

## Featurettes

### Ferials and Feasts this week

**Sunday**—32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
**Monday**—St Josaphat, *Memorial*  
**Tuesday**—Tuesday of Week 32 in Ordinary Time  
**Wednesday**—Wednesday of Week 32 in Ordinary Time  
**Thursday**—Thursday of Week 32 in Ordinary Time  
**Friday**—Friday of Week 32 in Ordinary Time  
**Saturday**—St Elizabeth of Hungary, *Memorial*

### November—Month of Prayer for the Faithful Departed

In November we pray for our faithfully departed. Please collect an envelope for November Masses for the Holy Souls from the narthex. Envelopes can be put in the plate or handed to Fr Andrew and Fr Thomas, or brought to the Parish Office. *As stipulated by the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne, each November Mass for the dead is \$20.00 per Mass.*

### Parish Recognition Supper

An invitation is extended to all our volunteers who fulfil various ministries within our parish community. A recognition supper will be held on Friday 30th November at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall. Could all volunteers please contact the parish office or email the parish to RSVP for catering purposes by 20th November 2018.

### Youth



### Annual General Meeting and Plenary Council Dialogue

We will host an Annual General Meeting in the Parish Hall on Sunday 11th November at 2:00pm and afternoon tea will be provided. Following the Annual General Meeting and afternoon tea, a Plenary Council Dialogue Session will be held at 4:00pm in the Parish Hall.

### Bake Sale Weekend

The next bake sale is next weekend on the 17th and 18th November. Orders are now open and can be made via the parish office to secure your goodies.

### Do you know anyone curious about the Catholic faith?

Our Parish RCIA team is beginning the journey again for any in our community interested in becoming a Catholic. If you are interested in participating in the group or wishing to be involved in a supportive capacity this year, please contact the parish office on 9544 1516 to register your details.

### Rosters for the Christmas Masses

For those who wish to participate in ministries for the Christmas Masses, please write down your name on the timetable in the narthex.

### Vocations View

Jesus says when we give alms we “do not sound a trumpet before (us)”. According to St Ambrose, “God does not consider what one gives but what one keeps.” Could it be that we give too little and keep too much?

**Alpha  
Is  
Coming!!**

Alpha

St. Peter’s Parish is committed to the safety, well being and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults. If you see something that concerns you, say something. Need advice? Call the office of *Professional Standards and Ethics for assistance* on 9926 5677, or call the *Department of Health and Human Services* on 131 278.



**Parish Priest:** Rev. Fr Andrew McCarter | **Assistant Priest:** Rev. Fr Thomas Kuruville

DETAILS		MASS SCHEDULE
<b>PARISH Address:</b>	258 Clayton Road, Clayton, 3168	<b>Weekend Mass Times</b> Saturday (Vigil) 6:00pm Sunday 8:00am 9:30am 11:15am (English & Italian) 4:30pm (Malayalam)  <b>Weekday Masses</b> Monday 9:00am 7:00pm (Malayalam) Tuesday 9:00am Wednesday 9:00am 7:00pm (Mass & Novena) Thursday 9:00am Friday 9:00am 2:30pm Divine Mercy Saturday 9:00am  <b>Other Sacraments</b> <b>Reconciliation:</b> Saturday 9:30am (or by appointment) <b>Marriages and Baptism:</b> By appointment <b>Anointing of the Sick:</b> Please call parish office
<b>Phone:</b>	9544 1516	
<b>Fax:</b>	9544 1089	
<b>Email:</b>	clayton@cam.org.au	
<b>Website:</b>	www.stpetersclayton.com	
<b>Parish Secretary:</b>	Lisa Smith	
<b>Domestic Support:</b>	Seda Peters	
<b>Office Hours:</b>		
<b>Monday</b>	11:00am—5:00pm	
<b>Tuesday—Friday</b>	9:00am—4:00pm	
<b>PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL Address:</b>	16 Mary St, Clayton, 3168	
<b>Phone:</b>	9544 3032	
<b>Email:</b>	principal@spclayton.catholic.edu.au	
<b>Principal:</b>	Sharon Daujat	
<b>Secretary:</b>	Margaret Nahon	
<b>CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL Sacred Heart College, Oakleigh:</b>	9568 5488	
<b>Mazenod College, Mulgrave:</b>	9560 0911	
<b>Salesian College, Chadstone:</b>	9807 2644	
<b>Killester College, Springvale:</b>	9547 5000	

## Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time—Year B 11th November 2018

*God In Whom We Trust - We must not be afraid to give, for Christ gave himself completely and will reward with salvation all those who are waiting for him.*

**FIRST READING:** Kings 17:10-16  
**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** Praise the Lord, my soul!  
**SECOND READING:** Hebrews 9:24-28  
**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, Alleluia!  
 Happy the poor in spirit;  
 the kingdom of heaven is theirs!  
 Alleluia!  
**GOSPEL:** Mark 12:38-44

### NEXT WEEK’S READING: Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time—Year B

**FIRST READING:** Daniel 12:1-13  
**SECOND READING:** Hebrews 10:11-14. 18  
**GOSPEL:** Mark 13:24-32

## From the Desk of the Parish Priest

### The Eucharist As A Sacrifice Part 1

Rev. Fr Ron Rolheiser OMI

For many of us, particularly for Roman Catholics, a key component of the Eucharist is the element of sacrifice. But this isn't easy to understand. What is a sacrifice? We say, for example, I have sacrificed my career for my children! I sacrifice a lot for my job! Love demands that we make many sacrifices! Sometimes we must sacrifice life itself for the sake of integrity! Christ sacrificed himself for our sins! The Eucharist is a sacrifice!

From what is common in all these expressions, we can extract the dictionary definition of sacrifice: "the surrender of something of value for the sake of something else." That is a good definition, but in terms of its understanding as prayer and as Eucharist, more must be added.

Saint Augustine defined sacrifice by saying that it is an act, any act, through which we enter into deeper communion with God and each other, and that the sacrifice opens us to deeper communion by changing and stretching the heart of the one offering it. When we add Augustine's definition to that of the dictionary, we see that sacrifice works this way: To make a sacrifice is to surrender something out of love, something that is ours and is painful to give away, and to let the pain of that surrender stretch and change our hearts in such a way that we are now more open to communion with God and others. The classical example of this is the famous text in scripture where Abraham is asked to sacrifice his son Isaac. What is ultimately behind God's invitation to Abraham to sacrifice Isaac on an altar?

Here are the outer elements of that story: Abraham had longed for a son for many years. Finally, after the situation was humanly hopeless, his wife, Sarah, conceived and they were given a son, Isaac, who is described as Abraham's "only one," his "precious one." But then God invited Abraham to take Isaac and offer him in sacrifice. Abraham, with a heavy heart, agreed to the request and set off with Isaac, carrying wood, fire, and a knife, all the while having to answer his son's questions about why they were not bringing a victim for the sacrifice. When they arrived at the place of sacrifice, Abraham gathered the wood, lit the fire, bound Isaac, and then raised the knife to kill him. But God intervened, stopped the sacrifice, and gave Abraham a ram instead to offer. The story ends with Abraham walking back to his own land together with Isaac. What is the deep lesson inside this story?

At one level, the lesson is that God does not want human sacrifice, but there is a deeper, more intimate, inner lesson that teaches us something about the innate need inside of

us to offer sacrifice. Simple put, the lesson is this: In order for something to be received as a gift, it must be received twice. What is implied here?

A gift, by definition, is something that is not deserved but given freely. What is our first impulse when we are given a gift/ our instinctual response is, "I can't take this! I don't deserve this!" In essence, that gesture, that healthy instinctual response, is an attempt to give the gift back to its giver. But, of course, the giver refuses to take the gift back and re-gives it to us with the assurance, "But I want you to have this!" When we receive it the second time, it is now properly ours because, by trying to give it back, we healthily recognized that it was a gift, unmerited, undeserved.

That is the exact set of dynamics within the story of Abraham offering to sacrifice Isaac. Isaac comes to him as the greatest and most undeserved gift of his life. Abraham's willingness to sacrifice Isaac parallels the instinctual refusal, "I don't deserve this! I cannot accept this!" He offers the gift back to its giver. But the giver, Love itself, stops the gesture and gives the gift a second time. Now Abraham can receive Isaac, without guilt, as a gift. When they are walking back home, Isaac is now Abraham's son in a way that he never was before. Abraham had to receive the gift twice by sacrificing it the first time.

That is part of the essence of sacrifice: To properly receive anything, including life itself, requires that we recognise it precisely as gift, as something undeserved. And to do that requires sacrifice, a willingness to give some or the entire gift back to its giver.

We see this as the dynamic underlying the ritual of ancient sacrifice, for example: A farmer would harvest a crop. But before he or his family would eat even a mouthful of it, he would take some of it (the "first fruits") and offer it back to God in the form of a sacrifice, usually by burning it so that the smoke rising up to the heavens would take some of the crop back to God, whom the farmer saw as the real giver of that crop. After sacrificing some of it in this way, the farmer and his family could now enjoy the rest of it without guilt because, by trying to give it back to its author, they made themselves more aware that it was a gift. They can now enjoy it without guilt precisely because, through sacrifice, they have acknowledged it as gift.

That's the inner essence of all sacrifice, whether the sacrificing of a career for the sake of our children or Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. Sacrifice recognizes gift as gift. Like Abraham, he tries to give the gift back to the giver, but the giver stops the sacrifice and gives it back in an even deeper way.

### We remember in our prayers

**Recently deceased:** Peter Quinn (Senior), Antonio D'Angelo, Pietro Di Pane

**Anniversaries:** Lorraine McCarter, Angelo Pizzolante, Edoardo Campagna, Del Balso family, De Maria family, Leonarda Mui, Francesco Cerrone, Angelo Valente, Angelo Antenucci, Tenuta family, Mannina Lombardo

**Sick & their carers:** Leo Manongdo, Andrea Cinque, Marina Hanz, Armando Ravelo, Robert Holdsworth, Warren Beaton, Riccardo Dayonot, Margaret Iringan, Bernie Perabo, Rodrigo Bugtai

### Parish Notices

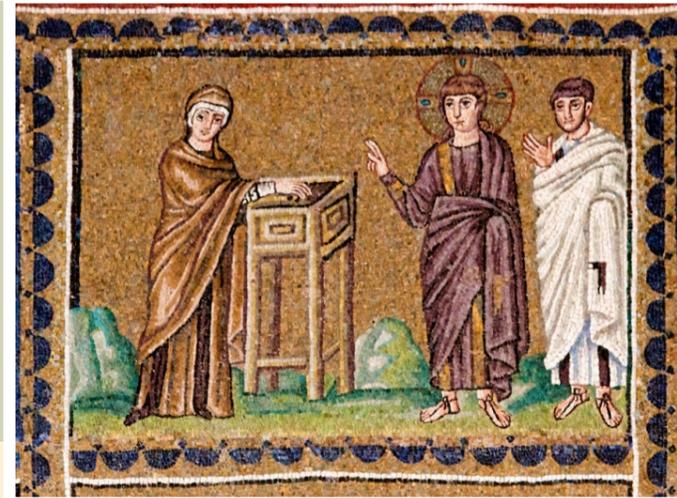
**Roster for November, December & January**—is available at the Church entrance or the Parish Office.

**Children's Liturgy Help Needed**—We urgently need additional volunteers for the Children's Liturgy after the 9:30 Sunday Mass, at the Community Centre from 10:30 to 11:30 am. No prior experience needed. We welcome you to come and attend a session first to see for yourself how it runs. Please contact the Parish Office on 9544 1516. Thank you and God bless.

**Memorial Wall for the Interment of Ashes**—The St Peter's Clayton Memorial Wall is especially for parishioners who wish to have theirs or loved ones ashes interred OR theirs or loved ones names placed on a remembrance plaque. Please see the parish office for further details.

**2019 Columban Calendars**—are available for sale at the Piety Store for \$9.00 each. A great Christmas gift idea.

**Christmas Cards**—are also available at the Piety Store for \$4.00 for a packet.



In his teaching Jesus said, "Beware of the scribes who like to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market squares, to take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets; these are the men who swallow the property of widows, while making a show of lengthy prayers. The more severe will be the sentence they receive."

He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, "I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on."

### ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEK | 18 November—Sunday Year B

	6:00pm	8:00am	9:30am
<b>Reader</b>	1 Lorelyn Legas	Neil Daly	Jayan Chacko
<b>Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion</b>	1 Tina Murrian	Mildred De Souza	Sr Monica Tuohey
	2 Savitri Ratnasabaphy	Lester De Souza	Elvira Countiho
	3 N/A	N/A	Betty Holdsworth
<b>Hospitality</b>	St Peter's Choir		
<b>Monash Medical Centre</b>	<i>(Team 1)</i> Denise Riordan, Imeleta Lemalu		
<b>Counters</b>	<i>(Team 3)</i> Reji Abraham & Tony Perez		
<b>Church Cleaners</b>	<i>(Team 4)</i> Marlene Marshall, Anna Wei Tang, Yvonne Fernand <i>(Friday 23/11/2018)</i>		
<b>Linen</b>	Tina Giannotte		