all young adults and professionals to our weekly "Sundays at the Friary" events, which currently include 4:00 pm Adoration and 5:00 pm Mass.

For more information, visit <http://capuchinyoungadults.com/> or contact us at capuchinyoungadults@gmail.com Make sure to like our Facebook page "Sundays at the Friary".

Proclaim the NSW Modern Slavery Act 2018 (by Archbishop Anthony Fisher, DD)

Friends, I encourage you to join me in signing an open petition to the NSW parliament calling on the state government to proclaim a model anti-trafficking law for our times, the Modern Slavery Act 2018.

The law calls on all entities with an annual turnover of over \$50 million to release Modern Slavery Statements, explaining what action they have taken to slavery proof their supply chains.

Despite this law having passed parliament over two years ago, it still hasn't been brought into law, thanks to stalling tactics which have failed some of our state's most vulnerable citizens. As Christians, we are obliged to speak out against this injustice. If 20,000 or more people sign the petition, a debate will be activated in the Legislative Assembly. You'll find a link to the petition here: <https://bit.ly/31rqmSI>

Father's Day Appeal 2020

Remember our Retired Priest's this Father's Day

On behalf of this parish, we thank you for supporting the Priests' Retirement Foundation Father's Day Appeal. Through your gift, we are able to continue in our mission to provide care for our growing number of sick and retired priests in the Archdiocese of Sydney.

Thank you.

BECOMING A FOSTER CARER

Are you willing to open your heart and home to vulnerable young people by becoming a foster carer? Please watch a short video from our Archbishop, Anthony Fisher OP, here:

<https://vimeo.com/451435501/9ab93634c6>.

This is a wonderful opportunity to practice the generosity of heart that can be transformative and life-giving. For more information, please contact Jason Oldridge at *Family Spirit* on **131819**.