

Reflection by Greg Sunter



This week's gospel passage presents two miracle accounts, one, in effect, 'interrupting' or being framed by the other. Jesus is approached by the synagogue official, Jairus, to come and heal his dying daughter. In the milling and surging crowd, Jesus suddenly becomes aware of being touched by someone. The story of the woman with a haemorrhage is a story of social and religious isolation as much

as it is a story of illness and pain. Because of the Jewish prohibitions against blood, the woman would have been regarded as permanently impure and unclean. She would have been unable to engage in any worship; she could not touch another person without also making them unclean; she was effectively outcast for the 12 years of her illness. She knew it would be forbidden for her to touch Jesus openly but took her chances of being unobserved in the crowd – she risked all on the belief that even touching Jesus' cloak might heal her. Jesus immediately stopped and drew attention to the woman. By doing so he made it clear to her that it was her faith that had healed her (a feature of healing stories in the Gospel of Mark). His actions also made it clear to the crowd that she was now healed and should not be shunned any longer; she was publicly declared fit to re-enter society and religious participation. After 12 years of virtual non-existence, the woman was now able to begin her life again. The delay, however, meant that Jairus' daughter was dead by the time Jesus arrived. Undeterred, Jesus performs another miracle and raises the girl from death. The girl was 12 years old – the same 12 years the woman suffered with a haemorrhage – and now she too was able to begin her life again. There is a neatness and a completeness about the two stories.

PARISH HAPPENINGS

LOOKING AHEAD

Monday 2 July

- 7.00pm PPC Meeting – Library
- 7.00pm Italian Prayer Group – Church

Tuesday 3 July

- 9.30am Scripture group – Library
- 7.00pm Social Justice – Library

Wednesday 4 July

- 11.00am BED Scripture Group – Library
- 7.00pm FHC Parent info evening – Church

Friday 6 July

- 7.30pm 500 Card Group – AQ Room

Saturday 7 July

- 3.00pm CRL – Church

Let us remember in prayer all those who are sick and those whose anniversaries occur around this time Alejandra Mantilla, Bernadette Dalton and Stella McIntyre and the recently deceased Margaret Morrow

Last Week's 2nd Collection

Loose	\$719.35
Planned Giving	\$3,289.40
Total	\$4,008.75

Planned Giving Program

To obtain envelopes, Direct Debit or a Credit Card request, please complete the form on the back page of this newsletter and place on either collection plate or deliver to Parish Office.

OLOG Parish Expo 2018!

Come along to our Parish Expo which will be held across the weekend of 28/29 July after all masses!

There will be information on the many ministries in this Parish that need your support!

If you already belong in a ministry and wish to help out, please contact the Parish Office.

Social Justice – NAIDOC Week

During Masses on next weekend 7/8 July 2018 the Parish Social Justice Group ask our parish community to recognise the National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) by highlighting "NAIDOC WEEK" that takes place from 8 July to 15 July inclusive.



Sacramental Program – Eucharist 2018

Thanks to parents who attended recent parent meetings. Families begin formal preparations for Reconciliation and Eucharist in July. In the meantime parents are encouraged to support their child's understanding through attending Sunday Mass, and discussing all the questions this might raise. That requires hearts and minds tuned to the promptings of the Holy Spirit. May we as a parish pray for that guidance in the lives of these children.

Volunteers Needed!

Over the past year, we have seen the number of people across all ministries depleting. This is due to a number of reasons, the older generations are ready to step down after committing to a number of years on the roster, people moving away, many have more weekend commitments etc. Volunteers are what keep the clockwork of the church turning.

We rely on volunteers over the weekend to participate in the many ministries to ensure the smooth running of a mass. You have your Mass Coordinators, Ministers of Communion, Readers, Data Projector Operators, Altar servers, Musicians, Children's Liturgy, Cuppa 'n' Chat and the Piety Store.

We also have other ministries and committees outside of mass. These are Communion to the Sick, Transport, Prescare team, St Vincent de Paul, Social Justice, Finance Committee, Pastoral Council, Washing of Purifiers and the Altar Society.

There are many groups that you can also join like Wednesday Friendly Group, OLOG Diners, 500 Card Group, Playgroup, Scripture Group, Two Hearts Prayer Group and Legion of Mary.

So with that being said, we are now holding our first Parish Expo. This event will be aimed at finding more people to get involved across the many ministries, committees and activities that our Parish has to offer. Please come along and check it out, you might find that there is a ministry or committee that you would like to join or a group that you might be interested in.

We hope to see you there!

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults

Recently, you would have seen Our Lady of Graces advertising for the Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Sessions. These sessions are aimed at showing us a multitude of things like what is inappropriate behavior, how to tell if someone is feeling uncomfortable or are showing signs that something is not right, who to report to if there is something wrong etc. To those who are not volunteers, you might still be interested in attending, it is something that everyone can benefit from.

With the Royal Commission at the back of our minds, we look and move forward to the future and how we can best handle these situations and how to prevent a repeat of history.

Therefore, as we move on the processes have changed. All volunteers must now fill out a Data Form, attend a Safeguarding session, obtain and Blue Card and a Police Check. This ensures that we are taking as many precautions as possible to provide a safe environment for the vulnerable. This is **COMPLUSORY** for our existing and new volunteers and is non-negotiable. This new process does not discriminate nor is it a personal attack on any individual.

With that being said, the Pope has expressed his approval of the current processes that the Archdiocese of Brisbane has put into place. This is not an easy task, but it is necessary. So to our volunteers, please work with us as we move forward to a better and safe future for everyone. If you have any questions about this, please contact the Parish Office.

SVDP – Winter Update.

Thank you to all the wonderful parish members who continue to support St Vincent de Paul at Our Lady of Graces. A special thank you to –

- Rosa Nobilio for the beautiful hand sewn blankets and knitted baby jumper.
- Lisa Farnik for the super warm hand knitted scarves.
- Daphne Ballarinio and all members of the OLOG Knitting group for the magnificent range of winter blankets, scarves, beanies etc.

These items coupled with the financial donations and food donations of many parish members to St Vincent de Paul this winter are assisting us to bring some warmth to the many families and individuals struggling in our local community. Without your love, care and hope we could not deliver the same to the many families/individuals we visit. Barbara Dougherty (President, SVDP OLOG).

5.30pm Children's Mass

The next Children's Mass is Sunday evening 15 July at 5.30pm Mass. Your child may read, collect, hand out newsletters, or bring up the gifts. You need to be available to bring them to the church around 5pm for a little coaching. **To take part, go to schoolinterviews.com.au** and using code lur6g, register for the ministry of your choice.



COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

Charismatic Renewal

Our Catholic charismatic renewal Brisbane, monthly Prayer Meeting will be held in St Stephen's Chapel, on Wednesday 4 July (10.45 - 12.15 pm) following the regular 10 am Mass. All welcome. Join us for Praise & Worship in the City and afterwards a friendly cuppa at the CWL Tea Rooms. Enq:- Maureen 0403002199 / 31729248 or Helena 0405321901 / 33939573

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020 NEWS

Listening to the Spirit: Towards the 2020 Plenary Council

What do you think God is asking of us in Australia?

This upcoming short course consist of four Wednesday evening sessions and is suitable for parishioners, teach-ers, youth groups, university staff, students, and the general public, and will explore the future of the Church in Australia, with a specific focus on the 2020 Plenary Council.

Our week one session will be delivered in partnership with co-sponsors, the Institute of Faith Education and Evangelisation Brisbane (Archdiocese of Brisbane), and will be led by international guest, Professor Richard Gailardetz (Boston College). We are also excited to be hosting a listening and dialogue session in week four with the Most Rev Mark Coleridge BA DSS, Archbishop of Brisbane.

Dates: Wednesday 8, 22, 29 August and 5 September 2018

Time: 6 – 8pm (refreshments from 6pm, lecture starts at 6.30pm).

Venue: ACU Leadership Centre, Level 3, Cathedral House, 229 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane.

More information about this short course, including the full list of weekly topics at www.acu.edu.au/short-courses-brisbane

Please note, registration via the website is essential, and will close on Friday 3 August.

Become a part of the parish Planned Giving Program to help your Parish grow.

We thank, sincerely, all Parishioners who contribute to Planned Giving. Your ongoing commitment and contribution assists the parish to budget for operating expenses (wages, rates, electricity, phones, maintenance etc) as well as parish pastoral planning (faith education, sacramental preparation, resources etc). To obtain Planned Giving Envelopes or to contribute by direct debit, complete this form and place on the plate, or contact the Parish Office. Planned Giving contributions are not Tax Deductable.

Surname: _____ **Given names** _____

Address _____ **P/code** _____

Phone _____

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