



# EDMONTON CATHOLIC PARISH

St Thérèse Church

135 Robert Road, Bentley Park PO Box 41, Edmonton 4869 P: 07 4055 4315

E: [edmonton.parish@cairns.catholic.org.au](mailto:edmonton.parish@cairns.catholic.org.au)

Website: [www.edmontoncatholicparish.org.au](http://www.edmontoncatholicparish.org.au)

**Priest:** Fr Karel Duivenvoorden  
Mobile No (0488 988 332)

**Schools**

**St Thérèse's** - 4081 3400  
Principal: David Adams- Jones  
**MacKillop Catholic College** - 4081 7600  
Principal: Luke Reed

**Parish Admin:** Vera Skinner

**Property Manager:** Terry Webb  
[denise-terry@hotmail.com](mailto:denise-terry@hotmail.com)

**OSHC & Kindy**

**Bentley Park and Mt Peter**  
Contact details: Early Learning and  
Outside School Hours Care  
Diocese of Cairns  
[www.ccelc.catholic.org.au](http://www.ccelc.catholic.org.au)

**Safeguarding Coord:** Kirby Will – 0427 798 740  
**Safeguarding Rep:** Eddy Tutoe – 0478 904 600

*Kirby & Eddy are happy to receive ideas about how we keep our parishioners safe, and listen to your concerns about safeguarding. They will deal with all matters sensitively and confidentially.*

**Reconciliation:** By appointment

**Gordonvale Sunday Masses**  
Sat Vigil 6.00pm Sunday morning 8.00am

**Edmonton Sunday Masses**  
9.30am and 5.30pm

For Service times across the Diocese: 40511990 or [www.cairns.catholic.org.au](http://www.cairns.catholic.org.au)

***A Welcoming Parish: Under the patronage of St Thérèse of Lisieux***

<b>Sun 20/9</b>	<b>25th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> 9.30 am Mass-live streamed 5.30pm Mass	<b>Thurs 24/9</b>	8.00am Mass
<b>Mon 21/9</b>	7.00pm Rosary – in Church	<b>Fri 25/9</b>	
<b>Tues 22/9</b>	8.00am Mass 8.30am Private Adoration – Church	<b>Sat 26/9</b>	
<b>Wed 23/9</b>	7.00pm Prayer and Praise	<b>Sun 27/9</b>	<b>26th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> 9.30 Mass - live streamed 5.30pm Mass

**Cleaning 27/09/20** L Amadio, A Pittard & M Muller



**R.I.P.** Lord of Life raise up in glory all those who have died recently, those for whom we are asked to pray and those whose anniversaries occur about this time: John Shay Snr, Luzia Florindo, Giuseppe Bresolin, Catherine Sullivan, Darcy Richardson, Sidney Tait, Violet Thomas, Lorraine Saker, Jim Kirkwood, Franz and Elizabeth Honnef, Frank Arici, Vince Donnelly, Betty Privett, Orazia Amato, Paul Phillips,

Tracey Eaton, Phllis Fitzgerald, Diddy Evening and Marsilio Codotto

**We acknowledge the Yidinji (Yidiny) people, our land's traditional stewards and custodians.**

The COVID-19 pandemic is NOT OVER.

Our SAFE PRACTICES will have to continue for some MONTHS yet.

Stay COVID FREE – DO THE 3

- WASH HANDS (good hygiene)
- PHYSICAL DISTANCE (give each other social space)
- HAVE THE APP (keep it active)

Good hygiene ...



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Reach Youth Camp 2020 – Students in Year 7 – 12

Please see Poster at back of church – For all enquiries please contact Priscilla O'Brien on 0429 475 825 or email [admin@reachyouth.org.au](mailto:admin@reachyouth.org.au)

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## Restorative Love

*Rickard Rohr OFM*

As we read the Bible, **God does not change as much as our knowledge of God evolves.** I certainly recognize there are many biblical passages that present God as punitive and retributive, but we must **stay with the text**—and observe how we gradually let God grow up. Focusing on divine retribution leads to an ego-satisfying and eventually unworkable image of God which situates us inside of a very unsafe and dangerous universe. **Both Jesus and Paul observed the human tendency toward retribution and spoke strongly about the limitations of the law.**

The **biblical notion of justice**, beginning in the Hebrew Scriptures with the Jewish prophets—especially Moses, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Hosea—is **quite different**. If we read carefully and honestly, we will see that **God's justice is restorative**. In each case, after the prophet chastises the Israelites for their transgressions against YHWH, the prophet continues by saying, in effect, **“And here's what YHWH will do for you: God will now love you more than ever! God will love you into wholeness. God will pour upon you a gratuitous, unbelievable, unaccountable, irrefutable love that you will finally be unable to resist.”**

**God “punishes” us by loving us more!** How else could divine love be supreme and victorious? Check out this theme for yourself: **Read** such passages as Isaiah 29:13–24, Hosea 6:1–6, Ezekiel 16 (especially verses 59–63), and so many of the Psalms. God's justice is fully successful when God can legitimate and validate human beings in their original and total identity! God wins by making sure we win—just as any loving human parent does. The little “time outs” and discipline along the way are simply to keep us awake and growing.

**Love is the only thing that transforms the human heart.** In the Gospels, we see Jesus fully revealing this divine wisdom. Love takes the shape and symbolism of healing and radical forgiveness—which is just about all that Jesus does. **Jesus**, who represents God, **usually transforms people at the moments when they most hate themselves, when they most feel shame or guilt, or want to punish themselves.** Look at Jesus' interaction with the tax collector Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1–10). He doesn't belittle or punish Zacchaeus; instead, Jesus goes to his home, shares a meal with him, and treats him like a friend. Zacchaeus' heart is opened and transformed. Only then does Zacchaeus commit to making reparations for the harm he has done.

As Isaiah says of God, “My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways” (Isaiah 55:8). Yet **I am afraid we largely pulled God down into “our thoughts.” We think fear, anger, divine intimidation, threat, and punishment are going to lead people to love.** Show me where that has worked. **You cannot lead people to the highest level of motivation by teaching them the lowest.** God always and forever models the highest, and **our task is merely to “imitate God”** (Ephesians 5:1).

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The heart which has been made free with the freedom of Christ cannot be indifferent to the human longings for deliverance from economic, political or social oppression. **Samuel Escobar**, Peruvian theologian

Our only hope today lies in our ability to recapture the revolutionary spirit and go into a sometimes hostile world declaring eternal hostility to poverty, racism, and militarism. **Martin Luther King, Jr.**

Community is mutual vulnerability and openness one to the other. It is liberation for both, indeed, where both are allowed to be themselves, where both are called to grow in greater freedom and openness to others and to the universe. **L'Arche Community**