



St Martin de Porres

Hallett Cove Catholic Community
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December, 2021

Community Newsletter

No 33/2021

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

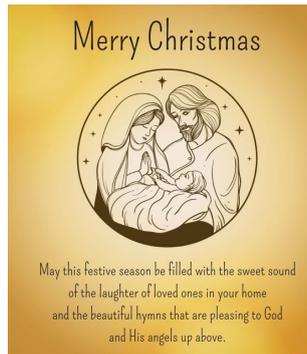
News from the Pastoral worker.

As we approach the end of 2021, I am so glad to be living in South Australia and involved in parish life at Hallett Cove. Advent is a time to reflect and give thanks for our many blessings.

Thank you all for your efforts. We still need some COVID Marshall's for our Masses over Christmas and if you have done the training, Pat would love to have your details.

During this Advent season, we are lucky to have input from a lot of parishioners who are so talented. Our Liturgies are rich and engaging, our church looks amazing and thank you to Mila for leading us with her magnificent flower arranging. All the groups who donate their time and effort and the generosity of our community is so evident.

If you would like to be involved in our liturgy, Celebration with the children, especially the Christmas Eve Mass or decorating our church leading up to the birth of our saviour, let us know.



Pat Carlisle and Kevin Liston are working hard to ensure we all have a wonderful prayerful experience this year.

As I said in the last newsletter, please consider Children's Liturgy for 2022. We would also love to have a couple of extra leaders for children's liturgy on Saturday evening 6pm Mass. We want to be able to provide children's Liturgy at every Mass and we are so grateful to the Leaders that work with our students.

Thank you!

Memorial Garden:

I am hoping to get a group who are interested in the memorial garden out the front of our church. Alex Saba from our PPC would love to hear from you. As you know, the two benches were installed in the garden 2 months ago.

We want to have a nice colourful garden we have a donation of \$150 and hoping to plant two standard roses and complete the garden by Christmas.

As usual we will keep you posted on further developments.

Sacraments at St Martin de Porres:

39 children made their Sacrament of Reconciliation on Tuesday 19th October.

Please keep these families in your prayers as they prepare for Confirmation and First Eucharist in 2022.

Thank you to Ben Ryan for all his guidance.

Christmas Carols 2021

This year on December 3rd 7-8pm, we will participate at the Christmas carols at Heron Way Hallett Cove. Thank you to Rae Campbell, Joy Saba, Zyg Staszyc, Glenice Fanning and Maureen Griggs who joined the other churches in our area, bringing a wonderful evening of carol singing to the community. Please put this date in your diary.

May you all have a Blessed Holy season.
Take care Marion

Our Parish Vision

A Catholic community enriched by, and centered on, the Eucharist, empowered to bring the Good News to all.

Parish Pastoral Council

The Parish Pastoral Council is currently working on renewing the Strategic Plan for our Parish. Our Strategic Planning has been professionally led by Brian Spencer. We have used the Parish Mission as our guiding force. Our understanding of the issues we face provide the information we need to select the appropriate strategies to achieve our Mission. We can build on our strengths and address identified areas for improvement. Thanks to the Parishioners who provided valuable ideas and information which is helping us work towards our Strategic Plan.

We are currently working on 3 important areas

Ministry : We proclaim the Good News, strengthened within our community, by being an active people of God.

Community: To be a faith-filled community that is welcoming, inclusive, caring, empowering and out reaching.

Liturgy: To celebrate our Catholic faith through involvement in the Sacraments and Scripture, encouraging all to actively participate and respond by being members of Christ.



During the Diocesan Assembly in September, members of the PPC worked in small discussion groups to listen and dialogue with one another around the Diocesan themes. The purpose was to gather suggestions and ideas for the growth and development of the Church. 450 people from all over the diocese took part. Fr Michael, Fr Dominic, Deacon Tim, Marion, Ansel, Joy and myself represented St Martin de Porres Parish and Ben Ryan & Sam Baxter represented St Martin de Porres school. The end result of each group was a set of recommendations for further discernment or action by various groups, communities or people in the Archdiocese of Adelaide. Thanks also to those parishioners who filled out suggestions and ideas on the cards which were used in the Assembly. The Plenary Council members took this information from the Diocesan Assembly and future work will occur in 2022.

We will keep you updated on further developments of the Strategic Plan, the Diocesan Assembly and the Plenary Council.

Fr Michael blessed the Garden area in front of the church as Garden seats were organized as Memorials for past parish priests. Fr Dominick is conducting Mass for the residents of the Anglicare Home in Trott Park. Marion continues to take communion to those unable to attend Mass through illness and COVID restrictions.

Congratulations to Peter McKenna who recently received a well-deserved 2021 Southern Suburbs Volunteer Service Award. Peter works tirelessly and we thank him and appreciate all that he does for our parish.



A Fundraiser barbecue was recently held at Reynella Bunnings store. Thank you to all those people who generously gave of their time to help make this a successful event.



During the Weekend Masses of 4 & 5 December all church volunteers will be recognized and thanked for the generous work that they do for our parish.

The reintroduction of the fortnightly Morning Tea on Sunday and the Monthly drinks and nibbles on Saturday night have been welcomed by Parishioners. Please feel free to join us after Masses.

I thank all the Parish Pastoral Council Members for their dedication and work this year and wish them and their families a relaxing and peaceful Christmas.

Helen Thompson
Chair Person PPC

St Martin de Porres Parish Finance Council

Items of interest – November 2021

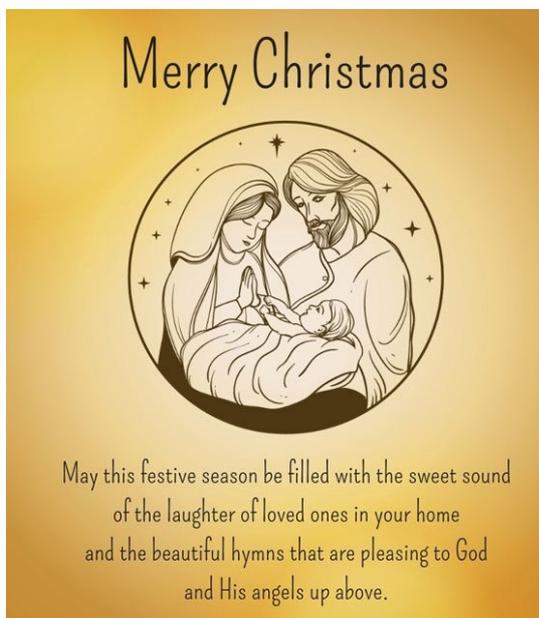
Year to date accounts shows income in line with the budget and expenditure under budget (14%) giving us an excellent result at the end of October. There are still some charges that are due in the last quarter however we are confident that we can achieve a positive yearend result. Thank you for those who are part of the plan giving program, regularly contribute using the boxes in the foyer every weekend – we all appreciate your support.

A \$1300 profit from the Bunnings BBQ in October is outstanding, great support from both donations and those willing to help out on the day.

A draft budget was discussed for 2022 – the figures tabled included estimates for the Co-Responsibility and Emergency Services Levy as these are both unknowns at this time. The proposed budget shows a slight deficit for 2022 and will be tabled at the next Parish Council Meeting for approval.

With a proposed change in banking procedures, Pat has put together new reconciliation and banking sheets for the counting teams. Pat will arrange an instruction pack and will be available to assist as we roll out the new procedures.

Fr Michael asked that we look at both the configuration and seating type to accommodate parishioners who are using a wheelchair or walker. We will look at adding an arm to a number of chairs and providing space to make it easier to sit in the church.



Maintenance

• Completed

- Gardening around the Parish House
- Tiles on the veranda have been replaced
- Maintenance on the Memorial Garden

• To be done

- Painting gutters and fascia's on church;
- Carpet repairs (monitor);
- New door for the reconciliation room;
- Gardening to keep the Parish House and surrounds neat and tidy;
- Central entrance door closing heavily – only open if necessary, keep locked at all other times;
- Parish House:
 - New network cable required in the office at the Parish House;
 - Water damage in the Parish House bathroom requires action;
 - The cupboard door in the Parish House bathroom needs replacing.
 - lighting outside parish house requires action

Work Health & Safety

- COVID Plan updates - we are allowed 335 in the church and 70 in the foyer. Singing allowed as long as masks are worn. Must be seated whilst eating and drinking
- WHS audit April 13th. – 2 outstanding non conformances
- volunteer inductions – new forms and requirements coming from head office- will update all when new requirements received.
- The two-year RCD testing has been completed at the Church & Parish House.

• Statements as at the end of September 2021:

YTD: Income - \$71,560 YTD:
Expenditure – \$64,4595
Available funds - \$97,288

Pete McKenna
Parish Finance Council
Chairperson



THE KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS (SA) INC.

Brighton – Marion – Hallett Cove -
Glenelg Branch

It appears Covid is with us for some time. Wearing a mask is still a necessity. At least it keeps us healthy. What is good is being able to get out and about more often.

For 2021, the Formation Program has been a discussion on the Six National Themes from the Plenary Council and the Diocesan gathering. From the outcomes of these gatherings, our branch will base the 2022 Formation program on the discussion themes of the five parishes we support. The Hallett Cove Parish Community Newsletter of October 2021 details the Discussion Themes of the parish.

The recent Knights State Conference confirmed the support of Southern Cross Care (Started by the Knights in the 1960s) support of the Hutt Street Centre and support of the Vinnies conferences in our parish/s. Our branch supports five Vinnies conferences in our parish/s, especially at Christmas.

You can help us over Christmas with the Knights Bottle Drive. Just a phone call to Tony Schar: mob: 0419127491. Your support helps us to support the Vinnies and others in our parishes.

2022 will be 100 years when the Knights of the Southern Cross was established in South Australia. Various functions will be held with a Book launch in May 2022 of the past 100 years.

We remember in our Masses and prayers the recently deceased and for those who are sick in our Parish/s.

Stay Safe and well.
Bro Rod Roach
Chairman

Vinnies Giving Tree

The tree still has a few tags left—please return all items by Sunday 12th December as this is the day that Vinnies will be packing and delivering hampers.



Congratulations

We congratulate Shirley & George Hanna on the occasion of their 55th Wedding Anniversary on the 15th October. They celebrated with us with a special blessing during Mass



1st Sunday of Advent Blessing of the Cribs

Thank you to all who brought in the Nativity scenes for blessing last weekend.



Thank you also to Pat Carlisle for the gorgeous Advent wreath and decorations for Advent.

Baptisms at Hallett Cove

Recently Deacon Tim celebrated the baptism of 2 young boys Asher & Koby.



If you would like to find out more about Baptism, please contact the parish office.

Daring to Hope

Deacon Tim Grauel

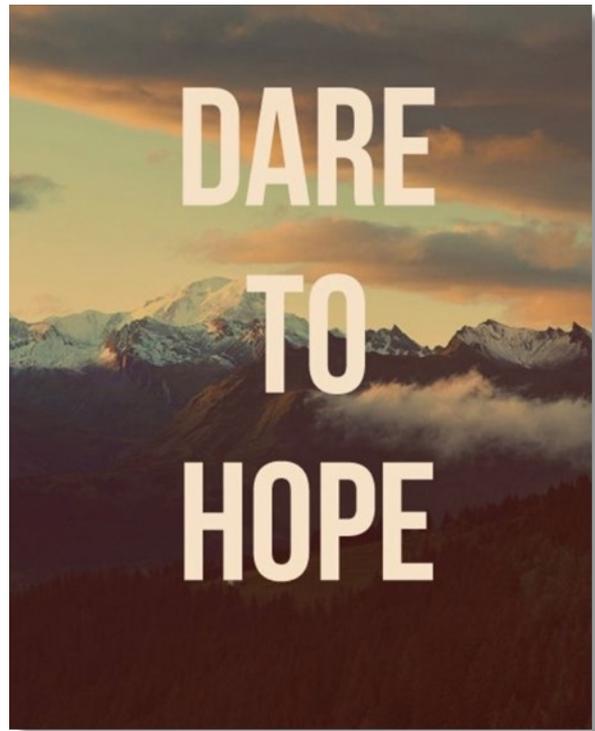
During the period between Christmas and New Year in 1944, a spike in deaths from disease and natural causes occurred in the Nazi concentration camp, Auschwitz. Viktor Frankel, an Austrian Jew, medical doctor and holocaust survivor, believed that this was caused by a lack of hope. World War II was drawing 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, newly-married man. His pregnant wife was forced to have an abortion and later died. His 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, 'all hope abandon, you who enter here' (*Inferno*, 14th 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.

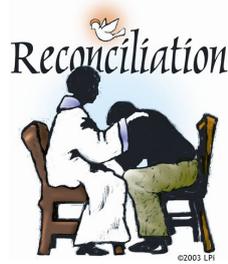
Hope is a precious gift that we convey to our weary world as Christians: how we point to what is not yet present. Let us pray for the grace to know God as the One who dares to hope—and may we dare to hope in and through and with God.

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).

Advent 2021

Reconciliation

Before Mass on Saturday evenings



Penitential Liturgy followed by
Individual Reconciliation
Brighton: Wednesday 15th December, 10am
Hallett Cove: Tuesday 21st December, 7pm

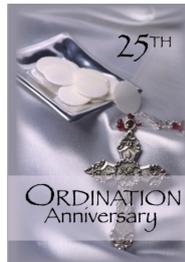


Anointing of the Sick Mass

Brighton: Saturday 18th
December

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) at Brighton on his Anniversary, and we will help him celebrate the weekend after 22nd & 23rd January at Hallett Cove.



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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 Hallett Cove Catholic Community Team

Fr Michael, Fr Dominick, Deacon Tim ,
Marion Crabb & Pat McKenna



Christmas 2021

Christmas Masses

Friday 24th December

7pm Family Vigil Mass—tickets are required
Available from the table in the foyer from this weekend

10pm Vigil Mass

**Saturday 25th December
Mass 9.30am**

Please note there will be NO Sat night Vigil Mass for **Sunday 26th December**—one Mass only on Sunday morning at 9.15am

The Wednesday 12 noon Mass will be cancelled on Wednesday 29th December.

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

Mass at 10am at Brighton and at Hallett Cove

Normal Mass times for the weekend of the **1st/2nd January**, ie 6pm Sat & 9.15am on Sunday

Please see sheets in the foyer for volunteering for ministries for these Masses

Christmas Office Closure

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

