

Only a mother could love them...

A woman gets on a bus with her baby. The bus driver says: *"That's the ugliest baby that I've ever seen. Ugh!"* The woman goes to the rear of the bus and sits down, fuming. She says to a man next to her: *"The driver just insulted me!"* The man says: *"You go right up there and tell him off - go ahead, I'll hold your monkey for you."*

Little Old Ladies

A young man shopping in a supermarket noticed a little old lady following him around. If he stopped, she stopped. Furthermore she kept staring at him. She finally overtook him at the checkout, and she turned to him and said, *"I hope I haven't made you feel ill at ease; it's just that you look so much like my late son."* He answered, *"That's okay."* *"I know it's silly, but if you'd call out 'Goodbye, Mum' as I leave the store, it would make me feel so happy."*

She then went through the checkout, and as she was on her way out of the store, the man called out, *"Goodbye, Mum."* The little old lady waved, and smiled back at him. Pleased that he had brought a little sunshine into someone's day, he went to pay for his groceries. *"That comes to \$121.85," said the operator.* *"How come so much ... I only bought 5 items..."* The operator replied, *"Yeah, but your Mother said you'd be paying for her things, too."*

The Pilgrims are coming so here are some more facts to help us get to know Lithuania.

- * At the end of the 14th century, Lithuania was the largest country in Europe, ruled by Grand Duke Jogaila, Grand Duke of Lithuania (and crowned King of Poland in 1386).
- * Lithuania is divided into 10 counties, known as 'apskritis'. These are further divided into 60 municipalities or 'savivaldybės'. These are further divided into 500 elderates or 'seniūnijos'.
- * Lithuania is situated on the eastern side of the Baltic Sea, with 99 km of coastline. (Australia has 34,218 km of coastline)
- * Lithuania is bounded by the Baltic Sea to the west, Latvia to the north, Belarus to the east and Russia and Poland to the south.
- * In 2006-2007 Australia imported \$39 million of goods from Lithuania (\$27m in rubber tyres) and exported \$6 million of goods to Lithuania.
- * The main port of Lithuania is Klaipėda, with a population of approximately 190,000.
- * Famous Lithuanian foods are cold beet soup, Lithuanian sausage, potato pancakes and stuffed potato dumplings ('Cepelinai').

Come Holy Spirit

(Music: Traditional Anon.; Text: Joseph Sobb, SJ)
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Come, Holy Spirit, Lord of life, creation's power and breath.
Come dwell in us that we may live set free from sin and death.

For you are called the Advocate, sent forth from God above.
The living spring, the living fire, anointing of God's love.

In truth and justice guide our minds, with love our hearts inflame.
Confirm in us your gifts of grace, poured out in Jesus' name.

Come dwell in us, come pray in us, our strength and wisdom be.
Fulfill Christ's promise and our hope: be our integrity.

Through you may we Christ Jesus know, God's own beloved Son.
Teach us to follow him by faith, and through his word be one.

To God, the living and the true, our prayers and thanks we bring.
To God, the Trinity of love, in joyful praise we sing.

DWF APPEAL: Your donations to this month's Diocesan Works' Fund Pastoral Appeal on 18th May will help to support the ministries of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Parramatta – please give generously. A few of the ministries that benefit from the DWF are: Institute for Mission, Office of Co-ordinator of Social Justice, Youth & Young Adult Apostolate, Catholic Social Services, Children & Family Services to name a few. Envelopes will be on the seats in the Church over a two-week period.

Happy Birthday
Marg Ridoutt for 17th May

Happy Anniversary
Catherine & Terry Beaver
for 14th May



Happy Mothers' Day to all the Mums on their special day.

Sacred Heart Parish Dinner
to be held on
Saturday, 31st May
at The Manor House, Mt Victoria
from 6.30pm.

Three Course Dinner
\$35 p.p.
Beautiful surroundings.
Open Fire.
Tickets will be available
after Mass today.
Hope to see you there!



In memoriam: Kath Writer ~ 12 May

Receive the Power

(World Youth Day theme song)

Every nation, every tribe, come together to worship you.
In your presence we delight, we will follow to the ends of the earth.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Receive the Power from the Holy Spirit.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Receive the Power to be a light unto the world.

As Your Spirit calls to rise, we will answer and do Your will.
We'll forever testify of Your mercy and unfailing love.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Receive the Power from the Holy Spirit.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Receive the Power to be a light unto the world.

Lamb of God, we worship You. Holy One, we worship You.
Bread of Life, we worship You. Emmanuel, we worship You.
Lamb of God, we worship You. Holy One, we worship You.
Bread of Life, we worship You. Emmanuel, we will sing forever.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Receive the Power, from the Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Receive the Power to be a light unto the world.

Composer: Guy Sebastian and Gary Pinto
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Shine Jesus Shine

(Composer: Graham Kendrick)
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Lord, the light of your love is shining,
in the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us,
set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me, shine on me.

Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy,
send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light.

As we gaze on your kingly brightness,
so our faces display your likeness,
ever-changing from glory to glory,
mirrored here may our lives tell your story,
Shine on me, shine on me.

PENTECOST REFLECTION

Many years ago, amongst the Wurrundjerri people in Victoria, as it was most likely was with other Aboriginal peoples, it was the sacred task of the women in the tribe during the gray, wet winter months to carry the fire. Fire meant life. In the drizzle and the damp that we associate with the winter months, it was, of course, not possible to start fires at every new camp-site. The fire had to be carried. This was achieved by maintaining hot coals in shell cones bartered from the coastal people, like the Bunnarong. Upon setting up camp, the coals could be enflamed into life. It is not difficult to imagine what a vital and important duty it was to carry those shells with the coals inside them, carefully and with a great sense of responsibility.

The dreams we carry in our own hearts are a little like such coals within shells. What burning coal do we carry within our heart? What is it that promises us life, sustenance? And how do we keep breathing life into this glowing coal, so that from it many fires can be sparked?

We are guardians of a dream burning within us. The dream of Jesus of Nazareth - fire for our world, purifying and warming fire. A dream nurtured and maintained by our constant vigilance over it; its coal kept burning by our attentiveness in its regard. As coal won't keep alight on its own, we can never presume the vitality of this dream we nurse. Sometimes, painfully and all too late, we discover that the maintenance of the hot coals requires that we must sacrifice all that would make us forget them.

At Pentecost the Spirit's outpouring is presented through the imagery of tongues of fire. The Spirit is given us to enflame our faith, our hope, our love. Thus, in annually celebrating the memory of the first Pentecost, we renew our commitment and our responsibility for keeping the flame alive within our hearts, and in so doing, alive in our world. How do we guard the spark? What is the way in which we might keep breathing over the coals, breathing into them yet further life. One important way is through the sustained, reflective pondering of God's self-communication, the concentrated and disciplined task of listening to reality, the determination to be consciously searching, always; developing an ongoing, wondrous openness and receptivity to life, all through the ordinariness of human relationship. What do all these amount to, but to a burning intensity of vision and desire, the fire of love enflamed by a experience of life which has become transparent of Mystery. The external practicalities of our Christian practice serve no other purpose than the fostering of this flame.

This Pentecost let us ask ourselves what of the state of the coal of which we are heirs and now carry within our heart. Does it breathe? Is it aglow, present in our hearts in such a way that it can spark ever new fires and give warmth and sustenance to our world – the richness of life about which Jesus offers us? Or are we simply carrying charcoal?

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