

HOLY NAME OF MARY PARISH HUNTERS HILL ST PETER CHANEL WOOLWICH



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

2 August 2020

**EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A
WHEN FAITHFUL PEOPLE LEAVE**

Calendar

AUGUST

- 4 Inter-Church Council Meeting**
(Tent)
- 5 Social Justice Group Meeting**
Parish House
7.30pm
- 7. Adoration of the Eucharist**
HNM church
7.30am—9am
- 7 Twiddle Muff Knitting Group**
Chapter Hall
9.30am—11am
- 8 Marist Laity**
Chapter Hall
9am—11am
- 12 Liturgy Group Meeting**
Chapter Hall
7.30pm
- 18 Baptism Prep Session** Chapter Hall 7.30pm
- ### SEPTEMBER
- 1 Parish Pastoral Council Meeting**
Chapter Hall
7.30pm

The story of Australian artist Justin O'Brien, (1917-1996) featured on a recent Compass program on the ABC. He is one of the few painters to have his work on display in the Vatican. O'Brien turned away from the Catholic Church and then proceeded to devote his life to painting sacred images. His work features his own insights into the gospel stories and clearly reveals a heart full of carefully nurtured faith.

He is not alone in this. There are many people of faith and integrity who have walked away or drifted off from active involvement in the life of the Church, who can still claim to be people of faith. It's possible that this faith becomes more reflective and carefully crafted because of the choices they have made.

It's also a common enough occurrence that some of these people seek re-connection with the Church when a life-changing event occurs such as a wedding, an anniversary, a serious illness or a death. There are many and varied circumstances in which people seek such re-connection which may be transitory or more lasting.

Some have left because of scandals such as the sexual abuse crisis. Some have left because of other perceived injustices in the Church such as the treatment of people in same-sex relationships. Some left because their marital status excluded them from the Sacraments. Others again will say that they simply drifted off and often meant to come back one day.

Once upon a time such people as often as not, would have been labelled as sinful failures and left to their own devices. This kind of judgement still occurs and is one of the behaviours that Pope Francis has been challenging us to change. It's a common experience that our own young people in huge numbers disappear from view and leave us wondering how we have let them down or what it is in them that the Church fails to satisfy.

As well as being curious as to the motives of people who move on from the Church, we could do well to shine the spotlight on ourselves and ask what it is about us that has led people to walk away. Especially when we encounter real faith in those who call themselves "ex-Catholics", it becomes clear that we have some serious questions to ask ourselves. It's obvious that poorly performed liturgy and lifeless homilies play their role in people's disaffection. Other factors are often cited such as the bureaucratic nature of the Church and the dominance of men in positions of authority. We can spend endless hours arguing our way through the questions these issues raise.

It's just possible that many of these people have a prophetic voice that we would do well to hear and understand. In the ancient Scriptural Tradition, the role of the prophet was to see what it was that needed changing, form a vision for a better future and then give themselves to the realization of that vision. Prophets were and are commonly rejected by the majority who don't much like the idea of change. If they're as good as their word, these prophets don't allow such rejection to alter their course.

With the Plenary Council fast approaching here in Australia, it would make sense for us to make room for these prophetic voices. Given the track record of some of the great prophets who have preceded them, today's prophets, rather than being seen as threats or failures, could well hold the key to the health, growth and life of the Church to come in the years ahead.

Before we jump to judgements then, we could stop and listen for a while, consider what we hear and allow it to shape our direction. After all, we don't hold copyright on the Holy Spirit! As Jesus points out, the wind blows wherever it wills.

Let's listen with attentive courage and even dare to respond. It might do us all great good! Father Kevin

What's on?

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR PARISH?

See if anyone in your pew knows the name of these lovely parishioners. Their names next week. Last week's photo: Gail Meredith & Pamela Medich



CHURCHES OPEN— WITH STRINGS ATTACHED!

And Ribbons!!

Larger numbers are now allowed to attend Mass. To comply with social distancing requirements we will be limited to 90 people at Holy Name of Mary and 75 at St Peter Chanel.

If you wish to attend, you will still need to book in at the parish office.

You can also book in through Trybooking on: <https://www.trybooking.com/BJUKE>

Parish office, Ph: 9817 5325

BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSIONS HAVE RESUMED

Regular Baptism Preparation Sessions have now resumed. Numbers will be limited so you need to book in via Trybooking: <https://www.trybooking.com/BJVOI>

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JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICES FOOD-DROP

Each Wednesday between 9.00 am—11.00am at Parish House.

ACBC NATIONAL CATHOLIC MEN'S GATHERING

The ACBC National Catholic Men's Gathering for 2020 is now being offered as an online event for registered participants. This modified program will be delivered in four pre-recorded sessions of approximately 1 hour in length. Each session will offer input from a variety of speakers and musicians, along with a response and questions for group discussion or individual reflection. The program is flexible, allowing you to participate individually or gather with others from your parish/diocese or

men's ministry group.

Registration: Available from Monday 29th June

Event Program: Available from Saturday 15th August, 2020 www.catholicmensgathering.com.au

NEW DATES FOR THE PLENARY COUNCIL

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic the National Plenary Council Assembly has been postponed to October 2021 (Adelaide) and April 2022 (Sydney). The discernment papers foundational to the development of the working paper and ultimately the agenda for the Assembly are available on the National Plenary Council webpage under the Discernment tab: <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/continuing-the-journey-of-discernment/>

CATHOLICCARE MARRIAGE PREPARATIONS

Marriage Education Goes Virtual: CatholicCare has quickly adapted to social distancing laws, providing marriage education virtually from mid-March. If you are engaged and are planning on getting married soon, CatholicCare is still able to provide you with your marriage education course during this time. We expect demand to surge when social distancing rules are relaxed further, so don't miss out. Book now! Call 13 18 19.

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED. FUNDRAISING ON 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF MACKILLOP CANONISATION

17 October 2020 marks the 10th anniversary of the canonisation of Australia's first Saint, Mary of the Cross MacKillop. In celebration, Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) Australia is proud to have commissioned a commemorative set of Rosary Beads. All proceeds from the sale of these beads will directly support needy religious sisters around the world who - like Mary MacKillop - continue to take care of all people in so many ways.

WELCOME MICHAEL, LILY & POPPY

Michael & Lily Gates recently completed their journey through the RCIA program. Last Sunday we were privileged to welcome them into the Catholic Church and baptised their daughter Lily. A joyful welcome to them. Here they are pictured with their sponsors Jennifer & Luke.

Special thanks to Helen Farrell and Janet Greene for their ongoing, faithful ministry in the RCIA program.

CHILD SAFETY— OUR SPECIAL PRIORITY

Well Done...CONGRATS AND WELCOME ZONE

Congratulations and a very warm welcome to: **Romeo Trovato and Matilda Bills** who will be baptized into our Christian community this weekend.



OUR CHURCH DOOR MONITORS

A heartfelt thanks to the parishioners who are acting as monitors at the Church doors prior to each Mass. Ensuring everyone is safely booked in and taking the details of those who haven't booked takes patience, especially when some people don't appreciate the necessity for this process.

On behalf of the parish, thank you so much for taking up this role which sometimes requires good diplomatic skills! God bless you for your generous service.

POINT TO PONDER

How might it feel to be part of the vine?
 Not just to see the vineyard from afar
 Or even pluck the clusters, press the wine,
 But to be grafted in, to feel the stir
 Of inward sap that rises from our root,
 Himself deep-planted in the ground of Love,
 To feel a leaf unfold a tender shoot,
 As tendrils curled unfurl, as branches give
 In gradual perfection, round and full,
 To bear within oneself the joy and hope
 Of God's good vintage, till it's ripe and whole.
 What might it mean to bide and to abide
 In such rich love as makes the poor heart glad?

Malcolm Guitte Parable and Paradox

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, Madge Mullen, Jill Caldwell, Valerie Grant, John O'Connor, Ron Hill, Catherine Keating, (Pauline Dowling's Mother,) and Eddie and Carmel Walsh (Ann Curtin's parents.)

KATHLEEN LEE

We keep in our prayers Kathleen who is facing serious surgery this week. She is approaching it with a very positive spirit and would be glad to have the support of our prayers.

EVERYONE'S SAFETY

In light of increasing uncertainty around Covid-19 outbreaks, we pray for us all, but especially for those medical women and men who are treating those who've contracted this disease. We pray that current policies provide good protection and that the rest of us observe all the requirements for the sake of the whole community.

COMING SOON

Confirmation Online Program

Change to Online Masses—details soon.

This Week... Scripture Zone

First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-3

Today's First Reading is one of the most beautiful from the prophet Isaiah, which we last heard at the Easter Vigil: it is an invitation to share in God's grace, symbolised by water for the thirsty and good food to eat

Response

The hand of the Lord feeds us: he answers all our needs.

Second Reading: Romans 8:35, 37-39

Today's Second Reading is a powerful testimony by Paul of his absolute faith in the strength and power of Christ to save us. So strong is this power, absolutely nothing can come between us and God's love made visible in Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia!

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God
 Alleluia!

Gospel Reading Matthew 14:13-21

Having heard the parables of the Kingdom, in today's Gospel we 'see' a glimpse of the Kingdom when Jesus feeds five thousand. Having been nourished with the word of God, we are now fed with good things to eat.

Villa Maria Primary School

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

St Josephs' College

Principal: Dr Christopher Hayes
 Mark Street, Hunters Hill, NSW 2110
 T +61 2 9816 0802
www.joey.org

Marist Sisters' College

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

Debating Continues

The Catholic Schools Debating Association has continued, via ZOOM, the Inter School Debating Competition for 2020. Last week's topic was "How working from home is here to stay". We wish our debaters all the best for the rest of the season.

First Reading : 1 Kings 19:9, 11-13
 Second Reading : Romans 9:1-5
 Gospel Reading : Matthew 14: 22-33



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, Paul Pearce SM, JP

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:

Tuesday 18 Aug, 15 Sept, 13 Oct, 10 Nov, 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: Tony Adukwicz 0411 641 895

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.