
From the Pastor's Desk.....

On Monday we celebrate Australia Day. For some it is a time for rejoicing in the abundant blessings this nation enjoys. For others it is a time to reflect on where we are going as a nation. And for others still, it is a day of mourning.

We have every reason to rejoice: while not perfect, we do have a strong stable democracy; our economy is relatively healthy and by-and-large we have successfully embraced multiculturalism. We could easily catalogue many other attributes that give cause for celebration.

Yet there are worrying trends that should give us ground for concern: the rise and rise of unfettered capitalism that is driving a wedge between the super wealthy and the struggling poor; the deplorable treatment of asylum seekers; the lack of will to tackle climate change; and the plight of our indigenous Australians.

The first line of our National Anthem rings out with the words "Australians all let us rejoice." There is something wonderfully inclusive in the use of the word "all", yet it remains an aspiration, a vision to which we can aspire.

Our parish is fortunate to have a Social Justice Committee. It is a useful body to have in the parish. It keeps us informed of the church's teaching on social justice and suggests practical means by which we can contribute to a building a more just society and peaceful world.

***Peace and blessings,
Gerard***