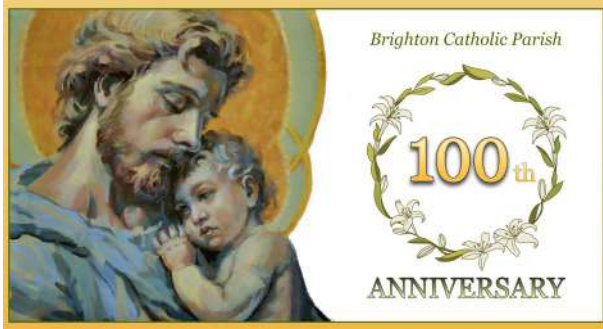




February 2025

Monthly Community Newsletter

No. 55/2025



Drawing water from the wells of salvation: Is. 12:2-4.

Peace!

This year is unique and special for our Parish. It presents us with many opportunities and occasions for renewing and strengthening our relationship with God and in one another. We are soon celebrating one hundred years of history, faith and relationships. Also, the whole Church is inviting all of us to celebrate the Jubilee year-Pilgrims of Hope. Consequently, these moments including all other annual feast days of the Church offer each one of us a new encounter with grace and mercy.

In the spirit of Synodality, we pray that we may, individually and as a community, joyfully draw water from the wells of salvation where we enliven our faith in God, our hope for a peaceful world and love for our neighbours. This year, may we surrender to the Holy Spirit who guides us in celebrating the sacraments of the church in thanksgiving worship. We may not know about the future, but we know the One who holds the future and us in the palm of His hand. Prayerfully, let us engage, participate and celebrate in the life of our Parish as we draw water from the wells of salvation.

Blessed and joyous Centenary!

In Christ

Fr. Michael Kyumu.

From our Pastoral Associate

*O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.
1 Chronicles 16:34*

We have stepped into the New Year 2025, and it is unlike any other year. While as a Universal church we are celebrating the Jubilee Year of Hope, as a parish community, we are looking forward to proudly celebrating the milestone of a centenary year. This presents us with a beautiful opportunity to look back into the past with gratitude for all the many blessings showered upon us as individuals as well as a parish community and look towards the future with hope for the many more blessings that are in store for us.

With a grateful heart, I take this opportunity to reflect on some of the good things that took place in the past few months since our last newsletter.

Celebrating the gift of children and young people in the parish

We believe that children and young people play a strong role in the life of the parish and make all efforts to welcome them and make our parish a safe and faith filled environment. Given below are some opportunities that we offer for the engagement of children and young people.

Sacramental Programme 2024/2025

Upon successful completion of the 2023/24 sacramental programme, we now have a new group of 27 children preparing to receive the sacraments Confirmation and First Holy Communion. During the 2nd week in September this group of children received the sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time, and they are looking forward to journeying hand in hand with the parish and school communities in the coming months.



Our Parish Vision

To be a people of God working together to build a caring, faith-filled community.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

It is such a blessing to witness the steady progress of Children's Liturgy of the Word that is being offered every first Sunday of each month. While we appreciate Katrina Kreis' tireless commitment over the years, nourishing the young hearts and minds, and her husband Tim for being the support person during these sessions, the invitation is open to all individuals who are fully initiated into their Catholic faith to come and join the team to keep this service to the young ones growing. Our hope is to be able to conduct children's liturgy of the word weekly.

Altar Servers

We are blessed as a parish community to have 7 altar servers who are rostered to serve during the 6pm and 10am weekend Masses and it is great to see primary and secondary school students taking a very active role in this ministry. As always, the invitation is open for any young person who has received First Holy Communion to join this wonderful group of altar servers and training will be available for those who would like to join in.



Parish- school connections

Our priests take an active role in the faith journey of the students in our parish primary schools and visit the schools to celebrate Masses with the students regularly. This year the children from both Christ the King and McAuley community school attended parish Masses during a number of occasions which strengthened the parish-school relationship. The whole of the Christ the King school community celebrated their feast day here at St. Joseph's in November and the wonderful members of the men's shed cooked them a BBQ meal.

Highlights from the wider parish community

September 2024- a month full of action

Throughout the month of September, we celebrated many significant events starting with Father's Day weekend and beginning of the Season of Creation and celebrating Child protection Sunday, significant wedding anniversaries and Word Day of Migrants and Refugees. It was a busy time of the year and there were many opportunities for us to come together as one parish community and share in the Eucharist, share life's stories over special morning teas and take action in a very significant way to care for the earth with the ecology group recycling and sharing initiatives.



Celebrating the commitment of parish volunteers

While the success of the parish is all part of God's favour that is resting on us, we cannot forget the vital role that the parish volunteers play in this story of success. These people who give their time, talents and resources so freely and generously are truly God's instruments of grace. As a parish we had multiple occasions where we celebrated Masses and gathered to enjoy a meal together to offer our gratitude to the service of all volunteers in the parish. Words do not suffice to say how deeply grateful we are for your priceless contribution and we thank the good Lord for the precious gift of parish volunteers. We have volunteer sign-up sheets in the parish foyer if anyone would like to support the many thriving ministries in the parish. All are welcome!





From the Parish Business Manager

As another year has finished, I express my gratitude for the vibrant community we have. In 2024, the parish prioritized a building assessment, focusing mainly on the Church. The health check revealed that significant repairs are needed for the roof and to address rising damp on the east side of the Church. An engineering consultant was engaged to conduct a structural inspection, and we received specifications and recommendations to proceed with repairs that are scheduled for the first quarter of 2025 to address the rising damp issues in the best way. The Parish is currently coordinating with John Bray and the Archdiocese office to determine the best strategy for repairing the roof and extending its lifespan.

I would like to take a moment to thank and congratulate Michael McCarthy for his first year as Finance Council Chairman, for his dedication and commitment to the Parish.

Regarding security, many of you may have noticed that the west side gate of the Church has been locked after business hours. I am pleased to announce that new locks were installed to enhance security and improve access to the Parish premises. Additionally, there will be more upgrades to the CCTV security system coming soon.

Special celebrations- Highlights of 2024

Once again, this year we celebrated a special Mass in remembering the unborn which was very well attended. The memorial Mass in the columbarium was a great success this year. The columbarium area was packed full of family members of the deceased parishioners who later joined in sharing a light supper. A very special thank you to all the members of the bereavement team for their commitment that made this day a memorable one.

The Christmas Carols 2024 was a spectacular event that attracted record numbers of parishioners and extended family. It was an amazing 2 hours of joyful music and singing that kept everyone entertained. The raffle draw with some 20+ valuable gifts, all generously donated by our wonderful parishioners, was such a crowd pleaser and a big highlight of the night. A huge thank you goes to all the talented musicians who bring life to our parish community and we are so blessed to have them.

Christmas Vigil Mass at Sacred Heart College was a big success last year. We saw a lot of young families with kids in attendance and the gymnasium was packed full! Since covid, this was the biggest numbers we have seen in attendance so far and we are sure that it is the grace of God that enabled us to bear witness to this success. A lot of planning and preparation went in towards this event and a very big, heartfelt thank you to all the amazing people who joined hands together to make this day a reality.



EAST SIDE



WEST SIDE

If you've noticed last year the grass was not as green as usual, it was because the bore pump was broken; however, I am happy to announce that it has been repaired and it is working again. We are fortunate to have such a big and vibrant Parish; however, it implies a lot of maintenance and I thank you all for keeping an eye on all the details and keeping the office informed to take appropriate actions.

I want to express my gratitude to our excellent maintenance team for their hard work in overseeing inspections, obtaining quotes, and providing reliable references. It's a blessing to have such a supportive team that keeps a close watch on the premises, promptly alerts me to any issues, and actively participates in fixing them.

Andrea Machicado
Parish Business Manager

Pat's Farewell

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to Pat McKenna for her years of dedicated service to the Parish, and even beyond that, as she continues to support the Parish whenever needed. Last year, we had the opportunity to thank her and wish her all the best during a beautiful and emotional farewell.



We want to extend our appreciation to everyone who attended Pat's farewell in August and helped us honour her contributions to the Parish. It was a privilege for all who had the chance to work with her. Pat consistently performed her duties quietly and efficiently, ensuring that everything ran smoothly and providing outstanding support to the entire team.



Additionally, the Parish is pleased to officially welcome Jonas, a man of faith, who will be a valuable addition to the Parish staff team.



Security Update from the Parish Administration

Remembering the Foot of St. Joseph

The statues of our Lord Christ and St. Joseph carrying the cross are sacred symbols of our parish, particularly as St. Joseph is the patron saint of our church. We hold these statues in great reverence, especially since they were sculpted by the renowned South Australian artist, the late Voitre Marek. These statues are prominently displayed outside the church, near the entrance, as a testament to our faith and devotion.



The photo was taken in December 2024

Unfortunately, we regret to inform you that the foot of St. Joseph's statue was recently cut, desecrated, and stolen. This act is deeply troubling and offensive, as these sacred statues are a representation of our collective reverence and religious devotion. Even more concerning, this is the third time such an incident has occurred.

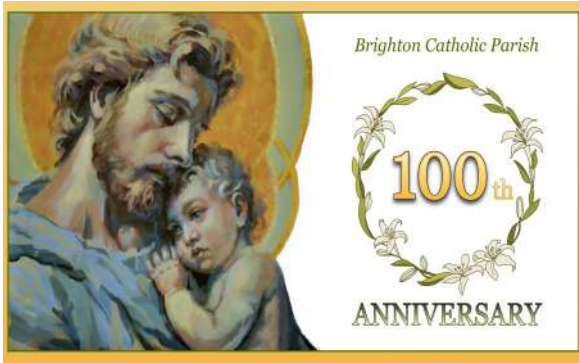


In light of this, the parish administration has taken preventative measures to protect the statue of Jesus. Attempts were made to gradually remove the left foot of the statue, prompting us to temporarily remove it for security and maintenance purposes.



We want to assure you that we are working diligently to recover the stolen foot of St. Joseph and to restore both statues to their original condition. We also encourage anyone with information about the theft to contact the parish office immediately. The police have been notified, and an investigation is currently underway. This is a serious offense, and the parish is committed to pursuing legal action to the fullest extent of the law to address this crime.

Thank you for your ongoing support and vigilance in helping maintain the integrity of our church and community. Your attention to this matter is deeply appreciated.



St Joseph's Parish Centenary

We will be celebrating the Centenary of our Parish beginning on Sunday, March 16 at a special 9.30am Mass presided by Archbishop Patrick O'Regan and concelebrated by a number of priests who have served in the Parish over the years.

As we pause to reflect on our own journey within the Parish, we may recall the past, the present and a possible future of our own lives within the Parish and the friendships we have made over the years as well as our involvement in Parish life. It is this shared journey which brings mixed emotions with the memories we hold of the past and the present.

We bring to the Mass, all these memories as we celebrate the gifts of Faith, Hope and Love that abide within us. Our sense of unity in a shared community of faith brings us to celebrate with gratitude, thankfulness and joy, a lifetime of commitment to our faith. Though our journeys may have a darker side in memory and emotion, we trust in the forgiveness of God to whom our lives are entrusted.

This year is also a Jubilee year throughout the Church, a time to reflect on our journey as part of this Church. The over-arching theme of this year is Hope, revealed in the words of the Jubilee Year Hymn, Pilgrims of Hope, "On life's path I trust in You."

This hope is not only a personal reflection of faith but a shared reflection of hope in the future of our church, particularly here in Brighton. On the feast of Pentecost in June, we will celebrate the present and the future of this hope with the students from our Parish schools of Christ the King, McAuley Community, and Sacred Heart Senior.

We are planning to have one final celebratory Mass towards the end of the year to entrust ourselves and our lives, and the life of our Parish to God. On a personal note, Chris and I will be making a pilgrimage to Rome this coming October as part of an Order I am a member of. We will be passing through the Jubilee Mercy doors of the four major Basilicas in Rome and I will be mindful of our Parish Community and our hopes.

David McCabe

Parish Pastoral Council Report December 2024

The Pastoral Council had its last meeting for 2024 in November.

One of the highlights of the past year was the Region 3 Diocesan Assembly held on 4th May, chaired by Jenny O'Brien which I reported on in my last report.

Our schools are experiencing healthy enrolments which is

reflective of the high standard of Catholic education that they provide. We are pleased that Sacred Heart College is now represented on the Council.

A major issue that the Finance Council is grappling with is the maintenance of the church and in particular its roof. Replacing the roof would be extremely expensive and expert advice has been sought as to how best to extend its life.

Our Pastoral Associate, Nirmanthi, is always very busy organising and overseeing various religious activities in the Parish including the Parish schools.

Next year, 2025, is the one hundredth anniversary of the establishment of our Parish. A sub-committee has been established to plan for this occasion. We are still seeking volunteers to assist with this important time in the life of our Parish so please contact the office if you would like to assist. It has been confirmed that the Archbishop will celebrate the 9.30am Mass at St Joseph's on Sunday 16th March 2025 as part of our celebrations.

We are also looking for new members to join the Council. If you would like some more information about the Council or would like to submit your name then please contact the Parish office.

Finally, I wish to thank all members of the Council for their efforts and support over the last year.

Peter Whelan
Chair, Parish Pastoral Council

Men's Fellowship

As 2024 closes it's good to report another year of great fellowship with happy Tuesdays and Fridays attended on average by between fifteen and thirty-five guys. Whilst the angle grinder comes out every now and then, time passes mostly with lots of laughs, footy analysis, general knowledge exchanges and good food, coffee, tea, beer and wine and a birthday cake to celebrate respective birthdays throughout the year. All funded by the fellows themselves. Christmas lunch in December is the gourmet highlight of the year. Attendance in past years has averaged some fifty people

Summer is here and the sprouting veggies sown in Spring are now bursting out. They include tomatoes, zucchini, spinach, beetroot and more. Spring onions are leading the growth race.

A practice commenced a few years ago is being followed with a Mass being offered in November for the repose of the souls of departed members. This year a Memorial Board with the names of Shed members who have passed away has been displayed in the Sanctuary at all Masses. There are already 23 names on the board.

Along with all the camaraderie and good fellowship, recently, a bit of patriotism has been added. A new smart five-metre flagpole has been installed. Taking the example of practices in some elite places, the national flag is now flown whenever the shed fellows are in residence!

Des Tellis



Vinnies

The Brighton Conference of Vinnies has been operating in the parish for more than 50 years. The primary aim of this conference is to give assistance to the poor and marginalised in our parish. This assistance can range from the provision of food, the supply of clothing, furniture and other household needs to financial help with utility bills.

Types of Situations We Deal With

It is not uncommon in our parish for individuals, often coming from living off the streets or having been recently released from prison, to be given Housing Trust units to live in, but these units are bare i.e. no beds, fridge, furniture, cooking or eating utensils. Vinnies does its best to furnish these places.

Recently there have been some refugee families in a similar situation who need units furnished and food and clothing provided.

Annually the Brighton Vinnies Group receives over 300 calls for assistance. Most commonly reacting to these calls involved providing a food hamper and vouchers for food and clothing from the local supermarkets and Vinnies shop.

This service is an important one to the community and very much appreciated by the recipients.

All food and cash donations made to the Brighton Vinnies goes directly into assistance in our parish.



How We Put Together Individual Hampers

The food required to make up these food hampers comes directly from donations to Vinnies from the Brighton Parishioners and the local schools. We are fortunate in the parish to be blessed with generous Parishioners who are keenly aware of current social issues.



The schools (SHC Senior, McAuley and Christ the King) also have strong social justice programs and are generous donors to Vinnies.



Financial donations to Brighton Vinnies at certain times of the year i.e. Winter Appeals and Advent Appeals, give us the financial resources we need to buy supermarket and Vinnies shop vouchers, finance furniture and appliance purchases etc. Again the Brighton Parishioners are very generous with their giving and we are deeply appreciative. Currently the Brighton Vinnies Group is composed of 10 committed individuals. We are always looking for new members to help with our mission.

We would like to thank the Brighton Parishioners and Schools for their ongoing generosity which allows us to support the poor and marginalised in our community.



*for your response to our call
for support for Vinnies Lay-
ettes for needy newborns*

In our last parish newsletter, we reached out for help to be able to continue to provide needy, new mothers with free-of-charge layettes for their newborns. The layettes contain basic items like clothing, blankets, nappies and baby toiletries – and are delivered by Vinnies Conference volunteers, conveying community love, warmth and care.

“Amazing!”

Your responses have been amazing and continue to amaze us – *Thank You.*

You have provided everything we reached out for, and so much more:

Spread the word: sharing the message with your family, friends and colleagues brought us new supporters from within and beyond our parish

Donations: your contributions enabled us to restock our layette supplies, and then when supplies seem to be running low ... unexpectedly another batch of donations appears! new NEWBORN Sized 0000 Items (singlets, jumpsuits & disposable nappies) fabric, wool and knitted/crocheted baby items soft toys for the layettes

Generous financial contributions:

for layette items we need to purchase (such as the nappies & wipes)
for new equipment

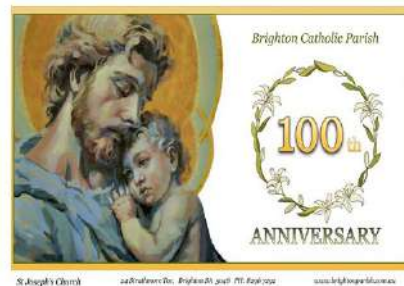
Blessed Frédéric Ozanam founded St Vincent de Paul Society to serve the poor in his community. As others noticed the charitable works, the Society eventually expanded across the world. Through your generosity, we at the Brighton Vinnies Knitting & Sewing Group continue to

experience first-hand the reality of Frédéric's belief in God's providence: *'when one does a deed of charity one need not worry about where the money will come from: it will come'.*

Again, we thank you for your generous support, pray for you at our weekly gatherings, and now wish you much love, joy, and peace throughout 2025.

Thank you for your support.

Brighton Vinnies Knitting & Sewing Group



INVITATION

Rev Father Michael Kyumu, Parish Priest,

on behalf of Archbishop Patrick O'Regan DD, Catholic Archbishop of Adelaide

Cordially invites

All Parishioners

To the Brighton Catholic Parish Centenary Mass

To be held in

St Joseph's Church

22 Strathmore Terrace, Brighton

On

Sunday, March 16, 2025

At

9.30am

Mass will be followed by a Parish Luncheon in the Church Hall

immediately adjacent to the Church

RSVP: Please indicate your response by

Monday, March 3, 2025

By reply Email to info@brightonparish.com.au

Or telephone 08 8296 7292

With kindest regards,

Fr Michael Kyumu

THE KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS (SA) INC.

Brighton – Marion – Hallett Cove - Glenelg Branch



The Brighton/Marion/Hallett-Cove/Glenelg Branch of the Knights has had a busy year with good attendance at all monthly meetings.

An interesting range of Guest Speakers spoke to open meetings on a variety of topics. James Loyd from the Archdiocese spoke on Justice, Healing and Inclusion. David Moran of Southern Cross Care outlined many aspects of Health and Aged Care. Branch member Gary Amott drew attention to the Abortion Bill being discussed by the SA Parliament and the ramifications of elements of the Bill, particularly on the unborn child. At an especially well attended open meeting, Sr Ali Roach of the Sisters of Mercy spoke about their work at Catherine House and the Hutt Street Centre and the special attention being needed by the growing numbers of deserted women.

The Branch Annual Dinner was held at the Highway Inn on Anzac Highway on 12th September at 6.30 pm . About 50 members and partners, including Monsignors Bob Rice and Ian Demsey were present.

A 50-year Service Award was presented to Tony Green of the Brighton Branch on the night. Also, at the dinner, a cheque for \$1000 was presented to Catherine House and accepted by Mercy Sisters Ali Roach and Meredith Evans who both gave short thank you speeches. A cheque each for \$250 dollars was presented to the five Vinnies Conferences in the Branch area and was accepted by respective members on behalf of each Conference.



(Tony Green receiving his 50-year Service Award)

The new Branch Council was installed on Wednesday 6th November by State Chairman Paul Hawkes assisted by State Treasurer Ian Fleetwood. Installation was at a 6.30 pm Mass at St Joseph's church Brighton. Fr Peter Sheedy said the Mass and gave a blessing to members of the new Council which consists of:

Chairman Andy Tamassy, Deputy Chairman Peter Kay, Secretary Graham Workman, Minutes Secretary Jeff

Papps, Treasurer Tony Schar and Councillors Gary Amott and Bob Byrth.

Christmas lunch was enjoyed by Branch members on Wednesday 4th December at Charlie's on Brighton Road.

Fund raising continues, mainly through a wine sales programme in association with Wine Direct organised by Gary Amott, Crazy Whist nights arranged by Pat Hodgson and the used cans and bottles collection work also diligently carried out by Branch stalwart Pat Hodgson all year round. Proceeds go mainly to support Vinnies work in the region.

GRATITUDE AWARD

"Four Library Ladies"

**Mary Hyland - Di O'Neil -
Marguerita Noonan - Margaret Senyszen**



It began with four women and some books at the beginning of 2020. An imaginative quartet made plans to re-vamp the Old St. Theresa's school library into Parish Library cum Community Centre.

A virus called Covid-19 started moving around the world and slowed down the development of this new adventure. However in 2021, Covid was controlled with vaccinations and new ideas permeated the minds of our four ladies.

Games mornings which included Rummikub, Scrabble and Cards started happening. As free tea, coffee and home made slices were on offer there was soon a clientele of women and the occasional man taking advantage of this social event.

Then a Mahjong specialist named Erica said she would be happy to teach people this Chinese game. So Friday mornings became Mahjong masterclasses.

Now this space has been transformed into a buzz of chatter, laughter, rattling tiles, clattering cards, with the smell of coffee, tea, and cake, and sometimes the giggles of grandchildren. New friendships have been made, old ones renewed and all in all a wonderful haven has been established.



EXCELLENCE AWARD

To our esteemed Mahjong Leader, the elegant, erudite educator, extraordinary Erica par excellence

"You are our shining star"

Erica Korotcoff



On October 20th, 2024, the South Unit of Couples for Christ Australia - SA celebrated the dedication of five couples and one handmaid, marking the conclusion of a 12-week Christian Life Program (CLP) at the Brighton Catholic Parish.

The CLP consists of three modules. The first module focuses on foundational Christian truths, covering topics such as God's love, the identity of Jesus Christ, Christian identity, and repentance and faith. The second module addresses the Christian ideals of loving God and neighbour, the Christian family, and living in the Holy Spirit. The third module explores commitment to Jesus Christ, living in the power of the Holy Spirit, and engaging in a supportive community for ongoing growth, with topics such as awakening and growing in the Holy Spirit, the mission of CFCA, and transformation in Christ.



This event marked the first traditional 12-week CLP for SA in quite some time, demonstrating the unwavering dedication of both the service team and participants. With

only one talk per session, the format allowed for deeper engagement with each topic and more meaningful group discussions.



While the parents attended the main talks, the children participated in a "mini-CLP," where they also had the opportunity to learn more about Jesus and their Christian faith. Each session concluded with a shared lunch and fellowship, ensuring that everyone was nourished both spiritually and physically.

The success of this program would not have been possible without the hard work of the South Unit service team and the continued support of Fr. Michael Musyoka, parish priest of Brighton Catholic Parish.

Though the 12-week CLP was a significant undertaking and presented challenges along the way, God's grace guided us in fulfilling His mission of evangelizing and renewing the faith of His people. Even though it takes effort, the change we experience through Jesus makes it all worth it, driving us to share His love with a world that desperately needs it.



Did you know that our parish community is home to some truly talented artists? Cat Leonard and Mandy Bosson currently have their works on display at the Splashout Art Exhibition at Gallerym in the Marion Cultural Centre, Oaklands Park.



Cat Leonard



Mandy Bosson

Cat Leonard (formerly Cat Bogatec) recently won the 23rd Annual City of Marion Community Art Exhibition with her portrait, *Agnes*—the 33rd painting in her *100 Heads* series. Congratulations, Cat! We've also included a few photos of well-known Catholic figures—can you recognize them?



Painting of Msgr. Ian Dempsey by Cat Leonard



Painting of Archbishop Wilson by Cat Leonard

In addition to her artwork, Cat teaches at Splashout Art Studios, where Mandy Bosson has been sharing her artistic talents. Mandy, who had a major stroke in 2012 while working for the Adelaide City Council, has faced a challenging recovery journey. She has gone from being right-handed to becoming a skilled left-handed artist! The results are nothing short of amazing.



"The Angel" by Mandy Bosson

Both Cat and Mandy not only contribute their artistry to the community but also dedicate their time to supporting our church.



A Daily Prayer to Joseph

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen