



# 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 September 2018 Year B

*'We are a child safe Parish'*



NEXT WEEK'S READINGS	RESPONSE	ACCLAMATION
<p><b>1st Reading:</b> Isaiah 35:4-7</p> <p><b>2nd Reading:</b> James 2:1-5</p> <p><b>Gospel:</b> Mark 7:31-37</p>	<p><i>The just will live in the presence of the Lord.</i></p>	<p><i>Alleluia, alleluia!</i></p> <p><i>The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the first fruits of his creation. Alleluia!</i></p>

## TRUE RELIGION IS A LOVING, OBEDIENT RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

Today's readings explain what true religion is. It is not simply a scrupulous, external observance of rules, laws, traditions and rituals. It is a loving, obedient relationship with God expressed in obeying His Commandments, worshipping Him, recognizing His presence in other human beings and rendering them loving and humble service. Prayers, rituals, Sacraments and religious practices only help us to practice this true religion in our daily lives.

In the Gospel, Jesus describes true religion as serving God and all His children with a pure and holy heart.

Our Sunday obligation is intended to allow us to worship God in the parish community, to offer our lives to God, to ask His pardon for sins, to thank God for His blessings and to receive Divine life and strength from Him in Holy Communion. Our daily family prayers are meant to thank God for his blessings, to present the family's needs before God, to ask pardon for sins, to maintain the spirit of unity and love in the family and to keep close relationship with God.

Excerpted from the homily of Fr Tony Kadavil available at <http://frtonyshomilies.com>. Image from <https://saintedwardparish.org>



# Happy Father's Day

*The father of a righteous man has great joy; he who has a wise son delights in him.*  
Proverbs 23 : 24

## POPE FRANCIS: I FOUND SO MUCH FAITH IN IRELAND!

Pope Francis shares his thoughts about his Apostolic Journey as he speaks with reporters during the flight back to Rome on Sunday evening.

'I have found so much faith in Ireland,' Pope Francis said at the end of his two-day visit to the land of Saints and Scholars. 'The Irish have suffered so much from the scandals, but they know how to distinguish the truth from half-truths,' he said, reciting the words spoken to him by an unnamed Bishop a few hours earlier. And even if the healing process is ongoing, the faith of the Irish people remains solid.

Pope Francis had high praise for the Irish minister who spoke about the tragic case of orphanages run by Irish nuns in Tuam. The Holy Father urged caution, until the investigation could be completed, and the responsibility of the Church could be determined. Whatever the outcome of the inquiry, the Pope expressed his appreciation for the fairness and the 'dignity' with which the government's representative briefed him on the matter.

'The Irish people have a deeply-rooted and strong faith,' Pope Francis said, wrapping up his reflection. 'I say that because that's what I saw, that's what I heard, that's what I've come to understand over these two days.'  
Full report at [www.melbournecatholic.org.au](http://www.melbournecatholic.org.au)



## Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8 September

*Impart to your servants, we pray, O Lord, the gift of heavenly grace, that the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin may bring deeper peace to those for whom the birth of her Son was the dawning of salvation. 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.*

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING AND THEIR FAMILIES

- ANNIVERSARIES:** Maree Hestes, Bridget McLoughlin, Joseph Den Elzen, Matilda Willerssen-Frieling, Maurice England, Joe Steane, Mark Kowacki.
- SICK:** Mary Edmonds, Marta Kristan, Geoff Bell, Peter Lisle, Margaret Ratcliffe, Margaret McLean, Matthew MacDonald, Nigel Goggin, Wendy Markby.



## BUILDING A FAIRER VICTORIA: DEPUTY LEADERS HELP LAUNCH PRE-ELECTION BROCHURE

Deputy Premier James Merlino and Deputy Leader of the Liberal Party, David Hodgett, were distinguished guests as Catholic Social Services Victoria (CSSV) launched their 2018 Victorian Election brochure. The Monday morning forum presented an opportunity for CSSV, Catholic agencies, community leaders and the public to engage with parliamentary candidates and hold a dialogue ahead of November's state election.

The brochure, titled 'Building a fairer Victoria where everyone flourishes', highlights the issues affecting Victoria's most disadvantaged people.

Mr Merlino and Mr Hodgett were both afforded ten minutes to touch on the social justice concerns of their respective parties.

Choosing to focus on education and youth wellbeing, the Deputy Premier illuminated the work the Andrews government had undertaken and stressed the importance of collaboration in better understanding social inequality.

Mr Hodgett drew on policies that Liberal governments have previously utilised and reiterated support for many of the points listed in the CSSV leaflet. 'It is great for governments to focus on delivering good economic outcomes but I think we need to balance that with programs and support for the most disadvantaged, vulnerable and marginalised in our communities,' said Mr Hodgett.

Full report at [www.melbournecatholic.org.au](http://www.melbournecatholic.org.au)

## CHURCH TAKES MAJOR STEPS TO PROTECT YOUNG AND VULNERABLE

The Church in Australia is among the top five countries in adopting processes to safeguard children and vulnerable people, according to a key Vatican advisor. Fr Hans Zollner SJ, a leading expert in safeguarding minors and on areas concerning sexual abuse in the Church and beyond, said Australia had made great strides forward and had much to teach the wider Church.

Fr Zollner is in Australia to meet with clergy, school leaders and survivors of abuse. His visit coincides with the Church's response to the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse later this week.

The Jesuit priest is a psychologist, psychotherapist, theologian, academic vice-rector of the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome and president of the Centre for Child Protection.

Reflecting on his third visit to Australia in three years, Fr Zollner commended the structures, workshops and communications from the Church in Australia to help people better understand the issues.

Full report at [www.cathnews.com](http://www.cathnews.com)



**EMBER DAYS** mark the beginning of each of the four seasons. In Australia, the Church observes the first Fridays of Autumn and Spring (March and September) as special days of prayer and penance, focussing on the environment, the seasons and God's providence.

## 20TH ARCHBISHOP'S DINNER RAISES \$75,000 FOR THE EDUCATION OF VICTORIA'S SEMINARIANS

Friday the 24th of August saw 440 guests attend the 20th Knights of the Southern Cross Archbishop's Dinner for the Priests Support and Education Fund, held at Moonee Valley Racecourse. The Dinner is held annually to raise funds for the education of Victoria's seminarians, the further education of priests, and those seminarians and priests studying to become chaplains for the Australian Defence Force. Having raised over \$1.1 million over the last 19 Dinners, this year's Dinner raised \$75,000, an amount welcomed by the seminarians.

Full report at [www.melbournecatholic.org.au](http://www.melbournecatholic.org.au)

## PM MORRISON TO 'MOVE QUICKLY' ON SCHOOL FUNDING

Prime Minister Scott Morrison has put the new schools funding agreement high on his to-do list.

"We've got to move quickly, Dan," he told new Education Minister Dan Tehan at their first cabinet meeting in Canberra yesterday.

He was referring to the needs-based education funding model proposed by former education minister Simon Birmingham, which seeks to rejig how funding for schools is calculated.

"We're going to bring that home and we're going to bring everybody in the schools sector with us," Mr Morrison said. "We'll be reaching out and concluding the work that Simon and Malcolm started and ensuring that we can complete that job."

Hailed by former prime minister Malcolm Turnbull as the biggest-ever education funding reform, the deal boosts schools funding to \$23.5 billion over the next decade.

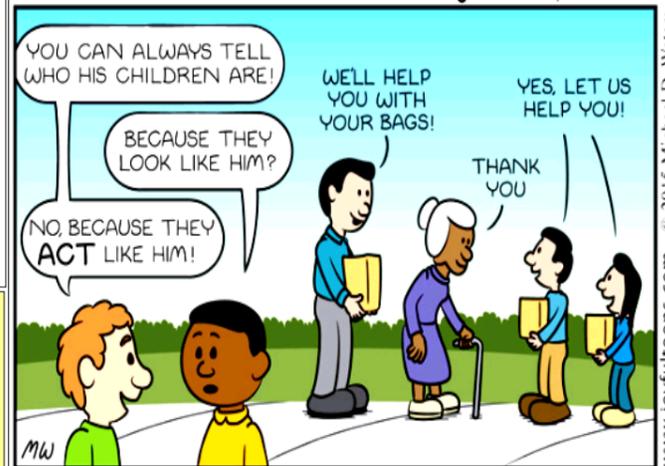
Full report at [www.cathnews.com](http://www.cathnews.com)



## WORKSHOP FOR EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER OF HOLY COMMUNION

6 SEPTEMBER, 6:30PM—9PM  
ST LUKE'S PARISH WANTIRNA

## FOLLOWING FATHER'S EXAMPLE A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

EPHESIANS 5:1-2 NIV