

Sunday 25 August 2019: 6.10-6.25pm
AMPJP AGM
Clarendon Room at Novotel Manly Pacific, 55 North Steyne, Manly, NSW



The Cross painted by Mini Heath

Below cross will be a small table covered by a drape with an open bible on top.

Introduction

Reader 1: During our prayer periods, tonight and tomorrow, we will reflect on our relationship with God – on our vocations as people who are loved, called and sent. We will draw upon Scripture and the words of Pope Francis in his post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation: *Christus Vivit*.

We will be accompanied by this beautiful Cross. It was painted by Mini Heath from the Worimi Tribe in the area north of what we call Newcastle.

Mini says the Milky Way is depicted at the base and the central point represents the Creator's (God's) love, which existed from the Dreaming and reaches all humankind through Jesus.

Loved

Reader 2: We pray:
Compassionate God,
Your love gave each of us the gift of life.
Your love, through family, friends, teachers, and work colleagues, helped us mature.
Your love gave us Jesus, who sacrificed his life for others.
When evil killed Him,
your Spirit ensured that Jesus' life and love would be available to all people, in all places and for all of time.
Help us to be open to the transformative power of your love.

All: Amen

Reader 3: From **Christus Vivit**

*To discern our personal vocation,
we have to realize that it is a calling
from a friend, who is Jesus.
When we give something to our friends,
we give them the best we have. ... ¹*

Pause

Reader 4: *I want you to know that, when the Lord thinks of each of you
and what he wants to give you,
he sees you as his close friend.*

Pause

Reader 5: *And if he plans to grant you a grace,
a charism that will help you live to the full and
become someone who benefits others,
someone who leaves a mark in life,
it will surely be a gift that will bring you more joy and excitement
than anything else in this world.*

Pause

Reader 6: *Not because that gift will be rare or extraordinary,
but because it will perfectly fit you.
It will be a perfect fit for your entire life. ²*

Pause

Reader 1: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

All: Glory to you, O Lord!

Reader 1: *No one has greater love than this,
to lay down one's life for one's friends.
You are my friends if you do what I command you.
I do not call you servants any longer,
because the servant does not know what the master is doing;
but I have made known to you everything that I heard from my Father.
You did not choose me but I chose you.
And I appointed you to go and bear fruit,
fruit that will last,
so that the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.³*

The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

¹ (Christus Vivit #287)

² (Christus Vivit #288)

³ John 15:13-16

Reader 2: From **Christus Vivit**

The word “vocation” can be understood in a broad sense as a calling from God, including the call to life, the call to friendship with him, the call to holiness, and so forth.⁴

Pause

Reader 3: *“The life that Jesus gives us is a love story, a life history that wants to blend with ours and sink roots in the soil of our own lives. ...*

Pause

Reader 4: *The salvation that God offers us is an invitation to be part of a love story interwoven with our personal stories; it is alive and wants to be born in our midst so that we can bear fruit just as we are, wherever we are and with everyone all around us. The Lord comes there to sow and to be sown”.⁵*

Pause

Reader 2: We pray:
God of love,
Help us to accept more and more the gift that is your love.
As individuals, and as an Association,
help us to grow into our charism
so that we might find the fullness of life and
be your instruments of service to our Church and world.

All: Amen

⁴ (Christus Vivit #248)

⁵ (Christus Vivit #252)

**Monday 25 August 2019: 8.30-9.00am
AMPJP Canonical Stewards Forum
in Gilberts Room at Novotel Manly Pacific, 55 North Steyne, Manly, NSW**

Called

Reader 1: We pray:
Creator God,
You invite us to join you
in your ongoing work of creation.
In our discussions today,
May your Spirit make clear your call to us
and enflame our hearts for action.

All: Amen

Reader 2: From *Christus Vivit*

I would now like to speak of vocation in the strict sense,
as a call to missionary service to others.
The Lord calls us to share in his work of creation
and to contribute to the common good
by using the gifts we have received.⁶

Pause

Reader 3: This missionary vocation has to do with service.
For our life on earth reaches full stature
when it becomes an offering.
Here I would repeat that “the mission of
being in the heart of the people
is not just a part of my life or a badge I can take off;
it is not an ‘extra’ or just another moment in life.
Instead, it is something I cannot uproot
from my being without destroying my very self.

Pause

Reader 4: I am a mission on this earth;
that is the reason why I am here in this world.
It follows that every form of pastoral activity,
formation and spirituality
should be seen in the light of our Christian vocation.⁷

Pause

⁶⁶ (Christus Vivit #253)

⁷ (Christus Vivit #254)

Reader 5: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew⁸

All: Glory to you, O Lord!

Reader 5: *As he walked by the Sea of Galilee,
He saw two brothers,
Simon who is called Peter,
and Andrew his brother,
casting a net into the lake
– for they were fishermen.
And he said to them,
“Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.”
Immediately they left their nets and followed him.
As he went from there,
he saw two other brothers,
James son of Zebedee
and his brother John,
in the boat with their father Zebedee,
mending their nets,
and he called them.
Immediately they left the boat
and their father,
and followed him.⁹*

The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Pause

Reader 6: Your own personal vocation
does not consist only in the work you do,
though that is an expression of it.
Your vocation is something more:
it is a path guiding your many efforts and actions
towards service to others.
So, in discerning your vocation,
it is important to determine
if you see in yourself the abilities
needed to perform that specific service to society.¹⁰

Pause

Reader 7: A vocation, while a gift,
will undoubtedly also be demanding.
God’s gifts are interactive;
to enjoy them we have to be ready to take risks.
Yet the demands they make are not an obligation
imposed from without,

⁸ Matthew 4:18-22

⁹ Matthew 4:18-22

¹⁰ (Christus Vivit #255)

but an incentive to let that gift grow and develop,
and then become a gift for others.
When the Lord awakens a vocation,
he thinks not only of what you already are,
but of what you will one day be,
in his company and in that of others.¹¹

Reader 1: Lord, we pray that over our day together you will:

All: Open our eyes

Reader 2: that we may see ourselves and our world as you do.

All: Open our mouths

Reader 3: that we may speak your word and gape when words are inadequate.

All: Open our ears

Reader 4: that we may hear you speaking to us.

All: Open our minds

Reader 5: that falsehood may leave us and be replaced by your truth.

All: Open our hearts

Reader 6: that we may be moved with your compassion for the poor.

All: Open our hands

Reader 7: that we may take up the responsibilities that you give to our care.

Lawrie. If you know this hymn please join in singing:

Open my eyes Lord. Jesse Manibusan¹²

**All: Open my eyes, Lord
Help me to see your face
Open my eyes Lord
Help me to see**

**Open my ears, Lord
Help me to hear your voice
Open my ears, Lord
Help me to hear**

¹¹ (Christus Vivit #289)

¹²¹² 'Open My Eyes' Text and music © 1988, Jesse Manibusan. Published by Spirit & Song®, a division of OCP.

**Open my heart, Lord
Help me to love like you
Open my heart, Lord
Help me to love**

1.30pm – 2.00pm Monday 26 August 2019
AMPJP Canonical Stewards Forum
Gilberts Room at Novotel Manly Pacific, 55 North Steyne, Manly, NSW

Sent

Reader 1: Lord,
We thank you for the gift of this time
with you and with each other.
May the friendships,
the insights,
the practical assistance received
bear abundant fruit when we return to our ministries.

All: Amen

Reader 2: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark

All: Glory to you, O Lord!

Reader 2: Jesus called the crowd with his disciples,
and said to them:
“If any want to become my followers,
let them deny themselves
and take up their cross and follow me.
For those who want to save their life will lose it,
and those who loses their life for my sake,
and for the sake of the gospel,
will save it.”¹³

The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Pause

Reader 3: I invite you each to come forward and by gesture express
your respect for the cross as a way of life. You might
want to do this with a bow to the cross, touching the
cross or some other action.

You are also invited to take one of the small crosses with
you.

Once you have collected your cross I invite you to return
to your seat but to remain standing.



¹³ Mark 8:34-35

Reader 4: Pope Francis explains the role of a missionary disciple:

Reader 4: Where does Jesus send us?
There are no borders, no limits:
he sends us everywhere.
The Gospel is for everyone, not just for some.
It is not only for those who seem closer to us,
more receptive, more welcoming.
It is for everyone.

Reader 5: Do not be afraid to go
and bring Christ into every area of life,
to the fringes of society,
even to those who seem farthest away
and most indifferent.
The Lord seeks all;
he wants everyone
to feel the warmth of his mercy and his love.

Reader 6: He invites us to be fearless missionaries
wherever we are
and in whatever company we find ourselves ...
Wherever we are,
we always have an opportunity
to share the joy of the Gospel.

Reader 7: That is how the Lord goes out to meet everyone.
He loves you ... for you are the means
by which he can spread his light and hope.
He is counting on your courage,
your boldness
and your enthusiasm.¹⁴

**All: We accept our vocation
to be fully ourselves
to walk with and
to work with the Lord,
In the name of
the Father,
the Son and
the Holy Spirit.**

¹⁴ (Christus Vivit #177)