



NOVEMBER 8 & 9, 2008 – DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA – YEAR A

Issue Number 283

## BISHOPS, DEMOCRACY AND THE PARISH AGM

Last weekend was Bishop Manning's birthday. It was a special birthday because he turned 75. This is the age at which bishops must submit their resignation to the Holy Father. The Pope, however, does not have to accept a bishop's resignation and since Bishop Manning is in good health, I see that there is no hurry for the Pope to find a replacement for him. The Pope himself is 81 years old, the same age as Bart Cummings. Both the Pope and Bart Cummins seem to be in good health and backing winners.

Nevertheless, speculation is rife about who will eventually succeed Bishop Manning. Since the appointment of the Third Bishop of Parramatta is *Viewed* as a senior appointment and in the light of last Tuesday's events in Melbourne, some enterprising entrepreneurial parishioner should think about running a sweep. (The money would go to the St Vincent de Paul, of course.)

The process for the selection of bishops begins formally with the nuncio in Canberra sending a questionnaire to select clergy and laity. The present apostolic nuncio to Australia, Archbishop Giuseppe Lazzarotto, says that the form is only "one among a number of elements in the enquiry process and cannot be understood or appreciated in isolation". No one seems to know much about the process because it is done in strict secrecy. In this week's *English Tablet*, Robert Mickens reports on the procedure, telling us that the standard questionnaire was published in a Spanish newspaper in 2002. Further, he says, a fresh

version of the questionnaire recently fell into the hands of a reform group in Australia called "Catholics for Ministry" and they put the "confidential" document on their website.

Usually bishops who are appointed have done some study in Rome. The Congregation of Bishops has actual oversight of the selection process and in any given week, many nominations to the episcopacy are announced, always with the introduction, "the Holy Father,

Benedict XVI has nominated..." In this sense it can be said that the Pope selects the bishops.

The election of Barack Obama last Wednesday, our time, shows us another way of finding a leader. Every institution has its way of electing/appointing people to leadership positions. All have some merit. The long drawn-out (and costly) process for nominating and voting for the United States President is just one way. Like you, I am amazed at the convoluted system the Americans use. I reckon we could teach them a thing or two about how to run a polling booth.

The parish is soon to elect some new parish councilors. Our system is less complicated than the US presidential system, but for us, just as important. We are calling for nominations now and the election will take place at the Parish AGM on Thursday November 20.

The Parish AGM is also an important forum for parishioners to have their say and comment on the direction the parish is going. It is all very democratic. I am hoping that parishioners will set aside Thursday night, November 20, to attend this important meeting. AGMs are always interesting.

*Father John.*



**Barack Hussein Obama II,  
President-elect of the  
United States of America**

## LITURGY CORNER

Last Sunday highlighted the theme of communion with two major liturgical feasts: All Saints and All Souls. This week is more of the same! Not only is it important to remember the communion we share with saints in heaven and those waiting to get there but we must never forget the unity we share with our living brothers and sisters. The St John Lateran Basilica (the Cathedral of Rome/the Papal Cathedral, was the first Christian Church built in Rome under the Emperor Constantine on land owned by the Laterani family which came to Constantine through his wife. It was consecrated in 324 by Pope Sylvester), *the mother and mistress of all churches of Rome and the world*, is a symbol of communion with all communities throughout the world. These three feasts emphasise the work of the Holy Spirit; making us a living temple of God in this reality and the next. In our own parish community, what can you do to enrich communion?

## Today's Readings



**First Reading** Ezekiel 47:1-2,8-9,12 The life-giving water pouring from the Temple turns the lifeless salt water of the Dead Sea into a place of abundance that refreshes the whole earth.

**Second Reading** 1 Corinthians 3:9-11,16-17 The people of God, the Church, is the dwelling place of God today as the Temple was in Jerusalem.

**Gospel** John 2:13-22 Jesus promises to raise up the sanctuary that is destroyed but he is talking about his body and the resurrection.

**Next week: 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A**  
Proverbs 31:10-13,19-20,30-31; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6;  
Matthew 25:14-30

## Feast Day this Week

*St Leo the Great - Mon, November 10*

*St Martin of Tours—Tues, November 11*

*St Josaphat—Wed, November 12*

**HOLY HOUR** every Thursday from 8.00 to 9.00pm including Rosary, prayers, hymns & scripture reading. All welcome!

**24 HOUR EUCHARISTIC ADORATION** from 5pm Friday 21 November until 5pm Saturday 22 November.

**REFLECTION DAY FOR WOMEN** at Mt Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa on Saturday 29 November 9.45am to 2.00pm conducted by Fr Terry Bell. BYO lunch. Tea/coffee provided. \$10 donation. For details phone 4773 8338.

**CATECHISTS NEEDED** Part-time or full-time Catechists are needed to teach half hour lessons each week at our local State schools. If you can spare some time Christine Jenneke would love to hear from you on 9484 1190 or 0433 183322.

## DWF APPEAL NEXT WEEKEND

The last of our Diocesan Works Fund Appeals for 2008 will be held next weekend 15/16 November. \$25,164 is required by the Diocese for this appeal, which is based on a percentage of our parish income. These funds assist the charitable works of the Diocese, supporting the various ministries and groups. Donations are 100% tax deductible. Please give generously.

**NOVEMBER MASSES** November is a traditional time to remember those who have died. In this Parish there will be a Book of Remembrance on the sanctuary near the paschal candle. Those who wish to have their loved ones remembered are asked to include the names on the special November Mass offerings envelopes, and the Parish will add their names to the book. Only the names of recently deceased and anniversaries will be noted in the bulletin. Regarding the offerings amount, a decision by the Australian Bishops' Conference has noted that November Mass offerings are \$20 per Mass. However, St Bernadette's Parish will always continue to offer masses for the intentions of its parishioners, irrespective of the amount offered.

Parishioners are also invited to place a photo of any recently deceased parishioner or relative on a board which will be available in the Church foyer. Please place the name of the deceased person on the back of the photo together with details of the sender's name, address and phone number in case the photo is left behind or lost.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL** Vinnies thanks all donors for their generosity and support. The quarterly Mass for deceased members will be at 6.45am on Friday 21 November. All parishioners are welcome.

Inez and Harry are hosting the Conference's social meeting on Sunday 30 November. Please call them to confirm attendance.

## ARTFEST AT ST MADELEINE'S TODAY

St Madeleine's Primary School at Kenthurst is holding an Art & Craft Show this weekend, 7/8/9 November at 28 Annangrove Road, Kenthurst. There is an exciting variety of art, craft, sculpture, jewellery and gourmet foods as well as hands-on workshops to suit all ages. Sunday 9am to 4pm: Gold coin donation.



**2008 PROJECT COMPASSION** raised a total of \$23,329.00 from Castle Hill Parish. Caritas Australia sincerely thanks you for your generous support.

**JESUS AND MEN MEETING** in the Parish Hall on 22nd November at 8.45am to 11.45am. Costandi Bastoli will be speaking on 'Developing a Personal Relationship with Jesus'. You are welcome to join in a morning of learning, sharing and fellowship with the men of the parish. Enquiries: Steve Decker on 9688 6226.

## SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION 2008-2009:

Please keep all our parish families in your prayers as they continue preparing for the sacraments over the next year.

- *Session 3* – held Tuesday 18th November at 4pm and 7:30pm or Saturday 22nd November at 3:30pm in the parish Hall. All children and at least one parent must attend.



## CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

On Sunday 14 December 2008 at 6.00pm, the annual Christmas Hamper Mass will be celebrated by Fr Peter McGrath. Once again



events and news for ALL parishioners ...

we are looking for your generous support of this Parish initiative to bring the spirit of Christmas into the homes of needy families who struggle to meet the basic necessities of life.

**Firstly**, we need your donation of hampers, so kindly take a label from the foyer and return it to the church on the weekend of 13/14 December 2008.

**Please** read the information on the notice board regarding the assembly of the hampers.

**Secondly**, we need your support in helping us manage the logistics of this appeal; in sorting the hampers within the Parish Hall and then distributing them to the families on Tuesday 16th December. A work sheet has been posted on the notice board in the church foyer. Please indicate the times you are available to help, or contact Maureen Scully on 9634 6925.

**THE CARE GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY** will be held after Mass on Friday 5 December. We provide Christmas lunch and a small gift for our seniors and we are hoping that some of the local Businesses within the Parish may be interested in supporting this event. If you can help with food or goods we would love to hear from you. Please call Susan: 9680 7504 or Marion:9659 9385.

**CARING FOR CREATION: A Christian Call to Action on Climate Change** An evening seminar with Rev Richard Cizik, Vice President for Government Affairs with the U.S. National Assoc. of Evangelicals this Thur. 13 November from 8 to 10pm at St Paul's Anglican Church, 421 Old Northern Road, Castle Hill. Entry free.

**HELPERS NEEDED** to prepare Planned Giving envelopes for collection. Please meet in the Parish Hall on **Wednesday 12 November** at 7.30pm.

**WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT BECOMING CATHOLIC?** For enquiries about the RCIA Programme please phone Cheryl & Richard Koen 9659 0316 / 0419 013242 or Sr Judy 9634 2622

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL** Nomination Forms are available in the church foyer. Closing date for nominations is Wednesday 12 November 2008.

**ST BERNADETTE'S NETBALL CLUB** Registrations for 2009 Winter Competition open now. Children turning 7, 14 or 15 years in 2009 especially needed. Phone Jo Biggs on 8850 0324.

**UPPER ROOM GATHERING - Bereavement Support** On the second Thursday of each month the Solo Parent Ministry runs a bereavement support gathering for those over 50 years who have lost a partner or spouse through death. Next meeting is this Thursday 13 November at 8 Victoria Road, Parramatta from 11.00am to 12.30pm. Phone Sr Eileen Quade on 9890 2968.

**ST VINCENT BOYS' HOME WESTMEAD** will hold the 84th Annual Mass and Reunion for Old Boys on Sunday 23 November at Sacred Heart Church, 14 Ralph Street, Westmead with Mass at 11am followed by lunch in the grounds. Entertainment will be provided by the Marist Youth Care Islanders. Enquiries to Leo Woods 9405 5078 or Maureen Skeoch 9407 2102.

**SPREAD THE WORD:** A new quick reflection on scripture by Mark 'Bible Geek' Hart - **"God works...in time."** (Jeremiah 17:4). Are you wanting God to work on your timetable or His? Check out the notice board in the Church foyer.

**BIBLE STUDY with Mark 'Bible Geek' Hart:** Our second last session of this great bible study continues tonight. Don't miss getting some great insights into the gospel of Matthew. All parishioners are welcome to join us in the Parish Hall following the Youth Mass.

events & news for Youth & Young Adults ...

**Post-WYD BIBLE STUDY** for anyone aged 16 – 35 is on again tonight in the parish hall, following the Youth Mass. Be entertained by Mark 'Bible Geek' Hart as he explores the gospel of Matthew. Only 1 session left! See you there...

**Into LIFE** for high school teens in yr 6-8: Is on this Monday night at 7pm in the Parish Hall for an awesome night of fun, friends and faith. Please bring along \$2 for chips and drink. New people are always welcome to come along!

**LIFE Night** for high school teens in yr 9-12: **"Hey...have you heard?"** – well if you haven't you'd better join us next Sunday night. In the parish hall straight after the Youth Mass, concluding at 8:30pm. Doesn't matter if you haven't been before – come along and check it out!

From one camp to the next - **SUMMER CAMP 2009** is coming (January 19-22). More details soon.

Get more out of Mass with the **free weekly podcasts** produced by Life Teen. Mark 'Bible Geek' Hart breaks open the readings for every upcoming Sunday Mass. Subscribe now from **www.lifeteen.com** or search for 'lifeteen.com' at the iTunes store. Suitable for all ages.

**www.lifeteen.com** is a great website for teens and young adults – get the real answers and facts about our faith, along with the latest music and movie reviews and even just some random facts too!

**www.lifeteenastralia.com** – for more info on what's on for youth and young adults at St Bernadette's or contact the Parish House on 9634 2622.

## VISION YOUTH LEADERSHIP BREAKFAST

Nourishing the nourisher: ever found it hard to keep going in ministry without getting burnt out? Join Bishop Manning and youth leaders, co-ordinators, youth teams, movements, teachers and all involved in ministry with young people. Guest speaker Alice Priest with music by Basic Gift from St Clair Parish. Where: St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. When: 15 November. Time: 8.30 to 10.30am. RSVP by Monday 10 November. Info and bookings: 8838 3418 or youth@parra.catholic.org.au.

**St Bernadette's Parish Community**  
**Parish House, 367 Old Northern Road, Castle Hill, NSW 2154**

Telephone 9634 2622 Fax 9899 3511 Email: admin@stbernadette.org.au  
 Web page: http://www.stbernadette.org.au

**Parish Staff**

Fr John Boyle, Parish Priest  
 Fr Eugene Szondi, Assistant Priest  
 Fr Sunny Michael, ms, Assistant Priest  
 Sr Judy McLeod, rsm, Pastoral Associate  
 Mrs Alice Bradshaw, Sacramental Co-ordinator  
 Mr Ian Pomeroy, Into LIFE Youth Minister  
 Mrs Frances Gallagher, Office Manager  
 Mrs Monica Rubic, Parish Secretary (Finance: Mon-Thu)  
 Mr Michael Watson, Maintenance Co-ordinator

**Mass Times for this Week**

**Sunday** Sat 6pm  
 Sun 7.30am, 9am, 10.30am & 6pm  
 Parish LIFE TEEN Youth Mass

**Weekdays** Mon 6.45am  
 Tue 6.45 am  
 Wed 6.45am, 9.15am  
 Thurs 6.45am, 9.15 am  
 First Fri 6.45am, 9.15 am, 12 noon  
 Sat 8am

**Mass on Public Holidays at 8am**

**Reconciliation** Sat 8.30am-9am; 4.30pm-5.30pm

**Baptisms and Marriages:** By appointment only. Contact the Parish House. Please note the Church law: Parents are obliged to take care that infants are baptised in the first few weeks; as soon as possible after the birth or even before it, they are to go to the pastor to request the sacrament for their child and to be prepared properly for it. [Can. 867 §1]

St Bernadette's Parish School: Mr Paul Colyer, Principal 9634 2898

**Please pray for** Lesley Swaddling, Jean Brittliff and Lela Schembri who have died recently and for the anniversaries of Henry Cromack (Nov 7); Clavel Dimataga (Nov 9) and James Griffin (Nov 12)

**Prayers for the Sick:** Brian McGee.

**ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – November 15-16**

ACOLYTES/ SERVERS		LECTORS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION
<b>VIGIL</b>	Philip Myers S6	Rebecca Barrett Tony Calabria Douglas/Felicity Carvalho	Jessica Fearnside, Rebecca Barrett, Marjorie, Dominic and Natasha Orioles, Moira Mitchell, Harry & Robin Reyden, John Geoghegan
<b>7.30AM</b>	Melvyn Myers S7	Anne Parker Colleen Baines Matthew Troy	Helen Karsten, Patricia Bright, Hilary Burton, Margaret Elder, Ken Short, Peter Grace
<b>9.00AM</b>	Terry o'Mara S8	David Green Von Lulan Mike Lulan	David/Bettina Green, Sally Healey, John & Lois Donnelly, Aida Pereira, Von & Mike Lulan, Brian & Katrina Fitzalan
<b>10.30AM</b>	John Stone S9	Bill Gleeson Elizabeth Fogolin Michael Puckeridge	Anita Christy, Pauline Camilleri, Dorothy Fincuane, Elizabeth Fogolin, Philip & Yolanda Golamco, Margaret Hawkes, Winnie & Henry Li

**6.00 PARISH LIFE TEEN YOUTH MASS MINISTRY ROSTER - November 16**

<b>Adult Servers</b> Andrew Tomic James Madry	<b>Extraordinary Ministers of Communion</b> Ashley Adams Maria-Alicia Jul Martin Collins		<b>Musos</b>	
<b>Altar Preparation</b> Josh Becker		Richard Tarlinton Robert Johnson Sean Finucane Veronica Sahabu		<b>Singers</b> Alison Wong Annabel Irawan Cassie Knezevic Monique O'Callaghan Julia Calixto
<b>Lectors</b> Josh Chaney Mystique Nelis Nicci Heidegger	<b>Projectionist</b> Josh Becker	<b>Ushers</b> Phillip Smith Paul Musgrave		
<b>Altar Servers</b> S10 Marc Clasquin	<b>Gift Preparation</b> Laura Wilson	<b>Welcomers</b> Ingrid & Jana Fizely Sean Finucane		
<b>Guitar</b> Michael Smith		<b>Horns/Strings/ Winds</b> Matthew Ashton		

<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</b> Joanna Delvecchio Michelle Martinez	<b>CHURCH HOUSEKEEPING</b> Jeannette Leach, Cathy Teh, Joanne Leach, Alicia Maunsell	<b>COUNTING (2nd Collection)</b> Rex Smith, Albert Leroy, Jeff Cronan, Joachim Schiller, John Moran
<b>FLOWER ROSTER</b> Sandra & Serieze Fernando	<b>COUNTING (1st Collection)</b> Bert Hofstaetter Helga Hofstaetter	<b>BOOKSHOP</b> Joanne Barrett / Catherine Seddon / Bernadette Navarra / Barbara Halpin / Natasha Orioles