

MOME NEWSLETTER

Holy Family Parish Como-Kensington

Issue #16

APRIL 2017

Also available online at: www.holyfamily.com.au

HOLY FAMILY FEAST DAY



The closest Sunday to the Feast of the Holy Family 2016 was New Years Day so it was decided to hold our parish celebration on Sunday 8th January.

The day dawned bright and clear but not too hot.

The Band of Merry Workers started early, setting up tables and chairs, laying out cutlery and crockery, putting drinks on ice and so on. The Perth Catholic Chinese Community came in and set up their big white marquee for us and then the food began to arrive.

Marco from Marco's Fussy Meats, personally delivered his delicious roast lamb, beef, chicken and ham. Frank Giannini was enlisted to carve the ham. This was a new experience for Frank but one that he accomplished with aplomb.

The selection of colourful salads and sumptuous desserts continued to increase as parishioners arrived with their contributions to the feast.

It was all coming together and promising to be a FEAST to remember!

Before the feast began we attended Mass and listened to Fr Ossie who shared a very thought provoking and attitude challenging homily on FAMILY. His homily challenged us to broaden our outlook on marriage and family life, reflect on our attitudes toward people in difficult situations, examine the motivation behind some of our more condemning attitudes and pray for tolerance and wisdom as we embrace all of God's children in a rapidly changing culture.

The day was a resounding success.

We would like to thank Pierre from IGA Como for the donation of all the drinks and ice. A BIG thank you must go to the Band of Merry Workers who started early to set up and stayed back late to clean up, and finally, thank you to all the parishioners who attended our Holy Family Feast Celebration and shared their time, culinary expertise and good humour.

We look forward to the next Feast!

MARIE TILEY

MINISTRY TEAM

Parish Priest: Fr Ossie Lewis Resident Priest: Fr Greg Carroll Parish Pastoral Assistants:

Nola Smith & Tony Pires

Sacristan: Joseph Muttupulle Office Staff:

Cecilia Bray & Maggie Doyle **Safeguarding Officers:** Breda Pires & Jim Phillips **Liturgy Committee Chair:**

Nola Smith

Adult Faith Formation:

Tony Pires

Sacramental Preparation:

Mark Ferroa

Sacred Environment:

Megan Phillips **Holy Family Care:**Maggie Dovle

St Vincent de Paul Society:

Mike Cosson

Parish Pastoral Council Chair:

Tony Pires

Finance Committee Chair:

Mary-Jo Sieber

Maintenance Committee:

Jim Phillips

Grounds Committee:

Colin Howarth
Social Committee:

Marie Tiley
Communications:

Nola Smith

Contact details for the above parishioners are available from the Church Office Mon-Fri 9.30am-12.30pm

HOLY FAMILY DIARY 17th - 23rd April 17

MONDAY 17TH APRIL

- No Mass
- 7pm D'Cantor Choir Rehearsal
- 7.30pm SVdP Meeting Mtg Rm1

TUESDAY 18TH APRIL

- 8.30am Rosary
- 9am Mass

WEDNESDAY 19TH APRIL

- 8.30am Rosary
- 9am Mass
- 9.30am Craft Group Mtg Rm 1

THURSDAY 20TH APRIL

- 8.30am Rosary
- 9am Mass
- 9.30-3.30pm Adoration

FRIDAY 21ST APRIL

7pm Mass

SATURDAY 22ND APRIL

- 11.30am BAPTISMS: Eden Tin & Owen Fox
- 2pm Concert Hall
- 6pm Vigil Mass

SUNDAY 23RD APRIL DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

- 8.30am Mass
- 10am Mass
- 12noon BAPTISMS:

Alexander Ong, Noah Wen Kai Hiew Niall Nen Sang Chieng, Clara Halim

4pm Mass - Mandarin

HOME COMMUNION

Do you know anyone who is house bound or new to a Nursing Home and would like to receive Holy Communion? Phone 9450 5921 or Email como@perthcatholic.org.au

SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS

Breda Pires: 0422 237 261 Jim Phillips: 0419 964 806

WE THANK THE FOLLOWING MINISTERS FOR THEIR SERVICE THIS WEEKEND

15/16 April	Saturday 7.00pm	Sunday 8.30am	Sunday 10.00am	
Acolytes	Peter Quinn	Hasan Sidi	Daniel Bianchini	
C S1 S2 S3	David Ho Cameron Richards Elisha Seow Jocelyn Singgih MC Aaron Richards Holly Smith	David Ho Acolyte MC Holly Smith Alex Frangs Dimitrio Sidi Kian Sykes	Raine Bianchini Ben Bianchini Marcel Bianchini Shenaya Wijeyekoon Esther Muttupulle N/A N/A	
Commentators Readers	Lindy Fitzgerald Rudy Llanos Flo Cue Helen Mason Ted Cue	Ralph Newton Jill Hatherley Marianne Taylor	Leon Hanrahan Amy Khoo Anne Armstrong Colette Shack	
Extra-Ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist	Ann Quinn Mary O'Neill Marie Tiley Christina Sidi Hasan Sidi David Ho	Paddy Embry Jacky Embry Adelene Bird Catherine Ah Nien	Rose Hart Tony Pires Breda Pires Jill McGimpsey E Cecilia Bray Tony Bray	

Sacred Environment

Ministers please check your roster for next week.

They are available on the Parish Notice Board or at www.holyfamily.com.au



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES APRIL 2017

We congratulate the following parishioners celebrating wedding anniversaries this month:

Glenn & Louisa Joseph,
Stephen & Amanda Bourne,
Marianne Taylor & Simon Beard,
Alex & Anne Makomi,
Brian & Margaret Short,
Daniel & Raelene Bianchini,
Frank & Maria Evangelista,
Vincent & Virginia Scanlan,
Evelyn & Dilip Sen,
Shajy & Saffi Vadukoot,
John & Annette Newman,
Vicki & Ken Brown,
Gerard & Lucia Steeman,
Nick & Matija Tin.

God bless you on your special day

THE POWER OF PRAYER

Please keep the following people in your prayers this week.

Daisy Givens. Clemente Manalo. David Williams. Rick Starr. Natalie. Tony Wright, Peter Jones, Ivy Din, Carmella Scurria. Elizabeth Noronka. John Mayger, Jean Gregory, David Ed Devereux, Michelle Newton, Carolyn Gonsalves, Sean Vaughan, Doreen Stevens, Josephine Pollom, David Gamman, Joyanne Langer, Jean Parry, Rev Frank Watts, Rhys, Margaret Rocha, Kusno Wangidjaja, Robin & Robinson Sy Suan, Natasha Ria-Cruz Guttridge, Julie & Janet Borgan, Bird, Walker, Fernandez, Vinceguerra, Capes, Cain, Serafini, Troisi, Varriale, Hart, Stevens Families. If you know someone who has asked for prayers please add their name to the list in the church foyer.

GREETINGS FROM FR OSSIE

Alleluia! The Lord is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Dear parishioners and friends,

In his Easter message in the third year of his Pontificate, Pope France spoke about the Eucharistic People. He said that the Church must be a Church of Eucharistic People. To be Eucharistic People means to wash the feet of others, to extend a loving service to all. What took place at the Last Supper where the First Eucharist was instituted and what still takes place at every Eucharistic Celebration is the serving of the Body and Blood of Jesus for the salvation of mankind.

At the Last Supper the disciples were not admitted to the Eucharist until they have received a Mandate from the Lord, the Mandate to wash



the feet of others: "You call me Lord and Master, and rightly so I am. If then I, the Lord and Master have washed your feet, so you should wash one another's feet".

So in regard to the washing of the feet, we need to address two questions, Why and How.

Why? Washing the feet of others brings about cleansing, refreshing and revitalising. It brings about closeness and intimacy, breaks down barriers and builds bridges. Restores self worth and dignity and it brings about healing, restoration and reconciliation. It is an act of Communion. True Communion cannot be effected unless we are prepared to bring about all that the Washing of the feet symbolises.

How? The washing of the feet is realised when we participate in the various ministries the Church calls us to, being Acolytes, Extraordinary Ministers, Altar servers, Catechists, Choir members, Flower arrangers and church cleaners, gardeners, SVDP members, Prayer Groups, Committees and even simply welcoming one another in the church and new comers, Morning teas, Parish Dances and various social activities. This is how Communities are built and True Communion is celebrated.

And so my Easter Wish for you is that you will heed the Mandate of the Lord to wash one another's, remembering that the disciples were not admitted to the Eucharist until they have washed one another's feet.

Alleluia! The Lord is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

May God bless you and all your loved ones this Easter and every day of your life.

Fr Ossie Lewis PP



At the Lenten Second Rite of Reconciliation celebrated at Holy Family Parish this year, parishioners were invited to "Take a stone" as they arrived at the church.

This stone represented their sins and when once they had received the Sacrament of Reconciliation they were instructed to:

"Leave their sins with Jesus"



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

TONY PIRES

Parish Activities

as discussed at recent Meetings of your PARISH COUNCIL.

<u>Church Audio Upgrade</u>: A new sound system - including microphones and speakers even in the foyer and courtyard) has been installed on a trial basis over the Easter Triduum. I'm sure this will enhance our liturgies and enable all to hear the gems that fall from the lips of Fr Ossie and our Readers. If the trial is proven to be successful we will proceed with full installation toward the end of April.

Feedback from parishioners regarding the quality of sound would be greatly appreciated.

The Royal Commission: Much discussion has taken place as we come to grips with the extent of abuse cases across the Church. Archbishop Timothy Costelloe has been extremely pro-active in his response to this issue and our parish is committed to supporting the Archbishop's initiative, the Safeguarding Project, to protect our most vulnerable members. We have appointed two Safeguarding Officers, Mrs Breda Pires and Mr Jim Phillips. They and the Parish Office staff have been diligent in putting the necessary structures in place to facilitate the effective implementation of the Safeguarding Project at a parish level.



We are resolved to communicate all correspondence relating to this matter to parishioners.

<u>Parish Fundraising Events</u>: Our recent Parish Dance proved a very enjoyable night. Organisation, music and food were excellent and the dance floor was full for most of the night. Fr Ossie's jokes went down well. Over \$4000 was raised which went toward the purchase of a new bore for our gardens.

The next fundraising event with be the Mother's Day Raffle & Cake Stall. Funds raised from this event will be put toward the purchase of our new sound system.



<u>Social Events:</u> The recent family Movie Night was a terrific success with more than 80 parents & children attending. Feedback confirmed the enjoyment of attendees with many positive comments. Thanks to Marie Tiley and her BMW Team (Band of Merry Workers). We're all looking forward to the next one.

Anzac Day 2017: A Wreath from the Parish will be laid at the Anzac Day Service to be held at 7am at the City of South Perth Memorial Gardens, cnr Sandgate St & South Tce, South Perth.



<u>Church Exit Points:</u> Health & Safety guidelines clearly state that exit points are to be kept clear at all times - in case of emergency. The steps leading into the church from the foyer are a prime example and we are taking measures to ensure they are kept clear. We continue to ask parishioners to come forward and sit in the church pews, and are trying to keep the back pews free for latecomers. Sorry for harping on this but it is **very** important.

If you have any queries or suggestions about the Pastoral activities of our parish please speak to one of our Parish Pastoral Counselors. Their photos and names are on the board in the church foyer.

HOLY FAMILY CARE



This community service seeks to provide practical care for parishioners and their families in times of special need.

Many of us go through times when circumstances make life more difficult. While we have family and friends around to help, sometimes there is need for more.

Please do not hesitate to call on Holy Family Care to provide temporary support.







Services include

- Provision of emergency meals
- Gardening
- Travel to church, shops or medical appointments

We can do with more willing hands - are you involved? Not a huge commitment - but vital if we are to be a caring community. You tell us what time and talents you can offer. Please see Father Ossie, Maggie Doyle or Tony Pires.

Thank you to those who are already providing assistance to our aged parishioners by bringing them to Mass or taking them shopping and to medical appointments.

A very special thank you to Wendy Burke who goes out of her way and travels to Midland every week to take a past parishioner to various medical appointments.



This is indeed "Holy Family Care in action!!

STOP PRESS - URGENT HELP NEEDED

One of our migrant parishioners in a family of five is urgently looking for full-time employment. A former self-employed trader, he has experience working in nursing homes in Perth but would be happy to turn his hand to any form of manual work such as cleaning, driving, trades assistant, storeman & packer. He is in his early 40's, fit, healthy and very smart in appearance. If you - or anyone you know - is in need of such a person please contact the Holy Family Parish Office on 94505921 or como@perthcatholic.org.au

NATIONAL REPORTER

Published on National Catholic Reporter (https://www.ncronline.org)

A readers' guide to 'Laudato Si"

Thomas Reese | Jun. 26, 2015 Faith and Justice

Francis: The Environment Encyclical

One of the many marvelous things about Pope Francis' encyclical on the environment, "Laudato Si', on Care for Our Common Home [1]," is that it is written in a very accessible style. It does not read like an academic tome as did many encyclicals of the past. Anyone who can read a newspaper can read this encyclical and get something out of it.

True, it is 190 pages and about 40,000 words, but the six chapters flow nicely. It is not a hard read.

The encyclical is great for individual reading but even better for a book club, class, or discussion group. Reading and discussing the encyclical in a group is exactly what is called for because throughout the letter, there are calls to dialogue.

There is no need for people to wait while the bishops and pastors organize a response to the encyclical. Anyone can **download the encyclical** [1], call their friends and say, "Let's read and discuss the encyclical." Anyone part of a book club can recommend that the encyclical be their next read.

The impact of the encyclical is going to be significant even outside the Catholic church. Environmentalists and scientists have endorsed the document. Likewise, non-Catholic religious leaders are eager to discuss the encyclical, which will become a topic of ecumenical and interreligious dialogue.

You may download a Readers Guide [2], complete with chapter summary and study questions. Because of the richness of the content, I would suggest taking one chapter at a time for reading and discussion. There are lots of questions. Use the ones you find helpful for discussion; don't feel you have to answer them all.

The introduction

The pope begins the encyclical by summarizing his presentation and citing earlier popes and other religious leaders who have spoken about the environment. He says Sister Earth "cries out to us because of the harm we have inflicted on her by our irresponsible use and abuse of the goods with which God has endowed her."

Chapter 1: What is happening to our common home

Pope Francis is a firm believer in the need to gather the facts in order to understand a problem. Chapter 1 presents the scientific consensus on climate change along with a description of other threats to the environment, including threats to water supplies and biodiversity. He also looks at how environmental degradation has affected human life and society. Finally, he writes about the global inequality of the environmental crisis.

Chapter 2: The Gospel of creation

The pope argues that faith convictions can motivate Christians to care for nature and for the most vulnerable of their brothers and sisters. He begins with the biblical account of creation and then meditates on the mystery of the universe, which he sees as a continuing revelation of the divine. "Everything is related, and we human beings are united as brothers and sisters on a wonderful pilgrimage, woven together by the love God has for each of his creatures and which also unites us in fond affection with brother sun, sister moon, brother river and mother earth." He concludes, "The earth is essentially a shared inheritance, whose fruits are meant to benefit everyone."

Chapter 3: The human roots of the ecological crisis

Although science and technology "can produce important means of improving the quality of human life," they have also "given those with the knowledge, and especially the economic resources to use them, an impressive dominance over the whole of humanity and the entire world." Francis says we are enthralled with a technocratic paradigm, which promises unlimited growth. But this paradigm "is based on the lie that there is an infinite supply of the earth's goods, and this leads to the planet being squeezed dry beyond every limit." Those supporting this paradigm show "no interest in more balanced levels of production, a better distribution of wealth, concern for the environment and the rights of future generations. Their behaviour shows that for them maximizing profits is enough."

Chapter 4: Integral ecology

Recognizing the reasons why a given area is polluted requires a study of the workings of society, its economy, its behavior, and the ways it grasps reality. We are not faced with two separate crises, one environmental and the other social, but rather with one complex crisis that is both social and environmental. Strategies for a solution demand an integrated approach to combating poverty, restoring dignity to the excluded, and at the same time protecting nature.

Chapter 5: Lines of approach and action

What is to be done? Francis calls for dialogue on environmental policy in the international, national and local communities. This dialogue must include transparent decision-making so that the politics serve human fulfillment and not just economic interests. It also involves dialogue between religions and science working together for the common good.

Chapter 6: Ecological education and spirituality

We need to change and develop new convictions, attitudes and forms of life, including a new lifestyle. This requires not only individual conversion, but also community networks to solve the complex situation facing our world today. Essential to this is a spirituality that can motivate us to a more passionate concern for the protection of our world. Christian spirituality proposes a growth and fulfillment marked by moderation and the capacity to be happy with little. Love, overflowing with small gestures of mutual care, is also civic and political, and it makes itself felt in every action that seeks to build a better world.

Links:

- [1] http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco 20150524 enciclicalaudato-si.html
- [2] http://ncrnews.org/documents/NCR Readers guide.pdf

[Jesuit Fr. Thomas Reese is a senior analyst for NCR and author of Inside the Vatican: The Politics and Organization of the Catholic Church.

His email address is <u>treesesj@ncronline.org</u>. Follow him on Twitter: <u>@ThomasReeseSJ</u>.]

Holy Family's response to Laudato Si'

In February, Holy Family Parish held two 'brainstorming" sessions where we discussed ideas on how we could implement

"Laudato Si' - Pope Francis On Care For Our Common Home.

The group approached this from two directions. First we created a list of what is already being done in the parish that is in support of Laudato Si. Then we created a second list of what we could do to further implement Laudato Si'.

Holy Family currently supports Laudato Si':

- Solar Panels installed
- Groundwater bore installed
- Energy efficient globes used
- Energy Save option utilised on photocopier
- Recycle ink waste containers
- Wax candles replaced
- Laptop computers used shutdown when not in use
- China crockery used in kitchen

Initiatives to be implemented:

- Educate & inform parishioners through Parish Bulletin
- Make Laudato Si' resources available to parishioners
- Use recycled photocopy paper
- Encourage prayer groups to pray for effective world wide dialogue on Laudato Si'
- Celebrate the Feast of St Francis
- Workshop presented by the Centre for Faith Enrichment



SOCIAL EVENTS

MARIE

Fr Ossie often speaks of the importance of community. He says building a community is the first step towards effective worship, ministry and service. This community can begin with a smile and an extended hand as you meet a new parishioner or a friendly greeting uttered to a familiar friend. We would all agree that the pace of everyday life is hectic. To pause for a moment to think of others affords us opportunities to see people in a different light and enjoy the friendships that surround us. Social gatherings within the Parish are about coming together. Friendship is a true blessing.

One of life's greatest treasures that God in His goodness sends is the love that binds hearts together in the covenant known as friends.

Roy Lessin

As a social committee we aim to build and nurture this sense of community within the Holy Family parish. To do this we hold regular morning teas and most months we have a special event. So far this year we have held:

- ♦ January Holy Family Feast Day Luncheon
- January Australia Day Morning Tea
- ♦ February Family Movie Night
- ♦ **February** Fr Ossie's 70th Morning Tea Still coming this year are:
- ◆ April ANZAC Day Morning Tea
- ♦ May Mother's Day Morning Tea
- ◆ June Dinner for Eight
- ♦ August Family Fancy Dress Party
- ♦ **September** Father's Day Morning Tea
- ♦ **November** Melbourne Cup Luncheon
- ♦ December Christmas Carols



Family Movie Night



Our Family Movie Night was enjoyed by approximately 80 parents and children who watched the animated movie titled *Two by Two*.

The evening began with a sausage sizzle followed by a cosy viewing of the movie nestled into beanbags and pillows on the floor of the hall. Interval was welcomed with a refreshing ice cream cone and then it was back to the plot. A happy ending brought smiles all round and then it was time for home and bed.

This was a successful family gathering where spending time together was highlighted in a happy and safe environment. Thank you to the Band of Merry Workers and all the families who came to share their time and laughter. A big thanks once again to the Preston Street IGA for donating the sausages and bread rolls for the evening.



FUNDRAISING EVENTS ROSE HART

Holy Family Valentine's Dance

Never lose the romance in your life

What a night to remember! The theme was Valentine's - Never lose the romance in your life. The Pater Noster School Hall was beautifully decorated with hundreds of red hearts, balloons, red tablecloths & serviettes.

It was a fabulous, happy evening compared by Tony Pires and music provided by Hot Hot Hot. From the very first beat almost everyone was on the dance floor and there were approximately 200 people in attendance so the floor was rather crowded. There were raffle prizes galore.

A BIG thank you to the Burmese Community who provided the food. It was delicious and satisfied all our appetites.

Thank you to everyone who supported this event. It was a great success with a total of \$4300 being raised toward the replacement of the garden bore. As with any successful function there is a lot of work done behind the scenes. We would like to thank

Rose Hart and her helpers for the great job they did organising the dance VINCE



Once again Cecilia and Tony Bray opened their beautiful gardens to parishioners to screen the films Stonehurst Asylum and Noble on 4 and 11 March respectively. A handy \$350 was raised.

The Fundraising Committee has been formed for the purpose of organising events to raise money for parish needs. The following events are proposed for the remainder of 2017:

- May Cake Stall & Raffle
- July Quiz Night
- October International Lunch



SMALL FAITH COMMUNITIES

TONY PIRES

A simple matter of spending a couple of hours each fortnight with other parishioners in a home near you.

- An opportunity to reflect on life with other Catholics
- ◆ Talking over issues that involve us in the world – in our country – in the Church
- Supporting one another in living our Christian journey
- Listening and learning from reading and thinking about the Gospel with other Christians.
- Praying together
- Sharing supper and good humour.





There is open and varied discussion amongst the community hence we face frustration at times as we often see things from different perspectives.

Yet, this gives us the opportunity to see life through other people's eyes, expand our horizons and take home new ideas.

In the process of developing our faith understanding and growing closer to God, we are united.

With the camaraderie we share we are able to deal a little better with the uncertainty and sadness we sometimes encounter in the world around us.

It is not a bible study group – although the Gospel is reflected on; It is not a social group – even though we care for one another as friends; It is not a prayer group – yet prayer is part of our gatherings; It is not a service group – but care for those in need is part of our journey; It is not a social action group – although we look at reform and social justice.

For more information on joining a Small Faith Community or starting your own contact Tony Pires on 0418 900 046



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Our parish Sacramental program was launched on the weekend of 25-26 February 2017 when forty-two children who enrolled in the program, together with their parents. pledged to prepare themselves well to receive the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation.

First Reconciliation classes with nineteen Children and catechist Marie Tiley, began the following Sunday. Classes were held during the 10am mass in Meeting Room 1. Within the first week nine new children joined the class. This brought the enrolment to twenty-eight and filling the classroom to capacity. It was decided to contact all the parents to see if any of them would like to transfer their children to a new class with lessons running from during the 8.30am Mass.

As a result, we are now running two First Reconciliation classes – the first class with eleven children is held during the 8.30am Sunday Mass with catechist Nola Smith and the second class with seventeen children is held during the 10am Sunday Mass with catechist Marie Tiley.

We currently have sixteen children enrolled in our First Eucharist program and fifteen children in our Confirmation program.

Important dates and times for the three Sacramental programs are as follows:

First Reconciliation classes have commenced: The First Reconciliation Ceremony will be held on Saturday 24 June at 2.00pm.

First Eucharist classes commence on: Saturday 29 April (4.45pm - 5.45pm). The First Eucharist Ceremony will be held on Sunday 27 August at 10.00am.

Confirmation classes commence on: Saturday 22 July (4.45pm - 5.45pm). The Confirmation Ceremony will be held on Saturday 28 October at 6.00pm.

Sacramental Ceremony Dates 2017



First Reconciliation Saturday 24 June 2017 at 2.00pm

First Eucharist Sunday 27 August 2017 at 10.00am

Confirmation Saturday 28 October 2017 at 6.00pm

Early April, over two consecutive nights, in front of nearly 1000 people, Fr Joseph "Joey" Faller celebrated two healing Masses with Archbishop Emeritus Barry Hickey concelebrating the first

They were two evenings of deep prayer and reflection filled with spiritual enlightenment and amazement. Hopefully healings have already started.

The celebrations were four hours long and included Mass, talks, pray-overs, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and blessing of religious artefacts. There was even a special gift from our blessed Mother that left most people stunned in wonder & awe. Most attendees were 'slain' by the Holy Spirit during Fr Joey's prayovers and many received the gift of 'glitters' which was a miracle in itself! There were reported signs of glitters in many peoples hands, some gold, silver, red, blue and green.

The Holy Family Santo Pio Choir, arranged and conducted by Rosemary Jose was a beautiful blend of voices. Rosemary's daughter Cheska, brought many people to tears with the sheer beauty of her powerful and angelic rendition of Ave Maria.

The evenings were opened and closed by Ted Cue and there was fellowship in the Church Hall at the conclusion of each Mass.

We thank 'Damayang Fiipino', Sto Pio Prayer Group of Como and various other prayer groups for sponsoring this event and Fr Ossie Lewis for allowing us the use of Holy Family Como Church and Hall. **FLO CUE**





Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse

Put into context...

As we are all aware, reports from the Royal Commission have highlighted the appalling record of abuse in our Church. It is indeed a terrible history of crime.

The media has stressed many of the shocking conclusions, but have not noted aspects of the matter so we can see it in context.

1) The report includes the total number of allegations, not convictions – and the number of alleged perpetrators, not convicted criminals. It is a well-established fact that an allegation is, of its nature, unproven. Many certainly will be true, but the number of proven cases is far lower than the number of allegations.

"In NSW there were 3,951 separate sexual offence incidents reported to police in 2013. In that year 715 people were charged and 374 were found guilty" (SBS News article, July 17, 2015) In other words, in NSW over 82% of allegations did not lead to charges being laid, and fewer than 10% were convicted.

- 2) There is no indication that there are different levels of abuse. All forms of abuse are criminal, but there is very great difference between improper touching of a minor which is actually assault to a very grave abuse such as rape, which occurred in a small minority of cases.
- 3) While even a single case is one too many, it is interesting to compare the situation in the Catholic Church with the problems in the wider society.

According to the bureau of Statistics, in the single year 2015, 7,464 females and 1,148 males were subject to sexual assault in a family and domestic violence context. This is far higher than the number alleged in the Catholic Church over a 60 year period.

4) Interestingly, the R C Report shows that for priests, brothers and nuns, the number of complaints fell dramatically from the 1990's. The Church has made progress in its Religious training houses.

So, while we strive to come to deal with this sad aspect of our history as a Church, it helps to inject a little context into the discussion.

(adapted From an article by Peter Westmore – President of the National Civic Council)

Safeguarding Project

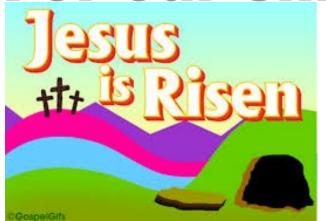
Protective Behaviours Parent Workshop Friday 12 May 2017 6.30pm - 9.30pm Parish Centre – below Ground Floor St Mary's Cathedral

Registration is essential and can be made by email: safeguarding@perthcatholic.org.au



Protecting Children in the Catholic Church

For our children...



LET US PRAY...

Jesus we thank you for the joy of the resurrection when you rose from the dead and were filled with new life. Help us to remember that you suffered and died on the cross for us, so that one day we, too, will share with you the joy of everlasting life.

EASTER SUNDAY

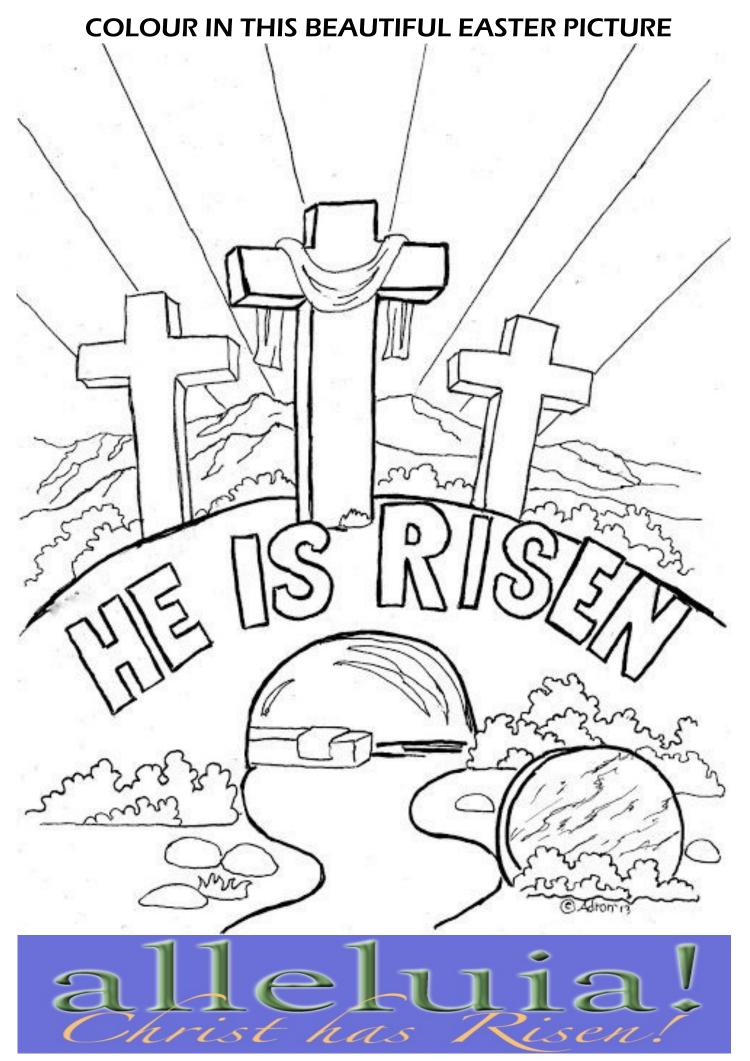
Today we celebrate the fact that Jesus has risen from the dead and is alive!
In the church today a large bright candle shines out for all to see and the church is decorated with beautiful flowers, a sign of new life.
We sing joyfully

We sing joyfully "Alleluia, alleluia" as we thank God for Easter morning.

The Stations of the Cross

Fill in the missing words for the description of each of the Stations of the Cross.

Nailed Tomb Clothes	Cross Jerusalem Second	Jesus Falls Resurrection		Condemned			
Station One: Jesus is		to death	l				
Station Two: Jesus		his cro	SS				
Station Three: Jesus		the first time	the first time				
Station Four: Jesus meets his							
Station Five: of Cyrene helps Jesus							
Station Six: Veronica the face of Jesus							
Station Seve	en: Jesus falls a		time				
Station Eight: Jesus meets the women of							
Station Nine: falls a third time							
Station Ten: Jesus is stripped of his							
Station Eleven: Jesus is to the cross							
Station Twelve: Jesus dies on the							
Station Thirteen: Jesus is from the cross							
Station Fourteen: Jesus is placed in a							
Station Fifte	een: The						



AN EASTER THOUGHT...

...there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, approached, rolled back the stone, and sat upon it. (Matthew 28: 1-10)

Christ.

After the tomb...

Poet Michelle Berberet asks this question:

After the agony and humiliation of crucifixion would you be willing to give up the cold comfort of death for the pain of rebirth and cell-splitting joy of glory?

If we're honest with ourselves, we'd most probably answer, No, we're not. We're fine in this little tomb we've created for ourselves. Thank you.

We manage to adjust to suffering and humiliation; we come to accept our crucifixions and deaths, relieved that they're over. We accept our existence in our "tombs," happy that the humiliation is behind us: the promised promotion never materialized, so we keep our heads down to hold on to the job we have; after we crash and burn in a major course at Uni, we abandon one dream and struggle on to at least get a degree while we rethink our future; we're grateful that the constant confrontation with a relative or coworker has settled into a silent if uneasy truce of sorts.

"The cold comfort of death," the poet writes.

Keep the tough stuff buried. Don't risk anymore. Move on.

But on Easter our souls speak up. We're really not satisfied with the incomplete, the broken, the lost, the dysfunctional in our lives. The empty tomb challenges us to give up the Good Fridays we've adjusted to in order to experience the "cell-splitting joy" of Easter.

On Easter night/morning, as Jesus's cross gives way to the empty tomb, ask yourself if there is an Easter experience for which you're willing to risk the "comfort" and safety of 'the way things are'.

How far are you willing to change, to re-think your attitude, to try again -

perhaps with a little more humility and a little less arrogance, maybe willing to move beyond your comfort zone and strike out in a new direction or with a new perspective?

Easter challenges us to take on "the pain of rebirth" to realise the "cell-splitting joy of glory."

May we embrace that light, and the hope it promises, in the Risen One who is forever in our midst.

