

**The deepest**, the most profound of all mysteries is the mystery of the Trinity. The Church teaches us that although there is only one God, yet, somehow, there are three Persons in God. The Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God, yet we do not speak of three Gods, but only one God. They have the same nature, substance, and being. We came to know this immense mystery because Christ revealed it to us. Just before ascending He told them: "Go teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19). We know that these Three are not just different ways of looking at one person. For at the Last Supper, Jesus told us: "I came forth from the Father." So He is different from the Father. But He also promised: "If I go, I will send Him [the Paraclete] to you. . . . He will guide you to all truth" (John 16:28, 7, 13). So the Holy Spirit is also different. Even though the Three Persons are One God, yet they are distinct: for the Father has no origin, He came from no one. But the Son is begotten, He comes from the Father alone. The Holy Spirit comes or proceeds from both the Father and the Son. These different relations of origin tell us there are three distinct Persons, who have one and the same divine nature. Even though everything the Three Persons do outside the Divine nature is done by all Three, yet it is suitable that we attribute some works specially to one or the other Person. So we speak of the Father especially as the power of creation, of the Son as the wisdom of the Father, of the Holy Spirit as goodness and sanctification. The two doctrines of the Trinity and the Incarnation are the foundation of Christian life and worship. By becoming man, God the Son offered us a share in the inner life of the Trinity. By grace, we are brought into the perfect communion of life and love which is God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This sharing in the life of the Trinity is meant to culminate in heaven, where we will see the three Persons face to face, united to them in unspeakable love.



**HYMN COMPETITION:** The Australian Hymn Book Pty Ltd announces its first international hymn competition. This competition has 2 entry levels, either of which may be selected by an individual competitor: General and Specific. For more info. on entry level requirements and guidelines, visit [www.togetherinsong.org](http://www.togetherinsong.org). All entries must be submitted by 5pm on 31<sup>st</sup> July.

**Does Tradition Unite Or Divide Us? – Notre Dame Univ. Tradition Conference 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> July.** The Tradition Conference brings together Australian and internationally renowned speakers to explore how religious and cultural customs shape our understanding of ourselves and the world we inhabit. The conference will culminate in a lively debate at the ABC Studios, led by notable philosophers Mark Kingwell and John Haldane. For more info, visit <http://www.nd.edu.au/tradition> or ring 8204 4390.

## St Michael's Catholic Church

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 Deepen your faith-find answers on  
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**26<sup>th</sup> May 2013 (C)**

### Trinity Sunday

**1<sup>ST</sup> READING:** Proverbs 8:22-31

#### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

O Lord, our God, how wonderful  
 your name in all the earth!

**2<sup>ND</sup> READING:** Romans 5:1-5

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

Alleluia, alleluia! Glory to the  
 Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit:  
 to God who is, who was, and who is  
 to come. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL:** John 16:12-15

#### **COMMUNION ANTIPHON:**

You are the sons of God, so God has  
 given you the Spirit of his Son to form  
 your hearts and make you cry out:  
 Abba, Father.

#### **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 (Sthn Cross Apts)

#### **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: 1<sup>st</sup> weekend

#### **1<sup>ST</sup> SAT OF EACH MONTH:**

11am Mass in honour of Our Lady.

#### **PLANNED GIVING PROGRAMME:**

**70%** 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:** †George Torok

**Sun 8am:** Thanksgiving

**Sun 9:30am:** †Johannes Ronald Karli

**Sun 5pm:** †Teresa & Wilhelm

**Mon 7:30am:** †Martin Clara

**Tue 7:30am:** †Patrick Walsh

**Wed 6pm:** †Teresa & Wilhelm

**OUR SICK:** *Marie Busuttill, Pat Raby, Maria De Andrade, Mollie Burgess, Alan Seagant. and Josephine Helback ...*

**Accommodation 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 Birthday to: Minerva Alimario (26<sup>th</sup>)**

**ANOINTING MASSES will be held next weekend (1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> June).**

**1<sup>st</sup> of Sat:** Mass in honour of Our Lady will be held at 11am on Sat 1<sup>st</sup> June.

**Parish School News: 1) Class Mass:** Fri 31<sup>st</sup> May: Yr 5; Fri 7<sup>th</sup> June: Yr 3.

**Parish Mission Board meeting** will be held on Wed 12<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm in the presbytery.

**SVdP Winter Appeal will be held on the weekend of 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> June.** Your generous support for this Appeal will be greatly appreciated. Specially printed envelopes will be available for your donations on that weekend. Tax receipts are available to donations over \$2.

**Fr. Rob Galea in a fundraising concert for "Built on Rock",** a project of Verbum Dei Missionaries on Sun 7<sup>th</sup> July at 4pm at St Therese Hall, Mascot. Tickets on sale at <http://www.builtonrock.org.au/galea.html>. For more info., call 9313 7099.

**Notre Dame's 4-day HSC Study Intensive for Yr 12!** Mon 8 to Thur 11 July. Cost: \$285pp. Find out more and register at: [www.nd.edu.au/events/notre-dame-hsc-study-week](http://www.nd.edu.au/events/notre-dame-hsc-study-week).

**Parent Info. Evening at Univ. of Notre Dame** will be held on Tue 18 June at 6pm. For further info. or to RSVP, visit [www.nd.edu.au/events/parent-information-sessions](http://www.nd.edu.au/events/parent-information-sessions).

**Catholicism,** The Journey with Fr. Robert E. Barron. 4<sup>th</sup> Sun. at 3:30 pm presbytery. Next session: **Sun 23<sup>rd</sup> June.**

**The Great Adventure:** Bible Study, 3rd Sundays of the month, 3:30pm presbytery. Next session: Sun 16<sup>th</sup> June

**This weekend: Vigil:** Volunteer (A) J Busuttill, R Williams (R) M Wong, G Chin (C) G Guerrera (M)  
**8:00am:** J Heaney (A) S Budavari, F De Andrade (R) O Sarmiento, V Meyer (C) P Low (M)  
**9:30am:** A Varghese (A) M Tjokrowidjaja, D Tjahjadi (R) G Pullela (C) A Burton (M)  
**5:00pm:** R Yang (A), Volunteers **Counter:** J De Andrade

**Next weekend: Vigil:** Volunteer (A) A Wojciechowski, T Haglund (R) F & G Hogan (C)  
**8:00am:** J Heaney (A) A Brinck, J Rapusas (R) A Burke, Sr Betty (C) P Low (M)  
**9:30am:** Volunteer E Widjaja, H Widjaja (R) S Pedisich (C) A Burton (M)  
**5:00pm:** R Yang (A), Volunteers please **Counters:** G Hage, V Hage

Does the Bible teach about the Holy Trinity? The Father is God (John 6:27; Romans 1:7; 1 Peter 1:2). Jesus Christ is God (John 1:1, 14; Romans 9:5; Colossians 2:9; Hebrews 1:8; 1 John 5:20). The Holy Spirit is God (Acts 5:3-4; 1 Corinthians 3:16). But, there is only one God (Deuteronomy 6:4; 1 Corinthians 8:4; Galatians 3:20; 1 Timothy 2:5). How the idea of Persons within the Trinity is fully compatible with monotheism is impossible to understand. The sooner we admit this, the better. Now, the author is not saying the doctrine of the Trinity is unimportant. Nor is he saying that we shouldn't study what the Bible says about the Trinity. What he is saying is that we have to, at some point, stop trying to figure it out and just accept, in faith, what the Bible says.

Nearly all of the debates result from individuals or groups who attempt to make sense of the Trinity. Whether it is Modalism, Monarchianism, Sabellianism, Patripassianism, or some other Trinitarian "heresy", the cause is the same – trying to explain the unexplainable. In a sense, it is pride, maybe even arrogance, that continually motivates people to try to develop a theology that results in the Trinity making sense. The author cannot tell you how many times he has received emails that say "I finally figured it out." If he was to spend the time examining the "new" explanation, I will always be taken back to Solomon's words, "What has been will be again, what has been done will be done again; there is nothing new under the sun."

Is the Trinity related to the trichotomous nature of humanity (body, soul, spirit)? Is the Trinity like an egg (shell, white, yolk)? Is the Trinity like water (liquid, vapour, solid)? Will we see all three members of the Trinity in heaven? What is the perichoresis? What is the filioque controversy? What is the eternal generation of the Son? All of these questions are fascinating and interesting, but ultimately, they can become a waste of time if they are our primary focus. Yes, the Bible teaches the Trinity. But, the author had decided a long time ago to stop trying to figure it out and to simply trust that what the Bible says is true about God. The Father is my Creator. The Son is my Saviour. The Spirit is my Comforter.

☛ **Marriage Mass & Renewal of Vows** will take place on **Sun 14<sup>th</sup> July** at St Mary's Cathedral at 10:30am. Mass will be celebrated by His Eminence Cardinal Pell and all couples are welcome to attend and renew their vows. Couples who are celebrating a significant wedding anniversary this year or who have been married in the last 12 months are invited to register with the Life, Marriage and Family Centre on 9390 5283 to receive a special acknowledgement at the Mass.

☛ **All Night Vigil for Peace and Reparation** will be held on 10pm **Fri 7<sup>th</sup>** to dawn of **Sat 8<sup>th</sup> June** at St Joseph's Enfield (Burwood Heights). All welcome. Details: 9984 8988.

☛ **Dialogue for Young Adults:** "How the world is getting better-signs of hope despite appearances?" will be held on **Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> Jun** from 7-8:30pm at St Francis Xavier Parish Hall, Mackenzie St, Lavender Bay. Donation: \$5.

☛ **Need To Brush Up On The Basics? Catholicism 101** is for you! 2-day course at CAEC on **3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> June from 9am – 4:30pm**. Registration is essential. Cost \$160. For more info and to enrol: [www.caec.com.au](http://www.caec.com.au), [study@caec.com.au](mailto:study@caec.com.au) or 9646 9010.