

PROJECT COMPASSION: If you still have your box at home, please bring it to the office during this week, or next weekend when you come to Mass.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY has two appeals a year, one for winter and one for Christmas. The winter appeal would be made on 15th and 16th of June. There will be a leaving collection next week for the local St Vincent de Paul Society group. Please be ready to support their work among the needy in our community.” David McCann

JESUIT ANNOUNCEMENT:

Farewelling Father Frank -Felicity de Fombelle He may be one of Australia’s ‘Living Treasures’, but in some parts of the country, Fr Frank Brennan is a complete unknown. And that has been a welcome and humbling experience for the Jesuit priest. “It’s all very well to be a ‘Living National Treasure’,” Fr Frank told an audience recently. “But it brings you back to earth when you turn up at country centres and they say, ‘Who are you? What do you do?’ That has been good for my humility.”

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC) hosted a farewell for Fr Frank in early June, to acknowledge his two and a half years as CEO of Catholic Social Services Australia (CSSA). From next year, he will be Rector at Newman College at the University of Melbourne.

The high-profile scholar and commentator will be much missed across the Archdiocese, where he generously assisted in many parishes, particularly in Curtin and Yarralumla, and was actively involved in a number of groups, including the Jesuit Discussion Group and Concerned Catholics. Among the crowd of more than 50 people at the farewell was friend Andrew Phelan from St Thomas More Parish in Campbell. “I used to be the Chief Executive and Principal Registrar of the High Court, and I knew Frank’s Dad, Gerard, who was Chief Justice for many years,” Andrew said. “He was a regular visitor after he retired too, giving talks at the Court, and we had a function last year for his 90th birthday.”

ACBC General Secretary Fr Stephen Hackett MSC praised Fr Frank’s leadership and service, which he said had transformed CSSA’s focus and work.

Fr Stephen also noted that, with Fr Frank’s departure, the three peak bodies of the Church – Catholic Social Services, the National Catholic Education Commission and Catholic Health Australia – will be led by women. Jacinta Collins is National Executive Director at the NCEC and her former Senate colleague Dr Ursula Stephens will replace Fr Frank. Catholic Health Australia is headed by Suzanne Greenwood.

“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.” Martin Luther King.

CSSA Board Member Paul vane-Tempest shared with the audience that, when Fr Frank’s appointment was made, he told staff they should think of the in-demand Jesuit as “a trained raptor. He’ll fly off and do lots of wonderful things, but hopefully when you click your fingers he’ll return,” Mr vane-Tempest said. “When Frank joined us, we knew of his advocacy for disadvantaged people and the Indigenous community, but what we didn’t know or expect was that Frank brings to the role significant managerial and leadership skills.

“He has been of tremendous assistance to the Board in defining and clarifying our role and work, and that has been the overwhelming legacy and contribution Frank has made.

“What was also surprising to me was Frank’s capacity to deal with the organisation’s limited and significantly reduced income. He has been innovative and agile in making that work and developing partnerships to deliver on projects.”

Mr vane-Tempest lauded Fr Frank’s advocacy and persuasion skills and shared a Martin Luther King quote that he said was apt for his friend: “Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.”

Taking up the raptor theme, Fr Frank told the group that “one of the problems with a raptor is that he is not always at home.” “And for that reason I have to acknowledge that the staff have been absolutely phenomenal,” he added.

“When I arrived I was not expecting that we would have to scale back as significantly as we did, but we now have the beginnings of better relationships with the ACBC and Catholic Health and other agencies. It has been such a privilege to move around the country and do formation work about Catholic social teaching with our member organisations.”

Fr Frank revealed his motivation for the role was to better understand the needs of poor and disadvantaged people.

“I had spoken to just about every principal in the country and done a lot in the health sector and parishes, but I felt with the welfare sector I hadn’t made much of an impact,” he said.

“Chris Sidoti (former Human Rights Commissioner) said to me, ‘You deal with Aborigines and refugees and migrants but what about the poor and disadvantaged’.

“Mainstream welfare agencies do a tremendous job but those of us from the major churches provide a faith context which is so very important, and my hope is that ecumenical spirit can be strengthened.”

Fr Frank’s departure marks the end of the Jesuit Community in Canberra, after 51 years. A farewell Mass to acknowledge Fr Frank, and the Jesuits’ contribution, will be held at St Christopher’s Cathedral at 5.30pm on Sunday June 30. Archbishop Christopher Prowse will celebrate the Mass, with the Jesuit Provincial Fr Brian McCoy SJ. Everyone is welcome, with refreshments to follow.

NOTE: This announcement means that I need to find a new Jesuit community! I will be discussing that with Fr Provincial in due course. But I will continue in this Moruya appointment as previously stated. I will just have to be making more trips to Sydney or Melbourne!

THE HEART OF GOD Prayer does not make us less aware of the circumstances of life. It makes us even more aware than we ever were before. Why? Because now we see the world as God sees the world. We hear the cry of the poor as God hears the cry of the poor. We are less wrapped up in ourselves, more aware of the needs of others, not more self-centered than ever. When we are really wrapped up in the awareness of the presence of God in ourselves, we come to understand that it is of the nature of God who is everywhere to be present to all of us as well as to ourselves. We begin to see ourselves more and more as a member of the human community rather than as a unique and freestanding individual. We know now in a way we have never realized before that we are not a world unto ourselves.

The acuity of the heart of God comes with the awareness of the presence of God. Once God takes over the heart, there is no one—no child of God in any tradition anywhere—who does not have claim to our heart as well as to the heart of God. We become our brother’s keeper, our sister’s best support. Our own hearts, like God’s, begin to beat with a heart for the entire human race.

To use religion or prayer or contemplation or the search for God as an excuse for ignoring the needs of the world is blasphemy. It denies the very God it purports to preach. It practices the idolatry of the self and calls it union with God. It makes immersion in prayer more important than the fruits of prayer. Such unabashed confusion of prayer makes a farce of prayer itself. Those who truly seek God become more sensitive to the rest of the world because they become daily more like the God they love, the Spirit that energizes them. They carry for all to see the urgings of the God who impels them and draws them out of themselves at the same time. —from *The Breath of the Soul* (Twenty Third Publications), by Joan Chittister

THE POPE, THE GRANDMOTHER AND THE GRAND-CHILD: FAITH WITHOUT WORDS

By Sergio Centofanti
As the Pope was passing by on his way to the meeting with young people and families in Iasi on Saturday afternoon, a proud grandmother held up her grandchild for him to bless. Pope Francis used that image to make a point at the end of his discourse. Speaking off the cuff, he said: “I am nearly finished, I have just one more paragraph, but I still want to tell you about an experience I had just as I was coming into the Square. There was an elderly lady, quite elderly, a grandmother. In her arms she held her grandchild, about two months old, not more. As I passed by, she showed me the child. She smiled, it was a knowing smile, as if she was saying to me: “Look, now I can dream!” I was very moved in that moment and I didn’t have the courage to go and bring her up here (onto the stage). That’s why I am telling you. Grandparents dream when their grandchildren go forward, and grandchildren have courage when they take their roots from their grandparents”.

Earlier, during his prepared speech, the Pope told the young people present at the event: “As you continue to grow in every way – stronger, older and even in importance – do not forget the most beautiful and worthwhile lesson you learned at home. It is the wisdom that comes from age. When you grow up, do not forget your mother and your grandmother, and the simple but robust faith that gave them the strength and tenacity to keep going and not to give up. It is a reason for you to give thanks and to ask for the generosity, courage and selflessness of a “home-grown” faith that is unobtrusive, yet slowly but surely builds up the Kingdom of God”.

On other occasions, Pope Francis has recounted his personal experience with his own grandmother, Rosa, a woman of faith who came from a peasant family in Piedmont, Italy, and emigrated to Argentina to escape poverty. During the Pentecost Vigil of 2013, the Pope said it was his grandmother who first transmitted the Christian faith to him.

“I had the grace to grow up in a family where faith was lived in a simple and concrete way; but it was above all my grandmother, my father’s mother, who marked my path of faith. She was a woman who explained to us, who spoke to us about Jesus, who taught us the Catechism. I always remember that on Good Friday evening she would take us to the candlelight procession, and at the end of this procession... my grandmother would make us children kneel, and she would say: "Look, he is dead, but tomorrow he will rise again". I received the first Christian announcement from this woman, from my grandmother! That’s beautiful! The first announcement at home, with the family! And this makes me think of the love of many mothers and grandmothers in the transmission of the faith. It is they who transmit the faith”.

D-DAY: COMMEMORATION, SACRIFICE, HOPE

As the D-Day landings are commemorated, the Bishop of the British Armed Forces, Paul Mason made these comments about remembrance and the heroism of those who took part in the campaign 75 years ago. By Lydia O’Kane

Thousands of people including D-Day veterans, and Heads of State gathered in Normandy in Northern France on Thursday to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice in this crucial invasion 75 years ago.

In a speech, US President Donald Trump praised the heroism of American and allied service members while French President Emmanuel Macron thanked veterans “for our freedom”.

“France doesn’t forget” your sacrifice, he said. Earlier in the day there was a service of remembrance in Bayeux, the first Normandy town liberated by Allied troops after D-Day.

Pope Francis, in a message read out during the service by Cardinal Marc Ouellet said, D-Day was "decisive in the fight against Nazi barbarism" and he paid tribute to those who "gave their lives for freedom and peace."

It was on 6 June 1944, that Allied forces launched a combined naval, air and land assault on Nazi-occupied France.

The campaign was known as Operation 'Overlord' and landings on the beaches of Normandy saw the beginning of a long operation to liberate parts of Europe from German occupation.

Commemoration Speaking about the D-Day commemorations on Wednesday in Portsmouth and in Normandy on Thursday, the Bishop of the British Armed Forces, Paul Mason stressed the importance of remembrance. “The D-Day landings are part of our social and political history and those who have a living memory of them are soon to pass on and I think while we have their living memory there is a particular need at the moment to ensure that we capture that. It honours them that we remember it and for all of those who died as well, it honours their memory and I think it helps cement something very important about our own national self-identity and where we’ve come from and the people who have enabled us to have the life that we have; we owe them something, so it that sense commemoration is fundamentally important.”

Heroism and sacrifice The bishop said much can be learned from the heroism of those who took part in the campaign, in a world today that has a tendency to look to the individual and their own fulfillment. “This is a lot of people who gave everything up for what they believed in.”

The Church and the military As these troops went to war they were able to draw from the spiritual guidance of the military chaplains who tended to their faith needs in the field. In situations such as these, Bishop Mason said, military personnel “will look for meaning, they will look for hope... and I think the Church needs to be able speak into that space”.

The good fight Highlighting the importance of hope in dramatic situations of conflict, the bishop of the Forces noted that, “there is that sense of hope, that comes through even in these extreme situations. It’s often from these sorts of situations that heroic actions come about, that heroes come to the fore.” He added that, “there is hope in human nature that we are actually capable of being able to fight for something more than just ourselves; something we believe in and to lay down a life; our lives for something which is bigger than ourselves.”

Pope Francis ‘grateful’ for courage of D-Day soldiers

Pope Francis expresses his appreciation for the courage of soldiers who committed themselves to fighting for freedom and peace.By Devin Watkins

Pope Francis sent his gratitude to the soldiers who fought in World War II. The Holy Father said the Allied landings on June 6, 1944 in Normandy and elsewhere in Europe were “decisive in the fight against Nazi barbarism”. He said the campaign “opened the path to end World War II, which has so deeply wounded Europe and the world.”

Gratitude The Pope said he was grateful to the many soldiers who “had the courage to commit themselves and give their lives for freedom and peace.”

He also prayed for the souls of all the fallen soldiers and the millions who died in the war.

Pope Francis expressed his hope that the 75th commemoration of D-Day would allow all generations around the world to recognize that “peace is based on respect for each person, whatever his or her background, on respect for the law and the common good, on respect for the environment entrusted to our care and for the richness of the moral tradition inherited from past generations.”

ST IGNATIUS APPEALS TO CHILDREN:

Children can appreciate that God is in everything. Children find comfort in knowing God is always with us. Children embrace imaginative prayer. Children want to talk to trusted friends. Children like that God has a special mission for each one of us. Children can practice gratitude.

-From Fiona Basile, IGNATIANSPIRITUALITY.com

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11
When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech. Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. ‘Surely’ they said ‘all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.’

Responsorial Psalm Ps 103:1. 24. 29-31. 34. R. v.30
(R.) Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.
1. Bless the Lord, my soul!
Lord God, how great you are,
How many are your works, O Lord!
The earth is full of your riches. (R.)
2. You take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth. (R.)
3. May the glory of the Lord last for ever!
May the Lord rejoice in his works!
May my thoughts be pleasing to him.
I find my joy in the Lord. (R.)

A reading from 1st letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13
No one can say, ‘Jesus is Lord’ unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit. There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Reflection by Artist, Jenny Close

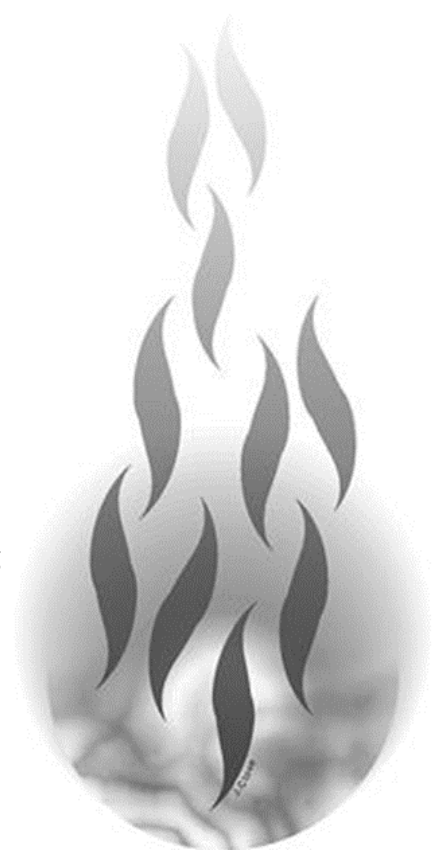
In the readings for the feast of Pentecost there are some interesting connections between fire and water. In the gospel for the Vigil the Spirit is described as 'rivers of living water' flowing out of the hearts of believers. In the Acts of the Apostles the experience of the Spirit was likened to 'tongues of fire'. In liminal moments like this, when natural logic is confounded, the boundaries between seeming opposites are blurred and new meanings emerge.

The Liturgy of the Word

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

Alleluia, alleluia!
Come, Holy Spirit; fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 14:15-16. 23-26
Jesus said to his disciples
‘If you love me you will keep my commandments. I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate to be with you for ever. If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our home with him. Those who do not love me do not keep my words. And my word is not my own; it is the word of the one who sent me. I have said these things to you while still with you; but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you.’



SACRED HEART PARISH

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Parish Secretary Mrs Rachel Glover;
Cleaner: Mrs Sue Fawcett
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Moruya Caring Group: 0431 354 993
PARISH SCHOOLS: **St Mary's Parish Primary School**
Principal: Mrs Noelene O'Neill
Carroll College Principal: Mrs Jacqui Heffernan

The Feast of Pentecost (Year C) 9/6/2019
Weekend Masses: Saturday Vigil 6pm Moruya; Sunday at 'The Pines', Tuross 8am; Moruya 10am
Weekday Masses: Monday Communion Service 9.15am; Weekday Masses: Tues 5.30pm, Wed, Thurs & Fri 9.15am.
-Rosary after Mass
Reconciliation: Saturday 10—10.30am
Baptisms, Anointings, Weddings & Funerals by appointment.
For the sick: Clair Holmes, Fay Goff, Barbara Kirk, Joan Ranken, Eunice Priestley, Fr Kevin Murphy, Lori-Anne Foran, Catherine Hulse, Gerri Maynard, Frank Honan, Kath Hodges, Julie Kay, Joy Jaensch, Kerrie Cooper, Ted Lewis, Therese Wood, Clair Holmes, Julia Hanslow, David Simpson, Viola Connellan, Graham Beer, Eddie Hybler, Declan Holmes, Noeleen Norman, Michael Heffernan, Lincoln Gett and John Bolton
For the deceased: Shane Masters

It's Pentecost Sunday!



Today is a VERY BIG day in the annual liturgy of the church! It is sometimes even called the birthday of the church. The church's life begins with the entry of the Spirit, as in the first creation story in the Book of Genesis, 'The Spirit hovered over the waters', and so life came about. This is what happened for the life of Jesus that began in the womb of Mary: it was by the Holy Spirit 'overshadowing' her: 'she conceived by the Holy Spirit'.
We get the poetical texts about 'something like tongues of fire' and 'what seemed like a powerful wind from heaven'. Let us delve more deeply and contemplatively into this mystery of our faith.
We also get the visionary words of the Psalmist: 'Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.' It's good to get practical: what would it mean for the face of the earth to be renewed? I've never had a 'facial', but I am aware that beauticians spend a lot of their creative and professional time on this matter with their clients. It can certainly make a difference to a woman's appearance, in the before and after scenarios. Perhaps it is not a bad starting point for understanding our mystery!
The Spirit of God makes new the face of the earth, however, by working internally rather than externally, and in a way no human being could do. With renewed hearts, we draw strength for the practice of the faith. Here is an example a number of us experienced on Friday when a Year 2 student commented: "You don't feel safe when you are alone" The context for these words was the dialogue homily I was having. The gospel reading we had heard was the conversation between the Risen Jesus and St Peter. Three times in Jesus' trial, Peter had offended Jesus by saying he did not know him. Now the Risen Lord asks Peter three times, "Do you love me?". Peter says yes each time.
I asked the students how it feels when you are in some kind of trouble and your best friend denies even knowing you. Many students gave very good answers. But one was outstanding to all present: "You don't feel safe when you are alone". I wanted to weep, but realised that would have been both self indulgent and the loss of an opportunity for greater good: keep the focus on this child's words of wisdom, Steve! She has SO heard the school's message for children's own actualization of their security and safety. This student I reckon gets the message of the school for herself in her personal circumstances; she will know what to do for herself and also for the needs of others who may be facing something difficult like isolation in the playground. There may be bigger issues as well, but she knows that being together is empowering and consoling. It is a gift we can receive and one we can give to others. By such approaches to life, the world could be renewed, not only facially but totally.
And this all came from feeling with Jesus in his relationship with St Peter. That relationship never looked back. You see, Jesus had called Peter to follow him after a really big catch of fish. Peter said he would, but when it came to the crunch, Peter got crunched. He failed Jesus when Jesus really needed him. At the end of the gospel reading, Jesus says to Peter a second time: 'Follow me'. The unspoken question from St. John, the Beloved Disciple of Jesus, is, 'Will there need to be a THIRD time for Jesus to call Peter to follow him, after a second failure has occurred. The historical answer is a gigantic 'No!' Peter, by the power of the Spirit, will remain faithful to Jesus until his death. Peter had problems in abundance after Jesus' Ascension, especially with St Paul. But that is another story. He found his life long connection with Jesus, believing that his death will lead him into an ever deeper and fuller union with Jesus in heaven.

NEW TIME FOR RECONCILIATION: Upon discussion and reflection, we are going to experiment for one month with a new time for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It will be Saturday from 10—10.30am. Comments and further discussion are welcome.