

HOLY NAME OF MARY PARISH HUNTERS HILL ST PETER CHANEL WOOLWICH



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

19 February 2017

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

THE MYSTERY OF FAITH

Calendar

February

19 **Pastoral Council Election: Nomination Forms due today**

Now and then we hear stories of parishioners and others whose workmates and friends are astonished that they go to church regularly and that they actually believe in God, in what the Church teaches and stands for, and further, that they claim some kind of relationship with God through Jesus. The presence of faith bewilders many people. The presence of faith is very confronting to those in whose lives faith plays no part. They are often people, generous in their own way, with a sense of what is right, just and true, and for whom God has no part to play in the equation of their lives.

We will perhaps hear them reaching for arguments that discredit the possibility of faith in order to shore up their own view of the world. Sometimes they will look on people of faith with admiration. Sometimes they will be hell-bent on discrediting with logical argument, everything for which a person of faith stands.

23 **Come and See Evening for PPC Nominees**
Parish Hall
7.30pm

When Church people are exposed as being flawed, inconsistent and even evil in their actions, then some people seem all too ready to condemn the whole Church as being fraudulent and meaningless. Our sin at this time is certainly on public display for all to see and such perception is very understandable. As well, for those who profess no faith, faith is something beyond belief!

March

1 **Ash Wednesday**

For people who profess belief in God, faith is sometimes a comfort, a support, a reassurance that life has some kind of ultimate meaning. For people who make faith central to their life's story, this faith will also involve suffering, doubt, questions and darkness.

10 **La Paroisse Restaurant**
Parish House
6.30pm

How can we be sure there is a God? How can the stories in the gospel possibly have some truth in them? They seem so far-fetched. What if my life of faith-filled living turns out to be a big mistake? What then? I'm not sure what it is I really believe?

11 **Villa Maria Kindergarten at Mass** HNM
6.00pm

These and similar questions are pretty-much universal for us as we bump into life's dilemmas, as we are confronted by the more significant sufferings that life brings, as we grow older and are left wondering about the things we believed so easily when we were younger.

14 **Baptism Prep Session** Chapter Hall 7.30pm

It's all right to believe in a loving God on a good day, but what about when things are going badly for me? God doesn't seem so user-friendly then! Some of our great mystics have referred to this experience of questioning and doubt as "darkness of faith," or "the dark night of the soul."

16 **Anointing Mass**
Chapter Hall
11.30 am

Some kind of "dark" experience is the lot of every believer at some time or another. The great saints attest to this and tell us that to grow in our faith we need to go through this experience which somehow purifies, refines and reshapes the world of our faith. This experience calls us to move from our control tower, our head, to listen to the deeper truth hidden in our heart, "the mystery hidden for all ages" as St Paul would call it. This mystery of faith requires more than some kind of intellectual assent. Our parishioner Chris O'Brien who died in 2009, wrote in his book that towards the end of his life he had decided to "Put aside my questions and simply trust."

23 **Parish Pastoral Council Meeting**
(New Council)
Chapter Hall
7.30pm

Jesus on the Cross does the same thing after crying out to God in anguished abandonment, then surrenders himself into the hands of the mystery who is God. This surrender is no passive despairing surrender, but a gentler trusting embrace of the mystery of love that is at the end of the day, beyond words and deeper than any suffering.

When we limit our view of things to the limits of our own intelligence and point of view, faith is not possible. When we dare look beyond, then who knows what life and love are waiting there for us? Father Kevin

What's on?

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR PARISH?

See if anyone in your pew knows the names of these three parishioners and at which school they all teach. Last week's photo: Rose Noun



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Nominations Close this weekend.

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: 10 March, 26 May, 30 June, 21 July.
Parish House 6.30pm.

PARISH 2020 CONSULTATION

As Archbishop Anthony indicated late last year, the Parish 2020 Consultation will begin very shortly. Parishioners and parish groups will be consulted regarding the future shape of the Church in the Sydney Archdiocese.

Richard Korkor and Richard McNamee are our Coordinators for this project and you will hear from them shortly.

CATHOLIC CARE SUPPORTING THE PEOPLE OF SYDNEY FOR 75 YEARS

CatholicCare services assist people to live and thrive at every age. We provide disability ser-

vices, counselling and support for children, young people and families and deliver ageing services in the home. We can assist you to navigate the new world of the NDIS and My Aged Care. To find out more call 131819, email connect@catholiccare.org

BECOME A CATECHIST JOIN US

Over 100 of our Catholic children attend the public schools in our area. Our parish provides Faith Education classes for these children if you would like to VOLUNTEER. Catechists teach a 30 minute class each Wednesday in primary school from 9am-9.30am and then 9.30-10am. No previous experience is necessary. Training, support and teaching materials are provided. We will be having a retreat and reflection day with Fr. Kevin in the near future. For any enquiries please call:

Rosalia Foley 0409 608 979.

NEW VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CHILDREN'S LITURGY 2017

Calling all Mums and Dads for Children's liturgy 2017. For many years children's liturgy has been a fantastic way to get our children involved in the church and community. It's only with the help of parents we can keep this liturgy going. Children's liturgy is a lovely way to spend 20 mins on Sunday's 10am HNOM Mass, talking about the bible reading, singing some songs and organising a little craft.

If you are interested in helping in 2017 please contact Marie O'Donovan

Mobile – 0408 226393

Email – marie.o-donovan@hpe.com

PILATES CLASSES

Alex Collins a parishioner and qualified Pilates Instructor is running Pilates Classes in our parish. Mondays 9.00am in the Parish Hall during the school term.

Term 1 (6 weeks) commencing

20th February to 27th March.

Cost : \$60 per term.

If you are interested please call Alex Collins on 0423677275 or email acmt@bigpond.com

SACRAMENTAL REGISTRATION: CONFIRMATION

Our Sacramental Program has gone Online. We will be using the Trybooking system. We are taking bookings initially for Confirmation.

In addition to personal information, you will need the following in order to complete your registration for Confirmation:

Baptism Certificate
Reconciliation details
Communion details
Credit card details for payment of \$35.30

Bookings will open from 7pm on the 1st March and close 11pm the 22nd March. The link to the Trybooking is:

<https://www.trybooking.com/OELX> or <https://www.trybooking.com/249077>

If you are unable to use this system please come to the Parish office during business hours to complete the forms after 1March.

Details for the other Sacraments will follow in future bulletins as the time for each Sacrament approaches.

PARISH LIFE FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH A DISABILITY

Storytellers wanted! Have you or someone you care about ever lived, or are currently living, with a disability of any kind? The Archdi-

ocesan Justice and Peace Office is doing a research project exploring people's experiences of living with disability in our parishes. It will explore the stories of people with disability, their families, carers, friends, pastors and fellow parishioners. We are looking for people who want to share their stories so that we can listen deeply to how our people are travelling in their journeys and how our parish communities are walking alongside them. For more information please call Dr Kimberley Doyle 02 9307 8461 or email: doyle@sydneycatholic.org

VOLUNTEERS FOR NORTH SHORE HOSPITAL

Volunteers are needed to visit and to bring Holy Communion to Catholic patients at Royal North Shore Hospital (Public and Private). They will join about 30 volunteers who work in the Catholic Pastoral team, which is co-ordinated by CatholicCare, and includes a full time Priest Chaplain plus a Pastoral Care Practitioner. Volunteers would attend the Hospital weekly, fortnightly or monthly as available for about 2 hours, on a day to suit themselves. Parking is free, and training and support is given for all volunteers. If you are interested ring George Brewer – 0423715093

CENTRE DIRECTOR MOUNT ST BENEDICT CENTRE

The sisters of the Good Samaritan of the Order of St Benedict are seeking a suitably qualified person who will fulfil the role of Director, Mount St Benedict Centre. This Centre is a spirituality, formation and education centre in the Catholic tradition and is conducted by the Sisters of the Good Samaritan.

Applications can be sent via email to superior@goodsams.org.au or by mail to Sister Clare Condon, Good Samaritan Centre PO Box 1076 Glebe 2037.

LOST A KINDLE READER?

Contact the Parish Office—we may have your reader here. It probably belongs to a child.

Well Done...CONGRATS AND THANKS ZONE

BAPTISMS

Congratulations and a very warm welcome to **Louis Eaton, Charlotte Skillecorn, & Phoenix Kovacic** all of whom will be baptised into our Christian community this weekend.

SUZANNE TRAILL

After twenty six years of service as a Eucharistic Minister in our Parish Suzanne is retiring from this role. We thank her for her great faithfulness, generosity and zeal in this ministry and wish her every blessing now and into the future.

God bless you Suzanne.

POINT TO PONDER

*I believe that behind the mist, the sun still waits.
I believe that beyond the dark night it is raining stars.*

*I believe that this lost ship will reach port.
They will not rob me of hope—it will not be broken.*

My voice is filled to overflowing with the desire to sing.

*I believe in reason and not in the force of arms;
I believe that peace will be sown throughout the earth.*

*I believe in our nobility, created in the image of God, and with free will reaching for the skies.
They will not rob me of hope—it shall not be broken.*

From Chile

Villa Maria Primary School

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

Opening Mass

Our Mass to open the school year was held on Tuesday. Led by Father Wills and with speeches from our School Captains, with children singing whole-heartedly, it was a fine celebration.

Marist Sisters' College

Principal: Dr Anne Ireland
Ph: 9816 2041
<http://www.mscw.nsw.edu>

St Josephs' College

Principal: Mr Ross Tarlinton
Mark Street, Hunters Hill, NSW 2110

T +61 2 9816 0807

www.joey.org

Pray for... PRAYER ZONE

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

We pray for:

**Father Paul Cooney sm
Peter Jackson, Janet Muscat, John Edwards, Monica Carroll & Suzi Hajje.**

PEACE AMONG NATIONS

We pray that in the midst of political turmoil and uncertainty, differences in ideology and culture, the world's nations will continue to seek some mutual understanding and acceptance of each other.

For those people who live with the greatest fears and uncertainty because of our differences, we pray a special blessing.



Coming Soon

Pastoral Council Come and See evening 23 February
Ash Wednesday 1 March

This Week... Scripture Zone

First Reading:

Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18

"Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am Holy" sums up the whole purpose of the Law—the growth in holiness of all who seek to be faithful to the Covenant. This holiness is given expression in our love of neighbor.

Response :

The Lord is kind and merciful.

Alleluia !

Second Reading:

1 Corinthians 3:16-23

Paul continues his contrast of God's wisdom with the foolishness of human wisdom. Human wisdom resorts to slogans and celebrity, so contrary to the way of God's wisdom.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Whoever keeps the word of Christ, Grows perfect in the love of God.
Alleluia !

Gospel Reading:

Matthew 5:38-48

The way in which we respond to evil, and the question of loving enemies as well as friends are perennial questions for those who believe. In today's Gospel Reading, Jesus presents his followers with the way in which they should answer these questions.

Next week: First Reading : **Isaiah 49:14-15**

Second Reading : **1 Corinthians 4:1-5**

Gospel Reading : **Matthew 6:24-34**



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
Ph: 0425 333 129
kev@kevinbates.com

Priests Assisting:

Fathers Wills Melteras SM, Bill Ryder SM,
Paul Pearce SM JP.

**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

Parish Finance Committee Michael Lindsay
0423 020 002

Repair & Maintenance: Anthony Russo

BAPTISM:

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

BAPTISM PREPARATION EVENINGS**COMING UP:**

Tuesdays 14 March, 4 April, 9 May, 13
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: Tues 9:30-11:30am Parish
Hall. Fran Kanaan 0408 447 377,
hnom.com.au/children

Meditation Group: Gabrielle Woodcock,
9817 0097

Young Adults Group: Nicholas Fearnley
0401 722 839

Parish Pastoral Council: Michael Brooks
(Secretary) 0400 908 706

Parish Finance Committee:

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 HNM:

Marie O'Donovan 0408 226 393

SPC: Tee Davies 0407 827 957

St Vincent De Paul: Tony Aduckiewicz
0411 641 895

Men's Group: Clinton McDonald

0450021011 Gerardo 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.