



The Massabielle

The Weekly Newsletter of St Bernadette's
Parish Community, Castle Hill, NSW

APRIL 24 & 25, 2010 – FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - Year C

Issue Number 356

LEST WE FORGET: ANZAC DAY 2010

We cannot be sure of the figures today. About one million men from both sides served at Gallipoli and between one-third and one-half of them became casualties. The Australians lost 8,709 and 19,441 were wounded. The 1911 Australian census put the Australian population at 4.8 million. Eight and a half thousand New Zealanders served at Gallipoli; 2,701 died. This is appalling. The Australian Government ordered a commission of enquiry in 1916 in response to the disquiet in the country, but the government was fearful of scandal and was slow to understand the seriousness of the situation.

In 1915 some 4.2 million people said they were Christians and only 10,016 admitted to being without religion.

The authorities in Australia were sycophantic in the presence of the British. Australia was about 96 per cent 'British'. Australia was emotionally and culturally tied to Britain. Her trade was largely with Britain; her naval defences depended on Britain. Australia was part of the Empire so that, as the Prime Minister of the day said, "Remember that when the empire is at war, so is Australia at war."

Politicians were slow to criticise the obviously inept military leadership of Winston Churchill and Lord Kitchener. Kitchener was removed when he drowned after the cruiser he was on hit a mine off the Orkneys in 1916. *The Times* called Churchill a 'dangerous enthusiast'. Churchill went on to become Prime Minister of Great Britain.

The Anzac legend began within a year of the landing on that fateful day at 4.30 am on April 25, 1915. The young, fourteen-year old Australia was seen for the first time as an independent nation, not merely an appendage of Britain.

The historian Bill Gammage in 1994 spoke of 'dreams abandoned, lives without purpose, women without husbands, families without family life, one long national funeral for a generation and more after 1918'. It must have been terrible.

In my childhood there were stories of family members and neighbours who were still alive, barely, who were not quite right. Their sickness was a result, it was said, of mustard gas, of shell-shock and pathologies that had no names then, but put down to "the war, you know".

It was these men who gave us the Anzac spirit. Difficult as it is to define, there was forged at Gallipoli a willingness to keep a sense of humour come what may, a looking out for one's mates, a sense of irreverence and a determination to continue on against impossible odds. These qualities are still evident today in the Australian psyche.

What is said today in the Second Reading could be applied to the ANZACs.

"These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and

made them white in the blood of the Lamb. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

And perhaps these words from the Gospel for today as well: 'My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand.'

Sir Ian Hamilton (1853-1947) was in charge of the 75,000 men at Gallipoli. Like others in the leadership team of that day he was incompetent and was recalled to London in October, 1915. He



was later to publish his diaries. Of the first ANZAC Day he wrote: "Almighty God, Watchman of the Milky Way, Shepherd of the Golden Stars, have mercy upon us. Thy will be done. 4.30 – 6.30 am: Invasion of the Gallipoli Peninsula, Turkey, by British, Australian and New Zealand forces (Anzacs) and of the Turkish mainland at Kum Kale by French forces. At Helles, Father William Finn died. He was the Catholic chaplain to the Royal Dublin Fusiliers. Although badly wounded himself, Finn attended to other wounded before collapsing and dying. He was the first chaplain to be killed in this way in any British or Dominion force."

In the lead up to the April 25 commemoration two years ago, Australian Defence Force Bishop Max Davis said there were now fewer full-time Catholic chaplains serving with the Australian Army than there were serving with Australian forces at Gallipoli in 1915.

Bishop Davis said that, not since the establishment of the chaplains' department in 1903 have there been fewer Catholic chaplains in the army.

There are only 15 full-time Catholic chaplains and 26 permanent vacancies.

He said in light of the shortage of chaplains, Catholic members of the defence force could be forgiven for thinking the Australian Church had abandoned them.

"There are about 3000 members of the Australian Defence Force who will be celebrating the anniversary of Anzac Day this week on operational deployment overseas," Bishop Davis said.

"Not one of them has access to a Catholic chaplain and the great majority are in areas where they do not have access to a Catholic Church.

"They have no opportunity for Mass, no opportunity for sacraments, pastoral guidance from the Church or spiritual counselling in the issues they face each day," he said.

The Anzac legend concentrates in the main on the heroism of those Australians in that terrible conflict nearly a hundred years ago. This is only right. But perhaps we can give some thought this Anzac Day to those brave men and women who, at this moment, are away from their family and friends on deployment overseas. Perhaps on this Good Shepherd Sunday we can remember them in prayer and ask God for priests who will minister to them in the field. There may be some young man out there, inspired by the Anzac Legend, prepared to give his life in the service of both his country and his God.

Fr John.

LITURGY CORNER

Each year for the six Sundays after Easter, the church reads passages from the Gospel of John. This gospel is somewhat different from the three synoptic gospels of Matthew (Year A), Mark (Year B) and Luke (Year C) in that it does not give a 'synopsis' of the events in Jesus' life. John's gospel was written later than the synoptics – the writer has reflected on the significance of Jesus' life, death and resurrection, and tells the reader that the purpose of his writing is "that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name" (20:31). A recurrent theme of the text (which continues to be as valid now as it was in the first century) is the call to make a choice – do you believe Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, or do you choose not to believe?



Today's Readings

First Reading: Acts 13:14,43-52. Paul and Barabas preach in Antioch, converting pagans.

Second Reading: Apocalypse 7:9,14-17. John's vision of the huge number of those who have achieved salvation. They include people from every nation.

Gospel: John 10:27-30. Jesus tells his listeners that the sheep who follow him listen to his voice and that they will never be lost.

Next week: 4th Sunday of Easter Year C

Acts 14:21-27, Apocalypse 21:1-5, John 13:31-35.

Feast Days This Week

Monday 26 April - St Mark

Wednesday 28 April - St Peter Chanel

Thursday 29 April - St Catherine of Sienna

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

CHAT & CRAFT GROUP CRAFT STALL

Handcrafted for your pleasure!

Don't miss this amazing opportunity to buy special Mothers' Day gifts (or birthday, self-pampering or ...) at the stall to be held after the Vigil and morning masses next Sunday 1st & 2nd May. Great value! Great gifts! *Supporting St Vincent de Paul.*

REPARATION PRAYER GROUP meets Wednesdays at 8pm in the Parish Office Basement. All welcome.

SCHOOL MOTHERS' DAY MASS: On Thursday 6 May, St Bernadette's School will celebrate 'Mothers' Day' with a Mass at 9.15am. A delicious breakfast will be served from 7.15am and classrooms will be open from 7.30 to 8.30am. The teachers and students are looking forward to celebrating with our special mums.

POSITION VACANT - Parish Secretary: St Oliver Plunkett Parish, Harris Park, is seeking the services of a part time Parish Secretary - 12 to 15 hours per week. The position calls for good office and typing skills and a knowledge of MYOB. Please send your resume to Fr Arthur Bridge at stoliva@bigpond.net.au.

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION: Thank to all who donated to the Holy Land Collection on Good Friday. A total of \$8895.00 has been sent to the Holy Land Commissariat to be used to support missionary work in the Holy Lands.



KENTHURST COUNTRY FAIR: You are invited to an old fashioned fun Country Fair next Sunday 2nd May at 28 Annangrove Rd Kenthurst. This year there are three restaurants, spectacular rides (including helicopter), exotic cars, Fire Brigade and Police demonstrations, great prizes, fantastic entertainment and celebrities including Greg Page and Steve Passfield, Dora the Explora and Diego for the kids.



Youth & Young Adults Ministry



LIFE Nights presents **WAR! What is it good for?** (For Grades 9 to 12 and bring a friend.) This Sunday night, 2nd May, in the hall under the church after youth mass till 8:30pm. Bring \$2 donation for food & drink

Into LIFE this Monday 7 - 8.30pm in the parish hall. Bring \$2 donation for food & drink. All in Years 7 - 8 are welcome to attend.

Pray For:

All those at this time who do not live in a safe country, and that we continue to live in a peaceful, life giving way with those in our lives.

Need some inspiration or some faith facts? This fantastic web site is for you – www.lifeteen.com

YOUTH LEADERSHIP BREAKFAST: Social Justice from a Catholic Perspective - guest speaker Evan Ellis and Review of the Youth Safety Manual - guest speaker Paul Davis. Saturday 8th May at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, Parramatta from 8.30am to 12 noon. RSVP essential to 8838 3419 or youth@parra.catholic.org.au.

VIVA LA FIESTA!!!!

Only 4 weeks to go!

Pentecost Sunday 23rd May 11:30am - 3:30pm All parishioners are invited to this parish event to help celebrate the Year of the Priest and get to know each other. As part of the celebration we will be having entertainment, games and activities for the kids and family, and an international food fiesta. **PRE-PURCHASE** your coupon booklet to the international food fiesta after ALL MASSES THIS WEEKEND! Booklets cost \$10 and will save you from queueing on the day.

RECONNECT WITH LIFE LOVE AND LAUGHTER

Robyn Moore is a powerful speaker and has the wonderful ability to engage her audience with stories, messages and lots and lots of laughter. Robyn provides some very simple and hope-filled strategies for positive change. You can see Robyn on Monday May 10th from 6:30pm until 8:30pm (with supper afterwards) at the St Patrick's Parish Centre at 51-59 Allawah Street Blacktown. Call on 9933 0222 and book your seat now. \$10 per person.

THE CATENIANS are meeting for dinner at the Hills Lodge, cnr Windsor and Salisbury Rds., Castle Hill this Tuesday April 27 at 7.00pm. If any males in the Parish are interested in joining the group, they are welcome to come along. Ring Malcolm on 9639 1915.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS are available from the Parish Office, this Tuesday to Friday from 9am to 5pm. Parramatta books: \$60. North Sydney and Sydney books: \$65.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

We are looking for volunteers to assist with Children's Liturgy at the 9am Mass on a Sunday. This is a great way to get involved in a ministry in the Parish. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Shane Robinson on 9634 8362.

CATHERINE McAULEY WESTMEAD SCHOOL REUNION

for the class of 1970 on October 30 at Wentworthville Leagues Club. Contact Margaret Kelly (Winter) 0412 779927 or callardice@optusnet.com.au.

St Bernadette's Primary School

Open Day

for Kindergarten 2011

Thursday 13 May

Presentations at 9am & 1.30pm in the School Hall

Meet the Principal - Mr Paul Colyer

Come and have a look around the school

Enrolment packs available on the day or from the school office between Tuesday,

19 April and Friday, 28 May.

Enrolments close: Monday, 31 May,



CAN YOU COOK?

Can you cook Thai, Mexican, Spanish, Lebanese, or French food? If so, we want YOU! We invite parishioners (potential masterchefs?) to register your interest in the multinational food fiesta as part of the 'Viva La Fiesta' event on Pentecost Sunday – 23 May. A limited number of stalls will be available for those who would like to participate by cooking traditional or regional dishes and then distributing these at the Fiesta.

For more information or to register your interest, please call Greg Piggott 9680 3977 or 0413 747 214.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME

The next meeting will be this Tuesday 27 April at 4pm or 7.30pm or Saturday 1 May at 3.30pm in the Parish Hall for Children who will be receiving Confirmation and their parents.

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
 Sr Judy McLeod, rsm, Pastoral Associate
 Mr Luke Hackett, Pastoral Associate (Youth)
 Mrs Frances Gallagher, Office Manager
 Mrs Monica Rubic, Parish Secretary (Finance: Mon-Thu)
 Mr Darren Edwards, Maintenance

Mass Times for this Week

Sunday Sat 6.00pm
 Sun 7.30am, 9.00am, 10.30am &
 6pm Parish LIFE TEEN Youth Mass

Weekdays Mon 8.00am
 Tue 6.45am
 Wed 6.45am, 9.15am
 Thurs 6.45am, 9.15am
 Fri 6.45am, 9.15am
 Sat 8.00am

Mass on Public Holidays at 8.00am

Reconciliation Sat 8.30am-9.00am; 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 Margaret McAuley, Elizabeth Pinkerton, Betty Watts, Helen Heltay and Mary Woods who have died recently and for the anniversaries of Indira Bansrapun, Martin & Rino Lazarie, Ellen Entwistle, Ampelia & Sante Nardo, Yama Go, John Kilby, Charles & Irene Davis and Michael Power.

Prayers for the Sick: Adeline Chong, Marj Orioles, Rita Gatt, Pablito Afable, Jim Tye, Antonietta Aloschi and Michael Dowson.

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – May 1 & 2

| ACOLYTES/ SERVERS | | LECTORS | MINISTERS OF COMMUNION |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|------------------------|
| VIGIL Zeno Hong S10 | Rebecca Barrett Tony Calabria Douglas/Felicity Carvalho | Iciar Quintana, Cynthia & Charles D'Emanuele, Alf Jacobs, Carmel James, Stephen & Janice MacMahon, Don & Remie de Leon | |
| 7.30AM Joe Josue S6 | Tony Falzon Patricia Bright John O'Dea | John O'Dea, Annemarie & Daryl Hill, Jennifer Wakeling, Matthew Troy, Fran Mulcahy | |
| 9.00AM Budi Kawiadji S7 | Trevor O'Shea Brian Blacklock Joanne O'Shea | David/Bettina Green, Sally Healey, John & Lois Donnelly, Aida Pereira, Von & Mike Lulan, Brian & Katrina Fitzalan | |
| 10.30AM Edy Kesuma S8 | Tony Smith Philip Golanco Trinity Abbertson-Woo | Buds Custodia, Campion, Rani & Cherani Fernando, Kerry Myers, Natalie Parmenter, Sandra & Johan Nelis, Rosary Roco | |

6.00 PARISH LIFE TEEN YOUTH MASS MINISTRY ROSTER - May 2

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|---|---|--|--|---|
| Adult Servers Gillian Pak Marc Clasquin | Extraordinary Ministers of Communion Belinda Lee Mitchell Waters Darren Edwards Ian Pomeroy | | Musos | |
| Lectors Stef Musgrave Jen Austin Raquel Lobo | | | Bass Erich Gracias Flor | Singers Darian Jessup-Lonsdale Julia Calixto Monique O'Callaghan Natalie Jones Maree Calabria |
| Altar Servers S9 | Projectionist Larissa O'Callaghan | | Guitar Michael Smith | |
| Gift Preparation Jeremy Smith Mitchell Johnson-Green | Ushers Alfonso Aguilera | Welcomers Tony Muscat Tina Muscat | Horns/Strings/Winds Matthew Ashton | |

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| CHILDREN'S LITURGY Vicki Ford Shane Robinson | CHURCH HOUSEKEEPING Pat Kenna, Francesca Menezes, Moira Mitchell Maree McDermott, Margaret Sinha, | COUNTING (2nd Collection) Karl Proctor, Anne Cheung, John DeBrincat, Joe Morgan |
| FLOWER ROSTER Lorraine O'Mara | COUNTING (1st Collection) Barbara Ingram Marie Sammut | BOOKSHOP Joanne Barrett / Heather Woods / Bernadette Navarra / Barbara Halpin / Natasha Orioles |