



The only thing that counts is faith working through love. (Galatians 5:6)

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
8th September 2024

THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

My dear people of God,

This week, our mother Church invites all of us, her children to celebrate the beautiful Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. The Feast falls on Saturday the 14th of September. The origin of this feast draws back to the time of St. Helena, the mother of Emperor Constantine. Around the second decade of the 4th century St. Helena undertook a journey to Jerusalem in search of the Holy Places of Christ's life. She razed the second century temple of Aphrodite, which tradition held was built over the Tomb of Christ. Constantine her son then built in its place the Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre.



During the excavations workers found three crosses. Legend has it that the one on which Jesus died was identified, when its touch healed a dying patient. From then on, the Cross became an object of veneration.

As we celebrate this feast, the following reflections might help us to celebrated it fruitfully.

1. All crosses are not the cross of Christ: The Cross we venerate and exalt, is the cross of Christ. We are called to follow our Lord by carrying our own cross (Mt 16:24). But sometimes we feel our cross is so heavy and we look for help around. In those moments, examine if your cross is attached to Christ.

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Parish Priest:

Fr. Joby George VC

Priest-In Residence:Fr Sebastian
Mappilarambil VC**Parish secretary:**

Caroline Allen

Parish Manager:

Gerard Antony

Principal:

Paul Sharp

Child Safety Officer:

Florida Nugara

Catechist:

Christina D' Couto

Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil 6.30pm

Sunday..... 9.15am

..... 11.00am

Healing Mass 7.00pm

Spanish Mass:

Saturday 4.00pm

Weekday Masses:

Monday to Saturday 9.15am

Wednesday 7.00pm

Reconciliation:

Tuesday 9.45am - 10.15am

Saturday 9.45am - 10.15am

Novena to Our Lady:

Saturday 9.00am

Wednesday 7.00pm

Baptisms: Second Sunday**Divine Kids Bible Class:**

Sunday 10.15am

Parish Prayer Group:

Tuesday 7.00pm-8.00pm

Parish Halls:Available for hire –
Contact Parish Office

If you cannot find Christ in your Cross then your cross is not the instrument of Salvation and Glory; that cross is not the cross of Jesus. When there is Christ in your cross, you have the glory of the resurrection bringing hope into your days of suffering. "...that I want to know Christ the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death..." (Philip 3:10). In my sufferings I am not alone, my Jesus is carrying my cross with me.

2. The sight of the cross reminds me how precious I am in the eyes of my God: On the Cross the heavenly Father sacrificed Jesus, the only begotten Son for me. On the cross I see my value. St. Augustine says: "Don't hold yourselves cheap, seeing that the creator of all things and of you estimates your value so high, so dear, that he pours out for you every day the most precious blood of his only begotten Son." "You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish." (1 Pt 1: 18 – 19).

Ultimately, this feast calls out to each one of us, that we are not alone in our moments of carrying our cross. Attach your sufferings to the Cross of Christ and you will see the glory of God.

God bless you.

Fr. Joby George VC

CHILD SAFETY

Holy Family Parish is committed to upholding the wellbeing, safety and dignity of each child and young person and ensuring that they are able to grow and develop in a caring and supportive environment in our Church.

READINGS

SUNDAY

Isaiah 35:4-7
Psalm 146:7-10
James 2:1-5
Mark 7:31-37

MONDAY

1 Corinthians 5:1-8
Psalm 5:5-7,12
Luke 6:6-11

TUESDAY

1 Corinthians 6:1-11
Psalm 149:1-6,9
Luke 6:12-19

WEDNESDAY

1 Corinthians 7:25-31
Psalm 45:11-12,14-17
Luke 6:20-26

THURSDAY

1 Corinthians 8:1-7,11-13
Psalm 139:1-3,13-14,23-24
Luke 6:27-38

FRIDAY

St John Chrysostom

1 Corinthians 9:16-19,22-27
Psalm 84:3-6,12
Luke 6:39-42

SATURDAY

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Numbers 21:4-9
Psalm 78:1-2,34-35,36-37,38
Philippians 2:6-11
John 3:13-17

SAINT OF THE WEEK

13 September: Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop, Doctor
St. John, named Chrysostom (golden-mouthed) on account of his eloquence, came into the world of Christian parents, about the year 344, in the city of Antioch. In 374, he began to lead the life of an anchorite in the mountains near Antioch. In 398, he was elevated to the See of Constantinople and became one of the greatest lights of the Church. But he had enemies in high. Several accusations were brought against him in a pseudo-council, and he was sent into exile. His enemies were not satisfied with the sufferings he had already endured, and they banished him still further, to Pythius, at the very extremity of the Empire. He died on his way there on September 14, 407.



VACANT POSITIONS CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE

Positions for suitably qualified and experienced applicants could be found at:
<https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies>

Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne

- Animation Consultant, East Melbourne incl travel to Western Region
- Deputy Director, Proclaim Office for Mission Renewal, East Melbourne
- ACMV Coordinator, Thornbury
- Executive Assistant to the Chancellor, East Melbourne

Parish Positions

- Parish Secretary, St Dominic's Parish, Camberwell East

Other Positions

- Library Manager, Mannix Library, East Melbourne

SCHOOL MASS WITH PARENTS AND TEACHERS

The students of Holy Family Catholic School will be with us celebrating Holy Mass on **Monday the 9th**. It's a great model and inspiration for our kids when parents too participate with them and teachers in the Holy Mass to pray for them. I would like to invite parents to this Holy Mass.

COME AND WORSHIP

Our Lord Jesus is waiting for us in the Blessed Sacrament. Please find a few minutes a day to come and worship our Lord. The time we spend in the presence of the Lord is the most blessed moments of our lives. Our church is open for all till 7.00 pm every day.

HEALING MASS AND ADORATION

Every Sunday evening 7.00 pm we have Special Holy Mass celebration with praise and worship, preaching of the Word of God followed by Healing adoration and praying individually with laying on of hands.

INTERCESSION NIGHT

Every third Friday of the month from 7 pm to 12 am we have a very zealous group of people praying for the whole world. The prayer is in one-hour sessions. If you would like to join, please put in your name in the roster list in the foyer.

SOCIAL SERVICE SUNDAY

Sunday, 15th September 2024 is observed as Social Services Sunday within the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne. The day is an opportunity to give thanks for the dedicated work of thousands of staff and volunteers who stand with and serve the poor, disadvantaged and marginalised.

Catholic Social Service Victoria's (CSSV) 40+ member organisations provide critical services to Victoria's most disadvantaged and marginalised. Their 7,510 staff and 15,800 volunteers support at least 300,000 people each year across 150 sites in Victoria, plus more nation-wide.

15 September 2024



Social Services Sunday

What does the Lord require of you?

To **act justly** and to **love mercy** and to walk humbly with your God

- Micah 6:8



Watch the video

Parish Office Opening Hours

Tuesday to Friday
9.30am to 1.30pm

Presbytery T: (03) 97924317 | School T: (03) 97911853

Parish W: holyfamilydoveton.org.au

Parish E: doveton@cam.org.au

Parish Manager E: hfparishmanager@gmail.com

Child Safety E: holyfamilycso@cam.org.au

Let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, and all the more as you see the day approaching. (Hebrews 10:25)