

On 11 Sep. 2013, the Australian Catholic Bishops launched the 2013-2014 Social Justice Statement, Lazarus at our Gate: A critical moment in our fight against world poverty.

The Statement, drawing on the parable of the rich man and the poor man named Lazarus who sits at his gate, calls on us to reflect on who are the poor in our world today, and asks us to focus our attention on how we can help these people. Helen Forde, Acting CEO of Caritas Australia, was invited to speak at the launch. Here are some excerpts from her speech. "It's just four days after the election and there are huge changes afoot across our nation. We stand at a crossroads in the fight against global poverty. As our Bishops say, we face A Critical Moment in the fight against world poverty. As Catholics, and as the broader Christian community, in this moment we pause... We pause – and reflect – on the gift of life and the face of Christ. We pause – and reflect – Who is the rich man and who is Lazarus? This is the moment to hear the call of Jesus. Australia is a rich, prosperous nation with a strong economy. Unlike the rich man, we must ask, 'Who is at our gate?' Who is Lazarus and where do we find him? Lying at our gate in South East Asia and the Pacific are about 20 per cent of the world's poorest people. They're families, they're children, mothers, fathers and grandparents too. [And] excluded from our table, we find many of Australia's First peoples and millions of the world's Indigenous Peoples. It is these people, and many more, who are the companions of Lazarus. As our Bishops say in the Statement: 'Their dignity demands that we hear their cry and respond. Caritas Australia is the International Aid and Development Agency of the Australian Catholic Church. With the support of our Catholic community every day we seek to live out God's mission in our work to end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. For us, it is about recognizing that God is the host, that Lazarus is the treasured guest and that the table's sumptuousness is for all. As Pope Francis said to representatives of the United Nations in June 2013 . 'A way has to be found to enable everyone to benefit from the fruits of the earth, and not simply to close the gap between the affluent and those who must be satisfied with the crumbs falling from the table.'

....We are at a critical moment in the struggle to eliminate poverty, but it is a battle that can be won if our extensive Christian community unite and reflect on who is the rich man and who is Lazarus. This is the moment to hear the call of Jesus. This is the moment to respond. It is a battle that requires the gentlest of weapons in response – our love and compassion. It is a battle that requires every one of us."



St Michael's Catholic Church

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Tim Staples; Catholic Sacraments.
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29th Sept 2013 (C)

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1ST READING: Amos 6:1. 4-7

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Praise the Lord, my soul!

2ND READING: Timothy 6:11-16

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor, to make you rich out of his poverty. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Luke 16:19-31

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

O Lord, remember the words you spoke to me, your servant, which made me live in hope and consoled me when I was downcast.

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: 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 9:15am: †Anna Ling

Sun 9:30am: †Victor & Clarice Kozanecki

Sat Vigil: †Clarita Jaraba

Sun 5pm: †Clarita Jaraba

Sun 8am: Pro Populo

OUR SICK: Marie Busuttil, Pat Raby, Maria De Andrade, Mollie Burgess, Patricia Flannery, Alan Sargeant. Josephine Helback, Carmella Cicciani, Norma Cook, and Joy Williams, Mercia McGregor, Moira Butler and Domenico Cirillo...

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 BIRTHDAYS TO: Sharon Chin (29th), Mollie Burgess (30th), Sarah Ghazal (2nd), Joe De Andrade (3rd) and Roma Spora (28th)

National Police Remembrance Day (NPRD) is observed on 29th Sept. In remembering our fallen officers from the NSW Police Force, we also remember fallen officers from Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Samoa and the Solomon Islands. NPRD is also a time to remember both sworn and unsworn members of the NSW Police Force who lost their lives through illness, accident or other circumstances in the previous 12 months.

Let us pray: "Lord Jesus Christ, as we celebrate National Police Remembrance Day we remember those Police who paid the supreme sacrifice of their lives in giving service to the community. We recall their dedication, devotion and integrity as they sought to maintain law and order, and to provide a safe community in which all can live. Today, loving Lord, we also remember those they left behind and their sadness because of the loss. Lord Jesus, bless those we remember today and keep us ever mindful of the heritage they have given us. Bless those who continue to serve today, may they know they do so in the name of him who was just and righteous and the Prince of Peace. Keep them safe as they go about their daily duty. Amen."

We welcome Fr. Paul O'Donoghue, Senior State Chaplain of the NSW Police Force, who is celebrating our Vigil Mass this weekend.

Please join us for a light supper in the presbytery after Mass

This weekend: Vigil: Volunteer (A) J Busuttil, R Williams (R) F Doherty, G Hage (C) G Guerrero (M)
8:00am: J Heaney (A) M Marshiella, T Long (R) A Burke, Sr Betty (C) P Low (M)
9:30am: A Varghese (A) M Tjokrowidjaja, D Tjahjadi (R) I Tjahjadi (C) A Burton (M)
5.00pm: R Yang (A), Volunteers **Counter:** G Hogan

Next weekend: Vigil: Volunteer (A) A Wojciechowski, T Haglund (R) S Kim, Volunteer (C)
8:00am: J Heaney (A) V Meyer, R Wijaya (R) R Houghton, Volunteer (C) P Low (M)
9:30am: Volunteer E Widjaja, H Widjaja (R) M Tjokrowidjaja (C) A Burton (M)
5.00pm: R Yang (A), Volunteers please **Counters:** B Dunn, H Morris

Asked what the church needs most today, the pope said it was "the ability to heal wounds and to warm the hearts of the faithful; it needs nearness, proximity. I see the church as a field hospital after battle. It is useless to ask a seriously injured person if he has high cholesterol and about the level of his blood sugars! You have to heal his wounds. Then we can talk about everything else," he said. "The church sometimes has locked itself up in small things, in small-minded rules. The most important thing is the first proclamation: Jesus Christ has saved you. And the ministers of the church must be ministers of mercy above all," he said...



"I'm not in a position to judge ...anyone."



DAYLIGHT SAVING WILL BEGIN SUN 6TH OCT AT 2AM.
Please set your clocks forward 1 hour.
REMEMBER?
Set Your Clocks Ahead!



- ★ **Annual Catechist Gathering** will be held on Fri 11 Oct from 10am to 1:30pm at Lidcombe Parish Hall. If you wish to attend, please contact Gennie Hage on 9663 3657.
- ★ **Rosters for the period Oct-March** are now available for collection in the Church foyer. Would those involved in rostered ministries please collect ASAP.
- ★ **Public Seminar: Pope Francis' first encyclical Lumen Fidei (The Light of Faith):** All are invited to this seminar presented by the CAEC on thur 10 Oct from 7pm at 3 Keating St, Lidcombe. Supper will follow. RSVP to Maree on 9646 9010.
- ★ **"Understanding the Sacraments":** 3 different day time sessions on Mon 28 Sept, 4 Nov or 11 Nov from 11am to 1pm at Mary MacKillop PI, Nth Sydney. For details, please ring 9929 7344.
- ★ **Artes Christi Australia "The Wiz" production** – from 12 -19 Oct at The Seymour Centre. See noticeboard for details.
- ★ International committed Catholic speaker, **Jonathan Doyle**, will deliver 2 talks on pornography in Sydney on **Sat 26 Oct – 9am at Parramatta Cathedral Hall or 2pm at St Pius X College, Chatswood.** For more details, visit www.lifemarriagefamily.org.au or phone 9390 5283.
- ★ **Position Vacant-Personal Asst. in Bishop's office, Parramatta.** Fulltime position based in Parramatta. To view full job advert. And download the Position Description visit www.parra.catholic.org.au and go to the Employment section.
- ★ **"The Bible is Catholic" – Free series by Dr Robert Tilley. 7pm – 8:30pm on Thur 10, 17, 24 & 31 Oct at The Crypt, St Pat's Church Hill.** For registration and details, ring 9390 5937.