

**Catholic Church Communities of
St. Anne & Blessed Dominic and St. Vincent de Paul**



Newsletter

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Parish Office Hours: Monday and Friday: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

This Sunday	TWENTY-FIRST IN ORDINARY TIME	
23 rd August 2026	Sunday Cycle: Year A	Weekday Cycle: Year 2

Saturday 22nd August	5:00 pm	M	St A&B	Paddy Hurle (with a Special intention)
Sunday 23rd August	9:30am	M	St V	Annette Dunphy LD
	11:00am	M	St A&B	People of the Parish
Wednesday 26th August Memorial of Bl Dominic B.	12noon	M	St V	Frank Barrow
Friday 28th August St Augustine	12noon	M	St V	Patricia Hodgson (sick)
Saturday 29th August	5:00 pm	M	St A&B	Fr Fidales, Sheila Muir, James Murray, Agnes Lynch
Sunday 30th August	9:30am	M	St V	People of the Parish
	11:00am	M	St A&B	Friends of the Shrine of Bl Dominic

Please remember in your Prayers:

Latelly died: Peter Szymanski, Fr Joe Kendall, Fr Jonathan Bielawski, Frank Barrow, Annette Dunphy.

Anniversary: Paddy Hurle.

Lord, Your Friend Whom You love is sick:

Barbara Wright, Mandy Bennett, Annie Lee, Kathleen Valentine, Helen Smith, Cerys McKenna, Christine Terry, Moyra Lyon, Brian Fortune, Geraldine Roberts, Laura Mahon, Isobelle McDonald, Anne Whitehouse, Colin McMillian, Sam Glover, Alex Downey, Joan Mary Cyril, Raymond Litherland, Angela Brooks, Ged Barry, Ray Stewart, Dawn Collett.

Scripture readings are about the key of the kingdom.

In the first reading, Eliakim is given the key of the house of David.

The second reading affirms that it is from the Lord and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory for ever.

In today's Gospel, Matthew shows that Simon's new name is given to him by Jesus; he also tells us that the Church is founded on the inspired confession of Simon, who henceforth will be known as Cephas.

Matthew shows us that Peter is chosen by God to receive enlightenment about Jesus – not flesh and blood – but the Father in heaven is the source of revelation. In response to God's choice of Peter, Jesus elects to build the Church on this rock. Like Eliakim in the first reading who is given the keys which open and close access to the king, Peter is given the keys of the kingdom of heaven. He is given authority "to bind" and "to loose", terms which mean to forbid and to permit. This makes Peter the ruler of the Church, the one whose decisions in faith will be confirmed by God.

As God makes Peter his choice, so Christ is seen to make Peter's decisions at one with God's.

Matthew later extends this authority to the whole body of disciples when Jesus says to them all: "I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven." (18:18).

In the story of Jesus there is no other figure that is mentioned as frequently as Peter. And the other are realistic in their memory of him: he is not only the one who confesses who Jesus is, he is also the one who denies Jesus; he is not only the one who expresses faith in Jesus, he is also the one falters in that faith. He has to be helped by Jesus in all that he does, but the Gospels indicate that he is Jesus' choice to lead the community in the future. He is the one who will return and strengthen the brethren.

Our Parish Vision. Following our archdiocese synod, we are now at the stage of implementing the pastoral plan which was adopted as result of the synod. In this process, we are asked to give our parish vision. I would be grateful if you would answer in **writing** to the following questions and hand your answers through the letter box of the Parish Office or St Vincent's Presbytery.

1. What do you say about the trend of daily and weekly Mass attendance?
2. Are there groups/individuals who accompany others both in church and community settings?
3. Are there various ministries active in the parish?
4. Are we a parish that renews its organisational structures and administers its property to serve its mission? Are our buildings welcoming, warm, accessible and in good condition? Based on weekly/monthly offertory, can we meet our expenditure?
5. What are the most effective ways in which to enable young people and young adults to flourish?
6. What would young people and young adults say we are not getting right?
7. What ways do we make ourselves a parish that supports its priest(s)?
8. Does our church building appear well-used and well-cared for?
9. Does our church building inspire the congregation with a sense of the presence of God?
10. Are we a parish that is aware of some "red flag" issues as worrying signs for the future?
11. Is the amount of giving keeping pace with inflation?

Friends of the Shrine of Blessed Dominic. There will be a very important meeting this Sunday 23rd August after 11 O'clock Mass in the sacristy. The presence of all members will be very much appreciated. Thank you.