



Bible Readings for  
August 30 2020  
Exodus 3:1-5  
Romans 12:9-21  
Matthew 16:21-28  
Reflection from Ray

I read an article during the week where a person was asked about their religious beliefs. The person responded with a generalised comment that basically said she was not very religious, thoughts religions could offer something and that the Bible had "some nice things to say". I thought now there is someone who has not read the gospels seriously. Otherwise she would know Jesus has more challenging and confronting things to say than "nice" things. For instance today's gospel reading. Without further comment here is a reflection from American pastor and author, Brian McLaren

"Please de-baptize me," she said. The priest's face crumpled. "My parents tell me you did it," she said. "But I was not consulted. So now, undo it." The priest's eyes asked why. "If it were just about belonging to this religion and being forgiven, then I would stay. If it were just about believing This list of doctrines and upholding this list of rituals, I'd be OK. but your sermon Sunday made it clear it's about more. contd page 4

Our thoughts are with Fiona this week as her mother in law died recently and the funeral was held under lockdown restrictions.

Prayers for Fiona, Evan and their son Jack.

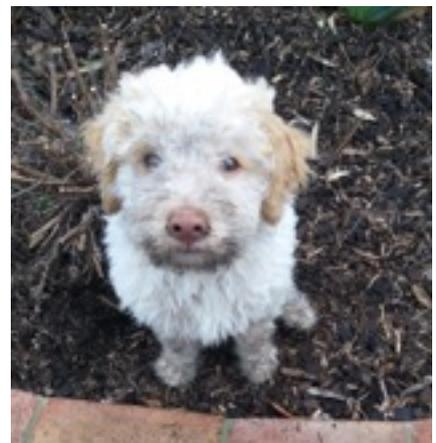
There will be a congregational get together as a chance to informally catch up with each other via Zoom. This will be on this coming Sunday, August 30 at 2.30pm. Those people who have expressed intent in attending (plus a few others) have been sent a link to get into the meeting. If you would like to come to this online meeting via Zoom and have not yet let Simon or Ray know you can still do before Sunday and you will be sent a link via email. Looking forward to seeing some faces again.

And speaking of faces... thanks to those who have sent a "selfie" of themselves with their mask on. We even have one or two as a back up so we will use them over the next couple of weeks. But we need more so keep them coming and we will feature one a week.

Oh and you can still suggest a favourite song to be featured in "Do Yourself A Favour"

**A new member of the Gormann/Collister household appeared a week ago. She has been named Bailey and is a Lagotto Romagnola which is also described as an Italian waterdog.**

**The Harvest would love to print your pet's photo, so send 'em in ! (photo, not the pet).**



Do  
Yourself  
A  
Favour



Continuing on with our series of top female vocalists. The last couple of weeks we have what I would describe as “pure” voices (Eva Cassidy and Roberta Flack). This week we lurch to the other end of the spectrum and introduce considerable lashings of grunt and passion, A member of the notorious 27 Club (along with The Door’s Jim Morrison from about a month ago) today we have Janis Joplin in a mesmerising performance of “Ball and Chain” at the Monterey Pop Festival. And wow what a line up at that festival if you check the performers. Probably better than Woodstock if the truth be told.

Wikipedia puts it -  
Janis Lyn Joplin (January 19, 1943 – October 4, 1970) was an American singer-songwriter who sang rock, soul and blues music. One of the most successful and widely known rock stars of her era, she was noted for her powerful mezzo-soprano vocals and "electric" stage presence. In 1967, Joplin rose to fame following an appearance at Monterey Pop Festival, where she was the lead singer of the then little-known San Francisco psychedelic rock band Big Brother and the Holding Company.  
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## Continuing With Our New Series

### “Faces From Lockdown”

Many thanks to Maureen who has sent in this photo of herself in custom made face mask.

Maureen, you are this week’s winner!

we have one or two photos up our sleeve but keep them coming!



Due to the bereavement Fiona of course was not able to prepare her usual article on Mental Health Matters for the Presbytery Newsletter and which we also print in The Harvest. But this week she offered this poem from an Irish poet and activist who has made many visits to Melbourne and is well known in Uniting Church circles.

In-between the Sun and Moon  
By Pádraig Ó Tuama

In-between the sun and moon,  
I sit and watch  
and make some room  
for letting light and twilight mingle  
, shaping hope and making single glances last  
eternity,  
a little more,  
extending love beyond the doors of welcoming,  
while wedding all the parted people,  
even sons to violent mothers,  
and searching all the others  
finding light  
where twilight lingers,  
in-between the sun and moon.

## Latest News From Sunshine Youth Space

The lockdown has provided opportunities to conduct youth work creatively and there is more time to participate in the online activities offered by other youth organisations.



### Human trafficking

There have been recent reports and news articles on how the COVID-19 pandemic has significantly increased the rate of vulnerability to human trafficking. The economic pressures caused by Covid-19 means that there is higher risk of modern slavery and forced marriages in Australia. On August 11, Cindy from ACRATH and Sunshine Youth Space held a COVID19 related human trafficking webinar (third session so far). Although it was a smaller group than the first and second session (due Covid-19's impact on other workers' work capacity), it was a productive session. The representative from Victoria Legal Aid advised that they had clients who experienced these issues and agreed to explore the idea of including education material on forced marriage in their resources. This session also marked the beginning of the Brimbank Human Trafficking Network. Anyone who is interested in joining this network can email me on [sunshineyouthcoordinator@gmail.com](mailto:sunshineyouthcoordinator@gmail.com)  
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### Do Yourself A Favour continued

After releasing two albums with the band, she left Big Brother to continue as a solo artist with her own backing groups, first the Kozmic Blues Band and then the Full Tilt Boogie Band. She appeared at the Woodstock festival and the Festival Express train tour. Five singles by Joplin reached the Billboard Hot 100, including a cover of the Kris Kristofferson song "Me and Bobby McGee", which reached number 1 in March 1971. Her most popular songs include her cover versions of "Piece of My Heart", "Cry Baby", "Down on Me", "Ball and Chain", and "Summertime"; and her original song "Mercedes Benz", her final recording.



Joplin died of an overdose in 1970 at three albums. A fourth released in January months after her number one on the was posthumously

accidental heroin age 27, after releasing album, Pearl, was 1971, just over three death. It reached Billboard charts. She inducted into the Rock

and Roll Hall of Fame in 1995. Rolling Stone ranked Joplin number 46 on its 2004 list of the 100 Greatest Artists of All Time and number 28 on its 2008 list of 100 Greatest Singers of All Time. She remains one of the top-selling musicians in the United States, with Recording Industry Association of America certifications of 15.5 million albums sold.

Listen here [ball and chain](#)

### **Sunshine Youth Space website**

I am in the process of creating a website for Sunshine Youth Space so watch the online space!

### **Ask Izzy**

Ask Izzy is a mobile website which allows users to search for support services and Sunshine Youth Space participated in the video feedback session with UX designer. We look forward to using the improved version of Ask Izzy.

### **Online Tutoring**

Sunshine Youth Space has been providing free online tutoring to students who are struggling with remote learning and are unable to receive assistance from elsewhere

### **Stories from Sunshine Youth Space**

We are still working on our second edition of Stories from Sunshine Youth Space( Spring Edition)

### **Social Media**

These are some of the recent events supported by Sunshine Youth Space's social media:

i amnotavirus campaign

World Day against Trafficking in Persons

Homelessness week

International Day of the World's Indigenous People 2020

International Youth Day 2020



**Samita Rai Sunshine Youth Space Co-ordinator**

### **Reflection From Ray contd.**

More than I bargained for. So, please, unbaptize me." The priest looked down, said nothing. She continued: "You said baptism sends me into the World to love enemies. I don't. Nor do I plan to. You said it means being willing to stand against the flow. I like the flow. You described it like rethinking everything, like joining a movement. But

I'm not rethinking or moving anywhere.

So un-baptize me. Please. The priest began to weep. Soon great sobs rose from his deepest heart He took off his glasses, blew his nose, took three tissues to dry his eyes "These are tears of joy," he said "I think you are the first person who ever truly listened or understood."

"So," she said,

"Will you? Please?" –

**Brian McLaren**