



Please pray for: Frank & Alice May Purcell (deceased)

Mass Times in St Benedict's Church:

Sunday 25th October 2020 – Thirtieth Sunday, Ordinary Time (A)

Sunday, 25 Oct	10.30 am	Solemn Mass
Sunday, 25 Oct	6.00 pm	Young Adults Mass
Monday, 26 Oct	12.35 pm	Monday – Week 30, Ordinary Time
Tuesday, 27 Oct	12.35 pm	Tuesday – Week 30, Ordinary Time
Wednesday, 28 Oct	12.35 pm	Sts Simon & Jude, apostles (Feast)
Thursday, 29 Oct	12.35 pm	Thursday – Week 30, Ordinary Time
Friday, 30 Oct	12.35 pm	Friday – Week 30, Ordinary Time
Saturday, 31 Oct	No Mass	Saturday – Week 30, Ordinary Time

Regular Confession Times in St Benedict's Church:

Monday to Friday: 11.45 am – 12.30 pm (before 12.35 pm Mass)
Sunday: 5.30 pm (before 6.00 pm Mass)

Mass at St James' Church, Forest Lodge:

Saturday Vigil: 5.00 pm
Sunday: 8 am, 9.30 am & 11 am
Wednesday & Friday: 9.00am
Saturday (morning): 8.30am

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Safeguarding Office



If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Archdiocese of Sydney we invite you to contact us. We will listen to you respectfully, offer support and discuss the options you have available to you. *Please contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office on ph 02 9390 5812.*



Congratulations to Fr John Neill, op, on the 60th anniversary of his ordination (22 October) as a Dominican priest. Fr John, you are in the thoughts and prayers of St Benedict's Parish and the University of Notre Dame Australia communities. We give thanks to you for your service and thanks to God for your special gifts. You have enriched the lives of so many people and we celebrate this wonderful occasion with you.

Fr John was born in Sydney in 1932 during the Great Depression and lived with his mum and dad, Elizabeth and Robert, Aunt Amy, and sisters, Janet and Carole in Sydney's eastern suburbs. John was the first born of the Neill children. He went to high school in Randwick and as a young man, worked in a retail position in the city, helping the family make ends meet in the post-war years of the late Forties. In the years that followed, John made the decision to become a priest and in the years since, Fr John has reflected on just what this meant for his family, as the only boy. Fr John spent 25 years in Adelaide at Blackfriars Priory School, as a teacher and then as the headmaster – he was the fifth headmaster of the school and each year, the Fr John Neill Scholarship supports a committed Year 12 student in need, with tuition and school expenses. *Blackfriars* is very dear to his heart. His vision for Catholic education has taken him around the world. Fr John was instrumental in the establishment of UNDA. In 2014, he received an Order of Australia, presented by Dame Marie Bashir, then Governor of NSW, for his contribution to education and the Catholic Church, spanning more than 50 years. Some of Fr John's passions and interests lie in simple pleasures and in the expression of beauty and humanity in our world – art, culture and architecture; fine books and good films; the love of family and joy of friendship; the well-being of individuals and of how societies can be made better. Fr John, you are a treasure. Fr John's sister, Carole, (another treasure) is with us at Mass today. May God bless you both and we pray for Elizabeth, Robert, Amy and Janet, in heaven. **Catholic Parish of St Benedict**

A VOCATION VIEW: 'There is nothing on this earth more to be prized than true friendship.'

Saint Thomas Aquinas – Italian Dominican priest, philosopher & scholar – quoted in honour of Fr John

**Everyone is welcome for morning tea in the courtyard, following Fr John's Mass!*

Streaming of Fr John's 60th Anniversary of Ordination Mass – from St Benedict's Church – 10.30am – Sunday 25th October – here is the link – <https://youtu.be/ct9-eU7Xrmk> - please note that we will **not be streaming 6pm Mass this Sunday.**

Saints Simon and Jude – Simon 'the Less' is also called 'the Canaanite' & 'the Zealot'. Jude, '(son) of James' (Lk 6:16; Acts 1:13) was traditionally thought to be the same person as Jude, brother of James and author of the letter of Jude, but may also be the one called 'Thaddeus' (Mt 10:3; Mk 3:18). A tradition has Simon & Jude preaching & being martyred in Persia. Honoured among the Twelve, the first followers of Christ.

Father John Neill's film – *The Quiet Man* – in light of the year it has been, we have not been able to have a Parish screening of *The Quiet Man*, the documentary of Fr John's life. However, we will keep you posted with a planned film screening date in the coming months – thanks for your patience.

Entrance Antiphon:

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

Communion Antiphon:

We will ring out our joy at your saving help and exult in the name of our God.

The state of the nation in 1932...

- The Sydney Harbour Bridge opens
- The Australian Broadcasting Corporation (the ABC) is established
- Australia goes to the 1932 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles with 9 men & 4 women competing – Andrew (Boy) Charlton is the flagbearer – we win 3 gold, 1 silver & 1 bronze
- Don Bradman scores 299 (not out) during a cricket test match against South Africa in Adelaide – he runs out of partners, going for 300!
- Peter Pan wins the Melbourne Cup
- Pharlap wins the Agua Caliente Handicap in Tijuana, Mexico and thousands listen to the radio broadcast in Australia – sadly, Pharlap dies in San Francisco, only weeks later
- The Australian film, *The Sentimental Bloke* premieres
- The population of Australia is 6.5 million – the population of Sydney is 1.2 million
- Radio City Music Hall opens in New York City
- Amelia Earhart becomes the first woman pilot to complete a solo Transatlantic flight (from Newfoundland in Canada to Northern Ireland)



and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Jn 14:23
Alleluia, alleluia! / All who love me will keep my words, / and my Father will love them and we will come to them. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mt 22:34-40
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.
You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, ‘Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?’ Jesus said, ‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.’

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

Reflections on the Gospel



THE SAVING WORD

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

25 OCTOBER 2020

THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT

When faced with the question in today’s Gospel concerning which of the commandments of the law is the greatest, Jesus has no hesitation in uniting two commandments already found in the scriptures of Israel.

The command to love God with all one’s heart and soul and mind comes from Deuteronomy (6:4-5). It is a command that every Israelite is summoned to recite each morning on rising (the ‘Schema’ prayer). So the Christian tradition has inherited from Israel the truth that God is worthy of love, worship and dedication of life simply for God’s sake alone. Love is the supreme factor in the relationship that God desires to have with us.

The second command, ‘to love one’s neighbour as oneself’, occurs in Leviticus 19:18. It is ‘like’ the first because it flows from the nature of Israel’s God, who has identified so intimately with the situation of human beings. To love God with all one’s heart and soul and mind is to love those whom God loves: one’s fellow human beings, especially the vulnerable and the poor.

Down the ages there have been many interpretations as to what loving one’s neighbour as oneself might mean. Primarily it would seem to mean putting oneself—at least imaginatively—in the neighbour’s shoes and asking how I would like to be treated in their situation. Better still, perhaps, it means taking pains to find out from the neighbour what exactly their desire might be. All effective works of charity and justice begin from a similar base: from *com-passion* (‘feeling with’) in the deepest sense of that term.

FIRST READING

Ex 22:20-26

A reading from the book of Exodus

If you are harsh with the widow or the orphan, my anger will rage against you.

The Lord said to Moses, ‘Tell the sons of Israel this, “You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

“If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

“If you take another’s cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity.”

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 17:2-4, 47, 51. R. v. 2

R. I love you, Lord, my strength.

1. I love you, Lord, my strength, / my rock, my fortress, my saviour. / My God is the rock where I take refuge; / my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold. / The Lord is worthy of all praise: / when I call I am saved from my foes. **R.**

2. Long life to the Lord, my rock! / Praised be the God who saves me. / He has given great victories to his king / and shown his love for his anointed. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Thess 1:5-10

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

You turned away from idols to serve God and await his Son.

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Brendan Byrne, SJ