

HOLY WEEK PROGRAMME:

Palm Sunday: 13th April 2014. (Please bring Palms to church for blessing)

Divine Mercy (Penitential) Day: Wednesday 16th April from 1:30pm – 8:30pm. Individual confessions will be heard at various times.

Holy Thursday: Thursday 17th April

Good Friday: Friday 18th April

Holy Saturday: Saturday 19th April

Easter Sunday: Sunday 20th April

Easter Monday: Monday 21st April

(More details to follow)

Jesus uses the phrase "living water" in two instances in the Bible. The first instance is found in John chapter 4. Jesus was tired and sat at a well while His disciples went into town to buy food. A Samaritan woman came to draw water and Jesus asked her for a drink. The Samaritan woman was quite shocked because Jesus was a Jew and Jews simply hated the Samaritans. Of course, she had no idea who Jesus was, and asked Him how He could ask her for water since He was a Jew. Jesus ignored the question and went right to the point, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water" (John 4:10). Notice that He does not say that He *is* the living water, but that He would *give* living water to her, and when she received it, she would never thirst again. Of course, that does not tell us what the living water is! For that, we must go to another passage of Scripture. In this case, Jesus is in the Temple surrounded by a throng of worshippers. He suddenly cried out, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scriptures said, 'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.' But this *He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive*; for the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified" (John 7:37-39, emphasis added). Here Jesus refers to the Holy Spirit as the living water. External influence of the Spirit had always been given in the conversion and sanctification of the Old Testament saints and prophets, but the gift of the Spirit who would dwell in believers had not yet been received (Acts 10:44-45). So, though many people say that Jesus is the living water, Jesus Himself intended the phrase to mean the Holy Spirit who dwells in believers and seals them for salvation (Ephesians 1:13-14). It is the ministry of the Spirit, flowing out of a heart redeemed by God, that blesses believers and through them, brings life and light to the world.

St Michael's Catholic Church

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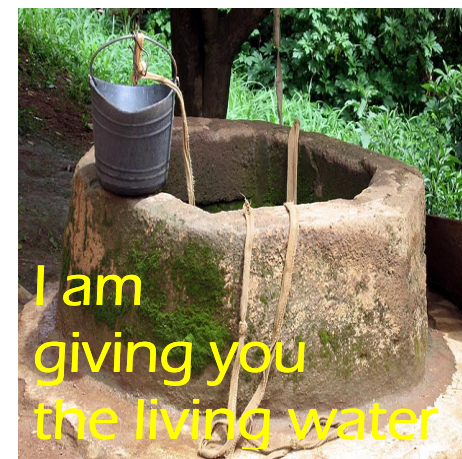
Ph: 93448512

CHILDREN's web: Google, EWTNKIDS

Deepen your faith-find answers on

Tim Staples; Catholic Sacraments.

www.vocationcentre.org.au



23rd March 2014 (A)

3rd Sunday of Lent

1ST READING: Exodus 17:3-7

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

2ND READING: Romans 5:1-2. 5-8

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL: John 4:5-42

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Whoever drinks the water that I shall give him, says the Lord, will have a spring inside him, welling up for eternal life.

WEEKEND MASS TIMES:

Sat. Vigil: 5pm

Sunday: 8am, 9:30am & 5pm

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:

Mon, Tues & Thurs: 7:30am

Wed: 6pm

Fri: 9:15am

Sat: 9:15am (Hostel)

HOLY HOUR: Wed: 5pm

RECONCILIATION:

Wed: 5:15 – 5:45pm

Sat: 4:15 – 4:45pm

BAPTISMS:

Sundays 9:30am Mass

BAPTISMAL PROGRAMME &

WEDDINGS:

By appointment

ANOINTING MASS:

Quarterly: 1st weekend

1ST SAT OF EACH MONTH:

11am Mass in honour of Our Lady.

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAMME:

100% tax deductible. Please join by contacting parish office.

FAITH FORMATION:

Sundays 3:30pm (in presbytery)

OFFICE HOURS:

Mon, Wed & Fri 9am to 2:30pm

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat Vigil: †Betty & Tony Prodes

Mon: †Joan Johnson

Sun 8am: Kanthi & Patricia (birthdays)

Tues: †John Coker

Sun 9:30am: †Vlado Pupic

Thur: Ben & Laura Torrecilla

Sun 5pm: †Patrick Ellsmore

Fri: Michael Torrecilla

OUR SICK: *Marie Busuttill, Maria De Andrade, Mollie Burgess, Patricia Flannery, Josephine Helback, Carmella Ciccari, Joy Williams, Moira Butler, Domenico Cirillo, Marilia Amaro, John Heaney and Jenny Yong.*

Only 1 unit still available in Foley Gardens. Please call Fr. Jerzy on 93491292 or 0411125357 and you will be referred for further details to Mr. Robert O'Shea, the manager.

Happy Birthdays to: Marshiella, Marshiella, Kanthi Jayasiri and Patricia Low (25th), Rose Capecci (27th).

Congratulations and God's blessings to:

Pat and Helen De La Motte on their 66th Wedding Anniversary on 26th March.
Saverio & Rosetta Capizzi on their 49th Wedding Anniversary on 27th March.

Parish School News: 1) Class Mass: Fri 28th Mar: Yr 4; Fri 4th April: Yr 2.
2) Family Mass: Sat 5th Apr: Kindy.

Parish Ministry Rosters: New rosters for the period April – Sept. are now available in the church foyer. Would all ministers please collect their rosters before the end of the month. Many thanks. Vince.

Day of Prayer & Discernment for Women – Sat 12th April from 9:30am to 4pm. This day of prayer is for women who are discerning a call to Religious Life or Married Life. It will include Mass, quiet prayer time, penance, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, guided reflections and opportunities for chats. The day is free, and meals will be provided. Location: St. Joseph's Convent, 2 Missenden Road, Camperdown NSW 2050. **RSVP by 05 April** to Sr Moira, RSM at stjoseph@rsmofalma.org or 02 9557 2398.

Faith formation: "Discovering the Vatican" – in the Presbytery on Sun 6th April from 3:30pm to 4:30pm.

This weekend: Vigil: J Haggart (A) Stage 1 Parents (R) G Hage, Volunteer (C) P Low (M)
8:00am: G Diab (A) M Marshiella, T Long (R) O Sarmiento, V Meyer (C) Thomas W (M)
9:30am: A Varghese (A) Volunteers please (R) I Tjahjadi (C) A Burton (M)
5:00pm: R Yang (A), Volunteers **Counters:** B Dunn, H Morris

Next weekend: Vigil: J Haggart (A) L Paquin, J Spora (R) S Kim, J Yong (C) Thomas W (M)
8:00am: G Diab (A) V Meyer, R Wijaya (R) P Chen, R Houghton (C) Thomas W (M)
9:30am: A Varghese (A) I Lie, J Lie (R) M Tjokrowidjaja (C) A Burton (M)
5:00pm: R Yang (A), Volunteers please **Counters:** J De Andrade, M Wells

Stations of the Cross – every Friday to 11th Apr at 7pm.

Lenten groups: Tuesdays 8:15- 9:00am (in Presbytery); Thursdays 4:30pm (in Presbytery); Saturdays and Sundays 6:00pm (in Church).



Christians and Muslims have joined to try to help free millions of men, women and children held in modern-day slavery, forced to work as maids, prostitutes, child soldiers and manual labourers. The Global Freedom Network launched Monday at the Vatican aims to eradicate slavery by encouraging governments, businesses, educational and faith institutions to rid their supply chains of slave labour. The initiative is the brainchild of billionaire Australian mining magnate Andrew Forrest, who founded the Walk Free Foundation in 2012 to mobilize a grass-roots movement to end slavery. Forrest, ranked 270th on Forbes' list of the world's richest people, used personal contacts to bring the 1.2-billion strong Catholic Church, 85-million strong Anglican Communion and al-Azhar university in Cairo, the world's foremost seat of Sunni learning, on board with the initiative. ... In an interview, Forrest said it makes financial sense for countries to rid themselves of slave labour. "We have absolute economic proof that once you take slavery out of a community, that community grows and grows and grows," he said. The Walk Free Foundation in 2013 published the "Global Slavery Index," a country-by-country breakdown which found that some 29.8 million people were currently enslaved around the globe: child labourers harvesting cocoa in Ivory Coast, women sold for sex in Moldova, and Haitian children trafficked and forced into begging. Everyday items used in the developed world - soccer balls, bricks, diamonds and flowers - are often produced or extracted using slave labour, the report said. ... Pope Francis has spoken out about human trafficking and was behind a November 2013 Vatican conference on modern-day slavery. The International Labour Organization has estimated that trafficking in human beings - just one segment of the slavery industry - generates \$32 billion in profits every year. Forrest said representatives of other faiths were welcome to join the project's governing council.

☛ **Seminary of the Good Shepherd, Homebush Open Day (Sun 6th April)** for men seeking an insight into seminary life and formation to the Priesthood, from 9am onwards. For more info/RSVP, 9390 5970 or email vocations@sydneycatholic.org. Details of other events at the Seminary can be found on the noticeboard. ☛ **Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville:** Please refer to noticeboard for various Retreats and dates. ☛ **Men's Retreat: 8th – 10th Aug.** at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville. This retreat offers an opportunity for men to examine the meaning of the crucifixion of Jesus Christ through structured processes designed to promote personal reflection on their experience as both crucifier and crucified. Cost: \$250 (early bird discounts available). For more details, ring 02 8795 3400 or email retreats@carmelite.com. ☛ **World Youth Day Celebration in Sydney** on Sun 13th April from 12-4pm from St Benedict's Parish, Broadway to St Mary's Cathedral. This event is for all young people 16 to 35. Visit www.facebook.com/catholicyouthservices.com for more info.