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March, 2015

## Community Newsletter

No. 7/2015

### EASTER GREETINGS

*Pope Francis announced that 2015 will be a year dedicated to the promotion of consecrated life, and is asking the church's religious sisters, brothers and priests to "wake up the world" with their testimony of faith, holiness and hope.*

In calling for the Year of Consecrated Life, Pope Francis articulated three goals: to look to the past with gratitude, to live the present with passion, and finally, to embrace the future with hope.

The Pope encourages each of us to "live the present with passion" and to "wake up the world." This is quite a challenge, but we all have the ability to do it in our own unique way, with our families, friends and our wider community.

The Pope's words are applicable to all of us as we journey through Lent on our way to the celebration of the Paschal Mystery, the suffering, death and Resurrection of Jesus. This Easter will be a time for celebration and rejoicing if we can reflect on our Lenten journey in the light of the Pope's challenge and see where we have made a difference.

Mons Ian



PREPARATION FOR HOLY WEEK.

**PALM (PASSION) SUNDAY:** Today we begin our own walk with Jesus through this week we call "Holy Week". All that Jesus experiences in this week is for me, that I might catch a glimpse of how deep is his personal love and care for me.

**HOLY THURSDAY.** "Having loved his own who were in the world, he now showed them the full extent of his love." John 13:1

During this Last Supper Jesus gives himself to us in the signs of bread and wine and he washes his disciples feet. He says: "Do this in memory of me."

**GOOD FRIDAY.** This is a day we remember the pain of Jesus and his cruel death by crucifixion. Why, then do we call this one day of the year "Good"? What is good about it? Why do we adore the Cross? Jesus says: "There is no greater love than to lay down your life for a friend." Do I hear Jesus say this to me?

**EASTER VIGIL.** By most ancient Tradition this is the night of keeping vigil for the Resurrection of Jesus. It is a night to remember God with His people: creating, calling, proving His love.

We move from darkness to the light of the Risen Jesus. We listen to God's words of hope and life. We rejoice in the "happy fault" of Adam that "earned so great a Redeemer." We renew our life journey in faith, following Jesus. We celebrate and receive the Risen Jesus with us and in us in our Easter Eucharist. "We are an Easter people and Alleluia is our song."

**EASTER DAY.** The mysteries of life, of struggling with suffering and dying are answered in the Resurrection of Jesus. In faith we see Jesus holding out to us life, hope, joy and peace. My response to Jesus' invitation is in renewing my discipleship as I re-dedicate myself in the Baptismal promises. The "now alive" Jesus gives himself to me in the Easter Eucharist. "We are an Easter people, and Alleluia is our song."

### *Our Parish Vision*

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

## Anne Ryan—Pastoral Associate

Since our last Newsletter much has happened in our Parish. We celebrated Christmas with nearly 1,000 people coming along to our Christmas Masses. Over a dozen children were involved in the Nativity play and they did a great job and looked amazing thanks to Pat who revamped some costumes and made some new ones. It doesn't take long to move on from the Christmas Season and find ourselves now in the middle of Lent as Easter is much earlier this year. We have two Lenten Groups meeting in the Parish reflecting on the beautiful Lenten Program "Arise." I am certainly enjoying the time to reflect on the Lenten Gospels and taking time to be still, as we journey towards Easter.

It was a great privilege to attend the installation of Tim Grauel as an Acolyte at the Cathedral by Archbishop Wilson. It was a beautiful ceremony and it was great to see so many of our parishioners there to support Tim and his family. It is such a blessing for our Parish to support Tim on his way to the Diaconate.

Another blessing for our Parish is supporting our RCIA Catechumens, Lissa Willcocks and Chloe Rowe, who are now part of the Elect. They will be receiving the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil along with Jim Digance, who will be receiving Confirmation and First Holy Communion. It has been a real joy to be

meeting weekly with our RCIA group, which includes candidates from St. Anne's Parish and Brighton. We have great discussions about faith and life and getting to know Jesus through Holy Scripture.

The Sacramental Teams from Brighton and Hallett Cove have come together to look at our Program and look for ways to

improve it. After much discussion and meetings we have come up with a revamped program that I am sure will help the children and their families prepare well to receive the Sacraments. Lisa Cooper has joined the team by looking after the administration part of the program and has taken over from Laura Telford. I wish her well in her new position and thank Laura for her help over the last couple of years.

I hope your year has started well for you and that it will be full of many blessings.

God bless

Anne  
Pastoral Associate



## PEACE LAMPS AND DOVES FROM THE HOLY LAND

On the weekend of 21-22 March, Peace Lamps and Peace Doves from the Holy Land will on sale after both Masses at Hallett Cove. These lamps and doves are made in the Palestinian village of Taybeh, in the West Bank. It is a small Christian village, about 25 kms from Jerusalem and 14 kms from the capital of the West Bank, Ramallah.

The making of these lamps and doves provides employment for 20 young men and women, who would otherwise be forced to leave the village because of the lack of jobs and prospects for the future. The Peace

Lamp project is an initiative of the Olive Branch Foundation and was launched about 10 years ago by Fr Raed, who was then Parish Priest of Taybeh, and who is now Director of Caritas in Jerusalem. ([website: www.taybeh.info](http://www.taybeh.info))

**The goal of the Olive Branch Foundation "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".**

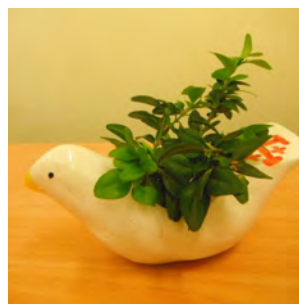
A small ecumenical group, under the umbrella of the South Australian Council of Churches, is responsible for this project in Adelaide. Brighton parishioners, Dawn and John Sullivan are members of this group, and will be selling the lamps and doves after Mass on the weekend of the **21-22 March**.

Dawn and John became involved in this project about 2 years ago, following a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land. They remember celebrating Mass in the Church of the Redeemer in the village of Taybeh. Fr Peter, the celebrant, delivered his homily in Arabic, French and English, during which he said 'there can be no peace without justice and no security without justice'. He was very passionate about the diminishing Christian population in the Holy Land and the unjust situations being experienced, due to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

In purchasing a Peace Lamp (\$44) or Peace Dove (\$20), you join in the call to pray for peace in the Holy Land. They are an excellent gift idea too!



The large Peace Lamp (\$44) has 'peace' written on it in 10 different languages – English, Arabic, French, Greek,



Spanish, Latin, Hebrew, Russian, Italian and German.

A red Jerusalem Cross is depicted on the lamp and dove.

*(If you would like further information, or sales at any time, you can contact John and Dawn Sullivan on 8295 6966)*

## Update from the Parish Pastoral Council Chair

As Chair of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC), I've been invited to become involved in interesting activities. During my first year in the role (2014), I was urged to draw (and loudly announce) winning raffle tickets after Mass. Apparently, when Mons Ian or Fr Peter is unavailable, this is what PPC chairs are supposed to do! There are many other things, of course. I'd like to share a few things that are things keeping me on my toes:

### Dinner with the Archbishop

I was invited to attend a dinner at Archbishop Philip Wilson's home on Tuesday 17 February, hosted by a representative of the Cathedral of St Francis Xavier restoration appeal. I attended along with several leaders from various parishes. The event began with a tour of the Cathedral and an explanation of upcoming works (i.e. installation of pipe organ in choir loft, during which the Cathedral will be closed May - September). The tour also highlighted further restoration priorities, mainly modernising the building's layout and addressing complex maintenance issues. Archbishop Wilson then related his vision for the Cathedral's restoration over a lively and enjoyable meal.

The Cathedral holds a special place in the life of the Church, which directly reflects the important role that the Archbishop holds for our parish and all the parishes of the archdiocese (*cathedra* in Latin, the place where the bishop's chair resides). The Hallett Cove parish needs the Cathedral to remain a vital place of worship, much like the universal Church needs the Vatican to be a healthy, effective place. The Chrism Mass ('Mass of the oils'), held annually in the Cathedral (Monday 30 March), most beautifully witnesses to this. The Archbishop will bless oils to be distributed to all parishes for use throughout the year with catechumens, the sick, baptisms and ordinations. If you would like to find out more about the Cathedral's restoration, please see the *Southern Cross* (page 1, February 2015) or consult the diocesan website: [www.adelaide.catholic.org.au](http://www.adelaide.catholic.org.au)

### Diocesan Task Force, New Directions

I have been approached by the Vicar General's office to join a newly-formed diocesan task force, called 'New Directions', to assist with the development of a pastoral plan for the diocese. The task force was a recommendation arising out of a consultation by Fr David Couturier OFM (Boston, Massachusetts) held in September 2014 (see page 3, *Southern Cross*, February 2015). Terms of reference and final composition of the small group has yet to be finalised; the first meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 17 March. I'm humbled to be asked to participate, mindful of the critical challenge that this represents for our diocese and parish. Please pray that the task force will be guided by Christ's love, wisdom, and courage! New Direction resources and updates can be found via the diocesan website, [www.adelaide.catholic.org.au](http://www.adelaide.catholic.org.au)

The PPC will be reviewing Fr Couturier's *Report* (November 2014), as well as the *Strategic Planning Review 2015/17* conducted by the Parish Finance Council (October 2014), during its meetings this year.

Our aim is to be awake to our current situation and, taking guidance from the diocesan task force, New Directions, develop future options for the parish.

An essential initial step is for the PPC to become better aware of the various groups within the parish, especially to encourage two-way communication. If you belong to a parish group (or know of someone else who's connected to a parish group), and you feel that group is not effectively connected to the PPC, please don't hesitate to contact me (or any PPC member).

### National Pastoral Planners Network Conference

The diocesan office supporting parishes, Catholic Communities, has encouraged PPC chairs to attend this year's National Pastoral Planners Network Conference (*'The Spirit of Truth will set us Free'*, Wednesday 22 April – Friday 24 April), mainly because the Conference is being held in Adelaide, but partly because pastoral planning is such a hot topic for the diocese. I plan to participate, and am looking forward to hearing Fr Timothy Radcliffe OP (Oxford, UK), a keynote speaker. Currently, I'm reading Fr Radcliffe's book on baptism and confirmation, *Take the Plunge* (2012). He writes, *'the greatest dignity of any Christian is to be baptised... Christianity will be strong if all the baptised people of God are strengthened, their vocation recognised and their creativity released'*.

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### Parish Finance Council

To assist the Parish Priest in regard to his responsibilities for financial and administrative matters Hallett Cove Catholic community has a Finance Council. The aim of the council is to represent all Parishioners and work with Mons Ian Dempsey in the administration of the financial matters of the Parish. The existence of the Finance Council does not detract from Mons Ian Dempsey's standing as the one who acts in the name of our Parish. However, the Council provides Mons Ian Dempsey with valuable insight and advice, so that he may act more effectively in the interests of our Parish.

The council members include:-

Pete McKenna elected Chairperson  
Ed Staunton elected Deputy Chairperson  
Committee Members  
Mons Ian Dempsey  
Meryl Dimech  
Terry Fanning  
Tony Barbaro  
Pat McKenna  
Jenny McCabe.

If there are any financial issues you wish to discuss please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Kind Regards

Pete McKenna, Chair Parish Finance Council  
M: 0403 369 239

E: [pmckenna@adam.com.au](mailto:pmckenna@adam.com.au)



## Q&A: Tim's Progress towards the Permanent Diaconate

By God's gracious design, we never truly do things alone—our life together, as the Body of Christ, is evidence. So too is my vocational journey to the permanent diaconate. This update is offered with gratitude for your generous support and prayers!

### Why are you wearing an alb at Mass?

On Thursday 29 January, I was installed by Archbishop Philip Wilson as a Lector and Acolyte during the 5:45 pm Mass at St Francis Xavier Cathedral—a simple, yet beautiful celebration. Fr Peter Sheedy concelebrated (along with several other priests); Mons Ian Dempsey was away interstate. In the sacristy just before Mass, Fr Peter kindly taught me how to tie the cincture (i.e. cord) around my alb (i.e. white garment)—no doubt, the start of many 'how to' sessions!

My wife, Carrie, and our son, Dennis (22 yrs), along with his girlfriend, Kelsey, attended the Mass. It was their first visit to the Cathedral. Archbishop Wilson warmly greeted my wife and family shortly before Mass began. Our daughter, Hannah (26 yrs), was unable to attend since she works in Geelong as a paramedic and needed more notice than was available to return to Adelaide.

I was pleased that Anne Ryan read the first Reading, and that her husband, Chris, read the Prayers of the Faithful. Rick and Mila Grimshaw, along with Michael Elias (from my employer, ACH Group), carried the gifts.



Around 25 Hallett Cove parishioners attended (outnumbering regular Cathedral attendees)—a precious gift of support, thank you!

After his homily, the Archbishop formally installed me as a Lector (i.e. 'reader'), saying, *'Take this book of Holy Scripture and be faithful in handing on the word of God, so that it may grow strong in the hearts of his people'*.

A profound challenge, not simply to 'read' from the Lectionary, but to 'proclaim' from the heart the word of God—so that the word of God may be welcomed into the hearts of God's people.

A little later, as the Archbishop installed me as an Acolyte (i.e. 'server'), he said, *'Take these vessels with bread and wine for the celebration of the Eucharist. Make your life worthy of your service at the table of the Lord and his Church'*. These words emphasise that progress towards the permanent diaconate is more about lifelong formation than simply mastering a few liturgical functions. This special moment of grace was an important step along the way to the permanent diaconate. I am now given time to grow into this way of life before receiving holy orders (at least 6 months or so away).

### L-plater

While I'm familiar with proclaiming the Word of God as a reader, and assisting during the Mass as an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist, serving as an acolyte in the Mass has been a new experience—a different way to participate in the source and summit of our faith.

Servers should be inconspicuous, but the novelty of the acolyte role initially made me feel anything but! I'm grateful for the patient guidance offered by Mons Ian, Fr Peter—and our many young altar servers at Hallett Cove!

Since I work in the city, and am often able to attend midday Mass at the Cathedral, Archbishop Wilson has asked me to serve as an acolyte and lector when I'm present. This has been another dimension to my training, since many different priests, deacons, and the Archbishop himself, can be present—sometimes all at once. Again, everyone has been helpful—including a few quite senior servers. I frequently reflect that my active business day, interspersed with blessed time in worship, so aptly typifies the role of the deacon in our world. Of course, I'm not living in two different worlds (although it's tempting to see it that way), but one world, God's world, a world that hungers for Christ's love and peace. A prayer offered by Archbishop Wilson during my installation Mass continues to reverberate for me: *'Lord, help your servant to understand and live the mystery of your love more completely every day'*.

### Ongoing Formation Activities

I am currently engaged in discussions with a priest about preparing and giving homilies.

Soon there will be other discussions involving liturgical guidance around baptisms, marriages and funerals. I have also met with the director of the diocesan marriage tribunal to better understand the role of that department, and plan to meet with the leader of the diaconate support group. Sometimes these discussions are a single meeting, but others are ongoing for several months, supported by a specific reading program. I'm quite busy with my full-time work commitments, but am blessed to have control of my day to fit in these formation activities.

During this season of Lent, I've also chosen to attend the Lenten program of Stational Masses around the diocese (see *Southern Cross*, page 24). This is helping me to appreciate the pastoral responsibility of the bishop in caring for his flock in the name of Christ—especially since deacons are to assist the bishop in this role. These Mass visits have helped me to behold the joy of many people in the RCIA who will be received into the Church at Easter. The Adelaide archdiocese is quite large: thus far I've attended Masses at Sevenhill (13 February), Gawler (24 February), and Naracoorte (25 February). Our parish is invited to support the Stational Mass at Aberfoyle Park on Friday 13 March (7:30 pm). Why not come along to enrich your participation in Lent this year?

I have a wonderful sense of wide and deep support as this diaconate journey continues—your lovely prayers are much appreciated!

## RITE OF ELECTION

I am writing to thank the parishes who participated in the Rite of Election in the Cathedral on 22<sup>nd</sup> February. It was a very hot 40\* day, but you came in large numbers. There were 16 parishes who presented about 50 catechumens to the Archbishop. I wish to thank the Cathedral staff, and in particular: sacristan Eva, organist John Rego, Robyn Carroll, Fr Tony as MC, Deacon Nick Kerr, and of course the Archbishop.

The Rite says that "The Election marked with a rite of such solemnity, is the focal point of the Church's concern for the catechumens. Admission to Election therefore belongs to the Bishop...". The Rite stands as a distinct occasion celebrated right around the world on this the First Sunday of Lent.

The Archbishop then delivered a homily for the catechumens, in which he drew their attention to the great moment of their baptism in a few weeks' time. He spoke about the sincere preparation needed for this occasion when Jesus himself calls these catechumens to himself. Jesus went through a time of testing, as we learn from the Gospel beautifully read by Deacon Nick. The Archbishop spoke how this Rite was re-introduced into the Church at Vatican II, and now some 50 years later in Adelaide, we see the results of this process.

We heard the Archbishop announce the Act of Election for these catechumens, who are now to be called "The Elect." Then each parish presented the Book of the Elect for the Archbishop to sign and invite them as Elect to proceed to the Easter sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion. The catechumens were invited to come onto the sanctuary so the Archbishop could address them personally. Thank you to the sponsors who accompanied these Catechumens.

Quite a number of pastors were there supporting their catechumens, and RCIA teams. The reading of I Peter 3:18-22 was beautifully read by Lorraine Thalbourne from the Salisbury parish. The prayers for the catechumens were read by reps from a number of parishes. The music was very fitting for the occasion as we all followed the lead of the cantor in singing "Chosen to be God's Own." The words of the verses were:

We gather in the name of  
Jesus...

We witness to our hope in all  
that we profess...

And we worship and proclaim the goodness of  
God.

The afternoon tea was beautiful prepared by Tony from "All Occasions"

Thank you to all our parish RCIA teams. You are volunteers doing the work of evangelization in a very important way. Thank you for your dedication and the inspiration you give.

We now accompany the other group, the Candidates for Full Communion, to the various Stational Masses. Best wishes.

Br Patrick Cronin cfc



## POLICE CHECKS

It is a requirement of the Archdiocese of Adelaide that all persons performing specific functions within any Catholic organization have completed a police check through the Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide Police Check Unit—this means all volunteers need a current police clearance.



The Hallett Cove Catholic Community has an obligation to ensure that all volunteers no matter their role have a current clearance and to not include volunteers on rosters if they are unable to fulfill the obligations.

If you do not have a clearance, or if your clearance has expired please contact the Parish Office on 8322 1158 as soon as possible to renew.

I was audited last month and we have a few people without current clearances on our rosters. Please help me get up to scratch.

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## Join us for Easter Services



### **Penitential Rite**

Wednesday 25th March 7pm

### **Palm Sunday Services**

Sat 28th March 6pm

Sun 29th March 9.15am

### **Holy Thursday - 2nd April**

Mass 7.30pm followed by  
Night Prayer at 10pm

### **Good Friday- 3rd April**

Stations of the Cross 10am  
Liturgy 3pm

### **Easter Vigil**

Saturday 4th April 7.30pm

### **Easter Sunday—5th April**

Mass 9.15am

We will need help with our

### **Easter Working Bees**

Sat 28th March 9.30am

Wed 1st April 7pm

Sat 4th April 10am

If you have any comments about this newsletter, please direct them to Pat at [hcp@adelaide.com.au](mailto:hcp@adelaide.com.au)



## Parishioner News

**Congratulations to Trevor & Paulette Brown** on their **50th Wedding Anniversary** on Feb 6th.

They spent a week in Sydney then came home to celebrate with their children & grandchildren.



**Congratulations Gerry & Molly Lawrence** on their **60th Wedding Anniversary**—they will be spending the next 3 months cruising. Enjoy.

Congratulations to **Rae Campbell**. She received an award for Community Service from the Archbishop. The photo was taken at the lunch to celebrate the awards on Saturday December 13, 2014.



### **Community News**

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

Deadline is Sunday 31st May, for availability on the weekend of the 7th June, 2015

## **Teaching in Laos by Cassie McKenna**

The four weeks spent in Laos was the hardest most challenging thing I have ever done. I was submersed in the Laos culture which is completely different than anything I had ever seen or experienced before. I walked and rode a bicycle through the streets of Luang Prabang which had no traffic lights, a million motorcycles and no road rules. I got to meet and know the locals and learn some of the beautiful language of this country.

I spent four weeks teaching in a school and temples with different classes. I had three classes who were all at different levels of English. One of my classes was a group of adults aged about 19-22 who had basic English skills. Another class was a group of orphans and foster children whose parents worked in the rice farms. These kids were aged between 8-16 and for their age and circumstances had amazing English skills. I could easily have a simple discussion and be understood. My third class was a small group of young Novice Buddhist Monks who were aged 10-12. These boys were learning the beginning steps of English; we began by teaching the alphabet. This sounds easy but trying to teach the alphabet without singing the song is quite difficult.

Being a teacher in Laos is very different than being one here, they had rules and etiquette that influenced the way that I talked and approached students, especially when it came to teaching the Novice Buddhist Monks. When teaching I was required to wear a traditional Laos skirt which was called a Sing. I was not allowed to touch or overlook students. When helping them I had to bend down to below their level. The Buddhist culture had even more rules, so when teaching I wasn't allowed to sit near them, I wasn't allowed to pass anything to them. We could not clap, or sing, or play sports (running included) within the classroom. This made teaching a little harder and I had to be more creative when planning my lessons. Being a teacher in Laos society was very different than being there as a tourist. Going around the town I would be easily recognised, people would question why I was wearing a traditional Laos Sing, they would ask me about my classes and question my life back home in Australia. On the weekends I had a chance to be a real tourist, going out of the city to experience tourist life. I rode elephants, swam in the waterfalls, took Laos cooking courses and so much more.

From Monday to Friday I was teaching between 8am-9pm. The spare time was used to collaborate on lesson plans with my teaching partners. It was exhausting, the days were long and I was challenged to the limit. It was also the best thing I have ever done. I spent four weeks in a society where education was privilege, where kindness surrounded you, and where curiosity about differences in culture and world were shared in amazement.

Laos is a country so raw in comparison to the rest of the world. Religion, education, and people are the most important things in their society. A society in which I am thankful to be involved in even for only a few weeks.

