



# THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF IVANHOE

*St Bernadette's Church, West Ivanhoe*

*Mary Immaculate Church, Ivanhoe*

*Mother of God Church, East Ivanhoe*

No. 36

3 – 4 September 2011

## 23<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: YEAR A

### Reflection:

When couples who are going to be married in the Church come to see me for the first time I get them to fill out a brief questionnaire. The last two questions on the form ask:

'What do you like best about your partner?'

'What do you like best about yourself?'

The first question usually presents no problems, although it can hold a few surprises and sometimes a playful punch if the right answer is not forthcoming! The second question seems to present all sorts of difficulties ... Some of us find it hard to name the God-given qualities we value most in our character. Some couples try to pass it off ... Others try to dismiss the question as being new age or trendy.

But the question does, in fact, cut to the heart of both today's second reading and Gospel. 'You must love your neighbour as you love yourself.' We cannot say in the same breath, 'I hate myself, but I am a good Christian.' For St Paul, love of self was not indulgent, but the cornerstone of our mission to love as Jesus loves us. Paul knew the difference between self-love and self-adoration. Our love of God is expressed in the healthy and appropriate esteem we have for ourselves. Put another way, we cannot love anyone else if we don't love ourselves. If we have poor self-esteem then often we need others to fill up this gap in our self-love. Most relationships cannot sustain such a demand.

The Church has to take some responsibility for this state of affairs. We used to be taught that mortification and self-denial were good Christian virtues, and indeed they can be. When properly understood they are never opportunities for self-hatred. The sanest spiritual writers in our tradition saw these virtues as paths of closeness with God and service of our neighbour. One such writer was St Ignatius Loyola who in the Spiritual Exercises saw that it was precisely as sinners that God loves us. He saw that one of the greatest gifts the Lord can give us is when we see our sinfulness for what it is, but are not overwhelmed by it, and that we experience the power of God's love for us who calls us to walk as children of the light.



Jesus in today's Gospel attends to this destructive side of our human nature. Jesus teaches us that those who do not love their neighbour as they should are to be treated with dignity and respect and offered every opportunity to seek forgiveness until it is clear they can no longer be a part of the Christian family. The challenge and hallmark of the Christian life is the way in which we live out God's love and forgiveness. And, although the Christian community should be the last group to exclude anyone, even we have to have our boundaries. Sometimes this involves holding others to account for what they say and do, especially if they claim to be a follower of Christ. The love and forgiveness of God does not mean that 'anything goes'. It is a love that calls for constant conversion. We can witness to it only to the degree that we have experienced it, from God, from others, and in the way we love and forgive ourselves.

And we know when these qualities are taking deep root in us because answering a question like, 'What do you really like about yourself?' is a piece of cake!

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**Please note: Collectors needed for Leaving Collections at Masses in each church of the parish**

As advised by the Archdiocese, there will be Leaving Collections in each church this weekend for the Priests' Retirement Foundation.

Please see notice in newsletter

### THE WORD

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Lord, you are just, and the judgements you make are right. Show mercy when you judge me, your servant.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM: O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.**

V. 1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us.

Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord. **R.**

- V. 2. Come in; let us bow and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us  
For he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture; the flock that is led by his hand. **R.**
- V. 3. O that today you would listen to his voice! ‘Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work’. **R.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. Alleluia!**

**PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL: Just and loving God: Hear our prayer.**

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON: I am the light of the world, says the Lord; those who follow me will have the light of life.**

**PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY:**

We remember Jerome Santamaria and Andrew McCarter who will be ordained in to the Diaconate next weekend.

We remember all in need of prayer at this time including Peg Healy, Bev Horne, Madeleine Pye, Erin Toomey, Sidney Delaney, Cathy Lengyel and Jill Brophy. We remember all who provide care and support for those in need.

We remember all who died recently and those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace.

**Offertory Gifts:** Children making their First Eucharist and their families will bring the Offertory Gifts.

Date	Mary Immaculate 9am	Mother of God 10.30am
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Georgina O’Sullivan & Ella Janz	Lewis & Mallia families
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> Sept	10.00am First Eucharist - MI School	Mancini & Marian families

**This Week’s Readings: 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time: Year A**

**Ezekiel 33: 7-9                      Psalm 94:1-2, 6-9                      Romans 13:8-40                      Matthew 18:15-20**

*Saint and Feast Days:*

*Mon 5<sup>th</sup> September: St Lawrence Giustiniani*

*Tues 6<sup>th</sup> September: St Cloud*

*Wed 7<sup>th</sup> September: St Regina*

*Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> September: The Birth of the Virgin Mary*

*Fri. 9<sup>th</sup> September: St Peter Claver*

*Sat. 10<sup>th</sup> September: St Nicholas of Tolentino*

**Next Week’s Readings: 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time: Year A**

**Ecclesiasticus 27:30-28:7                      Psalm 102:1-4, 9-12                      Romans 14:7-9                      Matthew 18:21-35**

**HAPPENINGS ACROSS THE PARISH**

Tuesday 6 Sept	9.15am	Mass & St Bernadette’s School Prep T	St Bernadette’s Church
Tuesday 6 Sept	7.30pm	Baptism Preparation Session	
Thursday 8 Sept	7.00pm	Mary Immaculate School Advisory Board	Mary Immaculate School
Friday 9 September	9.15am	Mass & Mother of God School Year Prep	Mother of God Church
Saturday 10 September		<b><u>No Reconciliation</u></b> at Mother of God Church	
Sunday 11 September	10.00am	<b>Mass &amp; First Eucharist</b> M. I. School	Mary Immaculate Church
Tuesday 13 Sept	9.15am	Mass & St Bernadette’s School Prep	St Bernadette’s Church
Tuesday 13 Sept	6.30-7.30pm	Breaking of the Bread Dinner – Grade 3	Mother of God Church
Tuesday 13 Sept	7.30pm	Mother of God School Parents Rep. Council	Mother of God School
Wednesday 14 Sept	8.00pm	Pastoral Leadership Team Meeting	Parish Office
Saturday 17 Sept	10.00am	<b>Reconciliation</b>	Mary Immaculate Church

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### **First Eucharist Celebrations:**

We remember and pray for the children of the Catholic Parish of Ivanhoe who are preparing to receive and celebrate their First Eucharist.

11 September 10.00am Mass at Mary Immaculate Church - Mary Immaculate School children

18 September 10.30am Mass at Mother of God Church - Mother of God School children

**PLEASE NOTE:** On Sunday 11 September there is no 9am Mass at Mary Immaculate Church

### **Fathers' Day Priests' Retirement Foundation Collection 2011:**

This weekend, 3 - 4<sup>th</sup> September, there will be special Leaving Collections at the end of each Mass for the Priests' Retirement Foundation who are grateful for your ongoing support. Envelopes are also available.

- The custom of priests retiring is relatively new in Melbourne.
- The Priest Retirement Foundation was established in 1990 by Archbishop Little.
- Priests are not employees of the Archdiocese or Parish and are thus ineligible for superannuation.
- ✦ Although priests generally retire at 75 years of age (according to Canon Law), there are 11 priests over 75, & 56 priests aged 65-75 still working in active service in Melbourne parishes who will soon need support.
- ✦ Most retired priests have served 50 years in parish ministry before retiring.
- ✦ There are 99 Melbourne priests are currently retired who have ministered in most Melbourne parishes. 9 in their 90's, 44 in their 80's, 24 aged 75-80, 19 aged 66-75 years, as well as 3 under 65 years who have retired due to ill-health.
- ✦ Many retired priests are still serving and assisting parishes, which include Fr Burns Huggan, Fr Rom Murphy, Fr Jim Scannell, Fr Len Thomas and Fr John Cunningham
- ✦ There will be an average of 6 retirements per year for the next six years.
- ✦ There have been 4 priests (on average) ordained per year for the last 40 years.

Please consider giving generously for the many retired or sick priests that have served us well over many years. Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible. Receipts \$10 or more will be issued at end of July 2012.

### **Fr Thang 5 – 6 September:**

Fr Thang will be attending an Archdiocesan In-Service on 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> September and will thus be unavailable. We sincerely thank Fr Len Thomas who will celebrate Mass at St Bernadette's on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September.

### **Reconciliation at Mother of God 10<sup>th</sup> September:**

Reconciliation will not be available Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September due to Fr Thang's attendance at Ordination to the Diaconate for Jerome Santamaria and Andrew Mc Carter at St Patrick's Cathedral. Appointments for Reconciliation can be made at any time via Mother of God House 9499 5440 or Parish Office 9499 1515.



### **Outreach Social Afternoon:**

The next Social Afternoon will be on Wednesday 7 Sept from Noon – 3pm at St Bernadette's Community Centre. Everyone is welcome for lunch – no charge. Please bring a **small** plate of something to share for lunch. – Outreach Group

### **Morning Melodies – Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September:**

At present, the 12 seater bus has 9 seats available. The bus will depart from Mary Immaculate car park at 10.15 am and we expect to return to Ivanhoe between 2 and 3pm. A fun day is expected at the Celtic Club, 316 Queen St Melbourne  
Bookings accepted until 12<sup>th</sup> September.  
Cost: \$20 per person which includes music, singing and a light lunch.

The bus trip to Nagambie which includes lunch and a river cruise has been confirmed by Mee's Bus Company for Wednesday October 5. Bookings will open mid-Sept. Book early as the Banyule Council will advertise this activity in their literature for Senior's week. Bookings: Eileen 9499 7120 or Sue 9499 1485

### **N.I.C.K. Foundation – Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September:**

On Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> September at 7:00pm, there will be an evening on **SELF BELIEF** which is hosted by Camberwell Girls Grammar School. Presenters include: Alisa Camplin - Gold Medallist and Darryl Marchant - Sports Psychologist at 2 Torrington St. Canterbury. Tickets: <http://trybooking.com/VAA>

### **Building Bridges, not Walls – Prisons and the Justice System:**

Melb Archdiocesan Launch: Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference Social Justice Statement 2011-2012 by **Fr Joe Caddy**, Chief Executive Officer, CatholicCare Melbourne. Respondent: **Sr Mary Ó Shannassy** sgs Director Catholic Prison Ministry. Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September - 11.30am for 12 noon. Tea/Coffee beforehand, light refreshments at 1.00pm at Cathedral Room, Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert Street, East Melbourne (enter via Lansdowne Street car park). RSVP: [justice@cam.org.au](mailto:justice@cam.org.au) or 99265710 by Monday 12 September

**Exodus Community – Ministry Support Team: Volunteers needed – Can you help out?**

The Exodus Community has sincerely thanked all concerned in the parish for a wonderful response to their previous request for assistance. The Exodus Community needs volunteers to join its **Ministry Support Team** which raises funds, organises social gatherings and promotes the life and outreach work of the Community. For further information or to offer assistance please call Sister Sally 9457 7593.

**RACV Road Safety for Seniors Information Session:**

RACV presenters will present information and advice on driving safety – tips for drivers, passengers and pedestrians, importance of being fit to drive, impact of health and medication on driving, alternative transport options and planning for future mobility. Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September at Livingstone Community Centre, 1 Livingstone St, Ivanhoe at 12.30pm – a free light lunch will be provided. 1.30pm–RACV Information Session Cost: Free Bookings essential for lunch and attendance: 9497 2014 by Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September

**Combined Schools Bushfire Recovery Concert:**

CatholicCare’s Bushfire Community Recovery Service will host a free concert with The Royal Australian Navy Band that will bring students together from the bushfire affected communities, students from Williamstown and members of the Royal Australian Navy Band. General public is invited to the free symphonic band extravaganza celebrating Spring: Monday 5 September, 6.30pm at The Atrium, Williamstown High School, 57 Bayview Street Williamstown. Details: Bushfire Community Recovery Service counsellor & event organiser Aicha Brogan 0400 367 414

**Archbishop’s Office for Evangelisation - Upcoming Events:**

\* **Extraordinary Ministers of Reading God's Word** : 5 & 6 September, 7.30-9.30pm, Cardinal Knox Centre, East Melbourne. Sessions are for new and experienced Ministers of Reading God's Word to provide liturgical and pastoral guidance to those involved in this parish ministry. Part 1:5 Sept & Part 2 following day.

\* **Liturgy:** Tuesdays: 6, 13 & 20 September, 6-8pm and Tuesdays: 18 & 25 October, 6-9pm (note different finish time) at Thomas Carr Centre, 278 Victoria Parade, E. Melb. Fr Elio Capra, lecturer, will provide an overview of the historical development and theological principles of liturgy. Cost: \$85; \$65 (concession). Further information: contact Suzanne Hermon 9926 5761; or website: <http://www.cam.org.au/evangelisation>

**St Joseph’s Carmelite Auxiliary – Spring Luncheon 2011:**

The St Joseph Carmelite Auxiliary invites those interested to their Annual Spring Luncheon, in aid of the Carmelite Monastery, Kew, at 11.30am on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October at Leonda by the Yarra, 2 Wallen Rd, Hawthorn. Luncheon will feature a Fashion Parade by Andiamo. Donation: \$80. Contact: Merle 9497 1691

**Don Bosco Mother and Daughter Camp:**

Calling all mothers and daughters! Are you looking for something fun and interesting to do for a few days over the coming school holidays? The camp is open to all daughters aged 8-16 and their mothers/grandmothers/aunties. It's only less than a month away so you better get in quick! Monday 26<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September at Don Bosco Camp Safety Beach - **Emily 5987 2692 or [www.donboscocamp.org](http://www.donboscocamp.org)**

<b>Parish Office:</b>	4 Waverley Ave, Ivanhoe 3079	<b>Fax:</b>	9499 9959
<b>Phone:</b>	9499 1515	<b>Email:</b>	catholicparishofivanhoe@bigpond.com
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.ivanhoecatholics.com">www.ivanhoecatholics.com</a>		
<b>Parish Priest:</b>	Fr. Thang Vu	63 Wilfred Rd, East Ivanhoe	9499 5440
<b>Secretary:</b>	Mrs. Ruth Villani	Office hours 9.00am – 5.00pm	9499 1515

**ROSTERS FOR WEEKEND 10 – 11 September 2011**

<b><u>ST. BERNADETTE’S:</u></b> Saturday 6.30pm	<b>Lector</b> C. Dixon	<b>Special Ministers</b> B. Jowett, T. Nibali	
<b><u>MARY IMMACULATE:</u></b> Sunday 9.00am	<b>Leader</b> First Eucharist	<b>Reader</b> First Eucharist	<b>Coordinators</b> M. Gilbo <b>Counters</b> S. & P. Kelly
<b><u>MOTHER OF GOD:</u></b> Sunday 10.30am	<b>Sacristan</b> A. Patterson <b>Altar Society:</b>	<b>Lector</b> A. Patterson P. Mendes	<b>Special Ministers</b> D. Ervin, M. Chin, B. / S. Janus <b>Choir Coordinators:</b> I. Chiera

**First Collection – Thanksgiving:** Envelopes: \$1,390.00 Loose cash: \$768.80 **Total: \$2,158.80**  
**Second Collection – Presbytery:** **\$ 834.70**

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