

Reflection by Greg Sunter

This week's gospel sees Jesus returning to his home town of Nazareth. He is well and truly into his public ministry at this point in the gospel and his reputation is obviously growing as a healer and teacher. When he goes to Nazareth the locals are quick to 'put him in his place'. They remember the boy, the teenager, the young man apprenticed to his father's craft. He's a nobody as far as they are concerned; just young Yeshua (Jesus) who grew up here. It is much the same within families and local communities today. No matter how successful and authoritative a young woman or man may have become, a trip home will quickly remind them that in the eyes of those they grew up with nothing has changed. In the gospel passage they even say, that's Jesus – he's just James' brother; no one special! Why would they think they had anything to learn from a brat who grew up in their own town? What could he possibly tell them? They try to force Jesus back into the mould of the person with whom they were previously familiar and comfortable.

We do this to one another all the time. We have certain expectations about the way a friend normally acts or thinks and when they behave differently we react in a way that lets them know that they are not 'being themselves'. In doing this, we are looking to maintain our own comfort zone. We take away the freedom of the other person to grow and change. Many people seem to enter into relationships thinking that neither of them will ever change. This, of course, is an unsustainable assumption. Surely, if we want the best for those we love and care for, we want them to be constantly growing and becoming all that they can be?



PARISH HAPPENINGS

LOOKING AHEAD

Monday 9 July

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

Tuesday 10 July

- 9.30am Scripture group – Library
- 7.00pm Liturgy Committee – Library

Wednesday 11 July

- 11.00am BED Scripture Group – Library
- 6.00pm OLOG Diners – Pacific Golf Club

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 Ivan Novak, John Mackinnon, Alma Mackinnon, Winnie Sutherland, Teresa Simento, Gerald Simento and Alejandra Mantilla **and the recently deceased**

Last Week's 2nd Collection

Loose		\$1,315.75
Planned Giving	Includes several annual contributions	\$4,067.30
Total		\$5,383.05

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.

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 for a number reasons. 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. We also have other ministries and committees outside of mass. There are many groups that you can also join!

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 a 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.

Social Justice – NAIDOC Week

At Masses over this weekend we are recognising and celebrating National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) Week that will be held from 8 to 15 July 2018. It is a time for us as a parish community to pause and reflect on the theme of NAIDOC Week 2018 "Because of Her We Can" which recognises the invaluable contributions that have been made by Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders women to their communities, their families and their nation.



Holy Infant Orphanage Mae Sot, Thailand

The Missionary Sister of St Dominic were asked to work with Burmese Refugees in Thailand. One of the ministries they took on was the establishment and running of an orphanage in the north-west of Thailand.

Over the last 7 years, Fr Alex has been travelling to Mae Sot to give retreats to the sisters and to work with the children. This year, he will also be baptising 5 of the older children who have expressed that they wish to be baptised, the fruit of the Sisters work.

Parish communities have supported the many different projects for example, new solar panels for power supply, water tanks and a baker.

A few years ago, a weaving workshop was built in which some of the beautiful products produced will be sold next weekend. You may also like to help with the work of the sisters by donations. There will be envelopes provided in the pews next weekend. All money from the sale of the weaving items as well as any donations will go directly to the sisters. Thank-you.

OLOG Diners

Come along to dinner with us at the Pacific Golf Club on Wednesday 11 July at 6pm. Just tell the staff that you are a member of the OLOG Diners and they will show you to our table. All welcome!

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

Youth and Vocations Expo

"The annual Youth and Vocations Expo invites young people to explore their call. It's also a valuable opportunity for youth to engage with other Catholic ministry organisations across Queensland and Australia that can empower them to help make a difference in their community and deepen their faith. The expo will begin with 12:00 Youth and Vocations Mass at the St Stephen's Cathedral and celebrated by Archbishop Mark Coleridge."

Date: Sunday 5th August 2018

Venue: St. Stephen's Cathedral Precinct
249 Elizabeth St, Brisbane QLD 4000

Time: 11:00 stalls open, 12pm Vocations Mass, 1pm – 2:30pm 2018 Vocations and Youth Expo

PLenary COUNCIL 2020 NEWS

Listening to the Spirit: Towards the 2020 Plenary Council

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.

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.

SOMETHING FUNNY



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** _____

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