

## FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - B

5<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2015

### ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH STANTHORPE

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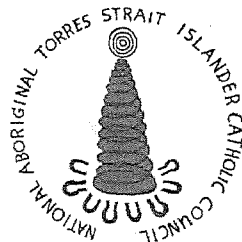
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### ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER SUNDAY

This week is NAIDOC Week. NAIDOC originally stood for “*National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee*” which organised annual celebrations to recognise the history, culture and achievements of the Indigenous people of our country. The acronym is now used to refer to the celebrations and events known as NAIDOC week.

For Catholics, the week begins with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday and is organised by the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council (NATSICC). For this year's Sunday they have chosen the same theme as the NAIDOC Week theme “*We All Stand On Sacred Ground: Learn, Respect & Celebrate!*”



The NATSICC Logo depicts a willy, willy, the wind force in the centre being a symbol of God's Spirit.

The round concentric circles at the top symbolises God and Life, the base depicts men and women receiving the Holy Spirit.

The logo was designed by Mrs. Olive Boddington from Western Australia.

Recently, the Bishops' Commission for Relations with Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders, on behalf of the Australia Catholic Bishops' Conference, released a Statement entitled “*Solidarity: On The Road To Justice*”. (The Statement can be accessed on the ACBC Website [www.catholic.org.au](http://www.catholic.org.au))

The Bishops write:

*A priest in a remote town gathers a number of Aboriginal women from the local parish and hands out holy cards with images of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Our Lady of Fatima, Our Lady of Guatemala, Our Lady Queen of Peace and others. He wants them to choose an image of the Blessed Virgin Mary that appeals to them. It is his intention to purchase a statue for the church according to their wishes. And what do they choose? Nothing less than an image of the Pieta, of Mary seated with the broken body of her son cradled in her arms. And why that one? Because that is an image that they know firsthand, from experience.*

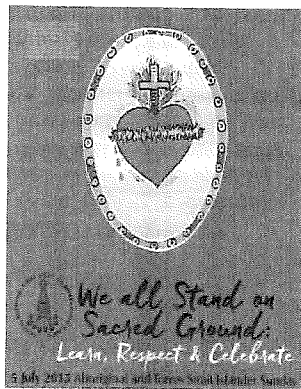


suicide, car accidents, violence, drugs, lack of good health, dangerous habits. All of these causes have taken their toll among Aboriginal people in Australia, to a degree that might be described as horrific, scandalous, a most critical state of affairs and nothing less than a national shame.

For too many Aboriginal people, there is over them a pall of negativity, of failure and rejection. And those Aboriginal achievers who rise above the pervading feeling of low self esteem are themselves continually battling to stay positive, remaining as role models to their fellow countrymen, or working very hard at being supportive to those around them who struggle with addictions, poor health, and abject poverty. Certainly there are numerous examples of Aboriginal people in Australia who have learnt to live above the quagmire of defeat, but there are many, many others who live below a robust capability.

The Bishops in their Statement then proceed to reflect upon the Western Australian Government's move to close remote Aboriginal villages without appropriate consultation, which the Bishops describe as "negative change and repression" which was the experience of the indigenous people for over two hundred years after colonial settlement.

No matter the enormity of the challenge before us, we Australians need to be convinced of the worth of self-determination as a philosophy and methodology in need of immediate adoption. The present day neo-Assimilationist point of view offers no solution to the task of finding a way forward for Aboriginal Australia. Non-Aboriginal Christians must stand in solidarity with their Aboriginal brothers and sisters, while Aboriginal Christians are called to be determined, not to falter, no matter the obstacles that rise up to make a just way difficult. In faith and through prayer the energy needed to seek justice, to right what is wrong and to find a new, positive way forward is at hand.



## POPE FRANCIS ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

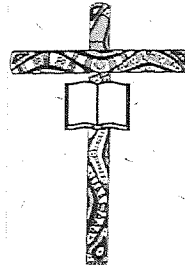
In his recently released Encyclical "Laudato Si" ("Praised Be To You") Pope Francis speaks of indigenous peoples spiritual connection with the environment and that they hold one of the keys to a solution for the climate crisis. What Pope Francis writes is timely for us to reflect on on this Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday 2015.

"It is essential to show special care for indigenous communities and their cultural traditions. They are not merely one minority among others, but should be the principal dialogue partners, especially when large projects affecting their land are proposed. For them land is not a commodity but rather a gift from God and from their ancestors who rest there, a sacred space with which they need to interact if they are to maintain their identity and values. When they remain on their land, they themselves care for it best. In various parts of the world, pressure is being put on them to abandon their homelands to make room for agricultural and mining projects which are undertaken without regard for the degradation of nature and culture.

... indigenous people "are able to instil a greater sense of responsibility, a strong sense of community, a readiness to protect others, a spirit of creativity, a deep love for the land. They are also concerned about what they will eventually leave to their children and grandchildren. These values are deeply rooted in indigenous peoples."

### ABORIGINAL LORD'S PRAYER

You are our Father, You live in Heaven  
we talk to You, Father, You are good.  
We believe Your Word, Father, we are Your children.  
Give us bread today.  
We have done wrong, we are sorry.  
Help us Father, not to sin again.  
Others have done wrong, to us  
and we are sorry for them, Father today.  
Stop us from doing wrong, Father.  
Save us all from the evil one.  
You are our Father, You live in Heaven.  
We talk to You, Father, You are good.



### NEW PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

**Could you please collect your new Thanksgiving (Planned Giving) Envelopes** for the next 12 months in the foyer **this weekend**. It is always a big task distributing the envelopes at this time of year. Please assist by collecting your envelopes before or after Mass. Dorothy is available to assist you.  
**The new envelopes commence this weekend 4/5 July. Please do not use your new envelopes after this weekend.** Thank you for your assistance.  
**Please destroy all old envelopes when you begin using the new ones as most of the numbers have changed.**

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Les Weber (25.06.15 – Formerly of Stanthorpe: Husband of Marie, Father of Mark, Jeff, Moira, Catherine, Terry & David), **Marjorie Joan Hitchener** (Wife of Colin [Dec], Father & Father-In-Law of Beverley and Howard, Bill and Wendy, Graham and Sharon), **Giovanni Gottardo, David Barker, Bruce Peter Smith, Ottavio Cattarin, Lawrence 'Laurie' Reedy, Catherine Coleman, Fr. Jeff Scully, Santo Grasso, Michele (Mick) Messina**

**TO REMEMBER:** Audrey Osbaldeston, Emilio & Ginevera Carniel, Guiseppe Pestrin, Jack Ballinger, Edward Longhurst (1<sup>st</sup> Anniv. 04.07.15), Ernesto & Pierina Maritan, Leonarda Caruso, Angela Domanti, Angelo Giacomantonio, Fr. Simon O'Dea, Fr. Ralph Underwood

**FOR THE SICK:** Ken McQualter, Gloria Keats, Bro. Ed Collins OH, Vincenzo Di Raimond, Marie Hindmarsh, Karen Anderson, Juan Pereira, Lisa Hopgood, Greg Keen, Trish Hancock, Julia Johnstone, Sarah Leonardi, Joe Costanzo, Danny Mahoney, Cathy Sullivan, Linda Vinciguerra, Debra Micallef, Ev Hayes, Rosemary Paget, Marie Keen, Bridey Kelly, Enid McCarthy

### **THIS WEEK:**

**MASSES:** MON: 7AM; TUES: 7AM; WED: 11.45AM; THURS: 9.15AM; FRI: 5.30PM;  
SAT: 7AM; **SATURDAY VIGIL:** 6.30PM; **SUNDAY:** 8.30AM

**FEAST DAYS:** MON: ST. MARIA GORETTI; TUES: BL. PETER TO ROT (N.G.); FRI:  
ST. BENEDICT

**MEETING:** TUES: 7.30PM KSC

### **NEXT WEEKEND:**

**BAPTISM:** There will be a Baptism during the 8.30AM Mass next Sunday (12<sup>th</sup> July). Baptisms will also be celebrated on 9<sup>th</sup> August. Parents wishing to have a child Baptised need to contact the Parish Office or Fr. Brian well in advance to allow time for preparation. Baptisms are celebrated usually once a month during the 8.30AM Sunday Mass.

### **NOTICE:**

**HOLY FATHER'S COLLECTION:** Thank you for your contribution to last week's special second collection, held throughout the world on the feast of Sts. Peter and Paul. The Pope uses this collection to assist in his outreach to those in need. The collection amounted to \$304. Thank you.

### **COMING UP:**

**menALIVE - MAX15 - 17/19 July, 2015 - REBUILD** MAX15 is facilitated by menALIVE, a National Catholic Ministry to Men. menALIVE for Christ (MAX) is an annual gathering of men from across Australia and New Zealand who seek to be encouraged by one another in their faith journey as authentic men of God. The weekend is an opportunity for all men to come together and explore the issues that matter most and impact their lives through: Sacraments, talks, multimedia, workshops, small groups, fellowship, rituals and fun. Each man is challenged to explore how he will respond to God. This is a residential weekend being held at St Leo's Catholic College University of Queensland from Friday 17 July commencing at 7.30pm until Sunday 19 July concluding mid-afternoon. This event is not to be missed! Full details and registration information available at [www.menalive.org.au](http://www.menalive.org.au). Contact Peter on 0404 496 405 or via email to [mail@menalive.org.au](mailto:mail@menalive.org.au)

**PREPARING FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:** Letters have been sent to parents of the children who will begin their preparation soon for their **first Holy Communion** on **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August** at the 8.30AM Mass. The **Parent Meeting** will be held at **6PM** on **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July** at St. Joseph's Library/ Administration Centre for parents. The **children** will be **enrolled** at the **Masses** on **25/26 July**.

**ALONG THE CAMINO** -Toowoomba, Sunday July 19th, 7.00PM. The Conference Room, St. Patrick's Cathedral Parish Centre, Neil Street Toowoomba. An 80 minute audio-visual presentation by Peter Kearney about an 800 km pilgrimage walk through northern Spain to the burial place of St. James the Apostle. Photos, music and live commentary by Peter who has walked the Camino. Q & A session at conclusion. \$10 / \$8 concession to be paid at door. **Limited seating. Registration essential** - preferably by sending Peter an email: [camino@peterkearneysongs.com.au](mailto:camino@peterkearneysongs.com.au) Or 0425 328 185. Please specify event location 'Toowoomba' and number of seats needed