



The Voice

9th November 2014

Dedication of the Lateran Archbasilica

Psalter Week 4

ORDINARY TIME

OF YOUR CHARITY PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF

- **Recently deceased:**
Margaret Woodward,
Carmel Stewart.
- **Anniversaries:**
Juanita and Florentino Santianez, John Quinn, Sheila Mortimore, Kath Spear, Albert David Snell, Sr. Patricia Snell, R.S.J.
- **Remembrances:**
John Langdon,
Maria de Georgio.
- **And the sick:**
Doris Tancred, Sr. Leo Taylor, Fr. Bill Meacham, Beryl Allen, Lola Proctor, Renee Glase, Grace Williams, Alan Harland, Brother Michael Knights, Gada Selim, Neil Cameron, Evangeline Cusay, Olive Brittliff, Peter Crookes.

Rome's Cathedral

"Isn't St Peter's Rome's cathedral? No? St John Lateran? How come you haven't told us that before?" But I have!

When I heard this recently, I was reminded of a conversation reported in a new life of the Italian politician Andreotti. He was on his way to a conference on Christ the Worker, and a leftist politician asked where this name came from. A cardinal in the car explained the story of Joseph and Jesus—of Jesus working in Joseph's workshop. The politician asked, "Why haven't you told us this before?"

The St John Lateran/St Peter's case is not the only one in Italy. In Padua, the really big and well known church is that of St Anthony (known simply as *Il Santo*, "The Saint") - not the cathedral. The same is true of Reggio Emilia (San Prospero), Bologna (San Petronio), Bari (Saint Nicholas) and so on.

So maybe we should not be so surprised. Saint Peter's is the shrine of the local saint—as at Padua, Reggio Emilia, Bari and Bologna.—and so is better known; but that does not make it the cathedral.

Legend traces the cathedral of Rome back to a gift by the emperor Constantine to Pope Sylvester. The popes lived there, next to their cathedral, until their move to Avignon (1309). While they were away from the City, the papal palace burned to

the ground, so when they returned (1377), they decided to live at the Vatican, next to St Peter's. They have been there (most of the time) ever since—but the Lateran basilica is still their cathedral.

On its façade are the words, *Omnium ecclesiarum Urbis et Orbis Mater et Caput*—"Mother and Head of all the churches of the City [Rome] and the World." It is not a particularly handsome church—compared with, say, St Peter's or St Mary Major's—because it has been affected by so many earth tremors and fires down the centuries; but it is still the Cathedral.

All you need to make a church a cathedral is that the bishop establish his *cathedra* [teaching seat] there. Insofar as he is Bishop of Rome, this is the place from where the Pope teaches. As part of the universal church, we honour it, not for its aesthetic qualities, but because of our communion with him—just as we honour the cathedral of this diocese, because of our communion with our own bishop.

Next Sunday we celebrate the first anniversary of the dedication of our own new church—compared with the Lateran, small beer indeed. For us, 'this is the house of God; this is the gate of heaven.' For the universal church, the same is true of the Lateran Basilica. Hence today's feast.

FR JOHN HILL, P.P.

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Psalm Response

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Let us go re - joi - cing to the house of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! I have chosen and sanctified this house, says the Lord, that my name may remain in it for all time. *Alleluia!*

Around the Parish

Charitable Works Fund Appeal: A special collection this weekend at all Masses.

Jam and Cake Stall will be operating next Sunday, 16th November at the 7.30am and 9.15am Masses. All proceeds will go towards the maintenance of our Parish bus. Enquiries: Mary 4344 2288.

Bus Trip to Koala Sanctuary: Wed. 12 Nov. leaving 8.30am. Cost \$15 plus entry fee. Contact Susie 4344 1742 or 0403 417 639.

Haydn's Requiem plus works of Mozart presented by Central Coast Chorale and Orchestra with Sydney University graduate Chamber Choir in our church, Sunday, 23rd November, 2.30pm. Further details on flyers in gathering area.

Parish Christmas Hampers: We know that there are many in our community who may be aged, widowed, single parents or disabled. They may be alone or have no close family. They may be in a nursing home or other care facility. A Hamper Gift from you, a member of our Parish family, would be appreciated and will give much joy to someone in need at Christmas. Lists of various hampers needed for you to choose from are on display. Please take note of each hamper's code. Single items can be left be left in the gathering area. No cigarettes, alcohol or perishables please.

Hampers will be collected at all Masses on the weekend of 6/7 December.

Note: This is a separate collection from St. Vincent de Paul's Christmas collection.

Baptism: Welcome into our Faith community Charlie Brisbin who was baptized last Sunday.

Volunteers required for St. Vincent de Paul shops and conferences. Phone 4344 3261.

Josephite Associates meeting Wednesday, 12th November 10am in the Leo Mahon room. New members welcome! Ph: Betty 4341 8849.

Of Grace and Study Group meeting Thursday, 13th November, 11am in the Leo Mahon room.

Volunteer Church Cleaning Roster 14/11/14: Christine French, Judy French, Sally Doyle, Michael French.

Children's Liturgy 16/11/14: Leif Spicer (L) Marianne Bowyer (L) Jenny Riddiford (H).

Social Justice

Message of His Holiness Pope Francis on Migrants and Refugees:
"Church without frontiers, Mother of all".

Dear Brothers and Sisters, Jesus is the evangeliser par excellence and the Gospel in person". His solicitude, particularly for the most vulnerable and marginalised, invites all of us to care for the frailest and to recognise his suffering countenance, especially in the victims of new forms of poverty and slavery. The Lord says: "I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I

was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothe me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me" (Mt. 25:35-36). The mission of the Church herself a pilgrim in the world and the Mother of all, is thus to love Jesus Christ, to adore and love him, particularly in the poorest and the most abandoned; among these are certainly migrants and refugees, who are trying to escape difficult living conditions and dangers of every kind..

The Church opens her arms to welcome all people, without

distinction or limits, in order to proclaim that "God is love". After his death and resurrection, Jesus entrusted to the disciples the mission of being his witnesses and proclaiming the Gospel of joy and mercy. On the day of Pentecost, the disciples left the Upper Room with courage and enthusiasm; the strength of the Holy Spirit overcame their doubts and their uncertainties and enabled all to understand the disciples' preaching in their own language

To be continued in next week's newsletter.

From the Diocese and beyond

Encountering Jesus presented by Fr. James Martin, S.J. and Fr. Richard Leonard, S.J. — author of *Where in the Hell is God?* Presentation by Fr. James....30 minutes. Conversation with Fr. Richard...15 minutes. Audience generated Q and A...30 minutes. Saturday 15th November, 10.30am-12 noon. (Please be seated by 10.24am). Caroline Chisholm Centre, Building 2, 423 Pennant Hills Rd. Pennant Hills. RSVP Wed. 12 Nov. www.trybooking.com/FTPN To register call Colleen/Leanne 9847 0448 or 4332 9825. Email: registrationsdbb.org.au **Don't miss this opportunity:** Seating is limited due to venue restrictions booking window may close before advertised RSVP date.

A special Mass at Holy Cross Church, 10 Humphreys Rd. Sth. Kincumber, Wed. 19th November, 7pm. Have you ever had a child die? It doesn't matter whether your child died as an adult, a child or in utero, through accident, illness, suicide, abortion, miscarriage, stillbirth or unknown causes, there is still a particular grief with outliving your child. At this Mass, we hope to make room to attend the grief and to pray God's comfort into the broken places of our hearts as we commend their souls to God's embrace.

A New Conversation in the Australian Church: Pope Francis has called for a more mis-

sionary, merciful and warm church that can dialogue with the world. With 22% Australians reporting 'no religion' on the census, it is clear the Church needs to discover a Gospel relevant to Australians today. How can the Church engage in meaningful conversations in this post-Christian, secular and plural society? Friday, 21 Nov. 9.30am-12.30pm. Rev. Noel Connolly, SSC. Short lectures and group discussions. The Railway Room, Caroline Chisholm Centre, Building 2. 423 Pennant Hills Rd. Pennant Hills. Morning tea provided. Register by 19/11 Nov. to secure a place. www.trybooking.com/FXBP More detail on notice board.

Scripture Readings

Bruce Janiga

Dedication of the Lateran Basilica, Sunday, November 9

Gn 28:11-18 [817, no. 1]
Ps 84:3, 4, 5, 10, 11 [703, no. 3]
1 Cor 3:9c-13, 16-17 [704, no. 1]
Lk 19:1-10 [706, no. 2]

St. John Lateran Basilica is the oldest of Rome's major basilicas and is the cathedral church of the pope, the bishop of Rome. Originally a mansion of a wealthy Roman family, it was acquired by Constantine and gifted to the church, becoming the residence of the pope. In the fourth century it was dedicated to the Saviour, and later popes dedicated it to John the Baptist (10th century) and John the Evangelist (12th century).

Jacob's dream at Luz reveals to him that he is in "the house of God" (Gn 28:17), "Bethel" in Hebrew. The Lord renews the promises made to Abraham by promising Jacob land, descendants, and blessings. A new promise is also offered in light of Jacob's fleeing to another land: protection from his enemies. His vision of a "stairway" (v 12) with "messengers [angels] ... going up and down" reminds him of God's presence among the people.

Paul writes that as people of faith, each of us is a "temple of God, / ... that the Spirit of God dwells in" (v 16). God dwells not just in buildings of brick and mortar but also in our hearts. As members of God's household, we are called to be living stones building up the body of Christ, the church.

In Luke's Gospel, Zacchaeus seeks out Jesus, whose response to Zacchaeus' initiative is to invite himself to stay at the tax collector's house. He who "has come to seek / and to save what was lost" (v 10) has found one of the lost in Zacchaeus. The grumbling of the bystanders shows that they do not understand Jesus's mission. God desires to dwell with all people, not just the righteous. Zacchaeus's response to Jesus illustrates that "salvation has come to this house" (v 9).

For reflection: Is my image of church more about buildings or people? Has my understanding of the church as the body of Christ changed over the years?

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, Sunday, November 23

Ez 34:11-12, 15-17
Ps 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6
1 Cor 15:20-26, 28
Mt 25:31-46

Celebrating Christ the King, we acknowledge Jesus's rule over our lives. For biblical Israel, one image for God was king; another image, found in Ezekiel, is that of shepherd. In Ezekiel the role of shepherd and king are related. God will "look after and tend my sheep" (v 12). As shepherd, God says, "The lost I will seek out, / the strayed I will bring back, / the injured I will bind up, / the sick I will heal" (v 16). The Lord promises to "appoint one shepherd over them to pasture them, my servant David" (see v 23). This promise is fully realized in the person of Jesus, Son of David.

Paul speaks of the primacy of Christ, the "first fruits of those who have fallen asleep" (v 20). In his resurrection, Jesus comes to reign over everything, and this reign will last "until he has put all his enemies under his feet" (v 25). When this happens, Christ "will also be subjected / to the one who subjected everything to him" (v 28). By acknowledging Christ's sovereignty, we also acknowledge the sovereignty of the one who sent him.

The text in Matthew today presents an image of Jesus "in his glory" (v 31), judging the nations on his throne. Like the shepherd in Ezekiel, he will separate "the sheep from the goats" (v 32). This is an image of judgment, reminding us that we are accountable to God for our lives. As Christ's flock, we depend on him, but we are also called to love him and to acknowledge his presence in our neighbour by meeting their basic needs in hunger, thirst, and illness. Jesus tells us that we cannot love him if we do not love our neighbour. Let us once again renew our pledge to serve Christ the king by living lives of true discipleship.

For reflection: Why is it sometimes difficult to love "the least ones"? How can I better express my loyalty to Christ the king?

Fr Bruce Janiga, a priest of the Archdiocese of Newark, N.J., teaches Scripture studies at Seton Hall Prep in West Orange, N.J. He is the Sunday assistant at St. Cassian Church in Upper Montclair, N.J. From *Ministry & Liturgy*, copyright © Resource Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission under licence number 115216



As we pray today for an increase of spiritual gifts, we are reminded that good stewardship of the Church "means cherishing and fostering the gifts of all, while using one's own gifts to serve the community of faith."



Catholic Parish of Woy Woy Peninsula

Woy Woy, Woy Woy South, Umina, Umina Beach, Ettalong, Ettalong Beach, Koolewong, Blackwall, Booker Bay, St Hubert's Island, Empire Bay, Horsfield Bay, Pearl Beach, Patonga, Woy Woy Bay, Daley's Point, Phegan's Bay and Wondabyne

St John the Baptist Church, corner of Blackwall and Victoria Roads, Woy Woy

Parish Office
P.O. Box 264
54 Victoria Road
WOY WOY N.S.W. 2256

Ethel Cox Parish Centre
100 Blackwall Road.

Phone: (02) 4341 1073
Fax: (02) 4341 0214
Email: parish@woywoycatholic.org.au

"He must increase, I must decrease"

Dr John Hill, *Parish Priest*

Fr Stephen Wayoyi, A.J. *Assistant Priest*

Office Staff: Helen Cameron, Raelene McLenaghan & Margaret Cooper

Parish Nurse: Ellen Bevan

Office Hours: 9.30 a.m. – 4.00 p.m., Monday to Friday

Deadline for The Voice: 3.30 p.m. Wednesday

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Vigil Saturday 5pm; Sunday 7.30am, 9.15am, 6pm.

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Monday–Friday 7.45am (Monday & Tuesday with Lauds); Saturday and Public Holidays 9am; First Friday 4pm (with Anointing of the Sick).

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Friday after morning Mass; First Friday, 3.30 p.m.; Saturday 11.30am; & 4.30pm; Sunday 7.00 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

1st & 3rd Sundays, 11am; 5th Sunday, during 9.15 a.m. Mass. Godparents are examples of faith to the child. They must be confirmed and practising Catholics, at least sixteen years old. If there is at least one godparent, a non-Catholic may act as a Christian witness. Parents and godparents must attend a pre-baptismal instruction, held on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at 9.30 a.m.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every Saturday after 9am Mass until 10am; every Monday until 9am (Public Holidays 10.15am).

PARISH CHOIR— Practice Wednesday nights in the church, 7 p.m. Enquiries: 4341 3367.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, 21a Dulkara Rd South Woy Woy 2256. p 024341 0884 f 0243 445049.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST YOUTH GROUP For information and events contact Sam French 042 244 9539.

CATHOLICCARE Counselling and Family Relationships 4356 2600.

MARY MAC'S PLACE Volunteers provide nutritious, freshly cooked meals and information and referrals to appropriate community services. Open Monday to Friday, 11am–1pm, at the Ethel Cox Parish Centre. For more information, please contact Christine on 4341 0584.

CASH HOUSIE every Saturday night at Peninsula Community Centre, Cnr Ocean Beach Rd & McMasters Rd, Woy Woy. Games start at 7.30 p.m. and finish 10.20 p.m., cash prizes. Ticket sales from 6.00 p.m. Proceeds benefit Parish. Enquiries Rob: 0427 990818.

Kissing Stoles

Paul Turner

As a priest vests for Mass, he puts on an alb and then places a stole around his neck. The alb, a loose-fitting garment covering from neck to ankles, is white. The stole, resembling a scarf, carries the liturgical color of that particular Mass. Some priests kiss the stole before putting it on, but the practice is not found in the current rubrics of the Roman Catholic Mass.

Before the Second Vatican Council, the priest did kiss the stole — as well as the maniple — before putting each of them on. The maniple, a smaller cloth pinned to the left arm, is no longer worn. The preconciliar rubrics detailed elaborate procedures for putting on vestments. In addition to kissing certain items, the priest recited a devotional prayer for each of them. All these instructions were removed from the missal after Vatican II.

In the past, a cross adorned the middle of the stole, and the priest kissed there. Now, however, stoles need not carry a cross. The *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* dis-

courages an overabundance of ornamentation on vestments, preferring instead images and symbols “that denote sacred use.” Certainly a cross qualifies, but it is not the only option. The beauty and nobility of the vestment is first obtained “in the material used and in the design” (344).

The priest kisses only two objects during Mass: the altar and the Book of the Gospels. Both of these are symbols of Christ, “the Living Stone” (GIRM, 298), who speaks to his people in the Gospel (62). In addition, the priest may exchange a kiss of peace with members of the faithful, the body of Christ. The post-Vatican II missal reserves kisses for the most sacred symbols of the Mass, so it removed the practice of kissing vestments.

This bulletin insert originally appeared in *Ministry & Liturgy* magazine, a pastoral planning resource used by the worship leaders in your community as an aid for better liturgy. Copyright © 2014 Resource Publications, Inc., 5369 Camden Ave., #260, San Jose, CA 95124, (408) 286-8505. Paul Turner is pastor of St. Anthony Parish in Kansas City, Missouri. A priest of the diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, he holds a doctorate in sacred theology from Sant' Anselmo in Rome.

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www.woywoycatholic.org.au



Diocese of
Broken Bay