



SACRED HEART PARISH

Moruya, Moruya Heads, Mossy Point, Broulee, Tuross Head, Congo, Bodalla. 36 Queen Street (PO Box 23), Moruya, NSW, 2537.

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Email: Moruya@cg.org.au Website: <http://cg.org.au/Moruya> Parish Administrator Fr Stephen Astill SJ; Parish Deacon Emeritus Rev. Paul Rummery; Parish Secretary Mrs Rachel Glover

Tuross Caring Group: 0497 315 534 Moruya Caring Group: 0431 354 993 PARISH SCHOOLS: St Mary's Primary School Acting Principal: Mrs Noelene O'Neill. Carroll College Principal: Mrs Jacqui Heffernan.

Weekend Masses: Saturday Vigil 6pm; Sunday at The Pines, Tuross 8am; Sacred Heart Moruya 10am. Weekday Masses: Monday Communion Service 9.15am; Weekday Masses 9.15am. Reconciliation: 10.30-11.30am

Baptisms, Anointing of the Sick, Weddings and Funerals by appointment. First Sacraments Scheduled - Confirmation 1st June; First Eucharist 15th September.

The Season of Lent The Third Sunday

*We stand with survivors today.
We mourn their pain, their grief, their loss.
We hope for healing, justice and grace.
We pray for our broken Church.*

TIME	EVENT
Mon 25/3 9.15am	Communion Service
Tues 26/3 5.30pm	Mass
Wed, 27/3 9.15am	Mass
Thurs, 28/3 9.15am	Mass
Fri 29/3 9.15am	Mass & Stations

-the enclosed Benedictine nuns Jamberoo Abbey.

REMINDER: Mass at Bodalla on Sunday at 2pm! It's on!! All welcome! Apologies for it not being in last week-ends bulletin; let's blame the editor!

NOTE: This weekend's bulletin will be the last in this format! The new format will be cheaper to produce and there will be more to read!

PROJECT COMPASSION 2019 The theme for Project Compassion 2019 is based around hope and giving Lent 100% in the name of hope. Hope is one of the three pillars of Christian virtue. The other two being faith and charity.

COMPASSION PRAYER: Our Lenten Project

Creator God,
You are our constant hope!
In the season of Lent,
you call us
to prayer, fasting and love
of those most marginalised.
In this Moruyan community of faith and courage,
let our gifts to Project Compassion
be symbols of hope and solidarity
with our one human family.
Accompany us as we journey with Jesus
to bring 'good news' to all creation
And ready our hearts
to work for the common good of all your people.
We ask this in Jesus' name. AMEN
"Lives can change!"

I would like to invite all readers and hearers to apply this message to our brothers and sisters across the Tasman. So much has happened there in the past week; I am aware that many of you have been following it all as closely as I have.

Jacinta Ardern's name was not very well-known prior to the events of April 11; through those events the world has delighted in her qualities of leadership and compassion; for some of us, she is 'the new leader of the free world', a title formerly given to the President of the United States, who has totally lost it!

She has said,
"Our history changed forever. Now, our laws will too... (Six days after this attack, we are announcing a ban on all military style semi-automatics (MSSA) and assault rifles in New Zealand)"

"We are one; they are us"
'I spoke with Donald Trump this morning. He very much wished for his condolences to be passed on to New Zealand.



He asked what offer of support the United States could provide. My message was 'sympathy and love for all Muslim communities'.

-Grace Back put it simply in 'Marie Claire Australia': "This is what a leader looks like."

-She "is emerging as the definitive progressive antithesis to the crowded field of right-wing strongmen... whose careers thrive on illiberal, anti-Muslim rhetoric". -Sushil Aaron, New York Times

PARISH BBQ. MARK YOUR DIARY FOR SUN 5th MAY.

You are invited to our parish BBQ. Our Parish has been through a number of deaths, tragedies, parish changes and sexual abuse cases with a Cardinal in jail. The combined Caring Groups are using their ministry of caring to help us all come together as Easter people to remember, heal and support one another.

CARING GROUP COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

Tuross Head Committee meet Thursday 4th April. 10.30 am in The Club. Moruya Committee meet Friday 5th April. 10.30 am in The Cafe Vulcan.

FIRST RECONCILIATIONS: Congratulations to the 22 students of St Mary's who made their First Reconciliation this past week. A lot of preparations went into the event, and it all went off beautifully. Thanks to all parents, teachers and other staff who contributed to the process.

'VIRTUE SIGNALLING' AND OTHER SLIMY WORDS

Election campaigns are carnival times for dodgy words. Politicians and their hacks dog-whistle them out of their lairs, summon them from Shakespearean lexicons and haul them back from used-word graveyards. The most noxious of them slither noisomely in, sleazing and sliming their handlers.

The slimy words are those that convict their targets of simulating virtue. They include the old favourite 'bleeding hearts', the perennial 'political correctness' and the most recently minted 'virtue signalling'. All these phrases began as commendation.

The original Bleeding Heart was Jesus' heart seen as a symbol for compassion: Bleeding Heart Tavern in London originally had a sign emblazoned with a picture of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The phrase was then applied to people who were compassionate and open-hearted. As such, of course, it was appropriated by politicians to describe themselves as genial and generous. That vanity provoked cynicism, leading the phrase to be used as an insult by acerbic journalists. In the United States, for example, Wesbrook Pegler described as 'bleeding hearts' the supporters of a federal bill to impose penalties for lynching. (Note: There is a beautiful vine called 'Bleeding Heart; I hope to get some when they become available! SA)

'Political correctness' was coined to commend people for acting consistently with their ideology. Their opponents, disagreeing with their ideology, then turned the phrase to imply that their actions were not based on reasoned argument but on party loyalty.

'Virtue signalling' was also first used to describe actions that expressed a religious faith or way of life. Convinced Christians, for example, who visited people in prison might be said to signal virtue through their actions. Critics then turned the phrase to describe the motivation of the action and not its effect, and further implied that it was done to look good or draw applause, not to be of service to the people visited.

When people speak of bleeding hearts, political correctness and virtue signalling today, they do so to attack their opponents and the opinions they commend. Bleeding hearts are soft

-headed, sentimental and weak. Their arguments may be dismissed because they are driven by emotion, not by reason. People who are politically correct are motivated by the desire for approval of the crowd, are self-regarding, lack an intellectual centre and are not serious seekers after truth. Their judgments may also be dismissed because they do not reflect intellectual argument but acceptance of majority opinion. People engaged in virtue signalling are driven by the desire to look good. Their positions may be dismissed because they do not arise out of honest reflection on the issue at stake but out of either vanity or ulterior motives, such as seeking commercial advantage through endorsing a popular cause.

"When elections draw near, truth, respect and rationality are as rare and endangered as rainbow coloured butterflies in a dust storm."

The reason why these phrases are slimy, slithery and sludgy is that they purport to be counters in rational argument but dismiss opposed arguments without engaging with them. They rely on destroying the credibility of the argument by insinuating the personal unreliability of the person who makes the argument. This frees those who have recourse to these phrases from the bother of careful analysis of their opponents' positions, still less of demonstrating the motives attributed to them. They display a fundamental lack of respect both for their opponents and for the discipline of argument. In the vernacular, they play the man and not the ball, or more precisely, they take out the man behind the play. If you drag slimy creatures along the floor you make it slippery, making it likely that you will slip on it. So it is with resorting to slithery phrases. If you define a conversation by the use of phrases such as virtue signalling, you are essentially claiming the high moral and intellectual ground. Your opponents are driven by emotion and not by reason, by the desire for popularity and not for truth, by the search for advantage and not for truth or integrity. You, on the other hand, are the stern representative of pure reason, hard love and disinterested judgment. On that claim your argument stands or falls. In this case it inevitably falls, because the rhetorical style in which it is made is characterised neither by disinterest, love, the exercise of reason nor virtue. It is an exercise of power in which opponents are crushed by scorn and innuendo not by rational and respectful engagement. It is not a trial of opposed ideas which is followed by judgement discerning the truth of the matter. It is a judgment that disregards truth and the respect due to the search for it, and substitutes for the trial. Those who resort to the use of such oleaginous arguments are besmeared by the slime that attaches to them. No doubt when elections draw near, truth, respect and rationality are as rare and endangered as rainbow coloured butterflies in a dust storm. Concern about slithery arguments will seem a little delicate when walking through grasslands full of hyenas, jackals and funnel web spiders as well as snakes. Still, a proper attentiveness to the decent use of words needs to start somewhere.

-Andrew Hamilton is consulting editor of Eureka Street.

POPE: GOD SEEKS EACH ONE OF US PERSONALLY
At the General Audience on Wednesday, Pope Francis continued his catechesis on the Our Father, focusing on the third invocation, "Thy will be done". -Christopher Wells
"God is not ambiguous, He is not hidden behind riddles, He has not planned the future of the world in an indecipherable man-

ner." In his catechesis on the third petition of the "Our Father", Pope Francis said that we can see the will of the Father expressed in the words of Jesus: God wills "to seek and to save that which was lost". This, the Pope said, "without any shadow of doubt, is the will of God: the salvation of all human beings", of each one of us individually.

Because of His love for us, God "knocks on the door of our heart" in order "to draw us to Himself, to lead us forward along the path of salvation". God, the Pope said, "is close to each one of us with His love, in order to lead us by the hand to salvation. And we, in prayer, ask that God's seeking might come to a good end, that His universal plan of salvation should be accomplished," Pope Francis continued, "first, in each one of us, and then in the whole world."

God's desire for the salvation of human beings, and of the whole world, means that our prayer that 'His will be done' does not mean "bowing our heads", like slaves, to an unalterable fate. On the contrary, "God wants us to be free, and it is His love that frees us". "Thy will be done" is a courageous, even combative prayer" precisely because there is so much evil in the world, which is not according to God's will.

The Our Father is a prayer that kindles in us the same love [that] Jesus has for the will of the Father, a flame that impels one to transform the world with love". There is nothing of random chance in the faith of Christians, the Pope explained: "Rather, there is a salvation that waits to manifest itself in the life of each man and woman, and to be fully accomplished in eternity." If we prayer, he said, "it is because we believe that God is able and desires to transform reality, overcoming evil with good."

Pope Francis pointed to the example of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, when the Lord prayed, "Father, if you are willing, remove this chalice from me; but not my will, but yours, be done!" Although He is "crushed" by the weight of evil in the world, Jesus "confidently abandons Himself to the ocean of love of the will of the Father". In His love, God will never abandon us, the Pope insisted: "He will always be with us, beside us, within us. For a believer, more than a hope, this is a certainty".

POPE & NZ BISHOPS HOLD MUSLIMS IN PRAYER AFTER ATTACKS
New Zealand's Catholic bishops have expressed horror and distress at a terrorist attack in two mosques in Christchurch that saw at least 50 people killed. Muslims had gathered at the mosques for Friday prayers. Some of those killed were children. Some three-and-a-half hours after the attacks began, the New Zealand bishops released a message, addressed to the nation's Muslim community, via social media. "We hold you in prayer as we hear the terrible news of violence against Muslims at mosques in Christchurch. We are profoundly aware of the positive relationships we have with Islamic people in this land, and we are particularly horrified that this has happened at a place and time of prayer. The bishops signed off their message "Peace, Salaam".

A message sent by Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican Secretary of State, on behalf of Pope Francis, said the Pontiff was "deeply saddened to learn of the injury and loss of life cause by the senseless acts of violence" at the mosques.

"He assures all New Zealanders, and in particular the Muslim community, of his heartfelt solidarity in the wake of these attacks." He also offered prayers and blessings to those injured, those grieving, those who died and emergency personnel.