



The Peaceful Voice

25th August 2024

TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B

Social Justice Sunday 2024

Truth and Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World

Social Justice Sunday asks the Catholic community in Australia to reflect and act on social, economic and ecological issues of our time. Each year, the Australian Catholic Bishops release a statement to remind us of the social dimension of the mission of the Church. Last Tuesday, in Camilleri Hall, Bishop Vincent Long, local political members, representatives from other dioceses and agencies together with parishioners and students from our local catholic primary and secondary schools attended the launch of the 2024-2025 Social Justice Statement, **Truth and Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World**. The statement reflects on the present day together with the Gospel, sees the violence and asks why the world is as it is and what is needed to bring peace.

The statement highlights many areas of concern for our consideration. One significant area is how we understand truth.

In recent times disinformation and misinformation have become more widespread. Disinformation is information which is false and the person or organisation disseminating it, knows it to be untrue. Misinformation is information, which is false, but those disseminating it believe it to be true. Disinformation and misinformation may not be new but what is new is the way the internet and social media have enabled widespread and rapid dissemination of such information.

With increasing disinformation and misinformation comes the greater risk of conflict, as there becomes no such things as 'truth' and 'lies'.

This points to a crisis of truth which creates in turn a crisis of trust.

Without trust there can be no peace. Truth creates trust and trust creates peace. Speak truth to build trust and build trust to make peace. To speak the truth is already the beginning of peace-making.

From St Paul, "Speak the truth in love" (Ephesians 4:15)

To read the statement and watch the launch online visit

<https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2024/07/25/social-justice-statement-2024-25/> or

scan the QR code



For reflection...

How do we get in touch with ourselves and find peace in our own hearts?

In our own circles, how do we engage with social media in a positive way?

*In our prayer the **Confiteor** (I Confess), we pray "in what I have done and in what I have failed to do." Are there times, when we have been quiet but could have spoken the truth in love?*

How do we become a witness of peace in our lives, in our community and in the wider world?

Is social justice something you would like to be more involved with? If so, please contact the parish office who will put you in touch with our social justice group.

"Wage Peace" – A poem by Mary Oliver (read by Bishop Vincent)

Wage peace with your breath.
Breathe in firemen and rubble,
breathe out whole buildings and flocks of red wing blackbirds.
Breathe in terrorists and breathe out sleeping children and
fresh mown fields.

Breathe in confusion and breathe out maple trees.
Breathe in the fallen and breathe out lifelong friendships
intact.
Wage peace with your listening: hearing sirens, pray loud.
Remember your tools: flower seeds, clothes pins, clean rivers.
Make soup.

Play music, learn the word for thank you in three languages.
Learn to knit, and make a hat.
Think of chaos as dancing raspberries,
imagine grief as the outbreath of beauty or the gesture of fish.
Swim for the other side.
Wage peace.

Never has the world seemed so fresh and precious.
Have a cup of tea and rejoice.
Act as if armistice has already arrived.
Don't wait another minute.

Prayer adapted from St Francis' Fratelli Tutti

Come Holy Spirit, show us your beauty,
reflected in all the peoples of the earth,
so that we may discover anew
that all are important and all are necessary,
Different faces of the one humanity that God so loves.

Faith B4U...

Parish Plans - Report & Proposals

Wanting to know more on the Parish Plans - Report & Proposal? Visit the parish website, www.olqp.org.au, for the full report that was presented in brief by Fr Paul recently. If you would like a printed copy, please see parish staff in the office.

Keen to share your thoughts? Survey forms are available in the church foyer or office. Completed forms can be placed in the survey box located in the church foyer or return to the parish office. Thank you.

Life and Faith Enrichment

Prayer and Reflection with Sr Leone.

Sr Leone will facilitate a morning of prayer and reflection on **Wednesday 11th September, 10am – 11am** in the St George Preca Centre. Morning tea provided, all welcome.

For more information: anne.hines@olqp.org.au

OLQP Gala Dinner

14th September at 6pm.

To purchase tickets call **Susanne on 0412 225 305**

Tables of 10 or individual tickets available. Adults \$79pp, Children (3-12) \$39pp. Cost includes 3 course meal with beer, wine & soft drinks.

Location: Blaxland Room, Wentworthville Leagues Club, 50 Smith St Wentworthville.

Tickets for OLQP Gala Dinner & OLQP Festa Raffle tickets on sale after all masses this weekend.

Raffle tickets 3 for \$5.

Children's Liturgy Volunteers needed

Children's Liturgy - Once a month with a small team to share the Gospel with our young children during either the 8:30am or 10:30am Mass. School Terms only.

For details contact the Parish Office on:

P: **9631 8135** / E: parishoffice@olqp.org.au

Let us pray...

FOR OUR SICK, that they will be nourished with hope & recognise the loving presence of God in their lives.

Elie Aboumelhem, Mary Anjoul, George Attard, Rita Attard, Amara Bewert, Ellen Boissett, Frank Borg, Haryono Budiono, Ann Bugaya, Karl Croning, Mario Curmi, Kathleen Davies, Nerida Fabri, Solonge Faddoul, Margaret John, Margaret Jones, Rachel Karbic, Tulla Kavich, Tyler Kenedy, Peter Kennedy, Maxine Kroebel, Michelle Makin, Joyce Mifsud, Elsie Moran, Joseph Moses, Alex Noble, Brendon Onorato, Delma Ryan, Benjie Santiago, Carmel Thompson, Connie Tudman, Eddie Vella, Grace Widjaya, Jasper Wilhite, Maureen Zarb

FOR DEATH ANNIVERSARIES, that they now know the fullness of life & delight in God - may they pray for our active purpose in God's Mission.

Emanuel Micallef, Hildegard Prylinski, Peter Sultana, Tony Sultana

FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED, may our Lord embrace them with unimaginable joy & bless those who grieve with the power of hope. *Funeral dates listed below when known. Funeral notices are displayed on the notice board in the church foyer. Every attempt is made to stay current, but it is best not to make that your only or final source of personal information.*

Saviour Muscat - 28 Aug @ 10.30am, Mary (Maria) Cacciola

Serving at Masses

If you are over 18 years and interested in becoming an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion or a Senior Server, please contact Fr Jack at fr.jack@olqp.org.au

SRE (scripture teachers)

We currently need a SRE teacher for **Tuesdays at 10.30am** at a local public school. If you are able to assist, or would like further information, please **contact Patricia Shaw 9631 8135**.

Bishop's Father's Day Appeal

Supporting our retired priests.

This Father's Day, let us show our thanks and appreciation for our priests' lifelong gifts of faithful service. They have dedicated their lives to guiding us spiritually and emotionally, often at great personal sacrifice. Your compassionate donation cares for our clergy's health and wellbeing during sickness and retirement.

Please give generously to the Bishop's Father's Day Appeal at parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal or scan this QR code. Thank you.



The FaithFeed - 6 September

Looking for great conversations + live atmosphere + storytelling from those in their 20s, 30s & 40s? Sign up for The FaithFeed, Friday 6 September 2024 – Doors open 7PM w/live music for 7:30PM start. Downstairs @ Bishop Bede Heather Centre: 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown NSW 2148.

RSVP via QR or get in touch with the team via met@parracatholic.org



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Our Mission: To grow as a community in the likeness of Christ.

Safeguarding is a priority at OLOP

Volunteers, group leaders and assistant group leaders are asked to complete the Safeguarding modules either online or in person. Details below.

ONLINE: To sign up & log into your Safeguarding modules, visit: <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au>

IN PERSON TRAINING: To find a training session near you & to register, visit: <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>. For more information, please email: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

Thanksgiving of Ministry

As part of the OLQP community, we work towards our vision to grow as a community in the likeness of Christ. During September, there will be an opportunity for ministers and volunteers to come together in thanksgiving for all people who share their time and gifts with the wider community. This will be a time of prayer, a time of reflection on your ministry and to hear about next steps as the parish team develops ongoing accompaniment for ministry and volunteering in the parish.

Anyone who gives their time to a ministry or volunteering in the parish, is asked to attend **ONE** of the following sessions.

Tuesday 3rd September 7pm - 8.30pm via Zoom

Monday 9th September 7pm - 8.30pm in the St George Precast Centre

Wednesday 11th September 7.00pm - 8.30pm in the St George Precast Centre

Thursday 12th September 7.00pm - 8.30pm via Zoom

Saturday 14th September 9.00am - 10.30am in the St George Precast Centre

Sunday 22nd September 4.00pm - 5.30pm in the St George Precast Centre

To register for one of these sessions, please **complete this form via this QR code or contact the parish office on 9631 8135.**

For more information, please contact Lisa in the parish office on Tuesdays or Wednesdays or email lisa.bright@olqp.org.au



FEAST DAYS

This week we celebrate

27th Tuesday St Monica

28th Wednesday St Augustine, bishop, doctor

29th Thursday The Passion of St John the Baptist, martyr

This Week's Readings

1st Reading

Joshua
24:1-2, 15-18

2nd Reading

Ephesians
5:21-32

Gospel

John
6:60-69

Next Week's Readings

1st Reading

Deuteronomy
4:1-2, 6-8

2nd Reading

James
1:17-18, 21-22, 27

Gospel

Mark
7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Mass Times

Monday - 9:15am

Tuesday - 9:15am

Wednesday - 6:30am | 9:15am

Thursday - 9:15am

Friday - 6:30am | 9:15am

Saturday - Vigil 5:00pm (live streamed)

Sunday - 7:00am | 8:30am | 10:30am | 6:00pm

Memorial Mass - Last Tuesday night of each month (except December) at 7:00pm

Mass for Peace with anointing of the sick - First Saturday of each month (except January) at 10:30am

Reconciliation:

Saturday - 4:00pm - 4.45pm

Please join us via Facebook or Website, olqp.org.au, every Saturday Vigil Mass at 5:00pm

Rosary in the church: Weekdays at 8:30am & Friday nights at 7:30pm

ZOOM option available Friday night for those who cannot travel to the church for rosary.

Meeting ID: 896 7944 2594 | Passcode: rosary

P: 9631 8135 | E: parishoffice@olqp.org.au

Emergency Contact Only 0447 509 207

Parish Office hours: 9am - 1pm, 2pm - 4pm Monday to Friday

PO Box 5035 Greystanes 2145 | 198 Old Prospect Rd, Greystanes

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