

How Do We Know About Jesus?

The four evangelists, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, have given us a remarkable record of the life and work of Jesus Christ. But some people discount them as biased. They want to see evidence of Jesus from historians who were not themselves part of the Christian community. It seems that such independent corroboration does, indeed, exist. Tantalizing scraps of evidence have come down to us in the writings of ancient historians like Josephus, Tacitus and Suetonius. But can we trust them? Do they really reinforce the Gospels with independent, unbiased evidence of Jesus? Christians must "fight fair." Before we set too much store by these ancient records as sources, we must ask if they are reliable. Perhaps these historians were not really saying what some Christian writers want to make them say. But does it really matter? Let's take a closer look. **The Greco-Roman sources** Tbc.



Speaking in Texas, the chairman of the Commission of Cardinals advising Pope Francis said that the Church must serve only Jesus Christ, not its own organizational needs. **Cardinal Rodriguez visited Daceyville during the WYD 2008.**

"Even Jesus didn't proclaim Himself," Cardinal Óscar Andrés Rodríguez Maradiaga remarked in his address to the University of Dallas Ministry Conference. He said that the challenge for the Church today lies in "humbly trying to follow Jesus." The Honduran cardinal said that the reforms needed at the Vatican today include a move to make the message and structure of the Catholic Church truly universal, rather than European. He observed: "The 'Italianation' of the Church has always been tied to power." Cardinal Rodriguez said that the Church is also learning to appreciate the role of the laity, and reject the image of a "society of unequals" in which the clergy take precedence. "We are here to serve, and that requires lowering ourselves to become servants," he said. Today the Church must confront the global power of financial capital, the cardinal said. He said that Christians must "destroy the power of the new feudal lords," by building a culture based on "mercy and solidarity, and a return to the Church of the poor."

St Michael's Catholic Church

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Deepen your faith-find answers on
Tim Staples; Catholic Sacraments.
www.vocationcentre.org.au

3rd Nov 2013 (C)

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

1ST READING: Wisdom 11:22 – 12:2

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

2ND READING: Paul 11:11 – 2.2

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia! God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Luke 19:1-10

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Lord, you will show me the path of life and fill me with joy in your presence.



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:

Please note that from 1 Nov to 15 Nov, **no individual Mass intentions** will be offered. Instead Masses will be offered for the souls of all our dearly departed relatives and friends.

November Memorial Masses: Envelopes are now available in the pews for your Mass intentions. Please place these envelopes in the special box near the altar.

OUR SICK: Marie Busuttill, Pat Raby, Maria De Andrade, Mollie Burgess, Patricia Flannery, Alan Sargeant. Josephine Helback, Carmella Cicciari Joy Williams, 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: Tim Chin (8th) and Huda Kahwati (9th)

Our deepest sympathies and sincere condolences to Ken McKay and family on the recent passing of his dearly beloved mother, Mary (Mollie) McKay. Requiem Mass for Mollie will be held on Wed 6 Nov. at 10am in our Parish.

* **Parish School News: 1) Class Mass: Fri 8 Nov: Yr; 4; Fri 15 Nov: Yr 6.**

* **Catholic Mission Appeal this weekend:** Total donations of \$964 has been sent to Catholic Mission. Thank you for your generosity. Tax receipts will be issued by the Mission.

* **Parish Visitations:** If anyone knows of a parishioner who is either sick or housebound and would like to receive Holy Communion each Sunday, would you please contact Gennie on 9663 3657.

UPCOMING EVENTS: ♣ **WYD2016 Bingo & Lunch – Sun 24 Nov;** ♣ **Parish Christmas Party – Sat 14 Dec;** ♣ **Christmas Penitential Service – Wed 18 Dec.**

Reminder: ♣ **"Great Adventure" – Bible Study (8th Seminar): Next Sun 10 Nov from 3:30pm – 4:30pm in the presbytery.**

This weekend: Vigil: J Haggart (A) F & G Hogan (R) G Hage, Volunteer (C) G Guerrero (M)
8:00am: J Heaney (A) M Marshiella, T Long (R) P Chen, R Houghton (C) P Low (M)
9.30am: A Varghese (A) I Lie, J Lie (R) M Tjokrowidjaja (C) A Burton (M)
5.00pm: R Yang (A), Volunteers **Counters:** B Dunn, H Morris

Next weekend: Vigil: J Haggart (A) Volunteer, J Spora (R) S Kim, Volunteer (C) G Guerrero (M)
8:00am: J Heaney (A) V Meyer, R Wijaya (R) M Alimario, G Gates (C) P Low (M)
9.30am: Volunteer M Tjokrowidjaja, D Tjahjadi (R) I Tjahjadi (C) A Burton (M)
5.00pm: R Yang (A), Volunteers please **Counter:** J De Andrade

CHARITABLE WORKS FUND (CWF) APPEAL. The appeal is being held this weekend. Copies of **Your Charity** newsletter are available to take away. In it there are interesting stories which gives an example on how your donation lends assistance to the people dependant on your generosity within the Sydney Archdiocese. There are also more stories relating to the great work we're doing and we are proud of what we've been able to achieve with your help. Our church is blessed with generous supporters, please reach out today to remember our less fortunate and make a gift. Thank you for your kind donation. *Please use the specially printed envelopes now available in the pews. Donations over \$2 are tax-deductible.*

Other Notices: ***The Order of Malta Lourdes Day Mass** will be held on **Sat 7 Dec** at 10am at St Mary's Cathedral by His Eminence George Cardinal Pell AO. For full details, please see poster on noticeboard.

* **Freedom Publishing** special offer: "Travels with My Brother – The Journey of the Relic of St Francis Xavier during the Australian Pilgrimage of Grace 2012" by Fr Richard Shortall S.J. for only **\$14** (RRP \$19.95). To order ring 03 9816 0888 or email: orders@freedompublishing.com.au. (See poster on noticeboard).

***St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta Open Day: Sun 3 Nov.** Solemn Sung Mass at 11am with Bishop Anthony Fisher OP; Q and A in the Cathedral Hall on topics specific to Catholic Christianity; Tours of the Cathedral and organ recitals; free BBQ followed by Devonshire teas; Expo in the Cloister with Church ministries, including Catholic Education Parramatta, CatholicCare Social Services, St Vincent de Paul and Institute for Mission and concludes at 3pm with Solemn Sung Afternoon Prayer. The Cathedral is located at 1 Marist Place, Parramatta.

* **Advent Journey for Young Adults (18-35yrs).** On Sun 1 Dec from 3-9pm at Schoenstatt Shrine at Mulgoa. Cost \$25 includes dinner and other materials. For further info. and registration, contact Sr. M Julie on 0408 738 334 or juliebrcar@gmail.com.

* **Christian Meditation: 17 Nov** at St Benedict's Monastery, 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia from 10am. For further details, contact Ann Bergman on 02 9498 2625 or email anniebergman@hotmail.com.

* **Divine Mercy Retreat from 29 Nov to 1 Dec** at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville. Theme: God's Mercy Above Justice. For further details, ring 0468 871 810 or 9603 9702 or email: divinemercylife@hotmail.com.

* **19-day pilgrimage (Canonisation of Popes John Paul II, John XXIII and the Holy Land) in April 2014** is being organised by Holy Innocents Parish, Croydon, departing 23rd April 2014. For further info. or brochure, please contact Fr. Peter Krigovsky at ppa@holyic.org.au or ring 02 9747 4291.

* **Summer School Jan. 2014.** St Clement's Retreat and Conference Centre will be holding a summer school on the New Evangelisation: Contemporary Challenges to Mission and Attunement to the Needs of the World. **17 – 24 Jan 2014** at Kalangan Rd, Galong, NSW. For info. and bookings, please ring 02 6380 5222 or email info@stclement.com.au or visit www.stclement.com.au.

* **Christ's Coming in Grace: 13 -1 5 Dec** at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre. Cost: \$220. Experience a personal encounter with Christ through contemplation of the writings of the Carmelite saints. Presented by Fr Paul Maunder, OCD. For further info. and bookings, please ring 8795 3400.