

Today's Readings

Zec 9:9-10
Psalm 144
Rom 8:9.11-13
Mt 11:25-30

Response:

I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.
Alleluia!

Next Sunday's Readings

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 55:10-11
Psalm 64
Rom 8:18-23
Mt 13:1-23

This week's feasts

Tue 11 July—St Benedict
Sat 15 July—St Bonaventure



The Parish Newsletter

Catholic Parish of Sandy Bay and Tarooma

Sunday 9 July 2017

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

From Fr Brian Nichols

The data gleaned from the 2016 Census has revealed that Australia is a religiously diverse nation. The most common religion is Christianity making up fifty two per cent of the population. Interestingly, Catholicism is the largest Christian denomination in Australia accounting for almost a quarter of the Australian population at 22.6 per cent. The next most common religions reported were Islam (2.6 per cent) and Buddhism (2.4 per cent). Almost a third of the Australian population (30 per cent) indicated in the 2016 Census that they had no religion. New South Wales was the state with the highest religious affiliation (66 per cent reporting some religious affiliation) while Tasmania was the lowest (53 per cent).

Australia is often referred to as a "secular" country but Renae Barker, a lecturer in Law at the University of Western Australia, claims that ultimately the answer as to whether it is or isn't comes down to how we understand the terms "secular" and "secularism." Charles Taylor, the Canadian philosopher in his book *A Secular Age*, distinguished three forms of secularism:

The first form is where religion is relegated to the private sphere, indicating a clear and strict separation of church and state. The second form has to do with the level of religiosity of

the population. A reduction in religious belief and practice may occur even when the state continues to support religion as in the case of the United Kingdom where a significant number claim to have no religion despite the fact that the Anglican Church remains the established church. The state in this case may present as being religious even though many may be atheists. Taylor's third form of secularism is where religious belief is not removed from the public sphere but is simply one voice among many. Renae Barker suggests that this third form of secularism is perhaps the one that best fits the situation here in Australia. She maintains that our answer to whether Australia is secular or not will ultimately depend on which definition of secularism we choose.

One thing is for sure. The population of Australia is still predominantly religious even though there is a growing number who identify as having no religion. St Paul reminds us today in the second reading (Romans 8: 9) that "Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual..."

There are many people seeking the spiritual, but they are not necessarily drawn to do so through organised religion. How we as a Church face up to and address this reality may become one of the biggest challenges for the future.

From the Tasmanian Catholic Justice and Peace Commission

Last year's Social Justice Statement, *A Place at the Table, Social Justice in an Ageing Society*, included a list of suggested actions. These actions have practical applications at the personal and parish level. Here is one of those suggestions. (More in following weeks.)

Assist with activities in retirement facilities or in the community.

There are many programs designed to reduce isolation among older people. There are home visits and pastoral care in the hospital and residential care settings, and transport and social activities aimed at developing community networks and peer support. All of these are vital to maintaining a healthy life and good social connections. Other interventions like support groups, skills development, bereavement support and counselling also help to manage the transitions of later life.

(Social Justice Statement 2016–17)

Most retirement and aged care facilities already have activities programmes. Offer to help with these or volunteer your skills in some different activities such as crafts, music or dancing.

Offer to help with special events such as celebratory dinners or Christmas lunches. You could also assist with Meals on Wheels or similar services in the community or help on a board if you have experience in governance.

Holy Spirit Church

275 Sandy Bay Rd, Sandy Bay

St Pius X Church

100 Channel Hwy, Tarooma

St Canice Church

Parish Priest: Fr Brian Nichols

Presbytery: 275 Sandy Bay Road, phone 6224 3797

Parish Office: Parish Centre, 271 Sandy Bay Rd

Secretary: Claire Manthorpe

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9.00 am to 1.00 pm

Anniversaries



Please pray for the repose of the souls of Norma Manee, William Hunt, Thomas Crawford, William Taylor, Allison Isador Imlach, Mary Louisa Payne, Myrrhine Furlani, Maria Montalvo, Frances Margaret Dinneen, Eileen Anchen, Mary Annie Halton, Francis Patrick Ryan, Gilbert van Leest, Henry James Nicholls, Lillian May Hanlon, Joseph Pedemont, Geraldine Green, Kathleen Purtell, Cecily Patricia Dunphy, Richard Forrest, Wallace Dudley Casey, Alida Henderika Smith, Nellie Cecily Fitzpatrick, David Johnston, Emma Sas, Mary Melvina Nicholls, John Mansfield, Margaret Green, Elsie Olive O'Beirne, Vaclav Vaduna, Joe Imlach, Olive Joyce Kregor, Patrick Moore and Patrick James Mulquiny.

Weekday Masses – Holy Spirit Church

There are NO weekday masses as Father Nichols is away.

As such, the church foyer will only be open between 9am and 1pm.

Our parish secretary, Claire, is on long service leave until Monday 7 August.

The office will be in the capable hands of Anthony Borghesi during that time. Normal office hours will apply.

John Wallis Memorial Lecture 2017

“The Word of God in the life of the Church”

Orated by Fr Frank Moloney SDB
Thursday, September 21st 2017, 7.00pm,
GYC Hobart Campus
Book the date! Don't miss out!

St. Pius X

There is a call for Volunteers to provide Church cleaning and do Readings at St. Pius X. For further information, please contact either Rosalina Flonta on 6227 8902 or the Sandy Bay Parish Office on 6224 1423 or via email at cposb@bigpond.net.au

Solemnity of

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Carmelite Monastery 7 Cambridge St.,
Launceston

Sunday 16th July 9.30am Sung Mass
Celebrant and Homilist: Archbishop
Julian Porteous, DD

A Novena of Masses and Prayers July
7th – 15th

Intentions may be sent to Mother Teresa-
Benedicta.

Morning Tea after Mass -All welcome

Planned giving envelopes

Our team of volunteer counters would be grateful if you could write on the envelope the amount that is inside it to minimise the chance of errors. Simply place it face-down in the basket if you don't want people around you to see the amount. Thank you.

Catholic Standard

The latest edition of the *Catholic Standard* is available for you today.

Two women in our parish will reach significant milestones in their lives over the next days.

Congratulations go to **Terry Shuttleworth** and **Pat Connolly** on both achieving **90 years!**

Rachel's Vineyard

Rachel's Vineyard has helped many men and women to move on with hope. You are not alone, there is hope after an abortion experience. We can help, our next Rachel's Vineyard retreat for healing after abortion will be held in Hobart, on Oct 13th -15th 2017. To speak to someone please call Anne Sherston on the confidential phone lines 03 62298739 or 0478599241.

Sacraments Basic Course

A new FREE course for adults on the Sacraments will be offered by the Verbum Domini Biblical & Catechetical Institute starting Tuesday August 1 and 8 (Parts I and II), 6.30-9pm, at the Diocesan Centre, 35 Tower Rd, New Town. Module 1 will provide a fresh look at the biblical basis of Baptism and Confirmation and how these sacraments are so necessary for our Christian life. TCEO teachers can obtain professional learning credit for attendance. Parishioners, RCIA team members, and catechists are encouraged to attend. Register: call Dr. Christine Wood, ph. 6208-6236. Information: <https://hobart.catholic.org.au/>

Mass Times

Holy Spirit, Sandy Bay

Saturday: Vigil 6.00 pm
Sunday: 10.00 am & 5.15 pm

St Pius X, Taroon

Sunday: 8.30 am

St Canice

Monday to Saturday: 8.00 am

Mary's Grange

Friday 11.00 am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday: 5.00 to 6.00 pm
Rosary and Prayers:
Monday: 10.30 to 11.00 am

Sacrament of Forgiveness

Saturday 5.30 pm
or by arrangement
(Ph 6224 3797)

or is available at:

St Joseph's (city)

Weekdays 12.30 to 1.00 pm
Friday 5.00 to 5.30 pm
Saturday 4.00 to 4.30 and
6.00 to 6.30 pm

Baptisms

By arrangement and with preparation.

Marriages

Six months' notice and with preparation

Low gluten hosts

We have some hosts with a gluten content of less than five parts per million. If you are gluten-intolerant please speak to the priest before Mass so he can consecrate these together with the usual hosts.