



# Encounter

VICTOR HARBOR/GOOLWA CATHOLIC PARISH

THE EXALTATION OF THE  
HOLY CROSS - YEAR C

*A living, vibrant  
faith community*

Vol 13 : No 43

## VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT

### OUR VISION:

To build a faith community  
centred on the loving relationship  
of Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
expressed in personal lives and  
communal parish activities.

### OUR MISSION IS TO:

- Develop relevant and prayerful Eucharistic celebrations
- Foster the experience of a personal relationship with God
- Provide Faith Formation opportunities
- Care for each other particularly the sick, lonely, aged and disabled
- Witness to God's love for our earthly common home and all its creatures that abound

### WE WILL:

- Reach out to those in need
- Be committed to Catholic Social Justice principles
- Pray and work together with Christian Churches and all people of goodwill
- Engage with young people
- Care for our environment towards a sustainable future
- Strengthen bonds with First Nation peoples

## MASS TIMES

### • VICTOR HARBOR

Weekend - Saturday 6.00pm;  
Sunday 11.00am.  
Weekdays - Tuesday, Thursday,  
Friday 9.00am

### • GOOLWA

Weekend - Sunday 9.00am.  
Weekday - Wednesday 9.30am

## RECONCILIATION

St Joan's, Victor Harbor - Saturday  
11am - 11.30am, or by appointment.



THAT THE WORLD  
MIGHT BE SAVED  
THROUGH HIM

## FIRST READING

*Numbers 21:4-9*

On the way through the wilderness the Israelites lost patience. They spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt to die in this wilderness? For there is neither bread nor water here; we are sick of this unsatisfying food.'

At this God sent fiery serpents among the people; their bite brought death to many in Israel. The people came and said to Moses, 'We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you. Intercede for us with the Lord to save us from these serpents.' Moses interceded for the people, and the Lord answered him, 'Make a fiery serpent and put it on a standard. If anyone is bitten and looks at it, he shall live.' So Moses fashioned a bronze serpent which he put on a standard, and if anyone was bitten by a serpent, he looked at the bronze serpent and lived.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Ps 77:1 - 2, 34 - 38*

*Do not forget the works of the Lord!*

1. Give heed, my people, to my teaching; turn your ear to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable and reveal hidden lessons of the past. <R>
2. When he slew them then they would seek him, return and seek him in earnest. They would remember that God was their rock, God the Most High their redeemer. <R>

3. But the words they spoke were mere flattery; they lied to him with their lips. For their hearts were not truly with him; they were not faithful to his covenant. <R>

4. Yet he who is full of compassion forgave their sin and spared them. So often he held back his anger when he might have stirred up his rage. <R>

## SECOND READING

*Philippians 2:6-11*

The state of Jesus Christ was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross.

But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other name so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your cross you have redeemed the world.*

*Alleluia!*

## GOSPEL

*John 3:13-17*

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'No one has gone up to heaven except the one who came down from  
(Continued page 4)



## Bulletin Board

**SPECIAL INTENTIONS** (These names will be removed after one month. To keep names on this list please contact Parish Office)

Graham Blacket, Paul Fahey,  
John Tregeagle, Betty Berry,  
Geoff & Rose Munro, Mark Kelly,  
Tommy & Eileen McCoey,  
Mairead & Neil Cummings,  
Mary Ferguson, Pat Mezzino,  
Pat Chigwidden, Robyn Kelly,  
Stephen Chalmers,  
Loudi Carle, Sandy Lee,  
Tony Mawdsley.

### RECENTLY DECEASED

Len Peake, John Blacket

### ANNIVERSARIES

Ian Reid, Mary Siciliano

### PARISH COLLECTION 6th & 7th September

1st (Presbytery) \$ 792.10  
2nd (Parish) \$ 878.65

### VICTOR MORNING TEA 14th September

E. Dabinett & Y. Rogers  
21st September  
F. Hanna & V. Coffey

### VICTOR MEET & GREET September Saturdays

V. Cross  
September Sundays  
R. Reid & E. Dabinett

### GOOLWA MEET & GREET September

C. Rivers

### MORNING TEA September

C. May, A. Turner, V. Attard

### ST JOHN'S MUSIC GROUP

Practice 3.00pm Wednesday.  
Claire Williams 0429 008 199



PRAY  
FOR  
THE



PEOPLE OF  
UKRAINE and  
THE HOLY LAND



### HOLY FATHER'S 2025 PRAYER INTENTIONS:

#### FOR SEPTEMBER : For Our Relationship With All Of Creation.

Let us pray that inspired by St. Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.

### GRIEVING FOR CREATION

On this second Sunday of our Season of Creation we grieve for what is being lost in our world affected by over-use and climate change.



John Dabrowski sent in this picture of the felling of a mighty tree with the caption *So much lost!*

We are experiencing the effects of climate change here on the Fleurieu with the drought and the algal bloom.

### WHERE CAN WE FIND HOPE AND THE ENERGY TO CARE.

Archbishop O'Regan shared these thoughts in his sermon at the Mass of Creation held last Sunday outdoors in Stockade Park in the city.

"This algal bloom is a sign of what Pope Leo calls "the wounds of sin" written into creation. It is not an isolated incident but part of a larger pattern, rising temperatures, extreme weather - droughts and floods, species loss and fragile ecosystems pushed to the brink by over-use. And yet, amid this sobering reality, the Gospel calls us not to despair but to sow seeds of hope.

***The algal bloom may seem like a story of destruction, but it can also be a summons to responsibility. It invites us to ask:***

***What small seeds can we plant today in our families, our Parishes, our communities that will bear fruit for tomorrow?***

The seed, as Jesus teaches, begins small. A smile, a prayer, a decision to recycle, a choice to walk instead of drive, a plant cared for, a community garden, a parish initiative. None of these will change the world overnight but together they form an **ecosystem of care**, grounded in fidelity and nourished by love."

**A big thank you to our maintenance and garden groups who take such good care of our Church grounds.**

### SHARING PRODUCE AND PLANTS

Thanks to those who are bringing along produce and plants to share among us or to sell for Comoro. One small step in our ongoing care for creation.

### CELEBRATING CREATION

Join us for Spring Plant Sale & Open Day at Nangawooka Flora Reserve **this Sunday afternoon**. We will leave at 12.15 from St Joan's car park. Sausage sizzle available. Speak to Fran if you are interested. 0415 124 010

### BILL TO LIMIT ABORTIONS

On 17th September Sarah Game MP will introduce a bill in the SA Legislative Council to stop the abortion of healthy viable babies after 23 weeks right up to birth. Her bill will be tabled in the SA Legislative Council on 17 September. Please pray for its success. [www.drjoannahowe.com.au](http://www.drjoannahowe.com.au)

### VINNIES – THANK YOU!

Sincere thanks to all our generous donors to this year's Vinnies Winter Appeal – **a wonderful \$6,710 was received!** This surely reflects well on that part of our Parish Vision and Mission Statement: *"We will ... reach out to those in need."*

### VINNIES MEETING

will take place at Victor Harbor at 9.30 on Wednesday 18th September. New members always welcome.



## SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY, 14th SEPTEMBER



Today we are gathered on Safeguarding Sunday, a day when we pause to focus on our responsibility to protect and care for those who are vulnerable - particularly children, young people and the elderly. We are called to be a safe, welcoming and hope-filled church. In our everyday lives, let's be mindful of those around us who are vulnerable or marginalised. Who are the "silent" ones in our society, the ones without a voice? Today, God may be calling you to stand up for them. Whether it's through prayer, support, or direct action, we are invited to participate in God's work of justice.

## CATHOLIC CHARITIES MONTH

Each year about 800 children with special needs and their families are receiving education and special support via Religious Services and Events, Pastoral Visiting both in the home and in Hospital, Interpreting, School and Family Support and NDIS Support. – **Our Lady of La Vang & St Patrick's Special Schools**

## MESSAGE FROM A PARISHIONER

Tony Mawdsley would like to let us know he is well and safe and living in Estia Aged Care in Encounter Bay. Liz Sunman regularly visits Estia and takes communion to several Catholics there but Tony would also welcome visits from any of his friends.

## KSC NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER

**45 Club** For many years Robert Lee has taken care of our 45 club and has decided it's time for a rest and to care for his wife Sandy. Thank you so much Robert for the great job you have done. Paul and John will be taking over from this week. We ask those in Victor who wish to be part of the 45 club please place your \$20 in an envelope with your name and 45 Club written on the envelope and place in second collection. Please note that the results and winner will be placed in the Encounter. All monies raised will go towards Vinnies' Christmas Appeal.

## Melbourne Cup

Early next month we will begin announcing all arrangements and hope for great support from the parish.

**The sick** Sandy Lee

**Anniversaries** Jim Brown, Joe O'Shaughnessy, Ian Reid, Bernie Rush.

## SCHOOL CHAPLAINCY FUNDRAISER

to be held at the Victor Harbor Lutheran Church on Sunday October 5th from 2pm. Entry fee \$10 adults, Children 7 and over \$5.

A family oriented quiz with fun questions for all ages.

For bookings text 0409 698 937.



## OUR LADY OF SORROWS

Feast Day 15th September

This feast was also known in earlier times as *Our Lady of Compassion*. Mary understands our pain. She too has experienced deep sorrow.

## FATHER'S ANNUAL RETREAT

Fr Vinh is going on his annual retreat this week. We will celebrate the liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion during the week.

Our prayers are with you Father.

THIS WEEK: 13th & 14th Sept.

## VICTOR HARBOR Saturday 6pm

Commentator: C. Huppatz

R.1 L. Blacket  
R.2 C. Allen

EMHC E. O'Shaughnessy

## Sunday 11am

Commentator: P. O'Brien

R. 1 W. Baker  
R. 2 A. Rose

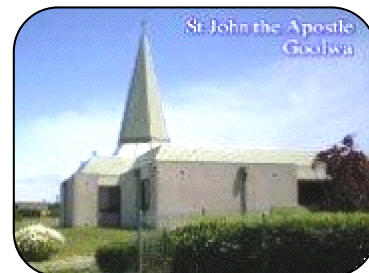
EMHC J. Baker

## GOOLWA 9am

Commentator: Marie Riddle

R1 M. O'Halloran  
R2 Michael Riddle

EMHC T. Siciliano



NEXT WEEK: 20th & 21st Sept.

## VICTOR HARBOR Saturday 6pm

Commentator: L. Blacket

R.1 V. Cross  
R.2 M. Mulvihill

EMHC E. O'Connell

## Sunday 11am

Commentator: F. Hanna

R. 1 G. Ryan  
R. 2 L. Sunman

EMHC K. Dudley

## GOOLWA 9am

Commentator: A. Fawcner

R1 P. Kennelly  
R2 A. Cowley

EMHC R. Austin



## VICTOR HARBOR/GOOLWA CATHOLIC PARISH

NGARRINDJERI and  
RAMINDJERI land

### CATHOLIC PARISH HOUSE

32 Seaview Road (PO Box 464)  
VICTOR HARBOR SA 5211  
Telephone: 8552 1084 (*Please leave a message if the Office is unattended - we will get back to you asap*)  
Email: [catholicvhg@bigpond.com](mailto:catholicvhg@bigpond.com)  
Web: [www.victorgoolwacatholic.org.au](http://www.victorgoolwacatholic.org.au)

### PARISH TEAM CONTACTS

#### • PARISH PRIEST

Fr Vinh-Quang Tran (8552 1084;  
in an emergency - 0429 098 802)  
Email: [Vinh2511@bigpond.com](mailto:Vinh2511@bigpond.com)

#### • PARISH MANAGER

Mrs Pat Clingan (0410 593 617)  
(Monday & Thursday: 10am - 12 noon)  
Email: [Parish\\_manager@bigpond.com](mailto:Parish_manager@bigpond.com)

#### • PARISH ENCOUNTER

Please forward items for the newsletter to the Parish Office - 8552 1084, [catholicvhg@bigpond.com](mailto:catholicvhg@bigpond.com)  
(All items for the newsletter by Wednesday evening)

#### • PARISH TREASURER

Mr Merv Mallett (0412 103 443)  
Email: [parish\\_treasure@bigpond.com](mailto:parish_treasure@bigpond.com)

#### • INTEGRITY and SAFEGUARDING

- Integrity and Safeguarding Dept (8210 8159)
  - Victor Harbor/Goolwa contact: Andy Nicholls (0475 893 521)

- CSHW SA (Safety, Health, Welfare) please contact the Parish Office.



(Continued from page 1)

heaven, the Son of Man who is in heaven; and the Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved.'

### THE LIGHT ON THE FOOTY FIELD

It was a Friday night, and the local footy oval was buzzing. Families sat on the sidelines with hot chips, kids ran around with their jumper half on, and the floodlights shown down bright. In the middle of the field, Kai, a Year 9 student, was having a rough game. He'd missed a kick, missed a pass, and by halftime, he was on the bench with his head in his hands.

He muttered to himself, "I'm useless. Everyone must think I'm a joke."

From the stands, his dad noticed. He walked down, crouched beside him, and said quietly, "Mate, no matter how many goals you kick or how many mistakes you make, you're my son. Nothing changes that. I love you. Just give it your best, that's all I ask."

Something in Kai shifted. He jogged back onto the field – not suddenly perfect, but lighter. He played with freedom, laughed with his teammates, and even managed a decent kick or two. He knew he was loved, no matter the scoreboard.

That moment is a glimpse of what Jesus is saying in John 3: 13 - 17. God doesn't love us because we're flawless, or because we "score goals" in life. God loves us because we are God's children. God sent Jesus not to condemn us for our dropped marks or mistakes, but to lift us up, to show us what eternal life looks like – a life where we know we're loved beyond measure.

For families, for schools, for parishes, this story is real. Kids, parents, teachers, parishioners – we all have days when we feel like we've failed,

like we don't measure up. But the heart of our faith is this: "God so loved the world that God sent us Jesus." That love is steady. That love heals. That love gives us the courage to get back out there, live fully, and share hope with others.

GPBS eNews

### SIGNS OF HOPE IN OUR HOMES

Jesus points us to a love that is greater than anything we can imagine – a love that heals, restores, and lifts us up. For the people of Israel in the desert, looking up to the bronze serpent became a moment of hope and survival. For us today, looking up to Christ on the cross reminds us that God meets us in our struggles and offers us a way forward.

In our families, in our parishes, and in our busy, sometimes messy lives, we are called to be signs of that same hope. Whether it's the way we forgive, the way we encounter one another, or the way we gather at Mass, we can help each other see Christ more clearly.

Faith isn't just about the next life – Jesus reminds us that eternal life begins now. Every time we choose kindness over resentment, patience over frustration, or generosity over self-interest, we lift up Christ in our homes and communities. And in doing so, we help our children, friends, and neighbours discover the God who brings life in abundance.

### THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(15 - 21 September)

- **Monday, 15:** Our Lady of Sorrows (Heb 5:7-9; Jn 19:25-27)
- **Tuesday, 16:** Sts Cornelius and Cyprian (1 Tim 3:1-13; Lk 7:11-17)
- **Wednesday, 17:** Weekday, Ord Time 23 (1 Tim 3:14-16; Lk 7:31-35)
- **Thursday, 18:** Weekday, Ord Time 23 (1 Tim 4:12-16; Lk 7:36-50)
- **Friday, 19:** Weekday, Ord Time 23 (1 Tim 6:2-12; Lk 8:1-3)
- **Saturday, 20:** Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn, Paul Chŏng Ha-sang & companions (1 Tim 6:13-16; Lk 8:4-15)
- **Sunday 21:** 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ord Time Amos 8:4-7; 1 Tim 2:1-8; Lk 16:1-13)

### PASTORAL CARE

If you need a priest for anointing prior to medical treatment or if you are ill (not necessarily life-threatening) or for last rites please contact: (08) 8552 1084 or in an emergency 0429 098 802.