



To be on earth the Heart of God

KIT @ Kippax

Time out for reflection

I miss...

...not blessing myself with holy water when I enter the church

Blessing ourselves with holy water when we enter the church reminds us of our Baptism. Baptism is how we enter into the life of Christ, and blessing ourselves is how we enter the church.

...the gifts being brought forward at the offertory

In the offertory we present our whole lives to God, we bring our hopes, our joys, our griefs and sufferings to the altar. The gifts we offer God for the celebration of the Eucharist, are the fruit of the land and the work of our hands.

...not being able to partake of the wine at communion

Christ's blood poured out for us. *One of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out.* [JOHN 19:34]

...not singing at mass.

When you sing your pray twice. Singing is good for your body and soul. Singing has health benefits, but perhaps not in the time of COVID-19. We are unable to bless with our parish blessing song.

...not being able to touch a hand at the sign of peace

The sign of peace symbolises our communion. *'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.'* The second is this, *'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.'* There is no other commandment greater than these. [MARK 12:29-31]

...not having freedom

The freedom to come to church at any time without having to register or record my attendance.

...the people who can't gather at Sunday mass.

Because of their vulnerability to the virus.

My hope lies in the future, to a time when we can all gather again as the Body of Christ. And, following in the tradition of the parables of the "lost sheep, lost coin and lost son", when what has been lost has been restored, we will throw a party and celebrate.

Marian England

HEARTS IN ACTION

Vinnies Update

Veggie Run Volunteers clock up over 70 years' service

Vinnies Veggie Run volunteers meet on Sunday evenings at the Belconnen Markets to collect remaining fruit, vegetables and bread from retailers and distribute it to needy families throughout Belconnen. Two Kippax volunteers recently retired after giving more than 35 years of service each to the Veggie Run. **John Maher** and **Greg Biddle** have made a difference in the lives of many families over this period. Thanks John and Greg for your wonderful service to the community. Thanks also to **Celia Vuckovic** who volunteered for the past five years on the Veggie Run. As a result of these retirements we have some vacancies for new volunteers.

Contact Mike on 0419 818 410 if you would like to help on the Veggie Run.

COVID-19 Winter Appeal a success

The Appeal conducted on the weekend of 22 and 23 August has raised over \$2451 so far. On behalf of the people Vinnies helps and Conference members, thank you very much for generosity. If you missed out and would like to contribute, donations can be made on line at:

- <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/donation-hub>
- or by calling **13 18 12**

Heartfelt thanks

Within Vinnies we refer to the families and individuals that we help as companions. We journey with them through a crisis, offering a hand-up and guiding them gently towards a better place. We often receive heartfelt thanks from our companions, such as: 'we would never have got to where we are now without the help of Vinnies; thank you so much'. As volunteers we are the hands that offer help to those in need, including food, bedding, shelter, clothing, transport or payment of bills. Our hands are linked to the hands of those who donate to Vinnies. So, when a companion says thanks to Vinnies members, they are thanking you for providing the means for us to help them. Thank you and bless you for your generosity.



THE HAND OF
CHRIST BLESSES
THE CUP



THE HAND OF
LOVE OFFERS
THE CUP



THE HAND
OF SUFFERING
RECEIVES
THE CUP



Vinnies
good works

SJAcare

Supporting parishioners in our community

The SJA Care Group was formed as an initiative from a Parish Assembly and became part of the Parish Plan. The group has been functioning in the Parish for a number of years.

The Team oversees:

- Pastoral visits and / or Holy Communion to the sick and housebound, to the nursing homes and to anyone going through difficult times.
- Befriending those who are living alone.
- Short term meals where required.
- Support to those bereaved, before and after the funeral and in the weeks and months to follow.

2020

This year the Team conducted

- the Seniors Retreat in February
- 'Seasons for Growth' in March, which is a program to introduce Grief and Bereavement.

Please contact the Parish office if you or someone you know, has need of our support.

The SJACare Team

Helen Kennedy, Bob Raadts, Manel Samarasinghe, Kimi Vunivesilevu msc., Marian England

Phone 6254 3236 • Email kippax@cg.org.au

SJA Refugee Resettlement Committee (RRC)



The RRC is part of the Parish and comprises a group of volunteers whose aim is to help refugees and asylum seekers. We have a number of office bearers who generally meet every two months (Covid restrictions permitting), these meetings are open to any volunteer or interested person wishing to attend.

The RRC has been active in the parish for 40 years, originating from the needs of the Vietnamese boat people in the late 70s. The first committee meeting was held on the 27 September 1979. We have continued to serve the refugee community in supporting their various needs. Our support focuses on friendship, mentoring, tutoring and homework help, transport, sports, and importantly navigating government services and bureaucracy.

The RRC relies on local parish, school and community support through volunteers, household and monetary donations, fundraising and building connections.

We have working relationships with the Government contractors, who provide Humanitarian Settlement Services (HSS). The RRC is represented on the ACT Government's Refugee, Asylum Seeker and Humanitarian (RASH) Coordinating Committee. The RRC cooperates with a wide range of organisations in the multicultural fields.

Currently we are supporting families from Sri Lanka, Syria, Sudan, El Salvador, Myanmar and others. Many friendships continue with former refugee families from various countries.

Because of Covid we have not had the ongoing face to face contact with our families but, we do what we can. At least most of our families are refugees so receive government support if their jobs stop because of Covid but, their lives are not easy.

People seeking asylum and refugees on temporary visas are struggling without access to basic financial support during this pandemic. This is particularly distressing for women on temporary visas who are also facing violence. The Refugee Advice and Casework Service (RACS) recently held an online fundraising documentary screening to help these women. The doco was worth watching.

Contact RACS

For the link to watch

Email: shauna.wolifson@racs.org.au |

Website: www.racs.org.au

You can also watch the question and answer session on YouTube - *Rosemary's Way Q & A*.

The needs of the asylum seekers are heartbreaking. Most of those who have working rights have not been able to work and of course they receive no Government support. Companion House is their lifeline. We have

been able to provide some basic food staples such as cooking oil, rice, lentils, chick peas, tinned tomatoes and tins of tuna to help Companion House in their endeavours to help those in need.

In the past many of our parish community have supported not just the families we have helped settle here in the Belconnen area but, also refugees and asylum seekers living in our offshore detention facilities. Through Sister Jane Keogh we were able to send care parcels to men on Manus Island as well as support several with regular phone credits.

Sister Jane tells us in her latest newsletter that there are still 181 men in PNG and 180 refugee and asylum seekers on Nauru. We made a donation to the Brigide Sisters for the ongoing plight of the men in offshore detention in PNG. If you would like to read Sister Jane's latest newsletter, please contact Sigi on 62547281.

Of interest may be the new four-part series on SBS set in the Vietnamese-Australian community in Melbourne *Hungry Ghosts*. I mention this as it was the needs of the Vietnamese refugees which gave birth to the RRC.

Refugees and Asylum Seekers deserve justice and the opportunity to live safely in the country in which they have sought asylum. It is a privilege to be able to help even if it is only in a very small way and sometimes there are no new families to help. In the mean time we try to raise awareness, help other community organisations learn about the different cultures and for those who can and are willing (there is never any pressure or expectation to be political) sign online petitions such as [bring Priya, Nades and their girls home to Biloela](#). Volunteers are always welcome and needed.



Sigrid Kropp

PRESIDENT AND COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICER
St John the Apostle Refugee Resettlement Committee
25 Blackham Street, HOLT ACT 2615

Social Justice News

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

1 Sept	World Day of Prayer for the Care of our Creation
5 Sept	Commemoration of the Treaty Concerning Decent Work for Domestic Workers
6–12 Sept	National Child Protection Week
8 Sept	International Literacy Day
9 Sept	Feast Day of St Peter Claver
10 Sept	World Suicide Prevention Day

1 SEPT World Day of Prayer for the Care of our Creation

Pope Francis has asked us to pray on the 1st of September each year for the care of creation. The day is inspired by Pope Francis' landmark encyclical *Laudato Si*, which calls on "every person living on this planet" to care for our shared Earth.



5 SEPT Convention Concerning Decent Work for Domestic Workers

Established in 2013, the Treaty provides desperately needed protections for domestic workers and represents a significant breakthrough in human rights, including labor rights, women's rights, and children's rights. There are over 50 million domestic workers worldwide—the majority of whom are women and girls. Many are migrants—who clean, cook, and care for private households.



Under the Treaty, domestic workers are entitled to the same basic rights as those available to other workers, including weekly days off, limits to hours of work, minimum wage coverage, overtime compensation, social security, and clear information on the terms and conditions of employment. Governments who have signed up to the Treaty are obliged protect domestic workers from violence and abuse and prevent child labor.

However, domestic workers are hidden from view from the community, so there is usually no awareness of the conditions they work in. They are often forbidden to leave their place of employment, and if they have been brought in from overseas, they may not speak the language of the country they are working in. Recruiters in their home countries, mostly in Asia and Africa, entice many of these women with promises of high wages and good working conditions.

When Human Rights Watch interviewed migrant domestic workers in the United Arab Emirates, workers described a range of abuses they had experienced. Most said their employers confiscated their passports. Some accused their employers of having physically abused them and confined them to the homes. Many said their employers had failed to pay the full wages due to them, had forced them to work excessively long hours without breaks or days off, or had denied them adequate food, living conditions, or medical treatment. Some workers were employed in circumstances that amounted to forced labor or trafficking.

Despite the small size of the migrant domestic worker cohort in Australia, several serious cases of domestic worker exploitation in Australia have arisen in recent years. Since 2007, The Salvation Army have assisted 20 domestic workers who have been subjected to degrading and humiliating conditions, including deprivation of food, withholding of identity documents, physical and sexual abuse, threats, and intimidation. This is consistent with patterns of exploitation and abuse that are perpetrated against migrant domestic workers in other countries.


**6-12
SEPT**

National Child Protection Week

This year's theme is:

Putting Children First

National Child Protection Week campaign was launched in 1990, with the aim of bringing abuse and neglect out of the shadows and putting child wellbeing on the national agenda.

When a child is abused, the physical and mental pain can last a lifetime. Sadly, according to the National Association for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN) over 35,000 Australian children were abused last year.

Technology has given our children new opportunities for social interactions, and most importantly, more ways to learn about the world and express themselves. However, there are also challenges and risks associated with the new technology. These include online grooming, cyber bullying, online reputation management and sharing of images.

By educating and empowering our children to be safe, respectful and resilient online, we can help minimise the risk of things going wrong online. The best way to understand what our children are doing online is to ask them about what they are seeing, saying and doing online. Resources can be found at www.thinkuknow.org.au/

There are many social justice issues currently not being addressed by the parish community because we no longer have a committee. If anyone is interested in meeting every few months, please contact us.

For more information on social justice issues, the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council's website: <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au> contains a large amount of information in the form of statements, monthly briefings & leaflets.

Contacts

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9 SEPT

Feast Day of St Peter Claver

Born in 1580, Peter left his home in Spain when he was 29 years old, and went to Cartagena in Colombia, South America. There he continued his studies and was ordained a priest. Cartagena was the main market for the slave trade in the New World. Whenever a ship carrying Africans arrived in port, Peter was there. He would hurry down with a jug of water, and a basket full of medicine, fruit, bread, and clothing. His first concern was to tend to their human needs — to ease their suffering and somehow restore their sense of dignity. He also visited them on the plantations, bringing them spiritual consolation.

Peter lived at the same time as St Vincent de Paul, whose feast day is also in September (27th) and was a chaplain to the imprisoned galley slaves in Paris.

When Peter died in 1659, the city that had opposed so many of his efforts honored him. The Republic of Colombia declared September 9, his feast day, as the National Human Rights Day in his honor.

**27
SEPT**

World Day of Migrants and Refugees

The 106th World Day of Migrants and Refugees will be celebrated on 27 September 2020. The theme chosen by Pope Francis is:

Forced like Jesus Christ to flee.

The Church has been celebrating the World Day of Migrants and Refugees (WDMR) since 1914. It is always an occasion to express concern for different vulnerable people on the move; to pray for them as they face many challenges; and to increase awareness about the opportunities that migration offers.

Those living on the margins of society have been further isolated during the current pandemic. Refugees and migrants, particularly those packed into camps are at particular risk. Lacking sanitation and essential services, these overcrowded tarpaulin cities are unsafe.

And in countries with large populations of migrant workers, the economic impact of the pandemic is adding additional layers of suffering to already arduous lives, not just of workers, but the families they support. In Australia, there are many migrant workers who are now without financial support and face a dire situation.



Wilma Rudolph

Olympic gold medallist on how to lose:

Winning is great, sure, but if you are really going to do something in life, the secret is learning how to lose. Nobody goes undefeated all the time. If you can pick up after a crushing defeat, and go on to win again, you are going to be a champion someday.

Source: Wilma Rudolph Biography

<https://www.biography.com/athlete/wilma-rudolph>

James Clear – Atomic Habits

Fall in love with God

Nothing is more practical
than finding God, than falling in love
in a quite absolute, final way.

What you are in love with,
what seizes your imagination,
will affect everything.

It will decide what will get you out of bed
in the morning, what you do with your
evenings,
how you spend your weekends, what you read,
whom you know, what breaks your heart,
and what amazes you with joy and gratitude.

Fall in love,
stay in love,
and it will decide everything.

Attributed to Fr. Pedro Arrupe, SJ (1907-1991)

From "Finding God in All Things: A Marquette Prayer Book" © 2009 Marquette University.

<https://www.ignatianspirituality.com/what-is-ignatian-spirituality/>

Submitted by Sharon Loiterton

Take Heart

After a night on the mountain
praying to his Father,
immersed in the Holy Spirit,
Jesus walked on water.

His disciples were terrified
and thought he was a ghost,
perhaps an exalted member
of the heavenly host.

But then the Lord reassured them.
'Take heart, for it is I.
There is no need to be afraid;
on me you can rely.'

'Lord,' said Peter, 'if it's you, call
me onto the water.'
'Come,' Jesus said. And Peter walked
out toward life's author.

But on Galilee's stormy sea,
Peter noticed the wind
and, losing heart, began sinking
like a man who had sinned.

'O dear Lord, save me!' Peter cried.
Jesus reached out his hand
and caught him. 'O why did you doubt?
You of little faith, stand.'

And back in the boat, the wind ceased.
'Truly you are God's Son,'
they said as they all worshipped him.
'For like you, there is none.'

Shane Murtagh



August Baptisms

We welcome into the SJA Community of the Body of Christ the following children baptised during the month of August.

Eva Goncalves Dixon Daughter of Joshua and Marina

Mateo Charlie Argenti Son of Joshua and Varsha

Tahlia Mia Byrne Daughter of Mark and Therese

Beau Stewart-Walters Son of Ricky and Rebecca

My Lord God, I have no idea
where I am going. I do not see
the road ahead of me. I cannot know
for certain where it will end.

Nor do I really know myself,
and the fact that I think that I am
following your will does not mean
that I am actually doing so.

But I believe that the desire
to please you does in fact please you.
And I hope I have that desire in all that
I am doing. I hope that I will never do
anything apart from the desire.

And I know that if I do this
you will lead me by the right road
though I may know nothing about it.
Therefore will I trust you always
though I may seem to be lost
and in the shadow of death.

I will not fear, for you are ever
with me, and you will never
leave me to face my perils alone.

THOMAS MERTON
Thoughts in Solitude

© Abbey of Gethsemani

Submitted by John Drury

AUGUST Funeral



Lidia DeMontis

22 August 1923 – 8 August 2020

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine
upon her.
May she rest in peace.
Amen

KIT@Kippax

is produced for the St John the Apostle Catholic
Community from contributions submitted by parishioners.

Send submissions to kippax@cg.org.au

Editor: Marian England

Graphic Design: Mariana Rollgeyser

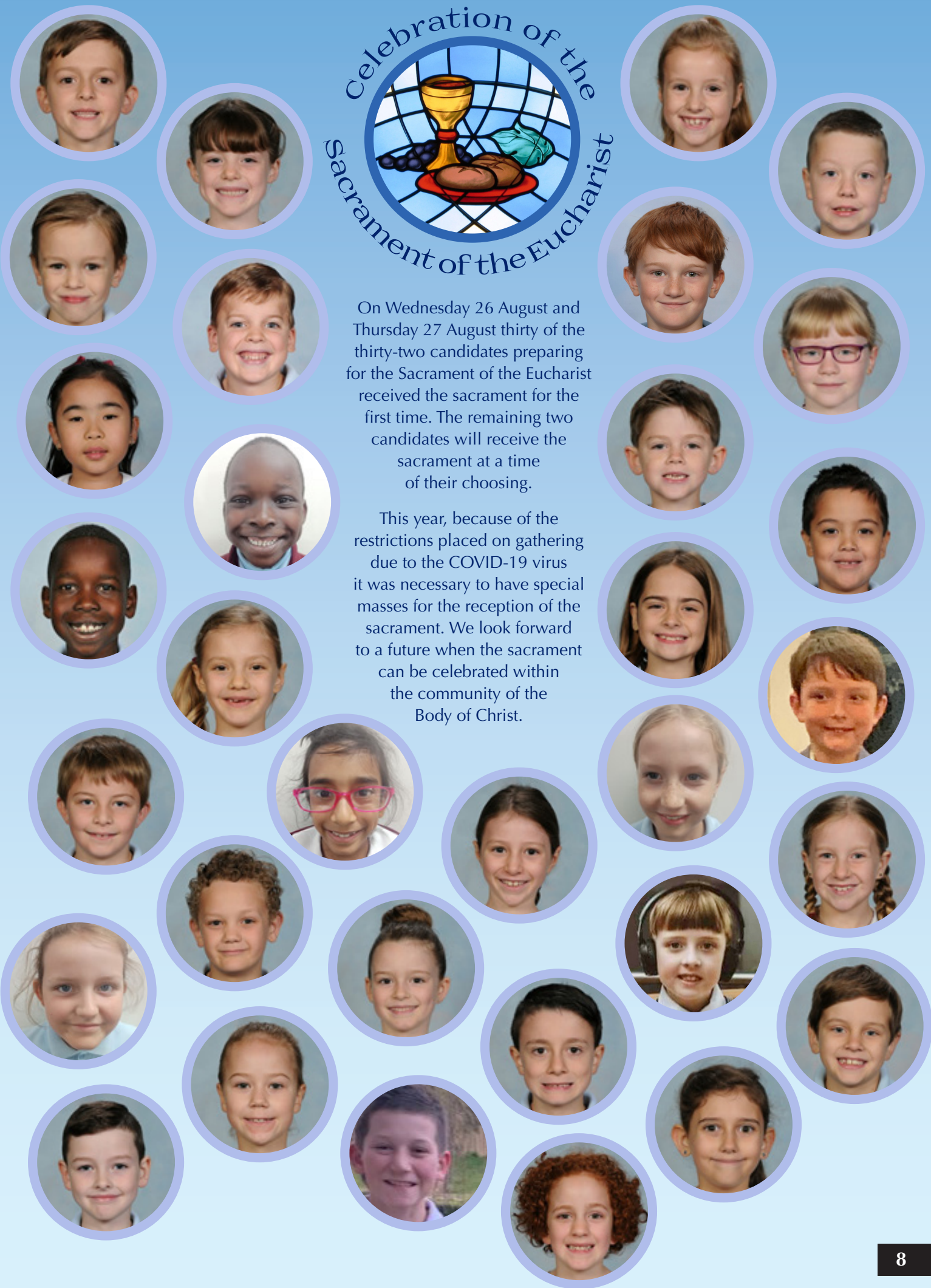
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NOT FOR RESALE



On Wednesday 26 August and Thursday 27 August thirty of the thirty-two candidates preparing for the Sacrament of the Eucharist received the sacrament for the first time. The remaining two candidates will receive the sacrament at a time of their choosing.

This year, because of the restrictions placed on gathering due to the COVID-19 virus it was necessary to have special masses for the reception of the sacrament. We look forward to a future when the sacrament can be celebrated within the community of the Body of Christ.



Celebrating our Liturgy in Ordinary Time

Apart from those seasons having their own distinctive character, thirty-three or thirty-four weeks remain in the yearly cycle that do not celebrate a specific aspect of the mystery of Christ.

Rather, especially on the Sundays, they are devoted to the mystery of Christ in its fullness.

This period is known as Ordinary Time.

General Norms for the Liturgical Year and the Calendar # 43

Ordinary Time is not ordinary in the ordinary sense of the word. Actually, Ordinary Time gets its name from counting the weeks as in ordinal numbers (first, second third etc.) It has nothing to do with the sense of being ordinary, prosaic, and bland. No! Ordinary Time is truly extraordinary because through Christ, all time has been sanctified. As we hear in the prayer at the Easter Vigil: "Christ yesterday, and today, the beginning and the end, Alpha and Omega, all time belongs to him and all the ages..." And so, as we mark time, we become aware that we live in the vastness of God's time which is eternal; that our journey through life takes us ever deeper into this mystery.

Ordinary Time falls into two periods. The shorter period begins after the Christmas season and the longer period (taking up about half the year begins after Pentecost.

Mood

Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter are seasons that pervade the liturgy with their own particular mood and texture. This should also be the case with Ordinary Time. This will entail the challenge of maintaining an interest and appeal to the senses throughout the long period of Ordinary Time.

The first period of Ordinary Time is rather brief and in Australia it falls during the long hot summer months of January and February. The longer period of Ordinary Time usually begins in winter and ends in late spring.

Readings

The three-cycle of readings was a wonderful gift of Vatican II. Prior to the Council the readings from the Bible were restricted to a one-year cycle and only two readings: the Epistle and Gospel. Vatican II opened up the riches of the scripture by offering a three-year cycle from Sundays and a two-year cycle for weekdays and introduced three readings for Sundays and Solemnities (First Reading, Second Reading, and Gospel Reading).

Year A is assigned to the Gospel of Matthew, Year B to the Gospel of Mark and Year C to the Gospel of Luke. While the first reading is chosen to correspond thematically to the gospel of the day, the second reading (the Epistle) follows its own course and may not relate to the gospel. The second reading and gospel follow what is called semi-continuous reading (usually picking up from where it left off the previous Sunday)

This year we read from St Matthew. During the Year of Matthew, it is worth noting the structure of this gospel. Matthew arranges the teaching of Jesus into five blocks: The first and most famous is the "Sermon on the Mount", the second is called "The Mission Sermon", the third, Sermon in Parables", the fourth, the "Sermon on the Church", and finally the "Sermon on the End of Times". These five blocks are interspersed with narrative sections.

The first readings are all taken from the Old Testament. The Book of Isaiah features prominently in Year taking up a third of the First Readings. No doubt that this is because Matthew frequently quotes from Isaiah.

The Second Readings follow a semi-continuous pattern. All are taken from the letters of St Paul: 1 Corinthians; Romans; Philippians; and 1 Thessalonians.

Reference:

A Parish Guide to Celebrating Ordinary Time
Gerard McCormick msc

Sabina Van Rooy
LITURGY COMMITTEE

*Ordinary Time is truly extraordinary
because through Christ,
all time has been sanctified*

Our Wider Community

TYBURN PRIORY Riverstone NSW

In 1898 Marie-Adele Garnier (Mother Marie de Saint Pierre, Servant of God) founded The Adorers of the Sacred Heart of Montmartre in Paris. They are an enclosed order of religious women commonly known as The Tyburn Nuns who live according to the Rule of Saint Benedict. Since 1986 the Tyburn Priory has been situated at Riverstone near the Blue Mountains. During a recent visit of the Mother-General a decision was made to move the monastery to a new location due to the ever increasing noise from the passing traffic along Garfield Road.



With the invaluable help from a local family a property has been secured at Kurmond about a half hours drive from Riverstone. This property is situated in a quiet location conducive to a life of seclusion and contemplation. When the nuns move to Kurmond they will have to rough it for several years living in an old house on the property until they can raise enough money to build a new Priory, Chapel and house for the chaplain, Father John Rizzo. The beautiful windows of the present chapel, the marble altar, a gift from the Brigidine sisters, and pipe organ and all the fittings will be incorporated into the new chapel. A library of 15,000 books and shelves have to be dismantled packed and stored – a herculean task for a group of elderly nuns. Their animals will be housed in the lone shed on the property.

If anyone would like to donate towards the Tyburn Priory Building Fund please send a cheque marked "Tyburn Priory" to Tyburn Priory, 325 Garfield Road, Riverstone NSW 2765. The names of all donors will be entered into the Book of Benefactor's and kept under the altar. The chaplain prays each day for the intentions of all benefactors and the nuns pray for them every day during Vespers and during their adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Judith-Ann Sjostedt



It Felt Love

How
Did the rose.
Ever open its heart

And give to this world
All its
Beauty?

It felt the encouragement
of light
Against
its Being,

Otherwise,
We all remain

Too
Frightened.

By Hafiz





Wattle Day

1 September 2020

2020 Week of the Wattle

Saturday 29 AUG – Sunday 6 SEPT

Let the sun shine in

Wattle is a symbol of unity and resilience – we need both to get through these difficult Covid-19 times.



**NATIONAL
ARBORETUM
CANBERRA**

Australia's floral emblem – the Golden Wattle – will be in bloom to welcome you!

Although 2020 is a year like no other, people are finding ways to celebrate all that we have in Australia

In Canberra...

Australia's national institutions are joining together to light up Australia's spring capital to welcome in the spring and wish everyone across Australia a

Happy Wattle Day

Springtime Wattle Walks (90 minutes each)

- **Saturday 29 August** @ 11.00 am and 2.00 pm
- **Sunday 30 August** @ 11.00 am and 2.00 pm

Meet at the Village Centre



Details: Celebrate springtime in Canberra with guided walks through the 25 different wattle varieties in the Southern Tablelands Ecosystems Park (STEP) at the National Arboretum Canberra.

The walk will last around 90 minutes and will need moderate fitness. Please wear sturdy footwear, bring water and dress for the weather conditions.

You will need to register on the Arboretum's website:

https://www.stickytickets.com.au/9ef3m/wattle_walks__29_august__1_september.aspx