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|  **~ GOSPEL REFLECTION ~*****Immaculate Conception Parish*** P O BOX 600 Tumut Catholic Community Collection amounts for January 2016 ~PARISH NEWS~ ~ PARISH NEWS ~ |

We all know people in leadership who take themselves a bit too seriously. Some confuse their role or title with their significance in the scheme of things. Some look for privilege and an easy life, forgetting that leadership of anything worthwhile involves hard work, misunderstanding, and invariably brings opposition. The first part of today’s gospel story presents Peter, who has just been declared the foundation rock of the church and given the “keys” of the kingdom, refusing to accept that Jesus’ mission will involve suffering, even death. The reader is confronted in this story with the expansive rock face at Caesarea Philippi, and invited to consider the friable properties of the seemingly indestructible rock. Even rocks can be reduced to sand or gravel and a humbler mode of being.

For all its seriousness, there is something quite comical about this story as it unfolds. Peter actually censures or reprimands Jesus. Jesus then sets him straight in no uncertain terms. The “rock” becomes the leader of the opposition, a serious obstacle to God’s purposes, a stumbling block. He is ordered back to the place where disciples properly belong, namely “behind” Jesus, “following” him. Matthew provides a striking contrast in this section of the gospel between Peter who “rebukes” Jesus and the Canaanite woman who respectfully and persistently implores Jesus to see from a new perspective. Peter receives a decisive rebuttal, while the woman’s plea is heard and she herself is praised for her great faith.

Peter’s impetuous outburst provides the trigger for Jesus to invite his disciples to think about what they really want. In Matthew’s gospel, Jesus is the teacher and the disciples are the students who have accepted the invitation to follow him. That means living out in their lives the pattern of his life. If they really want to be his followers, then they have to embrace the pain involved in his relentless program of teaching and of healing the sick and broken hearted. They will also share the “glory”. If they choose to put their own interests first, then they will surely lose themselves. It is ultimately a question of choosing life. Peter forgets this for a while and has to be reminded to be true to what he has previously professed. He is not very different from the rest of us. We all need to rethink our choices and to reorder our priorities from time to time if we want to find life. September 1 was the World Day of Prayer for Creation and many churches are celebrating September 1 to October 4 (Feast of St Francis of Assisi) as a Season of Creation. ***An excerpt by Sister Veronica Lawson***



**‘CLERGY’**

* **Fr. Sijo Jose (Parish Priest)**
* **Fr. Luke Verrell (Assistant Priest)**

**‘PARISH SECRETARY’**

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**‘WEEKEND MASS TIMES’**

 **Saturday Vigil: 6.00pm**

 **Sunday: 10am (Children’s Liturgy)**

 **Talbingo Sunday: 8.00am**

 **‘THIS WEEKS MASS TIMES’**

**Tuesday: 6pm**

**Wednesday: 10am (School Mass)**

**Thursday & Friday: 8am**

**Saturday: 9am (every fortnight - Thursday: 11am BUPA Liturgy**

**Saturday: 9.40am BLAKENEY LODGE Liturgy)**

 **‘ROSARY’**

**Saturday at 8.45am**

**Exposition at 8.30am (1st Sat of month)**

 **‘RECONCILIATION’**

 **Saturday at 5.15pm**

 **‘LITURGY MEETING’**

 **Tuesday: 2.00pm in Chapel**

 **‘PRAYER GROUP’**

 **(Rosary & Divine Mercy)**

 **Wednesday: 2pm in Chapel**

  **‘CONTACTS’**

 **Care Group: Anne Huebner 0406490415**

***Gospel Acclamation***

Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. Alleluia!

***Responsorial Psalm***

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

 ***Entrance Antiphon***

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

 **22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

 **Year A**

 **September 3rd 2017**

 ***Gospel Acclamation***

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Alleluia, alleluia! Tomorrow the wickedness of the earth will be destroyed; the Saviour of the world will be our king. Alleluia!

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| T THIS WEEK Saturday & Sunday 2nd & 3rd September   |
| Ministry | Saturday Vigil 6pm |  Sunday 10am |
| Acolyte |  Tony Butler |  Trish Matthews |
| Reader |  Rick Hargreaves |  Mark Hogan |
| Commentator |  Mary Kelly |  Patricia Wilks |
| Children’s Liturgy |  ---------- |  Kerrin Henderson |
| Musicians |  Patricia & Monica  |  Maureen Norman |
| Altar Servers | Xavier Henderson & Riley Hotham | Jessie Raftery & Dana Parry |
| Church Care\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_LINEN Bev Piper | Group 1: Claire, Anne Hickson, Maureen & Bev |
| NEXT WEEK Saturday & Sunday 9th & 10th September  |
| Ministry | Vigil 6pm | 10am |
| Acolyte |  Anita Mason |  Dave Shedden |
| Reader |  Dobbie Family |  Cath Purcell |
| Commentator |  Dobbie Family  |  Pat Spannagle |
| Children’s Liturgy |  ---------- |  Fran Butler |
| Musicians |  Maureen Norman |  Patricia & Monica |
| Altar Servers | Jack Stewart & Ella Lindley |  Gabbi & Maggi Dalisay |
| Church Care | Group 2: Cathy, Anna, Pat, Cheryl & Rhonda  |

 Feast Day**Wishing all our wonderful dads a Happy Father’s Day**

 R O S T E R S

**Today is Catechist Sunday – we honour pray and promote the work our Archdiocesan scripture teachers do in State schools**

**~** **~** **~** **COLLECTION AMOUNTS FOR AUGUST 2017**

 **1st:** $2831.00 **2nd:** $1961.30 **D/D**: $1980.00

 **WISHING OUR WONDERFUL DADS A HAPPY FATHER’S DAY**

 **~PARISH NEWS~**

**FATHERS DAY APPEAL** will be conducted across the Archdiocese this weekend. There are currently 24 priests supported by the Clergy Retirement Foundation, so it is vital that this appeal is supported to assist with their accommodation and care needs. All donations are tax deductible. Envelopes are available on church pews, please give generously. **COLUMBAN MISSIONARIES** we welcome Fr. George Hogarty to our 10am Sunday Mass this weekend. Fr. George will be speaking to promote subscriptions to ‘The Far East’ Magazine and has recently returned from Peru where he was parish priest in one of the poorest areas for 8 years. **PREPARATION FOR RECONCILIATION** will take place Thursday 14th September, there will be a retreat day Thursday 7th September and a parent/child information evening on Saturday 9th September at 5pm in the church before the Vigil Mass. Enquiries to Anita.Mason@cg.catholic.edu.au or contact the school on 69472000. **PREVENTING EUTHANASIA & ASSISTED SUICIDE** The NSW Parliament is likely to consider a private members Bill to legalise euthanasia and assisted suicide. If this is accepted, it would radically abandon our deep human commitment not to deliberately take someone’s life. Therefore, we urge all parishioners to reject this Bill and please sign the petition in the church foyer. **SPECIAL THANKS** to Fr. George Hogarty for his visit to our community.

**We pray for those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith especially:**

**RECENTLY DECEASED: Margaret Mary Maude Kelly**

 **MASS HAS BEEN REQUESTED FOR:**

Russell Breward, Maria & Hans Van deBrug, Reg Millgate, Joan Liddell, Lois Shallow, Helen Corbett, Frank, Eileen & Marie Malone, Edward, Marcy & Clem Malone, Frank Stanfield, John Callister, Imelda, Bede & Francis McInerney, Teresa Butler, Joan Stockwell, Emmet Donovan, Rudi & Filomena Comai, Hassel McGrath, Noel Cook, Leo & Elvie Holt, Lionel & Tereasa Holt, Hugh Oliver, Pat Malone, Jim Whitaker, Matt & Edith Downing, Con & Ennis Twomey, Pauline Shedden, Bob & Sheila Wortes, Robert & Gertrude Tuncks, Ron & Pauline Hamilton, John Hourigan, Brian Gee, Alan & Angela Guthrie, Artie & Dulcie Piper, Tom, Kevin, Ruben & Harriett Arentz, Kevin Hawthorn, Kevin, Marie & Ray Cowan, Russell & Peter Ritchie, Alfred & Bridget Claffey, Anna Do, Stan Kenny, Tom & Dorothy French and James Kelly.

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