

Reflection by Richard Leonard SJ

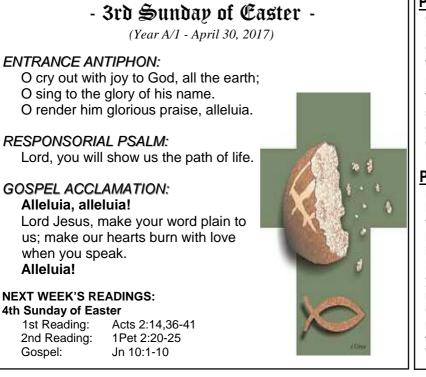
Whith very good reason, the story of the road to Emmaus is thought to be the best parallel we have in the New Testament to our weekly celebration of the Eucharist. This idea could be a little surprising for some who might think the Last Supper would hold more similarities. Luke, however, reminds his community, who are like us, that even though they, like us, are prevented from seeing Jesus, they can still have a life-changing experience of his presence.

The disciples are on a journey of faith and Jesus meets them where they are, as they are. This is a critical detail in the story. Jesus listens to their expectations, hopes and disappointments and only after they have expressed the reality of their situation, does Christ open the scriptures to them. In doing so he takes their disillusionment and enables them to see the connections with the story of salvation. This leads them to hope. Even then, they do not recognise who Jesus is until he breaks the bread and in that action he is revealed as the one in whom they had been hoping. This experience drives them back to Jerusalem to witness to the power of Christ's resurrection.

Every Sunday as part of our journey of faith we embark on our road to Emmaus. There is never any point in us coming here pretending to be different from how we actually feel and who we are. God sees our hearts and minds and wants to meet us in the midst of our lives, whatever they may be like. The Emmaus story teaches us that Jesus firstly wants to listen to us before he wants us to listen to Him. the disciples and their lives, in the same way that the Eucharist is not just about our lives either. Christ opens the scriptures to us each week so that we can make sense of our experience, see the ways in which God is present and absent and recognise our own foolishness. As with the Emmaus disciples, we are welcomed to the table of the Lord where we recognise Christ in the breaking of the bread and the pouring of the cup. This meal enables us to go out from here and proclaim to all we meet that Christ is risen.

One of the things the Church values most deeply is its connection to the experience of the earliest Church. And rightly so. It's a great privilege for us to recall that what we do here each Sunday is built upon the faith and weekly celebration of countless generations. */Cont'd P4...*

Emmaus, however, was not just about



PARISH PRAYER:

God our Father, bless this parish so that we may love you more. Help the parents to be a good example to the children and our youth to grow in strength as good Christians.

Encircle our families with your loving care. To the sick grant health, to the aged bring serenity and to those in sorrow, joy. May we grow stronger in faith and may our love for one another become deeper in our daily living. Amen.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS:

Heavenly Father, help us to respond to and live out our mission in the Church, and in the world.

Help all your people to know their vocation in life and assist them to live it well.

For your greater glory and for the service of your people, call many to be priests and religious.

Give those whom you call the grace to respond generously and to persevere faithfully.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The St Michael's Parish at Prayer

WEEKEND MASSES: Holy Family, Bell Park:

Ss Peter & Paul's, Geelong West: Holy Spirit, Manifold Hts: English... 8am and 9.30am Sunday 6.00pm Saturday 5.00pm Saturday 11am 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays Croatian... 11am Sunday 11am 2nd & 4th Sundays Slovenian.. 12.15pm every 2nd Sunday of the month

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Holy Family: 9.15am Tues, 9.15am Thurs Holy Spirit: 9.00am Wed, 11am Fri and 9am 1st Sat. Reconciliation after Saturday Mass Grace McKellar Centre: 10.15am - 1st Tuesday Maryville Nursing Home: 11am 1st & 3rd Friday Multicultural Centre: 1.30pm - 1st Friday; 3.00pm 1st & 3rd Monday, (2nd & 4th Communion Service) Vincentian Village: St John of God Hospital: 11.30am every Thursday in SJOG Chapel

BAPTISMS:

1st & 3rd Sundays 12noon at Holy Spirit, 2nd & 4th Sundays 12noon at Ss P&P, 3rd Sunday 2pm at Holy Family

COMMUNAL PRAYER:

Mon	Holy Family Women's Prayer Group
Tues	Meditation Group
Wed	Prayer of the Church
Wed	Holy Family Women's Prayer Group
Thurs	Italian Prayer Group
Fri	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Fri	Divine Mercy
Sat	Rosary

5.30pm Before 9am Mass 10.00am 10.00am After 11am Mass 3.00pm After 9am Mass

10.00am

Holy Family Community Centre Holy Family Community Centre Holy Spirit Church Holy Family Community Centre St Patrick's Chapel Holy Spirit Church Holy Spirit Church Holy Spirit Church

OUR LADY'S STATUE:

If anyone would like to have Our Lady's Statue or if you could spare an hour a month to help, ph Tina Montalto on 5278 9314.

AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

RECENT DEATHS: ANNIVERSARIES:	Betty Murphy, Antonietta Rizzo (Italy), John Kilmartin, Silvio Rusac (Croatia) Joseph & John Brady, Rosa & Natale Cucinotta, Angelo Negro, Eileen Featherstone, Rosario Rizzo, Anna DeAngelis, Giovanno Lidia, Anne McGlinchey, Richard Tolkin, Charlotte Henderson, Angelina Depalma and one year anniv of Kitty Millns (Ireland)
BAPTISMS:	Ryan Flowers, Jordan Rochford and Shepherd Vine
PRAY FOR THE SICK:	Joanne Straughan, Anita Capicchiano, June Smith, Cheryl Lambert, Ana Siketa, Johann Angerbaure, Hilary Thornton, Joe Gwizdek

Roster for Next Sunday, May 7, 2017

(1st Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators Lectors **Special Ministers** Welcomers Projectionist

HOLY SPIRIT:

8.00AM

R Allum V Pavlovic J Bartolo, B McFarlane, I Baulch K McArthur R Allum

6.00PM

Commentators Lectors **Special Ministers** Welcomers Projectionist

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators Lectors **Special Ministers** Welcomers Projectionist

J O'Neill M Abbott, D Torpy, C Laffy

M Kroger

5.00PM

C O'Brien Sr J McGonigal N Neeld, P McGlinchey **B** Pleasance D Whelan

9.30AM

J Siketa C&J Taylor P Carmody, B Kline, D&M Horoba M&E Hoffman C Resciniti

11.00AM

C Neilson B Middleton, M Wright R Pugh, V Trinder I Cleary, L Fossey L Coles

Recurring Activities in St Michael's:

St Michael's Luncheon... Holy Family Luncheon.. Holy Family Women's Group... St Vincent de Paul...

Legion of Mary... Baptism Preps Holy Family Choir Practice... Manifold CWL... Italian Mass... Catholic Diners' Club... First Sunday of each month at the Holy Spirit Hall from 12noon. BYO food and drink to share. Third Sunday of each month at the Community Centre from 12noon. **BYO casserole & drink to share.** First Monday evening of each month at the Community Centre 7.00pm Holy Family meet 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at the Community Centre 7.30pm. Holy Spirit meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays 7.00pm in Holy Spirit Hall Every Friday 9.30am in the Holy Family Community Centre 4th Mondays 7.30pm in the Community Centre Every Wednesday night at Holy Family Church 7pm Holy Spirit Hall, 1st Wednesdays in the month First Thursday of the month in St Patrick's Chapel 2nd Tues of each month, 6.15pm at Capri Receptions. Dinner/Guest Speaker - ph 0431 959 584

If you wish to know more about these groups, as well as about our Sacramental Program for children in non-Catholic schools, our Baptism and Wedding procedures, our Partnership with the Columbans in the Philippines and so on, please visit our webpage:

FAREWELL AND THANKYOU TO TRISH STICKLAND:

After thirteen very productive years in the Pastoral Cluster, Trish has decided to retire. Trish has made an important and valuable contribution to the life of the Parish. She has been instrumental in the successful transition of the three parishes into one amalgamated parish. She has done this through her fine administrative prowess, the initiation and oversight of Fr Mick's Relay for Life Team, as well as having a key role in our Philippines Partnership Program. Over the last thirteen years there has been considerable renovation and restoration of Churches and it's been Trish's input and management that has brought these projects to a successful fruition. There have been many other endeavours that Trish has been involved in and for that both Fr Mick and I have been most grateful. On your behalf I extend heartfelt thanks to Trish for all that she has done for this community. *(Fr Gerard)*

Congratulations

To Marie Brown who celebrated her 100th birthday on Easter Sunday. Marie asked that in lieu of presents she be given donations to Sr Kate for the Kuya Center. The donations from the 100th Birthday raised \$1,005 and Marie would like to thank people for their kindness and generosity.

Liturgy in the Cluster:

THANKYOU, THANKYOU, THANKYOU!

Fr Rolyn and I would like to offer thanks for the generous effort of so many in our Easter Celebrations. Holy Week is central to our Catholic Christian faith and again we have celebrated the various elements of this time very well - the Mass of Anointing with Luncheon afterwards; the Second Rite of Reconciliation; Holy Thursday; Stations of the Cross; the Good Friday Ceremony; the two Easter Vigils (including the newly introduced Vigil at 5pm Ss Peter & Paul's) and the Easter Sunday Masses, which were accompanied with Baptisms of babies and Primary School-aged children. To achieve such a prayer filled array of ceremonies involved the work of the generosity of effort and spirit of so many people. Thankyou for a job well done! (*Fr Gerard & Fr Rolyn*)

April 30... 1st Eucharist Commitment Mass - Ss Peter & Paul's 11am.

NB: This is an extra Mass

May 7...Extra Mass at Ss Peter & Paul's - 9.30am First Eucharist for the children of St Pat's
Welcome of Primary School Aged Children into the Catholic Church - 9.30am Holy Family
Extra Mass at Ss Peter & Paul's - 11am First Eucharist for the children of St Pat's

OFFICE NEWS:

- **Thanksgiving Envelope Pickup (next weekend)** Envelope numbers relate to the parish church you usually attend.
 - 1-999 (Holy Family) 1000-1999 (Holy Spirit) 2000-2999 (Ss Peter & Paul's)

Please check your envelope number. If it does NOT correspond to the church you usually attend (as above), please contact Bernadette at the Parish Office THIS WEEK.

Any other Thanksgiving questions or issues, please contact Bernadette at the Office on 5278 1343 or email <u>cluster@cam.org.au</u>

Any emails that were directed c/o Trish Stickland - <u>trish.stickland@cam.org.au</u>, please now direct to <u>cluster@cam.org.au</u>





Community News:

- CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE
 Manifold CWL will be holding a Blumes Fashion Show 2pm in Holy Spirit Hall, Bostock Ave, on Friday 5th May, 2017. Change room available. Pay and collect garments on day \$5 entry includes afternoon tea and raffle ticket. For transport contact Jeanette Sheahan 5278 2063 or Noella Duggan 5278 2142.
- Melbourne Diocesan 2017 Conference for Catholic Women's League will be held at Mary Glowrey House, Nicholson St Fitzroy, on Wednesday 3rd May with morning tea at 9.30am. Cost \$15 includes lunch and raffle ticket. Guest speakers will be Rev Fr Rolyn Vics and Fiona Basile. Mass will be celebrated at the venue 12noon with day concluding at 3pm. For information contact President -Jeanette Sheahan 5278 2063 or Secretary - Colleen Neilson 0418 789 604.
- April 30... TOM HEALEY PLAYS THE ORGANS OF GEELONG GRAMMAR: 3pm Geelong Grammar School Corio (Chapel & Music School) Admission free car park access from school rd. Enquiries ph 0352 739 275
- May 4... KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS: Invitation to members, ladies and friends to a Social Day Out at Queenscliff. 10am Cottage By the Sea, Morning Tea, Video Presentation and Guided Tour. 12.30pm Lunch at Bowling Club "Rip View Bistro". Ring Frank Khan 5243 4926 with numbers attending by **April 27**. Shared transport available if required.
- May 10... SACRED HEART COLLEGE CIRCLE OF MERCY COMMUNITY EVENING: Rev Dr Kevin Yelverton will present "Mercy: The Ecumenical Glue" 7-8.30pm in Celies Hospitality Centre, SHC. Supper is provided, all welcome. More details available on website <u>shcgeelong.catholic.edu.au</u> RSVP by **May 2** on 5222 0467 or <u>rchiav@shcgeelong.catholic.edu.au</u>
 - " SISTERS OF THE HOLY ANGELS LUNCHEON: 12noon at the Holy Spirit Hall, Bostock Ave. Cost \$10 all welcome!

A PASTORAL LETTER TO THE CATHOLICS OF VICTORIA FROM VICTORIAN BISHOPS ON EUTHANASIA/ASSISTED SUICIDE LEGISLATION:

A note from the Archbishop -

As you may know, the Victorian Parliament will debate an assisted suicide or euthanasia bill sometime in the second half of 2017. Over the next few months the Life, Marriage and Family Office in the Melbourne Archdiocese will develop resources that will support our efforts in providing prayer support, information and opportunities for the faithful to become involved.

At the back of each Church there is a copy of the Bishops of Victoria Pastoral Letter on this issue

AN EVENING WITH DR MIRIAM-ROSE UNGUNMERR (AO):

Dr Miriam-Rose Ungunmerr (AO) is an Aboriginal elder from Nauiyu (Daly River), where she served for many years as the Principal of St Francis Xavier Primary School. She is a renowned artist, activist, writer and public speaker. Her achievements have been recognised in the awarding of an honorary PhD in Education and being made a Member of the Order of Australia in 1998. STEWARDSHIP CORNER - 3rd Sunday of Easter

The details...

- Cost \$20 Adults, Children U/16 free
- Date Thursday June 1
- **Time** 7.00 8.30pm
- Place St Joseph's College, Performing Arts Centre, Gate 5/6 Queens Rd, Newtown

Contact - Julie 0438 623 961 or Megan 0415 811 885

Jesus. Just like any friendship, there is give and take, each side listening to each other and helping each other out.

"Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the scriptures?" (Lk 24:32)

How often do we take the time to discern what Jesus wants from

us? Are our prayers always petitions, asking Jesus to do things

for us? If so, that's a one-sided relationship.

Living our faith means developing a personal relationship with

Take time in silence to listen to what Jesus is asking of you.

/From P1...

And though, appropriately, many things can be different in various cultural settings for the Eucharist throughout the world, several elements always stay the same. It is the Risen Christ who accompanies us, listens to us, opens our minds to the scriptures, hosts us at his table, and sends us out to tell the world that He has been raised from the dead.

This is the best way to understand ourselves as 'traditional Catholics'. We share with thousands of generations the same fire of God's faithful love burning in our hearts as we are welcomed here each week, are listened to, taught, nourished and sent out to do our bit for the coming of Christ's Kingdom.