



Welcome to

Willunga Catholic Parish

Mary of Galilee, Aldinga; St Peter's, Normanville; St Joseph's, Willunga
(Part of the Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island Cluster of Catholic Parishes)

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR A

Vol 18 : No 25

WILLUNGA CATHOLIC PARISH CENTRE

12 St Judes Street (PO Box 14)
WILLUNGA SA 5172
Phone: 8556 2132
Email: admin@willungaparish.org.au
Web: www.willungaparish.org.au

PARISH OFFICE

If you need to contact the Office please ring 0447 421 948 or 0488 287 552 as we are unsure when there will be someone in the Office at the moment.

NOARLUNGA DOWNS CATHOLIC PRESBYTERY

Phone: 8382 1717

PARISH TEAM CONTACTS

- Fr Josy Sebastian (Parish Priest - 8382 1717; emergency 0452 524 169)
- Fr Prathap Katta (A/Priest - 8382 1717)
- Fr Tom Gleeson (Resident Priest - 8557 1072)
- Sr Margaret Ann (Parish worker - 0488 287 552)
- Gael Maloney (Newsletter - articles due Wednesday - 0447 421 948, bahloo2@bigpond.com)
- Sue Summers (Finance - 0438 894 887, suesummers1901@gmail.com)

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
Peter Laffan (phone 8556 3915)

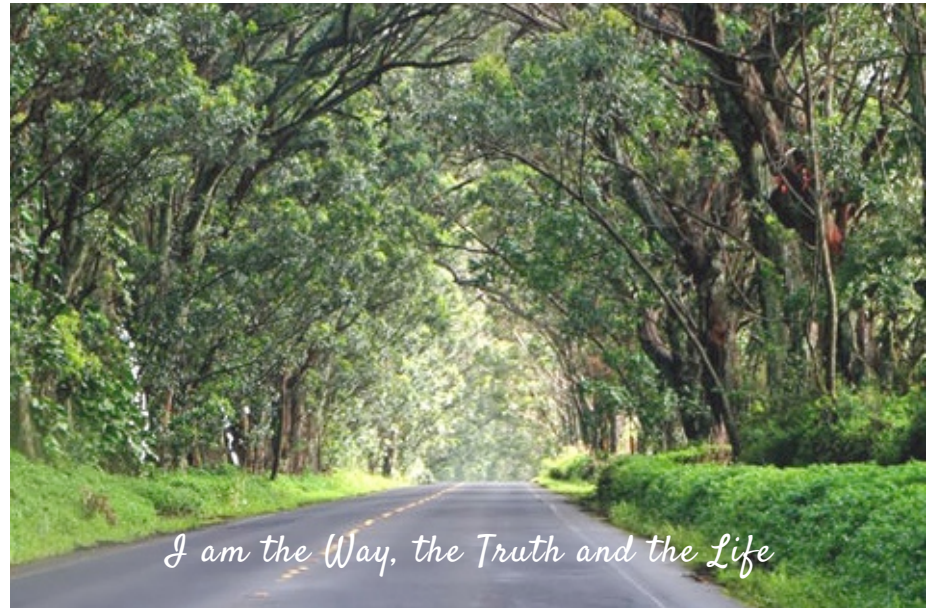
MASS CENTRES

- Mary of Galilee, cnr Quinliven and How Roads, ALDINGA - Galilee
- St Peter's, Cape Jervis Road, NORMANVILLE
- St Joseph's, St Judes St, WILLUNGA

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE THERE WILL BE NO MASSES OR PUBLIC LITURGIES UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
PLEASE SEE THE NEWSLETTER
ON OUR WEBSITE.

[www.willungaparish.org.au/
parish_newsletter.html](http://www.willungaparish.org.au/parish_newsletter.html)



FIRST READING

Acts 6:1-7

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 32:1-2, 4-5, 18-19

*Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.*

SECOND READING

1 Peter 2:4-9

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia!

*I am the way, the truth and the life,
says the Lord; no one comes to the
Father, except through me.
Alleluia!*

(Continued page 8)



Happy Mother's Day !

Article by Ravi Zacharias

Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers on this occasion set aside to celebrate your role and influence in the family. My mother taught me more with her proverbs and one-liners than I ever learned with long arguments, and I am ever grateful for her impact on my life.

As I reflect on this occasion, I think about the beautiful relationship Jesus had with his mother. I find it fascinating that when Jesus was in his final moments of his earthly journey providing redemption for the whole world, he paused to make sure that someone would take care of his mother. Even in the depths of his own pain and agony, Jesus was keenly aware of Mary's distress and did not want her to feel abandoned in that moment, transferring the responsibility of his mother's well-being to his beloved disciple, John.

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, "Woman, here is your son," and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home. – John 19:25-27

I thank God for the value he places on motherhood and I pray we will honor the mothers in our lives today and every day. For all you mothers, I pray you feel celebrated in a special way and treasured by your Heavenly Father, knowing that your sacrificial love and tireless efforts will be rewarded.

END OF AN ERA FOR WILLUNGA CEMETERY

(Reprinted from an article in "The Southern Cross" published last year when David Manders retired as curator at St Joseph's)



Helping people choose a grave site, liaising with the funeral director and grave digger and recording burial details might sound morose but not to David Manders who has been doing just that for 30 years as curator of St Joseph's Cemetery at Willunga. "Knowing that I have been able to help people at the most difficult times, that gives me a real buzz," David explained on the eve of his retirement. "It's amazing how little people know about what to do when there's a death."

The 73-year-old Willunga parishioner was an obvious choice when the then parish priest Father Peter Milburn was looking for someone to volunteer as curator of the historic St Joseph's cemetery. David had worked for a funeral director for 15 years and even lived in a funeral parlour at Alberton with his wife Kathleen. From 1989 to 2011 he was employed in the crematorium at Centennial Park.

Reflecting on 45 years in the industry, David said the job had made him "think about my own mortality".

(Continued page 3)

INSTALLATION ARCHBISHOP-DESIGNATE PATRICK O'REGAN

The installation will be held in St Francis Xavier's Cathedral at 10.30am on Monday May 25 with only a small number of clergy and representatives of the Archdiocese in attendance due to the coronavirus restrictions.



The installation ceremony and Mass will be live streamed via the Archdiocesan website www.adelaide.catholic.org.au and on YouTube and Facebook. It will be replayed on Channel 44 the same day at 5.30pm.

LIVE STREAMING OF MASSES FROM ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S CATHEDRAL

The Archdiocese is continuing to live stream daily Mass at midday and on Sundays at 10am from St Francis Xavier's Cathedral. These Masses can be viewed live and on demand on the home page of www.adelaide.catholic.org.au. It will also be available via [Facebook](#) or [YouTube](#).

For those without internet access, Sunday Mass is screened every week on Channel 10 at 6am.

Travel plans for 2020



New from Ikea - Social Distance Bench

(Continued from page 2)

“When I see a speeding car...I am a lot more conscious of what can happen, and what does happen,” he said. “At Centennial Park I always seemed to be cremating people who were younger than me.”

But David, who was raised an Anglican and converted to Catholicism after taking on the curator role at Willunga, said his faith was stronger because of what he had experienced.

“I see people who don’t believe and there is no light at the end of the tunnel, they are completely devastated whereas people who have had tragedy in their lives and have faith seem to be able to carry on...there’s a certain calmness,” said David who attends Mass at Mary of Galilee Church, Aldinga.

“I saw some terrible things working for a funeral director but I would think, ‘I am here to be professional and arrange the funeral’...I had to switch off.

“You have to show empathy but sometimes there are no words to say to people.”

David’s caring qualities and professionalism were acknowledged in 2015 when he was awarded the Darren Leuders Customer Service Award from the Cemeteries and Crematoria Association of SA.

Since David began volunteering at the picturesque cemetery – one of the oldest in the State – has undergone significant expansion with 850 new grave sites created and rose gardens, a gazebo and memorial area for cremated remains established. But David stressed that he had received a lot of help from parishioners over the years, particularly before he retired from Centennial Park.

The number of burials has been increasing in recent years due to the ageing congregation and cremation memorials are in demand.

The oldest part of the cemetery has graves dating back to 1867 but in 2000, the 150th anniversary of St Joseph’s Church, the University of Adelaide was invited to investigate the suspected burial of remains in the western part of the cemetery. It is believed the tombstone had been accidentally broken and removed by a plough in the 1940s or 50s.

(We were very pleased when Martin Morgan agreed to take over from David last year. The contact details for curators at St Joseph’s and St Peter’s are: St Joseph’s - Martin Morgan [0417 851 902] and: St Peter’s - Peter Bohnsack [0400 525 690]).

FR PETER HUGHES

(submitted by Michelle Cormack - reproduced from the article by P O’Toole for www.willunga.nowandthen.net.au)



Above: Father Peter Hughes is standing, second from left

(B-11338) seeking priests

Father Peter Hughes was born in 1820 in Cappaboggin, County Meath, and was Parish Priest in Willunga for around 13 years from 1853. In 1846, the first Bishop of Adelaide, Francis Murphy, had visited Europe

and, at the Navan seminary in Ireland where Peter Hughes was a student, encouraged Hughes and another student, John Smyth, to come to Adelaide. He firstly sent both young men to study for the priesthood at the College of Propaganda in Rome and, once ordained, Fr Hughes and Fr Smyth travelled to South Australia.

Fr Hughes arrived in Adelaide to find that Bishop Murphy had provided a housekeeper, furniture and a horse for him. The Bishop had also arranged that the 10 pound rental of ‘Daley’s section of Church land at Willunga’ should be paid over to Fr Hughes by Richard Logan, one of the few Catholic civic leaders in Willunga. Fr Hughes had a large parish to minister. On 24 August 1853, he baptized the first Catholic child to enter the parish register, Michael Kenny from Willunga. This must have been a relief to Fr Hughes. In 1853, there had been no priest for almost a year, and many of the Catholic population had gone to the goldfields. Over the next 13 years, he would regularly travel around such places as Willunga, Aldinga, McLaren Vale, Goolwa, Port Elliot, Encounter Bay, Yankalilla, Rapid Bay, Prospect Hill and Meadows to administer the sacraments. He also visited places that are now simply footnotes in history books, such as Martins Swamp, Wattle Hill, Logan’s Flat, Sheoak Hill and Bishops Flat. In 1855, Fr Hughes also probably witnessed the consecration of St Joseph’s cemetery by Bishop Murphy. Fr Hughes erected the churches of St Peter, Yankalilla and St John the Evangelist, Port Elliott.

Fr Hughes was a fierce advocate and protector of the Catholic faith and the Catholic people. In 1855, it was decided to create a servant depot in Willunga to house 61 Irish immigrant orphan girls who needed to find work and make a new life for themselves in South Australia. Some of these ‘girls’ were in their twenties, and some had been previously married. The feeling towards these women ran high and there were many complaints about their conduct and lack of training.

After the women arrived in Willunga, Fr Hughes raised the ire of Thomas Smith Kell, who had been placed in charge of the women by the Colonial Secretary, by insisting on wages of at least 4 shillings a week, and introducing a book to be signed by the employer that enabled the women to attend Mass at least on alternate Sundays. The Colonial Secretary asked Bishop Murphy to intercede, which he did, directing Fr. Hughes not become involved in matters of employment. Matters came to a head when the women rebelled against Kell, and one of the women, Catherine Leary, in the words of T.S. Kell ‘attempted to assault me at the time, but threatened to murder me ...’. Finally, the depot was discontinued and the Colonial Secretary was known to have commented on the “interference of the Roman Catholic Clergyman of that District”.

Fr Hughes remained in Willunga until 1866 when, due to ill health, he was transferred to Morphett Vale, where the duties were lighter. He died in Morphett Vale on 20 November 1876 from chronic bronchitis and is commemorated by a marble tablet on the north wall of St Mary’s old Church in Morphett Vale:

"Of your charity pray for the soul of the Rev. Peter Hughes who fell asleep in the Lord on the feast of St Felix of Valois 1876 in the 56th year of his age and the 24th of his sacred ministry. Sweet Jesus grant him eternal rest. This tablet was erected in loving remembrance of their pastor by the congregation of St Mary's assisted by the Catholics of Willunga of which district he was the faithful pastor for 14 years."

MY STORY ... (with Walter Litvensky)



I was born Walter Michael Litvensky in Lakemba, Sydney in 1945. I was the fourth child of five children born to Ernest and Adelaide Litvensky. I was named after my Polish grandfather and known by family and close friends as Wally or Wal. My early memories of childhood are happy ones. My maternal family (Mum's brothers and sister and their families) came together every Sunday at my grandmother's house for Sunday lamb roast. These were happy years as Mum's brothers and sister all returned from the war.

Nan had been a widow for nearly 20 years. During the mid-fifties my brothers and I took turns to sleep over at Nan's house to keep her company. This period marked a

real development in my Catholic faith, influenced by Nan. I went to St Therese Church for Morning Mass, Holy Hour devotions, and Saturday afternoon confessions. I was educated by the Sisters of St Joseph and De La Salle Brothers in Lakemba.

By the early sixties, I felt a calling to religious life. However, this was not to be, and I responded to a call from the Palms Association to go to New Guinea as a Lay Missionary. The Bishop of Darwin at the time, the late Rev John O'Loughlin, contacted me and asked me come to the Territory. I thought this would be ideal. I had a friend on Bathurst Island, the only Aboriginal Mission I knew of, and envisaged palm trees, blue skies, sand and sea. I met the Bishop in Sydney and he pointed to a spot in central Australia. He was indicating the Simpson Desert and especially the Little Flower Mission at Santa Teresa. It had lots of sand (with no sea), but plenty of bulldust, flies and the smell of the Gidgee Trees. I didn't feel I could say "no" to a Bishop.

At nearly 22 years old, with no life experiences except as an insurance clerk, I left for Santa Teresa in July of 1967 for a two year stint, as green as green.

Alice Springs had a population of around 5,000 people and Santa Teresa about 600 Arrernte people. The mission was situated approximately 200Km east of Alice Springs, a long drive of two and half hours on a sandy, rocky, corrugated road. What had I done? The staff consisted of Priest-in-charge Fr Clancy M.S.C., two M.S.C brothers, four OLSH sisters and five Lay Missionaries. I received a stipend of \$20 a month, plus meals. I am convinced Sister knew how to cook tinned camp pie in thirty different ways!

This journey was the first real life-changing experience of my life. I multi-skilled as clerical assistant to Fr Clancy, as teacher's aide with the OLSH sisters and store assistant in the canteen. Power came from a generator which switched on at 6.00pm and off at 10.00pm. At first, I needed to boil the copper to have a bucket bath, but this was replaced with a fancy chip heater in 1968. There was no air-conditioning for the hot summer nights after up to 44°C during the day. Monday was washing day with the power on from 9.00am to 11.00am. Most nights we were given a warning for lights out by Br Bennett, "You've got a decade of the rosary", which meant run to your quarters and grab a torch.

The Arrernte were the most beautiful, gentle people. I feel privileged to have had this time living among them. At that time they were still very traditional people with a strong faith in Jesus and his Blessed Mother Mary. Today I refer to the old people of that time, who have passed on, as the saints of Santa Teresa. We laughed with them in the good times and cried with them in their sad times. We worked together supporting them and shared in their daily lives. We participated in their births, baptisms and marriages and laid them to rest in death. We danced, we sang. I learnt to ride a horse and watched John Wayne movies on Sunday nights. We taught the old people to write their names to sign their pension cheques. We sat around their camps on summer nights, drinking tea and listening to their stories and shared our own family stories.

My tenure there ended in early 1970. I moved to Alice Springs with a plan to find a job and stay one year. Patricia put a stop to that and we married in 1973. We raised two daughters, Sarah and Marie.

In Alice Springs I started work in a supermarket owned by the Egar family from Adelaide. I moved to the Australian Government and worked for 22 years in Indigenous Programs, travelling extensively to many Centralian remote communities

(Continued page 5)

PRAY WITH MOTHER MARY AND MASS IN TIME OF PANDEMIC

As Pope Francis has entrusted the protection of the world to Mary, we join in praying the rosary followed by the Mass in time of Pandemic in St Francis Xavier's Cathedral on Saturday, May 16. The Rosary and Mass will begin at 12.10pm and be live streamed via www.adelaide.catholic.org.au.

We follow in the footsteps of our Holy Father and together we pray to Mary, for continued protection of the vulnerable, healing of the sick, courage to those working on the frontline and wisdom for those developing a cure.

COVID-19 PHONE COUNSELLING

Now available by appointment

People struggling to cope with the chaos and fear surrounding COVID-19 can now access free phone counselling by appointment from Centacare Catholic Family Services - 8215 6700.

"DECADE A DAY IN MAY"

Pray a decade of the Rosary each day in May for vocations to the priesthood and the religious life. When you sign up to the email list you'll receive a short reflection each day during May.

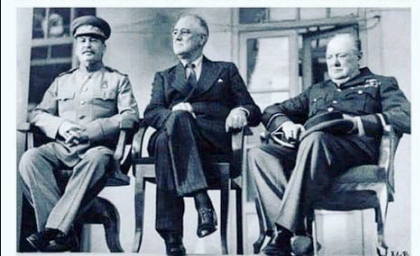
To subscribe go to:

vocationsadelaide.catholic.org.au

SUNDAY LITURGY FOR FAMILIES

As a response to the COVID-19 situation while Masses have been suspended, the Family and Parish-Based Catechesis Office has prepared liturgies with a focus on children. Families can use these at home to reflect on the Gospel each Sunday. This can be found at this link on the Archdiocesan website: <http://www.adelaide.catholic.org.au/our-works-and-community/family-and-parish-based-catechesis/prayer-services>

HOW DID THE WORLD GO FROM THIS...



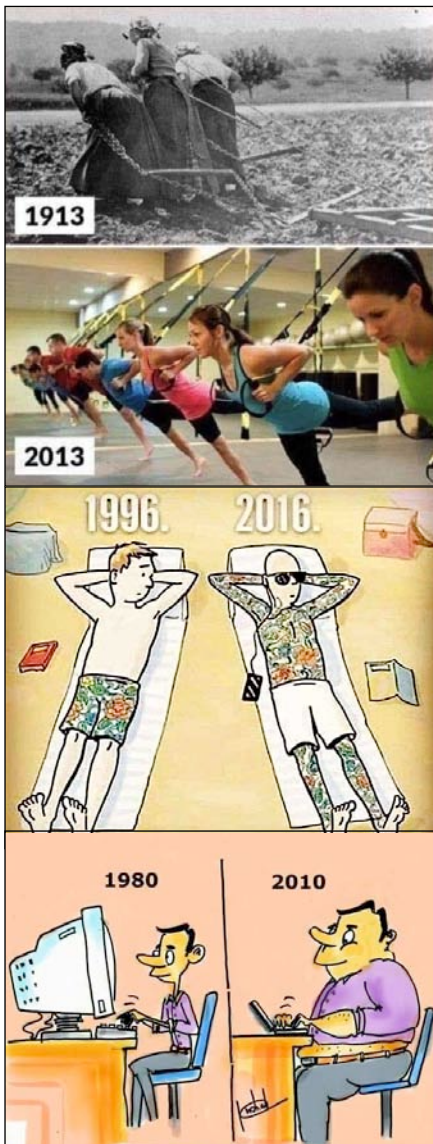
TO THIS ???

(Continued from page 4)

as a Project Officer/Program Manager, but that is a story for another time of the Indigenous people in Central Australia. I have continued to maintain contact with my Santa Teresa family for fifty years.

I was a member of the Northern Territory St Vincent de Paul Society for 26 years, including a term of five years as the Territory President. I travelled overseas with the Australia National Council to visit our twinned countries and to view projects the Australian Society supported financially.

In 2011 our hearts were broken when our daughter Marie died of cancer, aged 33years. She left a husband and three-year-old daughter, Eden Grace. Marie had been having treatment in Adelaide and would travel to Normanville to stay with a good friend. She often rang me to say she had been to Sunday Mass at St Peter's and that this would be an ideal retirement place for us. We bought a house in 2012 and retired here in 2016, after 49 years in Central Australia.



ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY COVID-19 WINTER APPEAL

The St Vincent de Paul Society is still reaching out to assist those in need in SA in a manner consistent with COVID-19 restrictions. Many of our sisters and brothers have now lost their source income due to COVID-19 closures etc and are struggling to survive. The St Vincent de Paul Society has launched its Covid-19 Winter Appeal to help people experiencing disadvantage. As the impacts of job losses due to Covid-19 are realised and more people reach out for assistance, the organisation needs your help to ensure our Willunga Conference members and volunteers can continue their work supporting the disadvantaged in our community.

We are asking Willunga Parishioners who are in a position to do so, to donate to the COVID-19 Winter Appeal. Normally Winter Appeal envelopes would have been handed out at weekend Masses and collected the following weekend. Since Masses have been suspended for the time being, the following options are available for Willunga Parishioners to contribute financially to the appeal this year:

1. COVID-19 Winter Appeal Envelopes will be left in a tray at the three Mass Centres next to the tray with paper copies of the parish bulletin. Parishioners can pick up an envelope to make a donation. These can be posted to our head office with CREDIT CARD or CHEQUE DONATIONS ONLY or
2. Donations can be made online at www.vinnies.org.au/donate or
3. By calling 13 18 12 or
4. By sending a cheque or money order to St Vincent de Paul Society, GPO Box 1804 Adelaide, SA, 5001
5. If you are unable to donate in these ways and wish to donate using cash, you can use either the supplied appeal envelope obtainable at one of the three Willunga Parish Mass Centres or simply use your own envelope, marked "Vinnies COVID-19 Winter Appeal". Contact Mario (0419 63 9913) and arrangements will be made to collect the envelopes from you.

By supporting the Vinnies Covid-19 Winter Appeal, you will assist in two ways. At a local level, our members and volunteers will be able to offer assistance directly to families and individuals who have been impacted by Covid-19. At a broader level, you will be

contributing to the large and varied network of short- and longer-term support services for people in SA who require specialised care. The Conference thanks parishioners for the tremendous support we always receive in these appeals, enabling us to continue to reach out to the many needy people in our parish.

Mario Bacchin
Treasurer Willunga Conference

THE STUMBLING BLOCK YOU NEED

At the time I probably thought of him as a party pooper, but now I'm grateful to Don. I was in high school, and a bunch of my friends and I were scheming to pull a prank on a guy in our class who was often the butt of our jokes. We were telling ourselves that it was all in good fun. But it wouldn't have been much fun for the guy at whom we were aiming our joke.

The Don, one of my friends and a quiet guy, said, "I don't want to be part of this". It was as simple as that. He didn't try to talk us out of our plans and he didn't try to shame us. But his decision of conscience to not go along with the crowd proved to be a stumbling block to the rest of us. Suddenly we were forced to look at our behaviour regarding this classmate who'd so long been our fall guy. It no longer seemed like fun. In fact, slowly I came to see it for what it was: selfish and cruel.

I'd like to say that caused an immediate turnaround for me, but that wouldn't be true. However, my quiet friend's taking a stand had a slow-growing and long-term effect on me. Jesus was a stumbling block to many. When you're proceeding fast in the wrong direction, a good stumble may be just what you need.

GPBS eNews

ME DRINKING HOME ALONE 2019
Sad Disturbing Loser

ME DRINKING HOME ALONE 2020
Citizen Inspiration Hero



PLENERY COUNCIL DISCUSSION GROUPS

“Catholics for Renewal” report that of the top ten issues raised by some 200,000 Catholic respondents to the question *What do you think God is asking for us in Australia today?* shows that 5 of the top 6 issues relate to women and 3 directly call for women to have a greater role in Church ministry and governance. They have prepared a summary document on Women and Ministry, which makes for interesting reading.

Women and Ministry

Introduction

Women are discriminated against in the Catholic Church, excluded from the more important roles in governance and ministry, and denied a seat at the table where doctrine is determined. The Church justifies this discrimination through selective references to scripture and tradition.

What do Scripture, Secular Society and the Church say about women?

Women and Scripture

“There is no longer... male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus” (Galatians 3:26-28).

From the beginning, both men and women were created equal in the image of God. A woman was the mother of Jesus.

Women were among his most ardent disciples and supporters, included in his inner circle, and sharers in his ministry. Unlike the Twelve, excepting John, they faithfully accompanied Jesus to Calvary and stood witness to his death. Archbishop Comensoli recently pointed out: “Mary of Magdala was the first to see him (after the resurrection); the first to recognise him; the first to be named by him; and the first to be sent by him. Mary rightly is the first apostle, the one called and sent to proclaim Jesus Christ, risen from the dead.”



Know faster if you've come in contact with Coronavirus.

Download the COVIDSafe app today.

Download the COVIDSafe App

Download the COVIDSafe app today to keep yourself and your community safe by helping our health workers to notify you quickly if you've come in contact with someone who has Coronavirus.

With your privacy protected by law, COVIDSafe keeps a secure note of other users you've been near if you have to go out. So, if they test positive for Coronavirus, you'll be notified. It'll help us stop the spread sooner, so we can all get back to the things we love.

Authorised by the Australian Government, Canberra

In the early church, women ministered with the gifts of the Spirit as evangelists, pastors, teachers, prophets (Ephesians 4:11), preachers, healers, helpers, and leaders (1 Corinthians 12: 4-11; 27-30). Coloe persuasively contends that women were also priests and bishops. In 1976, the Pontifical Biblical Commission found that it is not Sacred Scripture that precludes women from ordination to the priesthood.

Women in Secular Society

In a movement that runs parallel to the Christian Scriptures, the quest for women's equality is a critical 'sign of the times' in the secular world. The United Nations and International Courts, among the most gender balanced of the world's institutions, recognize the full humanity of women, their rights and duties. Advanced secular societies also acknowledge that it is just and right for women to hold leadership positions in politics, business, academia, government and the military. Some discrimination remains, but while it is not protected, let alone required, by law, progress is well advanced.

Women in the Church

Women, like men, are mandated through baptism, to serve, teach and witness the Risen Christ. The Catechism states: “Baptism gives a common share in the common priesthood of all believers” and “it is an anointing, for it is priestly and royal, as are those who are anointed. Every baptised person is commissioned to “Go out and make disciples and teach all nations, baptising them ... and teaching them ...” (Matthew 28:19-20).

Women are not a special interest group in the Catholic Church. They comprise half the Church's members and a majority of those present at church liturgies. Fundamental justice requires that women be treated equally in all ministries, and at all levels of church governance. In some other Christian churches women receive greater recognition and are ordained as priests and bishops. Within the Abrahamic tradition, which Christians share with Judaism and Islam, there are women rabbis and imams. Only in the Catholic Church are women excluded by Church law from ordained ministry and the highest governance positions (canon 129).

Women and the Plenary Council

As the Plenary Council approaches, the role of women in the Catholic Church in Australia was recently diminished. This year, the Australian bishops abolished the Council for Australian Catholic Women and downgraded the Office for the Participation of Women, entities established in 2000 in response to the report, *Woman and Man: One in Christ*.

Last year Australian Catholics were invited to respond to the question - *What do you think God is asking of us in Australia today?* Some 200,000 responded, providing the best and most comprehensive contemporary insight into the *sensus fidei* (sense of faith) of Australian Catholics.

The latest independent research on those responses identifying the most widely discussed issues raised in the responses, found that three of the top six issues discussed concern the need for women to have a greater role in ministry and governance.

This is a finding which accords with Catholics for Renewal's recommendations in its own published response - *Getting Back on Mission* – where it calls on the Plenary Council and Holy See to: commit to gender balance in church leadership at all levels (Recs. 3.14, 16-17), and take note of the *sensus fidei* of Australian Catholics with regard to women's ordination (Rec. 3.18).

The Catholic Church should end the entrenched practice of treating women as inferior and second-class citizens. By baptism, all members are equal, and must be recognized in ministry and governance. The Plenary Council needs to recognise in its legislation that women have the right to be included in all aspects of church leadership, decision-making, governance and ministry, including ordained ministry.

Catholics For Renewal 29/4/20
catholicsforrenewal.org.au

PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES AND ENVELOPES

We realise that many parishioners have already responded to the call to pay their Project Compassion donations online. However, if you still have boxes or envelopes at home, and would like someone to collect them from you for counting and processing, please contact Sue Summers (0438 894 887) soon. All money needs to be finalised and sent off before the end of May.

If you would like to donate online go directly to the link at:

www.caritas.org.au/donate/online-donation?DonationCode=PC

HOW CAN WE KNOW THE WAY?

Thomas is the practical apostle. He had very little religious imagination. As we know, he couldn't invest himself in the resurrection of Jesus without hands-on-experience of it. Here, we find that he isn't going to buy into the reign of God unless he can find it on Google Maps. And Jesus humours him by offering him something better than a roadmap: himself.

Jesus is the way. What does that mean? A generation ago, Christian bumper stickers read, "One Way," with an arrow pointing upwards. But maybe a more theologically accurate sign would point THROUGH - through the heart of the world, into the depths of our humanity until we find that central spot where the Spirit dwells in us. It takes a lot of stillness, a lot of contemplation and quiet, to find that place. We can contemplate the world, in its beauty and suffering, or our own lives, or Scripture or the image of the cross. The mystery of the Kingdom is not "up" from here, but in our midst. We are the Body of Christ. If we're looking for Jesus, and the way, the yellow brick road starts right here. *GPBS eNews*

PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: Val Gater, Bernie Wilkie, Abbey McIver, Veronica Shortland, Muriel Smith, Jeff Gray, Judy Hore, Vence Sulda

Recently deceased: Pat Hardy

Anniversary: Cath Roocke

DATES

May 24 The Ascension of the Lord
 May 31 Pentecost Sunday
 Jun 7 The Most Holy Trinity
 Jun 8 Queen's birthday holiday
 Jun 14 Corpus Christi
 Jul 4 Winter School holidays begin
 Jul 20 Term 3 begins
 Aug 15 Assumption of Virgin Mary
 Sep 6 Fathers' Day
 Sep 26 Spring School holidays begin
 Oct 5 Labour Day holiday
 Oct 12 Term 4 begins
 Nov 11 Remembrance Day
 Dec 12 Summer School holidays begin
 Dec 25 Christmas Day

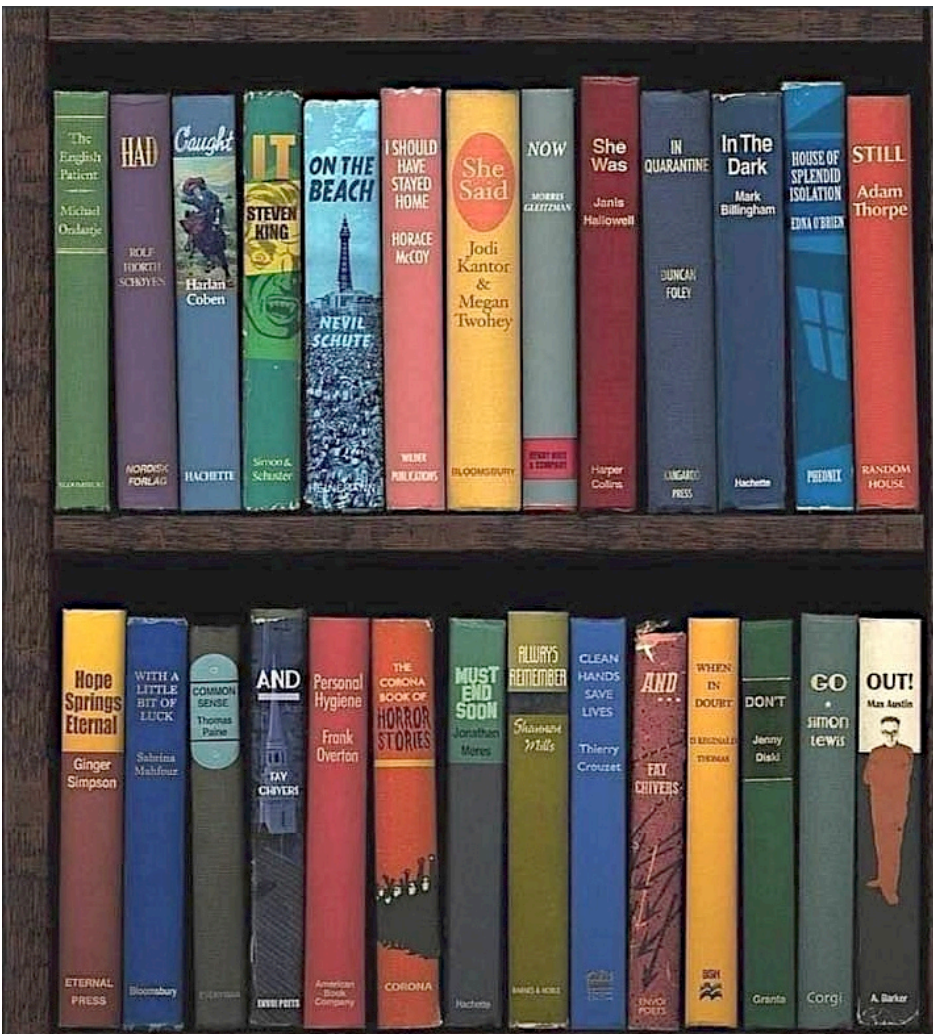
COLLECTIONS

Our funds have been seriously depleted since the end of March when regular Masses ceased. Unfortunately, many of the bills for things like rates, insurance, urgent maintenance etc haven't. We realise that many people are suffering financially too, at the moment, but please give what you can.

Direct payments

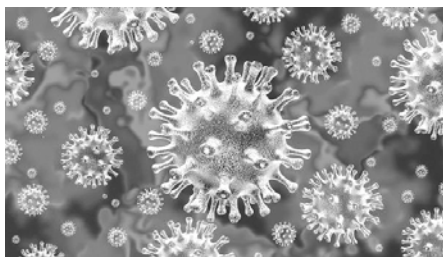
If you would like to organise your Church donations via bank transfer there are several ways you can go about this.

- Go to www.adelaide.catholic.org.au/donation and follow the prompts. If you wish to donate to both the first and second collections, you will need to do this twice. For the first collection select *First Collection* and for the second collection, select *General*.
- If you bank online, you can set up periodic, direct payments yourself. Again, you will need to do this twice - once for the first collection and again for second.
 Acc: Willunga Catholic Parish
 BSB: 085-005
 Acc No: 489 786 511
 Ref: Your surname, initials and *First* or *General*
- Periodic regular payments may also be organised with your bank. Take the account details (above) with you and bank staff can set it up for you.



Read the titles from top left onwards arranged by a librarian. Very clever.

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE



THERE WILL BE NO MASSES OR PUBLIC LITURGIES IN ANY OF OUR CLUSTER CHURCHES UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

FOR MORE INFORMATION
PLEASE SEE THE NEWSLETTER
ON YOUR PARISH WEBSITE

KANGAROO ISLAND PARISH

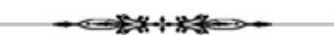
(www.kicatholic.org.au)

KINGSCOTE

*Our Lady of Perpetual Help,
cnr Todd and Giles Streets*

PENNESHAW

St Columba, North Terrace



NOARLUNGA/SEAFORD PARISH

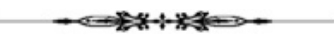
(www.noarlunga-seafordparish.org.au)

NOARLUNGA

*St Luke, the Evangelist,
cnr Honeypot Rd and Goldsmith Dve*

SEAFORD

*Seaford Ecumenical Mission,
Grand Bvd*



VICTOR HARBOR/GOOLWA PARISH

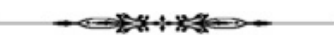
(www.victorgoolwacatholic.org.au)

VICTOR HARBOR

St Joan of Arc, 30 Seaview Road

GOOLWA

St John the Apostle, 10-14 Gardiner St



WILLUNGA PARISH

(www.willungaparish.org.au)

ALDINGA

*Mary of Galilee, the First Disciple
cnr Quinliven and How Roads*

NORMANVILLE

St Peter, Cape Jervis Road

WILLUNGA

St Joseph, 12 St Judes Street

(Continued from page 1)

GOSPEL

John 14:1-12

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father’s house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am now going to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going.’

Thomas said, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?’ Jesus said:

‘I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen him.’

Philip said, ‘Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.’ ‘Have I been with you all this time, Philip,’ said Jesus to him ‘and you still do not know me?’

‘To have seen me is to have seen the Father, so how can you say, “Let us see the Father”? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself: it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work. You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason. I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father.’

EXPLORING THE WORD

Today’s gospel draws our attention to the time when Jesus will depart from the disciples (the Ascension is two weeks away). When Jesus is gone, the disciples must continue the task that he has begun. One can imagine their fear and uncertainty in being left with such a monumental challenge. Philip’s question, ‘Lord, how can we know the way?’, shows their fear clearly enough. But help is available. Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. He is

both the map and the destination. Disciples are called to adopt Jesus’ lifestyle, his approach to God, to others, to all creation. In living as Jesus did, living the life of faith, the disciples will know the truth and will have life. This life of faith and living the way of Jesus, God’s way in the world, will enable the disciples not only to continue the work of Jesus but to perform even greater works.

- In what ways does living this life of faith get tested each day?
- What great works are you now called on to perform?
- What are some ways to continue to deepen your knowledge and love of Jesus?

DID YOU NOW?

This text comes from a long section of John’s Gospel known as the ‘farewell discourse’, during which Jesus gives final instruction to the disciples at the Last Supper. Perhaps this echoes something of your own experience of the period of mystagogy.



THIS WEEK’S READINGS

(11 - 17 May)

- **Monday, 11:** Monday 5th week Easter (Acts 14:5-18; Jn 14:21-26)
- **Tuesday, 12:** Tuesday 5th week Easter (Acts 14:19-28; Jn 14:27-31)
- **Wednesday, 13:** Wednesday 5th week Easter (Acts 15:1-6; Jn 15:1-8)
- **Thursday, 14:** St Matthias (Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Jn 15:9-17)
- **Friday, 15:** Friday 5th week Easter (Acts 15:22-31; Jn 15:12-17)
- **Saturday, 16:** Saturday 5th week Easter (Acts 16:1-10; Jn 15:18-21)
- **Sunday 17:** Sixth Sunday of Easter (Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; 1 Pet 3:15-18; Jn 4:15-21)



PASTORAL CARE

If you need a Priest for anointing of the sick or last rites contact: Noarlunga/Seaford (8382 1717), Willunga (0488 287 552), Victor Harbor/Goolwa (8552 1084), Kangaroo Island (0418 819 078).