

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
Year A
Good Shepherd Sunday
Vocation Sunday—Mothers Day

SUNDAY May 11 2014

The Good Shepherd loves us with a heart of a mother

Pope John Paul I was only pope for a month when he died suddenly. His papacy was personified by humility and joy for the Church. He is called the smiling Pope because of his peaceful and cheery face. In one of his Angeluses he said: *God loves us like a father and more than this like a mother.* He was the first Pope who taught us to see God not only like a father but also like a mother.

The Gospel of Mark 6:34 says: "Jesus saw the large crowd and had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd." Jesus the good shepherd, felt compassion for the people. The word compassion in the original Greek is *ἐσπλαγχνισθη* (esplanchnisthe). The meaning of this word is more than the simple sentiment of compassion; it is a sentiment from the viscera, the same sentiment of a mother, she is moved for her child from the viscera of her womb. The Good Shepherd has the same sentiment of a mother. Jesus the son of God, the Good shepherd loves us with a heart of a mother.

In this special Sunday of the Good Shepherd and Mother's Day, I want to tell you about the life of a young mother. I knew her story when I was in Italy but I loved it even more some months ago when I read more about her amazing life on the internet. Chiara Corbella Petrillo was born in Rome on the January 9, 1984. She grew up in a Catholic family. She was 18 years old when she met Enrico and after six years they were married. She said: *During my engagement, the Lord tested my faith and the values in which I believed... I understood that the Lord has not taken anything from me, but He has given me everything...*

They had two special children, both of them were seriously ill and they died a few minutes after their birth. Chiara decided to carry her children full term in spite of what many friends suggested to her. She said: *The Lord asked us to accompany them only until their birth... we baptized and offered them into the hands of the Father with tremendous serenity and joy.*

In the later part of 2010, Chiara and Enrico were awaiting their third child. The pregnancy was going well and Francesco, their child was well. While the ultrasound confirmed the health of the child, at the fifth month of pregnancy the cross appeared again in Enrico and Chiara's life. Chiara was diagnosed with a bad lesion of the tongue and after initial surgery the doctors told her the lesion was cancerous. Chiara wanted to protect her child and refused the chemotherapy until after the birth of her son. On the 13th of June 2012, a year and some days after the birth of Francesco, Chiara died, she was 28 years old.

A few days before her death she wrote a letter to her son. *"Dear Francesco, you have been a big gift for our life. I want to say just this to you: we are born to love, we live to love and we die to know the love of God. The purpose of our life is only one: to love... We were born and we never die, never. Because, Love overcame death forever."*

This is a great story. Maybe, we think she is a hero, but she was a mother who lived her vocation until the end. She gave her life for the life of her children. She lived her life as a gift to accept and to offer. I like to think the humanity of Jesus to offer his life was learnt from his mother Mary. The Good Shepherd, Mary, Chiara and our mothers teach us to live our life with love until the end. Whatever we are doing this is the meaning of our vocations.

Many blessings to all mothers.

Ciao, Father Dom

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Parish Priest

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St Joseph the Worker Church
44 Imperial Parade,
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Sunday Mass
7.00 am
8:30 am

Weekday Mass
Monday -7.00am
Wednesday-7.00am

Guardian Angels' Church
99 Scarborough St
Southport

Saturday
6.00pm

Sunday Mass
7.00 am
10.00 am

Weekday Mass
Friday— 12.30pm

Reconciliation
Saturday - 4.30pm

Mary Immaculate Church
31 Edmund Rice Drive
Ashmore

Sunday Mass
8:30 am & 6.00pm

Korean Mass
Sunday 3.00pm

Weekday Mass
Tuesday - 9.00am
Thursday - 5.30pm



GRATITUDE FOR OUR MOTHER

Today we turn to you, Lord to give thanks for our mother. With your gift of life, she bore us in her womb and gave us life. She tenderly, patiently cared for us and taught us to walk and talk. She read to us and made us laugh. No one delighted in our success more, no one could comfort us better in our failures. We are so grateful for how she mothered us and mentored us, and even disciplined us. Please bless her, Lord, and comfort her. Help her loving heart to continue to love and give of herself to others. Strengthen her when she is down and give her hope when she is discouraged. Most of all Lord, on this Mother's Day, give our mother the grace she most needs and desires today. We ask this, in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour forever and ever.

GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY

In these days leading us to the feast of Pentecost we read the Acts of the Apostles that tell us how the Apostles and the first Christian communities were reflecting and re-visiting the events of the Holy week in the light of Jesus' Resurrection. In a similar way some of our Parishioners reflected on the Holy week liturgies that we celebrated in our church of Mary Immaculate. In these reflections one question re-appeared again and again: **Why the Good Friday Liturgy of the Lord's Passion was so long?**

Well, by its nature the liturgies of the Holy Triduum are long and through them the Church invites her children to pray and meditate on these events that constitute our Christian life. In the Catholic Church, the only liturgy of Good Friday is at 3pm. It is the only day in the church year when Mass is not celebrated. The liturgy is beautiful, solemn, long and with a lot of silence. I believe that these adjectives can be used to describe our liturgy of Good Friday at Mary Immaculate. The structure of Good Friday liturgy was formed around the VIII century and consists of

- Liturgy of the Word - reading of the Passion.
- Intercessory prayers
- Veneration of the Cross
- Communion.

This year we followed this structure which the Church has used for centuries. In previous years the veneration of the Cross was swapped with Communion, which left veneration as optional and those Parishioners who venerated the Cross could leave the Church individually. The veneration of the Cross as the centre of Good Friday liturgy is not accidental or the result of someone's caprice. Behind this structure there are some theological and liturgical reasons. I am more than happy to discuss these reasons privately.

In our case many factors contributed to an unnecessarily long Good Friday liturgy and I am well aware of them. Being aware today of these factors I promise that next year's liturgy will be beautiful, solemn with a lot of silence and **definitely shorter than this year.** Thanks for your participation in the Holy Triduum liturgies because your presence makes these events special and strengthens the faith of our community.

Fr Jan

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

This year marks the 51st Anniversary of the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. The purpose of the World Day of Prayer for Vocations is to publically fulfil the Lord's instruction to "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into the harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). As a climax to a prayer that is continually offered throughout the Church, it affirms the primacy of faith and grace in all that concerns vocations to the priesthood and to the consecrated life. While appreciating all vocations, the Church concentrates its attention this day on vocations to the ordained ministries (priesthood and diaconate), to the Religious life in all its forms (male and female, contemplative and apostolic).

LET US PRAY:

A: At the sight of the crowd Jesus' heart was moved.

B: For they were like sheep without a shepherd.

A: Jesus said, "The harvest is ready"

B: "But the labourers are few"

A: Ask the Lord to send out labourers for the harvest.

B: O Lord we pray that young men will answer the call to become priests in Your harvest.

A: And shepherds for your people. Amen.

MAY—THE MONTH OF MARY



The Catholic practice of assigning a special devotion to each month goes back to the early 16th century. Since the best known of those devotions is probably the dedication of **May as the month of the Blessed Virgin Mary**, it might come as a surprise that it wasn't until the late 18th century that this devotion arose among Jesuits in Rome. In the early years of

the 19th century, it quickly spread throughout the Western Church, and, by the time of Pope Pius IX's declaration of the dogma of the **Immaculate Conception** in 1854, it had become universal. May crowning and other special events in May in honour of Mary, such as public recitation of the **rosary**, stem from this time. Sadly, such communal events are more rare today, but we can take the month of May as an opportunity to renew our own devotion to the Mother of God by dusting off our rosaries and adding a few more **Marian prayers** to our daily routine. Parents, in particular, should encourage Marian devotion in their children, since the non-Catholic Christians they encounter today often downplay (if not denigrate) the role that the Blessed Virgin.

WHY THE DAILY ROSARY?

Our Lady has 117 titles. She selected "I am the Lady of the Rosary", at Fatima. St Francis de Sales said the greatest method of prayer is to Pray the Rosary. St Thomas Aquinas preached 40 straight days in Rome on just the Hail Mary. St John Vianney, patron of priests, was seldom without a rosary in his hand. Pope Adrian VI—"The Rosary is the scourge of the devil". Pope Paul V—"The Rosary is a treasure of grace" Pope Leo XIII wrote 9 encyclicals on the Rosary. Pope John XXIII spoke 38 times about the Rosary. He prayed 15 decades daily.

NOTE FROM FATHER JOSE THEKKEMURIYIL

To all in our parish.

It is with great joy and gratitude that I INVITE YOU to the Installation Mass by Archbishop Mark Coleridge to appoint me as the Parish Priest of Lutwyche on Sunday May 18 at 9.30am at the Holy Cross Church, Woolloowin. Your presence will indeed double the joy of the celebration. Please come. Let us celebrate together. Please continue to pray for me.

Father Jose.

BIG BREAKFAST AT BERNIE'S PLACE

Thank you to everyone who made this event such a success both financially and socially. We can now donate the money for one Fistula operation and have money to send parcels to the Franciscans for urgently needed clothes, school supplies and medical instruments for the health centre. Anyone interested in first hand involvement should consider the trip in September as it is a chance in a lifetime to visit the Simeon Mountains untouched by tourism. Phone Judy for more details, 56 705 370.



Today we welcome into God's Family

Conor Michael Egan, son of Alan and Michelle Egan

Lilian Rawhiti Margaret Morcom,
daughter of Dean and Natalie Morcom

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THOSE WHO HAVE JOURNEYED TO THE FATHER.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Peter Ferrero, Margaret Ward, Sylvia Convery, Beris Auld, Baby Clarke.

ANNIVERSARY: Anne Davenport, Bruce Thrush, Ofelia Quintanilloa, Elizabeth Di Leo, Mavis Atkinson, Ljuba Zecevic.

ALL PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS WHO ARE SICK AND IN NEED: Jack Keniry, Michael Murray, Noel Mahoney, Albert Bussac, Don Shipman, Alex McKinnon, Colleen Blanch, Tony Sheehan, Joe Vohar, Karen Percic, Susanne and Peter Turner, Tim Howard, Michael Skinner, Angela Taylor, Barbara Bill Welle snr. Trudi de Vries, Doss O'Niell, Yvonne See, Helen Wilson, Jack Kennedy, Christine Wheldon, Lynn Rann, Bernadette Fagan, Bong, Tanie and Gie Ubaldo, Babes Valenzuela, Vicky Smith, Lee Henry, Mary Porrill, Sheila Galvin, Dean Lewis, Kitty McIntosh, Susanne Howarth, Patrick Guillon, Phyllis Miller, Julie Rowen, Janine Wharton, John Stowers, Ross McAlpine, Gary O'Connell, Carter Family, Jack McAlpine, Peter Platell,

Lord Grant your people protection and grace. Give them health of mind and body. Amen

SAINT OF THE WEEK

Wednesday, May 14, St Matthias, Apostle

According to the Acts of the Apostles, Matthias was the apostle chosen by the remaining 11 apostles to replace Judas, following Judas' betrayal of Jesus and suicide. His calling as an apostle is unique in that his appointment was not made personally by Jesus, who had already ascended to heaven, and, it was made before the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the early Church. There is not a lot of official information about his life and even his death is unclear (both how he died and where his remains are located is subject to conjecture). He is now the saint to pray to against 'temptation of the flesh'

WORTH A SMILE

A man who died is refused entry into heaven. "There's no record of you ever having done a good deed," St Peter explained to him. "Have you?" The man thinks for a while and replies, "Well, there was this one time when I was driving down the highway and saw a group of thugs assaulting this poor girl. I stopped the car, grabbed my cricket bat, walked up to the leader of the gang and yelled 'Leave her alone, you sick deranged animal!' Impressed, St Peter asks, "When did this happen?" "About two minutes ago."

St Vincent de Paul

Invites All Conference Members, Associate Members, Volunteers, Staff, Families and Friends. To attend the Gold Coast Region Commissioning Mass at Mary Immaculate Church, Ashmore on

Tuesday, May 20, at 7.00pm

Followed by Supper. RSVP to Nerida Smith by May 15, nerida.smith@bigpond.com 0417 606 639 55 006 547

HELP WANTED

A single lady parishioner is in need of single accommodation with her own facilities. Somewhere in the Labrador area. If you can help, phone call Zoila on 0477 498 156.

THE FIRST PARISH SOCIAL EVENT OF THE YEAR

"Lavender and Lace"

HIGH TEA

At just \$10 per person you will be in for a treat of an afternoon.

TEA TRIVIA – RAFFLES – LUCKY DOOR PRIZE

Sunday June 1. 2.00pm to 5.00pm

2/13 Burwood Court, Labrador.

Bookings: Phone the Parish Office 55 102 222 by Monday May 19



PARISH DATE CLAIMERS FOR 2014

First Sunday of each month, Morning Tea at the "Annex" after 8.30am Mass at St Joseph the Worker, Labrador.

Each First and Third Sunday of the Month, 11.30am Charismatic prayer Meeting, Guardian Angels Church.

Southport Parish Book Club, meets First Monday of the month 10.00am. Mary Immaculate meeting room.

Bridge, every Wednesday 9.30am to 12 noon in the Meeting Room at Mary Immaculate. Beginners welcome.

Rosary and Novena at 6.00pm every Wednesday

at St Joseph the Worker, Labrador followed by Mass at 7.00pm on the First Wednesday of the month

Catholic Women's League, Meeting Second Friday of each Month, Guardian Angels Meeting Room, followed by Mass

Care and Concern, Meet Fourth Monday of each month, Mary Immaculate Meeting Room, 10.30am

SPY. Southport Parish Youth. Meet in the meeting room at Mary Immaculate on the last Friday of each month. 6.30pm

Sunday, **June 1,** High Tea, 2.00pm.

Thursday, **June 12, 2014.** Confirmation

Sunday, **June 15, 2014.** First Eucharist

Friday, **June 27,** Parish Thank You Social

Sunday, **July 6,** Parish Golf Day at Colonial

Sunday, **July 20,** ARTICO Concert. *'The Art of Song'*

Mary Immaculate Church.

Sunday, **August 10,** Parish Observation Car Rally

Saturday, **September 13,** Music Workshop at

Mary Immaculate 9.30am to 4.00pm

DROUGHT RELIEF— BUSH DANCE

Guardian Angels School are holding a Bush Dance to raise funds for drought effected farmers.

Friday, May 16, 6.30pm to 9.00pm.

Guardian Angels School Hall. Cost \$10 per family

BBQ available from 5.30pm to 6.30pm.

Tickets available from the school. All tickets and food orders to be paid for before the night.

MARIAN VALLEY CANUNGRA

Celebrate Fatima Day at Marian Valley, Canungra, on Tuesday May 13. and the Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians on Saturday, May 24. Bus will leave Sacred Heart church, 50 Fairways Drive, Clear Island Waters, on both days

at 8.15am. For bookings call Viviane 55 359 623.



HYMNS

ALL PEOPLE THAT ON EARTH DO DWELL HYMN

All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with love, his praise forth tell,
Come we before him, and rejoice.

Know that the Lord, is God indeed,
Without our aid he did us make;
We are his folk, he does us feed,
And for his sheep he does us take.

O enter then his gates with praise,
Approach with joy his courts unto;
Praise, laud, and bless his name always,
For it is seemly so to do.

PENITENTIAL RITE

WATER OF LIFE

*Water of Life, cleanse and refresh us,
Raise us to life in Christ Jesus.*

GLORY TO GOD

Refrain:

*Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.*

We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory.
Lord God, heavenly King, O God,
almighty Father. **R**

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
You take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us
You take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
You are seated at the right hand
of the Father,
have mercy on us. **R**

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
You alone are the most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the
Father. **R**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

The Lord is my shepherd there is
nothing I shall want.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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GIFTS PROCESSION **COME TO ME, ALL WHO LABOUR**

Refrain

*Come to me, all who labor
and are heavy burdened
And I shall give you rest.
Take up my yoke and learn
from me,
For I am meek and humble
of heart.*

*And you'll find rest for your souls,
Yes, my yoke is easy
and my burden is light.*

The Lord is my shepherd,
I shall never be in need.
Fresh and green are the meadows
where he gives me rest **R**

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of
your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name
of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Save us, Saviour of the world, for by
your Cross and Resurrection, you
have set us free.

AMEN

Amen, Amen.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sins
of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins
of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins
of the world, grant us peace.

COMMUNION PROCESSION

LIKE A SHEPHERD

Refrain:

*Like a shepherd he feeds his flock
and gathers the lambs in his arms,
holding them carefully
close to his heart,
leading them home.*

Say to the cities of Judah:
Prepare the way of the Lord.
Go to the mountain top,
Lift your voice;
Jerusalem, here is your God. **R**

I myself will shepherd them,
For others have led them astray.
The lost I will rescue
and heal their wounds
And pasture them, giving them rest. **R**

Come unto me if you are
heavily burdened,
And take my yoke
upon your shoulders,
I will give you rest. **R**

IT'S MORE THAN WINE AND BREAD: **(VINCE NIMS)**

When we eat this bread, our eyes are opened
When we drink this wine, we hear your voice
When we celebrate this sacrifice our hearts
become restored.

When we eat this bread,
our minds grow strong
When we drink this wine, we are renewed
When we celebrate this sacrifice we glorify
our God!

Refrain

**And it's more than wine; it's your blood.
And it's more than bread; it's your body.
And it's more than wine; it's your blood.
And it's more than bread; it's your body.
When we receive you Lord,
We are transformed into your church.**

When we eat this bread, we fill with hope
When we drink this wine,
we change the world
When we celebrate this sacrifice
we're giving you our lives
When we eat this bread, we grow closer
When we drink this wine, we do declare
When we celebrate this sacrifice
we profess our faith in you.

RECESSIONAL

WE ARE CALLED TO SERVE

Refrain:

**We are called to serve,
we are called by grace
to cherish Christ in every face.
We are called to serve,
we are called by name and in all
we are God's love proclaim.**

Called beyond our human understanding,
Called before the world came in to view.
Within your mother's womb,
your name was known to me,
For you did not choose me,
no, I chose you **R**

Called to be a light amid the darkness,
Called to help a doubting world believe.
"Empowered by my Spirit,
anointed with my love,
You are called to give and share
what you believe." **R**

THE WORD OF THE LORD FOR

NEXT SUNDAY

**Acts 6:1-7
1 Peter 2:4-9
John 14:1-2**

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