



# THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF IVANHOE

*St Bernadette's Church, 89 Bond St, Ivanhoe West*  
*Mary Immaculate Church, 4 Waverley Ave, Ivanhoe*  
*Mother of God Church, 56 Wilfred Rd, Ivanhoe East*

<b>Parish Priest:</b>	Fr. Thang Vu	63 Wilfred Rd, Ivanhoe East	9499 5440
<b>Parish Office:</b>	4 Waverley Ave, Ivanhoe 3079	<b>Phone:</b> 9499 1515	<b>Fax:</b> 9499 9959
<b>Parish Secretary:</b>	Mrs. Ruth Villani		
<b>Parish Website:</b>	www.ivanhoecatholics.com	<b>Email:</b> catholicparishofivanhoe@bigpond.com	
<b>Masses:</b>			
<b>Weekend: Saturday:</b>	6.30pm St Bernadette's	<b>Sunday:</b> 9am Mary Immaculate; 10.30am Mother of God	
<b>Weekday:</b>	9.15am Tuesday: Mother of God	<b>Wednesday:</b> Mary Immaculate	<b>Friday:</b> St Bernadette's

No. 13

24 – 25 March 2012

## FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT: YEAR B

### THE WORD

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** Create a clean heart in me, O God.

- V. 1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my offence.  
O wash me more and more from my guilt. and cleanse me from my sin. **R.**
- V. 2. A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me.  
Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **R.**
- V. 3. Give me again the joy of your help; with a spirit of fervour sustain me,  
That I may teach transgressors your ways and sinners may return to you. **R.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord; and where I am, my servant will also be. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

**PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL:** God of mercy and compassion: **Hear our prayer**

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** Amen, Amen I say to you: Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains a single grain. But if it dies, it bears much fruit.

### **PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY:**

We remember all in need of prayer at this time including Lois Caleo, Louise Nixon, Jamie Bernhardt, Carmel Delaney, Joy Meacham, Sheila Ryan, Bev Horne, Sidney Delaney, Cathy Lengyel and Jill Brophy. We remember all who provide care and support for those in need.

We remember Eddie McDonough who died recently. We remember Michelle Lunn, Francesco Deni, Angelica Della Torre, Armida Pacolo, Antonio Borromeo, Gelsomina and Giuseppe Gentile, Steno Pellizzari and Bruna Capitanio whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace.



### **Baptism in our Parish Community:**

We welcome Tess Izzard who is baptised into the faith community of the Catholic Parish of Ivanhoe this weekend. We welcome her family, relatives and friends who have come to share this special occasion, one of many steps taken in the lifelong journey of faith.

### **This Week's Readings: 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent: Year B**

**Jeremiah 31:31-34      Psalm 50:3-4, 12-15      Hebrews 5:7-9      John 12:20-30**

### **Saint and Feast Days:**

*Mon 26 March: Annunciation*

*Tues 27 March: St John of Egypt*

*Wed 28 March: St Sixtus III*

*Thurs 29 March: St Rupert*

*Fri. 30 March: St John Climacus*

*Sat. 31 March: St Benjamin*

### **Next Week's Readings: Palm Sunday: Year B**

**Isaiah 50:4-7      Psalm 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24      Philippians 2:6-11      Mark 14:1-15:47**

## REFLECTION:

If ever you get the chance to travel to Turkey make sure you go to the Roman ruins at Ephesus. The trip is instructive for all sorts of reasons, not least because two thousand years ago Ephesus was a seaport and now you have to drive inland for over an hour to get there. I wonder what our cities will look like in another two thousand years? But Ephesus is worth the trip. The Roman ruins there, especially the library, are extraordinary. For Christians, however, three other places there capture the imagination. It's the place to which the great letter in the New Testament was addressed. There are the ruins of the hall in which the important Council of Ephesus met, and there are ruins of a monastery built over what is claimed to be the final home of St John, the Beloved Disciple. There is also the much more dubious claim that Mary's final house, and the site of her Assumption, is on top of the mountain overlooking the ancient city.

There are good reasons to believe that the Gospel of John, from which we have just read, was written in Ephesus, 70 years after Jesus' death. I like to think about the context in which the Scriptures were written, not just because it helps me understand some things in the text, but also to appreciate that our Scriptures were inspired by the experience of a flesh and blood community. Ephesus was a centre of learning, trade, government and religion in the ancient world. We also know that the early Christians were greatly persecuted and martyred there. The early church was filled with stories of betrayal, torture, death and heroic witness to the faith. The stakes for believing in Jesus were very high. And it was the heroic witness of these martyrs that eventually led to the conversion of the Roman Empire to Christianity. It should come as no surprise to us then that John's Gospel should have a special focus on sharing in the sufferings of Jesus and the glory to come.

The words of Jesus in today's Gospel must have been very important to a community that was awash with the blood of their fellow believers. Our foremothers and forefathers in the faith counted themselves blessed to die as Jesus died, alive in the faith of God's love for the world. Just imagine how that community of martyrs first heard these words, 'Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit.' By comparison we have it easy today, but martyrdom comes to all believers in different ways. In the broadest sense a martyr is one who is prepared to pay the price for holding true to Christ. For us now this might mean making serious choices about the company we keep, the business ventures we enter into, the non-violent protests we mount, foregoing luxuries so that others in our world might have necessities, and even remaining faithful to the vows and promises we have made. Christian faith sometimes bites hard, and when it does we know we are sharing in the martyr's lot.

And what should be our response when our faith in Christ costs us something big? Jesus models it for us in today's Gospel, '...what should I say? "Father, save me from this hour." No, it was for this purpose that I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name.'

May this final week of Lent, then, see this flesh and blood community be like our forebears in Ephesus and actively seek out ways of sharing in the martyr's lot by letting go of what is not essential and focusing on the One who loved us to the end.

© Richard Leonard SJ. [www.liturgyhelp.com](http://www.liturgyhelp.com)

---

## HAPPENINGS ACROSS THE PARISH

---

Saturday 24 March	10.00am	<b>Reconciliation</b>	St Bernadette's Church
Tuesday 27 March	11.45am	Mother of God School <b>First Reconciliation</b>	Mother of God Church
Tuesday 27 March	7.30pm	Singing Practice for Holy Week & Easter	Mother of God Church
Wednesday 28 March	11.30am	Mary Immaculate P.S - <b>First Reconciliation</b>	Mary Immaculate Church
Wednesday 28 March	2.00pm	Mary Immaculate P.S - <b>First Reconciliation</b>	Mary Immaculate Church
Wednesday 28 March	8.00pm	Pastoral Leadership Team Meeting	Parish Office
Thursday 29 March	7.30pm	<b>Lenten Reconciliation</b> - Second Rite	Mary Immaculate Church
Friday 30 March	9.15am	Mass & St Bernadette's School Year 3	St Bernadette's Church
Friday 30 March	7.00pm	<b>Stations of the Cross in Lent</b>	St Bernadette's Church
Saturday 31 March	10.00am	<b>Reconciliation</b>	Mary Immaculate Church
Monday 2 April	7.30pm	<b>Lenten Reconciliation</b> - Second Rite	St Bernadette's Church
Monday 2 April	7.30pm	Baptism Preparation Session	Parish Office
Tuesday 3 April	7.30pm	Singing Practice for Holy Week & Easter	Mother of God Church
Thursday 5 April	8.00pm	<b>Holy Thursday Mass</b>	Mary Immaculate Church
Friday 6 April	10.00am	<b>Stations of the Cross</b>	Mary Immaculate Church
Friday 6 April	3.00pm	<b>Passion of the Lord</b>	St Bernadette's Church
Saturday 7 April	7.30pm	<b>Easter Vigil Mass</b>	Mother of God Church

**Lenten Penitential Services:**

**Second Rite:**

- ❖ Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March Mary Immaculate 7.30pm
- ❖ Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> April St Bernadette's 7.30pm

**First Rite (Individual Reconciliation) 10.00am Saturdays:**

24<sup>th</sup> March St Bernadette's 31<sup>st</sup> March Mary Immaculate 7<sup>th</sup> April Mary Immaculate

Reconciliation available on Good Friday after Stations of the Cross at 10.00am, Mary Immaculate Church

**Prayers of Contrition**

- ❖ Oh my God, I am sorry that I have sinned against you, because you are so good, and with your help, I will try not to sin again. Amen.
- ❖ Lord Jesus, Son of God and Son of Mary, have mercy on me a sinner. Amen

**An Ancient Prayer:**

*Being aware of God is not in your power, but his.*

*God shows himself when it suits him, and hides when he wishes.*

*So even if you think you can't feel him and are wholly empty of him, this is not the case.*

*Be still, therefore, and do not waver from your emptiness.*

*- Meister Eckhart † 1327*

**First Reconciliations:** The children in each Parish school have been preparing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time next week. Please keep the children and families in your prayers.

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

We, here in the Catholic Parish of Ivanhoe are fortunate to continue to have a weekly opportunity to receive this Sacrament. That is every Saturday, at 10am, by rotation around our three churches; the actual dates are always on the newsletter. On these occasions, the format is 'First Rite' - individuals make their own preparation and approach the priest then for Confession, advice and Absolution.

In Lent and Advent, we have the opportunity for a community based experience. On these occasions, known as Second Rite, the community gathers to prepare together - with readings, hymns, times of reflection, shared Examination of Conscience. This is then followed by private confessions with one of the priests available.

**No Mass at Mother of God on Tuesday 3 April:**

Since Fr Thang will be attending the Chrism Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, there will be a Communion Service at Mother of God.

**Stations of the Cross at St Bernadette's:**

As part of the Lenten journey, there will be Stations of the Cross at 7.00pm on each Friday evening in Lent. All parishioners are invited to attend.

**Singing Practices for Holy Week and Easter:**

**PLEASE NOTE CHANGES OF DATES and VENUE!**

- Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March Mother of God Church 7.30pm
- Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April Mother of God Church 7.30pm All welcome and needed!!

**Finance Committee Presentation:**

The Finance Committee is presenting a financial update for parishioners at each of our three churches this weekend. We thank all concerned for their commitment and participation.

**'That's Life Week' at Australian Catholic University:**

There will be a Public Forum and launch of 'That's Life' week at Christ Lecture Theatre at 7.00pm on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March. Light supper provided. The week is aimed at providing an opportunity to discuss and explore major contemporary social issues, and provide a better understanding of Church teaching. All are welcome to attend the public forum with the Vice-Chancellor as well as events as advertised on fliers in each church. Information or RSVP: Jo Grainger: jo.grainger@acu.edu.au or Joel Hodge: joel.hodge@acu.edu.au

**Maundy Thursday Meal:**

Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> April - 5.30pm for 6.00pm start at the Uniting Church Community Centre, Ivanhoe. Tickets \$20 are now available from Merle 9497 1691.

INCLUSIVENESS

HOSPITALITY

SERVICE

MISSION

### **Project Compassion 2012:**

Project Compassion boxes or envelopes need to be returned Easter weekend or no later than the end of April. If a **receipt is required, relevant details need to be filled in on the box lids or back of envelopes**. Receipts will be issued as soon as possible once returns are completed. Contributions are then sent to Caritas. – Ruth

### **Official Opening of Mother of God Learning & Multi-Purpose Area:**

The Principal of Mother of God Primary School, Ms Louise McGrath, along with the Parish Priest, Father Thang Vu warmly invite: **All Families & Friends of Mother of God Catholic Primary School** to the Blessing and Official Opening of the school Learning & Multi-Purpose Area by the Hon Jenny Macklin MP at 10.30a.m on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2012 which will be followed by Morning Tea.

RSVP: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April Email: hburke@mogivanhoeeast.catholic.edu.au or phone Helen Burke: 9497 1094

### **Ryder Cheshire Morning Coffee:**

Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> March, 10am, 10 Donaldson St, Ivanhoe.

Something different in the way of entertainment - a gum leaf player! Come and enjoy yourself, while helping Ryder Cheshire provide accommodation for people who need to be in Melbourne for medical treatment.

### **Enjoy a film and support Exodus:**

Film: The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel at Balwyn Theatre

When: Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> April, about 4pm.

Contact: Anne Hall. 9497 5153

**Annual St Joseph's Carmelite Auxiliary Retreat** on Monday 2 April from 10.30am to 3pm at the Carmelite Monastery, Kew. Father Terry Curtin will lead the Retreat, beginning with Mass. A light lunch will be served by the nuns. Weather permitting we will be free to meditate/pray/discuss in the beautiful Monastery gardens. Donation on the day to cover costs will be kindly requested. Further information: [www.ivanhoecatholics.com](http://www.ivanhoecatholics.com)

### **Outreach News:**

- Despite the weather which didn't look promising yesterday morning 46 people enjoyed a wonderful day out which included a tour of Bacchus Marsh and Ballarat, a hearty lunch and time in the lake, garden surrounds. Many thanks to the Mees Bus Company for organizing an alternative activity in the event the weather didn't improve. We look forward now to the following events -
- Wednesday, April 4 – Lunch / Games day at noon, **Mother of God Church foyer**.
- Wednesday, May 16 – Ladies Month, film and high tea in the MI hall. \$5 entry. Begin at 1.00pm.
- Wednesday, July 11 – bus trip to Cuckoo Restaurant for Christmas in July. Thanks- Sue, Helen and Eileen

**Those Coles and Woolworth vouchers!!:** Kylie Donhart and Nicole Moriarty, parents of MI School students, sent an item for the parish newsletter, saying 'thank you' for the participation which led to a fantastically successful collection. That prompted me to confirm that St B's and MOG Schools had had equal success – and they HAD!! Mother of God was pleased to report that they now have a table tennis table - which would have been a long time on their wish list. St. Bernadette's was equally excited about what they had been able to afford. Kylie and Nicole had made a long list of the new assets at Mary Immaculate - colourful cushions for the new library, bean bags, balls of all descriptions, peg boards, write and wipe boards, stopwatches to mention just a few. (See full list at the back of MI church!!)

Isn't it great to have achieved so much by taking up and acting on those simple offers!! - Merle

---

## **ROSTERS FOR WEEKEND 31 March – 1 April 2012**

### **ST. BERNADETTE'S:**

Saturday 6.30pm

#### **Lector**

E. Jowett

#### **Special Ministers**

B. Jowett, Sister Carmel

### **MARY IMMACULATE:**

Sunday 9.00am

#### **Leader**

J. Pidutti

#### **Reader**

C. Nguyen

#### **Mass Coordinators**

M. Gilbo

#### **Counters**

P. Black, P. Fanning

### **MOTHER OF GOD:**

Sunday 10.30am

#### **Sacristan**

J. Curry

#### **Lector**

J. Curry

#### **Special Ministers**

M. Pollard, G. Reardon, M. / P. De Silva

**Altar Society:** A. Maloney

**Choir Coordinator:** J. O'Brien

---

### **First Collection – Thanksgiving:**

Envelopes: \$1,461.00 Loose cash: \$572.05

**Total: \$2,033.05**

### **Second Collection – Presbytery:**

**\$ 860.20**

**LONERGAN  
FUNERAL  
SERVICE**

*This newsletter is kindly sponsored by*

**Caring professional Funeral services at reasonable rates.  
Secure Pre-paid Funeral Plan available  
9489 8711 & 9499 6698**