

HOLY NAME OF MARY PARISH HUNTERS HILL ST PETER CHANEL WOOLWICH



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

23 November 2014

SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING

REFLECTION.....KEEPING UP APPEARANCES

Calendar

NOVEMBER

- 23 Kinder Class Mass** HNM 10.00 am
- 25 Social Justice Group Meeting** Parish House 7.30pm
- 27 Parish Pastoral Council and General Parish Meeting** Parish Hall 7.30pm
- 28 La Paroisse Restaurant** Parish House 6.30pm
- 29 Fathers' and Kids' Sleep-out** Villa Maria Grounds 5.00pm
- 29-30 Vinnies' Christmas Appeal** All Masses
- 27 St Joseph's Chapel Open** Villa Maria Grounds 10.00 am—4.00pm

- DECEMBER**
- 3 Men's Group Dinner** Parish Hall
- 11 Liturgy Group Meeting** Parish House 7.30pm

Some of you will remember the entertaining British comedy, "Keeping up Appearances" with the unstoppable Hyacinth Bucket (pronounced Bouquet!) and her hapless husband Richard. Mrs Bucket's passion was as the program's name suggests, looking good, being seen at all the right places, having connections with all the right people. Everything, but everything, had to be just right when she was entertaining visitors.

The neighbours, finding her too overbearing, did everything they could to avoid being invited to her parties, but rarely succeeded!

She was constantly frustrated by her out-of-shape bogan brother Onslow and his wife. Onslow, in total contrast to his sister couldn't care less who he was with and what anyone thought of him. No keeping up appearances for him. It made for entertaining and sometimes hilarious viewing.

On reflection, we can see that Hyacinth was holding up a mirror to us all.

We live in a society where keeping up appearances takes up a great deal of our time, financial, emotional and other resources. In a culture like ours we can all be sucked up into the world of image and appearance, and so easily lose touch with the things in life that matter most.

Of course we all want to look our best, to fit in, to be accepted and to play our part in the life of our community.

However, we can put ourselves under enormous pressure if we imagine that we are in a kind of competition with each other to "succeed", whatever that means, to appear on top of things, and to be seen, like Mrs Bucket, with the right people, wearing the right outfits and looking as wealthy as "the others".

We hear of people putting themselves under untenable financial pressure, living beyond their means, renting in areas they can't really afford, showing up to the most costly of social gatherings and then finding themselves unable to honour some of their basic financial commitments such as fees for their children's education! It's hard to imagine the stress this puts on a person, a marriage and a family. And to what end? To which we might get a reply: "Well, we want the best for our kids."

A question then occurs, is it really the best for our kids when we can't afford what we regard as "the best", and spend so much energy paddling like mad underwater, just so we can stay afloat. What an exhausting way to live!

In the Beatitudes, Jesus encourages us to be what he called "poor in spirit." Living this life of the poor in spirit, we receive all that life offers us as gift. This includes our joys, our sufferings, our work, our wealth and our relationships. Rather than relentlessly pursuing an increase in all these gifts, we rejoice in them. We live thankful rather than restless, driven lives, and our mission is centred on the sharing of the gifts we have received. In this way, our lives are not centred on our wealth or our appearance, our status or our success, but rather our attention is drawn to the gift of each day, each step, each relationship.

Our life becomes more a matter of letting go rather than holding on. Our hearts become freer and centred on what satisfies and nourishes best.

YouTube carries a number of clips of Mrs Bucket's outrageous adventures. The DVD is probably available. A visit to the Bucket household will certainly provide an enjoyable few minutes of fun. It may also hold up that mirror that reveals to us that our lives are not quite as centred as we would like them to be.

Holding up the mirror that the Poor in Spirit offer us, could be a healing antidote to the anxieties that can shape so much of our lives each day.

Father Kevin

What's on?

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR PARISH?

See if anyone in your pew knows this parishioner. Her name next week.

Last week's photo:

Richard Korkor & Mark Worrell



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: 28 Nov, (Booked out) 12 Dec, 27 Feb, 27 March 6.30pm

ATRIUM OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD 2015

In 2015 on Thursday mornings our meeting room will be transformed into a space called the atrium where young children aged 3-6 years can come and deepen their understanding of God's love and kindness at their own pace. For more information about this program for your child or if you are keen to help please call Corinne Korkor for more information on 0448 440 592

VINNIES' CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Our Christmas Appeal is coming up next weekend, Nov 29-30.

CARING FOR OUR AGEING NEIGHBOURS

A couple of parishioners are interested in starting up a support network for people who are house-bound or who need special care in our parish. They are

CARDS ON THE TABLE Advent Program for Your Family

Our parishioner Debra Galofaro has put together this first-rate website to help you mark the season of Advent in a simple, prayerful and creative way. We thank Debra for sharing this excellent resource with us all.

<https://sites.google.com/a/syd.catholic.edu.au/advent->

thinking along the lines of the following activities among others: Setting up phone contacts to enable housebound people to phone each other, shopping for people, driving people to appointments, visiting the housebound to read to them, play scrabble etc...

If you are interested in taking part in such a project, please contact Sylvia at the Parish Office.

CATHOLICISM SERIES Continues this Wednesday

Last Weeks! Chapter Hall Wednesday 7.30pm

VINNIES' CHRISTMAS CARDS ON SALE

S.V.D.P. Christmas cards \$6-00 per pack of 10 and calendars \$ 8-50 ea. will be on sale.

There is a box at the rear of the church with stickers attached nominating a person who requires a gift, please take one and return with the gift no later than 14th December as distribution is on the 15th. Thank you for your continued support over the years.

OVERSEAS VOLUNTEERING Palms Australia is a Catholic organisation that has been sending volunteers to developing countries for 50+ years.

We have recently received numerous urgent requests from communities in Timor Leste, Kiribati, Kenya and India for skilled professionals, such as teachers,

accountants, doctors. Information session on **Sunday 30 November 2014 at 10.30-11.30am at Aquinas Academy** (141 Harrington Street, The Rocks. Please RSVP before 27 Nov to joey@palms.org.au or call (02) 9518 9551.

WELCOME FATHER TONY CORCORAN SM

Father Tony, Secretary General for the Marist Fathers and former parish priest here, is visiting us from Rome and will celebrate the 8.00 am Mass this Sunday. Welcome home Tony. Many friends are delighted to have you with us again.

FATHER WILLY'S FIRST ANNIVERSARY

Next Saturday marks one year since we celebrated Father Willy's Ordination to the Priesthood. We rejoice and thank God for Willy's delightful, generous and gentle presence amongst us. We pray a blessing on him on this occasion of his first anniversary of Ordination.

PLAY GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our Holy Name of Mary Parish Playgroup invites all young children and their carers to our Christmas party on Tuesday 2 December from 9.30 to 11.30 in the Parish Hall. Please bring a plate of party food. Any enquiries, please contact Trish Ireland on 0406 574 365

ASYLUM-SEEKER APPEAL CONTINUES THIS WEEKEND

Just a reminder that our ongoing appeal for asylum seekers continues this weekend. Thank you for your great generosity so far. Here are some items that would be of special use to them:

Dried herbs and spices, Canned meats (corned beef, spam),

Oil, Canned tuna, Hand & Face creams, Moisturisers, Cosmetics Perfumes/colognes, baby wipes, baby food, Nappies (15 - 25kg)

Instant coffee jars (100g - 250g), Herbal tea

MEN'S GROUP

Please come along to our last Men's Group dinner for 2014 with Gail O'Brien as our guest speaker, presenting "My Spirituality and the Importance of Men".

It will be their Xmas celebration so please come along with other men in your family, dads, brothers, sons etc. for an entertaining evening.

Date : 3rd December

Place : Parish Hall @ 7.00pm

Cost: \$25 per person.

Please text Gerardo 0418 294 063 or Clinton 0450021011 your attendance to help with catering.

FRIENDSHIP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Compeer volunteers provide friendship to someone who is lonely because they've had difficulty with their mental health. Compeer needs volunteers to spend an hour a week catching up with a new friend. Friends meet for simple social activities such as having coffee, going for a walk, or visiting a local attraction.

Training and ongoing support is provided, and you will be connected to a welcoming community of volunteers through social events and catch-ups. Your friendship can make a big difference to your new friend's quality of life, and help reduce the isolation and stigma associated with mental illness.

We welcome all applications from men and women aged 18+, however we are particularly in need of male volunteers aged 40-70 at this current time.

To find out more, tel. 9413 3091.

ACCOMMODATION TO LET AND WORK NEEDED

Work wanted due to financial stress, will do anything. Very honest polite friendly. Available days or evenings.

Also room to let at Huntleys Point.

Ring Mary 0410485217.

Well Done... **CONGRATS AND THANKS ZONE**

BAPTISMS THIS WEEKEND



Congratulations and a warm welcome to **Edith McHutchison, Valentina Rigon, Samuel Holland, Caitlin Earls & Ella Girot**, all of whom will be baptized into our Christian community this weekend

CHILDREN'S LITURGY LEADERS

We give God thanks and pray a blessing on our excellent team of Children's Liturgy Leaders who faithfully break open the Good News for our little ones at each of our Churches each Sunday.

May they find great joy and at the same time grow in their own understanding of our faith as they continue this important ministry.

LOUISA COSTA

Our Louisa is marking a special birthday around now. We honour her, thank her for her gentle presence and pray a special blessing for her.

POINT TO PONDER

Lord in a world of many divisions keep beckoning us out of safe havens into your richer fellowship of challenge and reconciliation, sacrifice and service.

Let your kingdom come, your kingdom which is freedom and love, which is sisterhood and brotherhood, which is righteousness and life, which is truth and justice.

Julia Esquivel, Guatemala

Villa Maria Primary School

Principal: Mr. Kevin Turner
Phone: 98796100
Website: www.vmhuntershill.com

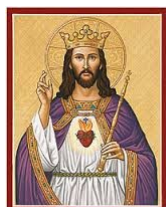
SWIMMING PROGRAM UP AND RUNNING

Our swimming program has begun in good style this past week. All children are safe, and no jellyfish, sharks or other nasties have been seen in the local pool according to the school office, who seem to know about these things.

Marist Sisters College

Principal: Ms Christina Trimble Ph: 9816 2041
Web: <http://www.mscw.nsw.edu>

CHRIST THE KING



Pray for... **PRAYER ZONE**

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

We continue our prayers for **Norma Brosnan, Tess O'Farrell, Dr Michael Dwyer, John O'Connor and Greg O'Donnell** during their current illnesses.

MAGGIE MULVENY

Please pray for Maggie the 2 yr old granddaughter of Michael & Rosalie David who is having on-going treatment for Aplastic Anaemia.

MARGERY WHITBOURNE

We pray for Margery a long-time parishioner who died at an advanced age last week. We welcome her family to the 10.00 am Mass this Sunday as they honour her memory.

MAJA POPIC'S MOTHER

Anaka, the mother of our parishioner **Maja Popic** died recently in Croatia. We offer Maja all our love and prayers and will remember Anaka and her family at the 10 00 am Mass on Sunday 30 November

Coming Soon

The Season of Advent—next week!
Get your Family Advent Calendar today!
(Available at each Church)

This Week... **Scripture Zone**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!

Alleluia!

Gospel Reading:

Matt. 25:31-46

In Matthew's vision of the gathered nations we see divine judgment viewed in terms of God's identification with those in need.

First Reading:

Ezek.34:11-12, 15-17

God's protective and healing love is portrayed through the image of the shepherd and his flock.

Response:

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second Reading:

1 Cor. 15:20-26a, 28

Paul reminds us that when all is subjected to Christ, he will hand over to the Father all embraced within His reign.

Next Week... **SCRIPTURE ZONE**

First Reading: **Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7**

Second Reading: **1 Cor. 1:3-9**

Gospel Reading: **Mark 13:33-37**



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 (PP)

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

Priests Assisting:

Fathers Bill Ryder SM, Paul Pearce SM, JP

Willy Melteras SM

Parish Secretary: Sylvia Gutierrez

Associate Secretary: Maggie Mullane

Gardener: Anne Gould

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 please contact the presbytery to book & arrange to attend the Baptism Prep Program

BAPTISM PREPARATION EVENINGS

COMING UP:

Wed 17 Dec, Tues 10 Feb, Tues 17 March,

Tues 14 April, Tues 19 May in the Chapter

Hall @ 7.30pm

MARRIAGE:

At least six months notice must be given. The parish clergy will officiate primarily for parishioners. Others are welcome to be married in one of our churches but 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: Trish Ireland 0406 574

365

Meditation Group: Gabrielle Woodcock,

9817 0097

Aged Ministry Group:

Margaret Gambley 9807 2160/

Joan Bautovich 0402 275 105

Grief Support Group:

Cecilia Brungs 0412 284 028

Young Adults and

Parish Youth Group:

Nicholas Fearnley 0401 722 839

Liturgy Group : Rob Turnbull 0431 290 714

Eucharistic Ministry Coordinator : Kate

Buckland 9817 2558

Altar Servers Coordinator:

Patricia Curtin 0407 932 902

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 Elizabeth Spencer 9816 4180

Readers HNM: Barry Buffier 9817 8805

Readers SPC: Mark Volpato 9816 4431

Children's Liturgy HNM:

Susan Sharples 0419 991 620

SPC: Tee Davies 0407 827 957

St Vincent De Paul: Elizabeth Spencer

9816 4180 /

Men's Group: Clinton McDonald

0450021011 Gerardo D'Angelo 0418 294 063

Meeting dates 2014: 3 Dec, Parish Hall

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

New or Returning Parishioners...

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

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.