

**Parish Priest**

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Twentieth Sunday in
Ordinary Time - Yr C,
18 August 2013

From your Pastor

How Not to Win Friends

Same sex marriage and refugee issues are difficult to find a compromise, and politicians struggle to address these matters as they seek votes. What you and I can do is to ask ourselves 'what would Jesus do'.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I have come to bring fire to the earth Do you suppose I am here to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division.' (Ref Luke 12:49-50). Jesus is not proposing any compromise in his teaching and mission. He wants his disciples also to do the same. For Jesus it meant a premature death and the shame of the cross. For the disciples it could be at least the division in the family and disapproval of the society.

We are so used to pampering and being nice. Whilst there is no need to be aggressive and outright for its own sake, there is no merit trying to be pleasing always at the expense of truth and faith.

When it is a question of justice for the under privileged people, as members of the church we all have a duty to speak up, even at the displeasure of the majority. It is a duty as church to speak for the asylum seekers and such other causes. Incidentally tomorrow we start Migrant and Refugee week. The collective selfishness of society may not like the compassionate approach of the Church. Therefore call for compassion to the refugees would create division in the society. Will that be destruction of peace? In the long run it will be a gain of proper peace.

Think of the case with slave trade a couple of centuries ago. To speak out against it was divisive and did not have the support of the selfish majority. In spite of the displeasure and divisions caused by the people who spoke up against such social evils, the society is now proud and glad that slavery is abolished. There is a greater peace in the society without an evil like slavery. Similarly our persistent profession of truth without the fear any displeasure and the immediate upset it would cause, will have greater peace in the end.

In our personal life also we need to gather enough courage to speak up the truth even if it is not very pleasant. Here is an example of a situation.

Once a widow was narrating a difficult time she had with her daughter. This only daughter who lives with her mother one day announced to her mother, "My boyfriend has no place to live. I am going to bring him home to live here. I see nothing wrong with this." There are two ways the mother could respond.

1. My faith and my experience tell me that this is wrong. But I want peace in my home. Therefore I let her bring her boyfriend to live with me here.
2. Or the mother could say. My dear daughter, I will always love you no matter what you do. I have tried to share my faith with you. But you are now an adult woman. I may disagree with you but I respect the decisions you make according to your conscience. But I also have my own conscience. Because of my faith and my personal experience, I believe that joys of marriage are only for the married couples. Since this is my home and this is a place where God lives, I cannot in my conscience permit you to bring your boyfriend to live here before your marriage. This might cause a drift. But the strong and unambiguous stand of the mother will only bring greater peace and joy the daughter's life.

Being with Jesus and proclaiming his Word do not always win friends. But it surely will bring the peace and joy that is beyond the immediate approval and pleasure.

Holy Mass at Berala: Monday-Friday:6.45AM; Tuesday 7PM Novena & Mass;
Wednesday - Friday 9.15 AM Saturday 8 AM Lord's Day: Saturday 5 PM (Vigil), Sunday 10 AM.
Holy Mass at Auburn South: Tuesday 9 AM (school term only); The Lord's Day Sunday 8 AM.
Reconciliation at Berala: Saturday 9.30 AM

Talk on Prayer

On Wednesday, 28 August, there will be a talk on different ways of praying and effectiveness of prayer. It will be held in the Berala Parish Hall starting at 7 PM with a meal and finishing at 9 PM. It would help for catering, if you notify the parish office or Fr Thomas, if you are attending. Catholics, non-Catholics, other religion, no religion – all are welcome.

Billy Andy in PNG

William Andrews is a parishioner from Auburn South. Recently he travelled to Papua New Guinea to work with Sustainable Resources Management Program as a Training Advisor. His role is to provide training programs, resource development and management for locals. He wrote an email to Fr Thomas and below are some excerpts from his email.



The people in this region have been living on handouts from the mining industries for over thirty years with limited access to reach considerable level of social status. As I stated in earlier post, the different treatment of the mining giants to least important areas has heavily affected the wellbeing of the people. This program is foreseeing the potential closure of the mining industry in western province of PNG at the end of this year and that will directly impact on about 90% of national revenue which comes from this mine and the lives of the people who are relying on this mine. We are currently establishing the community development program (educational, health and social welfare), Technical and Vocational Education development program, primary to secondary school linked program and literacy and numeracy skills development program for the people who are disadvantaged due to the lack of support and proper guidance. Furthermore, this program has aimed to become the hub of educational research and the centre of quality training network for this country. We are still in progress and will take some time to see the outcomes.

People here are very much involved in church activities but still needing assistance and proper support. The choir is beautiful which is well organised with many talents. The resident priest in this parish is from Indonesia but he has been away very often and at times we are having communion service only. There are two different societies on both side of the river. Eastern side of the river is well looked after by the mining industry where people have both moral and social advantages which is compared to the people from the other side of the river. There are about four thousand people of seven villages living on the other side of the river that includes approximately seven to eight hundred school age children. One Primary school is still functioning with the assistance of local community and partially supported by the provincial government. Due to the lack of funding, lack of facility, distance, and condition of the road, majority of the children are still missing out from the school. The existing school also can only afford to cater for about two hundred children with their limited resources.

The only way for them to send their children to the school is to cross the river and enrol in one of the local schools from eastern side of the river. The nearest village to other side of the river is about two hours walk on the rough, rocky and slippery road. It is very much unsafe for the children for travelling alone on this road. Even though they can manage to walk everyday to school by crossing over the river, the continuous rain of all seasons make it difficult to walk without been wet and fall. The worst of all is the condition of the bridge which they can only rely on to cross over the river which has broken apart and only what is left is a narrow pedestrian bridge hanging onto the cliff which can also break down anytime. The current in the river under the bridge is too strong and a lot of rocks are in the middle of the river which make crossing the river by boat or canoe impossible. We have only managed to reach the first village and nearby squatters settlement area and made some contingency plans for them. Our next destination is to reach the rest of six villages over the mountain range and find some solutions to help the children who need education.

Billy Andy

Feasts of the Week

20 August – St Bernard, abbot, doctor. Memorial

St. Bernard was born of noble parentage in Burgundy, France, in the castle of Fontaines near Dijon. Under the care of his pious parents he was sent at an early age to a college at Chatillon, where he was conspicuous for his remarkable piety and spirit of recollection. At the same place he entered upon the studies of theology and Holy Scripture. After the death of his mother, fearing the snares and temptations of the world, he resolved to embrace the newly established and very austere institute of the Cistercian Order, of which he was destined to become the greatest ornament. He also persuaded his brothers and several of his friends to follow his example. In 1113, St. Bernard, with thirty young noblemen, presented himself to the holy Abbot, St. Stephen, at Citeaux. After a novitiate spent in great fervor, he made his profession in the following year.



His superior soon after, seeing the great progress he had made in the spiritual life, sent him with twelve monks to found a new monastery, which afterward became known as the celebrated Abbey of Clairvaux. St. Bernard was at once appointed Abbot and began that active life which has rendered him the most conspicuous figure in the history of the 12th century. He founded numerous other monasteries, composed a number of works and undertook many journeys for the honor of God. Several Bishoprics were offered him, but he refused them all. The reputation of St. Bernard spread far and wide; even the Popes were governed by his advice. He was commissioned by Pope Eugene III to preach the second Crusade.

In obedience to the Sovereign Pontiff he travelled through France and Germany, and aroused the greatest enthusiasm for the holy war among the masses of the population. The failure of the expedition raised a great storm against the saint, but he attributed it to the sins of the Crusaders. St. Bernard was eminently endowed with the gift of miracles. He died on August 20, 1153.

21 August – St Pius X, pope. Memorial

Pope Pius X is perhaps best remembered for his encouragement of the frequent reception of Holy Communion, especially by children.

The second of 10 children in a poor Italian family, Joseph Sarto became Pius X at 68, one of the 20th century's greatest popes.

Ever mindful of his humble origin, he stated, "I was born poor, I lived poor, I will die poor." He was embarrassed by some of the pomp of the papal court. "Look how they have dressed me up," he said in tears to an old friend. To another, "It is a penance to be forced to accept all these practices. They lead me around surrounded by soldiers like Jesus when he was seized in Gethsemani."

Interested in politics, he encouraged Italian Catholics to become more politically involved. One of his first papal acts was to end the supposed right of governments to interfere by veto in papal elections—a practice that reduced the freedom of the 1903 conclave which had elected him.

In 1905, when France renounced its agreement with the Holy See and threatened confiscation of Church property if governmental control of Church affairs were not granted, Pius X courageously rejected the demand.

While he did not author a famous social encyclical as his predecessor had done, he denounced the ill treatment of indigenous peoples on the plantations of Peru, sent a relief commission to Messina after an earthquake and sheltered refugees at his own expense.

On the 11th anniversary of his election as pope, Europe was plunged into World War I. Pius had foreseen it, but it killed him. "This is the last affliction the Lord will visit on me. I would gladly give my life to save my poor children from this ghastly scourge." He died a few weeks after the war began and was canonized in 1954.



22 August – The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Memorial

Pius XII established this feast in 1954. But Mary's queenship has roots in Scripture. At the Annunciation, Gabriel announced that Mary's Son would receive the throne of David and rule forever. At the Visitation, Elizabeth calls Mary "mother of my Lord." As in all the mysteries of Mary's life, Mary is closely associated with Jesus: Her queenship is a share in Jesus' kingship. We can also recall that in the Old Testament the mother of the king has great influence in court.

In the fourth century St. Ephrem (June 9) called Mary "Lady" and "Queen." Later Church fathers and doctors continued to use the title. Hymns of the 11th to 13th centuries address Mary as queen: "Hail, Holy Queen," "Hail, Queen of Heaven," "Queen of Heaven." The Dominican rosary and the Franciscan crown as well as numerous invocations in Mary's litany celebrate her queenship.

The feast is a logical follow-up to the Assumption and is now celebrated on the octave day of that feast. In his 1954 encyclical *To the Queen of Heaven*, Pius XII points out that Mary deserves the title because she is Mother of God, because she is closely associated as the New Eve with Jesus' redemptive work, because of her preeminent perfection and because of her intercessory power.



24 August – St Bartholomew, apostle. Feast



All that is known of him with certainty is that he is mentioned in the synoptic gospels and Acts as one of the twelve apostles. His name, a patronymic, means "son of Tolomai" and scholars believe he is the same as Nathanael mentioned in John, who says he is from Cana and that Jesus called him an "Israelite...incapable of deceit." The Roman Martyrology says he preached in India and Greater Armenia, where he was flayed and beheaded by King Astyages. Tradition has the place as Abanopolis on the west coast of the Caspian Sea and that he also preached in Mesopotamia, Persia, and Egypt. The Gospel of Bartholomew is apochryphal and was condemned in the decree of Pseudo-Gelasius.

Planned Giving Program Request Form

Your contribution to the Planned Giving Program of the Parish is your appreciation for the Parish. At the end of the Financial Year you will receive a Receipt for your contributions which will enable you to claim Tax deduction. To join the Planned Giving Program fill this form, tear this part off and place it in the Sunday Collection plate

Your Name:.....

Telephone NoEmail ID

☐ Yes, please organise a set of envelopes.

YES/NO Tax deduction

☐ Yes, please organise automatic credit card deductions.
(A credit card authority form will be sent to you for completion)

Asylum Seekers are not queue jumpers

**August 19-25 is Migrant and Refugee Week.
Here is an article as food for thought during this week.**



To become a refugee, first you must seek asylum

To become a refugee, one must meet the definition under the 1951 UN Refugee Convention. The definition requires you must be outside your country of origin and suffering from a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion. As such if you wish to gain protection as a refugee, you must leave your country and seek asylum. Every refugee in the world has at some point entered another country to seek asylum.

Australia invents the world's first humanitarian queue jumper

Australia is the only country in the world which links our onshore asylum numbers to the offshore humanitarian numbers. By doing so, the Government can be sure of the total number of humanitarian entrants it accepts each year. Unfortunately linking these programs has led to the queue jumper myth. As of 2012-13 Australia has committed to resettle 20,000 humanitarian entrants (prior to this Australia has accepted around 13,000 for much of the past 20 years). The 20,000 places are shared between three programs;

- 1) Offshore refugees: Australia guarantees to take 12,000 refugees as identified by the UNHCR every year (before this year this number was 6000). These refugees are referred by the UNHCR and are either from refugee camps or urban areas such as Damascus or Kuala Lumpur. They are referred for resettlement based on need.
- 2) Special Humanitarian Program (SHP): this program allows for private sponsorship of people who are at risk but may or may not be refugees. Often previous humanitarian entrants (refugees or asylum seekers) use this pathway to sponsor family members left behind.
- 3) Onshore asylum seekers. These places are for those people who manage to reach Australian territory by air or boat and are in need of protection. What creates the queue jumper myth is the decision to link the SHP numbers to the number of asylum seekers. For every asylum seeker who arrives, one less place is available for private sponsorship under the SHP program. Sadly this situation is presented in the media as asylum seekers jumping the queue in front of refugees waiting in camps; actually it is because of this policy decision to link the two programs. Both groups are worthy of Australia's protection.

Both onshore asylum and offshore humanitarian programs are important.

Resettlement of refugees is a wonderful compliment too, but not a substitute for, providing protection to humanitarian entrants who seek asylum onshore. Our offshore resettlement program (identified refugees and those under the SHP) is important to show solidarity with the world's poorest nations who host the majority of the world's displaced people. It is also designed to target a very small group of refugees with particular protection needs such as women at risk.

Our onshore asylum program is important because Australia has voluntarily agreed to uphold and be bound under international law to protect those who seek asylum at our shores. In addition, Australia understands that often displaced people, particularly ethnic minorities, suffer horrific violence when caught in the trials of war; there is no time to organise passports or visas and often the possibility of seeking protection from UNHCR is not available. Once they have fled their homeland, the possibility to be granted refugee status is only available in a small number of countries worldwide and many are far from conflict zones. Hence some people will need to travel very far to seek protection, sometimes as far as Australia.

Other Notices

RETREAT FOR WOMEN AT MULGOA (23-25 AUGUST 2013). A retreat to assist single women 18-35 to enter into a deeper relationship with Christ and grow to a fuller understanding of the unique purpose of life. Includes catechesis on Vocations & Discernment, Prayer, Scripture, Dating & Marriage and Religious Life, with guest speakers Sr Mary Rachel OP, Fr Greg Morgan, Dr Robert Tilley, Karen Doyle and Sr Hilda Scott OSB. Also includes the chance for private spiritual guidance. Cost: \$190. For further info contact elizabeth.arblaster@sydneycatholic.org or on 9390 5937. See program at vocationcentre.org.au/important-dates or on search 'Sydney Vocation Centre' on facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/598054273558763/>.

Nazareth and Benilde Reunion – Class of 1983 (year 12)

The 30 year reunion is being held on Saturday 7th September 2013. Could all students interested in attending please join our Facebook page "Nazareth and Benilde Reunion Class of 1983" Alternatively please email Karen Flannery at karen.broadbent@turkslegal.com.au for further details. Hope to see you there !!

Mass for Pregnant Mothers - On Sunday 25 August at 10:30am, the Most Rev Terence Brady & the Most Rev Peter Comensoli will celebrate the Annual Mass for Pregnant Mothers at St Mary's Cathedral. All women who are expecting a baby and those who would like to show support for them are most welcome. A morning tea will follow in the Cathedral Chapter Hall. Enquiries and registration can be directed to lmfevents@sydneycatholic.org or 9390 5283.



ANNUAL LECTURE OF RELIGIOUS LIBERTY. His Eminence Cardinal Pell will deliver this year's talk at University of Notre Dame, St Benedict's Hall on the main Broadway campus. **22 August 2013**, 5.30 for 6.00pm. **RSVP** for catering purposes by Friday, 16 August 2013 to 8204 4240 or email: elle.glynn@nd.edu.au

Discover OLMC Parramatta Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta would like to invite you to discover the College's rich tradition and cutting edge education and enjoy a 'comfortable cup of tea' with the College Executive at the Open Morning Tour on Monday, August 26, 2013. The College is now enrolling for 2014 and 2015. Visit www.olmc.nsw.edu.au or phone 8838 1263 to reserve your place or more info.

Memorial Mass for the Unborn Cardinal Pell will celebrate the annual Memorial Mass for the Unborn on Friday 13 September at 7.30pm at St Mary's Cathedral. The Mass will be offered in commemoration of the lives lost to abortion and in solidarity with the women and men who grieve this loss. During the Mass 82 candles will be bought forward to represent the 82 lives lost to abortion each day in NSW. All are invited to attend. Enquiries: Life, Marriage and Family Centre, 9390 5290 or LMFevents@sydneycatholic.org.



WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER: A relationship enrichment weekend for married couples. This is a unique opportunity to recharge your relationship batteries, refocus on each other and fall in love all over again! Weekend date: 6 – 8 September at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW Bookings: Ardell & Bill Sharpe tel. 02 4283 3435 or wsharpe@bigpond.net.au Information: website www.wwme.org.au

Position Vacant

Facilities Manager, Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney is seeking applications for the role of **Facilities Manager**. This is a full time position, based at the Polding Centre, Sydney. Further detail about this position is available at www.catholicjobsonline.com.au. Applications to Anthony Spata by email at anthony.spata@sydneycatholic.org by Wednesday, 28 August 2013. Enquiries: (02) 9390 5317.

Parish Diary This Week!

	St Peter Chanel	St Joseph the Worker
Monday	6.45AM Mass,	
Tuesday	6.45AM Mass, 7.00 PM Novena	9.00AM Mass. 10.15AM SJW First Reconciliation
Wednesday	6.45AM Mass, 9.15 AM Mass, 7.00PM SPC First Reconciliation. Secretary Available.	Secretary Available.
Thursday	6.45AM Mass, 9.15 AM Mass Secretary Available.	Secretary Available.
Friday	6.45AM Mass, 9.15AM Mass	
Saturday	8.00AM Mass, 9.30 AM Reconciliation 5.00PM Vigil Mass	
Sunday	10AM Mass	8.00AM Mass

Alcohol and Drug Information Service: (Confidential) (02) 9361 8000

Spiritual Retreats:

Benedictine Abbey Jamberoo T/F: (02) 4236 0533 E cottageretreats@bigpond.com

Carmelites Varroville E retreats@carmelite.com ;

Vincentian Retreat Centre Somersby E clary.antaog@gmail.com T: 0434099088

Finance Committee Meeting This Thursday in the presbytery commencing at 7.30pm.

Hospitality

At St Peter Chanel

This week Phil Lopez will be hosting morning tea after 10AM Mass. Please stay and join us for a cuppa and chat. *Next week Vinita Nazareth will be hosting morning tea after 10AM Mass.*

At St Joseph the Worker

This week no morning tea.

Thank you to all the volunteers for hosting this wonderful event.
Please note that in the event of rain there will be no hospitality.

A Sunday School teacher began her lesson with a question, "Boys and girls, what do we know about God?" A hand shot up in the air. "He is an artist!" said the kindergarten boy. "Really? How do you know?" the teacher asked. "You know - Our Father, who does art in Heaven..."



Mass Intentions

Recently Deceased: Armando Egitto

Anniversary: Laureano Vega, Louise Constantin

Deceased: Juan & Nena Teocson, Tham Sien Wai, Mark Man-Wah Chiu, Joseph & Sylvia Portelli, Karim Michael, Joan Blefari

and deceased members and friends of the following families Ross & Mitchell; Donnellan, Michael & Baini.

Sick: Terry Flanagan & Mary Fraser, Adrian Lynch.

Antiphons & Readings

Entrance Antiphon:

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield;
and look on the face of your anointed one;
one day within your courts
is better than a thousand elsewhere.

Responsorial Psalm:

(R.) Lord, come to my aid!

I waited, I waited for the Lord
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry. (R.)

He drew me from the deadly pit,
from the miry clay.

He set my feet upon a rock
and made my footsteps firm. (R.)

He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God.

Many shall see and fear
and shall trust in the Lord. (R.)

As for me, wretched and poor,
the Lord thinks of me.

You are my rescuer, my help,
O God, do not delay! (R.)

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;
I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Communion Antiphon:

With the Lord there is mercy;
in him is plentiful redemption.

Today's Readings

Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10

Hebrews 12:1-4

Luke 12:49-53

Next Sunday's Readings

Isaiah 66:18-21

Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13

Luke 13:22-30



St Peter Chanel & St Joseph the Worker Rosters - Next Week

25TH AUGUST

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MASS	VIGIL (SPC)	8AM (SJW)	10AM (SPC)
ACOLYTE	Charlie SCULLY	Joseph MARMAN	Robert JAKSIC
ORGANIST	Kate PARISH	--	SAMOAN YOUTH
CANTOR	Sergio EAMIQUEL	--	CHOIR
LECTOR/S	Jann ROCKLIFF	Karim KASSIS	
	Patricia DUFFY	Michael CHOW	Maria NGUYEN
COMMENTATOR	A HOWSON	Ingrid SCHARENGUIVEL	Sharon IACONO
GIFTS	Graham TOBY FAMILY	--	Leo PORTELLI FAMILY
PIETY STALL	Adele MELER	--	Anna MANGANARO
SP. MINISTER	Kay SCULLY		Anna MANGANARO
SP. MINISTER	Joy SKERRITT		Kylie CARROLL

Group 2: ALTAR – Bolonia family.

Group 2: COUNTERS – Christine Kensey; Julie Toby.

SPC CHILDREN'S LITURGY - Alicia Maclaren & Maria Jurcic

Volunteers
The HEART OF The
COMMUNITY

Church Cleaners: August 24 - SPC: CFC Youth for Christ. **SJW:** Irene Kula, Taoto Langi & friends.



"Family that pray together stay together"

PILGRIM STATUE from St Peter Chanel at the Ross home, 24 Kent St Berala.

Please join them any evening at 7.30pm for the Rosary.

To host the Pilgrim Statue from St Peter Chanel contact Mona on 9709 8701 or 0417 282 603.

ROSARY STATUE from St Joseph the Worker at the home of Pat Kavanagh,

If interested call Pat 9646 4283 .

To host the Rosary Statue from St Joseph the Worker contact the Legion of Mary.