Nazareth Parish Bulletin

A vibrant community, journeying with Jesus.

Parish office: 9412 8444 grovedale@cam.org.au www.tagparish.com.au



Nazareth Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Nazareth Parish acknowledges the Wadawurrung people who are the traditional custodians of this land and we pay respect to the Elders past and present and emerging.

Saturday 6pm

St Christopher's Church, Anglesea
Sunday 9am
St Therese Church, Torquay
Sunday 11am
Nazareth Church, Grovedale
Sunday 5pm

St Therese Church, Torquay

Rosary Wednesday 9am

St Therese Church, Torquay
Wednesday 9.30am
St Therese Church, Torquay
Thursday 9.30am
Nazareth Church, Grovedale

HOME VISITS

If there are any parishioners who are sick or housebound and would like to receive communion or a home visit please make contact with the parish office: 9412 8444

POPE'S MONTHLY INTENTIONS For the right to an education

Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.



Dear Parishioners,

Season's Greetings! I hope this Christmastide has been one full of good cheer and a time to relax with family and friends. As we celebrate the feast of the Lord's Baptism, so the church completes the Christmas season and settles into Ordinary Time. We will proceed to mark our way through the 34 weeks of the Church's year, taking time of course to observe Lent and the Church's great solemnity of Easter. No need to concern ourselves with that just yet though!

This season of cricket has been one I've also enjoyed observing. Some Big Bash games have been great, but the test series between Australia and India has been epic. The Boxing Day test was particularly good. It was great to see some new talent in the side perform well. Young Sam Konstas was a real highlight opening the batting, though I'm not sure how impressed the purists were with his aggressive, high-risk batting style. Personally, I thought it was great!

The proliferation of Twenty20 cricket the world over has changed cricket much over the past 10 years. One thing it has done is shake up the traditional form of the game. In the early days, some were fearfully predicting it would be spell the death of the Test match. But that hasn't happened. As this last series attested to, Test cricket couldn't be more popular. Record breaking crowds all over.

What is has done is influence it. And in my opinion, enhanced it. It's brought more eyes to the game, which is always a good thing. And it's slowly changed the way test cricket is being played. As young Konstas displayed, the aggressive and inventive striking of Twenty20 being utilised in Test match cricket can be very effective. And certainly entertaining! The game is ultimately about scoring more runs than the opposition, and the highest scorers in the past couple of test matches were from guys going the tonk.

I think all this can be a good lesson. In many ways the old adage of "the more things change, the more they stay the same" holds true. Test cricket is still king and I believe always will be. But we can always learn and grow. St Paul, as usual, has a some real wisdom when it comes to this truth: "Test

everything; hold fast to what is good" (1 Thess 5:21). Don't dismiss things simply because they are new or different. Rather, see what can be learnt from them to do what we've always done and do it even better.

With every blessing,

Fr Joel.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Christmas Masses. A special thanks to those who helped prepare the music, the liturgy, setting up for each Mass and all aspects that ensured the true essence of the Mass is honored. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

We begin 2025 with a large number families having already enquired about a baptism for their child and celebrating the Sacraments in the Church. We are very fortunate that we are able to offer these programs, especially to the children who attend non -Catholic schools. For us to be able to continue this program we do require additional support. If you are able to help in anyway with the Sacramental programs we would love to hear from you.

The Chamber Philharmonia Cologne is visiting our parish this weekend. The first of the 2 concerts in our area was held Thursday evening in Anglesea to an audience of about 85 people. Their second concert is this Sunday 12th January at 1.30pm at St Therese Church, Torquay. Cash sales at the door, all are welcome.

Parish office will be closed next Friday 17th January.



First Reading:

Isaiah 42:1-4. 6-7

Responsorial Psalm:

The Lord will bless his people with peace.

Second Reading:

Acts of the Apostles 10:34-38

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

The heavens were opened

and the Father's voice was heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Alleluia!

Gospel:

Luke 3:15-16. 21-22



Recent deaths: Raymond Horan, Terrence Smith, Margaret Jordan, Frances Dawson, Noel Robinson Anniversaries who are at this time:

PRAYING FOR THE SICK IN OUR COMMUNITY

Our thoughts are with those who are unwell at this time.

Please submit a consent form to have a loved one prayed for.



Parish Priest

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Parish Staff:

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Parish Office

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Phone: 9412 8444

Email: grovedale@cam.org.au

Parish Presbytery

72 Marine Drive, Torquay Vic 3228

For any urgent pastoral need outside of the office hours please call the presbytery on 03 9412 8443

Office Hours

Our hours are:- Tuesday - Friday, 9am - 3pm.

Outside of these hours, please leave a message and one of the staff will contact you when they are next in the office.

Office is Closed on Public Holidays

Bulletin Notices

Please submit them by Thursday mornings.

Email: grovedale@cam.org.au

Postal: 43a Surfcoast Highway, Torquay Vic 3228