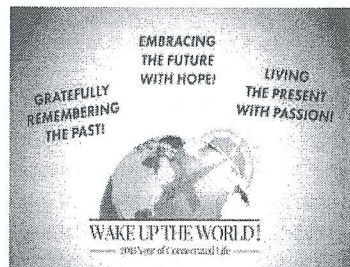
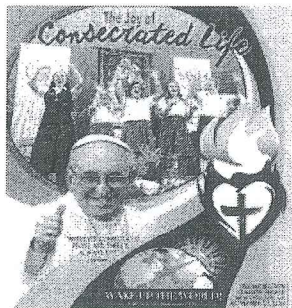
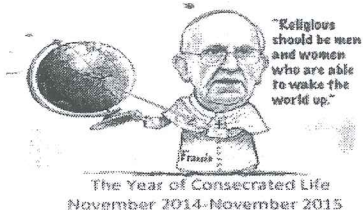


## ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH STANTHORPE

**TELEPHONE & FAX NUMBERS:** Ph 4681 5900 Fax 4681 5909



In this Year of Consecrated Life, let us recall with gratitude all the Religious we have personally known, many of whom may now have gone to the Father's home in heaven. Let us remember with gratitude the amazing ministry of so many Religious Priests, Sisters and Brothers in our Diocese in years gone by, especially



in the apostolate of Catholic Education, Hospitals and Aged Care. Let us not forget the contribution of a much small number of Religious in our diocese today who are giving witness to God's love through their active ministry or just by their compassionate and prayerful presence. The Parish of Stanthorpe has an unbroken link with

the Sisters of Mercy since 1875, still continuing with the presence of retired Sister of Mercy, Sr. Esther.

Today, Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February, at the 9AM Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Sr. Reena John of the Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver will celebrate twenty-five years of Religious Profession. The Bishop has invited all the Religious of the Diocese to share in the celebration by renewing their consecration to the vowed life. We join in spirit in this celebration and hold in grateful prayer the Religious of the Diocese in past years and today.

### LENTEN REFLECTIONS FOR GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS

Lent begins on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February** which is early, with an early **Easter Sunday on 5<sup>th</sup> April.**

Parishioners who may wish to take part in small group meetings with other parishioners during the weeks of Lent (or just use a Lenten Program for personal use) are asked to register their names and details this weekend so that materials can be ordered this week in time for Lent.

The programs available this year are

- ❑ **"RICH IN MERCY"** (Brisbane Archdiocese) with six Scripture reflections based on the second readings for each Sunday of Lent. Books are \$8; set of CDs \$16; plus postage.
- ❑ **"ARISE"** (Diocese of Wollongong) Sunday Gospel reflections by Sr. Moya Hanlen (OLSH); Sr. Hilda Scott (OSB, Jamberoo Abbey); Fr. Michael Fallon MSC, Scripture Scholar. Books are \$8; set of CDs \$10; plus postage.

A copy of the **"Rich In Mercy"** program is on the table in the foyer. **PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE FROM THE CHURCH.** See the sheet in the foyer to register to join a group or purchase a program.

**THE QUARTERLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** providing a record of your contributions to the Thanksgiving Program for the quarter October – December 2014, and your contributions for the financial year so far, are available in the foyer, for those who did not collect their Statement last weekend. Please remember to collect your Quarterly Financial Statement before or after Mass. Thank you for your support of the Parish.

**A NEW ROSTER FOR READERS and MINISTERS OF COMMUNION** is available in the foyer. Please remember to collect your new Roster today.



## **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER, REFLECTION AND ACTION AGAINST**

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING:** There are some copies in the foyer of prayers and intentions to assist our prayer and reflection in the lead up to this World Day Against Human Trafficking next weekend.

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**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Sr. Marie Theresa Hussey (Ursuline Sister, Brisbane), Neville Kimlin.

**TO REMEMBER:** Edna Ebenestelli, Angela Giacomantonio, Giovanni, Silvia & Angelo Pozzebon, Adamo, Maria, Carmela Rossi & DFM, Verginio, Maria, Anna Zanlarensi & DFM, Costante, Giovanna & Antonio Foresto & DFM, Ruggero & Ginetta Vimercati & DFM, Verginio & Bernadino Pestrin & DFM, Ettore, Norma & Bruno Pretotto & DFM, Maria Maggiolo, Anna & Stefano Pozzebon, Carla Allesandrini, Fr. Howard Crowe, Msgr Michael Potter, Archdeacon Robert O'Shea

**FOR THE SICK:** Lisa Hopgood, Greg Keen, Trish Hancock, Julia Johnstone, Sarah Leonardi, Grace Marini, Mario Costanzo, Marlene Holmes, Eugene Dezuanni, Joe Costanzo, Irene Taylor, Danny Mahoney, Marianne Gallagher, Ken McQualter, Cathy Sullivan, Linda Vinciguerra, Debra Micallef, Stella Bayley, Ev Hayes, Rosemary Paget, Marie Keen, Bridey Kelly, Enid McCarthy

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### **THIS WEEK:**

#### **FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD**

**Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February**, is the Feast of the Presentation of The Lord. It is a feast which reminds us of the Jewish heritage of the family of Jesus. In St. Luke's Gospel account (2:20-40) of the Presentation highlight two requirements of the Law of Moses to which Mary and Joseph adhere: *the purification of the mother (Mary) after giving birth (to Jesus)* and *the presentation to God of the first-born male*. When Mary and Joseph go to the Jerusalem Temple, to do what the Law required, they encounter Simeon and Anna who, through the eyes of faith, see the infant Jesus as the fulfilment of all the messianic prophecies, hopes and prayers of the people of Israel. He prophecies that Jesus will be a "*revealing light to the Gentiles*". This is a turning point in human history – God has entered into our world and the Saviour. The blessing of candles for use at Mass or for personal use at home is usually part of the liturgy on this day during the introductory rites.

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**MASSSES:** **MON:** 7AM; **TUES:** 7AM; **WED:** 9AM Start of School Mass; **THURS:** 9.15AM; **FRI:** 5.30PM; **SAT:** 7AM; **SATURDAY VIGIL :** 6.30PM; **SUNDAY:** 8.30AM

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**FEAST DAYS:** **TUES:** *THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD;* **THURS:** *ST. AGATHA;* **SAT:** *ST. PAUL MIKI*

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**MEETING:** **TUES:** 7.30PM K.S.C.

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### **NEXT WEEKEND:**

**BAPTISMS:** Next Sunday (8<sup>th</sup> Feb.) the Sacrament of Baptism will be celebrated during the 8.30AM Mass. There are no Baptisms celebrated during Lent which begins on 18<sup>th</sup> February until Easter which is on 5<sup>th</sup> April. During 2014 there were twenty-one Baptisms celebrated at Mass on nine Sundays out of the fifty-two Sundays of the year, as well as six Baptisms at the Easter Vigil Mass.

## NOTICES:

### SACRAMENTS OF CONFIRMATION AND FIRST COMMUNION

In August last year a group of nineteen children celebrated the Sacrament of Penance for the first time. Those children will now be Confirmed on 14th June by Bishop McGuckin and receive first Holy Communion in August. There is an opportunity for parents of children from Year Four upwards who did not present their child last year for the Sacrament of Penance, to do so now so that they will be able to be Confirmed and receive First Holy Communion this year. Please contact the Parish Office at the Presbytery 4681 2157 or [stjosephsparish@halenet.com.au](mailto:stjosephsparish@halenet.com.au) by Friday 13th February if you wish your child to be prepared for the Sacrament of Penance, and then Confirmation and First Communion later in the year.

***Grandparents may be able to pass this on to their children.***

**CATECHISTS ARE NEEDED URGENTLY TO REACH RELIGION IN SOME OF THE STATE PRIMARY SCHOOLS FOR 2015.** Could you please contact Fr. Brian or the Parish Office 4681 2157 if you could help.

### QUESTIONNAIRE FOR 2015 SYNOD OF BISHOPS

Next October a Synod of Bishops in Rome will meet to discuss *"The Vocation And Mission Of The Family In the Church And The Contemporary World*. The Australian Bishops have released a survey of thirty questions which can be completed online as part of a process of consultation in preparation for the Synod. Responses are due to Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February. You can access the survey at [surveymonkey.com/s/synodquestionnairetmba](http://surveymonkey.com/s/synodquestionnairetmba)

Some of the questions are about:

supporting young couples; helping families in trouble; couples in second marriages; the process of annulment; fostering a culture of life etc.

You do not have to respond to every question. Written responses can be forwarded to Fr. Peter Schultz, P O Box 756, Toowoomba. Please contact the Parish Office if you require a copy of the Document and the Survey.

## COMING UP:

### PILGRIMAGE TO PORTUGAL, SPAIN and FRANCE

In October, Fr. Brian is to be the Spiritual Leader of two Harvest Pilgrimages – **The Visitations of Mary** and **The Graces of France** – from 9<sup>th</sup> October to 1<sup>st</sup> November. Some pilgrims go on both Pilgrimages – others just one. **The Visitation of Mary** begins in *Fatima, Portugal* and concludes in *Lourdes, southern France*. Pilgrims for the **Graces of France**, join the Pilgrimage in *Barcelona, Spain* and after visiting the 11<sup>th</sup> century sanctuary of Our Lady of Montserrat spend three nights in Lourdes and the start of the journey on the pathways of some of the Church's greatest Saints such as St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, St. Therese of Lisieux and St. Vincent de Paul.

Fr. Brian would like to invite parishioners to consider joining one or both of the Pilgrimages in October. Fr. Brian can provide more information.

A very attractive free Harvest Pilgrimages catalogue can be obtained by contacting 1800 819 156 or go online to [harvestpilgrims.com](http://harvestpilgrims.com)