



## OUR LADY OF DOLOURS SERVITE CHURCH

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17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) 26<sup>th</sup> July 2020

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**Sunday Reflection** – “The pearl of great value” – In one way or another we are all treasure-seekers. Some of us will have seen the figure with his metal detector, either in the countryside or by the seashore, hoping to unearth a hidden treasure which will change his life for the better. Nowadays we look to the lottery or the stock-market to provide us with the jackpot that will ensure instant happiness. In his teachings Jesus alerts us to this aspect of ourselves, “the seeker”, “the searcher” within us. Not everything we find is “the pearl of great price”. When Solomon was told he could have any gift he wanted from God, he chose to ask the Lord for “a heart wise and shrewd” and the Lord answered his prayer. We all need “a discerning heart” so as to know the true values in life, and to be able to recognize “the genuine article”. Jesus in this parable compares the Kingdom of God to “a rare pearl of great value” which is worth acquiring. When its value is acknowledged then we sacrifice everything in life in order to acquire and hold unto this “priceless pearl”. In Jesus’ parables, the kingdom of God means the “Reign” or “Reigning” of God in our lives. It is really our consciousness of God, or our awareness of God’s presence. This is the bedrock of our faith. The Kingdom of God means to live in the awareness that we are children of God, unconditionally loved, gifted with a divine dignity and an eternal destiny. These colour and shape how we see our brothers and sisters. In the last analysis, Jesus gives us this faith-vision, so He is the pearl of great value.

**Resumption of Public Masses** – We are very happy to Welcome you back to our Holy Mass and other functions which have resumed in our Church. Owing to the continued possibility of infection during the Coronavirus epidemic, various precautions will remain in place for the time being. These are aimed at ensuring maximum safety and peace of mind among those who worship and pray at our Servite Church. We ask that you sanitise your hands on entering and leaving the Church and that you complete a slip, this is for tracing purposes which is required. Our Stewards will guide you.

**St Peregrine Mass** – Will be on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> August at 6.30pm. If you could give some time to volunteer at this Mass and others, we would be grateful. ~~We now need volunteers to hold Mass due to the extra precautions needed to keep everyone safe.~~

**The Rite of Baptism:** Can now take place. To have your child baptised, you Must be a practicing Catholic in our Church. To arrange a Baptism, please email the Parish Office.

**Weddings:** Maximum number permitted to attend is 30.

**Funerals:** A simple requiem Mass may be celebrated. A maximum number of 30 people is permitted.

**Vigil Mass:** Sat 6.30pm  
Sunday 9.30am  
11.30am  
Mon, Wed & Fri 10am

### Sacrament of Confession

By Appointment

If you would like Confession, please email, or call the Parish Office.

### Parish Office Opening Hrs

Mon – Fri 9am to 1pm

### Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

Rosary

Legion of Mary

### Contemplative Prayer Group:

Due to Covid 19, the above Groups

### Saints Days

Wed 29<sup>th</sup> - St Martha

Thu 30<sup>th</sup> - St Peter Chrysologus

Fri 31<sup>st</sup> - St Ignatius of Loyola

Sat 1<sup>st</sup> - St Alphonsus Liguori

**First Holy Communion & Confirmation Programme 2019/2020** – Re the completion of these ..... programmes, once it has been decided how/when to complete them, Candidates and Families will be contacted.