



Reflection by Greg Sunter

For the last few weeks we have heard a number of readings from chapter 6 of the Gospel of John focusing on the teaching of Jesus that he is the Bread of Life, come down from heaven. This reading is the last in the sequence and shows the reaction to Jesus' teaching. What Jesus has been saying in this discourse is incredibly confronting to his Jewish audience. Jesus asserts that he has come down from heaven – from the Father – and that through knowing him one can know the Father. Jews were the first people to have a concept of one God. This belief did not allow for any spouse or child of God, nor any personal manifestation. They struggled with what Jesus was saying because his claim to have come down from heaven could be seen as blasphemous. No wonder many of them walked away from Jesus and wanted nothing more to do with him!

Jesus gives an interesting response to them. He tells them that it is the spirit that is important, not his human flesh, and that the spirit is what he has been sharing with them through his words and actions. He is trying to say to these faithful Jews, don't be hung up about the fact that I'm here in person, listen to my message as you've never heard it before. It is an interesting thought for our modern audience as well. How often do we fail to hear the message of Jesus because we are dismissive of the way in which it comes to us; the messenger; or the circumstances in which we hear it? The message is all the more confronting when it comes from an unlikely (or even un-likable) source. The message of Jesus is to be found in our everyday encounters with everyday people.

PARISH HAPPENINGS

LOOKING AHEAD

Monday 27 August

- 7.00pm Italian Prayer Group – Church

Tuesday 28 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

Let us remember in prayer all those who are sick John Andersen and those whose anniversaries occur around this time Tony Bibo, Petra Hellwig, Zina Catalano, Mavis Steele, Ron Steele, Chas Steel, Emilia Lamonaca, Domenico Pizzica, Steve Jugovic, Mona Knight and the recently deceased Dr John Farnworth and Jo-Anne de Wolf.

Last Week's 2nd Collection

| | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Loose | \$891.00 |
| Planned Giving | \$3,571.10 |
| Total | \$4,462.10 |

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.

Volunteers needed for FHC 2018 weekend

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 FHC 2018

This weekend concludes the Family Sessions for those children who will be receiving their First Holy Communion on the weekend of 15 and 16 September 2018. Families, you will need to have booked in for the FHC mass **NO LATER** than Monday 10 September, 3.30pm. For those children who attend St Martin's, there will be a practice session during school hours. For those who do not attend St Martin's, there will be a practice on 11/9 at 3.30pm. Thank you.

St Vincent de Paul - Sharing Bread

Each Tuesday and Friday evening two of our most dedicated member's share bread with a number of large families. This sharing of bread is about sharing the end of the day bread from one of the local bakeries and taking to families in need within our Community. The sharing of the bread goes beyond a simple "loaf of bread" it is an opportunity to connect, an opportunity to share the joys and sadness that some of our families may be experiencing, it is an opportunity to witness Jesus in all his love and hope. Thank you Diana and Alan for your compassion, understanding and dignity is truly inspiring.

Join a Ministry... Today!

Hi everyone, we would like to recruit more people for various ministries and we want you! You don't have to have any experience just commitment. We are currently looking in the following ministries:

- Data Projector Operator
- Ministers of Communion
- Readers
- Musicians
- Altar Servers
- Cuppa n Chat

These ministries are so easy and only require a once a month commitment. Contact the parish office for more info.

Breaking of the Bread. By reason of the sign, it is required that the material for the Eucharistic Celebration truly have the appearance of food. Therefore, it is desirable that the Eucharistic bread, even though unleavened and made in the traditional form, be fashioned in such a way that the priest at Mass with people is truly able to break it into parts and distribute these to at least some of the faithful... the gesture of the fraction or breaking of bread, which was quite simply the term by which the Eucharist was known in apostolic times, will bring out more clearly the force and importance of the sign of the unity of all in the one bread... *GIRM 321*

SOMETHING FUNNY



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.

CATHOLIC LEADER

Available at the back of the church for \$2

- * *Papal letter condemns clerical sexual abuse and cover-ups*
- * *Kerala flood disaster hits home*
- * *St James creates pathway to inclusivity*
- * *Vinnies helping struggling farmers through drought relief appeal*
- * *Refugees still in dire need of aid in Uganda*
- * *Nun 'nudged' Church to act on Aussie's sainthood cause for Eileen O'Connor*

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

2018 – 2019 SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT

The Catholic Justice & Peace Commission of the Archdiocese of Brisbane and St James Coorparoo Social Justice Forum invite you to the launch of THE 2018 – 2019 SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT "A Place to call home". This year's Social Justice Statement from Australia's Catholic Bishops considers the issues of homelessness and housing affordability in Australia. Guest Speaker: Fr Frank Brennan SJ AO, CEO, Catholic Social Services Australia on Wednesday 12 September 2018 at 7:00 PM cuppa for 7:30 PM start. It will be held in St James' Parish Hall 92 Kirkland Avenue, Coorparoo. Light refreshments will be available before the launch. Parking is available in the church and school grounds. RSVP: Monday 10th Sept 2018 – for catering purposes please email parish office osastjames@bne.catholic.net.au or phone 3397 1671. Gold Coin Entry – Proceeds to St. Vincent de Paul Society

Volunteer Overseas - The Cagliari Project, Salesians of Dob Bosco

We are seeking volunteers for January 2019 departure, working with disadvantaged young people in Salesian communities throughout Cambodia, Samoa, Zambia & Solomon Island. Applications close October 15th. Send us an inquiry - www.cagliari.org.au

ANNUAL CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN 2018

Help our most vulnerable neighbours

Your gift helps Centacare's team of staff and volunteers to provide outreach:

- Homelessness and housing support
- Hospital chaplaincy
- Domestic and family violence
- Catholic Psychiatric Pastoral Care...



Your gift is the answer to someone's prayer through **Centacare**, one of the four vital agencies supported by the Catholic Campaign.



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Our Church • Our Mission • Our Community

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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.

Surname: _____ **Given names** _____

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