

I know a Catholic woman in America who grew up in Eastern Europe under Communism. In her homeland public worship was suppressed, and any gesture suggesting rejection of atheism could be brutally punished.

In her early twenties she emigrated to America. Now that she was in the land of the free, she expected that the practice of her faith would be easy. Yet she actually found it harder to be a Christian in America. Why should this be?

Back home, she had to defend her faith. The more she was called upon to defend it, the stronger it grew. Instead of extinguishing the spark of faith, persecution fanned that spark into a flame. The faith was all the more precious because she had to fight for it every day. She depended on it every day. It was like oxygen to a mountain climber.

But in America that was no longer the case. Easier times give rise to timidity, indolence, and that corrosive secular spirit that creeps in and takes over. There was a danger that religion would become consolatory and devotional - a thing confined to church going and the saying of prayers.

The excessive materialism of America - the search for money and wealth above all else - was dissolving religious tradition even more quickly than was happening under Communism.

She also found that in America things were very confused. The lines between good and evil were not so clearly defined. There was not the same respect for the clergy. It came as a shock to discover that people could be indifferent to what was the core-value of her life.

It shows how we value what we have to work for. A thing becomes precious because of the sacrifices we have made for it. In a cold climate we value a fire, and tend it carefully.

Flor McCarthy SDB



St Gregory's Parish Faith Community

47 Lowe St, Queanbeyan NSW

PH: 02 6299 4611

St Raphael's (main church), St Gregory's (no weekend services),
and St Patrick's Michelago.

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER YR C

30 April & 1st May 2022

VISION: Our Parish is a vibrant community inviting everyone to encounter Christ.

MISSION: To go and make disciples, to be a servant to each other and to be a people who reach out to those in need. We are guided by the LIFE of Jesus; sustained by the LOVE of God; and inspired by the LIGHT of the Holy Spirit.

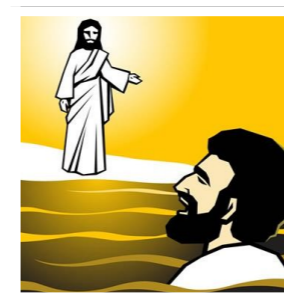


REFLECTION

The story of Peter shows how easy it is to fall. But it also shows us that it is possible to get up again after a fall and to put it behind us.

Merciful God, fill our hearts with your love. Give us the grace to rise above our human weakness, and keep us faithful in loving you and one another.

Flor McCarthy SDB



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Saturday
5.30pm Vigil Mass

Sunday
9.00am Mass
Sunday 5.30pm Mass

Monday
No Mass

Tuesday
5.30pm Mass

Wednesday
12noon Mass

Thursday
7am Mass

Friday
12noon Mass
11.00-11.55 Exposition & Adoration

Baptisms
St Raphael's Church
Sundays 10:30am

Marriages By appointment
Reconciliation by appointment

Michelago 2nd Saturday of the month
5.30pm or 6pm during Day Light Saving's time

Parish Team: Fr Troy Bobbin PP
Deacon Don Nguyen

Office Team: Lorraine Lasker & Rita Pelle
Parish Office is open Tues, Thurs & Friday
9am—3.30pm 6299 4611

St Gregory's School: 6297 2221

Principal: Mrs Claire Bermingham

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queanbeyan.sacramental@cg.org.au

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Facebook: St Gregory's Parish Queanbeyan
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Please pray for our sick:

Phillip Roy Anderson
Carmelo Bautista
Florence Bowell
John Church
Iole Cicolini
Elaine Cliff
Emmanuel Corpuz
Juliet and Rommel Estabillo
Helen Fraser
David Goldsmith
Gary Grady
Corazon Guemo
Anthony McGlynn
Gywen McIntyre
Anne McTernan
Loretta & Geoff Percival
Regina Paredes
Hayden Paterson
Maria Picker
Trishy Mary Rankin
Nathan Reynolds
Dora Sartor
Jack Sealey
Luz G Sinay
Mary Skidmore
Elisabeth Smyth
Miyako Sturgess (Tokyo)
Rosario B Surmiolda
Ljubica Vricic
John Warner
George Forbes House Residents
Warrigal & Heritage Residents

May they rest in peace:

Maria Rosin
Bruna Stortini
David Owens
Margaret Phillips
Derrick Rabel (Malaysia)
Elizabeth (Bessie) Halloran
Frank Domitrovic
Rita Notte
Madeline Thrift
Gina Mogentale (Italy)
Katarina Jozing
Giuseppe Colbertaldo,

Anniversary of Death:

Adam Staniforth (1yr)
Carlo De Luca (1yr)
Majella Etheridge (2yr)
Alessandro & Giovanna
Facchin
Szczeban & Marianna
Szustak
Heather Donoghoe
Robyn and Dean Dowling

Entrance Antiphon

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth;
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

First Reading Acts 5:27-32; 40-41

The high priest demanded an explanation of the apostles. 'We gave you a formal warning,' he said 'not to preach in this name, and what have you done? You have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and seem determined to fix the guilt of this man's death on us.' In reply Peter and the apostles said, 'Obedience to God comes before obedience to men; it was the God of our ancestors who raised up Jesus, but it was you who had him executed by hanging on a tree. By his own right hand God has now raised him up to be leader and saviour, to give repentance and forgiveness of sins through him to Israel. We are witnesses to all this, we and the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.' They warned the apostles not to speak in the name of Jesus and released them. And so they left the presence of the Sanhedrin glad to have had the honour of suffering humiliation for the sake of the name.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) **I will praise you, Lord,
for you have rescued me.**

- C. I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me and have not let my enemies rejoice over me. O Lord, you have raised my soul from the dead, restored me to life from those who sink into the grave
- L. Sing psalms to the Lord, you who love him, give thanks to his holy name. His anger lasts but a moment; his favour through life. At night there are tears, but joy comes with dawn.

ALL. The Lord listened and had pity. The Lord came to my help. For me you have changed my mourning into dancing; O Lord my God, I will thank you for ever.

Second Reading Rv 5:11-14

In my vision, I, John, heard the sound of an immense number of angels gathered round the throne and the animals and the elders; there were ten thousand times ten thousand of them and thousands upon thousands, shouting, 'The Lamb that was sacrificed is worthy to be given power, riches, wisdom, strength, honour, glory and blessing.' Then I heard all the living things in creation – everything that lives in the air, and on the ground, and under the

ground, and in the sea, crying, 'To the One who is sitting on the throne and to the Lamb, be all praise, honour, glory and power, for ever and ever.' And the four animals said, 'Amen'; and the elders prostrated themselves to worship.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Christ is risen, the Lord of all creation; he has shown pity on all people. Alleluia!

Gospel John 2:1-14

Jesus showed himself again to the disciples. It was by the Sea of Tiberias, and it happened like this: Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee and two more of his disciples were together. Simon Peter said, 'I'm going fishing.' They replied, 'We'll come with you.' They went out and got into the boat but caught nothing that night.

It was light by now and there stood Jesus on the shore, though the disciples did not realise that it was Jesus. Jesus called out, 'Have you caught anything, friends?' And when they answered, 'No', he said, 'Throw the net out to starboard and you'll find something.' So they dropped the net, and there were so many fish that they could not haul it in. The disciple Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord.' At these words 'It is the Lord,' Simon Peter, who had practically nothing on, wrapped his cloak round him and jumped into the water. The other disciples came on in the boat, towing the net and the fish; they were only about a hundred yards from land.

As soon as they came ashore they saw that there was some bread there, and a charcoal fire with fish cooking on it. Jesus said, 'Bring some of the fish you have just caught.' Simon Peter went aboard and dragged the net to the shore, full of big fish, one hundred and fifty-three of them; and in spite of there being so many the net was not broken. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' None of the disciples was bold enough to ask, 'Who are you?'; they knew quite well it was the Lord. Jesus then stepped forward, took the bread and gave it to them, and the same with the fish. This was the third time that Jesus showed himself to the disciples after rising from the dead.

Communion Antiphon

The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.

ST GREGORY'S COIN CLUB - For the month of April we have collected for **Caritas**.

Collection for March & April is \$1000.00 Total running balance is ➡

For the month of May we will be collecting for the SVDP Night Van. With the funds raised we will purchase socks, gloves & beanies. If you would like to donate any of these the favored colour is **BLACK**.
Many thanks for your continuing generosity!



'Spread the Word'

- ◆ **At Home in the Spirit – St Gregory's Parish, Queanbeyan**
'If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit' – Gal. 5.25 4 May – 8 June: 6.30 - 8.30pm & 4 June - Pentecost prayer and worship: 7 - 9pm. Led by Jordan and Sarah Hodge and hosted by Frank and Selina Stanford at their home in Queanbeyan. At Home in the Spirit is open to all desiring a renewal or deepening of their faith. Talks, prayer, sharing and encounter night. Register or find out more from Selina on 0438664110. Spaces are limited.

- ◆ **We are planning a fantastic Pentecost celebration for 2022 with the theme "United by the Spirit".**
We are having a special gathering after mass on Pentecost Sunday, we would like to know and include your country of origin/cultural heritage in our preparations, we have 23 countries of origin so far so please would everyone write down the country's/culture's name and your name on the slip of paper on the EVENTS table and place it in the pink box. Thank you to everyone who has already shared their details.



Due to your very generous support to Caritas this year, we have surpassed last years total of \$3496. Our current figure is \$4563.25. We thank you all for your wonderful support. If you still have donations please return to the parish as soon as possible.

We are pleased to announce that Morning Tea will resume after the 9am Mass this weekend.



Good Shepherd Sunday Appeal next weekend

Collection for formation and education of our seminarians:

We have three seminarians studying for the priesthood. There are other young men too, considering the priestly calling. Let us invest in the future of our Church by financially supporting them. Please join us in generous giving. You can make a gift via:

By envelopes By giving at: www.cgatholic.org.au/goodshep By calling: (02) 6239 9801
May Jesus, our High Priest, raise up a whole generation of new priests in our Archdiocese!

Fr Mark Croker celebrated his silver jubilee in February. As most of you would know Fr Mark from when he was in Queanbeyan & Bungendore. An invitation has been extended to our parishioners who would like to attend 9.30am Mass on Sunday 8th May, followed by morning tea at Holy Spirit Parish, Gungahlin to celebrate his silver jubilee. No RSVP is required and the address is 93 Burdekin Ave, Amaroo.