



Encounter

VICTOR HARBOR/GOOLWA CATHOLIC PARISH

**TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR**

*A living, vibrant
faith community*

Vol 13 : No 41

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.



FIRST READING

Ecclesiasticus 3:17-20, 28-29

My son, be gentle in carrying out your business, and you will be better loved than a lavish giver. The greater you are, the more you should behave humbly, and then you will find favour with the Lord; for great though the power of the Lord is, he accepts the homage of the humble. There is no cure for the proud man's malady, since an evil growth has taken root in him. The heart of a sensible man will reflect on parables, an attentive ear is the sage's dream.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 67:4-7, 10-11

God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

1. The just shall rejoice at the presence of God. They shall exult and dance for joy. O sing to the Lord, make music to his name; rejoice in the Lord, exult at his presence. <R>
2. Father of the orphan, defender of the widow, such is God in his holy place. God gives the lonely a home to live in; he leads the prisoners forth into freedom. <R>
3. You poured down, O God, a generous rain: when your people were starved you gave them new life. It was there that your people found a home, prepared in your goodness, O God, for the poor. <R>

SECOND READING

Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24

What you have come to is nothing known to the senses: not a blazing fire, or a gloom turning to total darkness, or a storm; or trumpeting thunder or the great voice speaking which made everyone that heard it beg that no more should be said to them. But what you have come to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem where the millions of angels have gathered for the festival, with the whole Church in which everyone is a 'first-born son' and a citizen of heaven. You have come to God himself, the supreme Judge, and been placed with spirits of the saints who have been made perfect; and to Jesus, the mediator who brings a new covenant.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 11:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Take my yoke upon you; learn from me,
for I am gentle and lowly in heart.
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL

Luke 14:1, 7-14

On a sabbath day Jesus had gone for a meal to the house of one of the leading Pharisees; and they watched him closely. He then told the guests a parable, because he had noticed how they picked the places of honour.

He said this, 'When someone invites you to a wedding feast, (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, John Blacket, Paul Fahey, John Tregeagle, Betty Berry, Geoff & Rose Munro, Mark Kelly, Pat Mezzino, Tommy & Eileen McCoey, Mairead & Neil Cummings, Mary Ferguson, Pat Chigwidden, Robyn Kelly, Stephen Chalmers, Loudi Carle, Sandy Lee.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Maureen Farmer, Brian Fitzgerald, Len Peake

ANNIVERSARIES

Ian Reid, Mary Siciliano

PARISH COLLECTION 23rd & 24th August

1st (Presbytery) \$ 895.10
2nd (Parish) \$ 857.25

VICTOR MORNING TEA 31st August

F. Hanna & M. Cunningham
7th September
L. Sunman & F. Hanna

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 AUGUST: For mutual coexistence

Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult, might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious or ideological reasons.



WELCOME HOME FATHER VINH!

We are relieved that you weren't detained by Typhoon Kajiki and have returned to us safe and sound!!!

IT HAS ARRIVED AT LAST THE FINAL SUNDAY OF WINTER!!

**SPRING BECKONS AND WE ARE ABOUT TO
CELEBRATE SEPTEMBER AS THE SEASON OF
CREATION - THE THEME THIS YEAR IS
Peace in Creation.**



**SO TO OUR POETS – SEND IN YOUR
OFFERINGS – IF POSSIBLE KEPT TO 10 LINES.**

**EVERYONE IS INVITED TO SEND IN PHOTOGRAPHS OF SOMETHING IN
NATURE THAT SPEAKS OF Peace in Creation. To 0415 124 010.**

**WE WILL HAVE OUR PRODUCE TABLE WITH FLOWERS, PLANTS,
FRUIT AND VEGGIES TO SHARE, SO BRING ALONG YOUR OFFERINGS.**

OUR LITURGY WILL REFLECT JOY AND CARE FOR CREATION.

SO LET GO OF THOSE WINTER BLUES AND WELCOME NEW LIFE!!

THE ARCHDIOCESE INVITES YOU TO THE CELEBRATION OF OUR MASS OF CREATION

To celebrate 10 years of Laudato Si a special Mass has been written for the Universal Church. This special Mass will be celebrated in our Archdiocese by **Archbishop Patrick O'Regan** at the beginning of our **Season of Creation**
Date: Saturday 6th September

Place: Stockade Botanical Park Northfield

Time: Starting at 10am. We would need to leave by 8.00 am.

BYO deck chair and picnic lunch to share. A free icecream cart will be available.
Let Fran Hanna (0412 124 010) know if you would like to attend.



GOOLWA GARDEN DAY

will be held on Tues 2nd Sept from 9.30am to 11.30am.
Please see Tony or Henry for enquiries

KSC BBQ There will not be BBQ on Father's Day but on the 14th September.

The Knights of the Southern Cross Father's Day Raffle will be drawn this weekend at Victor Harbor after the 6pm Mass, at Goolwa after the 9am Mass.



SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY - 31st AUGUST SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT

Signs of Hope on the Edge:

Serving Homeless People with Mental Ill Health

Australia is facing a growing crisis: over 273,000 people sought help from homelessness services last year, many also struggling with mental illness, while services are stretched beyond capacity. This year's Social Justice Statement calls us to follow Jesus' example - seeing, listening to and caring for those on the margins of society.

<https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2025/>



CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL FOR OUR ARCHDIOCESE

September is the month of the appeal for our special charities.

Envelopes are inserted in the Encounter or available in the porch.

When you support Catholic Charities, you support local agencies working with the most vulnerable in South Australia.

- Centacare Catholic Community Services
- Hutt St Centre
- Aboriginal Catholic Ministry
- Our Lady of La Vang Special School
- St Patrick's Special School

To donate: **Place your gift in the envelope provided and place on the collection plate OR ONLINE at charities@adelaide.catholic.org.au**

Pray for the work of these charities.

FORGIVENESS

Last Sunday Father Roderick introduced us to the powerful story of Jan Ruff-O'Herne. She was a migrant from Dutch Java, a member of our Archdiocese, a teacher in our schools, who passed away in 2019. In the midst of her suffering in a prison camp in Java during WW2 she tells how she used the words of Jesus on the Cross: "Forgive them Father, for they know not what they do".

Father Roderick spoke of Jan's process for forgiveness:

The victim makes the first move, as soon as they can.

Forgiveness is one-sided and unconditional.

Healing may come through forgiveness or may come later.

Reconciliation may come through forgiveness or might never come.

Forgiving does not mean forgetting.



Recently Pope Leo spoke of the same forgiveness:

"This is the scandal of **"PREVENTIVE" FORGIVENESS** — forgiveness that comes first, without requiring any pre-conditions. The Gospel of John describes Jesus offering bread even to Judas who betrays him. Offering him forgiveness.

Jesus forgives us unreservedly. Let us ask for his forgiveness.

Is there someone in our lives whom we are called to forgive?

Do we ourselves need to ask for forgiveness from someone?

Jan Ruff-O'Herne's story is found in her book *"50 years of Silence"*.

It can be borrowed through the library.

She appeared on Australian Story in 2007.

The transcript of the episode can be reached online at

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2007-04-02/an-uncomfortable-truth/9173600>

THIS WEEK: 30th & 31st August

VICTOR HARBOR Saturday 6pm

Commentator: E. O'Shaughnessy

R.1 L. Blacket

R.2 C. Allen

EMHC E. O'Connell

Sunday 11am

Commentator: F. Hanna

R. 1 A. Rose

R. 2 L. Sunman

EMHC P. O'Brien

GOOLWA 9am

Commentator: M. Freeborn

R1 E. Bourne

R2 M. Mulvihill

EMHC A. Turner



NEXT WEEK: 6th & 7th September

VICTOR HARBOR Saturday 6pm

Commentator: L. Blacket

R.1 C. Huppertz

R.2 V. Cross

EMHC A. Fawcner

Sunday 11am

Commentator: T. Hounslow

R. 1 M. Cunningham

R. 2 G. Ryan

EMHC F. Hanna

GOOLWA 9am

Commentator: J. Ryan

R1 R. Lee

R2 D. Huppertz

EMHC M. Ryan

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
Web: 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

• PARISH MANAGER

Mrs Pat Clingan (0410 593 617)
(Monday & Thursday: 10am - 12 noon)
Email: Parish_manager@bigpond.com

• PARISH ENCOUNTER

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

• PARISH TREASURER

Mr Merv Mallett (0412 103 443)
Email: 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) Contact Cathy May (0401 584 237)



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do not take your seat in the place of honour. A more distinguished person than you may have been invited, and the person who invited you both may come and say, "Give up your place to this man." And then, to your embarrassment, you would have to go and take the lowest place. No; when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host comes, he may say, "My friend, move up higher." In that way, everyone with you at the table will see you honoured. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

Then he said to his host, 'When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours, for fear they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No; when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.'

THE TABLE AT THE COMMUNITY BBQ

It was the parish community BBQ, and the oval was buzzing. Families spread picnic rugs, kids chased footies, the band was warming up, and the smell of sausages drifted through the air.

As people lined up for food, the long rows of trestle tables quickly filled. At one end, the "important" seats were taken fast – the parish council members, the school principal, a few well-known business owners in the community. Their table was loud with laughter, selfies, and chatter about upcoming projects.

At the other end, near the bins and a little further from the action, a small group sat quietly. A mum new to the country, still learning English. An older man who'd lost his wife last year and rarely left the house. A couple of teenagers on the edge of things, glued to their phones but clearly not part of any group.

People walked past them, maybe smiled politely, but kept heading towards the "better" seats.

One young family arrived late, plates in hand, and for a moment they hesitated. There were spots open at both ends. The kids wanted to sit near their friends in the noisy crowd, but the parents paused. They

glanced down the row, noticed the quiet group, and made a decision.

"Let's sit here."

At first, the conversation was stilted. But soon, something shifted. The mum from overseas shyly offered to share some homemade food she had brought. The older man's face lit up when the kids asked about his football days. The teenagers laughed when someone showed them how to win at the sausage sizzle raffle. By the end of the afternoon, that table – once ignored – was alive with energy, laughter, and real connection.

On the way home, the father said quietly, "You know, I think we found the best seats in the place today."

This is exactly what Jesus was getting at in today's Gospel. True blessing doesn't come from being seen in the "important" seats, from status or recognition. It comes when we choose to sit with those who are overlooked, when we make space for those who cannot repay us, when we give our attention and love where it's least expected.

The challenge for us today is simple but confronting: at school, at work, at parish events, even around our own dinner tables – where do we sit? Do we rush to be with the familiar and comfortable, or do we slow down, notice who is left out, and choose to sit there instead?

That choice can change everything. It might just be the place where God's Kingdom comes alive – around an ordinary table, with unlikely people, where everyone finally feels they belong.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(01 - 07 September)

- **Monday, 01:** Weekday, Ord Time 22 (1 Thess 4:13-18; Lk 4:16-30)
- **Tuesday, 02:** Weekday, Ord Time 22 (1 Thess 5:1-6, 9-11; Lk 4:31-37)
- **Wednesday, 03:** St Gregory the Great (Col 1:1-8; Lk 4:38-44)
- **Thursday, 04:** Weekday, Ord Time 22 (Col 1:9-14; Lk 5:1-11)
- **Friday, 05:** Weekday, Ord Time 22 (Col 1:15-20; Lk 5:33-39)
- **Saturday, 06:** Weekday, Ord Time 22 (Col 1:21-23; Lk 6:1-5)
- **Sunday 07:** 23rd SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME (Wis 9:13-18; Philemon 9-10, 12-17; Lk 14:25-33)

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.