



Greetings,

Dear Parishioners,

I'm so happy to announce the opening of three Holy Masses returning to our respective Churches this weekend. As we all feel so glad about this, we should be prudently aware, that this decision is always revocable depending on the sudden changes of this contagious and hidden virus COVID – 19. I sincerely congratulate and thank all our generous parishioners, including my secretaries for sharing this workload with me from the time this unprecedented Pandemic began. Every time, the NSW health department updates the Pandemic regulations, the Diocesan Chancery updates ours. Now, we are in the sixth version of pandemic regulations. Every time we receive this update, we have to redo the COVID - 19 plans for our buildings and our Churches. This is for sure, that in another week or two, we shall have version 7 & 8. So, dear Parishioners, I wish to remind you very clearly, COVID -19 has been teaching us many lessons, among that, the single fact which connects everyone in the world, is "We are all Human and daughters and sons of GOD." Therefore, **"All Saints Parish, (Blackbutt South) is a One Parish with One Faith, following the same Holy Trinity One God with the lived examples of our Patron Saints."**

I highly regard, honour and respect, your sentiments towards your respective Churches, but it is, almost 16 years that we became one Parish with one mind and heart (which is inscribed in our Webpage). The Parish was named "All Saints Blackbutt South." As you are aware, I'm new to the Country, new to the Parish and new to this kind of Pandemic – with my starting this Parish life and my ministry. I don't want to recall any bitter memories that you may have, I'm sure you have! But I feel this is a time for a change, this is our time to think about our distant future, roughly for another 20 years (Immediately for next 6 years). This is my humble plea for everyone to join hands as ONE PARISH.

I think this unprecedented Pandemic has shattered all conceptual attitudes of many about life and existence. Now, massive changes are happening in the traditional mentalities of the universe after this Pandemic. So let us adopt a Pauline mentality of Parish life, We are Children of God.....

One Body with Many Members (1 Corinthians 12:12-31)

"For just as the body is one and have many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way."



Holy Mass is the sacrifice of Calvary, and that is same everywhere!

The structure of the Catholic Mass is the same everywhere in the world. The mass structure has two parts; the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

The Liturgy of the Word celebrates the word of God, and we hear one to two readings from the Bible plus a Gospel reading. The readings are the same everywhere, but a parish could celebrate a special feast day and use those prescribed readings. Following the readings there is a homily. The homily is the sermon portion of the Mass given by the Priest or Deacon. It is the segment of the service in which the Priest celebrating the Mass discusses how the daily readings from the Bible relate to issues of the day and other moral and religious points he wishes to make.

The second part of the Mass is the Liturgy of the Eucharist. This is the part of Mass immediately following the prayer of the faithful where we celebrate the Lord's sacrifice. The sacrifice offered by our Lord at the gibbet of Calvary.

During the Liturgy of the Eucharist, we make offering to God; the Priest re-enacts the Last Supper; the bread and wine are consecrated in the Eucharist and become the Most Precious Body and Blood of Christ. And we then receive the Eucharist.

This Mass happens everywhere, every day in Catholic Churches throughout the world. Having a universal Church is one of the most significant aspects of the Catholic Church. Where ever you go in our world, you can attend Mass and know that it is the same as it would be if you were at your local Parish. Sunday Mass is an integral part of Catholic life. All members are required to attend Mass on Sunday as a minimum participation in public worship.

Celebration of Mass

The celebration of Mass is currently permitted within the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle, subject to the requirements of COVID-19 Safety Plans and the ability to comply with the other requirements for the use of the church buildings.

Except for the priests of the diocese, the Bishop has dispensed the faithful of the diocese from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass where they are not able to do so because of the limits on the number of persons able to be in a church building, or where to do so is problematic in the current circumstances. This dispensation remains in place until further notice.

Live stream Mass from Sacred Heart every Sunday 9.30am at
<https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream/>

Dear Parishioners,

As your Pastor, I would like to give my service to the whole Parish equally, for me, all are children of God, and we are brothers and sisters in Christ, my Parish is my Family. So, I beg your kind-hearted cooperation for the future of our parish life. Let us become kinder, more generous and more driven by mutual respect and love in dealing with everyone.

A New opportunity

A new Mass time for you, I'm finding another way to give more Mass opportunities for all our faithful and youngsters, especially to **all our Altar Servers** to come back. Please feel free to attend Saturday morning 9.30am Masses, register for Sunday (5.30 pm) evening Mass, kindly encourage children and parish families to attend at least one Mass or more in a month. There are online prayer opportunities too, read our bulletin and take a copy home, kindly don't leave or trash them in the bin, there is enormous work behind each page. Save a copy which then becomes your Church going history.

Selection of members for the Pastoral Council is important for the smooth running of the Parish.

Nominations for Pastoral Council are now being accepted. Each Mass Centre is asked to nominate at least 15 members please, these can be given to Parish Office or Fr Joseph.

.....to be continued next week