

Third Sunday of Easter, Year C - 1 May 2022

**Please Pray for**

**OUR SICK** - Andrew Coubourn, Jacquie Williams, Kara Kennedy, Kim Lord, Baby Isla, Riley Kemp.

**RECENTLY DECEASED** - Janet LeHunt, Wilfred Smith, Shierly Norma Deed.

**REMEMBRANCE** - Leticia Olaya, Mark Anthony Olaya, Peter Dickinson, Alan Williams, George Parson, Trever Masters.

**BIRTHDAY** - Tony Dickson.

**Safeguarding Children and Young People:**  
Enquires /Complaints: 0426 211 572  
**Policies:**  
<https://www.frankstoncatholic.com.au/sfx/policies/>  
**If you see something, say something**

**St John's**  
97899794  
Principal  
Derek Bruitzman

**John Paul College**  
9784 0200  
Principal  
John Visentin

**St Augustine's**  
9781 3007  
Principal  
Carrie Rodda

**St Francis Xavier**  
9783 3424  
Principal  
Stephen Peart

**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH**  
60 Davey Street, Frankston 3199.

**ST. JOHN the EVANGELIST PARISH**  
20 Coral Street, Frankston East 3199.

**Parish Priest:** Fr Chinua Okeke CSSp chinua.okeke@cam.org.au  
**Assistant Priest:** Fr Jude Agorchukwu CSSp jude.agorchukwu@cam.org.au  
**Deacon:** Rev Kevin Pattison kevin.pattison@cam.org.au  
**Email:** frankston@cam.org.au  
**Web:** www.frankstoncatholic.com.au  
**Phone:** 9783 3484  
**Office Hours :** 9.00am - 4.00pm (Mon-Fri)

**This Sunday's Readings**  
**1st Reading**  
Acts 5:27-32, 40-41  
**2nd Reading**  
Rev 5:11-14  
**Gospel**  
Jn 21:1-19

**Next Sunday's Readings**  
**1st Reading**  
Act 13:14, 43-52  
**2nd Reading**  
Rev 7:9,14-17  
**Gospel**  
Jn 10:27-30

**SYRO MALABAR**  
Regular services :  
**Every Thursday night - 6pm Mass at SFX**  
**First Sunday of month - 5pm Mass at SJE**

**OFFERINGS**  
GIVING BACK TO GOD

Thank you for your continued support

<b>St. Francis Xavier</b>	<b>St. John the Evangelist</b>
Presbytery \$586.00	Presbytery \$479.00
Church \$1,158.00	Church \$598.00

**1st Friday Adoration / Benediction**  
Friday, 6 May 2022  
SFX: Until 10.00pm SJE: until 10.30am

**Anointing of the Sick Mass**  
NEXT Thursday, 12 May 2022  
SFX: 9.15am SJE: 9.00am

**St. Francis Xavier's Programme**  
**Sunday Masses**  
Vigil Mass: 6.00pm Saturday Evening  
Sunday: 8.30am, 10.30am, 5.30pm  
**Weekday Masses**  
Tuesday - Saturday 9.15am; 1st + 3rd Mondays of the month  
**Liturgy of Word and Communion Service**  
Monday 9.15am; 2nd, 4th + 5th Mondays of the month  
**Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Adoration**  
Wednesday before 9.15am Mass  
1st Friday of month until 10.00pm  
**Reconciliation**  
Saturday 10am & 5.30pm  
**Anointing of the Sick Mass**  
1st Thursday of month 9.15am  
**Rosary**  
Wednesday after 9.15am Mass; before Mass Tuesday & Saturday

**St. John's Programme**  
**Sunday Masses**  
Vigil Mass: 7.00pm Saturday Evening  
Sunday: 8.30am, 10.00am  
**Weekday Masses**  
Tuesday - Saturday 9.00 am  
**Liturgy of Word and Communion Service**  
Monday 9.00am  
**Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Adoration**  
Wednesday before 9.00am Mass  
1st Friday of month until 10.30am  
**Reconciliation**  
Saturday 9.30am & 6.15pm  
**Anointing of the Sick Mass**  
1st Thursday of month 9.00am  
**Rosary**  
Before weekday Mass (except Wednesdays), Saturday at 9.30am

**St Vincent de Paul Society**  
good works

If you would like to help give back to the community please contact : **For Donations: 1800 621 349**  
**For Assistance call 9769 6060**

**SFX Vinnies** Peter Butler: 0410 569 357  
**Meetings** held on 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mon 4.00pm-5.30pm  
**SJE Vinnies** Mary Murtagh: 9781 3520  
**Meetings** held on 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues 10.00am-11.30am

**FRANKSTON FRIENDSHIP CLUB**  
Fun & Friendship for All. New Members Most Welcome.  
1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of month @ 10:30am in Xavier Centre.  
Bus Trips: 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of month.  
Contact : Marie 9775 8737 or Mary 9783 8296.

**Month of May**  
As we are aware, the month of May is the month of our Lady; we are going to have the recitation of Rosary before weekday Masses / Communion services (Monday to Saturday morning).

**Fr Chinua will be on leave from Monday, 2 May.**  
Wishing Fr Chinua a safe trip

**National Seniors**  
Come to our meetings and meet new friends.  
Last Wednesday of the month - 9.15 - 12.00 Noon.  
Morning tea and a Speaker each month.

**Cleaners Wanted - Voluntary Capacity!**

St Francis Xavier & St John the Evangelist Parishes urgently require Church Cleaners. Many hands make light work and we encourage Parishioners to consider contributing to keep the Lord's House clean. Please contact the Parish Office on 97833484 if you can offer your services. Thank you to all who can assist our Parishes!

**Legion of Mary**  
SFX - Fridays 10.45am in Quilter room  
SJE - Thursday 1.30pm in Flower room  
Commitment required.

**Good Shepherd Sunday 2022**  
Next Sunday we celebrate Good shepherd Sunday - the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. During this coming week, perhaps you may like to make a prayer each day for more vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. Perhaps there is a young person you may know to pray for by name this week.



**Gospel - John 21:1-19**

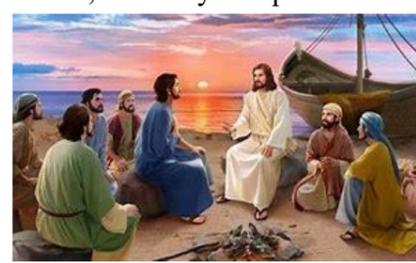
*Jesus stepped forward, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish.*

Jesus showed himself again to his disciples. It was by the Sea of Tiberias, and it happened like this: Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee and two more of his disciples were together. Simon Peter said, 'I'm going fishing.' They replied, 'We'll come with you.' They went out and got into the boat but caught nothing that night.

It was light by now and there stood Jesus on the shore, though the disciples did not realise that it was Jesus. Jesus called out, 'Have you caught anything, friends?' And when they answered, 'No,' he said, 'Throw the net out to starboard and you'll find something.' So they dropped the net, and there were so many fish that they could not haul it in. The disciple Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord.' At these words 'It is the Lord,' Simon Peter, who had practically nothing on, wrapped his cloak round him and jumped into the water. The other disciples came on in the boat, towing the net and the fish; they were only about a hundred yards from land.

As soon as they came ashore they saw that there was some bread there, and a charcoal fire with fish cooking on it. Jesus said, 'Bring some of the fish you have just caught.' Simon Peter went aboard and dragged the net to the shore, full of big fish, one hundred and fifty-three of them; and in spite of there being so many the net was not broken. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' None of the disciples was bold enough to ask, 'who are you?'; they knew quite well it was the Lord. Jesus then stepped forward, took the bread and gave it to them, and the same with the fish. This was the third time that Jesus showed himself to the disciples after rising from the dead.

After the meal Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these others do?' He answered, 'Yes Lord, you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' A second time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He replied 'Yes, Lord, you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Look after my sheep.' Then he said to him a third time, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter was upset that he asked him the third time, 'Do you love me?' and said, 'Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep.'



'I tell you most solemnly, when you were young you put on your own belt and walked where you liked; but when you grow old you will stretch out your hands, and somebody else will put a belt around you and take you where you would rather not go.'

In these words he indicated the kind of death by which Peter would give glory to God. After this he said, 'Follow me.'

**The Gospel of the Lord Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**



## Homily for Third Sunday of Easter, Year C

### Context Connection

The Gospel for this Sunday begins with the disciples' fishing on the Sea of Tiberias, also called the Sea of Galilee. Knowing that the best time to fish on the Sea of Galilee is at night so that the fresh fish can be sold at the market in the morning, the disciples fish all night. But they catch nothing. Then, "just after daybreak" (21:4), the disciples encounter Jesus on the shore; however, they do not recognize him. Jesus asks the disciples whether they have any fish and they tell him no. Jesus then tells the men to "cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some" (21:6). John is the first to recognize that the person on the beach is Jesus. But Peter is the one who hastens to the Lord by jumping into the sea and making his way through the water to Jesus.

Once on shore, the disciples see that Jesus has prepared fish over a charcoal fire to serve them a meal. This image of Jesus as servant and leader is strengthened throughout the story. Jesus instructs Peter to bring more fish to place on the fire so they can share a meal together. The Gospel tells us that the disciples catch 153 fish in the net. Since the time of Saint Jerome, who said 153 represented the number of species of fish that existed in the world and therefore symbolized the universality of Jesus's message, scholars have speculated what this number symbolizes. The true meaning has been lost to history, but we do know that Jesus shares the bread and fish in a manner similar to the Last Supper when he shared the bread and wine of Passover with the disciples.

After they eat breakfast, Jesus says to Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" (21:15). Jesus is creating an opportunity for Peter to profess his love for Jesus in contrast to Peter's denial of Jesus after Jesus's arrest. Three times Jesus asks Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" (21:16). Three times Peter responds, "Yes Lord; you know that I love you" (21:15). Each time Jesus tells Peter what to do with that love: "Feed my lambs" (21:15) . . . "Tend my sheep" (21:16) . . . "Feed my sheep" (21:17). Peter, when given the chance, chooses to affirm his love for Jesus and seeks reconciliation for his denial of Jesus. Peter desires atonement for his actions so he can again be one with Jesus. *Atone* contains the words *at* and *one*. When we experience true atonement, we are once again in a right relationship—one with God and with others.

### Tradition Connection

In Jesus's lifetime, the disciples come to believe in Jesus as the Son of God. The Easter experience of the resurrected Jesus and the ongoing post-Resurrection encounters with Jesus deepen their conversion and result in the deepening of their faith. This call to conversion by Jesus is ongoing (see CCC, number 1427).

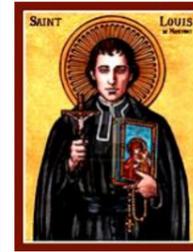
Baptism sacramentally marks the first conversion, but as life unfolds its mysteries, there is a continuous call to conversion. We mark these moments sacramentally with Penance and Reconciliation. Peter is a witness to this second kind of conversion that sometimes is called a conversion by tears. In Baptism, we are washed clean of sin and sanctified. Then we are robed in a white garment—literally "putting on Christ." "Conversion to Christ, the new birth of Baptism" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church [CCC]*, number 1426) is an ongoing process of conversion throughout one's lifetime.

### Wisdom Connection

In the ordinariness of daily life, Jesus takes the opportunity to feed the disciples a meal, to serve them. Jesus continues to model for the disciples the importance of being a servant leader. This week's passage is about the tender and moving discourse between Jesus and Simon Peter. Jesus gives Peter the opportunity to publicly affirm his love for Jesus to counter Peter's public denial of Jesus. In the early Christian community that John addresses in his Gospel, Jesus's followers have already experienced persecution. Peter's tears upon encountering the merciful eyes of Jesus demonstrate his conversion. Jesus's merciful love helps Peter recognize what he did when he denied Jesus. Peter has a contrite heart. John wants his readers to understand that forgiveness is possible for those who have a genuinely contrite heart. And just as Peter is directed to care for Jesus's "sheep," those who seek God's forgiveness must demonstrate God's gracious act through their charitable actions.

*Text: Youth Reflections - Liturgia - 3 Easter Year C*

## 3 takeaways from St Louis de Montfort's "True Devotion"



The text of St Louis de Montfort, *The True Devotion to the Blessed Virgin*, is a classic in the genre of Mariology. It is through this book that many people have come to a deeper understanding of the role God wants Mary to play in the lives of His people.

Louis Marie Grignon de la Bachelaraie was born in Montfort, France, in 1673, in a Europe that was still heaving from the effects of the Protestant Reformation. He was a man of great intelligence and simple faith at the same time. Though he studied in Paris (one of the world's most prestigious places to study at the time), his mind was not one divorced from the faith of the humble and poor of the earth. As a missionary in his home country, he had great influence amongst the locals.

Although the manuscript of *True Devotion* wasn't discovered until 1842, over a hundred years after his death, it was received with great enthusiasm. In the book, de Montfort was responding to the needs of his time, especially the need to defend the value of honouring the Blessed Virgin despite the growing number of her detractors.

Though short, *True Devotion* is a comprehensive book, exploring the nature of true devotion in all its aspects and distinguishing it from false devotion. For those wanting to deepen their devotion to the Blessed Virgin, or who simply want to wrestle with Mariology, this book is not to be ignored.

For a little taste of what's in store, we highlight three key ideas in *True Devotion* in the hopes you will pick up the book yourself.

### The goal of devotion is union with Christ

This is something de Montfort stresses with great rhetorical and theological force. What he calls 'the first truth' of devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary is that Christ is the ultimate end of everything, especially our souls. 'Jesus Christ, our Saviour, true God and true man, must be the ultimate end of all our other devotions; otherwise they would be false and misleading.

God has laid no other foundation of our salvation, of our perfection, and of our glory, than Jesus Christ. Every edifice which is not built on that firm rock is founded upon shifting sand, and sooner or later will infallibly fall . . . If, then, we are establishing solid devotion to Our Blessed Lady, it is only to establish more perfectly devotion to Jesus Christ' (§61-62).

If devotion to Mary did take us away from Christ, then de Montfort says we would have to 'reject it as an illusion of the devil.' This point is essential to defending the value of Marian devotion, which is abandoned entirely amongst other Christian traditions for precisely this reason: the belief that it detracts from Christ. De Montfort is at pains to stress that it is impossible for true devotion to do this.

### Her will is perfectly in line with God's

One of the reasons why true devotion to Mary does not detract from Christ is because her will is perfectly united with her Son's. De Montfort tells us this:

In as much as grace perfects nature and glory perfects grace, it is certain that Our Lord remains in heaven just as much the Son of Mary as He was on earth; and that, consequently, He has retained the submission and obedience of the most perfect of all children towards the best of all mothers' (§27).

Heaven, in other words, is the perfection of our earthly relationships, the perfection of everything that is good. Christ humbled himself in obedience to an earthly mother during his life on earth, and this good thing becomes perfected in glory. However, de Montfort says, their relationship is not like what it was on earth. 'Mary,' he says, 'completely transformed in God by that grace and glory which transforms all the Saints in Him, neither asks, wishes nor does anything contrary to the eternal and unchangeable Will of God . . .

her prayers and requests are so powerful with Him that they are taken as commands by the Divine Majesty, who never resists His dear Mother's prayer because it is always humble and conformed to His Will' (§27).

### Devotion to Mary is the shortest, easiest, and securest means of attaining union with Christ

This is, in some ways, the crux of de Montfort's argument. He has already established that union with Christ is the only goal of the spiritual life. That is the end to which our whole existence is oriented. What devotion to Mary offers, however, is 'an easy, short, perfect and sure way of attaining union with Our Lord' (§152).

In other words, we have the *end*, but now we have to think about the *means*. How do we get there?

Devotion to Mary offers a way that is easy in that other paths involve heavier crosses, ones not steeped in 'the sugar of her maternal sweetness' (§154). It is short in that through Mary we do not wander away from Christ or slow the journey (§155). It is perfect because Our Lady is 'the most perfect and most holy of mere creatures' (§157). It is secure because it leads us straight to Jesus 'directly and safely' (§168).

Be persuaded, then, that the more you behold Mary in your prayers, meditations, actions and sufferings . . . the more perfectly will you find Jesus Christ, who is always, with Mary, great, powerful, operative, and incomprehensible' (§165).



**PREGNANCY  
ASSISTANCE**

Dear Parishioners,

Our greetings of good health and wellbeing to you and your families.

PAF is running the Mothers' Day envelope drive again this year, to provide support for disadvantaged pregnant women and their babies and families, we and would be very grateful for any donation you are able to give towards this collection. You may also donate at the PAF Centre; by cheque or by a direct payment into our account at **WESTPAC BSB: 033 272 ACC: 318726**.

If you would like a receipt, then please provide your name and contact details in an email to [pafcares@gmail.com](mailto:pafcares@gmail.com). All donations above \$2.00 are tax deductible.

We wish a Happy Mothers' Day to all the mothers reading this and may you and your families be blessed abundantly.

Warm regards from the PAF Committee and Volunteers

**PREGNANCY ASSISTANCE FRANKSTON INC.**

14 Young Street, Frankston, Victoria, Australia 3199

Telephone: (03) 9770 6226 Fax: (03) 9770 6227 Email : [pafcares@gmail.com](mailto:pafcares@gmail.com).

ABN 71 659 195 700 Certificate of Incorporation A005156L