

# **Brighton Catholic Parish**



December, 2021

# Community Newsletter

No. 45/2021

#### **Dear parishioners**

As the year winds up, culminating with the Christmas festivities, I would like to thank you all for being part of our worshipping community.

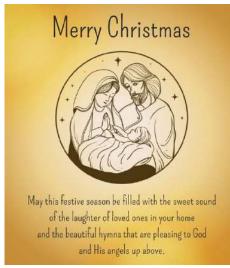
Your personal and communal participation in the life of the parish has in many levels, helped us and others experience God's blessing.

Your presence, prayers and offerings have enabled our community to become alive and nourishing.

May God's faithfulness continue to embrace each one of us in his tender love.

Fr Dominick and I are happy to wish every family and individual in our parish a blessed Christmas and God's blessing for the New Year 2022. Peace and Joy!

#### Fr Michael





#### From our Pastoral Associate

As we await the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ, we are also conscious of this present year coming to a close, another year commencing and the uncertainly the new year brings with it.

This year has seen many changes in our church, due to Covid 19, mainly not being able to have a full congregation, wearing masks and not being able to sing, but gladly we can now sing although wearing masks.

In all of this uncertainly, Adelaide has faired better than other states in Australia. We have much to be thankful for.

We celebrated our Memorial Mass for parishioners who have passed in the last year. Unfortunately, due to bad weather the Mass was held in the Church rather than the Columbarium. However, it was very well attended.

We invited all the families whose children received Sacraments this year and it was a wonderful Mass with the children participating in the Mass. After Mass we had a sausage sizzle, and it was so lovely to see the parishioners and the families mingle.

This term we have had the children from McAuley come and celebrate Mass here at St. Joseph's and it has been a different experience for them. After Mass they have a tour of the Church, and many things were explained to them. They were so excited to learn the different effects in the Church.

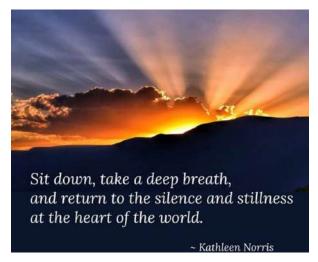
Next year on the 18th January Fr. Michael will be celebrating 25 years of Priestly Ordination. We are planning to have refreshments after the 6pm Mass on Saturday 15th January and a special morning tea on Sunday 16th January after the 8.30 and 10.00am Masses.

This year we are able to have 1000 people attend our Christmas Eve Mass at Sacred Heart College in the McAteer Centre. If you intend to go to this Mass, you will need to book through Trybooking.

As we prepare for the birth of our Lord, let us stop, reflect, be grateful and be kind to ourselves, our families, parishioners, and anyone else we encounter in our lives.

Wishing you all a very blessed and peaceful Christmas and a safe New Year.

Clare Thewlis
Pastoral Associate



#### **AROUND THE BUILDINGS & GROUNDS**

As the year draws to a close it is a good time to reflect on all the good things that have happened over the last 12 months.

The parish have purchased an investment unit to help generate ongoing income for the parish. We have leased the downstairs admin area of the St Teresa building. Access 4 U are a great fit with the parish. Many parishioners have availed themselves of the services on offer. The Library has seen great growth both in the number of books and the number of visitors who regularly attend for friendship and the board games on offer. The upstairs area is quite a hub of activity on many occasions, especially on a Tuesday.

The grounds are looking great with the community gardens, green space and the columbarium area. Thank you to the volunteers who give of their valuable time to help maintain these areas.

Volunteers are a valuable asset to our parish and I would like to thank them for all the support they give to me and the parish as we work together to provide a peaceful and colourful surround for our church.

Thank you to terrific maintenance committee who are very active in keeping our buildings and grounds safe and to Bill our maintenance person for his work in keeping things tidy.

The new year will see us faced with a challenge to create a garden area at the rear of the activity centre. We will be encouraging the local parish school children to assist us in creating a new

reflective garden and green space.

Parishioners are encouraged to give us ideas for the space.

Best wishes Jenny McCabe Parish Business Manager

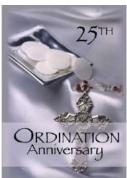


## **Meditation group**

The last Meditation group will be on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2021. Bonnie is retiring. We thank her for leading this group with her calm and gentle ways. We are looking for a new

facilitator for this group in the new year. Please contact Clare in the office if you can help.





Fr Michael's 25th Anniversary of Ordination On the 18th January, 2022,

Fr Michael will celebrate 25 years of Priestly Ordination. He will be celebrating the midday Mass (Tuesday) on his Anniversary, and we will help him celebrate the weekend before ie 15th & 16th January with refreshments after all Masses.

#### **Parish Library**

After a wonderfully successful year, the Parish Library is now closed for the Christmas break. Thank you to all who have supported us, joined in our activities and generally enjoyed a cuppa and a chat.

The library will reopen in January on a date yet to be decided.



#### **Parish Pastoral Council**

Dear parishioners and friends

Thank you for the privilege of serving the community as Brighton Parish chairperson over the past 2 years. I will conclude my time on the PPC leaving a wonderful opportunity for someone else to lead the group with the next phase of strategic planning implementation and supporting Parish life.

I have enjoyed and learnt a lot in this role about myself and the community and wish every success and blessings to you all into the future.

My recent visit to the Parish on a Tuesday showed the vitality and richness of the Brighton community and I again give thanks to all those that give so much time and energy to invite, create and ensure flourishing.

Thank you to the PPC who have been generous in what they have contributed this year. Also, the parish team who have worked tirelessly to ensure the smooth running of our Parish. A special thankyou to Fr Michael for his leadership and Fr Dominic for his ongoing support.



Loving God,

As we continue to bring plans alive in our community, we pray that we are not just followers of the Church but **We are the Church** following our own wisdom within and in the Brighton parish.

Amongst wise and generous parishioners, help us to see to the mission of Jesus and respond to God's call in our communities.

Loving God Hear our prayer.

My thoughts and prayers are with you during this preparation time of this season of advent and I hope you and your families have a blessed and holy Christmas.

May God fill your heart with Love, Joy and

Peace this Christmas

Kind Regards Christina Jonas



This is a photo of a Flander's poppy from Mary Mulholland's garden—note the cross in the middle.

## PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL REPORT

The meeting on 10th November was our last for the year. The main item of discussion was the Planned Giving Campaign. A subcommittee is looking at different ways of promoting the Parish Planned Giving programme.

An item mentioned in the last report was the delayed transfer of ownership of the Crowe unit [next door to the church]. I am pleased to report that a tenant moved in a few weeks ago.

Correspondence was received from the Catholic Development Fund [CDF] outlining Interest rates for next year. The ordinary parish account rate will drop from .15% to .05% pa And the Investment account [where we gain a lot of our income] is reduced from 2.5% down To 1.75% pa, a loss to us of \$18,000 for the year. The budget for 2022 is going to be in deficit, based on the earnings and expenses anticipated. It will be released in the New Year along with this year's balance sheet.

We also received notice of resignation from Paul Angley. For many reasons Paul has decided to finish. As a Council we are sad to lose him. We'll miss his valuable and balanced input and his business acumen. As a Parish we should thank him for a decade of hard work and dedication through some demanding circumstances. Thank you Paul!

We are also grateful to our business manager, Jenny McCabe for her dedication and skill in steering us through a challenging year. Thanks to all who have helped in running the Parish, as staff members, through financial support or as volunteers.

On behalf of the Finance Council - [Fr. Michael, Peter Whelan, Cami McGowan, Michael McCarthy, Robert Taylor, Paul Angley {ret.} and Jenny McCabe], I wish you all the blessings for the coming year and a very Happy Christmas.

John Sullivan Chairman.

#### **Parish Pastoral Council.**

Nominations to the PPC are being sought, there are 5 vacancies to fill. If you are interested or know of someone who would like to join the Parish Pastoral Council please complete the nomination form and return to the Parish Office or place in the box provided in the church foyer. Forms are available from the Parish Office or the church foyer.

#### MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Fellowship special Christmas Lunch is on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December, 11am to 3pm. All men are welcome. Some 50 attended last year. With the new premises many more can now be catered for. Just bring yourself and come along. The

cooks intend excelling themselves and there will be enough liquid refreshments. November being All Souls month, a Mass was offered the Shed and Fellowship departed friends on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November. The veggie garden still has lots of produce. Tomatoes are the next big crop. Pick up a few as soon as they are ripe.







developing confident women

#### **SPEAKING MADE EASY**

is a Ladies' Group meeting in St Joseph's Activity Centre at 11am on a Monday twice-monthly.

If you want to improve your speaking ability in conversation, self confidence in front of an audience, or reading at Mass (for example) call Maureen on 0408 628 899 for further information.

(FYI: The first two meetings attended are free!)





# THE KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS (SA) INC.

Brighton – Marion – Hallett Cove - Glenelg Branch

The Brighton-Marion-Hallett Cove-Glenelg Branch has a new Chairman: **Rod Roach**.

In his first general report Rod says the Branch's 2022 Formation Programme will follow the themes which evolved from the 2021 discussions on the Six National Themes from the Plenary Council and the Diocesan gathering.

He mentioned that the recent Knights State Conference confirmed Southern Cross Care's support of the Hutt Street Centre and the support of Vinnie's Conferences, five of which receive regular contributions from our Branch. Southern Cross Care was started by the Knights in 1960.

He further recalled that 2022 will be 100 years since the Knights of the Southern Cross was established in South Australia and that various functions will be held with a Book Launch in May 2022 to commemorate the past 100 years.

The outgoing Chairman, Pat Hodgson's tenure will be remembered for the high energy and innovation he brought to this position and for the Branch's increased involvement with the parish which he so successfully fostered. His outreach to the parish Antioch group was another of his special interests. In this context, we remember Damo and Kate of Antioch who were active participants in some of the joint functions which our Branch arranged. We also take this opportunity to congratulate Ellen and Bailey who are the new leaders of Antioch in our Parish.

Branch meetings are held on the first Wednesday of every month at 7.30 pm in the Parish Activity Centre rooms.

#### Commissioning of new Antioch leaders Ellen Wauchop & Bailey Barnes



#### New public art for the local community

On 16 November, a mural by emerging Aboriginal artist Jackie Saunders, who is based at Tutti Arts, and contemporary Aboriginal visual artist Elizabeth Close was created on the western wall of the Tutti Arts Centre. Even as work was still underway, the mural was attracting attention and compliments from passersby!

Members of Brighton Catholic Parish had a say in choosing the design which is based on Jackie's work *Laying Under the Stars* and reflects the artists' shared themes of connection to community, country and family. The final stage of this project was supported by Arts South Australia, City of Holdfast Bay and Shaw and Partners Financial Services.

Tutti hopes Parish members will enjoy this new public artwork as much as they do!









End Poverty Promote Justice Uphold Dignity

#### **BRIGHTON PARISH CARITAS PROJECT**

Many thanks to our present contributors who generously assist in providing funds for Caritas projects. Your ongoing support is greatly appreciated for many people living in Third World countries.

For Christmas Shopping ideas, visit www.globalgifts.org.au to "Browse Global Gifts"

#### Give a gift that makes a big impact this Christmas

A Global Gift represents a donation to Caritas Australia. Select from a range of Global Gift cards to send to your friends and family this Christmas.

When you buy a Global Gift, you provide a unique gift to your friend or loved one, by helping vulnerable communities to break the cycle of poverty.

An invitation is extended to parishioners to join our Brighton Parish Caritas Project as a regular or occasional giver. For more information contact Dawn Sullivan 0424 250 089 or Aileen Hodgson 0431 593 545 or alternatively fill in the tear-off slip which can be placed in the collection box or return to the Parish Office.

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BRIGHTON PARISH CARITAS PROJECT
I would like to learn more about the Brighton Parish Caritas Project:
Name:
Contact No:

# **Daring to Hope**

Deacon Tim Grauel

During the period between Christmas and New Year in 1944, a spike in deaths from disease and natural causes occurred in the Nazi concentration camp, Auschwitz. Viktor Frankel, an Austrian Jew, medical doctor and holocaust survivor, believed that this was caused by a lack of hope. World War II was drawing to a close and the downtrodden prisoners thought that, at long last, they would be liberated by Christmas. But it didn't happen. Already weakened by the horrors of the camp, many became susceptible to disease and despair and gave up.

Frankel entered the camp as a young, newlymarried man. His pregnant wife was forced to have an abortion and later died. father, mother and brother were gassed. His sister somehow avoided being taken to the camp and ended up in Australia. Frankel had a long fascination with hope. Before the war, his medical career focussed on high rates of youth suicide and depression. He also assisted many people with mental disabilities to avoid being euthanised by the Nazi regime. He was shocked when he saw many Jews throw away their tefillin or phylacteries: the Word that had been tied to their bodies they let fall to ground. As Dante said, over the entrance to Hell is inscribed, you hope abandon, who enter here' (*Inferno*, 14<sup>th</sup> century).

A striking turn of phrase, which we will hear later in the Mass, led me to recall Frankel's meditation on hope. We only hear these words for three weeks each year. We can't afford to miss them. The beautiful 1st

Preface of Advent recounts the two comings of Christ and ends in this way: 'That...we who watch for that day may inherit the great promise in which we now dare to hope'

We now dare to hope! Advent is all about daring to hope: we share in the joy of the historical arrival of the Messiah; we long for the majestic fullness of God's Peaceable Kingdom when 'all is at last made manifest'; and we experience here and now the mystery of God's presence in the midst of our broken and suffering world. We dare to hope, now, in our time, in our particular circumstances.

This hope is extravagant: what God gives to us in Jesus Christ goes beyond what human reason could ever expect. Hope is not a thing or an idea, it's based on a person, a relationship.

God is the first to hope, the One who dares to hope the most, continually. When Adam & Eve went their own way, God hoped for their return. What is the gaze of Christ from the Cross if not the daring hope that his selfless love alone will graciously draw us close to him?

The Eucharist is the supreme moment of hope, instituted amid a hopeless situation: Jesus betrayed, abandoned, awaiting shameful suffering dares to hope, and shares this hope with us—ever anew.

Hope is a precious gift that we convey to our weary world as Christians: how we point to what is not yet present. Let us pray for the grace to know God as the One who dares to hope—and may we dare to hope in and through and with God.

Frankel's bestselling book, *Man's Search for Meaning*, was originally titled, 'Nevertheless, say Yes to Life'. Hope is not a psychological trick: it's saying Yes to God, the author of life,

who dares to hope in us. The prophet, Jeremiah, reminds us: 'Yet I still dare to hope when I remember this: The Lord's mercies are not over, his deeds of faithful love not exhausted. Every morning they are renewed: great is your faithfulness!' (Lamentations 3.21-24).



#### VINNIES KNITTING & SEWING GROUP.

On behalf of all our Ladies we wish you all a Holy & Happy Christmas Season. And all Stay Safe so we can all get back together on the 1st February 2022.

Our group were able to get back together most Tuesdays during 2021, except for a small hiccup in June/July. It has been lovely to all be able to work together and have a bit of chit chat.

Layettes have once again been required and even though we only sent out about 24 - 3 of them being for Girl Triplets.

The Ladies from the Blackwood Parish collected some wool from our Brighton group early in the Year and on 2 occasions returned it all made into Jumpers, Beanies, Lap rugs, Baby Jackets & booties etc. We were very grateful and were able to send them out.

We are lucky to also have some very busy ladies at St Mary's Vinnies group who during the year gave us about 500 articles to go in the Layettes, to the needy of SA, and some of the shops like Morphett Vale & Elizabeth.

We also were able to support Fred's Van & Moore St. with blankets and warm woollies for their Companions.

Through the generosity of Brighton people our WINTER WARMER sale was a great success and Quilts that were not sold, Brighton Conference were able to take and give to their Companions on Visits.

We are now packed up ready for the Christmas Break and once again a BIG THANK YOU to all who support us.

We will be having a Mass said on Tuesday 14th December and we are asking Father Michael to offer it especially for you, our supporters.

May God Bless You All



# Advent 2021



#### Reconciliation

After the midday Mass on Fridays and the 10am Mass on Saturday mornings

<u>Penitential Liturgy</u> followed by Individual Reconciliation

Brighton: Wednesday 15th December, 10am Hallett Cove: Tuesday 21st December, 7pm

#### **Anointing of the Sick Mass**

Saturday 18th December 10am



## **Christmas Office Closure**

The Parish office will be closed from 27th December to reopen on Tuesday 4th January.



We thank all our parishioners for their support during this year.

COVID has certainly kept us on our toes.

From our parish team we wish you all a safe, happy and Holy Christmas. We pray that we all may catch up with family and be able to enjoy the celebrations safely and in good health.

# Merry Christmas

and a Happy New Year from the Brighton Catholic Parish Team Fr Michael, Fr Dominick, Clare Thewlis, Jenny McCabe, Sue Wigg & Pat McKenna



# **Christmas 2021**

#### **Christmas Masses**

### Friday 24th December

7pm Vigil Mass at Sacred Heart College

—trybooking: <a href="https://www.trybooking.com/BVCQG">https://www.trybooking.com/BVCQG</a>

7.30pm Vigil Mass at St Joseph's

– tickets required

10pm Vigil Mass at St Joseph's Tickets required

# Saturday 25th December

Mass 8.30am at St Joseph's
Tickets required
Mass 10am at St Joseph's
Tickets required

Tickets are available after Masses from this weekend or from the parish office during the week

Please note there will be NO Sat night Vigil Mass for <u>Sunday 26th December</u>
Only Masses on Sunday morning at
8.30am and 10am for the Feast of the Holy Family

#### **New Years Eve**

There will be our normal Friday Masses on Friday 31st December, ie 9.30am at Hallett Cove and 12 noon at Brighton.

#### New Years Day—Saturday 1st January

Mass at 10am at Brighton And 10am at Hallett Cove.

Normal Mass times for the weekend of the **1st/2nd January**, ie 6pm Saturday 8.30am and 10am on Sunday

May this New Year bring you much joy and fun. May you find peace, love, and success. Happy New Year!

