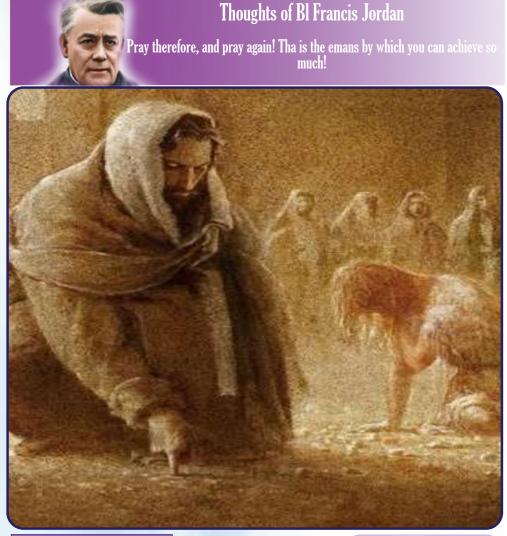


Prayer of St Francis

Lord make me
an instrument of Your peace
Where there is hatred
let me sow love.
Where there is injury,
pardon.
Where there is doubt,
faith.
Where there is despair,
hope.
Where there is darkness,
light.
Where there is sadness,
iov.

O Divine master grant that I may
Not so much seek to be consoled as to console
To be understood, as to understand.
To be loved. as to love
For it's in giving that we receive
And it's in pardoning that we are pardoned
And it's in dying that we are born...
To eternal life.
Amen

Our Parish Reconciliation
will be on
Thursday 7 April 2022
at Sacred Heart Church
Mona Vale.
Mass at 7pm followed by
Exposition, Adoration,
Reconciliation
and Benediction



Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions For April

Health Workers
We pray for Health Care
Workers who serve the sick
and the elderly, especially in
the poorest countries; may
they be adequately supported

by governments and local

cómmunities.

Continue to practise good hygiene. *Please use the hand sanitisers provided in both of our Churches.*

It is our responsibilty to protect others and ourselves and stop the spread of COVID-19 in Australia.

If you have used this bulletin, please take it home with you.

A warm welcome
to all our parishioners
and visitors who are
celebrating the Eucharist
with us at Pittwater Parish
- Sacred Heart Church and
Maria Regina Church.





MASS TIMES

SACRED HEART CHURCH 1 Keenan Street, Mona Vale

Weekday Masses
Tuesday 8.30am
Exposition of the
Blessed Sacrament,
Adoration, Reconciliation
and Benediction from 8am,
followed by Mass at 9.30am

Wednesday 9.30am
Thursday 7pm
Exposition of the
Blessed Sacrament,
Adoration, Reconciliation
and Benediction from
7.30pm to 9pm

Friday 9.30am

First Friday of the Month,

Exposition of the

Blessed Sacrament,

Adoration, Reconciliation

and Benediction from 9.30am,

followed by Mass

with Anointing of the Sick

at 10.30am

Weekend Masses Saturday Vigil 5.00pm Sunday 8.00am • 10.00am • 6.00pm (SOUL)

Reconciliation 4.00pm to 4.30pm Saturday

Baptism 4th Sunday - 11.30am

MARIA REGINA CHURCH 7 Central Road, Avalon

Weekday Masses
Monday 8am
Wednesday 8am
Thursday 10am
9am Exposition of the
Blessed Sacrament,
Adoration and Benediction
at 9.45am
Friday 8am

Mass with Anointing of the Sick - First Friday of the Month at 8am

Weekend Masses Saturday Vigil 6.00pm Sunday 9.00am

Reconciliation Before Vigil Mass on Saturday

> Baptism 3rd Sunday - 11.00am



Recently Deceased

Patricia Kirwan Jure Vukman Dieter Gerecke

If you would like the names of your relatives or friends and offerings included, please drop the envelope in to the Parish Office by Midday on Wednesdays. Thank You.

Prayers for the Sick

Beryl Peo-Duncan Michael Carrodus Pat Regan **Garry Gleeson Annette Davis Andrew Hood** Jeff Langley Warwick Chipman **Erin Ocampo** Mark Lindfield Vicky Kalingasan Bill Eyre Brian Gregan Marian Poe Marcia Bailey Bec Burroughs Susan Hickey Sophia Burfitt Margaret De Landre Maeve Robinson Jenny Carroll Matt Ukishima Pietrina Maiorana Susan Makabenta Dominic Ursino Diane Williams **Denise Wagner** Ron Susan Makabenta Sarah Wright

The names on this list will be removed after four weeks unless otherwise requested or advised. Thank you

DATES for your DIARY



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday in Lent after morning mass.



from Our Schools



Mater Maria Catholic College

ALK IN NEW LIF

Students have spent an adrenaline packed four days in Thredbo, competing in the Interschools Mountain Biking Champonships. With races such as Cannonball, Flow Motion, Downhill and All Mountain Assult, this was not an event for the faint-hearted. It was the largest team that our College has competed and they had a fantastic time. The F1 in Schools program is one of many activities offered in Mater Maria's STEM program. Students in Secondary Schools work together to design and manufacture a minitaure car out of the official F1 Model Block using CAD/CAM design tools Michael Di costanzo, our Yaer 9 studednt, took his family to a0ran Park Raceway to race his vehicle. There were 17 competitors in is class and his vehicle came 2nd overall.Michaedl represented the College with great maturity and we are looking forward to supporting him again next year when he moves up to the next level of the competition. We held a fundraising concert last week for Project Compassion.Our college bands played and we had music performances from students in all years 7 to 12. The concert finale was a teacher band which was sensational. Tickets were sold to sudents to raise much needed funds for Caritas Australia

To read the messages from Bishop Anthony and from the people Vox Populi please go to www.pittwaterparish.org. News and events tile and Messages from Bishop Anthony on the drop down menu.

Liturgy for the Week

04/04 **Monday 5th Week of Lent**Dan 13:1-9,15-17,19-30,33-62:
Ps22:R Jn 8:1-11:

05/04 **Tuesday 5th Week of Lent** Num 21:4-9: Ps 101:2-3,16-21:R Jn 8:21-30:

06/04 **Wednesday 5th Week of Lent** Dan 3:14-20,24-25,28: Dan 3: 52-56: Jn 8:31-42:

07/04 **Thursday 5th Week of Lent** Gen 17:3-9: Ps 104:4-9:R Jn 8:51-59:

08/04 **Friday 5th Week of Lent** Jer 20:10-13: Ps 17:2-7: R Jn 10:31-42:

09/04 **Saturday 5th Week of Lent** Ezek 37:21-28: Jer 31:10-13R Jn 11:45-56:



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Use this App to support our Clergy through the first collection and our Parish through the second collection. Donations can be made weekly, fortnightly,monthly or one-off.

GIVING

Thank you for your continued contributions and support. Your financial contributions and your generous donations throughout the year are greatly appreciated.

LIVESTRÉAMS READINGS NEWS





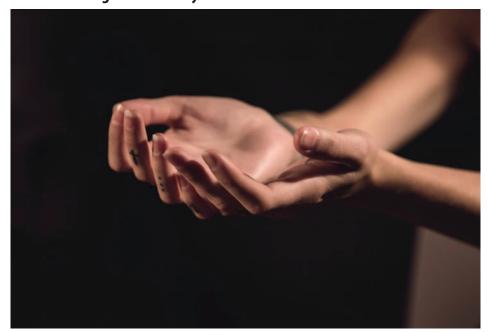
https://brokenbay.goodgivi

Caritas Ukraine urgently needs your support

Caritas Australia is currently raising funds to support communities impacted by the conflict in Ukraine. Visit:caritas.org.au/donate/emergen cy-appeals/ukraine/ or call:1800 024 413 toll free to provide much needed support.



The Woman Caught in Adultery: A Tale of Dust and Darkness



An adulterous woman is shoved onto the scene in today's Gospel reading, and her story may have been similarly shoved into St. John's Gospel. It is not found in primary Greek manuscripts of the fourth Gospel before the sixth century; its location varies in the manuscripts; and the Greek itself differs from the rest of the Gospel, as though penned by another.

But trying to scan beyond the story, insisting on what you think really happened, is a dead end. That would be writing your own Gospel, for which you have no warrant. We only know the story as the Lord, through his church and her evangelists, gave it to us. If it did enter the fourth Gospel as an addition, it fits perfectly, standing as it does between Christ calling himself "rivers of living water" (Jn 7:37) and "the light of the world" (Jn 8:12).

Have you ever been jostled by a crowd? Really crushed, unable to move freely, unable to see, simply pushed forward? It is a terrifying experience for many. The woman must have felt at least some relief when she was finally pushed into a clearing, into what St. John considers to be a corona of light, the spot where Jesus is preaching. For the woman, whatever happens next, at least the suffocating shoving has stopped.

Having been caught in crime, she is brought into the light. It is odd that she comes alone; committing adultery is a two-person act. The fact that her companion is not with her says something about the hearts of her accusers. He may well be in the crowd, as one of them, but to suggest as much convicts me of writing my own Gospel.

Deuteronomy (17:6-7) commands that the witnesses of capital crimes against God's

covenant should be the ones who begin the execution. "The hands of the witnesses shall be the first raised to put the person to death." If her crime has already come to light, why have they not done so? Why is she shoved into this clearing?

The irony is that this woman is still being made an instrument of men's intentions. They do not care about her fate; they want to call the light itself into question. They want to show that God's light is not truly shining among us. The disgraced woman is a ploy to discredit Christ, the light. Will he stand by the law of Israel? How can he be the Christ if he does not?

Yet if he chooses law over mercy, then how is this man any more than another prophet? He certainly cannot be the living rivers of God's grace, which he claims to be.

Then he who is the living water, the light encircled by the powers of darkness, "bent down and began to write on the ground with his finger" (7:6). This is St. John at his best. The physical reveals the spiritual, as when water is turned to wine; the blind are given sight; the hungry are fed; and baptism and Eucharist pour forth from the wounded side of the saviour.

Christ preaches into the dust. He cannot be understood. This is dry land. It rejects the living water that he came to give, that he himself is. He writes out the Gospel he proclaims; he draws himself into the dirt. Then he reveals the paradox of the pretensions surrounding him, rejecting him.

We all live in the dark, in the dust. If we are going to assail evil where we find it, what of the evil we do not see in ourselves? The dust fills our eyes. We strike out at the darkness, no doubt wounding the innocent with the guilty. And others, seeing our evil, strike at us. We all

claim the right of law.

The only way forward, out of the crush and dust, into light and water, is what St. Paul found:

For his sake I have accepted the loss of all things

and I consider them so much rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having any righteousness of my own based on the law

but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God (Phil 3:8-9).

The great irony is that her accusers have indeed shoved this woman into the light. He, the light, stands before her, and there, out of the dust, a river of grace and mercy flows. Jesus "opens a way in the sea and a path in the mighty waters" (Is 43:16).

"Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" She replied, "No one, sir." Then Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go, and from now on do not sin any more" (Jn 7:10-11).

Excerpt from America The Jesuit Review



The Chrism Mass will be celebrated at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 12 April at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara. The priests of our Diocese gather for this celebration with Most Rev Bishop Anthony Randazzo to renew their priestly commitment. During Mass, the oils of Catechumens and the Sick are blessed, and the Chrism is consecrated and then taken back to each parish for use in various Sacramental liturgies throughout the year.

Parishioners are warmly invited to join together in this celebration. Please contact the parish office before Monday 4 April should you wish to attend



Vinnies NSW calls for donations in support of emergency flood appeal



In response to the devastating floods impacting across NSW the St Vincent de Paul Society has launched an emergency flood appeal to assist residents with their immediate needs as well as longer-term recovery.

Donations to the Vinnies Flood Appeal can be made at www.vinnies.org.au/nswfloodappeal, by calling 13 18 12, or at any Vinnies Shop.

For the needy, help is available by contacting the Brookvale Centre 9905 0424 during business hours.

Adoration & Benediction

SACRED HEART CHURCH, Mona Vale every Tuesday from 8,30am
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament,
Adoration, Reconciliation followed by
Benediction and Mass at 9,30am.

MARIA REGINA CHURCH, Avalon every Thursday from 9am
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament,
Adoration, Reconciliation followed by
Benediction and Mass at 10am.

SACRED HEART CHURCH, Mona Vale every Thursday after 7pm Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Adoration, Reconciliation followed by Benediction at 9.00pm

Housebound Parishioners

If yould like a priest for home visit, reconciliation, annointing of the sick and communion, please contact the Parish Office at 91570999.

THURSDAY MORNING SPIRITUALITY GROUP

We have recommenced our study this year with a new book "The God Who Won't Let Go" by Peter van Breeman SJ. Inspired by his retreats in Bingen, Germany celebrating St Hildegard, van Breeman reminds us that in an age where everything seems temporary and continually changing, the love of God is permanent.

We meet after 10am mass (around 10:30) for morning tea, followed by study and contemplation until 12 noon. We read through the book in a very relaxed manner gaining new insights from each other. All are invited.

Contact Margaret Abrahams via the office on 9157 0999.

We welcome to Pittwater Parish

Huxley Thomas Kenyon Wells

on 3 April 2022

Sacred Heart Church, Mona Vale for the Sacrament of Baptism



We welcome back Fr. Zygmunt (Zyga)
Smigowski SDS to Pittwater Parish.
Father left 12 years ago and has
returned to us from Esperance, WA.
In this photo, he is proudly sporting his
farewell gift from the parishioners of
Esperance. Some of you may know
Father well, and others, like myself, look
forward to getting to know him and
hearing that 'famous laugh'. Welcome
Fr Zyga, we are pleased that you have
joined our wonderful Parish.





Shaniella 23, grew up in a remote village in the Solomon Islands in a province which has limited educational and job opportunities

– and one of the country's highest poverty rates. After leaving school, she decided to move closer to the capital city, Honiara, to study hospitality and tourism. However, her vocational training school was hit by a landslide and cyclone in quick succession, destroying its water supply system and the vegetable garden that it relies on for food.

With your generous support, Caritas Australia has helped the school to install water tanks, re-establish its garden and provided training in disaster risk reduction. Shaniella can now complete her job skills training and the school has enough food and water for its students.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 so this transformational program can continue to empower and strengthen vulnerable communities For All Future Generations.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow For All Future Generations. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by

visiting lent.caritas.org.au, or by calling 1800 024 413.



BOOK REVIEW

Biblical Meditations for Lent By Carroll Stuhlmueller, C.P.

This book offers reflections on the readings for weekdays in Lent and also for Cycle A, B or C Sundays in Lent with frequent Mass and austere fasting. However, we are encouraged to observe the Lenten season with insight into our world - with love to reach out to help our neighbour. These meditations will help us do just that.

EASTER MASS TIMES



Thursday 14 April 2022 • 7.00pm Sacred Heart Church (no morning Mass in Avalon)



GOOD FRIDAY (fast and abstinence) Friday 15 April 2022

STATIONS of the CROSS

10am Sacred Heart Church & 10am Maria Regina Church

FRIDAY of the PASSION OF THE LORD

3pm Sacred Heart Church & 3pm Maria Regina Church



HOLYSATURDAY Saturday 16 April 2022

6pm Family Mass Maria Regina Church 7.30pm Sacred Heart Church (There will not be a 5pm Vigil Mass)

EASTER SUNDAY Sunday 17 April 2022

8am Sacred Heart Church 10am Sacred Heart Church 6pm Sacred Heart Church

9am Maria Regina Church

The Living Word

Entrance Antiphon 42:1-2

Cf. Ps

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

First Reading Is 43:16-21 A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I am doing a new thing and I will give drink to my people.

Thus says the Lord, who made a way through the sea, a path in the great waters; who put chariots and horse in the field and a powerful army, which lay there never to rise again, snuffed out, put out like a wick: No need to recall the past, no need to think about what was done before.

See, I am doing a new deed, even now it comes to light; can you not see it?
Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness, paths in the wilds.
The wild beasts will honour me, jackals and ostriches, because I am putting water in the wilderness (rivers in the wild) to give my chosen people drink.
The people I have formed for myself will sing my praises.

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 125. R. v.3

$\left(R.\right)$ The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

- 1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs. (R.)
- 2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!' What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad. (R.)
- 3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land. Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap. (R.)
- 4. They go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing: they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves. (R.)

Second Reading

Phil 3:8-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Because of Christ I look upon everything else as useless in order to gain him.

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on faith. All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far from thinking that I have already won. All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.

The Gospel of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Jl 2:12-13

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

With all your heart turn to me, for I am tender and compassionate.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel Jn 8:1-11 A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Let the person without sin be the first to throw a stone.

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them. The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to again; and as all the people came to him, the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was the woman, alone with remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir,' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and don't sin any more.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Communion Antiphon Jn 8:10-11

Has no one condemned you, woman? No one, Lord. Neither shall I condemn you. From now on, sin no more.

Reflection

The reading from Isaiah describes the uniqueness of the regeneration that God's saving power will effect. Israel's faith was based on the liberating events of the past. Snatched from the bondage of Egypt, protected and sustained in the wilderness, its self-identity was rooted in the memory of its history. The prophet calls the people away from inordinate dependence on the past that prevented them from seeing the astonishing new thing that God was accomplishing before their very eyes. The water theme is prominent. God who controls primordial water, the waters of the sea, and the refreshing waters of the sea, and the refreshing waters of life can certainly fashion this defeated people into a new and vibrant race. This is the promise of salvation proclaimed by the prophet. The graciousness of God, seen in the deliverance of the fractions through into deliverance of the Israelites, throws into bold relief God's saving power. This power is not restricted to geographic boundaries or ethnic particularity. It was exercised over the Israelites, but it could be effective in a foreign country. Israel's restoration is like a flood of water in the desert, which is infrequent and most unlikely. The reversal of fortune is further described in symbolic language: sowing in tears, and reaping in jo leaving with only the promise of harvest, and returning with its abundant fruits.

The people are confident that their prayer will be answered and their hope realised, because God has been gracious to them in the past.

to them in the past. Paul contrasts the unparalleled excellence of his relationship with Christ with the life he led and the values he championed before his conversion. He wants to be made righteous through union with Christ, and he wants to share in Christ's sufferings in order to attain resurrection from the dead. Paul came to realise that it is union with Christ, and not obedience to the law, that makes one righteous. Paul sees his struggle as ongoing: he has not yet taken hold of the prize; he has not attained it; he continues his pursuit; he strains forward. He is confident that he will achieve his goal, not because he has been faithful, but because Christ has taken possession of him

The narrative of the woman caught in the act of adultery is really a story of conflict between Jesus and the religious authorities. The woman herself seems to be of little importance to those who challenged Jesus. There is no question about her guilt, only about the suitable sentence to be carried out. Jesus opponents carefully devised a complex problem that would trap him one way or another, but he thwarted them. Realising this, they departed in shame. In a society governed by issues of honour and shame, Jesus grew in stature, while they were diminished. Jesus neither condemns nor exonerates the woman. He exhorts her to sin no more. Compassion and mercy have

won out.

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