

HOLY NAME OF MARY PARISH HUNTERS HILL ST PETER CHANEL WOOLWICH



We acknowledge the Walumatagal people — the first custodians of this place

5 APRIL 2020

**PASSION (PALM) SUNDAY YEAR A
ISOLATION, NOISE AND PEACE**

Calendar

MARCH

WEEKLY MASS AVAILABLE ON YOUTUBE

For as long as possible, especially during this period when our churches are closed, we will have available a celebration of the Mass each weekend on YouTube.

Just go to:

bit.ly/hnomhuntershill
or search Holy Name of Mary Hunters Hill

and click on the appropriate Sunday's icon.

I was speaking with one of our Dads the other day who has five primary school aged children. He expressed great admiration for our teachers and wonders how they cope, but then adds, "At least they've only got one age group in front of them, I've got nearly every class in the school at my place!!" Adjusting to this new reality is providing its challenges for all of us. Lots of families at this point are doing pretty well with online learning set up and working smoothly. Others are struggling to find a balance that works well for them.

People working at home are enjoying more time with their children and at the same time finding challenges in balancing work and all this new extra family time they've got on their hands.

Parishioners with elderly parents in Aged Care facilities are finding that they are not allowed to visit them. Their family time is thereby diminished for the sake everyone's health and leaves people questioning whether it's good for the overall health of their family members. This isolation caper can create a tricky course for families to navigate. It's still early days and we may be up for several months of this situation. Much patient endurance will be called for if this is the case.

What's also becoming clear in our community is the care people are taking of each other. People are connecting not only with friends and family but beyond their normal circles to check on each other and to make sure needs are being met. Community is being built out of isolation. One senses that some long-term good may well come from all we are enduring together and apart!

I'm hearing of families taking time to pray together as they allow God to accompany them through the challenges of this time.

This weekend we mark Passion or Palm Sunday. We see Jesus in the midst of hubbub and chaos, entering Jerusalem with dignity and calm, clear about his mission and ready to embrace His Father's will.

In this he reminds us of the value of claiming some quiet, contemplative moments for ourselves in our chaotic, uncertain world. Some time each day, whether it be a few moments or a few hours, could serve well to nourish our hearts as we go about these days which can seem more like a dream than reality.

Our isolation could be transformed into a solitude in which our hearts find rest. Here we are not separated but rather united with the God who lives within and among us. Here we are safe, loved and our anxieties healed.

In this quiet place we can let go of questions such as: "Why is God allowing or doing this to us?" Instead we can simply rest consciously in the presence of that Love which sustains us in every moment. Times of solitude, rather than being empty and shapeless, can provide experiences of great grace and joy. Here we have the opportunity to put things in perspective and ready ourselves for the tasks of the rest of the day.

Managing our children, responding to our elderly, dealing with all the restrictions that are on us can all be grounded in a new place if we allow God to carry us there.

This of course is all easier said than done. If we haven't yet tried it we may be surprised at just how do-able it is and what peace may be born of a moment or two of quiet contemplation. This moment could involve a few words of prayer or simply an attentive gentle silence in which we become aware of the presence of our loving God.

We continue to look out for each other and to pray for each other as we move into this Holy Week in a manner so unfamiliar. May your journey this week find its peaceful place in the midst of all that weighs on you and your loved ones.

Father Kevin

What's on?

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR PARISH?

See if anyone in your pew knows the name of this parish-ioner. Her name next week. Last week's photo: Gillian O'Donovan.



HOW TO FILL THIS SPACE? SEND US YOUR STORIES OF SURVIVAL AND THE REST!

Over the coming weeks, this page of the bulletin is starting to become more and more empty.

To help us stay in touch with each other, I invite you to:

- ◆ Send in stories and photos that you'd be happy for us to share.

These could be anything you like, but especially stories and photos telling us how you are coping with this time of self-isolation.

Here are some delightful contributions we've received this week.

This morning I was up early and went for a walk down to Tarban Creek - beautiful to see the smelly bats, a turtle in a pond who popped his head out as if to greet me, a chorus of frogs singing after the rain and willy wagtails dancing around - so well named! Saw many new faces and we all greeted one another with a smile. It was low tide and reflection of mangroves was amazing. Good to be alive!
Love **Elaine Leong**

Survival story Helen Farrell

I have been doing what I think most people at home are doing: catching up on jobs that have been neglected: gardening, 'spring' cleaning etc. But the more enjoyable activities have included using social media to catch up with friends. We pre-arrange a time and 'meet' online with a cuppa. Good fun.

A primary school principal pointed out on Facebook that this is a historic time that needs to be recorded. So, he suggested we get our grandchildren to keep a journal of their daily activities, then they will have a firsthand account for later years. Our preschooler granddaughter tells me what she has done the day before, I type it up, and send it electronically so she can add drawings. I have decided to do one too.

It is so nice to see so many neighbours out and about and lots of children getting exercise. Everyone is friendly and passing pleasantries. On a walk recently, I was nearby as a father and daughter on bikes were riding down a steepish hill. The father called out to his daughter riding behind him 'GO slow down this hill, and when you get to the bottom swing out to get around the corner'. The daughter, who was about 7, impatiently replied, 'Daddy, I am doing what is appropriate'.

Home Routines

A number of Mums have told us that they hold "school assembly" each morning with morning prayer, the Angelus at midday as they do at school and a further prayer mid-afternoon. All this serves to provide the children with some structure to their day.

OUR ELDERLY—FORGET ME NOT PROJECT

If you are in need of some help to get shopping in, need a lawn mowed or need a lift to the shops during these challenging times, please contact the parish office. Likewise, you may be self-isolating and would simply appreciate a phone call.

Some very kind parishioners have extended offers of assistance in this regard.

In the same way if you are in a position to help any of our parishioners please contact the office. Phone: 98175325

THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY GOES ONLINE

The Catholic Weekly has temporarily transitioned to a digital presence only due to the government's decision to close all Churches during the COVID-19 pandemic.

While it has brought challenges, we are pleased to inform you that we have adapted extremely well and are continuing to produce the paper in a **digital form** making it available to everyone online at www.catholicweekly.com.au

Our Garden on a sunny autumn morning:

Hard to imagine there's anything wrong with the world just sitting here!



HOLY WEEK LITURGIES ONLINE

We will be providing a version of the Holy Week Liturgies available to you on YouTube as follows:

Passion (Palm) Sunday: from 6.00pm Saturday

Holy Thursday: Mass available from 7.30pm

Good Friday Service: Available from 3.00pm

Easter Vigil & Mass: Available Saturday Evening from 7.30pm

PARISH FINANCES

Without the regular Masses, the Parish finances are naturally being depleted. We have this in common of course with many families and individuals.

If you are in a position to contribute still, we would appreciate that very much. The Parish Finance Committee suggests that you could:

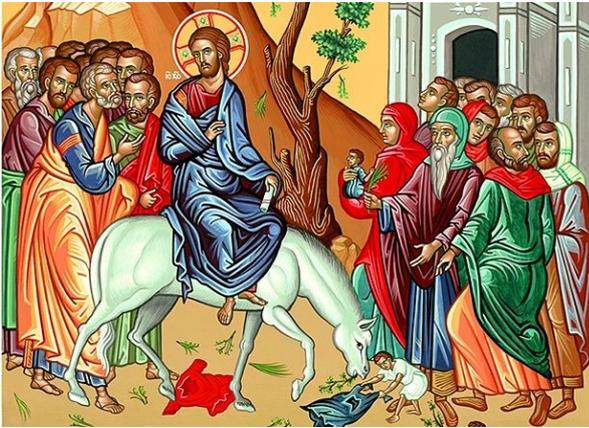
- Drop your envelopes or contributions into the parish office;
- Go to the website www.hnom.com.au, click on the "Make a Payment" tab and proceed from there, or
- Ask us for a Planned Giving form from the office and make a regular contribution that way.

Thank you for your ongoing generosity to the parish..

CHILD SAFETY— OUR SPECIAL PRIORITY



Well Done...CONGRATS AND WELCOME ZONE



POINT TO PONDER *(Thanks Meryl)*

Letter from F. Scott Fitzgerald, quarantined in 1920 in the South of France during the Spanish influenza outbreak:

Dearest Rosemary,

It was a limpid dreary day, hung as in a basket from a single dull star. I thank you for your letter. Outside, I perceive what may be a collection of fallen leaves tussling against a trash can. It rings like jazz to my ears.

The streets are that empty. It seems as though the bulk of the city has retreated to their quarters, rightfully so. At this time, it seems very poignant to avoid all public spaces. Even the bars, as I told Hemingway, but to that he punched me in the stomach, to which I asked if he had washed his hands. He hadn't. He is much the denier, that one. Why, he considers the virus to be just influenza. I'm curious of his sources.

The officials have alerted us to ensure we have a month's worth of necessities. Zelda and I have stocked up on red wine, whiskey, rum, vermouth, absinthe, white wine, sherry, gin, and lord, if we need it, brandy. Please pray for us.

You should see the square, oh, it is terrible. I weep for the damned eventualities this future brings. The long afternoons rolling forward slowly on the ever-slick bottomless highball. Z. says it's no excuse to drink, but I just can't seem to steady my hand. In the distance, from my brooding perch, the shoreline is cloaked in a dull haze where I can discern an unremitting penance that has been heading this way for a long, long while. And yet, amongst the cracked cloudline of an evening's cast, I focus on a single strain of light, calling me forth to believe in a better morrow.

Faithfully yours,
F. Scott Fitzgerald

Pray for... PRAYER ZONE

Please pray for all those who are sick or in special need in our community:

Janet Muscat, Judy Craig, Andrew & Lina Gullotta, Suzanne Traill, Frank Lloyd, Winifred Wall, John Burton, Madge Mullen, Jill Caldwell, Annette Sidgreaves, Valerie Grant, John O'Connor & Ron Hill.

GARY TRAILL

Gary is very unwell and in hospital at the moment. We keep him very much in our prayers and pray for a return to good health.

PARISHIONERS ON THE FRONTLINE

A number of our parishioners have been seconded to work on the frontline in healthcare during the pandemic.

We thank God for them, their courage and dedication, and pray for their safety and the well-being of their families.

COMING SOON

We do not know what is ahead of us so we pray and take all necessary actions to keep ourselves and families safe.

This Week... Scripture Zone

First Reading:

Isaiah 50:4-7

I did not cover my face against insult and I know I will not be ashamed.

Response

My God, My God,
Why have you abandoned me?

Second Reading

Philippians 2:6-11

Though he was in the form of God, he emptied himself to become like us.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ
Christ became obedient for us even unto death, dying on the cross;
Therefore God raised him on high And gave him a name above all other names.
Glory and praise to you Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Reading Matthew 26:14-27:66

The Passion of the Lord, his journey from condemnation to death on the Cross.

Villa Maria Primary School

Principal: Mr. Kevin Turner
Phone: 98796100
www.vmhuntershill.catholic.edu.au

Marist Sisters' College

Principal: Dr Anne Ireland
Ph: 9816 2041
www.mscw.nsw.edu.au

St Josephs' College

Principal: Dr Christopher Hayes
Mark Street, Hunters Hill, NSW

First Reading : Acts 10:34; 37-43
Second Reading : Colossians 3: 1-4
Gospel Reading : Matthew 28: 1-10



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

RECONCILIATION:

Holy Name of Mary: Saturday

5.15pm-5.45pm or by request.

PARISH TEAM:

Parish Priest:

Father Kevin Bates SM, OAM

Ph: 0425 333 129

kev@kevinbates.com

Priests Assisting:

Fathers Aliko Langi SM, Ph: 0408 896 839

John Worthington SM, Paul Pidcock SM,
OAM

Parish Secretary: Catherine Byrne

Associate Secretary: Maggie Mullane

New or Returning Parishioners...

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

Sacramental Coordinator: Rosalia Foley
fft@hnom.com.au 0409 608 979

Parish Safeguarding Support Officers:

Caitlin Pfaffin & Kathleen Lee:

hnompsso@gmail.com

BAPTISM:

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

BAPTISM PREPARATION EVENINGS:

Tuesdays: Wednesday Wednesday 13 May,
Tuesday 9 June, (if possible) 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

Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson:

Marita Winters

bmwinters6@gmail.com

Parish Pastoral Council Secretary:

Carmen Pelling

cdpelling@gmail.com

Parish Finance Committee:

Andrew Curtin 0423 123 995

Family Faith Educator: Marea De Angelis

Ph: 0419 448 201

RCIA: Janet Greene 9879 6515

Counselling: Deborah Khoury 0409 719 443

Villa Play Group: Tues 9:30-11:30am

Parish Hall. Mercedes Simola 0414 625 384

www.hnom.com.au/children

St Vincent De Paul: Paul Ladd 0468 355 753

Meditation Group: Gabrielle Woodcock,
9817 0097

Youth Group: Luana: 0426845053 or

Danielle: 0400 871 423

Young Adults Group: Nicholas Fearnley

0401 722 839

Aged Ministry : Margaret Gambley 9807 2160

Grief Support Group:

Cecilia Brungs: 0412 284 028

Social Justice Group:

David Macedone: 0412 049 895;

Marnie Butler: 0413 004 702

Marist Laity Group: Cathy Gallo 9817 2959

Josiane Espinosa 9807 9199

Liturgy Group & Music Ministry: Kia

Mackun 0435 899 917, Ralph Fitzgerald 0412 230 626

Eucharistic Ministry Coordinators:

HNM: Maggie Mullane: 0411 475 469

SPC: Maria Goode: 0423 706 830

Altar Servers Coordinator:

Yvonne Young: 0410 588 063

Email: yvynom@gmail.com

Readers HNM: Barry Buffer: 9817 8805

SPC: Mark Volpato: 9816 4431

Children's Liturgy:

HNM: Olivia Edwards: 0409 541 177

Email: oedwards121@gmail.com

SPC: Sally Grill: 0417 916 267

Altar Society: Julia Cuming: 0412 031 451

Annette Hills: 0401 252 064

Ukelele Group: Fr Aliko: 0408 896 839

Cleaners:

HNM: Maggie Mullane 0411 475 469

SPC: Imogen Cornell : 0402 436 715

Men's Group:

Clinton McDonald: 0419 646 311

Gerardo D'Angelo 0418 294 063

Inter-Church Council:

Richard Korkor 0410 431 022

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.