



St Martin de Porres

Hallett Cove Catholic Community  
3 Berrima Road  
Sheidow Park SA 5158  
Ph 8322 1158

Email: [hcparish@adam.com.au](mailto:hcparish@adam.com.au)

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## Community Newsletter

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### Christmas message

Greetings to all parishioners and families. Following is an excerpt from Pope Francis' proclamation of the Jubilee Year of Mercy which begins on 8 December. "It is indeed my wish that the Jubilee Year be a living experience of the closeness of the Father, whose tenderness is almost tangible, so that the faith of every believer may be strengthened and thus testimony to it be ever more effective.

I have asked the Church in this Jubilee Year to rediscover the richness encompassed by the spiritual and corporal works of mercy. The experience of mercy, indeed, becomes visible in the witness of concrete signs as Jesus himself taught us. Each time that one of the faithful personally performs one or more of these actions, he or she shall surely obtain the Jubilee Indulgence. Hence the commitment to live by mercy so as to obtain the grace of complete and exhaustive forgiveness by the power of the love of the Father who excludes no one. The Jubilee Indulgence is thus full, the fruit of the very event which is to be celebrated and experienced with faith, hope and charity.

Trusting in the intercession of the Mother of Mercy, I entrust the preparations for this Extraordinary Jubilee Year to her protection."

With blessings for a peaceful and joyful Christmas and New Year.  
Mons Ian

### Advent Reflection

The Advent call arises in the Church— **Stay Awake— Pray for Strength—Help One Another.**

As the Church begins a new liturgical year, one of the great realities of our life on earth can be of things coming to be and things passing away.

Change—sometimes sudden and shocking is part of all our lives. Change can be traumatic and unexpected: the death of a loved one, natural disasters, the sudden onset of sickness or disability. It can feel as if our whole world is collapsing around us.

There is so much more of the journey of life for us to travel, so much more in loving others, and in loving "the whole world"—our world, with all its struggles for justice, peace, alleviation of hunger and poverty and by sharing our gifts, by having both a spiritual and material awareness, as well as giving of our

time, generously.

Our life is a common endeavour to share in the joys and sorrows, the hopes and fears of our fellow travellers and companions in this world. May our Advent prayer be for the intentions of all in need of any kind. We are pilgrims together...in joy and hope.

### The Year of Mercy logo

The motto Merciful Like the Father (from the Gospel of Luke, 6:36) serves as an invitation to follow the



merciful example of the Father who asks us not to judge or condemn but to forgive and to give love and forgiveness without measure. The logo is the work of Father Marko I. Rupnik. It is an image quite important to the early Church: that of the Son having taken upon His shoulders the lost soul, demonstrating that it is

Christ's love that brings to completion the mystery of His incarnation culminating in redemption. The logo has been designed in such a way so as to express the profound way in which the Good Shepherd touches the flesh of humanity and does so with a love that has the power to change one's life. One particular feature worthy of note is that while the Good Shepherd, in His great mercy, takes humanity upon Himself, His eyes are merged with those of man. Christ sees with the eyes of Adam, and Adam with the eyes of Christ. Every person discovers in Christ, the new Adam, his or her own humanity and the future that lies ahead. The scene is enclosed in a mandorla, an element typical of ancient and medieval iconography, that recalls the coexistence of the two natures, divine and human, in Christ. The three concentric ovals, with colours progressively lighter as we move outward, suggest the movement of Christ Who carries humanity out of the darkness of sin and death. Conversely, the depth of the darker colour suggests the impenetrability of the love of the Father Who forgives all.

### Our Parish Vision

*A Catholic community enriched by, and centered on, the Eucharist, empowered to bring the Good News to all.*

**FROM FR. PETER**

Friday the 13th. Someone said to me— *“Friday the 13th is always a bad day”*.

This was not just *“a bad day”*. It was a day of evil and chaos. It was a day that reminded us that we always live in an imperfect world that is inhabited by a multiplicity of thought, of worship and cultures.

Our world today has been formed/malformed by centuries of poverty, of colonialism and fanaticism of all kinds.

My first reactions to the Paris terrorist attacks were of anger and frustration. When I calmed down, I began to ask myself: *“What is my Christian response to this?”*

And there **must be** a Christian response, that is deeper than spontaneous reaction, ignorance that ensures bad judgements, and hatred and rejection.

Our Lord is God’s gift to a fallen, imperfect world. We acclaim him as Prince of Peace.

Psalm 46 tells us: *“Be still and know that I am God”. “The Lord of hosts is with us”*.

It has been suggested that one practical response to Friday 13th, and what has happened before and since, could be to form a circle of prayer—people who stop briefly once a day to pray for peace, or simply to think about peace.

If you are interested, please contact Fr. Peter.

**Mass for the Unborn Child**

Mons Ian had attended a Conference earlier in the year, where the subject of *‘Respect Life’* healing the wounds of miscarriage and abortion were discussed. Mons came away from the Conference wanting us to acknowledge this in some way.

It was decided after much consultation that a *“Mass for the Unborn Child”* would be celebrated, to remember the children for whom we grieve; where we could acknowledge that our children are now safe in the loving embrace of our compassionate God.

It was organised as a Southern Cluster Mass which incorporates the parishes of St. Ann’s Parish and Hallett Cove.

The Mass on Friday the 20<sup>th</sup> November was attended by people who felt that this was what they needed. It was a very gentle and reflective Mass.

Candles were available for people to light before Mass and candles were also given for them to take home.

Coffee and tea was served in the church foyer and most of the people who attended Mass stayed.

We feel that this Mass touched people and it is something that we will have again next year, knowing that more people will be likely to attend as word of mouth spreads.

As a more permanent reminder of the loss of the unborn child, a memorial is planned for the Columbarium Memorial Garden in the near future.

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**We Pray For—**

those who died in the recent bushfire in the mid-north of our state, for the injured, for the emergency services personnel, for those who have lost property and their livelihoods and all involved in containing the fire and assisting with much needed support.

**Child Safe Sunday—September 13**

Did you notice the stole that was worn on this Sunday. It was made using the outlines of the children’s hands during Children’s Liturgy and their names are embroidered on the stole. Look out for it again next year.



**Christmas Mass Times**

**Brighton, Hallett Cove and St. Ann’s Parishes**

**Thursday, 24th December (Christmas Eve)**

**7.00 pm** Vigil Mass (outdoors) at Sacred Heart College, with carols from 6.30 pm  
Please bring your own chair

**7.00 pm** Family Mass Hallett Cove

**10.00 pm** Vigil Mass Hallett Cove

**10.00 pm** Vigil Mass Brighton

**Friday, 25th December (Christmas Day)**

**9.15 am** Mass Hallett Cove

**9.30 am** Mass Brighton

**and in St. Ann’s Parish (St. Mary’s/Seacombe Gardens)**

**Thursday, 24th December**

**7.00 pm** Family Mass (outdoors) at Sacred Heart College Middle School

**9.00 pm** St. Bernadette’s Church, St. Mary’s

**9.30 pm** Holy Spirit Church, Seacombe Gdns

**Friday, 25th December**

**9.15 am** Holy Spirit Church, Seacombe Gdns

## Sr Kanistal

India my home town - (cont... from the September issue)



My early schooling from reception to year five was in my home town in Arockiya Puram, in southern India. The name of the school was Our Lady of Health. There were about sixty children in my class, with the total of over three hundred in the school. During that time I had three close friends who I

am still close to. They are married now with three beautiful children each. We still keep in touch with each other.

I went on to high school, from year six to year twelve a town called Kanniya Kumari which was about seven kms from our home. This town is popular tourist place. One of the bigger attraction is the Sunrise and sunset. There are two temples in the town and another two temples are in the middle of the sea, about fifteen minutes by boat. Thousands of tourists visit this town from all over the world. This is where a big tsunami killed hundreds of people in 2004 December 26. I wasn't there at that time. My family fled with thousands of people to an inland place to escape.

The name of the school was Saint Anthony. Sometimes I caught the bus and some days I walked along with my girl friends. We used to walk fast and it would take just under an hour. Most times our parents gave us money for the bus, but often we spent the money on other things and had to walk home. We would spend the money on bangles, and cosmetics. My mother used to growl at me for spending the money on silly things. We were just normal naughty girls.

Two of my original friends finished school after year eight. I was upset about this, but I was forming new friends from many religions including Hindu, Muslim, Protestant and Baptist. We all used to visit each other's houses and on the various feast days we would share the food of the various religious feasts. We had lots of fun during those years and it was a very happy time in my life.

In year ten we used to have a three day camp out. My mother was not happy about this and told me I was too young to go, so I went to my dad and he said to my mum, "Let her go". Finally my mum said I could go, but she was still worried, because this was the first time I ever stayed away from home. My mum prepared lots of food which I shared with my friends. We had great time.

At the end of year ten we had a visit from a nun who was talking about vocations. I gave this sister my name and the whole class teased me because they thought I was crazy. After that I never ever talked about it again with my school friends. Year eleven and twelve I had great time. My brothers used to try to protect me and were always checking up on me to see if I was talking with boys, because that was not accepted in our culture.

My favourite subject was accountancy. My other subjects were History (which I hated), English, Tamil, Business Management and Religion class for Christians. I studied hard and I passed my year twelve. After year twelve I stayed at home because I had no idea what I wanted to do with my life. All my family used to worry because I was moping around the house doing nothing..... I had no idea what lay ahead.

*to be continued ....*

## A Christmas Gift idea

### Peace Lamp or Peace Dove from the Holy Land

You may remember that earlier this year (March), the Peace Lamps and Peace Doves were on sale after Mass. Some people commented that they could be a good idea for a Christmas present. We won't be bringing them to the parish again, but they are still available. All you need to do is contact Dawn or John Sullivan (phone 8295 6966)



and we will arrange a time to get them to you, or for you to pick them up.

These Peace Lamps (\$44) and Peace Doves (\$20) are made in the Christian Palestinian village of Taybeh which is in the occupied territory of the West Bank. By buying a peace lamp or dove, you not only help to spread the message of much needed peace in the world, you also help to provide employment for about 20 young people in the village of Taybeh.

This 'Olive Branch Foundation' project began about 10 years ago.

Their goal is *'to place a peace lamp in every single church in the world, and to unite as many Christians and people of faith in a common prayer for peace in the Holy Land'*.



In the 2 years since the SA Council of Churches began bringing the lamps and doves into South Australia, more than 600 have found a home in our churches and homes. All money raised is forwarded to Caritas in Jerusalem to assist with many needy projects related to health and unemployment.

In the 2 years, more than \$17,000 has been transferred to Caritas Jerusalem.

So, if you are still looking for a Christmas gift idea, we invite you to consider buying a Peace Lamp or a Peace Dove.

### Auditor

We are looking for someone to audit the parish books. If you have these skills and are available in February, please contact the parish office or a member of the Parish Finance Council for more information.

### Coming up in our parish

Some things to mark in your diaries

- **Carols in the Park**, Friday 11th December— Pavana Park from 6pm
- **Penitential Liturgy**, Wednesday 16th December—7pm
- **Bunnings Gift Wrapping Day**, Friday 18th December at Marion
- Friday 25th December— **Merry Christmas**

## EAST TIMOR SEMINARIAN SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME

Members of the programme committee are: Mons. Ian Dempsey (Brighton Parish), Fr John Herd (Murray Bridge Parish and our East Timor connection), Alex Priadko, Chair (St Ann's Parish), Jenny McCabe (Brighton Parish), Teresa Pascoe (Hallett Cove Parish) and Peter Hurly (Glenelg Parish – missing from photo).

The sponsorship programme had its beginning in 2007 following a visit by a group of East Timor Seminarians on their journey to World Youth Day 2006 in Sydney. They spoke of the hardship many families experienced in supporting their sons at the Seminaries and the prospect that many would not be able to complete their studies and realise their dream of serving their communities as their priests because their families could not continue to pay the fees for their studies and residence in the Seminaries.

The idea of a sponsorship programme was developed to support the families in greatest need by inviting our Parish communities to donate money which is then transferred to the Seminaries in East Timor

This initiative is now sponsoring Seminarians in three Seminaries: Major, Propaedeutic and Minor. On average we support a total of approximately 85 Seminarians and families each year.

Through the generous support of our Parishioners the programme has been able to transfer, to date, approximately \$112,800 for the support of Seminarians in these three Seminaries.

We recently had a visit from Fr Natolino of the Archdiocese of Dili.

We were pleased to hear him say that our support is making a difference and the money we provide is very much appreciated. He thanked us and our communities for our generous support.

Our sponsorship programme committee thanks our Parish communities for your generous support and we look forward to continuing to make a difference in the lives of the Seminarians and Communities in East Timor. We wish you a happy, safe and blessed Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year



## Timor Leste

SEMINARIAN PROJECT



## East Timor Seminarian Program Financial Report

Year to Date—1st January—30th November, 2015

Opening Balance:	<b>\$15102.73</b>
Collections: Glenelg	\$ 3296.70
St Ann's	\$ 4309.15
Brighton	\$ 2172.35
Hallett Cove	\$ 638.60
Donations:	\$ 4855.00
Envelopes	\$ 2440.00
Interest	<u>\$ 354.08</u>
	<b>\$33168.61</b>
Less	
Remittances to East Timor	\$21451.09
Bank Charges	<u>\$ 170.39</u>
	<b>\$21621.48</b>
Cash at Bank	<b>\$11547.13</b>

## KNIGHT'S OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS

Brighton-Marion-Hallett Cove-Glenelg branch.

Our recent guest speaker, Christine Howard from

the Commonwealth Bank spoke at a mixed meeting on *Modern Banking*.

Including the pitfalls of on-line banking; payway: credit cards and normal day to day banking. Very informative and enlightening as to the future.



-The recent State

Conference of the Knight's had quest speakers discussing Trafficking in Humans; Refugees and the Vinnies. There is a huge need in Society to address these issues and the Vinnies is just one welfare group *working on the ground*.

In our branch we support four Parish Vinnies conferences with donations of funds for Christmas Hampers and other expenses.

The Knight's continues this support through fund-raising: ie: the collection of bottles & cans. Parishioners can phone Jeff Papps ( 83814224) or Tony Schar ( 83220566 ) and we will come and collect.

Hallett Cove parishioner, David Schutze, is celebrating his 62nd year in the Knight's. We wish David & Mary better health in 2016.

We wish all a Happy and Holy Christmas and New Year.

Many thanks for your support.

Best wishes

Tony Schar

Treasurer

**Fr Kym Spurling  
25th Anniversary of Ordination  
8th September, 1990—2015**

I'd like to thank all who were involved in any way in the preparing or in the celebrating of my 25th anniversary of Priestly Ordination. This was a very blessed time - not only for me personally but also for the parish as a whole. I appreciate the distance people travelled in order to be there, the work done by the many involved, the attendance of many parishioners from previous parishes, your gifts, also the many secrets that needed to be kept if the event was to remain for me a surprise. Overall a very supportive, touching and joyful weekend.

Please keep me in your prayers as I will you in mine.

Fr. Kym Spurling



**Dorothy (Dot) Maingard—RIP**

Born in Lakemba, Sydney on the 10<sup>th</sup> April 1925 to Hulda and Stanley Craft, the middle daughter of 5 siblings. Dot schooled locally and finished school when she was about 15 and went to work in the city.

When World War 2 broke out Dot joined the Australian Land Army with her eldest sister – it was the only way her parents were going to let her and so began a great adventure as the girls picked cotton, tobacco amongst many other activities across the country. She had a ball and made some fantastic life long friends.



After the war in 1948 John sailed from Mauritius and lived with some friends in a flat around the corner from where Dot and her family lived.

Heading into the city on the 399 Bus, Dot & John met and so began their 67 year long love affair.

Due to family reasons John had to return to Mauritius in 1949 and sailed back leaving Dot behind. The next year John's friends were returning to Mauritius so he wrote Dot to see if she could/would come back with them. Her father wasn't

overly happy with that but let her go with his 'you've made your bed, you lie in it' blessing!! After the long trip to Mauritius with her head over the railings most of the way, she arrived in Mauritius and was quickly and fondly adopted into John's family and friends. They were engaged not long after and married on the 13<sup>th</sup> February 1952.

Michael was born in 1955 and Allan in 1958 and they made their way back to Australia in 1959. Dot took up her predominant role in life of housewife and mother and they lived in the same house in Beverly Hills well into the 80's.

John's work in Qantas took them to Tahiti in the 60's where they lived and began a love affair with travel – John & Dot travelled extensively around the world and throughout Australia.

Dot & John moved to Adelaide late in the 80's. Dot loved the movies and loved the tall dark and handsome rugged guys of the golden era and the tougher but also the beautiful but vulnerable ladies of the silver screen. She also loved music and dancing and would quite regularly sing, dance and generally clown around whenever the mood struck!

Dot really loved life, family and people were drawn to her cheeky sense of humor and caring ways yet she remained an extremely private person and such her world truly revolved around her family. She loved it that way.

She loved her grandsons and really relished being a grandmother of boys as she was a mother! Sadly dementia invaded her just a few short years ago and when it takes hold it never lets go – it is with much relief that when she left us it was of natural causes and she passed in her sleep on 29th August, 2015. **RIP.**

**RECONCILIATION TIMES** *Confession)*

**Penitential Services (2nd Rite)**

**Wednesday 16th December**

7.00 pm - St. Martin de Porres Church, Hallett Cove

**Thursday 17th December**

10.00 am - St. Joseph's Church, Brighton

**Individual Reconciliation (First Rite)** at Hallett Cove

After Masses on the 2nd & 3rd Sunday of each month.

**In St Ann's Parish**

**Thursday 10th December** – Holy Spirit, Seacombe Gdns

10.00 am – 11.00 am (*Individual Reconciliation*)

**Wednesday, 16th December** – St. Bernadette's, St. Marys

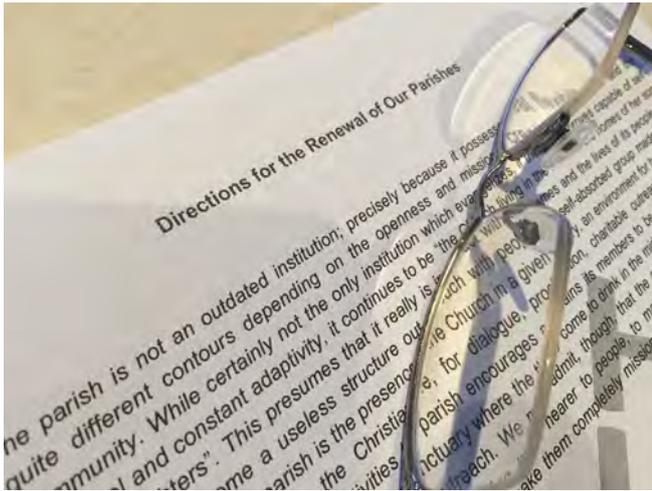
7.00 pm – 8.00 pm (*Individual Reconciliation*)

**Community News**

Articles, items of interest, special occasions etc. (*subject to approval*) are being accepted now for the next edition.

Deadline is Sunday 28th February, for availability on the weekend of the 5th/6th March, 2016

## Parish Pastoral Council: Parish Renewal



Your Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) has had a fruitful year thanks to many parishioners who gave of their time as members, and to our parish leadership team! The hot topic for discussion this year is one that will certainly remain hot for years to come: parish renewal. What does this mean for the Hallett Cove parish?

Within the Adelaide archdiocese, a taskforce (called 'New Directions') was established in March 2015 to develop a plan for parish renewal. Rather than devise a prescriptive, detailed plan, the taskforce has proposed a set of characteristics that mark a thriving parish.

Recently, the Council of Priests and the Diocesan Pastoral Council endorsed this brief document, which acts as a set of agreed principles for parish renewal.

During the first quarter of 2016, representatives of the taskforce plan to attend parish pastoral council meetings throughout the diocese to openly review this important document. When a date is fixed for Hallett Cove, PPC members and interested parishioners will be invited to participate.

The taskforce hopes that a diocese-wide engagement can take place around mid-2016 to seek wide consensus around 'new directions' for parish renewal. At the heart of parish renewal is each one of us living out our baptismal calling to share in Jesus' mission of mercy and love for the world. Please continue to pray that we may be open to the guidance of God's Spirit and remain faithful to our common calling for the sake of our world.



## On the Way to the Diaconate

This update is being written less than two weeks before my ordination to the diaconate on Saturday, 12 December, God willing. Your many assurances of prayer have been heartening, thank you so much! What follows is a reflection prompted by the most common question that's been put to me: 'what does a deacon do?'



## Jesus, the Preeminent Deacon

In a sense, we know what a deacon does—because we know Jesus, the preeminent deacon (i.e. 'one who serves')! He came among us 'not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many' (Matthew 20.28). Think about Jesus' unparalleled knack for bringing peace, light, hope, mercy and love to any situation that confronted him. Now think about the reality that each of us, through baptism, is called to deeply participate in this same life of service. Hmm, that's humanly impossible!

However, strengthened by the gift of God's Spirit through the sacrament of confirmation, we live out this life of selfless service—many of us within the loving relationship formed through the sacrament of marriage. Yet as we continue to meditate on how Jesus lovingly negotiated the twists and turns of his unglamorous life, we can only come to the conclusion that it's an astonishing challenge to live Jesus' life of service. But there's good news: God graciously gives what God requires of us! 'For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible' (Mark 10.27).

Through the sacrament of holy orders, the core Christian responsibilities of baptism, confirmation and (for married permanent deacons) marriage are enlarged upon by receiving the strengthening gift of the sevenfold grace of the Holy Spirit (see Isaiah 11:1-2: wisdom, understanding, counsel, knowledge, fortitude, piety, and fear of the Lord). Always, the Holy Spirit is given so that it may be shared, not tucked away as a personal prize or possession. The whole point of holy orders is to build up the People of God, to nurture the baptized in their fundamental calling to imitate Jesus, the true Servant.

In other words, to be called to the diaconate, the first grade of holy orders, is to be called to become an 'icon' of Christ (i.e. a likeness that points to Christ) for the sake of all. Subsequent grades of holy orders (i.e. to priest or bishop) build on this fundamental life of service, but never replace it. Underneath any priest's (or bishop's) chasuble lies their primary formation as a deacon. Once a deacon, always a deacon!

Pray for me, as I pray for you, so that together we may flourish in our mutual calling to participate in Jesus' ongoing service to our world!

## Volunteers Lunch 2015

What a glorious day, small numbers but a beautiful setting out under the Olive tree. Thank you to all our volunteers, without you the parish would not exist.



## Blessing of the Cribs

The first weekend of Advent was a very busy one for our parish. We brought along our Nativity scenes to be blessed as the church Nativity scene and wreath were blessed and we had our Trading tables after Masses.



# Christmas in July—Parish Dinner

