



Tea Tree Gully Parish - St David's Catholic Church

Incorporating - Our Lady of Hope Chapel - Greenwith

8264 4694

Under the care of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate

email: pp@stdavidsttg.org.au

28th January 23024



Fourth Sunday Ordinary Time Yr B

Readings next weekend 5th Sunday— Job 7:1-4. 6-7, 1 Corinthians 9:16-19. 22-23, Mark 1:29-39

The Spirituality of Eugene de Mazenod

During the years I have been writing this column, I have rarely mentioned the fact that I belong to a religious order, the *Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate*. That omission is not an evasion, since being an Oblate of Mary Immaculate is something of which I am quite proud. However, I rarely flag the fact that I am a priest and a member of a religious order because I believe what I write here and elsewhere needs to ground itself on things beyond titles.

In this column, however, I want to speak about the founder of the *Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate*, Saint Eugene de Mazenod, because what he had to say about Christian discipleship and spirituality is something of value and importance for everyone, like the legacies that have been left us by other great religious founders like Bernard, Francis, Dominic, Angela Merici, Ignatius of Loyola, Vincent de Paul, and others.

Saint Eugene de Mazenod (1779-1861) was a French bishop of aristocratic origins who some popular myths identify as the bishop in *Les Misérables*. He was a man whose personality ran somewhat naturally in the direction of the stern, the introverted, the strongly inner-directed, the mystical, and the single-minded. He wasn't the type of person most people would choose as their first choice for light dinner conversation, but he was the type of person who is often God's first choice to found a religious order.

Soren Kierkegaard once stated that *to be a saint is to will the one thing*. Eugene de Mazenod clearly did that and, in his case, that one thing had a number of aspects which, taken together, form the basis of a very rich, balanced spirituality – one which emphasizes some salient aspects of Christian discipleship that are often neglected today.

What shaped the spirituality of Eugene de Mazenod and the charism he left behind?

First, he emphasized *community*. For him, a good life is not just one of individual achievement, fidelity, or even greatness; it is a life that links itself to the power inherent within community. He was a firm believer in the axiom: *what we dream alone remains a dream, what we dream with others can become a reality*. In his view, compassion only becomes effective when it becomes collective, when it issues forth from a group rather than from just one individual. He believed that alone you can make a splash but not a difference. He founded a religious order because he deeply believed this.

In the face of all the issues confronting the world and the Church today, if someone were to ask him: "What's the one single thing I might do to make a difference?" He would reply: Connect yourself with others of sincere will within community, around the person of Christ. Alone you cannot save the world. Together we can!

Second, he believed that a healthy spirituality makes *a marriage between contemplation and justice*. Judged in the light of our contemporary sensitivities, his exact expression of this is perhaps linguistically awkward today, but his key principle is perennially valid: only an action that issues forth from a life that is rooted in prayer and deep interiority will be truly prophetic and effective. Conversely, all true prayer and genuine interiority will burst forth in action, especially in action for justice and the poor.

Third, in his own life and in the spirituality he laid out for his religious community, he made a *strong preferential option for the poor*. He did this not because it was the politically correct thing to do, but because it was the correct thing to do; the Gospel demands this, and it is non-negotiable. His belief was simple and clear: as Christians, we are called to be with and work with those whom nobody else wants to be with and work with. For him, any teaching or action that is not good news for the poor cannot claim to be speaking for Jesus or for scripture.

Fourth, he put *all of this under the patronage of the mother of Jesus, Mary*, whom he saw as an advocate for the poor. He recognized that the poor turn to her, for it is she who gives voice to the *Magnificat*.

Finally, in his own life and in the ideal he laid out, he brought together two seemingly contradictory tendencies: *a deep love for the institutional Church and the capacity to prophetically challenge it at the same time*. He loved the Church, believed that it was the noblest thing for which one might die; but at the same time, he wasn't afraid to publicly point out the Church's faults or to admit that the Church needs constant challenge and self-criticism... and he was willing to offer it!

His personality was very different from mine. I doubt that he and I would spontaneously like each other. But that's incidental. I'm proud of his legacy, proud to be one of his sons, and convinced enough of his spirituality to give my life over for it.

Fr Ron Rolheiser OMI



National Oblate Youth Encounter 2024

We were very blessed to have 11 Oblate Youth (and one very junior youth) from South Australia attend this year's National Oblate Youth Encounter in Melbourne, Victoria. From the 4th to 7th January, the youth from St David's Tea Tree Gully, Our Lady of Hope Greenwith and St Pius X Dernancourt joined with 70 other participants from around Australia to share on this year's theme "You are the Light of the World." It was a positive experience for everyone and our SA youth have come back with great ideas for our combined parish youth ministry this year.

Oblate Youth SA are extremely grateful for the support from our parishes. Each participant received \$150.00 contribution from the parishes towards their travel and registration costs, which with the rising costs of travel was greatly appreciated. We are thankful to St David's widows' group and De Mazenod Family who raised \$1,165.25 from the Christ the King bake sale. We are thankful to all the parishioners of St Pius X Dernancourt who supported the youth sausage sizzle which raised \$240.00. These contributions made it possible for our young people to enjoy such a faith-enriching experience.

Oblate Youth South Australia

Welcome to

OBLATE YOUTH AUSTRALIA

Wednesday 31st January
@ 6:30 - 8:30pm
St David's Parish, Tea Tree Gully
Hosts: Sonia & Nick | Dinner provided
Registration essential:
bit.ly/m/oblateyouthsa

- INFORMATION NIGHT -

What is Oblate Youth? What can I expect?
When are events? How do I get involved?

COME ALONG & FIND OUT MORE

All youth from our Parish are invited to attend our first meeting on Wednesday 31st January at St David's Church. Ages from 16 years through to 30 are invited to attend.

Dinner will be provided, so please register your interest on:

bit.ly/m/oblateyouthsa

DIARY DATES

OBLATE YOUTH SA

First Meeting for the year will be held on Wednesday 31st January commencing at 6.30pm. Dinner provided. Youth from 16-30 yrs. You must register your interest: bit.ly/m/oblateyouthsa

St VINCENT DE PAUL

First meeting for 2024 will be Wednesday 31st January at 7pm in foyer. New Members welcome.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday 1st February at 7pm in foyer

DE MAZENOD FAMILY GATHERING

Monday 5th February at 6pm with shared supper

ASH WEDNESDAY - 14th February

Morning Mass at 9.15am with Saint David's School and evening Mass at 7pm

WIDOW/ERS MASS

Thursday 15th February at 11am with shared lunch

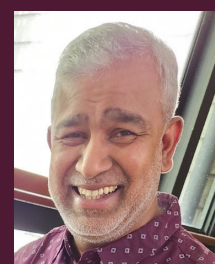
SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY - 30 YEARS

On Monday 15th January, Fr James celebrated his 30th Anniversary of Ordination into the Priesthood. After 2 years in his home country, he was transferred to Korea for 17 years, then he arrived in Australia in 2013. He is now happy to be called an Australian and we would like to give him a 'Special Morning Tea' to commemorate his 30th Anniversary.

Unfortunately, due to holidays in January, nothing could be arranged. Therefore, we will celebrate with him in February.

- So on the weekend of 3rd and 4th of February, (next weekend) we will take up a special collection for Fr James at all Masses.
- On Sunday 11th February, after the 10.30am Mass, we will have a shared morning tea/lunch in the foyer of St David's Church. We ask that you please bring a small plate of shared food to celebrate with Fr James.

Please feel free to bring your own drink and perhaps a glass on the day.



De Mazenod Family Monthly Gathering

Meeting Monday 5th February. Join us for a shared meal/fellowship, in a relaxed environment. After sharing a simple meal and friendly conversation, we get to learn more about St Eugene De Mazenod, the Founder of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate—our Parish Priests. We meet on the first Monday of each month from 6-8pm in the church foyer. We are planning additional 'Get Togethers' throughout the year at other times for those who cannot come Monday evenings. Keep watching for updates in the Bulletin. This is an open invitation to everyone in our Parish. For further information—Joan 0407441126



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction - this coming Saturday, the 3rd February, after morning Mass until the end of Reconciliation.
"I look at Him & He looks at me" & that is precious!

TEA TREE GULLY PARISH

Parish Office Phone: 8264 4694 Email: secretary@stdavidsttg.org.au Web Page: <https://www.stdavidsttg.org.au>
Church Office & Presbytery: 2-4 Vizard Rd, Tea Tree Gully 5091 facebook.com/ttgparish
Our Lady of Hope Chapel: Cnr Golden Way & Golden Grove Rd, Greenwith. Contact via St David's Parish Office

STAFF

Priests: Fr James Jeyachandran OMI - Parish Priest (pp@stdavidsttg.org.au)
Fr Joshua Nash OMI—Assistant Priest (jnash@omi.com.au)

Office Manager/Secretary - Denise Crawford - secretary@stdavidsttg.org.au
Church Sacristan - David Reynolds - contact via Parish Office

Child Safe Contacts: St David's Church - Amanda Bartels - contact 0414255458 or Parish Office
OLOH - Leah Tunks - contact 0431049947 or Parish Office

MASS TIMES

St David's Church **Weekday Mass times:** Monday - Saturday 9.15am Rosary - 8.50am daily
Weekend Mass times: Saturday Vigil - 5.30pm, Sunday 7.00am & 10.30am
Our Lady of Hope Chapel: Sunday 9.00am

Reconciliation: Saturday morning after Morning Mass and Saturday evening from 5pm- 5.20pm.

Exposition: first Saturday of the month after morning Mass

Baptism: 11am Saturdays at St David's Church - By appointment only - contact Parish Office



We are a 'Child Safe'
Organisation

Mass Intentions and Feast Days for week commencing 27 January 2024

Saturday 27: 9.15am -

5.30pm: Alessandros Papadopoulos -RIP

Sunday 28: 7am: for the people of the parish

9am:

10.30am - Jan & Gus Lloyd - Special Intentions

Monday 29: 9.15am - Jean Guinan -RIP

Tuesday 30: 9.15am - John Williams—Birthday

Wednesday 31: St John Bosco 9.15am— Mirella Furlan - Birthday

Thursday 1: 9.15am:

Friday 2: Presentation of the Lord 9.15am - Prayer Book Intentions



Vinnie's TTG Conference.

Thanks to your generous support, our conference members delivered Christmas hampers and toys to 55 Tea Tree Gully families during the week before Christmas.

The Christmas Raffle raised approximately \$1700.00. We had fifteen valuable prizes, of which thirteen have been delivered to lucky winners. However, we still couldn't contact 2 winners using the information on the tickets. Orange ticket E11, Ursulina, 0418 890 712 and green ticket E52, Dawn Crossley, 0397 12 44. If you recognise either of these, please contact Fred Aspinall on 0414 962 408 to claim your prize.

Our first meeting this year will be held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 31st January at St David's church Foyer. We would love to have new members. If you wish to consider joining please turn up to the meeting or call me on 0478 402 191 if you wish to know more about Vinnies.

As we expect high demand on food requests when we resume our delivery service in February, we ask you to continue your donations of unperishable items. Currently we require **rice, sugar and soup**.

Wasim Saman, *President TTG Conference*

Please pray for the sick of our Parish:

names are on the list for a short period, unless parish is notified

John Williams, Judith Murray, Ros Rimmer, Bob Culshaw, Gloria Grew, Ron & Clare Cashin, Sally Perry, James Perry, Pauline Read, Brenda Crawford, Colleen Wallace, George and Mary Willcox

DECEASED ANNIVERSARIES

Margaret Moss, Rae Challen, Winifred Serella, William & Elizabeth Johnson, Isabella Smith, Jean Guinan, Thomas Carty, Laurel Mickan, Ron Heap, Kingsley Hall, Norman Glenn, Cecilia McPherson, Mrs J Kilroy, Patrick Burke

Cleaners Roster: Jan 31- Feb 2 - Group 2

please come to the Parish Office to collect keys

Linen for February— M Perry

please take dirty linen, at least twice per week

Please Note: someone for April is needed. Please contact Denise

Counting Roster: Next Weekend -4/2- Group 3

Morning Tea Hosts: Feb 4th

St David's - Zofia & Frank

OLOH -



Recycling Bin at side of church, Vizard Rd side. Please place your bottles, cans, fruit box, and any tetra packs under one litre, into this bin. Proceeds help the needy of the parish.