



St Peter's Parish, Surry Hills

235 Devonshire St (near Crown Street),
Parish phone: (02) 9698 1948
Website: www.stpeterssurryhills.org.au
Email: st61538@bigpond.net.au



Fr. John Macdonald, Administrator

Fr. Nicola Falzun OP, Priest in Residence for the *Missio ad gentes* of the Neocatechumenal Way

Fr. Daniel Meagher, Priest in Residence

Feast days of the week:

Mon 25 Jan **The Conversion of St Paul**

Wed 27 Jan Saints Timothy and Titus
Saint Angela Merici

Thu 28 Jan Saint Thomas Aquinas

MASS TIMES effective until 31 Jan 2021:

Tuesdays – Sat: 10:00am daily

Every Tuesday: Cenacle (after 10:00am Mass)

Every Thursday: Cenacle (after 10:00am Mass)

Sundays: 9:00am and 10:30am

Confessions: Before Mass Tuesday to Saturday especially 9:30am Friday & Saturday

COVID update - In keeping with NSW Health directives, anyone attending a church now must wear a **FACE MASK**. Children under the age of 12 are exempt from this rule, but are encouraged to wear face masks where practicable.

NSW Health can impose a \$200 fine on each individual failing to abide by this rule.

Please note: ** Convivium will not take place in the Parish courtyard on the next 4 Sundays. We invite people to go in groups to any of nearby cafes before returning for Evangelium.

Calling for Readers at weekday Mass – If you would like to read at any of the daily masses, please express your interest either via email to the Parish, or give your name to Angela after mass.

RCIA – These sessions resume on Thursday 4 Feb 2021 at 6:00pm in the Duffy Hall. All parishioners are welcome as a way of revising their own knowledge of the faith.

Go Make Disciples - Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP launched **Go Make Disciples**, a new Archdiocesan Mission Plan on **12 December**, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Star of the New Evangelisation. The new plan is aimed at renewing our parishes as places of encounter with the living Christ and centres of evangelisation and outreach to our community in love and mercy. Visit the **Go Make Disciples** website (www.gomakedisciples.org.au) where you'll find a downloadable copy of the full plan and a summary version.



Blessed are you, Father, who, in your infinite love sent us your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, that we may have life, and have it in abundance.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, renew our Eucharistic communities.

May they be places of encounter with the living Christ, centres of evangelisation and outreach to our community in love and mercy.

Grant us the gifts of faith, hope and love to be faithful disciples of Jesus and radiant witnesses to the people of Sydney.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Star of the New Evangelisation. *Pray for us!*

GO MAKE DISCIPLES
gomakedisciples.org.au

If you have missed Archbishop Fisher's homily, on the occasion of the launch of **Go Make Disciples** then click here - <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1a0BtWQGGuWrme-mAFtU917yOnQnQ0tv7m/view?ts=5fd6a743>

For more information contact Parish Renewal Team at the Sydney Centre for Evangelisation, Archdiocese of Sydney on 9390 5307 or elizabeth.arblaster@sydney-catholic.org



Festival of Beauty St Peter's Parish Surry Hills: 31 Jan - 21 Feb 2021

St Peter's Parish Surry Hills will be holding a festival focusing on Aspects of Beauty, in association with the Archdiocese of Sydney and the Sydney Centre for Evangelisation, over four

consecutive Sundays, commencing on 31st January. The focus of the series will be on Art, Architecture, Music and Liturgy by leading theologians, architects and musicians.



The presentations will be held in the 1880 Hall at 12.15 each Sunday. Parishioners are encouraged to bring along friends and acquaintances who could be in need of spiritual rejuvenation through exposure to beauty. All are invited. Due to Covid restrictions, a maximum of 100 people is permitted. Please register via this link: <https://www.event-brite.com.au/e/festival-of-beauty-registration-136910169001>

A copy of the brochure can be downloaded from the Parish website. You can also click on the homepage slider, you will be led to a registration page for the event.

The Litany of Humility *(by Merry Cardinal de Val, Secretary of State to Pope Saint Pius X from the prayer book of Jesuits, 1963)*

O Jesus! meek and humble of heart, hear me.

Deliver me Jesus

From the desire of being esteemed,
From the desire of being loved,
From the desire of being extolled,
From the desire of being honoured,
From the desire of being praised,
From the desire of being preferred to others,
From the desire of being consulted,
From the desire of being approved,
From the fear of being humiliated,
From the fear of being despised,
From the fear of suffering rebukes,
From the fear of being calumniated,
From the fear of being forgotten,
From the fear of being ridiculed,
From the fear of being wronged,
From the fear of being suspected,

Jesus grant me the grace to desire it

That others may be loved more than I,
That others may be esteemed more than I,

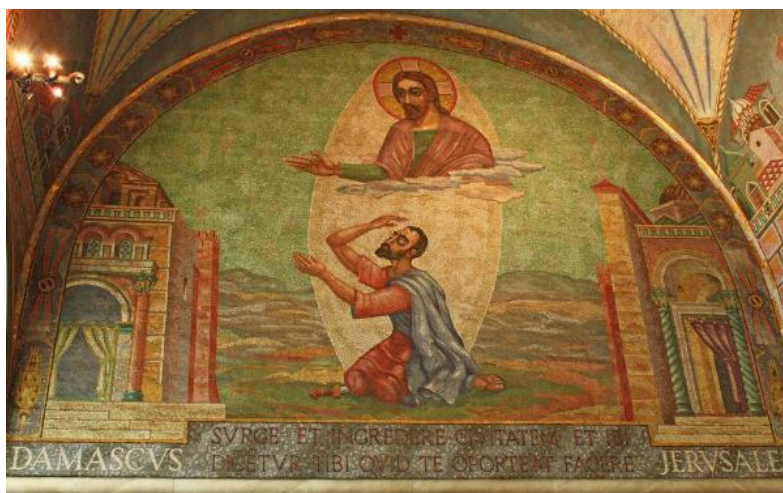
That, in the opinion of the world, others may increase and I may decrease,
That others may be chosen and I set aside,
That others may be praised and I unnoticed,
That others may be preferred to me in everything,
That others may become holier than I, provided that I may become as holy as
I should,

‘Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.’ Ephesians 4:2

The Story of the Conversion of Saint Paul (Feast on 25 Jan 2021)

- Franciscan Media Saint of the Day

Saint Paul’s entire life can be explained in terms of one experience—his meeting with Jesus on the road to Damascus. In an instant, he saw that all the zeal of his dynamic personality was being wasted, like the strength of a boxer swinging wildly. Perhaps he had never seen Jesus, who was only a few years older. But he had acquired a zealot’s hatred of all Jesus stood for, as he began to harass the Church: “...entering house after house and dragging out men and women, he handed them over for imprisonment” (Acts 8:3b). Now he



himself was “entered,” possessed, all his energy harnessed to one goal—being a slave of Christ in the ministry of reconciliation, an instrument to help others experience the one Saviour.

One sentence determined his theology: “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting” (Acts 9:5b). Jesus was mysteriously identified with people—the loving group of people Saul had been running down like criminals. Jesus, he saw, was the mysterious fulfilment of all he had been blindly pursuing.

From then on, his only work was to “present everyone perfect in Christ. For this I labour and struggle, in accord with the exercise of his power working within me” (Colossians 1:28b-29). “For our gospel did not come to you in word alone, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and [with] much conviction” (1 Thessalonians 1:5a).

Paul’s life became a tireless proclaiming and living out of the message of the cross: Christians die baptismally to sin and are buried with Christ; they are dead to all that is sinful and unredeemed in the world. They are made into a new creation, already sharing Christ’s victory and someday to rise from the dead like him. Through this risen Christ the Father pours out the Spirit on them, making them completely new.

So Paul’s great message to the world was: You are saved entirely by God, not by anything you can do. Saving faith is the gift of total, free, personal and loving commitment to Christ, a commitment that then bears fruit in more “works” than the Law could ever contemplate.

Our prayers for the Sick – Ettore Pelewzick (*Dominic’s father*), Mira Krcma and Josephine Finneran

We remember our deceased - Frederick, Edward & Margaret M Hailwood, Margaret D Hailwood (21/9), Joyce Hailwood & Marge Heaney, Joan McEvoy, June Veronica Hailwood, Robin Bridgewater, Ethel & Des Fitzgerald, Brian McFadden, Giles Auty, Bernard Saddler, Lydia Garrone (1st Anniversary 4/12), Elaine Buchhorn, Bro. Kevin Francis Guthrie (28/12), Fr. Solomon Tumba (30/12), Rosa De Jesus, Celestino Simoes, Custodio De Lima (14/1), Francisco Baptista, Mari Do Carmo, and Kenneth Finn.

St Thomas Aquinas – (Feast day – 28 Jan) - “*The law of divine love is the standard for all human actions*”.

“It is evident that not all are able to labour at learning and for that reason Christ has given a short law. Everyone can know this law and no one may be excused from observing it because of ignorance. This is the law of divine love. As scripture says, The Lord will quickly execute sentence upon the earth.

This law should be the standard for all human actions. In the case of products of human manufacture, each product is considered right and good when it conforms to a standard. So also each human act is considered right and virtuous when it conforms to the standard of divine love. But when a human act does not conform to the standard of love, then it is not right, nor good, nor perfect.

This law of divine love accomplishes in a person four things that are much to be desired. First, it is the cause of one’s spiritual life. For it is evident that by the very nature of the action what is loved is in the one who loves. Therefore whoever loves God possesses God in himself; for scripture says, *‘Whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him.’* It is the nature of love to transform the lover into the object loved. And so if we love God, we ourselves become divinized; for again, *‘Whoever is joined to God becomes one spirit with him.’* Augustine adds, “As the soul is the life of the body, so God is the life of the soul.” Thus the soul acts virtuously and perfectly when she acts through charity, and through charity God lives in her; indeed, without charity she cannot act; for scripture says, *Whoever does not love, remains in death.* If a person possesses all the gifts of the Holy Spirit, but lacks charity, that person has no life. For it matters not whether one has the grace of tongues, or the gift of faith, or any other gift such as prophecy; these do not bring life without charity. Even if a dead body should be adorned with gold and precious jewels, it nevertheless remains dead.

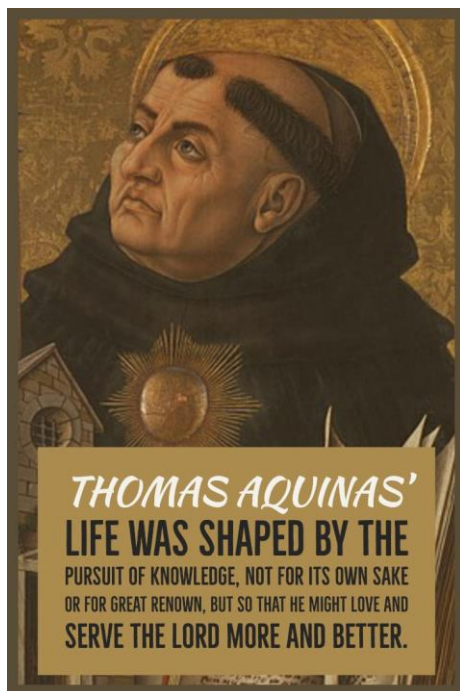
The second point about charity is that it leads to the observance of the divine commandments. Gregory the Great says that charity is not idle. For charity is present if one is occupied about great things; but if one is not so occupied, charity is not present. We see a lover do great and difficult things because of the one loved, and that is why the Lord says, *‘Whoever loves me will keep my word.’* Whoever keeps this command and the law of divine love fulfills the whole law. A third point about charity is that it

provides protection against adversity. For misfortune cannot harm one who has charity; rather it becomes useful to that person; as scripture says, '*All things work for good for those who love God.*' Furthermore, misfortune and difficulties seem pleasant to the lover, and our own experience verifies this.

A fourth point about charity is that it truly leads to happiness, since eternal blessedness is promised only to those who have charity. For all other things are insufficient without charity. You must note that it is only the different degrees of charity, and not those of any other virtues, which constitute the different degrees of blessedness. Many of the saints were more abstemious than the apostles, but the apostles excel all the other saints in blessedness because of their higher degree of charity."

From a conference by **St. Thomas Aquinas** (*Opuscula*, In duo praecenta... Ed. J.P. Torrel, in *Revue des Sc. Phil. Et Théol.*, 69, 1985, pp. 26-29.

*Prepared by Pontifical University Urbaniana,
with the collaboration of the Missionary Institutes*



facebook/JESUS, the Music of My Soul . . . †



♥ . . . †



Grant me,
O LORD, my God,
a mind to know You,
a heart to seek You,
wisdom to find You,
conduct pleasing to You,
faithful perseverance in
waiting for You,
and a hope of finally
embracing You.

Amen.

-St. Thomas Aquinas