



# @ HOME NEWSLETTER

Holy Family Parish Como-Kensington

Issue #14

SEPTEMBER 2016

Also available online at: [www.holyfamily.com.au](http://www.holyfamily.com.au)

## EXPLORING THE MASS



In June this year Holy Family Como Parish hosted Sr Kerry Willison RSM who, on three consecutive Wednesday's helped us "**Explore the Mass**".

The first session focused on the history of the Mass. Starting with the origin of the word Eucharist, we explored the 2nd Century description by St Justin, discovered that Pope Damascus decreed the language of the Mass be Latin, discussed the importance of Vatican II and concluded with the New Translation which we follow today.

The following two sessions broke open the four components of the Mass:

- ◆ **Introductory Rites**
- ◆ **Liturgy of the Word**
- ◆ **Liturgy of the Eucharist**
- ◆ **Concluding Rites**

There were many interesting pieces of background information that we learnt from Sr Kerry on **why** we do **what** we do during the Mass. We were also

encouraged to focus on the gestures made by the celebrant, particularly during the consecration. We recommend this course for every parishioner. It has helped us reflect on how the Mass can shape the way we live our lives day to day. **Hasan Sidi**

The three sessions deepened my understanding of the Mass, the source and summit of our Christian faith, and I gained more knowledge as to **how** the Mass began and **why** we do **what** we do and say at Mass. It helped me reflect on how the Mass can shape the way we live our daily lives. **Frank Giannini**

Sr Kerry gave a vibrant presentation of the Mass and what should be its all embracing effect on our daily lives as Catholics. She reminded us that Mass is not something we just "do" on Sundays, rather it is meant to be a living reminder of Christ's love for us and that this should be transformed into a life giving and sustaining experience, through receiving Holy Communion. **Jill Browne**

## 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 &  
 Arlene Rainford  
**Safeguarding Officers:**  
 Breda Pires & Jim Phillips

**Liturgy Committee:**  
 Nola Smith  
**Adult Faith Formation:**  
 Tony Pires  
**Sacramental Preparation:**  
 Nola Smith & Mark Ferroa  
**Sacred Environment:**  
 Megan Phillips  
**Holy Family Care:**  
 Maggie Doyle  
**St Vincent de Paul Society:**  
 Tony Abbott

**Parish Pastoral Council Chair:**  
 Tony Pires  
**Finance Committee:**  
 Mary-Jo Sieber  
**Maintenance Committee:**  
 Jim Phillips  
**Grounds Committee:**  
 Colin Howarth  
**Social Committee:**  
 TBA  
**Communications:**  
 Nola Smith

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

## WE THANK THE FOLLOWING MINISTERS FOR THEIR SERVICE THIS WEEKEND

3/4 September	Saturday 6.00pm	Sunday 8.30am	Sunday 10.00am
Acolytes	Daniel Bianchini	Shaji Vadukoot	Carl Celedin
Altar Servers MC	Ben Bianchini	David Ho	Bryan Chong
C	Jarrett Kang	Holly Smith	Nina Brown
S1	Helena Kang	Kate Naunton-Morgan	Esther Muttupulle
S2	Marcel Bianchini	Georgette Morgan	Skye Celedin
S3	Keira Bradley		Christy Saji
Commentators	Ian Sydney-Smith	Regina Crothers	Gwen Woodruff
Readers	Jill McGimpsey-Evans Flo Cue	Megan Phillips Katy Fuderer	Joan Morcombe Carmel Shugg
Extra-Ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist	Hasan Sidi Dimi Sidi Mary McMahon Virginia Scanlan	Rose Hart Adelene Bird Michael Taylor Regina Crothers	James Chong Izaak Francis Joyce Khoo Shiromi Ariyaratne
Children's Sunday Liturgy		Michelle Morgan	Vicki Ha
Sacred Environment	3 Sept	Lynne Newton	

Ministers please check your roster for next week.

They are available on the Parish Notice Board or at [www.holyfamily.com.au](http://www.holyfamily.com.au)

## BAPTISM

The sacrament of Baptism is the first of the three Sacraments of Initiation of the Catholic Church; the other two Sacraments being the Eucharist and Confirmation. As it is an important commitment parents make to bring their child into the Catholic faith community, preparation to receive this Sacrament is important. Please contact the office for a Baptism Registration Form and to make an appointment with the Parish Priest. *Baptisms take place at 11.30am on 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month.*



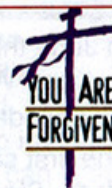
## MARRIAGE

If you are thinking about marriage please see your parish priest before you make other arrangements. A minimum of six months notice is required to help you prepare for this important step in your life.



## RECONCILIATION

Reconciliation is available every Saturday from 5.30pm-5.45pm or any other time by appointment



## 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](mailto:como@perthcatholic.org.au)



## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES SEPTEMBER 2016

We congratulate the following parishioners celebrating their wedding anniversaries this month:

Mike & Elka Zekulich,  
 Brian & Margaret Jarvis,  
 Gloria & Eric Armstrong,  
 Ted & Flo Cue, Peter & Amy Tsia,  
 Tom & Pam Morshead,  
 Patricia & John Williams,  
 Kevin & Betty Mitchell,  
 Stephen & Mary Tan,  
 Bernie & Michelle Roberts,  
 Rudy & Katherine Llanos,  
 Tony & Cecilia Bray,  
 Dot & Tony Elder,  
 Dan & Claire Hegarty,  
 Adam & Elly Nevin,  
 Pat & Kamille Nogoy,  
 Tony & Breda Pires,  
 Jeanette & Adam Drury.

God bless you on your special day

## THE POWER OF PRAYER

Please keep the following people in your prayers this week.

Sue & Mark Fernandez & Family,  
 Lewis Family, Serafini Family,  
 Ferroa Family, Doreen Stevens,  
 Bethany Cook, Robinson Sy Suan,  
 Peter Jones, David Williams, Rhys,  
 Shanaka Alles, Clemente Manalo,  
 Rick Starr, Margaret Rocha, Ivy Din,  
 Jill Rochford, Josephine Pollom,  
 Ed Devereux, Sean Vaughan,  
 Faye Della, Carolyn Gonsalves,  
 Joan Ennor, Daisy Givens,  
 Joseph Khiew, Maria Heng,  
 Francis Khiew, Theresa Khiew,  
 Henry Wee, Heny Tiang.

If you know someone who has asked for prayers please add their name to the list in the church foyer.

## HAVE YOU VISITED OUR PARISH WEBSITE?

Go to [www.holyfamily.com.au](http://www.holyfamily.com.au) to view this newsletter online.

**Are you new to our Parish?**  
 If you have recently moved into the area and would like information about our Parish, please introduce yourself to Fr Ossie and complete a New Parishioner Enrolment Form which is available at the Reception

# PARISH MISSION STATEMENT



**We, the parish of Holy Family are  
Called through our Baptism and the Gospel of  
Jesus Christ**

- **To live gratefully the life God has given us**
- **To live in the spirit of Jesus**
- **To grow closer to God and one another**

**GOALS: We are devoted to**

- a) **Serving God through a deep commitment to Jesus Christ and His Mission**
- b) **Creating a strong, faith-filled, Catholic Community - that spreads the Gospel by witness, word and action**
- c) **Building a network to care effectively for one another**
- d) **Reaching out to all in the region especially those in need - sharing our time, talent, treasure**
- e) **Growing strong in our knowledge and appreciation of our Catholic Faith so as to accept fully the challenge of discipleship.**

**The means of achieving these goals is through the development of small faith communities in each region/area of the parish - unifying us - in a concrete way - through prayer, faith-sharing and action.**

## Why does the Church need a Copyright Licence?

***Why do composers of church music want to be paid royalties when we use their songs at Mass?***

I have been asked this question many times in the last few months. It is important to remember that composers and publishers of church music were paid royalties from the publication of hymn books that churches used to place on the pews for everyone to use. These days we only purchase a few copies for our musicians, or download song sheets from the internet, and then project the lyrics from the computer up on to the screen. This is, in effect, making 100's of copies of the song! Permission to project the lyrics must be obtained from the owner of the copyright!

Copyright law protects the rights of composers of Christian music and the Licence the Parish pays each year ensures that they are rewarded for their work and are able to continue to compose new songs to assist us to participate in the liturgy.

Churches and schools do not receive any special exemptions under the Australian Copyright Act 1968. Misunderstandings and breaches of copyright obligations could create significant financial and reputational risk for the Church.

We are blessed to have so many musicians who play and sing at our Masses and they are being made aware of the 1000's of hymns and songs that are covered by our Word of Life Licence.

**KERRY  
HARDWICK**

# GREETINGS FROM FR OSSIE

In this edition of our @Home Newsletter I would like to share with you my vision for our parish.

In the Code of Canon Law, Canons 515 - 530 refers to the parish as a "Community of believers that seeks and provides **SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT** under the guidance of a parish priest and his assistant priests" Thus, the one and only aim and purpose of a parish is to enable its members to develop their **spiritual life** in a wholesome way. This **Spiritual Development** of a human person is achieved through **Community-building, Worship (Liturgy) and Almsgiving (Finance)**.

## COMMUNITY

**COMMUNITY** plays a vital role in our **SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT**.

The Lord Jesus did not leave his disciples as individuals on their **Spiritual Journey**, he established a Church on the Rock, which is Peter. The Church, of which the parish is a part, is a **Community of believers** journeying towards God under the guidance of Christ who is the head. When Jesus first began his public ministry, he boldly proclaimed, "*The kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent and believe the Good News*" (Mk 1:25). In fact in all four gospels he continually speaks about this kingdom, how different it's values are from the world and how to make this kingdom come. A kingdom consists of a king and his subjects. The church is God's kingdom and every member of the church is his subject. In a kingdom all subjects must unite themselves in their worship of their God as well as taking care of the needs of one another. If we want to be effective in worship or welfare, community involvement is vital. The maxim, "United we stand, divided we fall", is very applicable to worship and welfare. It is when we consolidate our actions that we become a force and a voice. Especially in worship, we hear Jesus say, "**When two or three are gathered in my name I am there**". Therefore to build community is the first step towards a proper and efficacious worship as well as providing an effective ministry and service.

**Therefore a parish must endeavor to build up their community in these ways:**

- Endeavor to know one another whenever they come together in church or elsewhere.
- Participate in socials organized by the parish
- Find time to get involved in the various ministries offered in the parish

*It is only by utilizing all the opportunities and exploring various venues that we will come to know each other and thus affirm and empower each other in our strengths and support each other in our weaknesses. This is how our **SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT** is achieved.*

## WORSHIP

In the process of **SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT**, worship plays a vital role too. As welfare is a service to mankind, worship is our service to God. Just as we can do a dis-service to mankind by giving a service of poor quality, so too we can give an unworthy worship to God. The quality of our worship greatly depends on the **WHY** and **HOW** we worship.

**WHY** do we worship?

Is it out of fear or out of love? To escape punishment and get to heaven or to express our gratitude, love and total dependence on God?

**HOW** do we worship?

As individuals one to one, or as a community - the Body of Christ? Do we celebrate, participate or attend and be present?



# GREETINGS FROM FR OSSIE cont.

## Liturgy is the answer to proper and fruitful worship.

Liturgy is defined in the Encyclopedia of Catholicism as, "The public and official prayers and rites of the Church. The term signifies that worship is an activity of the whole church, liturgical worship is a corporate gesture of praise, neither originating nor directed toward any one individual or group. Instead it finds its source and goal in the common glorification of God".

The Catechism of the Catholic Church states that liturgy is, "The worship of the Church, the whole Body of Christ. It also touches individual members of the church in different ways, depending on their orders, their roles in the services and their actual participation. The rites in the liturgy are meant to be celebrated in common".

## So even in worship the community involvement is essential.

Proper and fruitful worship is rendered when liturgies are celebrated as a community wherein all have a meaningful and active participation. The best Mass or liturgical worship occurs when we know the people we are celebrating with, when we are actively involved and when we are full of joy.

## FINANCE

Finance too play an equally important role in **SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT**. Community building and good liturgy do not happen automatically. Places of worship that cater for proper communal worship have to be designed and built. Proper understanding of the liturgy requires education and seminars. Services provided to the needy of the community need funds. Contribution of funds toward these requirements needs proper organising. Methods of raising, administrating and budgeting funds are very necessary toward realising the building of community, proper liturgy & worship and ultimately toward our **SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT**.

In conclusion, the Community of Believers that wishes to provide a wholesome **SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT** of the human person, needs to have the vision that Community-building, proper Worship and effective Financing are its essential ingredients.

## ***This therefore is my vision:***

To ensure **SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT** in our community of believers, we must:

**BUILD COMMUNITY**: make use of and create religious and social gatherings to help people know one another better.

**EFFECT PROPER WORSHIP**: good liturgy, active participation, on-going education on Scripture, liturgy and rituals, communal dimension of worship and cultivation of love and joy in our services.

**ADMINISTER FINANCE WISELY**: ways of raising funds, proper accounting and planning for immediate and long term needs and using funds wisely with a conscientious accountability.

God bless,  
**Fr Ossie**

# SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

MARK  
FERROA

## First Reconciliation

On Saturday 25th June thirteen young candidates and their families and friends joined together to celebrate the Sacrament of First Reconciliation.

The candidates were involved in the celebration of the Second Rite of Reconciliation proclaiming the Word and leading us through the Reflection before going up to the priests to Confess and receive Absolution.

We thank Father Ossie and Father Greg Carroll for guiding the candidates through this first experience of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, members of the Holy Family Choir for providing the beautiful music and our Wonderful catechists, Trish Candeias and Clare Burke for their time & effort preparing the candidates.



## First Holy Communion



It was a very special and memorable ceremony for all family and friends as the First Communicants were involved in important roles throughout the Mass. The significance of the day was felt throughout the ceremony especially when the children assisted in the preparation of the Altar (accompanied by Nola's commentary) followed by them joining the priests around the Altar for the Prayer over the Gifts.

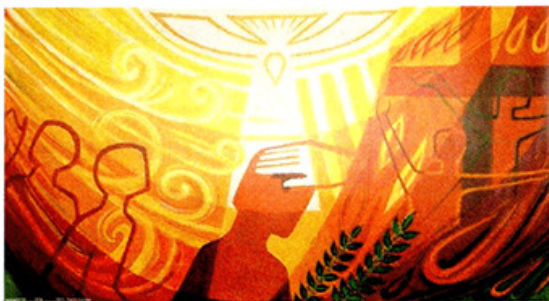
It was indeed an emotional day for all present as we watched our children receive their Sacrament of First Holy Communion.

Thank you to Father Ossie and Father Cyprian, Nola, Mark and Sonia for preparing our children so wonderfully in their journey to receive the Body and Blood of Christ.

DAVID  
PEREIRA

## Confirmation Ceremony

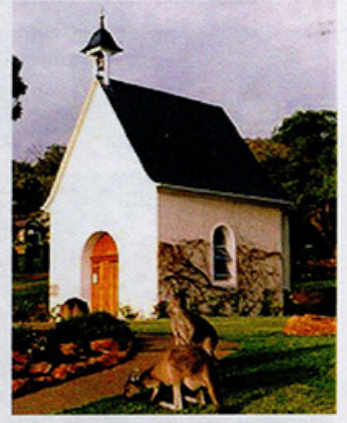
We will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation in our parish on Saturday 17th September during the 6pm Vigil Mass. Please keep our candidates and their families in your prayers at this time.



# Family Pilgrimage to Schoenstatt Shrine



Sunday 29th May was a beautiful day for a drive in the countryside as twenty eight intrepid parishioners including twelve children made their way down to the Schoenstatt Shrine in Mt Richon. After a warm welcome by Sr Lisette we were introduced to the way of the Schoenstatt Sisters which included a fascinating audiovisual presentation followed by a visit to the Holy Door at the Shrine. Sr Lisette led us through a service in the Shrine which left us all inspired to go forth and spread the knowledge of God's great mercy.



## Child Protection Sunday 11th September



The Safeguarding Project

Protecting Children in the Catholic Church

## Childrens' Liturgy



Childrens' Liturgy is run Sunday during school term at the 8.30am and 10am Masses. The children return to the congregation for the Offertory Procession and eagerly await to receive their sticker and blessing.

# The Gardening Group



Weeding and raking leaves are just a few of the ongoing tasks undertaken by our hardworking volunteers in the Gardening Group. They were delighted to welcome some new recruits recently and in particular Nina Brown, a school student who offered her assistance to the group as part of her Community Service activity for school.

If any other students would like to get involved with the Gardening Group as part of their Community Service activity their assistance would be gratefully appreciated. The group meet on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month.



# QUIZ NIGHT FUNDRAISER



Nearly 90 parishioners and friends attended our annual Quiz Night and all had an enjoyable time, with 14 teams competing for the title of "Top Team" and the wonderful prizes. The main prize for the winning team was a **Dinner for 8** at Parliament House, donated by John McGrath, our local State Government member.

There was a lot of competition between teams, with one team of parents pitted against a team

of their offspring. By the end of the night, the offspring team defeated the parents! It was great to see this event supported by a significant number of youth of the parish as well as a number of senior parishioners.

We would like to thank our sponsors; John McGrath MLA, who provided the prize for first place; Marko Fussy meats; Vu Restaurant; Fire and Spice Restaurant and many parishioners. Without the generous donations of all these sponsors, the Quiz Night would not have been such a successful event.

Special thanks to Tony (quiz master) and Cecilia Bray and their team who prepared and marked all the questions, set-up the parish centre and conducted the event with enthusiasm and class.

IAN  
SYDNEY-SMITH







# SOCIAL EVENTS

# Morning Tea

**First & Third Sunday  
of the month  
after 8.30am & 10am Mass**



**November 1st 2016**  
Melbourne Cup Luncheon  
**January 8th 2017**  
Holy Family Feast Day



Come along and join your fellow parishioners for a cuppa & snack after the 8.30am or 10am Masses on the first & third Sunday of the month. Not only will you meet people and put names to faces but sometimes you will be entertained by our very own Holy Family Ukelele Group.

The **Holy Family Ukelele Group** meet in the Parish Hall on Saturday from 2pm-4pm.

**Everyone is welcome**

# OUR SACRED LIVES | TONY PIRES

## Small Faith Communities

Our God shapes us through the journey of our life. We pray, attend Mass and the sacraments and carry out loving works in various aspects of our lives. We struggle with our weaknesses and fight through the challenges that confront us.

Once we recognise Christ as the universal truth of our body and spirit we begin to see Him in every other ordinary place too. St Bonaventure said, **“Christ is the one whose centre is everywhere and whose circumference is nowhere.”**



Fr Richard Rohr (Franciscan) says, **“You don’t have to go to sacred places to pray or wait for holy days for good things to happen. You can pray always, and everything that happens is potentially sacred if you allow it to be. Once we can accept that God is in all situations, and that God can and will use even bad situations for good, then everything becomes an occasion for good and an occasion for God. Our task is to find the good, the true and the beautiful in everything, even and most especially the problematic. The bad is never strong enough to counteract the good. We can most easily learn this through some form of reflective prayer.”**

Our Small Faith Community provides the occasion to reflect together on our life journeys. To see the God who walks with us; the one who is there with us working through the pain and confusion; enabling us to see the strength and hope that often lies hidden.

***We pray, reflect, share some of our thoughts and life experiences, socialise, laugh and eat. We try and make sense of the world we live in and how we can make a difference and assist those in special need. We even experience a retreat weekend together each year.***

*Our gatherings happen each fortnight or month in one of our homes and usually continue for two hours or so.*

For more information on our Small Faith Community contact Tony Pires on 0418 900 046 or [tony.pires@careerlink.net.au](mailto:tony.pires@careerlink.net.au)



# Small Faith Communities cont.

Our current Small Faith Community had its beginnings in the early '90s under the guidance of Fr Frank O'Dea who was our Parish Priest at that time. We were a small group who had just finished an RCIA program with Fr Frank and he was keen for us to continue our involvement in building on our faith commitment.

Over the years our membership has naturally changed; just a few who were in the groups of that time and others who have come together as numbers dropped in their own groups. Our present members have been meeting for many years, and we range in age from a young Mum, who joined us while studying at Curtin Uni and living away from home, to a couple of us in our 80s! We appreciate that the 'young one' is still with us as she is a very good organiser.

We meet once a month, on a Sunday afternoon and take turns to host the meetings in our homes. We have even had people from other parishes, who have asked us for prayers, later coming along to thank us and staying on as members. The fellowship is great. We have ten current members and usually have from five to seven at our meetings. We are always pleased to welcome others to join us.

Since being asked to write about our group we have had a meeting at which I asked those there for their thoughts on our group. These are their responses:

- ♦ *I feel it is the longevity of the gatherings. That brings trust, I feel a lot of support that makes our Church a practical reality of Christ. Through the sharing, the highs and lows; we've been through births, deaths and marriages and everything in between. That strengthens my faith along the way.*

*We have been in recess for a while, but things are warming up for the Small Faith Community which usually meets at Kerry and John Hardwick's place during Lent and Advent. We enjoy the friendship and support for one another as we reflect and bring our life experiences into fresh understandings while we ponder the Scriptures of the seasons of the church year. A number of our group are also deepening their understanding of Scripture by attending the course "Interpreting the Bible" at the nearby venue of "Westcourt" in Salter Point as recently advertised in the Parish Bulletin. The social part of our group was nurtured as we gathered for a meal at the Phillips' house and we look forward to a Sunday "roast" at the Hardwicks' very soon.*

- ♦ *I am learning a lot about my faith through the maturity and experiences of all our members, looking at things from the perspective of my friends. We are all different, but share so well.*
- ♦ *I like the part that over the years we have become such good friends, we are comfortable together. We share our experiences and especially when we are troubled it is great to have friends around you to help you through.*
- ♦ *This is a very special group for me. It keeps me grounded, it broadens my horizon and gives me perception to perhaps look at things differently and more unselfishly. It lifts my spirits when I leave here. It rejuvenates me. I thank each and everyone here because you are like family.*
- ♦ *A special part for me is the discussion of the Gospel and the values of life. The opportunity this gives us to more fully understand the Word of God in our lives and to look forward to Father's homily the following Sunday. It brings meaning to our Faith journey.*

I am also a member of another Small Faith Community in our Parish. There are just three or four members and we meet fortnightly, once again in a home atmosphere. We only meet for an hour or so to discuss the following week's Gospel and pray for those who have asked for our prayers. A different group, a different place, different experiences, but all so meaningful in reaching out to others and living the Word of God.

All are welcome to join a group in our Parish or to start a new group. Looking back over the past 25 years, it is a great way to live our Faith.

**JOAN MORCOMBE**

**BR TERRY CASEY**



# For our children...

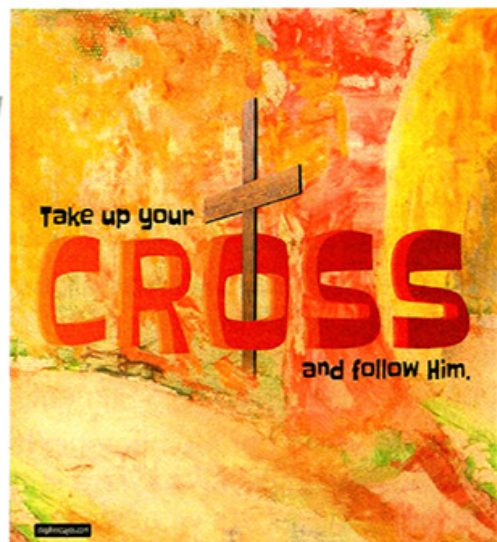
## 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

If we are really determined to do something, even though it might be difficult, then we can succeed. Jesus tells us that it is never easy to follow him, but we can succeed if we decide we really want to.

### LET US PRAY...

Lord, help us to follow you always, and give us the strength to carry on when we are struggling.

Help us to make the effort to do things God's way, so we will be able to share in your glory at the end of time.



## The Cost of Following Jesus

Jesus replied, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God." Luke 9:62 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 9:57-62 (NIV).

E B Q D O P M G F V V Y K A V  
 W W A J P J L F Z Z O X I L N  
 P E B O O Y H O S Q N F N T A  
 H M H M L X D Z W B K H G S L  
 K A A I W D F F O X E S D X O  
 V N M O N A I O U C D L O D N  
 I A A A N Y L S L L Q U N A G  
 F K H O R K R K L L F I E H S  
 B A F F C L O M I D O C C D Y  
 U Y T A O A A C B N A W R J S  
 R E B H S B D I O L G I U E S  
 Y Y R T E S B Z P C B A L K O  
 H U S J U R G D Q Z Z O O L N  
 E E W H E R E V E R H O C J I  
 N O U Y B E Y Y X L L W C V P

FOXES

PLOW

HEAD

FOLLOW

WHEREVER

LOOKS

ROAD

ALONG

HOLES

BIRDS

BACK

NESTS

FATHER

HAND

PLACE

BURY

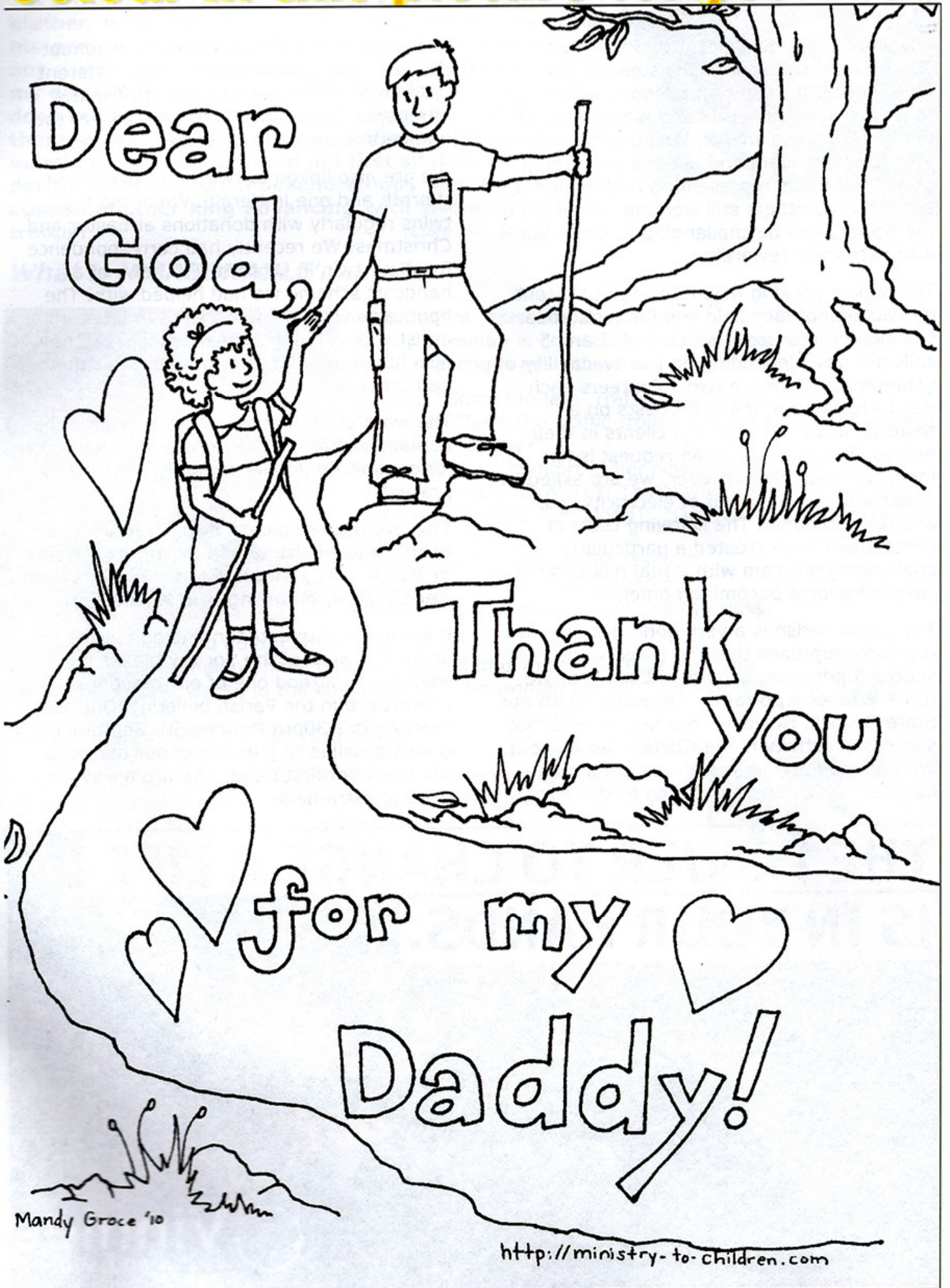
FAMILY

KINGDOM

WALKING

MAN

# Colour in this picture for your Dad



Dear  
God,

Thank  
You

for my  
Daddy!

Mandy Groce '10

<http://ministry-to-children.com>

# SVdP Society Como Conference | RICHARD HENNESSY

The work of the St Vincent de Paul (SVdP) Como Conference continues steadily. We meet once a fortnight on a Monday evening to review our daily visits and plan ahead for the following two weeks. We currently have 15 active members and boast an age range of over 60 years representing both genders, some retired others still working. The work of the Society can be challenging at times but is also extremely rewarding.

The people seeking help ring the St Vincent de Paul emergency help line for assistance. Our Conference accepts between 3 and 5 calls per day, depending on the availability of volunteers. There are two volunteers each day to respond to these requests on a rostered basis. We visit the clients in their homes. The most common request is for food. Increasingly, however, we are asked to assist with the payment of electricity, gas and rent accounts. The spiraling costs in these areas have created a particularly challenging problem with a real risk in some cases of people becoming homeless.

The Como Parish is a very generous one. We regularly approach them to assist with special fundraising activities. Each year we run a **Winter Appeal** in conjunction with our State Council. However, our largest and most successful activity is the **Christmas Appeal**. We make up approximately 50 Christmas hampers which are distributed to the most

needy families we have helped throughout the year. Our parishioners donate different food items which are used to compile the hampers. Conference members deliver the hampers in the week prior to Christmas.

We are also linked to twins in India one in Umreth and one in Kerala. We assist the twins regularly with donations at Easter and Christmas. We recently had correspondence from our twin in Umreth with news of a handcart scheme we had helped with. The handcarts were being donated to locals to assist with running a small business. They also had news of a free medical clinic they had organised.

The work of the Conference is ongoing. The demands continue to increase and the need for committed people of goodwill is always present.

**The people we assist don't live on the other side of the world or the other side of Perth. They live in South Perth, Como, Kensington, Manning and Karawara.**

If anyone is interested in finding out more about the work of the Society please feel welcome to attend one of our meetings (advertised in the Parish bulletin). Our next meeting is 7.30pm Monday 5th September. It is also possible to join one of our teams to see our work first hand. We are always in need of extra help.

**THE POWER TO CHANGE A LIFE  
IS IN YOUR HANDS.**



 **Vinnies**  
good works

## 23rd Sunday of the Year – 4<sup>th</sup> September 2016

"If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion... Or what king marching into battle would not first sit down and decide whether ten thousand troops can successfully oppose another king advancing with twenty thousand troops?"

(Luke 14: 25-33)



### What is 'REASONABLE'.....?



In a recent episode of the comic strip **Dilbert** [July 3, 2016], a woman is constantly late for meetings. A coworker finally challenges her - to a point:

*Woman:* "Sorry I'm late. Traffic was terrible."

*Coworker:* "Isn't the traffic from your house always terrible at this time of day?"

*Woman* (finding comfort in her coworker's apparent understanding): "EXACTLY! That's why I'm late every day."

*Coworker* (coaxing her along): "Do you see ANY way you could fix that?"

*Woman:* "I can't control the traffic."

*Coworker:* "You could leave earlier."

*Woman:* "Then I wouldn't get enough sleep."

*Coworker:* "You could go to bed earlier."

*Woman:* "Then I wouldn't have time to watch Netflix until two in the morning."

An uncomfortable pause in the conversation. The *woman* pleads: "Do you want me to hate my life?"

The *coworker* (sighs): "I didn't until now."

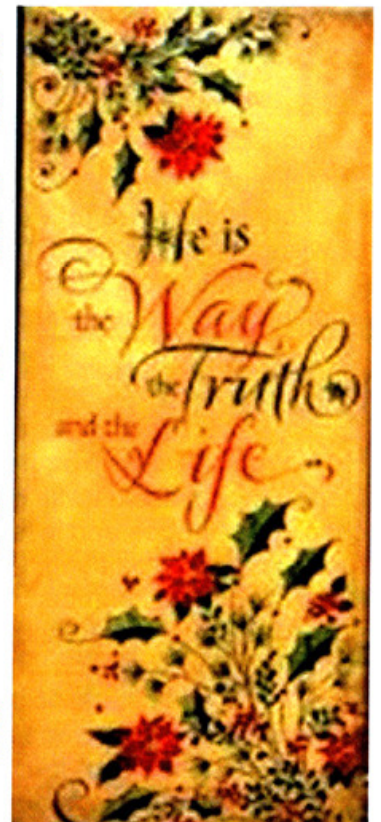
**In the parables of the unfinished tower and the king preparing for war, Jesus reminds us that we do not live the life of God by accident, that to live our baptisms demands focused attention and deliberate action.**

**Discipleship challenges us to stop and look at the many threads of our lives and realize how they weave into whole cloth - and which pieces of our life are actually tearing us away from what we want our lives to be, what we want to accomplish for ourselves and others.**

**That means making hard choices and changes in our lives and life-styles (more sleep, less Netflix; more family time, fewer office projects).**

**To be a faithful disciple of Christ means to live beyond the pages of our calendars and planning books in order to make time in our lives first for the things of God and building loving, nurturing relationships with family and friends in whom we realize the fullness of life in God.**

**Living the Christian life costs dearly: In fact, in a world dominated by practical materialism - by the contemporary idols of power, sex and money - there is often need for heroism just to be a Christian.**





## Liturgy of the Word 23rd Sunday Ordinary Time Year C

### FIRST READING

*Wisdom 9:13-18*

What man indeed can know the intentions of God? Who can divine the will of the Lord? The reasonings of mortals are unsure and our intentions unstable; for a perishable body presses down the soul, and this tent of clay weighs down the teeming mind. It is hard enough for us to work out what is on earth, laborious to know what lies within our reach; who, then, can discover what is in the heavens? As for your intention, who could have learnt it, had you not granted Wisdom and sent you holy spirit from above? Thus have the paths of those on earth been straightened and men been taught what pleases you, and saved, by Wisdom.'

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

1. You turn men back into dust and say: 'Go back, sons of men.' To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone, no more than a watch in the night.
2. You sweep men away like a dream, like grass which springs up in the morning. In the morning it springs up and flowers: by evening it withers and fades.
3. Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart. Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever? Show pity to us your servants.

4. In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days. Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands

### SECOND READING

*Philemon 9:10.12-17*

This is Paul writing, an old man now and, what is more, still a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for a child of mine, whose father I became while wearing these chains: I mean Onesimus. I am sending him back to you and with him - I could say - a part of my own self. I should have liked to keep him with me; he could have been a substitute for you, to help me while I am in the chains that the Good News has brought me. However, I did not want to do anything without your consent; it would have been forcing your act of kindness, which should be spontaneous. I know you have been deprived of Onesimus for a time, but it was only so that you could have him back for ever, not as a slave any more, but something much better than a slave, a dear brother; especially dear to me, but how much more to you, as a blood-brother as well as a brother in the Lord. So if all that we have in common means

anything to you, welcome him as you would me.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Let your face shine on your servant, and teach me your laws. Alleluia!

### GOSPEL

*Luke 14:25*

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. 'If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, "Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish". Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.

### NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr C

Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14

Psalm: 50:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19

Timothy 1:12-17

Luke 15:1-32

## Marriage - keeping us grounded

### How well are we growing in our knowledge of our partner?

Marriage provides us with someone who *knows* us so well, they can be a check on our egos and insecurities, or simply keep us from becoming, er, too much of a good thing. People who live alone for a very long time risk living in an echo chamber, where all of their thoughts, especially the negative, are amplified and distorted. What matters in a basically healthy marriage is not so much what you feel - it's what you do, every single day, as a hedge against the fickle feelings that will undoubtedly float through.

Join our Parish Marriage Session

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September 9am - 12noon.

Add your names to the list in the foyer.

Only \$45  
per couple



the  
Mystery  
of the  
Marriage  
Covenant