

Reflection by Greg Sunter

This gospel passage continues the 'Bread of Life' discourse that we have been following through the Gospel of John for a few weeks now. It overlaps with the reading from last week with Jesus announcing that his flesh is the 'bread of life'. Not surprisingly, the Jewish audience is horrified by the idea of eating human flesh. Jesus drives his point home further with his audience by also referring to the drinking of blood. In Jewish tradition, even to touch blood made a person ritually unclean. Any meat that was to be eaten had to be drained of blood, according to kosher rules. The words used by Jesus in this passage are so confronting that they cannot possibly be taken literally. It is a complete overstatement of the image to try to make sure that a literal interpretation is impossible.



When the gospel writer has Jesus speaking about eating his flesh and drinking his blood he is drawing on a very old image of eating and drinking as representing 'absorbing'; or 'comprehending'; or 'understanding' the message of the speaker. In this ancient understanding, to 'eat the flesh' of Jesus is to take into yourself and accept everything that Jesus stands for; everything that Jesus teaches; everything that Jesus believes. It is an act of faith. When we received Christ in the Eucharist, is this the depth of significance and purpose with which we take communion? Unmistakably, this passage points us to the Christian sacrament of Eucharist. The practice of sharing Eucharist as a memorial of Jesus was already well established in the Christian communities by the time this gospel was written and throughout this extended discourse on the 'Bread of Life' the author provides a direct link between the practice of Eucharist and the teachings of Jesus.

PARISH HAPPENINGS

LOOKING AHEAD

Monday 20 August

- 7.00pm Italian Prayer Group – Church

Tuesday 21 August

- 9.30am Scripture group – Library

- 9.30am Playgroup – Hospitality Area

Wednesday 22 August

- 7.00pm Legion of Mary - Library

Thursday 23 August

- 9.30am Playgroup – Hospitality Area

- 3.30pm FHC Family Session 3a

Let us remember in prayer all those who are sick and those whose anniversaries occur around this time Zina Catalano, Mavis Steele, Ron Steele, Chas Steel, Emilia Lamonaca, Domenico Pizzica, Steve Jugovic, Mona Knight and the recently deceased Joanne DeWolf

From the Office

Please note that Fr Alex will be away until 26 August. Thank you.

R.I.P Joanne DeWolf

Our Lady of Graces is sad to announce the passing of Joanne DeWolf. Joanne was an active member of our parish and was a part of the Dominican Laity, the Carina Crafters and the Wednesday Friendly Group. Many of you would have seen her around the church with her beloved dog Benny who was always by her side. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with her family and friends at this time.

Details for the funeral are as follows: ***Wednesday 22 August 2018 at 10.15am followed by a wake in the Hospitality Area. If you would like to bring a small plate of food or help out on the day please let the office know.***

No Parking on the grass

Last week, St Martin's had their annual Grandparents Day. While we understand that the parking situation is difficult, we ask that you please refrain from parking on the grass and driving on it. Unfortunately, due to the dry months our grass is struggling and driving on it only makes it worse. Thank you.

Round-a-bout Parking

If there are not any parks available and you wish to park in the round-a-bout near the office, please ensure that you go all the way around and continue to park behind other cars in the round-a-bout. This maximises the parking space available and ensures that other parishioners can park in there. Thank you.

THANK-YOU to the Carina Italian Community

As you all know, we have been trying to raise funds for the Parish for maintenance. Without hesitation, the Italian Community of Carina and in particular Vito and Anna Di Stasi and Anna De Clemente, organised a fund raising lunch in aid of Parish maintenance. So a massive thank you goes to the Italian community and the donors who combined raised whopping \$8515.00 for the Parish. Your generosity is greatly appreciated so again, thank-you.

Kid's Mass 5.30pm 19 August

All primary-school aged children of the parish are welcomed to take part in ministry - reading, bringing up the gifts and collecting. To let us know you're interested, register online at schoolinterviews.com.au using the code LUR6G. For more information contact Shelly in the parish office on 3398 2977.

Short on Priests

We would like to thank all parishioners here at Our Lady of Graces and in particular the weekday parishioners. As you all know, with Fr Alex being away and Fr Maurice in hospital, it has been a particularly difficult couple of weeks with just two priests. Please know that Fr Joseph and Fr Pan are working hard to try and give you as many masses as possible but there are some days in which a mass might be missed without much notice. We apologise for any inconvenience and we hope that you understand that we are doing our best to make sure that you have your daily mass. Thank you.

Volunteers needed

Short on time to volunteer? Interested in one-off volunteering? 30 minutes is all it takes. Over the weekend Masses of the 15th & 16th September, more than 100 children will make their First Holy Communion. I am looking for one or two volunteers for per Mass, who are willing to be at the Church 30 minutes prior to Mass commencing, and assist me greet and seat Sacramental families when they arrive. Contact Shelly at the Parish Office for more details.

Sacramental Program Reminder – FHC 2018

A reminder that Family Sessions are compulsory and must be attended if your children are to receive First Holy Communion.

Session 3 workshops will be on Thursday 23rd and Sunday 26th August. Families are required to come to one of the options offered. If you haven't booked for Session 3, I ask that you book for one of these options at least a week before.

Email reminders are only sent to families who have booked for one of the options.

Last Week's 2 nd Collection	
Loose	\$720.65
Planned Giving	\$3,487.30
Total	\$4,207.95

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.

Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable Adults Brisbane East Deanery (BED)

Evening Session

Date: Wednesday October 31, 2018

Time: 6.30pm - 8.30pm

**Location: Our Lady of Graces Parish,
Dominic Centre,**

100 Mayfield Road, Carina, 4152

p: 07 3398 2977

e: carina@bne.catholic.net.au

Daytime Session

Date: Wednesday November 14, 2018

Time: 10am - 12 noon

Location: Regina Caeli

Parish Hall

81 Waverley Rd, Camp Hill, 4152

p: 07 3398 3697

e: reginacaeli@bne.catholic.net.au

For registration & further details contact parishes of Our Lady of Graces Parish & Regina Caeli respectively. Please note, this face-to-face training is only applicable to those registered volunteers who are:

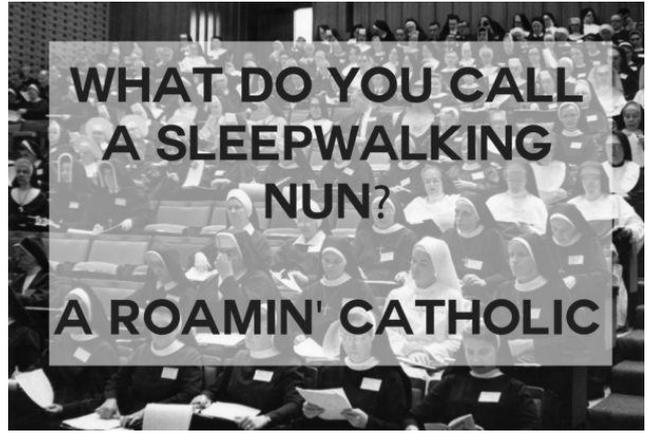
- **providing services for children & vulnerable adults**
- **engaging in activities mainly with children & vulnerable adults**
- **in a leadership/council/finance position also employed by their parish, faith community or the Archdiocese**

For all other volunteers, there will be a video released at the end of this year in which you will be able to watch at home.

..for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Mark 10:14

The Archdiocese of Brisbane holds that children, young people and vulnerable adults are a gift from God with an intrinsic right to dignity of life, respect and security from physical and emotional harm. They are to be treasured, nurtured and safeguarded by all.

SOMETHING FUNNY



COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

STAYING ACTIVE AND MOBILE

When: Tuesday 21st August

Where: Join the Carindale PCYC

27 Narracott Street, Carina

Time: Arrive at 9am – 11:30am

9:15am Heartfit - gentle to moderate exercise using weights.

9:45am Thai Chi- relaxing class to help prevent falls.

10:30am Chair Yoga- suitable class for seniors with injuries

10:30am Zumba – gentle dance class suitable for seniors that is fun at the same time! Afterwards join the PCYC – Carindale for free morning tea.

R.S.V.P. Friday 17th August 2018

PH: 07 3324 9652

E: carindalemanager@pcyc.org.au

ANNUAL CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN 2018

Help unlock a child's unique potential.

Children only get one childhood and not all get an equal start in life.

Please give children whose families are living in crisis hope for a brighter future through a Catholic education.



Your gift is currently helping 25 students access Catholic education through the MacKillop Catholic School Access Fund.

The MacKillop Catholic School Access Fund is one of the four vital agencies supported by the Catholic Campaign.



2018 ANNUAL

CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN

Our Church • Our Mission • Our Community

Support the good works of the Church.

Give today: 07 3324 3200 or
catholiccampaign.com.au

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.

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