

### **22 November 2015**

# SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING REFLECTION.....TERROR AND LOVE



#### **NOVEMBER**

- 22 Kindergarten Class at Mass HNM 10.00 am
- 24 Baptism Prep Session Chapter Hall 7.30pm
- 25 Liturgy Group Meeting Parish House 7.30pm
- 26 Social Justice Group Meeting & Dinner Parish House 6.30pm
- 27 La Paroisse Restaurant Parish House 6.30pm
- 28 Mass of the Little Angels HNM 8.00 am
- 29 Camp Runamok
- 28-9 Vinnies Christmas Appeal All Masses
- 29 St Joseph's Chapel Open 10.00 am

**DECEMBER** 

- 2 Parish Pastoral Council Meeting & AGM Details TBA
- 3 Men's Group Dinner Parish Hall 7.00 for 7.30pm

Last weekend, the world was rocked once again by terrorist violence, this time in Paris. French military and police responded as soon as they could, but not before a large number of people had been savagely murdered, many others injured and countless were left with their lives in trauma. Some perhaps may never recover from their proximity to such inhumanity.

The world's media performed their normal role in providing us with the story itself along with countless commentaries, speculations and predictions. The terrorist outfit that has claimed so much of our attention these past two years claimed responsibility and promised more of the same. We were left numb, wondering at the purpose of such highly organised barbarity, and feeling powerless and sad.

Nevertheless, almost immediately the human spirit, especially shown by the people of Paris, broke through. Processing down a tunnel at the Stade de France, the exiting crowd spontaneously broke into their National Anthem. Perhaps the singing contained a note of defiance, but also of solidarity and love for their country that had once more been subjected to acts of terror. As soon as the news broke here, the French community in Sydney organised a memorial service which offered the opportunity for anyone who wished to express their grief in public and to pray for a renewed peace.

This weekend, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Christ the Eternal King. A bit like the people singing in the Stadium tunnel in France, the people of the Church reach for an expression of hope as they suffer, ponder and wrestle with life's many challenges and setbacks.

The people of the Church have a faith that looks beyond war and terror even as they suffer these evils. This faith is able to look beyond the evil actions with which the Church has been associated throughout history. The people of the Church are aware of the suffering caused by some of their fellow members, especially to children and to those more vulnerable, and still they continue to believe.

In the image of Christ the King, we find the sort of spirit that enabled the crowd at the Stadium in Paris to sing in the face of great evil. In Christ the King we have one more image to help us see that God breaks through our deepest darkness, with an assurance that love and peace are still within reach

The phrase "Amor vincit omnia", meaning: "Love conquers all", dates from the time of the poet Virgil. It was reprised in Chaucer's Canterbury Tales and Carravaggio's famous painting of the same name. It finds further expression in the songs of John Lennon and Andrew Lloyd Webber. It was also a favourite theme of Jesus Christ!! Love underscores and outlives our deepest tragedies.

"Where sin abounds, grace does all the more abound", cries St Paul, evoking the image of singing crowds in a dark exit tunnel in Paris. In an era when celebrities rather than kings resonate more easily with many, the image of Christ the King can be a reassuring prompt for us all. It's so very natural to succumb to the sadness and fear of our own personal grief and that of our world. It's easy to become stuck in a kind of powerless sadness.

It takes something special to get us singing again, but when we manage to rise through our grieving and sing, we give hope and a certain reassurance to one another that life is still a gift to treasure. We have living to do and no evil can stand in the way of love and life at the end of the day.

Christ the King is one of the many images of Jesus that we have found through the centuries with which to comfort and encourage each other. May his presence in our hearts in these days continue its saving work. Father Kevin

### What's on?

## HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR PARISH?

See if anyone in your pew knows this lovely couple. Their names next week.

Last week's photo:

**Amanda Patterson** 





### LA PAROISSE RESTAURANT

Book in for a meal cooked by Father Kevin and meet some of your fellow parishioners. Bookings through Sylvia at the parish office and our dates are: 27 November, 26 February, 18 March, Parish House, 6.30pm

## MASS OF THE LITTLE ANGELS

Remember our Mass of the Little Angels is on again this coming Saturday 28 November at 8.00 am.

Part of our November memorials for those who have died, this Mass honours those children who were lost prior to, during or after birth by whatever means.

It provides an opportunity for quiet prayer for parents and anyone else who may wish to commemorate little ones, lost recently or in the more distance past.

If you know people who may benefit from joining us for this Mass, please let them know.

### NEW ADVENT RESOURCES AVAILABLE SOON.

This Advent, beginning on 29 November, we will have available two sets of reflection booklets available for your use.

For personal prayer and reflection, we have "Daily inspirations of Faith", a series of short daily reflections prepared for us by our parishioner, Nicholas Chaplin.

For personal or group reflections, we have purchased once again the Advent program from the Wollongong Diocese, "Beloved".

Both booklets will be available from the Churches.

## ST JOSEPH'S CHAPEL OPEN

The historic St Joseph's chapel in the grounds of Villa Maria Monastery will be open for prayer and reflection form 10.00 am on Sunday 29 November. It will be next opened on Sunday 31 January.

### COME CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY.

The Archdiocese Justice and Peace Office and LÁrche Sydney invite you to a special morning tea to celebrate and honour people living with disability and all of those who love, care about and advocate for them. There will be guest speakers, music, as well as time to share our own stories. Morning tea provided.

1 December 10.30-12.00pm Level 5 Polding Centre, 133 Liverpool St. Sydney. RSVP 24 November 02 9307 8461. Please indicate any access and dietary requirements.

### JOUBERT SINGERS 2015 CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Tuesday December 8 7.30pm

Villa Maria Catholic Church, Mary St. Hunters Hill

Join the Joubert Singers in celebrating the start of the 2015 Christmas Season at this joyous concert. Sing some favourite Christmas carols along with the choir to ignite your Christmas spirit!

Admission \$30, Concession \$25 (U16, pensioners, seniors)

You can purchase tickets online through Sticky Tickets. More details on our website

www.joubertsingers.org.au

## THE RELIGIOUS SISTERS OF MERCY OF ALMA

Will be holding a series of Days of Discernment (3 days over 3 months) for women in regards to religious life and marriage: 28 Nov, 19 Dec and 16 Jan. It is a series, but each day is complete in itself so someone could come to one day or all three, or even part of a day. The event will be held at our convent in Camperdown which is adjacent to the University of Sydney. We would like to keep each Day to a small group size so RSVP's would be appreciated to 9557 2398.

### THE MARIAN COMMUNITY OF RECONCILIATION (FRATERNAS)

Is an international community of consecrated lay women called by God to give their whole lives to Him. They are dedicated to the new evangelisation, bearing witness to Christ while living and working in the world. Their fields of mission are the youth and young adults, families, the poor and culture. They were founded in Peru in 1991 and arrived in Sydney in 2006. To find our more visit www.fraternas.org

### "MERCY BEGINS WITH ME"

Saturday November 28th

Come to a Reflection .

Presenter—Fr. Ray Chapman S.M.

St. Patricks Church (in the crypt) 141 Harrington St. Church Hill

10-2pm Finishing with mass. Tea and coffee provided BYO Lunch. Cost by donation. RSVP please email—

maristlaityaustralia@gmail.com

## BOX AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH

There is a box at the back of the Church with post-it notes with requests for both Christmas presents and food items.

These are for both the Baabayn Aboriginal Community and Gethsemane Community.

The Baabayn Aboriginal Community of Elders are helping their people to live in non-aboriginal society whilst rediscovering their own Aboriginal roots.

Gethsemane is a ministry to homeless people with mental disabilities and those living in boarding houses. They provide gifts and hampers to 1200 people at Christmas time.

Please return the donations into the laundry baskets at the back of the church either next week or by the weekend of 5/6th Dec. Thank you.

## SCRIPTURE PRAYER GROUP

The Scripture Prayer Group's 4 week Advent Series 'Stay Awake The Master Is Coming' will be starting on Tues. 24/11/15. Place: Front Room in Maryvale Time: 6.45 for 7.00pm. All welcome.

### Well Done... CONGRATS AND THANKS ZONE

Congratulations and a very warm welcome to Jonah Bucklev. Scarlett Tindal, Arabella Low, & Evie McLellan all of whom will be baptized into our Christian community this weekend.

### **WARWICK & SALLY**

Warwick Benson and Sally Greenaway ever so quietly slipped through their Silver Jubilee of Marriage the other week. The parish bulletin radar usually catches up with you and it did!

A very happy anniversary to you both and blessings for the many years ahead. Love from us all.

### **POINT TO PONDER**

Lead, kindly Light, amid th' encircling gloom; Lead thou me on! The night is dark, and I am far from home; Lead thou me on! Keep thou my feet; I do not ask to see The distant scene--one step enough for me.

- 2. I was not ever thus, nor pray'd that thou Shouldst lead me on. I loved to choose and see my path; but now, Lead thou me on! I loved the garish day, and, spite of fears, Pride ruled my will. Remember not past years.
- 3. So long thy pow'r hath blest me, sure it still Will lead me on, O'er moor and fen, o'er crag and torrent, till The night is gone. And with the morn those angel faces smile, Which I have loved long since, and lost awhile!

Text: John Henry Newman, 1801-1890

### Villa Maria Primary School

Principal: Mr. Kevin Turner Phone: 98796100

www.vmhuntershill.catholic.edu.au

### Annual Learn to Swim School

With the help of one lan Thorpe, our children are transforming themselves into the new-age versions of Esther Williams, Johnnie Weismuller, Lorraine Crapp, Des Renford and Eric the Eel!

A good time is being had by all in this warm weather.

Johnny Weismuller in Action!





Marist Sisters' College Principal: Ms Anne Anderson Ph: 9816 2041

http://www.mscw.nsw.edu

### **Budding Musicians Visit**

This week the College welcomed 300+ budding musicians, singers and dancers from our local Catholic primary schools to the College for our Annual Mini Maestros Festival. The talent of these young students was outstanding and the day was enjoyed by all.

### St Josephs' College

Principal: Mr Ross Tarlinton Mark Street, Hunters Hill, NSW 2110 **T** +61 2 9816 0807 www.joeys.org

### Pray for...

Please pray for all those who are sick in our community. We pray for:

Tess O'Farrell. Dr Michael Dwyer, Henry Rahi, Dianne Sackalariou & Adam Marsh.

### THE PEOPLE OF **PARIS**

No more needs to be said here!

### **LISA & JESSE CROUCHER** & FAMILY

Lisa, Jesse and Family will be moving to New Zealand in the new year. We pray a blessing on them all and thank them for their precious contribution to the life of our parish and school community these past years.

May God bless you in every way in your new home.

### **Coming Soon**

Mass of the Little Angels, 28 November 8.00 am Vinnies Christmas Appeal 28-9 November Camp Runamok—28 November

## This Week... Scripture Zone

### First Reading: Daniel 7:13-14

The prophet Daniel saw in the visions of the night...one like a son of man... On him was conferred sovereignty, glory and kingship. His sovereignty is an eternal sovereignty.

### Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, Alleluia!

Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom of David our father; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Alleluia

### Response:

The Lord is king;

He is robed in majesty.

### Second Reading: Apocalypse 1:5-8

These four verses from the first chapter of the Apocalypse are rich in insight into the mystery of Jesus Christ and of the salvation he has won for us by his blood.

### Gospel Reading Jn 18:33-37

Jesus acknowledges that he is king, but that his kingdom is not of this world. He has come to bear witness to the truth. If we are on his side, the side of truth, we listen to his voice.

### Next Week ... SCRIPTURE ZONE

First Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16 Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:2-4:2 Gospel Reading: Luke 21:25-8, 34-6



### A PARISH OF THE MARIST FATHERS

#### **PARISH OFFICE:**

3A Mary Street.

Hours: 9.00am - 5.00pm, Mon-Fri

PHONE: 9817 5325. FAX: 9817 4615.

EMAIL: villamar@bigpond.net.au

Web: www.hnom.com.au

Facebook: Holy Name of Mary Parish

### **SUNDAY MASS TIMES** Holy Name of Mary:

Sat.6.00pm

Sun.8.00am, 10.00am, 6.00pm. St. Peter Chanel: Sunday - 9.00am.

### **WEEKDAY EUCHARIST** Holy Name of Mary:

Monday to Friday –9.00am. Saturday – 8.00am.

St Peter Chanel: Wednesday 12.15pm

### **RECONCILIATON:**

Holy Name of Mary: Saturday 5.15pm-5.45pm or by request.

#### **PARISH TEAM:**

### Parish Priest:

Father Kevin Bates SM (PP)

(Ph: 0425 333 129) kev@kevinbates.com

### **Priests Assisting:**

Fathers Bill Ryder SM, Paul Pearce SM JP,

Willy Melteras SM

### **New or Returning** Parishioners...

Please come along to the Parish Office for a warm welcome and to pick up a Parish Information Kit.

Parish Secretary: Sylvia Gutierrez Associate Secretary: Maggie Mullane Sacramental Coordinator: Rosalia Foley

fft@hnom.com.au

**Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson:** 

Ann Freeman

ann.freeman@syd.catholic.edu.au Parish Pastoral Council Secretary:

Michael Brooks:

Michael.Brooks@infrahealth.nsw.gov.au Repair & Maintenance: Anthony Russo

#### **BAPTISM:**

By arrangement. Parents contact the presbytery to book & arrange to attend the Baptism Prep

### **BAPTISM PREPARATION EVENINGS** COMING UP:

Tuesday 15 December, 16 February, 15 March, 19 April 18 May, 21 June in the Chapter Hall @ 7.30pm

### **MARRIAGE:**

At least six months notice must be given. The parish clergy will officiate primarily for parishioners. Others will generally need to arrange their own Priest or Deacon.

### **PARISH PASTORAL GROUPS AND CONTACTS**

Counselling: Allison Cahill 0402 405 843. & **Deborah Khoury** 0409 719 443 Villa Play Group: Ellen Knoblanche:

0402955710

Meditation Group: Gabrielle Woodcock,

9817 0097

Young Adults Group: Nicholas Feamley

0401 722 839

Parish Pastoral Council: Michael Brooks

(Secretary) 0400 908 706

### Aged Ministry

Margaret Gambley 9807 2160 or Joan Bautovich 0402 275 105

**Grief Support Group:** 

Cecilia Brungs 0412 284 028

Liturgy Group: Rob Turnbull 0431 290 714

**Eucharistic Ministry Coordinator:** 

Kate Buckland 9817 2558 Altar Servers Coordinator: Kathleen Lee 0433 500 648 Social Justice Group: Sonia Zec 0413791775

Altar Society: Jane Keneally 0419221185.

Joan Bautovich 0402 275 105 RCIA: Janet Greene 9879 6515 Cleaners: HNM Mike Burfitt 9879 4197 **SPC** Claire Glase 0418 668 486

Readers HNM: Barry Buffier 9817 8805 Readers SPC: Mark Volpato 9816 4431

Children's Liturgy HNOM: Marie O'Donovan 0408 226 393 **SPC:** Tee Davies 0407 827 957 St Vincent De Paul: Elizabeth Spencer

9816 4180

Men's Group: Clinton McDonald

0450021011Gerardo D'Angelo 0418 294 063 Marist Laity Group: Cathy Gallo 9817 2959,

Josiane Espinosa 9807 9199 Welcomers' Coordinator: Rob Turnbull, 0431 290 714

Family Faith Educator: Marea De Angelis

Ph: 0419 448 201

Atrium of the Good Shepherd: Corinne

Korkor 0448 440 592

Young Christian Workers Group: Natasha

Foley 0424 976 658

St Peter Chanel Management Team:

Claire Glase 0418 668 486

### **OUR PARISH PRAYER**

Loving God.

you are the home for our hearts' deepest longings.

We find our way as families and as individuals only in you, through our brother Jesus, encouraged by the breath of your Spirit.

We thank you for all the blessings we enjoy in our parish family.

May we continue to share our gifts of life and love with glad and generous hearts.

May our world be somehow more alive because we have passed this way.

May Mary our parish patron continue to inspire us as we give new birth to your Word in our turn.

We make our prayer in Jesus' Name. Amen.