



# The Word WEEKLY BULLETIN



Parishes of Holy Spirit, St Anne & St Gerard.

**3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, 23-24 January 2021**

**Parish Priest: Fr. Arsenio Tuazon**

## **HOLY SPIRIT PARISH**

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## **PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

Secretary

[ppc-sec@holyspiritparish.org.au](mailto:ppc-sec@holyspiritparish.org.au)

## **FETE COMMITTEE**

John Cilia (Chairperson) -

[fete@holyspiritparish.org.au](mailto:fete@holyspiritparish.org.au)

## **PARISH OF ST GERARD AND ST ANNE**

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**Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday 9am-3pm, closed Mondays.**

## **PARISH SECRETARIES**

Ana Saro

Tuesday & Wednesday

Kerry McGowan

Thursday & Friday

## **SCHOOL PRINCIPAL—St. Anne's**

Michael Edmonds—9876 1533

## **PLEASE NOTE:**

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE PREMIER AND THE BISHOPS OF VICTORIA, WE CAN NOW CELEBRATE MASS UNDER VERY STRICT GUIDELINES. PLEASE SEE THE NOTICE ON PAGE 2 FOR MORE DETAILS.**

Readings, Prayers of Intercession and a Gospel reflection are included in the word, which is available from the parish web site:

[www.holyspiritparish.org.au/The-Word-Newsletter](http://www.holyspiritparish.org.au/The-Word-Newsletter)

Recorded Masses available at: [www.holyspiritparish.org.au/Online-Resources](http://www.holyspiritparish.org.au/Online-Resources)

Important information, Spirit Extra, the Spirit Magazine and other Parish matters are available on the website:

[www.holyspiritparish.org.au](http://www.holyspiritparish.org.au)

THE Parish Office remains closed, however, the staff will be monitoring the phone, mail and emails. Please ring the Parish

Mobile number: 0434 224 483 and leave your name and contact number and we will return your call as soon as possible.

Email: [ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au](mailto:ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au)

## **IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST— RECENTLY DECEASED:**

**ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH:** Pat Bovalina, Sr Margaret Nabb, Kathleen Doensen, Truus Teggelove, Peter Willis, Tom Grant, Bernadette Clarke, Yvonne Grant, Joan Howard, Hans van der Geest, John Burns, Rosemary Scheffer and Carlo Annunciata

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING SICK:** Ben Lobo, John, Angela Damora, Warren Darbyshire, Stella & family, Deb Neilsen, Pauline Curlis, Sean Hill, Valerie Mason

**Readings this week:** Jonah 3:1-5,10; 1 Cor 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20

The Word, Spirit Magazine and "Spirit Extra" are available online at [www.holyspiritparish.org.au](http://www.holyspiritparish.org.au)

Dear Holy Spirit Parishioners

You can now book for all weekend and weekday Masses online via TryBooking, or on arrival use the QR code to register for contact tracing. Please bring your mobile phone!

For bookings please follow the information below:

**ALL WEEKEND MASSES UNTIL 31 JANUARY ARE NOW OPEN FOR BOOKING.**

The bookings close for each weekend on the Saturday of the weekend at 12 noon.

The link for Saturday evening Mass is: <https://www.trybooking.com/BNKHB>

The link for Sunday morning Mass is: <https://www.trybooking.com/BNKHK>

Should you have any questions please email the parish at [ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au](mailto:ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au) and we will respond to you.

**WEEKDAY MASS BOOKINGS:**

Our week day masses have resumed on Wednesdays and Fridays at 9:30am.

The trybooking link for weekday Masses in 2021 is: <https://www.trybooking.com/BNPRE> .

**CHANGES TO BOOKING PROCESS:**

From February 2021 you will not need to use TryBooking to attend regular weekend and weekday Masses.

To comply with COVID regulations, we will use the QR code for electronic contact tracing purposes. You will need to bring your mobile phone to use the QR code system. If you do not have a phone, or your phone does not work with the QR system, there will be welcomers on duty to assist.

Alternatively, you will have to write your details in a register.

Please arrive early to ensure you register and are seated well before Fr Arsenio is ready to commence Mass.

These Masses will continue to be celebrated under very strict guidelines, which have been approved by Archbishop Comensoli.

**Under no circumstances should anyone awaiting test verification, including Clergy (even without presenting symptoms) attend a church or parish setting until a diagnosis is confirmed. Additionally, under no circumstances should anyone attend who is closely connected to people who are awaiting test results or who have tested positive.**

The restrictions are as follows:

- You must carry a face mask at all times.
- Sanitize your hands on arrival.

The chairs are not to be moved from the pre marked space.

Fr Arsenio will give instructions on receiving Holy Communion during the Fraction Rite.

Communion during covid-19 at this time may only be taken by hand.

Jacinta Bibby Pastoral Associate

Mobile : 0434 224 483

## Holy Spirit Parish Vision

At Holy Spirit Parish, we are an inviting community inspired by the Holy Spirit; welcoming everyone to worship, grow, belong and serve together as Disciples of Christ.



Holy Spirit is a child safe parish. At Holy Spirit we hold the care, safety and well being of children and young people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our parish.

The Parish will rely on continuing contributions through the Thanksgiving program to meet our expenses for day to day operations. This may be an opportune time to change over to Direct Debit or Credit Card contributions.

Should you wish to make this change, please call the parish office on **0434 224 483**

Daily Mass Books 2021 are available for \$25. Please email Jenny: [jenny.philp@cam.org.au](mailto:jenny.philp@cam.org.au) if you would like to get a copy.

### PARISH DATA BASE UPDATE

Please remember to advise the parish staff of your current phone and email details so we can update our database. You can either return the data sheet sent to you or email: [Ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au](mailto:Ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au)  
Thank you.

### **Holy Spirit Web Site - [www.holyspiritparish.org.au](http://www.holyspiritparish.org.au):**

Stay in touch with our parish website.

- "News, Events": ref menu
- "Covid 19 News and Updates" (much of which is drawn from Jacinta's weekly email): ref home page & menu
- "How we stay connected", online resources such as Masses, Prayers, Newsletters, Next Zoom: ref home page

### **Holy Hour of Adoration/ Rosary - Wednesday Nights**

There will be no Holy Hour of Adoration in the chapel on Wednesday Nights until the end of January 2021.



### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

Special birthday wishes to Jocelyn D'Souza, who is celebrating a "significant birthday" this week.

May you be abundantly blessed on your special day and in the year to come!

As we resume our "Covid normal" celebration of Mass, we will be returning to some of our usual practices. Rosters will be starting up again in February, and Ruth will be in touch with those who were on our rosters previously. Everything we do must be in accordance with the DHHS guidelines, so there will be some changes to the way we operate! However, we hope to return to fairly normal practices in the near future. If you would like to volunteer in any way, please contact Ruth:

[ruth.frangeskakis@cam.org.au](mailto:ruth.frangeskakis@cam.org.au)

### Collection Notice

For information on the Parish's policies regarding information collection and privacy please refer to: <https://www.holyspiritparish.org.au/Collection-Notice>

## Obituary – Fr Frank O’Dea SSS (1928 – 2021)

Fr Frank O’Dea SSS, author of *Eucharist: The Basic Spirituality*, died peacefully in Melbourne, Australia on 9 January 2021, aged 92. Born in 1928, the second child in a large Catholic family, Frank grew up in the Melbourne suburb of Brighton during the Depression of the 1930s. He attended [St Finbar’s Primary School](#) at Brighton East, progressing to Christian Brothers’ College (CBC) St Kilda, now known as [St Mary’s College](#), and later to [St Kevin’s College](#) in Toorak where he completed his secondary education.

On leaving St Kevin’s, Frank spent four years working for the State Electricity Commission (SEC). He also began tertiary studies towards a Diploma in Electrical Engineering at [Footscray Technical School](#) in the western suburbs of Melbourne, where his family had later moved. Frank had completed two years of this course when, in 1953, he decided to drop his studies and respond to the call of his religious vocation.

He became an aspirant for religious life in the [Blessed Sacrament Congregation](#) of priests and brothers, founded by the French saint [Peter Julian Eymard](#) in 1956. The Congregation had first come to Australia in 1929 to take over the pastoral care of historic [St Francis’ Church](#) in the centre of the city of Melbourne.

### Br Baylon SSS

With ‘a lot of trepidation’ and ‘a little reluctance’, in mid 1953 Frank moved from Melbourne to Bowral, New South Wales, where the Congregation’s Australian novitiate was located. After several months as a postulant at Bowral, on 5 February 1954 Frank formally entered the novitiate phase of his training, which involved two years of formation and culminated in his profession of first (or temporary) religious vows on 5 February 1956. At the time of his entry, Frank was clothed in the habit of the Congregation and received the religious name of Brother Baylon, after the Franciscan Saint Paschal Baylon (1540-1592) who had a great devotion to the Eucharist.

When Frank joined the Blessed Sacrament Congregation, he was obliged to become a brother and not a priest. He dearly wanted to continue studies and progress to the ‘scholasticate’ phase of training, which would have taken him to the Congregation’s seminary and led to ordination as a priest, but that door was not initially open to Frank. As he explains in *Eucharist: The Basic Spirituality* (at [Chapter 12](#) and in his inspirational homily [‘The Healing of the Man with an Impediment in his Speech’](#)), Frank had a stutter for much of his life. At the time of Frank’s entry, he was not allowed to become a priest if he had a speech impediment.

And so, on completion of his novitiate, Frank (as Br Baylon) remained in relative isolation at Bowral for many years. He mostly helped to cook and serve meals. He worked as the porter, a job he loved, and he sometimes assisted as sacristan. He did repairs and ‘odd jobs’ around the property, and he faithfully participated in the regular service of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament which was central to the Congregation’s spirituality at that time. Outside of prayer and his ‘employments’, Frank enjoyed bushwalking and photography, and he read books to further his knowledge and education.

He made his final profession of perpetual vows on 5 February 1959 at the Congregation’s Seminary of Christ the King at Lower Plenty on the outskirts of Melbourne. Apart from a six-month stint working at the seminary in 1961-62, Frank was located at Bowral for over a decade, from the time he arrived in 1953 until August 1965 when he was posted to the Congregation’s religious community at [St Peter Julian’s Church](#) at Haymarket, Sydney. By that time, the vast Bowral facility had ceased as a novitiate and had moved through phases as a juniorate and minor seminary, and later as a retreat house. The Catholic Church was being transformed by the modernising impetus of the Second Vatican Council (1962-65). And Frank, too, was being transformed.

Although Frank did not use the term, he was experiencing a kind of liberation. He sensed being freed from some of the harsher restrictions of an older and darker Church. Like so many others, he rejoiced in the spirit of hope, new life, and fresh air that seemed to have arrived with the teachings of the Second Vatican Council. At the same time, his personal healing was also emerging as he began to overcome the speech disability which had been a part of his life since childhood.

The healing of Frank’s speech was a long process and involved many stages. He liked to call it ‘a miracle in slow motion’. By the late 1960s, Frank’s speech was not fully ‘healed’, but it had improved enough for the leaders of his Congregation to allow him to train for the priesthood. Corresponding with this development, after 1968 it became possible for men who were ‘mature’ or ‘late vocations’ to undertake a shorter course of training for the priesthood, involving only four years of seminary training instead of the traditional seven years (for diocesan priests), or up to ten or more years (for priests in religious orders or congregations).

## Priesthood

Frank trained for the priesthood at [St Paul's Seminary](#) in Kensington, New South Wales (the 'National Seminary for Late Vocations'), which was run by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart from 1968 to 1998. When Frank was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Eric Perkins at St Francis' Church, Melbourne on 2 December 1978, he had just turned 50. His hair and beard were already grey and turning prematurely white.

Some might have thought he was not far off retirement. For Frank, it was a new beginning, a second chance at religious life, this time as the priest he had always wanted to be. And he did not waste that precious time he had been given so late in life.

As it turned out, Frank was blessed with over four decades to serve as a priest, and he never really retired. From 1978, he ministered as a priest in all of the Congregation's Australian churches and shrines, in Melbourne, Sydney, Toowoomba, and Perth.

When Frank was posted to Perth, Western Australia in 1982, his main role was to minister at All Saints' Chapel in the Perth CBD, but he also assisted in the suburban parish of Holy Cross, Kensington that the Congregation looked after. Frank realised how much he loved parish ministry and, in addition to celebrating masses and hearing confessions, he was soon running retreats, prayer nights and other activities at Kensington. He still had difficulty on occasions with his speech, but he did not allow those fears to stop him.

In June 1982, he began promoting the [Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults \(RCIA\)](#), whereby adults interested in the Catholic faith were assisted through a staged process of 'initiation' into the Church from an original enquiry phase to their eventual baptism and reception of the sacraments.

Only one person turned up when Frank first offered to speak about RCIA in the Holy Cross parish hall on 8 June 1982. Frank was undeterred. By November 1982 he had six candidates who had completed several months of 'pre-catechumenate' and were ready to move on to the next stage, the 'catechumenate', in which they received sponsors to assist their development of in prayer and knowledge of the Church. Perth's Catholic newspaper *The Record* described Frank's Kensington group as possibly 'the first Perth implementation of the new rite of Christian initiation'.

Within a short time, the fruits of Frank's efforts were many. At Kensington on Holy Saturday (2 April) 1983, two adults were baptised and seven adults were received into full communion and confirmed. At the same ceremony, another person was catechised, three children were baptised, and a young person (previously baptised but not instructed) was received into full communion and confirmed. This time, the hall was full of parishioners, friends and families for the post-ceremony supper. In 1985, Holy Cross, Kensington parish combined with the nearby parish of Holy Family, Como. Frank was appointed parish priest of [Como-Kensington](#) in late 1989 and served as parish priest in 1990-93. During his fourteen years in Perth (1982-1996), Frank became aware that it had been a 'weakness' in his own Congregation in Australia that many of its priests (who had mostly ministered in central city shrines) were not exposed to the kind of diversity that he felt blessed to have gained by living and working in a parish.

On returning to Melbourne in 1996, Frank promoted a programme of eucharistic evangelisation called Life in the Eucharist (LITE). LITE introduced contemporary eucharistic theology to parish communities through structured courses presented by trained lay adults led by a Congregation priest. Assisted by Fr Jo Dirks SSS and later Fr Alfred Yap SSS, Frank was instrumental in the establishment of successful LITE teams to serve parishes in Perth, Melbourne, and later Sydney. Frank became the spiritual director of LITE Australia.

## In 'Retirement'

By 2000, Frank was living in a small religious community attached to the Congregation in the Melbourne suburb of Box Hill. This community lived in a series of ordinary housing units with one unit serving as a chapel. Built in the mid 1980s as a scholasticate complex called Eymard College, it later served as a novitiate, a provincial administration community, and eventually became a retirement community for older priests and brothers who retained some independence. Frank was aged in his seventies when he arrived at Box Hill, but 'retirement' was not an attractive option for Frank. For many more years, he assisted with the celebration of Sunday masses in eastern suburbs parishes, both near and far, notably at Mitcham, Blackburn South, Park Orchards, and Ringwood North. When he was unable to drive himself, parishioners and friends volunteered to drive him.

For fitness and recreation, Frank became a regular swimmer at the local aquatic centre. He also cared for the garden at Box Hill. One of the legacies of Frank's experience in Western Australia was that he developed a keen interest in Australian native plants. And what began as an interest became a passion after 2004, when he returned to the West to tour the wildflowers of South West WA with a group of native gardeners. He was an enthusiastic member of the Maroondah branch of the Australian Plants Society (APS) and became widely known in native plant circles. A visit to the native garden Frank planted at Box Hill was reported, accompanied by a superb slideshow of photographs, in Jenny H. and Jill L., ['Two Box Hill Gardens'](#) (APS Yarra Yarra website, February 2018).

The vigorous Wollemi pine that grew on the patio outside Frank's back door seemed strangely symbolic of Frank. It was a solitary survivor, somehow old and young at the same time, born again.

Frank's garden of almost 300 species of Australian plants allowed him to share in the extraordinary richness of creation. In his article ['The God of Diversity: A Spirituality of Gardening with Natives'](#), which is accompanied by photographs of some of Frank's flowers, we realise that his experience of that garden was not merely knowledgeable and practical. His relationship with the garden was deep and almost mystical.

## **Eucharist: The Basic Spirituality**

Some years ago, a friend said to Frank: 'You should write a book'. His first reaction was to laugh. But the seed was sown. Although Frank scarcely knew how to use a computer at that time, with characteristic tenacity he found his way and was soon producing full-length chapters. Before long, he had twenty chapters drafted of a manuscript titled *Eucharist: The Basic Spirituality*. He had also interviewed over thirty people about their personal experience of the Eucharist, which he included in the publication as 'witness stories'.

As a result of its publication online, Frank's book reached a readership far beyond what could ever have been achieved in print. *Eucharist: The Basic Spirituality* has now received hundreds of thousands of page views and has attracted readers from almost every country on earth.

The success of the publication meant that Frank found himself with a global eucharistic ministry, responding from his computer to hundreds of readers who used the site's contact form to ask him about the Eucharist or other teachings of the Catholic Church. He realised his book was being used as a resource by parishes, pastoral associates, theological students, schools, teachers and many others.

Ill health and mobility problems eventually obliged Frank to move into residential aged care for the last phase of his life, which was spent at Mercy Place in the inner Melbourne suburb of Parkville. Being dependent on others was not in Frank's nature, but he needed the extra care he received. And he was happy.

Despite his advanced age, it was remarkable that Frank survived contracting COVID-19 in 2020 and endured many weeks of enforced isolation. His letter to friends and family at Christmas 2020 was typical of Frank, discussing some of the many problems he saw in the world and exploring ways of how to deal with them. Always the priest and teacher, he drew on the words of Scripture to explain his thoughts and encourage his readers. He shared a joke and he included a picture of one of the Australian native plants he loved (*Callistemon subulatus*).

In the last week of his life, Frank was struggling to breathe, yet still active on his computer faithfully serving the enquiries he received through his book.

When Fr Frank O'Dea died at the age of 92 on 9 January 2021, he had been a professed member of the Blessed Sacrament Congregation for 64 years, and 42 years a priest.

May he rest in peace.



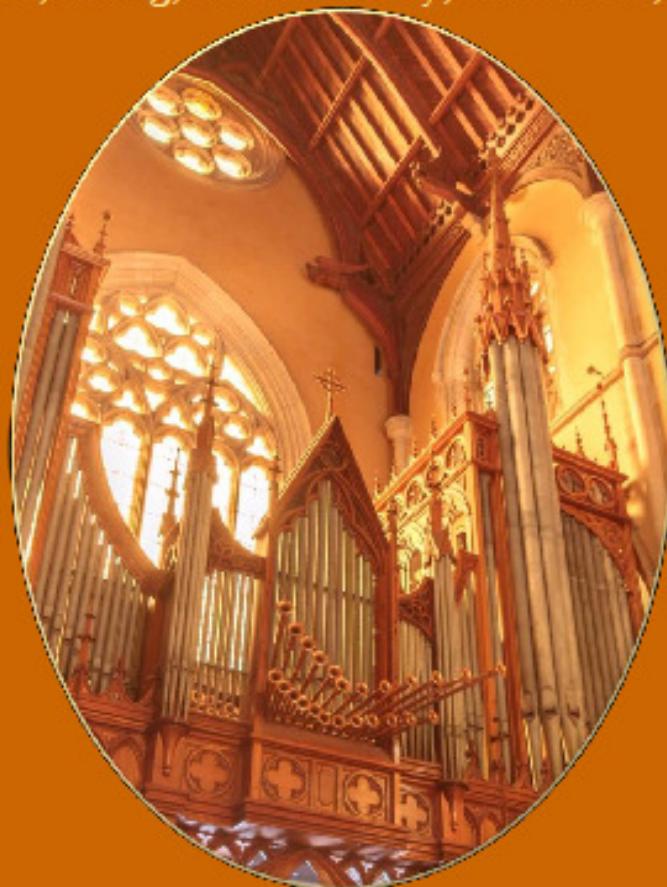
St Patrick's Cathedral Concert

# THOMAS HEYWOOD, organ

Friday 5 February 2021 6pm - 7pm

Works by

Bach, Elgar, Verdi, Grieg, Tchaikovsky, Guilmant, Cocker & Mulet



Tickets \$25.00

Bookings: [www.trybooking.com/BNSIT](http://www.trybooking.com/BNSIT)

Tickets available at the door

Children under 15 free



St Patrick's Cathedral

1 Cathedral Place, East Melbourne

Corner of Cathedral Place and Gisborne St

Enquiries: [music@cam.org.au](mailto:music@cam.org.au)

## FIRST READING

Jonah 3.1-5, 10

*The people of Nineveh turned from their evil ways.*

A reading from the book of the prophet Jonah.

- 1 The word of the Lord came to Jonah, saying,  
2 “Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city,  
and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.”  
3 So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh,  
according to the word of the Lord.  
Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city,  
a three days’ walk across.  
4 Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk.  
And he cried out,  
“Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!”  
5 And the people of Nineveh believed God;  
they proclaimed a fast,  
and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.  
10 When God saw what they did,  
how they turned from their evil ways,  
God changed his mind about the calamity  
that he had said he would bring upon them;  
and he did not do it.

The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalms 25.4-5a, 6+7b, 8-9 (R.4)

**R.** Teach me your ways, O Lord.

4 Make me to know your ways, O Lord;  
teach me your paths.

5 Lead me in your truth, and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation. **R.**

6 Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love,  
for they have been from of old.

7 According to your steadfast love remember me,  
for your sake of your goodness, O Lord! **R.**

8 Good and upright is the Lord;  
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

9 He leads the humble in what is right,  
and teaches the humble his way. **R.**



## SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 7.29-31

*The present form of this world is passing away.*

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

29 Brothers and sisters,  
the appointed time has grown short;  
from now on,  
let even those who have wives be as though they had none,  
30 and those who mourn as though they were not mourning,  
and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing,  
and those who buy as though they had no possessions,  
31 and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it.  
For the present form of this world is passing away.

The word of the Lord

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mark 1.15

Alleluia, alleluia  
The kingdom of God is near:  
repent and believe the good news!  
Alleluia

## G O S P E L

Mark 1.14-20

*The kingdom of God has come: Repent, and believe in the good news.*

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

14 After John was arrested,  
Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God,  
15 and saying,  
“The time is fulfilled,  
and the kingdom of God has come near;  
repent, and believe in the good news.”  
16 As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee,  
he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—  
for they were fishermen.  
17 And Jesus said to them,  
“Follow me and I will make you fishers of people.”  
18 And immediately they left their nets and followed him.  
19 As Jesus went a little farther,  
he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John,  
who were in their boat mending the nets.  
20 Immediately he called them;  
and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men,  
and followed him.

The gospel of the Lord.



### **Prayers of Intercession**

*Sharing one faith in Christ and keen to be true disciples, let us bring our prayers to the Father.*

We pray for the Church; that all who believe in Jesus will work together to preach the Gospel to our world, in action not just in words.

**LORD HEAR US.**

For those that have closed their hearts to Christ; that they will be open to hearing again His call to new life.

**LORD HEAR US.**

For those over burdened by fear and anxiety; that they will find peace and security through trusting in God's love.

**LORD HEAR US.**

For the healing of the human family; that the Spirit of God will heal the wounds and scars of prejudice and racism and that all people may work together for justice and dignity.

**LORD HEAR US.**

For peace; that God will touch hearts and inspire minds to new ways of working together so that injustices and violence may cease. **LORD HEAR US.**

We pray for those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time:

Pat Bovalina, Sr Margaret Nabb, Kathleen Doensen, Truus Teggelove, Peter Willis, Tom Grant, Bernadette Clarke, Yvonne Grant, Joan Howard, Hans van der Geest, John Burns, Rosemary Scheffer and Carlo Annunciata.

May they rest in the loving arms and peace of Christ.

**LORD HEAR US.**

### **SPIRITUAL COMMUNION,**

**My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You.**

**Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.**

**St. Alphonsus Liguori**

