



The Massabielle

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

JUNE 19 & 20, 2010 – TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year C

Issue Number 364

THE PILGRIMAGE BEGINS

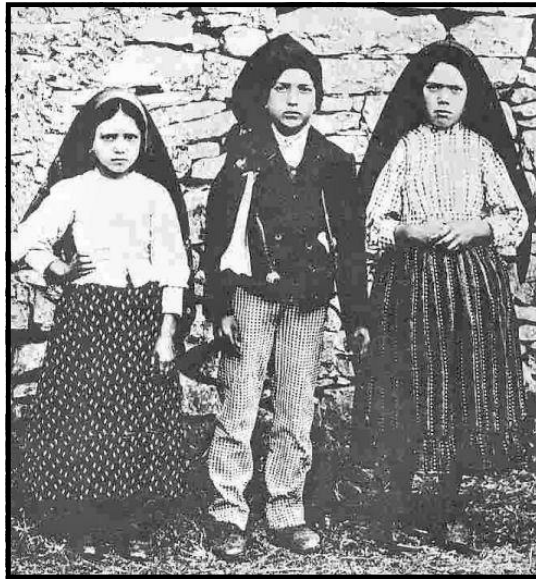
Goffrey Chaucer, in his *Canterbury Tales*, was not the first to write about a pilgrimage. The Acts of the Apostles uses a similar genre to tell a story in which Luke relates the saga of a pilgrimage made by Paul. Acts tells us about the people Paul met, and how he got to where he was going and what happened along the way. We are curious about the towns and places of interest he visited, to say nothing of the interesting people he encountered. I have decided to use the same literary form and put down an ordered account of the pilgrimage I am on; a pilgrimage that starts at Lisbon, the capital of Portugal and, along with my fellow pilgrims, will go to Fatima, Avila in Spain, Loyola, Lourdes, Lisieux, Chartres, Taize, Ars, La Salette and Turin in Italy. It will be like a religious episode of *Getaway*.

Firstly, the people. We are 35 pilgrims in number and are from all five states and territories. We also number four from New Zealand. Five of us are parishioners from Castle Hill. We range in age from nine to eighty-six years. There are fourteen men. We suffer from the most extraordinary medical conditions and physical ailments. We are more interesting than any of the characters in *The Canterbury Tales*.

We arrived in Lisbon in two groups. The group I was with was successful in negotiating baggage checks, customs, passport control and the thrill of going through the metal detector. One pilgrim with a few new prosthetic parts buried deep within her person aroused genuine excitement from the wand-carrying airport staff who, seeing the red lights and hearing the screeching sound of the metal detector, greeted her on the other side as a terrorist. The other

group had the usual delay with a faulty plane in Dubai, two lost passengers who failed to show when the new plane was ready to take off and the routine necessary when lost passengers can't be found of unloading all the baggage from the plane. The connecting flight had been missed through this inconvenience and Emirates staff said the next flight to Lisbon was in a couple of days but appeared to be booked out. There was the normal argument about payment for overnight accommodation in London and the resistance to having to pay extra monies in order to be issued with new air tickets with other airlines but, after

twenty-four hours, the Lost Group arrived in good spirits, only missing the Mass we celebrated in the house where St Anthony was born. He is the patron saint of lost things but finding the Lost Group's lost time with us was outside his chiasm. The first-time tour leader, a parishioner from Carlingford, was unfazed by all this and remained positive throughout and brought the Lost Group through, still in good spirits. He deserves a medal.



Jacinta, Francisco and Lucia

The appearance of Our Lady at Fatima to Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta in 1917 came at an interesting time in the history of Portugal. The country had dispensed with the monarchy in 1910 and the Portuguese leaders were persecuting the Church. The country had lost some of its colonies and, in a brave but unwise decision, the new Republic declared war on Germany in 1916. This was disastrous for Portugal.

Sometime in the spring or summer of 1916 an angel appeared to Lucia de Jesus dos Santos, and her cousins, Francisco and Jacinta Marto. He announced himself as an Angel of Peace. These appearances preceded that of Our Lady. The First

Apparition of Our Lady to Lucia, aged ten, her cousin Francisco, aged nine, and his sister, Jacinta, aged seven took place on May 13 in 1917. They took place on a small property belonging to the dos Santos family called Cova da Iria.

We visited the houses of the three children. The photo you can see of the three children is taken outside the Marto Family's house. The house is at Aljustrel in the parish of Fatima, about five kilometres from the church. The house was built in 1888. Inside the modest dwelling lived the parents, Olimpia and Manuel and nine children. Francisco died in this house, aged 11, a victim of pneumonia. Jacinta was to follow with a young death, dying when she was nearly ten. Lucia died early in 2005 aged 97 years.

The day we arrived I was asked to give a meditation, in English, on the Fourth Sorrowful Mystery of the Rosary in the shrine that opens onto the main square. It houses the statue of Our Lady of Fatima. Other priests spoke in other languages about the First, Second, Third and Fifth Mysteries. The following day I concelebrated Mass in the same place, leading the celebration in English. I persuaded an Irish priest to preach. Last Sunday I concelebrated Mass with about two hundred priests, three bishops and thousands of people. The statue of Our Lady of Fatima was carried in procession to the altar. There were hundreds of people in wheel chairs and others were processing on their knees saying the rosary. The Second Reading was in English, but that was all the English we heard in a Mass that took just on three hours. Each night there has been a candle-light procession which I know I will remember all my days.

Father John

LITURGY CORNER

During some periods of the early history of the Church, Christians were persecuted and often faced death if they witnessed to their faith. The Church pays great honour to those who pay the ultimate price and become martyrs. Very few people are called upon today to literally give up their life for their faith, but it does still happen. Those who do give up their lives are those who, in dangerous situations, respond to Jesus' question "Who do you say I am?" by living lives which point directly to their conviction that Jesus is the Son of God and is one with the Father and the Holy Spirit.

adapted The Summit.



Today's Readings

First Reading: Zech 12:10-11,13:1. Zechariah's prophecy about those who look on one who is pierced was seen by the early Church as being fulfilled in the crowds gazing on the crucified Christ.

Second Reading: Galatians 3:26-29. When we are baptised into Christ all the social distinctions that lie at the heart of human society are laid aside before the unity that we share in Christ.

Gospel: Luke 9:18-24. Jesus makes it clear that he will be a Messiah who will only bring life when he has been rejected and crucified.

Next week: 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C
1 Kings 19:16,21; Galatians 5:1,13-18; Luke 9:51-62.

Feast Days this Week

Monday 21 June - St Aloysius Gonzaga
Thursday 24 June - Birth of St John the Baptist

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

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

A Tribute to Adeline

Last Thursday I had the privilege of representing the school at a Requiem Mass for Mrs Adeline Chong. Adeline taught Catholic scripture classes and coordinated Catholic scripture at Castle Hill Public School for many years. She passed away after a long and difficult battle with cancer. Staff and students remember Adeline as a gentle and caring woman of great generosity of spirit. She always modelled patience, thoughtfulness, faithfulness and compassion to students both within the school and beyond. Adeline continued to work in the school until surgery required the removal of her vocal chords last year. Adeline was a shining example of volunteerism in the school. Our children are extremely fortunate to be surrounded by the love and care they experience every day from volunteers like Adeline.

Mr Bryan Mullan
Principal, Castle Hill Public School
(excerpt from the weekly newsletter)

THE CATENIANS will meet for dinner at the Hills Lodge, cnr Windsor and Salisbury Roads, Castle Hill this Tuesday 22 June at 7.00pm. If any male parishioners are interested in learning about the group, they are welcome to come along. Ring Malcolm on 9639 1915.

Immaculée Ilibagiza a survivor of the Rwandan genocide, has worked with the United Nations and is now married with two children. She travels the world giving her testimony about forgiveness. You can see her at 'Theology on Tap' at PJ Gallagher's Irish Pub, cnr Church & Park St, Parramatta on 5 July at 7.30pm or St Mary's Cathedral Hall on 4 July at 2pm or at St Benedict's Hall, Notra Dame University at 10.30am on 5 July. For details: Therese 9651 3028.

MISSION APPEAL TODAY

The annual appeal for Catholic Missions will take place in this parish today. We welcome Mr Eddie Leszczynski, director of the Pontifical Mission Society for Parramatta Diocese, who will speak at all Masses.

VINNIES thanks all donors for their generosity. The end of the Financial Year is now very close so please remember that donations over \$2 are tax deductible. Receipts will be given to those who provide their name and address.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS 10/11: Get your new edition now and enjoy another year of great savings. At \$60 for Parramatta/Hills edition or \$65 Sydney North & Sydney, these books are the best value ever! Check out the sample books in the foyer. Books are available from the Parish Office during office hours. Funds raised support our Life Teen Youth Ministry.

With the end of the Financial Year fast approaching, would you please bring your contributions up-to-date, and please notify the Parish Office if you have changed your address or any other details.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME INFORMATION EVENINGS for families seeking First Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Communion for their children in 2011 will be held at 7.30pm on Monday July 26 and Tuesday July 27, 2010 in the Parish Hall.

ALPHA COURSE: Alpha will be held again this year commencing the last week of July on various evenings. Invite a Non Churched or Non Christian friend, neighbour or family member to learn more about Jesus and Christianity. Come and be refreshed yourself. The Alpha course will be held over 10 weeks and each evening will include a meal, DVD and discussion. The sessions will be run in various homes. Enquiries to Mike and Von on 9899 1383 or contact the Parish Office. Course content details on Alpha.org.au.



SEMINAR AND REFLECTION DAY - 'The Gift of Life, Spirituality & Creation' on Saturday June 26 from 9.30am to 2.30pm at McAuley Rooms, 6 Victoria Rd, Parramatta presented by Alexandra Kovats, internationally known lecturer on spirituality and ecology. BYO lunch. Morning tea provided. Cost \$30. See the noticeboard for details.

'HANDLING PERSONAL FINANCES' The Solo Parent Ministry (Stepping Beyond) is offering an Information Night on the topic of "Handling Personal Finances" for anyone who is interested in coming along. "Stepping Beyond" is usually for those who are separated or divorced, but this topic may well be of interest to many others who are challenged by financial restraints and commitments. Mr. William Vogels, Accredited Financial Counsellor, will be conducting this session. Venue: Diocesan Assembly Centre (Downstairs room), 1 – 5 Marion St. Blacktown on Wed. 30th June at 6.30pm for 7.00pm formal start. **BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL.** 99330205 or eileen.quade@ccss.org.au.



Youth & Young Adults Ministry



LIFE Nights presents **Road Work Ahead** (for grades 9 to 12 and bring a friend). Next Sunday night, 27th June after the youth mass in the Hall under the church till 8:30pm. Bring \$2 donation for food, drink.

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

Young Adults (ages 18-35yrs) in the Marian Centre on Wednesday 23rd June 7 till 8:30pm. Join together with other Young Catholics for inspiration. Bring \$2 donation. For more information contact youth ministry on 0420 594 277 or email ym@stbernadette.org.au

LIFETEEN Leaders Training Weekend (for young adults aged 18-35yrs). If you are interested in being involved in the youth ministry in the parish this is for you. From 2nd July at 7pm till 3rd July at 4pm in Kurrajong. Cost is \$50 with all food and accommodation provided. For more information or to register contact youth ministry on 0420 594 277 or email ym@stbernadette.org.au

SOUL FOOD presents "E10". This is the next combined young adults activity on 29th June from 6:30 till 9:00 at the Castle Hill Tavern (25 Victoria Ave Castle Hill in the upper room).

DIOCESAN YOUTH MASS: 25 June All youth and young adults are invited to the Diocesan Youth Mass and launch of pilgrim packages to World Youth Day 2011 in Madrid. St Patrick's Church, 59 Allawah St, Blacktown. Reconciliation & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 6.30-7pm. Holy Mass at 7pm followed by supper. For catering purposes RSVP by 21 June to youth@parra.catholic.org.au

LIFE BEGINS AT 50 Cards/Mahjong on Friday June 25 in the Marian Centre at 7.30pm.



ST BERNADETTE'S CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP meets in the Lourdes Centre, 31b Brisbane Rd, Castle Hill on Thursday evenings 7.30 to 8.30. Newcomers very welcome. Please contact Marilou 9680 4531 or sandejas@ozemail.com.au or Lesley 9873 1321 or jandlmaker@optusnet.com.au.

PATRICIAN CLUB REUNION All former members of the Patrician Club, Parramatta are invited to attend a reunion picnic to be held in the Casuarina section of Nurragingy Reserve, Knox Road, Doonside on Sunday, 27 June, 2010 from 10am onwards. BYO. For further details contact Pat Batic on 9831 2002.

CERDON COLLEGE MERRYLANDS 50th Anniversary Dinner for former staff, students & parents will be held at Rosehill Gardens on Saturday 28 June at 7.00pm. Cost \$90. Phone 9632 8759 or email cerdon@parra.catholic.edu.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
 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 6.45 am
 Tue 6.45am
 Wed 6.45am, 9.15am
 Thurs 6.45am, 9.15am
 Fri 6.45am, 9.15am
 Sat 8.00am

Reconciliation Sat 8.30am-9.00am; 4.30pm-5.30pm

Mass on Public Holidays at 8.00am

Sacramental Preparation Program 2011: Information nights for families seeking First Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Communion are in the parish hall at 7.30pm on July 26 & 27, 2010.

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]

Please pray for Adeline Chong, Lynne Moraza, Brendan Bradley and Fr Carol Grew who have died recently and for the anniversaries of Herbert Taylor, Peter Mitchell, Natividad Suiza, Cielo Bernardino and Miguel Fidel and in remembrance of all forgotten souls.
Prayers for the Sick: Michael Dowson.

St

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – June 26 & 27

| ACOLYTES/ SERVERS | LECTORS | MINISTERS OF COMMUNION |
|---|---|---|
| VIGIL John Maker S6 | Jenny Quinn John Geoghegan Daniel Mezger | Felicity Carvalho, Lourice Asmar, Patrick Bowie, Rod Boyd, Laura Burrige, Ignatius/Natalia Chui, Lynne Myers, Barbara Ortlepp, Mary McMahon |
| 7.30AM Stephen MacMahon S7 | Catherine Seddon Paul Hennessey Sue Pinkerton | Lina Josue, Alfred & Gladys Tsang, Colleen & Eric Woodhead, Jo Wickens |
| 9.00AM Philip Myers S8 | Sharon/Edwin Rogers Aida Pereira Lina Josue | Karen & David Askey, Christine & Hubert Jenneke, Cathy & Greg Piggott, Trevor & Joanne O'Shea, Lena Madry |
| 10.30AM Melvyn Myers S9 | Michael Abrahams Kerry Myers Anthea Hannan | Anita Christy, Pauline Camilleri, Dorothy Finucane, Elizabeth Fogolin, Philip & Yolanda Golamco, Margaret Hawkes, Winnie & Henry Li |

6.00 PARISH LIFE TEEN YOUTH MASS MINISTRY ROSTER - June 27

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|--|--|------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Adult Servers | Extraordinary Ministers of Communion Belinda Lee Kate Eagleston Annalyce Hangan Monica O'Callaghan Chris Dogulin | | Musos | |
| Lectors Vanessa Muscat Tina Muscat Brenda Clasquin | | | Bass Erich Gracias Flor | Singers Alison Wong |
| Altar Servers S10 | Projectionist Matthew Ashton | | Piano Alice Bradshaw | Annabel Irawan Darian Jessup- Lonsdale |
| Gift Preparation Jeremy Smith Mitchell Johnson-Green | Ushers Paul Musgrave Phillip Smith | Welcomers | Guitar Daniel Ang | Sara Ang Veronica Sahabu |
| | | | Horns/Strings/ Winds | Bec Burrowes |

| | | |
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| CHILDREN'S LITURGY Jana Fizely Shane Robinson | CHURCH HOUSEKEEPING Jeannette Leach, Cathy Teh, Joanne Leach, Alicia Maunsell | COUNTING (2nd Collection) John Loftus, Mila Mina, Joe Busittill, Joseph Collorafi |
| FLOWER ROSTER Tess de la Concepcion | COUNTING (1st Collection) Bert Hofstaetter Helga Hofstaetter | BOOKSHOP Joanne Barrett / Rose Huby / Bernadette Navarra / Barbara Halpin / Natasha Orioles |