

REACH OUT



Inside Fr John writes about HIGH CROSSES in Ireland

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF CHRIST CHURCH ESSENDON
JULY 2012

Vicar: Fr John Mathes

Telephone: 0417 407 768 or 9379 2770



FJ's reflection

DEAR PARISHIONERS,

CONFIRMATION

I am planning to run confirmation classes starting in early July. If you would like to be confirmed or know of others who are interested — please see me as soon as possible...

ENVELOPES

New envelopes for the next 12 months are available in the Narthex of our Church.

Can I encourage all to take envelopes and use them. There are no numbers of identification on the envelopes because we want your contribution to be between you and God. It is your free will gift. There are dates on each envelope so that you can contribute weekly whether you come or not and to bring all your envelopes when you do come. By giving weekly you help us greatly in our budgeting.

ARCHDEACON OF ESSENDON RESIGNS

Randall Nolan who has been the Archdeacon of Essendon for the past 12 months has resigned and is returning to Queensland to take up a parish there. We wait on a new appointment by the Archbishop.

NEW DEAN OF THE CATHEDRAL

The Reverend Dr Andreas Loewe, the Senior Chaplain of Trinity College at the University of Melbourne, is to be the new Dean of St Paul's Anglican Cathedral, Melbourne.

Dr Loewe, 39, succeeds Bishop Mark Burton, who resigned earlier this year. The second youngest dean in the 165-year history of the Diocese of Melbourne, he will be installed as Dean by the Archbishop of Melbourne, Dr Philip Freier, in St Paul's on a date to be announced.

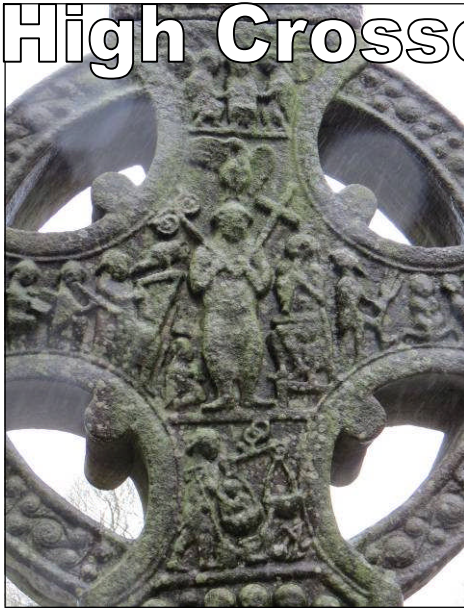
Andreas Loewe was born in Munich, Germany, and grew up in the historic German university city of Heidelberg. He was educated in the UK and is a permanent resident in Australia. He is married to Dr Katherine Firth, an Academic Skills Adviser at the University of Melbourne, a visiting research fellow at Trinity College and an Examining Chaplain for the Diocese of Melbourne. Dr Firth's parents, Len and Jill, are both priests in Melbourne.

The Lord be with you...

Your Vicar

Fr John.

High Crosses of Ireland



High Crosses exist in Celtic parts of both Britain and Ireland. The distinctive ringed crosses have become a symbol of Irish Christianity.

Some were probably used as meeting points for religious ceremonies and others were used to mark boundaries. The earliest crosses in Ireland were made of wood and metal and probably much smaller than the great stone monuments we see today.

The High Crosses associated with medieval monasteries were carved between the 8th and 12 centuries. Early crosses bore only geometric motifs, but in the 9th century a new style emerged when sculptured scenes from the bible were introduced. Referred to as 'sermons in stone' these later crosses were used by monks to educate the masses.

On a cold, wet day, whilst in Ireland recently Carolyn and I drove to Monasterboice. Founded in the 5th century by an obscure disciple of Patrick called St Buite, this is an interesting site. The ruins of the medieval monastery are enclosed within a graveyard in a lovely secluded spot not all that far from the Hill of Tara and Newgrange. The ruins of the 5th century monastery no longer exists. The site does include a roofless round tower and two churches but its greatest treasures are its 10th century High Crosses.

Muireadach's High Cross (see cover of Reach out) is one of the finest of its kind in Ireland and its sculptured biblical scenes are still remarkably fresh. They depict the life of Christ on the west face, while the east face has old testament scenes.

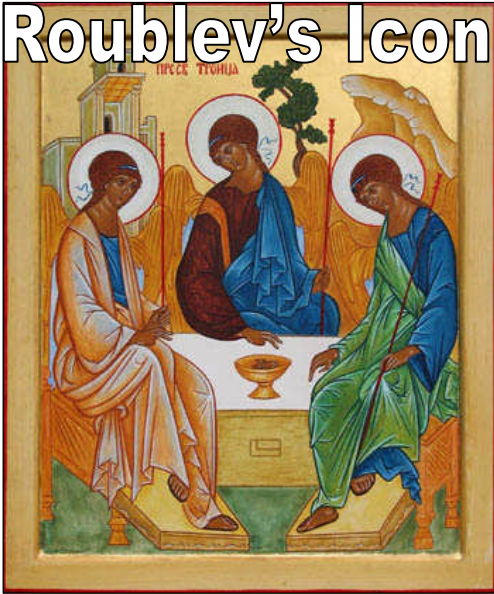
The west cross or tall cross is one of the largest in Ireland. The carvings have not lasted as well as Muiredach's High Cross, but you can still see scenes from the death of Christ.

Fr John



The West Cross or tall Cross at Monasterboice

Roublev's Icon of the Trinity



Roublev's Icon portrays the three angels invited to the table under the oak of Mamre by Abraham. It is a scene of hospitality

The three persons: their features are identical. It as if it were the same person shown three times. It is one and the same figure shown three times in different positions.

The first angel is the first person of the Trinity - God the Father; the second, middle angel is God the Son; the third angel is God the Holy Spirit.

Behind the first angel is the abode of Abraham. The house reminds us that "in many father's house are many rooms." God the Creator, the Father seems to wear a kind of fabric that changes with the light, that seems transparent, that cannot be described or confined in words. And this is how it should be. No-one has seen the Father, but the vision of him fills the universe.

The second angel has above his head the branches of an oak tree. The tree reminds us of the tree of life that was standing in Eden, and of the cross.

God the Son, has a thick heavy garment of the reddish-brown of earth and a cloak of the blue of heaven. In his person he unites heaven and earth, the two natures are present in him.

Fr John on Trinity Sunday spoke on Roublev's Icon of the Trinity. He also lead a prayer reflection on the Icon and its message at a recent quiet day as part of the Christ Church Spirituality Centre. Below is part of what he said about the Icon.

Andrei Roublev was born around 1370 and he died in 1430, and is buried where he worked and lived at Savior-Andronikov Monastery in Moscow.

It is thought that Andrei Roublev was from the Moscow and that his family may have been artisans, as his name comes from the word 'rubel' which is a tool for processing leather

Legend describes him as a shy, calm person whose focus was on the divine service, meditation and icon painting.

For Roublev, the meeting of Abraham with the three angels reveals God, and the plan of salvation.



The angel on the right is the third Person of the Trinity - the Holy Spirit. Behind him is the rock Moses touched to gain the water of life. God the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit has a garment of the clear blue of the sky, wrapped over with a robe of a fragile green. So the Spirit of creation moves in sky and water, breathes in heaven and earth. All living things owe their freshness to his touch.

All three angels have staffs in their hand as a symbol of their divine power

All three angels are blessing the chalice, symbolizes the sacrament of the Eucharist.. In the icon there is an INVITATION to join them.



IS GOD TAPPING YOU ON THE SHOULDER?

Do you have a dream or conviction about serving God and his Church?

Do you feel called to spend your life ministering to God's people?

Would you like to share in the work of making the Word of God fully known?



NETWORK 1:28 is located at the Anglican Centre of the Diocese of Melbourne and has been established to help people discern a potential vocation in the Church

The Anglican Church has a process for people to explore their vocation including a "Year of Discernment", selection conferences and a variety of academic options to prepare people for ordination or for other ministries in the life of the Church including Chaplaincies.

Feel free to talk to Fr John who can also point you in the right direction and give you more information.

More information can also be found on the Melbourne Diocese Web site: www.melbourne.anglican.com.au and follow the links to Network 1:28



Around the Parish



In June, Fr John cooked a roast for 28 ladies of the Church. The potatoes and meat were cooked beautifully and the meal was delicious. Carolyn organised a pavlova desert.

Fr John & Carolyn showed photos and video of their recent trip to Europe. It was an enjoyable night

On 31st July, Fr John will be cooking a roast for the men of the Church



10 Questions

BARBARA SZCZURKO

BARBARA is an active parishioner involved in the Op Shop, Craft Group and has been on Vestry and a Warden. Fr John recently asked her 10 questions...

FJ Where were you born?
Barbara: Manchester, England

FJ Where do you live?
Barbara Strathmore

FJ Career in life?
Barbara: Teaching and became a Principal

FJ If you could change some thing what would it be?
Barbara: I would like people to be kind to each other

FJ Favourite holiday destination?
Barbara: England and Eastern Europe (Poland especially)

FJ Favourite colour?
Barbara: Purple

FJ Favourite food?
Barbara: Roast Vegetables (not meat)

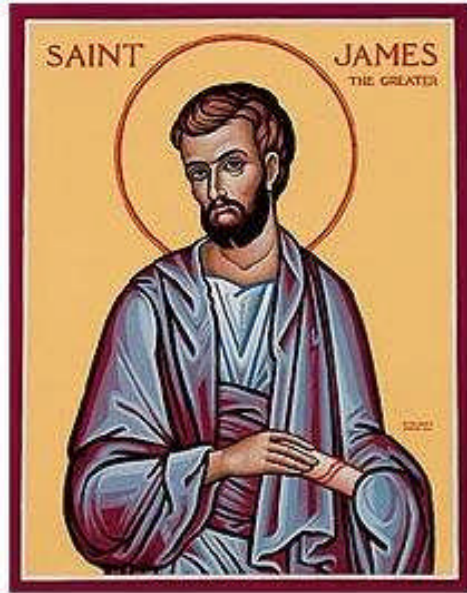
FJ AFL Football Team
Barbara: Essendon

FJ What is one thing you want to do before you die?
Barbara See the Hermitage in St Petersburg plus Lindisfarne Island

FJ Past and present involvement at Christ Church?
Barbara: Craft Group, Op Shop (President, Secretary & Treasurer)
Ex Vestry, Warden, & Treasurer

FJ Thank you Barbara...

July Saint: St James (Apostle)



James the son of Zebedee and his brother John were among the twelve disciples of Our Lord. They, together with Peter, were privileged to behold the Transfiguration, to witness the healing of Peter's mother-in-law and the raising of the daughter of Jairus and to be called aside to watch and pray with Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane on the night before His death.

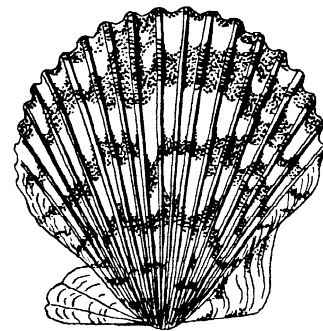
James and John were apparently from a higher social level than the average fisherman. Their father could afford hired servants, and John (assuming him to be identical with the "beloved disciple") had connections with the high priest. Jesus nicknamed the two brothers "sons of thunder" (P 3:17), perhaps meaning that they were headstrong, hot-tempered, and impulsive; and so they seem to be in two incidents reported in the Gospels. On one occasion, Jesus and the

disciples were refused the hospitality of a Samaritan village, and James and John proposed to call down fire from heaven on the offenders. On another occasion, they asked Jesus for a special place of honour in the Kingdom, and were told that the place of honour is the place of suffering.

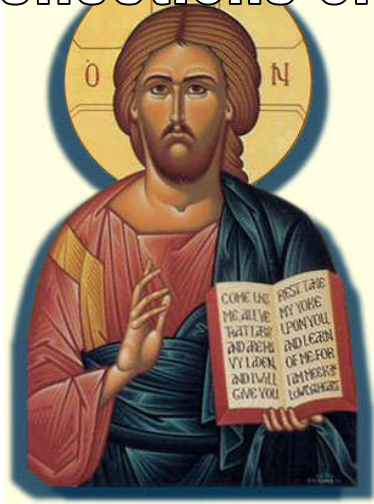
Finally, about AD 42, shortly before Passover, James was beheaded by order of King Herod Agrippa I, grandson of Herod the Great (who tried to kill the infant Jesus), nephew of Herod Antipas (who killed John the Baptist and examined Jesus on Good Friday), and father of Herod Agrippa II (who heard the defence of Paul before Festus). James was the first of the Twelve to suffer martyrdom, and the only one of the Twelve whose death is recorded in the New Testament.

James is often called James greater or elder to distinguish him from other New Testament persons called James.

Tradition has it that James made a missionary journey to Spain, and that after his death his body was taken to Spain and buried there. At Compostela (a town the name of which is commonly thought to be derived from the word "apostle"). His supposed burial place there was a major site of pilgrimage in the Middle Ages, and the Spaniards fighting to drive their Moorish conquerors out of Spain took "Santiago de Compostela!" as one of their chief war-cries. (The Spanish form of "James" is "Diego" or "Iago".



Reflections on the Lord's Prayer



PART SEVEN

**Your kingdom come your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven**

Your will be done

If we pray 'Your will be done', we are praying that our lives will be surrendered to God. It's the prayer of an obedient disciple. Surely we cannot pray this prayer unless we at the same time say, "God, you are the King and I am your subject. I will obey all that you call me to."

So we must pray for his kingdom to come, for his will to be done, - on earth as it is in heaven. But how are our prayers answered, to what extent do our prayers change the course of events? Is prayer an attempt to change God's mind? Here are some difficult questions.

1. If we seek that God's will be done then we must try to discern what God's will is. How can we do this? What is God's will for me?

2. How are God's kingdom and God's will different from earthly kingdoms and human wills?

On earth as it is in heaven

It will always remain in my mind that somebody once said to me that any kind of social action entered into by Christians was like 'polishing the brass on a sinking ship.' The point was that Christians are not of this earthly kingdom but rather of God's heavenly kingdom, hence our efforts should be directed towards mission and evangelism, turning the hearts of people to God.

This is surely right in what it affirms. How much time do we spend in mission and communicating the truths of God? Is our mission a real and effective effort or are we more concerned about our own spiritual well being than that of others?

It is clear that the disciples took this message to heart and travelled far and wide to make sure that as many people as possible were able to hear the good news. This is a part of establishing God's kingdom here on earth. Yet this is not the whole story. The standards of the new kingdom, the behaviour of the new kingdom, these should be a part of the life of the church now. We should be living a different lifestyle and trying to make God's ways known upon earth. This means to me that Christians should be unashamed to speak out on issues such as racial abuse, equal opportunities, health care, environment, employment, crime, education and just about anything else that affects the lives of all God's children and his created world. There can be no bits of life which we can tuck away outside God's area of concern. This of course is a message despised by many politicians who think that the concern of God's church and its servants should be spoken in religious buildings, whilst earthly politics are dealt with in a different way.

Question for reflection

1. Is there anything about which the church should be doing or saying something now to establish God's will on earth

CHRIST CHURCH SPIRITUALITY CENTRE

Deepening our faith & prayer life



Saturday 1st September 2012 @ Church of the Resurrection Mt Macedon

9.15 am	Meet at Christ Church Essendon	
10.00 am	Chat & coffee	
10.30 am	Lectio Divina (praying the scriptures)	Pam Cox
12 noon	shared lunch	
1.00 pm	The Jesus Prayer	John Mathes
2.30 pm	Chat & Coffee	
3.00 pm	finish & drive home	

**Saturday 3rd November 2012 @ Christ Church Essendon
& Campion Ignatian Spirituality Centre in Kew**

10.30 am	Chat & coffee	
11.00 am	Introduction to Labyrinth	Pam Cox / Alan Wilson
12 noon	shared lunch	
1.00 pm	Drive to Campion Ignatian Spirituality Centre Kew	
2.00 pm	Walk and pray around the Labyrinth	
3.30 pm	Chat & Coffee	4.00 pm Drive home

CHRIST CHURCH SPIRITUALITY COMMITTEE is Fr John Mathes, Alan Wilson & Pam Cox. The committee is planning more quiet spiritual days and pilgrimages in the future. Gold coin donation for all activities.

Grace is not only a gift; it is a grave responsibility. A man cannot go on living the life he lived before he met Jesus Christ. He must be clothed in a new purity and a new holiness and a new goodness. The door is open, but the door is not open for the sinner to come and remain a sinner, but for the sinner to come and become a saint.

William Barclay

Shakespeare & his God

This is Part 1 of a new series by L.N Dobell

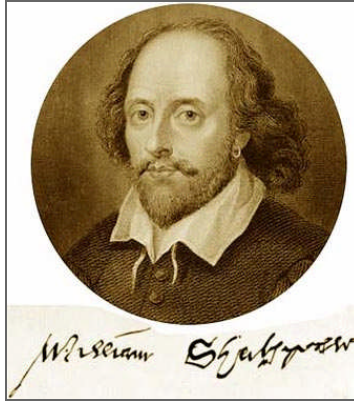
All of us know a little about the writer from Tudor England called William Shakespeare. We know he wrote plays that are still acted on stage and screen and that he was someone important in 'Good Literature' and that he is usually treated with respect and admiration for

whatever he has done. Although I must admit that one of our Parishioners regularly calls him 'Willy Wobble-dagger'. What lese majeste!

He lived from 1564-1616. Elizabeth 1 reigned from 1533-1603. He went to a good school at Stratford, the town in which he was born and studied 'The Classics'; the writings from Ancient Greece and Rome, and in their own languages. In fact almost all his school work was done in Latin. It wasn't a lost language then as almost all scholars wrote in it.

He married aged 18 to Anne Hathaway, a girl of 26 when she became pregnant — and not in their own Parish — a 'shotgun wedding'? They had three children. Then, to the scholars frequent amazement he left Stratford and went to London and there made his living and reputation — and succeeded beyond belief — becoming rich and famous—also in his own town to which he returned regularly, buying good property and providing for all his family.

The times of the Tudor reigns were most religiously divisive. England had, for several reasons changed the old order of Catholic faith for a Protestant version - from owing allegiance to the Pope in Italy to observing the King of England as Head of the Church. The four Royal Tudor



rulers had their own individual stance on HOW England should worship and enforced their rule strictly, in many cases by torture and death to stop disagreement.

Scholars, writers, nobility, politicians — indeed people of every class and profession were in a quandary. Even Monks and Nuns in their safe walls were not safe! How was

the population going to get to Heaven and make sure that they were doing their duty to God as well as that to the Crown? Opposing religious thought led to accusations of treason — with nasty results.

What did Shakespeare do? Was he a religious man? How did he manage to rise from obscurity to wealth and honour and evade the dangers of these times? And do not doubt — he was in danger. Several of his close relatives were arrested, tortured and executed in horrible ways for being 'closet Catholics'. Shakespeare's father had to retire and is suspect.

Shakespeare was writing publicly performed plays. Writing is extremely revealing! We can detect what men are thinking by their works. We can't with Shakespeare. He is mysterious and secretive. He is also subversive — altering peoples' ideas from their beliefs, thoughts and impressions by the suggestive excellence of what he wrote. His words and works are full of a majestic spiritual belief of real worth that explains by action some of the teachings and quality of what Christ taught. He was not accused of heresy. His ideas put into words were beneficent, kindly, forgiving, wise and patient. Is this religious thought? What did Shakespeare think about God?

JOB VACANCY - DISCIPLE



Want a job? Fancy a change of scene or are you looking for a role with real purpose? Looking for inspirational leadership? Look no further and apply today.

What follows is a modern job description compiled from various things Jesus said to his early followers.

Job title: Follower of the way - Disciple

Employer details: Jesus of Nazareth

Location: Flexible. You will essentially be a field worker fulfilling the requirements of the role in your local community. You will be prepared to leave the security of home behind at certain times.

Role and purpose: You are to live as Jesus taught, and follow his example.

Responsibility, timescale and nature of the role:

The position carries the security of a job for life, and beyond, for the successful candidate. The successful candidate must be available to start immediately with no exceptions for family emergencies or sensitivities. You will be given power to drive out evil spirits and heal every disease and sickness.

You may be required at times to undertake public relations exercises to senior

officials hostile to the organisation. Specific instructions for these exchanges will be supplied in the field. You will pray always and not give up. You will be successful in your role if you are recognised as loving other followers of the way. You will love God and others as you love yourself.

Ideal candidate profile:

You will be clear about your priorities – loving your family must come second to loving your employer. Loving Jesus even more than your own life you will be highly commended. You will be prepared to undertake suffering as and when it is required of the job, taking up your cross each day. You will also be someone with focus and determinations; once you undertake a task you must give it your full attention, ploughing for example.

Qualifications & experience required:

Past experience as a miscreant of some kind is often a bonus although you will be expected to put any harmful practices behind you. The ideal candidate won't be a worrier. Particularly about food security and clothing. Understanding of agricultural metaphors will help.

Salary or salary guide:

Whilst not paying a salary in the conventional sense you will undertake your position on the following understanding. Be prepared to sell all your possessions and give to the poor. Freely you have received, freely give. When travelling do not take money, a bag, spare clothes or shoes. Whoever follows Jesus, will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.



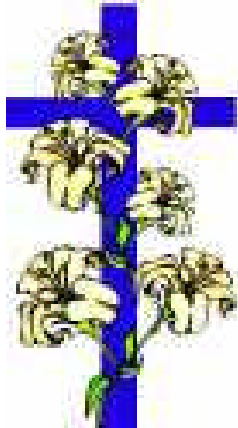
Ladies@Leisure May 6th

It was cold. It was wet. But that didn't dampen the spirits of the 'intrepid duo' who set out on Sunday 6th May to visit Montsalvat, a well-known artists' work place in Eltham. Such a wonderful, serene venue with several old and 'made to look old' buildings: rolling hills with people strolling around them: the perfect place to hear lots of lovely voices and one of them our own Sue Mac!

We took our own picnic lunch and ate it in a lovely secluded area surrounded by interesting architecture. So many choirs to choose from! We listened to the easy-going music of the Soufflé Sisters, many of whom we recognised, as they are a local group. In between performances we explored some of the fascinating buildings. The Welsh Male Choir based in Ringwood, surprised and delighted us with their singing especially when they sang in Welsh. We didn't need to change venues to hear Sue as she was singing next in the same place. The voices in her choir were finely tuned and produced beautiful music that was appreciated by all who were present.

It was around 4.00 pm that Janette and I farewelled Sue. With songs in our heads and feeling light-hearted after a memorable day we set off towards the setting sun and home.

Chris Angus.



Requiem Mass

Wednesday - 18th July

10.00 am held in the Lady Chapel

We will remember the recently departed,
and also those from our remembrance list
(May—October)
whose years mind occurs during this time

FJ's Famous Men's Roast

Tuesday 31st July 2012
6.00 pm Parish Centre for
the Men of the Parish
Cost \$10



CHRIST CHURCH OP SHOP

Come and check out the gold
mine of items available in the
CHRIST CHURCH OP SHOP

Tuesday to Friday 10 am - 4 pm
Saturday 9.30 am - 12.30 pm

**HAVE YOU SEEN THE
LATEST ON OUR
WEB PAGE — CHECK OUT
www.essendonanglican.org.au**

PARISH FILM NIGHTS

**First Friday in the Month
in Parish Centre**

Large screen
Gold coin donation
Bring plate for supper

Ladies @ Leisure

Saturday 28th July
Movie Theatre
or watch DVD at
home of Chris Angus

More details coming



SALT WOMEN'S GROUP

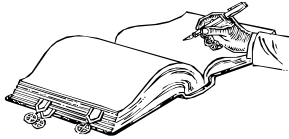
Saturday 21st July
Dinner at Warung Agus (Balinese)
305 Victoria Street
North Melbourne

Please contact Katherine Anderson
(0419133173)
keanderson78@gmail.com
if you would like to come –
everyone is welcome!

INTERESTED IN GOING TO THE HOLY LAND ??

**Fr John or Carolyn
are organising a tour for
January 2013
Talk to them if interested...**

From the Registers



Holy Baptism:

Thomas Igor Topalovic
17th June 2012



Funerals:

Molly Jamieson Fidler
Aged 94 years
17th May 2012

Phyllis Edna Johnson
Aged 85 years
25th May 2012



FOOD CUPBOARD for NEEDY

Owing to a recent increase in demand we need...

Small packets of cereal, Baby food,
Rice, Pasta & pasta sauces

*Thank you
Sue Mac*

PARISH INFORMATION

The Anglican Parish of Christ Church, Essendon is found on the corner of Mt Alexander Rd and Marco Polo Street, Essendon. (Melway Page 28 F2)

Web page:
www.essendonanglican.org.au



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Items for inclusion in Reach Out need to be with the Editor no later than the 15th of the month of publication.

Opinions expressed in the Reach Out belong entirely to the person writing the article, and are not necessarily the opinion of the parish, vicar, editor or parish representatives.

PARISH DIARY JULY 2012



SUNDAY 1st OS 13

8.00 am Eucharist
9.30 am Sung Eucharist

Monday 2nd – Vicar's day off

Wednesday 4th

10.00 am Healing Mass

Friday 6th

7.30 pm Film Night

SUNDAY 8th – OS 14

8.00 am Eucharist
9.30 am Sung Eucharist
11.30 am Wardens meeting

Monday 9th - Vicar's day off

Wednesday 11th – St Benedict

10.00 am Chant Mass

SUNDAY 15th OS 15

8.00 am Eucharist
9.30 am Sung Eucharist

Monday 16th - Vicar's day off

Tuesday 17th

9.30 am Craft resumes

Wednesday 18th

10.00 am Requiem Mass

Saturday 21st

Salt Group dinner

SUNDAY 22nd – OS 16

8.00 am Eucharist
9.30 am Sung Eucharist
11.30 am Ladies@Leisure

Monday 23rd - Vicar's day off

9.00 am OpShop Committee

Tuesday 24th

9.30 am Craft
7.00 pm Men's Dinner Group

Wednesday 25th – St James

10.00 am Mass
1.15 pm Essendon Nursing Home
2.00 pm Trevi Court Mass
3.00 pm Ardmillan House Mass

Thursday 26th

1.00 pm Home Communion

Saturday 28th

Ladies @ Leisure

SUNDAY 29th OS 17

8.00 am Eucharist
9.30 am Sung Eucharist

Monday 30th – Vicar's day off

Tuesday 31st

9.30 am Craft
6.00 pm FJ's Famous Men's Roast

Wednesday 1st August

10.00 am Healing Mass

Friday 3rd

7.30 pm Film Night

SUNDAY 5th – OS 18

8.00 am Eucharist
9.30 am Sung Eucharist