

Voice from the Vicarage June 9th 2021

Dear All,

So some restrictions have been eased, for which we must surely be grateful, but these still place a considerable constraint on congregations gathering as we are limited to 50 people at a 'sitting'.

Throughout the lockdown periods I have set my face against the capping of numbers in church, and of sending folk away should we exceed the number allowed, which we would almost certainly do given our usual attendance at 10 a.m. I do not believe a 'booking system' for coming to Mass to be appropriate.

Temporary arrangements for Worship....

I have been in touch with your churchwardens and we have agreed to revert to the system we had in place when the most severe lockdowns of last year were eased - that is, the offering of a Mass at 8 a.m. while continuing to film and upload the 10 a.m. Celebration.

Needless to say, we hope it will not be necessary to continue this pattern beyond next week.

The acting Premier is hopeful that all things being equal travel restrictions between Melbourne and the rest of the State will be eased and in numbers allowed to meet in churches relaxed. We must wait to see, and pray that the numbers of cases and their tracing works well in the coming days.

So, this weekend..

Saturday @ 8 a.m. Mass

THE RESERVED SACRAMENT can be collected from the vicarage between 2 p.m. — 7 p.m. for receiving during your participation in the Online Celebration.

Sunday @ 8 a.m. Mass in the nave according to the Book of Common Prayer

10 a.m. SUNG MASS Online

The daily worship pattern of Mass and Evening Prayer resumes from this Friday, sometimes known as the Feast of the Sacred Heart.



The heart of Jesus revealing the highest form of love....Agape.....self giving love

on Fridays includes **reflection together on a passage of Scripture....**

For those of you who may not know, the routine for recording the mass begins with Stephen our organist and the cantor meeting at 9.30 on Saturday morning, followed by microphone checks etc. before filming. We try to do that without any re-takes unless really necessary by there are always frailties!...Last Saturday (and the person will of course remain nameless) we had three goes at the reading because, he says, he is shy of the camera, and it makes him tongue tied. (bless him!) I tell him to fall in love with the camera, but perhaps not the best advice, since most of us get all the more tongue tied when we are in love!! But all turned out well in the end and he read and interceded beautifully, from the heart.....



Javi gets on with the editing on Saturday afternoon so it can be exported and put up online....it's quite a business!



Filming is generally done and dusted by 12.15, but that's not the end as quietly and carefully Javi edits with a few stylistic bits of advice from the Vicar. That can take well over an hour, then it is exported (not sure what that means) which takes another hour, and then uploaded to Youtube. Only then then can it be put onto the website along with a copy of the service paper, and on to our parish Facebook page...

Is it all worth it?



Well, **Bumbles**, Clare Drew's companion in viewing seems content enough even if she's not exactly glued to the screen! Clare sent me this snap telling me that her parents and Tess (who used to sing in the choir and now lives in Albury) were also watching....Up until today we have had 251 viewings on Youtube which compares well with other services up on line (just saying). That will mean more than 250 people because numbers of folk watch together. Of course that doesn't mean that all have persevered for the whole service, but I'm not sure I am entirely filled with concentration for the whole service when I'm in church! But I reckon, it is, at present, very worth it!

Our Javi will return to Columbia in the next few months. WE NEED SOME HELP with this aspect of our ministry. Jesse, our web designer assists but it needs a team. Training can be given. It's an important facet of our outreach. Please pray about it, or maybe suggest it to a friend who has some skill with this technology.



If you watched last Sunday's video for the feast of Corpus Christi you will have seen it begin in the Lady chapel with two folk kneeling before this monstrance, or more accurately before the consecrated 'host' (the name given to the consecrated bread of the Eucharist) in the monstrance. The word mon-

strance' comes from the Latin meaning 'to show', and as you can see it is a showcase for the Blessed Sacrament. The monstrance may be elaborate and gold, but more glorious is the 'grains of gold' displayed. St Augustine wrote: '*Nobody eats this flesh without previously adoring it.*' Times of prayer before the Sacrament exposed in this way are one of the means of adoring Christ who is to be known in the Gift, 'found yet not trapped', as I said in last Sundays' homily..Such adoration is never to be preferred to the receiving of this Food. In fact, in my experience it increases the desire to eat. When I arrived in the parish I discovered three monstrances in the church safe....so it's a tradition revived! And a good one.. By the way, there is an hour of Exposition every Thursday at 5 p.m.....

See you @ 8 or 'see' you Online! With love + **Lindsay**