

20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - B

16TH AUGUST 2015

ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH STANTHORPE

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Brian Connolly Ph. 46812157 Fax 4681 4107

RETIRED PRIEST: Fr. Lino Valente Ph. 4681 3653

RETIRED SISTER OF MERCY: Sr. Esther Dowling Ph. 4681 2137

PARISH EMAIL: stjosephsparish@halenet.com.au

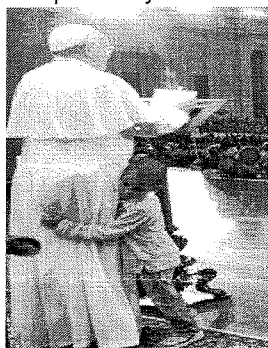
SCHOOL PRINCIPAL: Dr. Michael McCarthy

TELEPHONE & FAX NUMBERS: Ph 46815900 Fax 46815909



WHAT DOES POPE FRANCIS THINK OF A CRYING CHILD OR CHILDREN WHO ARE RESTLESS IN THE CHURCH?

On the 9th July when speaking to Clergy and Religious in Bolivia (during his Pastoral Visit to South America) Pope Francis was reflecting on the Gospel story of the blind beggar Bartimaeus who called out to Jesus as He



passed by. Jesus' disciples tried to silence the blind beggar. Departing from the text of his talk (which he often does) Pope Francis greatly amused his audience, which included Bishops and Priests, when he said never to wag your finger at "the poor faithful people of God". He told them never to say to the mother of a crying child ***"take this child out of the Church because she's crying and I'm preaching! As if the cry of a baby was not a sublime preaching."***

Last December, on a visit to a Roman Parish, Pope Francis said something similar: ***"children cry, make noise, go from one side to the other ... and when a child cries in Church and people want him to go outside. No! It is the best homily! The cry of a child is God's voice. Truly never, never chase them out of the Church."***

Thank you Pope Francis. Spread the word and fill St. Joseph's Church with lots of families with lots of children! Of course, it is not only Priests who should not be worried about noisy or restless children! Parents also should not worry – never not bring your children to Mass because they might be restless. And if they are, report to the Parish Priest any parishioner who casts looks of disapproval your way!

RITUAL FOR CHILDREN PREPARING FOR FIRST EUCHARIST

This week the children are being introduced to the meaning of the Liturgy of the Eucharist when we do what Jesus did at the Last Supper and the bread and wine became the Body and Blood of Jesus Who we then receive in Holy Communion.

Today the children will be invited before the Eucharist Prayer begins to gather around the Table of the Eucharist. At the end of the Eucharistic Prayer, each will be presented with a copy of "The Lord's Prayer". After the Sign of Peace they will return to their parents and families to exchange the Sign of Peace.

This is the third week of the children's program of preparation for their First Communion on 31st August.

COMMISSIONING OF SPECIAL MINISTERS OF COMMUNION

The "ordinary" ministers of Communion are Bishops, Priests and Deacons who are ordained ministers of the Church. In most parishes where there are not a sufficient number of "ordinary" ministers to distribute Holy Communion, lay parishioners are approved and commissioned as special or extraordinary ministers of communion, after suitable spiritual, liturgical and practical formation.

The ministry is one of willingness to serve others in the Parish at Mass in reverently distributing the Body and Blood of Christ, and for some to take Holy Communion to the sick and elderly in their homes or aged care facilities.

Fr. Brian and the parishioners thank all those who have humbly and gratefully accepted this special ministry of service to their brothers and sisters in the Parish. We welcome some parishioners and youth who are joining this ministry for the first time.

All will be commissioned or recommissioned for a further period of time at the Parish Masses this weekend.

St. Augustine's challenge to all of us, and especially those who serve the assembly as Extraordinary Ministers of Communion is *"Be a member of the Body of Christ so that your 'Amen' may be true."* (Sermon 272)

NEW ROSTER: Readers and Special Ministers of Communion are asked to collect your new Roster at Mass today for the next ten weeks.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Joan Ezzy (10/8/2015 Wife of Doug, Mother & Mother-In-Law of Tony & Karen, Janelle & Russell Swaysland, Angie, Julie & Gary Watson - **Memorial Mass: Tuesday 11AM**),

Patrick (Pat) Hayes (10/8/2015 Husband of Mary, Father & Father-In-Law of Kevin & Emma, Ann-Marie Trabucco, Siobhan & Harley West, Bernadette Hayes, Geraldine & Stephen Hollingsworth),

Angelina Denaro (7/8/2015 Ayr: Mother of Phyllis Ricca, Sam, Lucy Aguirre, Lenny & Giovanna, Sister of Maria Copani, Agostina Vaticano, Carmela Pennisi, Angelo Arico [Dec], Sam Arico, Tony Arico & Enna Greco),

Rosa Schiavon (Italy: Aunt of the Gasparin Family),

Clorinda Carniato (Sydney: Aunt of Maria Miotto),

Frank Mastro, Ken McQualter, Raymond Burns, Lina Targato, Bruna Orsetto, Fr. Greg Jordan SJ, Joyce Fossey

TO REMEMBER: Tom Spiller, Luigi Gasparin, Giuseppe Gregori & Dec. Family Members, Angelo Favaro, Giuseppina Lorenzetto, DFM of De Marchi Family, Jack & Grace Bathersby, Bill & Mary King, Giuseppe & Rosa Minuti, Andrea Miotto, Frank Bonner, Giovanna Sonogo

FOR THE SICK: Elaine Burton, Julia Johnstone, Karen Anderson, Kay Beutel, Thomas Lamb, Ned Sparksman, Gloria Keats, Marie Hindmarsh, Juan Pereira, Lisa Hopgood, Greg Keen, Trish Hancock, Joe Costanzo, Danny Mahoney, Linda Vinciguerra, Ev Hayes, Rosemary Paget, Marie Keen, Bridey Kelly, Enid McCarthy

THIS WEEK:

MASSSES: MON: 7AM; 10.30AM MASS & ANOINTING OF THE SICK AT BLUE CARE;

TUES: 11AM MEMORIAL MASS FOR JOAN EZZY; **WED:** 10.30AM MASS & ANOINTING OF THE SICK AT VILLA CARRAMAR, Alice Street; 11.45AM;

THURS: 8AM (Please note earlier time); **FRI:** 5.30PM; **SAT:** 7AM;

SATURDAY VIGIL: 6.30PM; **SUNDAY:** 8.30AM

FEAST DAYS: THURS: ST. BERNARD; FRI: ST. PIUS X; SAT: THE QUEENSHIP OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

MEETINGS: MON: 7.00PM LITURGY COMMITTEE

WORKSHOP FOR SOUTHERN DOWNS DEANERY PARISHES

This Thursday at the Parish Centre, Palmerin Street, Warwick, 10AM to 12 NOON, Sr. Elaine Morzone and a team from Toowoomba will be presenting some of the material / ideas / suggestions that were presented to us at a Diocesan Inservice in March entitled *"Recasting Our Nets – Renewing Parishes – Making Disciples"*. The presenter of the March Inservice was a Ballarat Priest, Fr. Justin Driscoll who was very practical in his approach and suggestions as to how we can meet the challenges of today and bring new life to our Parishes and Dioceses.

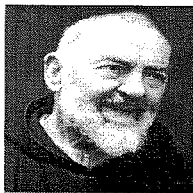
It would be good if some parishioners from St. Joseph's Parish were able to attend this Thursday's meeting in Warwick. Contact Fr. Brian or Bernice Steele if you are interested or want more information.

COMING UP:

A MASS IN HONOUR OF ST. PIUS X will be celebrated by *Fr. Mauro Conte* at Marian Valley on **Saturday 29th August at 11AM.** Please Note own private transport necessary. For further information please contact Dino Raccanello on 4683 2200.



UNA S. MESSA AD HONORE DI S. PIO X verra' celebrare dal missionario *P. Mauro Conte* at Marian Valley **Sabato 29 Agosto alle ore 11AM.** E' necessario provvedere il proprio trasporto. Per ulteriori informazioni contattare Dino Raccanello sul numero 4683 2200.



TRIP TO MARIAN VALLEY CANUNGRA for FEAST OF

ST. PADRE PIO: Sunday 27th Sept. Cost \$30. The Bus departs from the Civic Centre at 6.15AM. Payment required when booking. Please contact Nalda Sciuto on 4681 3014. No refund after Sunday 20th September.

ST. JOSEPH'S FETE AND 140 YEAR CELEBRATIONS – Saturday 31st October. Contact Angie Sims on 4681 5904 if you have any books you no longer require or can assist with potted plants and seedlings.

NOTICES:

INTERESTED IN BEING BAPTISED / BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

Soon will be the time for older youth and adults to begin preparing for the Sacraments of Initiation or to be received into full communion with the Church next Easter.

PLEASE CONTACT FR. BRIAN IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO MAY BE INTERESTED. INQUIRIES ARE CONFIDENTIAL AND WITHOUT OBLIGATION.

**INVITING AND ENCOURAGING OUR CHILDREN
to become ALTAR SERVERS AT ST. JOSEPH'S**

The children who are soon to receive their first Holy Communion are invited to discuss with their parents the possibility of now becoming Altar Servers at St. Joseph's. Letters of invitation will be given to parents so they can encourage their child to consider becoming an Altar Server. This offer is open to any child or young person who has already made their first Communion. Training will be provided for prospective servers. *Thank you to our faithful servers who assist with the prayerful celebration of Mass each week.*

CHILDREN FOR THE SACRAMENTS 2015-2016

Now is the time for parents of children in Year three or older to plan to prepare their child for the Sacrament of Reconciliation this year, and for the Sacrament of Confirmation and First Communion next year. This week, letters have been sent to the parents who the Parish is aware have children eligible to be prepared for the Sacraments. It is possible that some parents may not be informed due to privacy issues at the State Schools which makes it difficult to contact families. If you know families or children who may be eligible to begin preparing for the Sacraments, please contact the Parish Office to check if we have the necessary personal details.

The **Parent Night for First Reconciliation** will be held at 6PM on **Sunday 6th September** at the **St. Joseph's Library/Administration Building**.

If you are a relative or grandparent and are aware of a family who may have an eligible child, please contact the Parish Office, or inform the family about the Sacrament Program soon to begin for 2015-2016.

ERGON ENERGY COMMUNITY FUND: The Parish is in the process of preparing an application to the Ergon Energy Community Fund for a grant to assist with the installation of LED lights for the interior and exterior of St. Joseph's Church. The fund is for not for profit organisations and, among other objectives, It aims to encourage greater energy efficiency. The Parish has also had long and extensive investigations into the installation of reversible fans – to move down the warm air generated by the heaters in winter, and do the reverse in summer. It has proved to be an incredibly difficult and complex issue to address and does not admit of easy solutions. Specialists in these specialised fans quoted \$24,000 not including installation! (which is beyond the Parish Budget), especially given the brief amount of time spent at Mass each week. Investigations into these matters continues and there may not be a solution which would make your time at Mass a little more comfortable in times of extreme cold or heat – at these times be positive and grateful for all that is good and beautiful and inspiring about our Parish Church, especially the goodness of other parishioners and the presence of the Lord.

"Bless the Lord at all times, His praise always on my lips."

(Psalm 30 – Responsorial Psalm last Sunday)