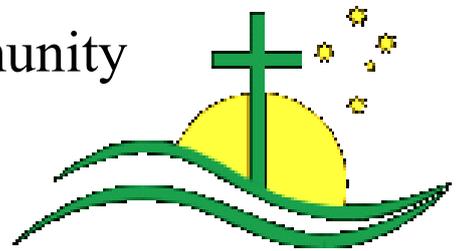




# St Paul Apostle Catholic Community

## One Family

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### Feast of Christ the King Sunday, 21-22 November, 2020

#### A Different Kind of Bucket List

What's still unfinished in your life?

Well, there's always a lot that's unfinished in everyone's life. Nothing is ever really finished. Our lives, it seems, are simply interrupted by our dying. Most of us don't complete our lives, we just run out of time. So, consciously or unconsciously, we make a bucket list of things we still want to see, do, and finish before we die.

What do we still want to do? A number of things probably immediately come to the fore: We want to see our children grow up. We want to see our daughter's wedding. We want to see our grandchildren. We want to finish this last work of art, of writing, of building. We want to see our 80th birthday. We want to reconcile with our family.

Beyond these, more important things, we generally have another list of things we were too busy, preoccupied, or economically disadvantaged to do earlier in life: We want to walk the Camino, travel to the Holy Land, see the historical sites of Europe, back-pack through parts of Asia, travel the country with our grandkids, enjoy our retirement.

But in fantasizing about what's unfinished in our lives there's the danger of missing out on the richness of what's actually going on in our lives and our real task in the moment. The better question is: How do I want to live now so as to be ready to die when it's my time?

In a wonderful little book on contemplation, Biography of Silence, Spanish author, Pablo d'Ors, stares his mortality in the face and decides that this is what he wants to do in face of the inalienable fact that he's one day to die.

Here is his bucket list: "I have decided to stand up and open my eyes. I have decided to eat and drink in moderation, to sleep as necessary, to write only what contributes toward improving those who read me, to abstain from greed, and never compare myself to others. [have also decided to water my plants and care for an animal. I will visit the sick, I will converse with the lonely, and I will not let much time go by before playing with a child. In the same manner, [have decided to recite my prayers every day, to bow several times before the things I consider sacred, to celebrate the Eucharist, to listen to the Word, to break bread and share the wine, to give peace, to sing in unison. And to go for walks, which I find essential. And to light

the are, which is also essential. And to shop without hurry, to greet my neighbours even when I do not like seeing their faces, to subscribe to a newspaper, to regularly call my friends and siblings on the phone. And to take excursions, swim in the sea at least once a year, and to read only good books, or reread those that I have liked. ... / will live for those things according to an ethics of attention and care. And this is how I will arrive at a happy old age, when I will contemplate, humble and proud at the same time, the small but grand orchard that I have cultivated. Life as cult, culture, and cultivation."

Life as a cult, culture, and cultivation: I'm a two-time cancer survivor. When first diagnosed with cancer, the prognosis was good. I had a scare, but time still stretched out endlessly before me. But when the cancer returned in 2018, the doctors were less optimistic and told me, in unequivocal terms, that my time was probably short, no more endless days. That prognosis clarified my thoughts and feelings as nothing ever before. Stunned, I went home, sat down in prayer, and then wrote this mini-creed for myself, with a different kind of bucket list:

I am going to strive to be as productive as long as I can. I am going to make every day and every activity as precious and enjoyable as possible.

I am going to strive to be as gracious, warm, and charitable as possible.

I am going to strive to be as healthy as long as I can.

I am going to strive to accept others' love in a deeper way than I have up to now.

I am going to strive to live a more—fully "reconciled" life. No room for past hurts anymore.

I am going to strive to keep my sense of humour intact. I am going to strive to be as courageous and brave as I can. I am going to strive, always, to never look on what I am losing, but rather to look at how wonderful and full my life has been and is.

And, I am going to, daily, lay all of this at God's feet through prayer.

Not incidentally, since then I have also begun to water plants, care for a feral cat, and feed all the neighbourhood birds. Life as cult, culture, and cultivation.

*written by Fr Ron Rolheiser OM*

#### Weekday Masses

**Monday**  
9am Mass

**Tuesday**  
9am Mass

**Wednesday**  
7pm Mass

**Thursday**  
9am Mass

**Friday**  
9am Mass

(Weekday Masses are held inside the church for a maximum of 20 people)

#### Weekend Masses

**Sunday**

9am, 11am & 6pm Mass

(Sunday Masses are OUTDOOR for a maximum of 50 people)

Please contact Parish Office on 97003781 if you wish to book any of the above Masses

**Saturday Mass**

(only live streamed at 6pm not open for public)

please go into our website: [stpaulapostle.com.au](http://stpaulapostle.com.au)

**Priests:**  
Fr Brendan Connell CP (PP)

**Parish Staff:**  
Gillian Velupillay (Bursar)  
Didi Karkas (Secretary)

**Passionist Community**  
Fr Brian Gleeson CP  
Fr Kevin Hennessy CP  
Brother Luke Bulley CP

**St Paul Apostle North Primary School**  
Ph. 9700 6068  
Principal  
Mrs Mary Lucas

**St Paul Apostle South Primary School**  
Ph. 9700 3663  
Principal  
Mr Paul Gleeson

**St John's Regional College**  
Ph. 9791 3366  
Principal  
Mr Tim Hogan

# Parish Calendar, News & Events

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

This week we celebrated the birthday of **LAILA STONE**. As a long standing member of our parish family, Laila has always contributed to the church using her many talents, including teaching the After School Religious Classes for several years, for our children who do not attend Catholic school.

This coming Monday we will also celebrate the **21st Birthday** of **SHIMONA ALBUQUERQUE**. Shimona has been a member of our parish family since she was born, and when only a few months old played the role of the 'baby Jesus' at our parish Nativity Play during Christmas Eve Mass. As the regulations around social distancing are now eased, Shimona will be able to celebrate her birthday together with her aunty, Laila Stone.

Also another faithful member of our parish family, **LAUREN RAFFERTY**, is celebrating her birthday this week. Lauren is now enjoying her retirement with her grandchildren.

We wish them all the good health and happiness.

## TO ALL VOLUNTEERS/ MINISTERS - Working With Children Checks

As we gradually return to Church services in the coming weeks and months, this is a reminder to ensure all our volunteers have valid Working With Children Checks (WWCC). Some of you might instead have a Victorian Institute of Teaching card. You can provide me with those details instead. Please note that both your WWCC as well as your VIT needs to be linked to St Paul Apostle Church. If you do not have a valid check or it has expired or you are unsure as to how to link your card to St Paul Apostle please contact Gillian in the Parish office via phone 9700 3781 or email of-[office@stpaulapostle.com.au](mailto:office@stpaulapostle.com.au).

*Please also note that though the Children's week has ended, the activity entry deadline has now been extended to **FIRDAY, 18th December 5pm**. They hope to receive more entrant. Here are the link*

[Childrens Week 2020 Flyer and Submission Form](#)

[Colouring Drawing Sheet Options Final](#)

## CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

This year has been a very challenging year for all of us. Each one of us has been affected in different ways and our personal finances in many cases have been impacted.



For that reason we thought maybe running our Traditional Christmas Hamper collection would be placing too much burden on many families.

However, some families have approached us and asked if the hamper collection will be run as per previous years. After some discussion we decided to give those who are in the position to give, a chance to help others who are less fortunate. We have started the process and will put the list out during the Masses (Indoor and Outdoor) from the **FIRST SUNDAY** of **ADVENT** (29th November) and we ask people to send the hampers by Sunday 13th December. The agencies will be picking them up on Monday 14th December morning.

This year we may have to manage it in a slightly different way. You can either pick up a family during those weeks when the lists are out, or contact the Parish office during office hours (Tuesday to Friday 9am to 2pm)

We hope you & your family can be part of this special ministry

## JUSTICE GROUP (JPIC)- EGG COLLECTION

As we have not been able to have our 'HENS' out this year gathering your donation to buy eggs for the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (ASRC) Food bank in Footscray, we are asking for donations to be placed in an envelope marked 'Egg Donation' and left at the Parish Office or deposited in the chute at the Parish Office front door (located under the glass window). St Paul Apostle Justice Group thank you for your help and generous donations over the past few years and we hope to be back on board next year when we can all meet up again .

## REFLECTION

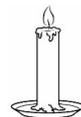
A little reflection by *St. Paul of the Cross* as we remember our departed loved ones

The Passion of Jesus is a sea of sorrows,  
but it is also an ocean of love.

Ask the Lord to teach you to fish in this ocean.

Dive into its depths

No matter how deep you go,  
you will never reach the bottom



## This weekend we pray for:

### *Those whose sick*

Angela Ameruso, Sr. Serafina, Andre Machado, Yvette Woods, Bryony, Findlay Lawless, Betty Evans, Danny Sugunasekera, Gaetan Clark, Ismael Bermudez, Cyril Hendricks, Lawrence de Alwis, Kevin Passanise, Claudia Cunanan, Jack Scanlan, Domenica Lombardi, Denham Juriansz, Dwayne Edmonds, Anne Ghatt, Milica Andreevska, Chase McCarthy, Irma Aiello, Sonny Tupai, Graham Hawkesworth, Esric Jackson, Emily Broadbent and All those in aged care or homebound with chronic health issues

### *Those who have died*

Agustine, Jim Aldag, Steven Judd, Christine Cleary, Lucas Fraga, Mark Pereira, Blossom Baptista, **and all who are named in our church memorial book and in the November Memorial book**

*May they rest in peace*



### **Feast of Christ the King Sunday:**

Ezek 34: 11-12, 15-17;  
1 Cor 15: 20-26, 28;  
Mt 25: 31-46

### **First Sunday of Advent:**

Is 63: 16-17, 64: 1, 3-8;  
1 Cor 1: 39-;  
Mk 13: 33-37

[www.universalis.com](http://www.universalis.com)

We are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults

