

LITURGY OF THE WORD

1st Reading: Genesis 18:20-32

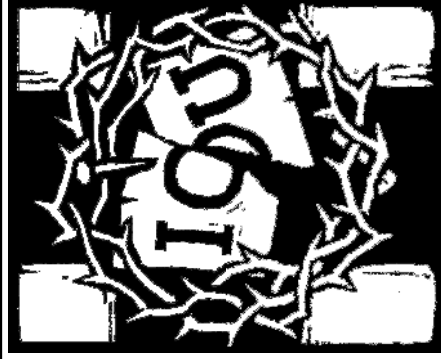
Responsorial Psalm: Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

2nd Reading: Colossians 2:12-14

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!
You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children,
and in that Spirit we call God our Father.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 11:1-13

Prayers of the Faithful: Lord Hear us.



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Christ has forgiven our transgressions, obliterated the bond against us, nailing it to the tree

Colossians 2:13-14

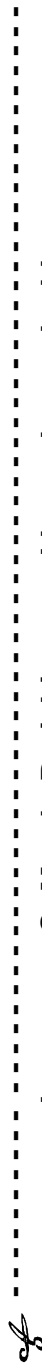
We ask your prayers for

Miklos & Marika Gubacsi, Donald O'Tierney, Mabel Eason, Joshua Do, Donna Nurcombe, Donald Stephens, Willis Eloise & Kerry Scheikowski, Sr. Hildegard Ryan osv, Marie Searson, Margaret Morgan, Jennifer McCann, Graham Sims, Fr. Keith Comer msc, Philomene Watson, Therese Keogh, Molly Whaley, Peter Watson, Caroline Watson-Ley, Carmel Nolan, Sr. Josie Bymes rsm, Colleen Jennings

Anniversaries of our deceased loved ones

Margaret Mary Meehan, Cecil Edward Bagnall, Clifford Joseph Levett, Cate McCabe, Maria Josephine Smith, Jack Williams, George Vaughan Marsden, Florence Mary Chaplin, Juan Dy

Recently Deceased
Norman Alfred Chaney



I am a new St Mary's Parishioner or I have changed address:

Name: Mr./Mrs./Ms: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Please fill in and put in the collection bag. Thanks!

**St Mary's
On Swanson**

(Our Lady of Perpetual Succour)
An inner-city Catholic community
Welcoming all to celebrate with us
We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land, the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation.

Parish House

21 Swanson Street, Erskineville, 2043
Phone: 9516-3542 Fax: 9516-3536
Email: stmaryserko@bigpond.com
Web Site: www.msparishes.org
Secretary Mon, Wed & Thurs 8:30am-1:30pm

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time — Year C

July 25, 2010

Reflection:

The readings invite us to reflect on prayer. Whether our prayer be praise, contrition, thanksgiving or petition, it always recognises our need for God. In the gospel Jesus instructs us to ask for what we need. He assures us that God is more than willing to give us what we need. However, for this to happen we must turn to God and humbly acknowledge our need.

The most obvious characteristic of prayer depicted in the readings for this Sunday is persistence. Neither Abraham nor the man in the gospel was deterred by any obstacle. They show that it is not so much that we persist in prayer in order to change God's mind as it is that we persist in order to discover what God's mind might be.

The salutariness of prayer is often found in the change that it effects in us, not in God. By persevering in genuine prayer we may come to acknowledge that all things are in God's hands, and that we can rest content to leave them there, trusting that the situation will be cared for as God sees fit. It seems trite to say that God hears all prayer and sometimes the answer is 'No!' It is better to say that God respects the freedom of people and will seldom intervene to change the way events unfold. Still, prayer can change the one who prays and also the one for whom the prayer is offered if only human need is recognised and divine solicitude is acknowledged.

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MASS TIMES

Saturday: 6:00pm Sunday: 9:00am & 6:00pm

Tuesday: 10:30am Wednesday & Thursday: 7:00am Friday: 9:15am

Individual Reconciliation Sat 5:15pm—5:45pm Sun 8:15am—8:45am & 5:15pm—5:45pm

Baptisms & Weddings
By Appointment

Ordinary Time
Gospel Luke 12:13-21
1st Reading Ecclesiastes 1:2, 2:21-23
2nd Reading Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11

CHARITABLE WORKS FUND 2010 PASTORAL APPEAL.

Today we are holding the Charitable Works Fund (CWF) Appeal. We are encouraged to support the appeal via the special envelopes available in the church. Your support of the CWF will help to fund programs which support the charitable and pastoral work of the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney, including CatholicCare, the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, the Ephpheta Centre, the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, the Seminary of the Good Shepherd and chaplaincies. Please give generously.

Dates to Remember

- July 24/25** Marriage & Family Sunday
2nd Charitable Works Fund Appeal
- Jul 27** Parent Information Night — Confirmation 7pm in Church.
- Jul 30** Grandparents Mass 9:15am
- Aug 1** Christmas In July 5:30pm in Parish House
- Aug 5** Commitment Mass — Confirmation 9am
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting 5:30pm

Palms Australia is seeking volunteers for positions in Africa, Asia and the Pacific. Current needs include doctors, teachers, administrators, accountants, tradespeople, nurses and many other skills.

Curious to know more?

Please come to our Focus Workshop at St James' parish hall, 2A Woolley St, Glebe. Saturday 7th August from 9:30am. RSVP to brendan@palms.org.au or visit www.palms.org.au for more information.

ST JOSEPH'S NEWTOWN PARISH AND SCHOOL

REUNION. We warmly welcome all past students from the parish and parish schools to our reunion on **Sunday, 17 October 2010 at the 10am Mass.** We will also celebrate Mary MacKillop's canonisation which occurs on that day in Rome. A light luncheon will follow in St Joseph's Crypt. Information: newton@catholic.org

Marriage Preparation Weekend - Of Life and Love Marriage Preparation Weekend at the Catholic Adult Education Centre.

Preparing for the vocation of marriage? Book your place for **August 28th - 29th.** \$220 per couple. For more information, speak to your parish priest today, telephone 9646 9010 or go to www.caec.com.au.

Erskineville Vinnies Conference Monthly Meeting We will be holding our next meeting on Monday 26th July at 6.30 in the Parish House. Please come along if you want to find out more about the sort of work Vinnies does in the local community and meet the people who do this work. Afterwards we will be having a mid-winter meal at a local

The Church foyer and Chapel is used by groups

- Sundays 7:30pm-8:30pm
 - Monday 6:30am-8:15am & 6:30pm-8pm
 - Tuesdays 6:30pm-8:30pm
 - Wednesdays 7:30am-9:00am & 6:00pm-9:00pm
 - Thursdays 6pm-9:30pm
 - Fridays 6pm-7pm
 - Saturdays 8:30am-11:00am
- Enquires: Patricia Thomas (w) 9569 6111 or 9568 8118 (m) 0457 748 440
(e) patricia.thomas@ceosyd.catholic.edu.au
If people need access to the church during these times, please use sacrists door or side door.

19th Sunday (8/8/10)
Luke 12:35-40
Wisdom 18:6-9
Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-12

The Assumption (15/8/10)
Luke 1:39-56
Apocalypse 11:19, 12:1-6, 10
1 Corinthians 15:20-26

Thai restaurant and you are very welcome to attend. This will start at about 7.30pm. If you would like more details, call 0414853650 or email me at melvilvest@hotmail.com.

Thanks, Mick McIntyre.

Life Skill Coach required for 23 year old intellectually disabled girl living independently in the Drummoyne area. 4 hours per week minimum. Phone 9181 1704.

Chevalier Institute

Chevalier Institute in collaboration with the Broken Bay Institute and University of Newcastle is again hosting a series of seminars in 'Spirituality of the Heart' at the Chevalier Resource Centre, Kensington. The seminars will be offered daily from Friday 20th — Sunday 22nd August 2010. Participants can register for the whole programme or www.chevalierinstitute.org.au or contact Julie Taylor at Chevalier Institute on 9315 2299.

Catholic Adult Education Centre

Subjects to be offered by the CAEC for Term 3 beginning on July 29 are: **The Sacraments and Catholic Social Teaching** at Lidcombe on Thursday evenings; **Sharing your Faith** at St Michael's Daceyville, on Monday evenings; and **Christian Leadership** at St Michael's Lane Cove on Tuesday evenings. Also, over 40 units are available for study by correspondence. For further information contact the CAEC on 9646 9010, or www.caec.com.au.

ANNUAL MASS FOR PREGNANT WOMEN. Sunday, 15 August

St Mary's Cathedral at 10.30am followed by morning tea. The Mass will be celebrated by His Eminence, Cardinal George Pell, Archbishop of Sydney. Please direct enquiries and **RSVP** to lmfevents@sydneycatholic.org or **9390 5283**.

Marriage & Family Sunday

Today in the Archdiocese we are celebrating Marriage and Family Sunday. This is an opportunity to pray for and reflect on the great importance of marriage and family life. This year we are focusing on the blessing of grandparents.

A brochure on this theme, **Grandparents: A Great Gift to Family Life** has been prepared for this occasion. You are invited to take a copy home to read and to pass on to others. You can also read it online at www.lifemarriagefamily.org.au/mfs2010.pdf

CATHOLIC ADULT EDUCATION CENTRE - TERM 3.

Starting soon with *Sharing Your Faith* at St Michael's Lane Cove on Monday nights, *Christian Leadership* at St Michael's Daceyville on Tuesday night, both presented by James McDonald. Thursday nights at the CAEC in Lidcombe - *The Sacraments* with Fr John Flader and *Catholic Social Teaching* with Dr Garrick Small. For more information call 02 9646 9010, email study@caec.com.au or visit www.caec.com.au.

"If someone in your family has a drinking/addiction problem. You can see what it's doing to them. Can you see what it's doing to you?"

We can help you!
AL- ANON meets in the Church's 'Upper Room'
Saturday Mornings
9:00 am - 10:30 am
www.al-anon.alateen.org/australia
There are also AA meetings held in this church
Enquires: patricia.thomas@ceosyd.catholic.edu.au
(w) 9569 6111 or 9568 8118 (m) 0457 748 440



Australia can have stronger borders and a bigger heart

TIM COSTELLO *National Times, July 19, 2010*

It is already clear that asylum seekers and "stopping the boats" will be a critical element of this election. Yet the politics of asylum seekers is both deflating and confounding.

Little wonder the Immigration Minister, Chris Evans, in an unguarded moment, reflected on his frustrations over the issue which he said was "killing the government". Evans later said his frustrations were historical and things had changed since Julia Gillard became prime minister.

Nevertheless, the issue remains perplexing. One poll last week showed tougher rhetoric on asylum seekers had boosted the government's electoral support, despite a significant proportion of people polled saying they had little faith the government's plan for a regional processing centre would work.

The ability of asylum seekers to ignite a political storm has, depressingly, a long history in Australian politics, with its arguable peak being the Tampa affair - one many credit with handing the then teetering Howard government another term.

Many politicians now believe any rhetoric or policy that "gets tough on asylum seekers" will deliver an electoral dividend. Personally, I believe such a link is overstated. Even if it does exist, it is dangerously unpredictable and a difficult issue to control. It is a genie that once released is not easily re-bottled.

Moreover, an election fought on such an issue is likely to tear at the very fabric of Australia's egalitarian psyche and take us back to the very worst of the race debate that fostered the rise of Pauline Hanson and One Nation.

Why do asylum seekers arriving by boat cause so much alarm in some sections of the Australian community?

It may be that it is an issue lost amid the legitimate debate that Australians must have about population and the sustainability of our cities. In terms of migration, Australia is receiving waves of new arrivals - up to 300,000 annually in recent years - but most of these come into Australia as skilled migrants. These numbers contrast with the 13,500 or so asylum seekers accepted each year, and most of these don't arrive by boat.

The anger spawned by the issue may reflect the economic hardships many ordinary working Australian families are feeling. At such times, resentment can boil over towards any seen to be getting preferential treatment. Asylum seekers are often termed "queue jumpers" and the limited benefits they receive grow into the stuff of folklore by jaded taxpayers.

The irony is that when Australian governments moved to set up overseas processing centres the cost to the taxpayer soars far beyond the costs of housing and processing asylum seekers here.

It is predictable but alarming that the political contest to prove who can be toughest on asylum seekers has re-emerged

this election. Some hailed the last election as being marked by the triumph of conviction politics. It is my great hope that moral and social issues will return to play a critical part in this year's election.

Australia has escaped the worst of the global financial crisis, while many others have been hit hard. Our capacity to be a compassionate society and help the world's poorest has arguably never been greater.

There is some reason for hope. There is bipartisan commitment to raise overseas aid funding to 0.5 per cent of gross national income by 2015. At more than \$8 billion, this will transform Australia's international aid program.

This aid should also prioritise efforts to tackle maternal and child health, which are badly lagging in the global effort to tackle chronic poverty.

This growth will challenge us to ensure our aid program is made even more effective and to increase aid to the internationally agreed target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income.

There must also be action on climate change. It will devastate the lives of the world's poorest people, and make many regions unviable to sustain human life. The tide of displaced people seeking a place of refuge is expected to swell.

We must strengthen our domestic ambition and put Australia in a leadership role on the global stage to ensure a pro-poor, fair, ambitious and binding global agreement that comes into effect by the end of 2012. Our global citizenship should work to ensure people can remain in their birthplace and secure their livelihoods.

All political parties must restore respect to asylum-seeker policy and end overseas detention and processing. About 90 per cent of asylum seekers are found to be refugees and our annual humanitarian intake is small by world standards.

A compassionate approach to asylum seekers need not be at odds with stronger border protection. Punish people smugglers, not the asylum seekers, through close collaboration with the key transit countries including Indonesia and Malaysia.

Our political leaders have the capacity and responsibility to reframe the issues on which this election will be fought. We can only hope that on both domestic and international issues there will be a triumph of compassion over fear and scare-mongering.

Tim Costello is the chief executive of World Vision Australia.



Carmel Rowe is looking for accommodation for her brother who will be visiting from Adelaide for approximately 2 weeks, if you can help please call her on 9519 4336.

Fr. Barry Brundell msc.....	Parish Priest
Debra Whaley (stmarys.erko@bigpond.com).....	Parish Secretary
Libby Denny (principal@olsh.kensington.syd.catholic.edu).....	Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson
Andrew Chatelier.....	Parish Finance & Maintenance Committee
Michael McIntyre (melvilvest@hotmail.com).....	St Vincent de Paul Society (Erskineville Conference) President
Marian Watson (maranto@optusnet.com.au).....	Liturgies Co-Ordinator
Pauline Nowlan (pauline_nowlan@yahoo.com.au).....	Liturgies Co-Ordinator
John Powter (johnpowter@hotmail.com).....	Youth Representative
Mary Pollinger (marypoll@optusnet.com.au).....	Children's Liturgy Co-Ordinator
Marianna Keogh (m_movrin@hotmail.com).....	Sacramental Co-Ordinator
Marta McInerney (martataciare@unwired.com.au).....	Social Justice Committee Chairperson
Bev Coffey (info@stmarys.erskineville.syd.catholic.edu.au).....	St Mary's School Principal
KOSMAC House (smoosh2@aapt.net.au).....	St Mary's After School & Vacation Care
Brenda McDonnell (acmsyd@ozemail.com.au).....	Aboriginal Catholic Ministry
Fr. Claude Mostowik msc (mscjust@smartchat.net.au).....	MSC Social Justice Office
Marika Gubacsi (mgubacsi@optusnet.com.au).....	Yarra Bay Eucharistic Prayer Community