

Spring is coming!

Bricks, mortar and fill required to be put into our new planter box at the front of the church.

Once we have filled this, we can then plant some beautiful spring flowers.

So, if you have any fill to get rid off from around your house, please place it in the planter box. Thanks for your help.

Pastoral Associate Position

St Anthony's Parish, Toongabbie, invites applications for the position of Pastoral Associate. The person in this role is accountable to the Parish Priest and would be required to work within a small Parish Team. This is a part-time position (20 hrs/week). For an information pack, please phone Fr Paul Marshall (02) 9631 3316.

Catholic Outlook: September issue

- * Year for Priests: Fr Suresh Kumar – youth chaplain
- * Gangland to Promised Land: a remarkable faith journey
- * Father's Day Appeal for Retired Clergy: 5-6 September
- * Launch of A Just Workplace guide for employers
- * Anointed & Sent: a vision for young Catholics
- * News from our Catholic schools

New Media for New Apostles: 8 September

Australasian Catholic Press Association presents a public address by Fr Roderick Vonhogen, founder of Star Quest Production Network, based in The Netherlands. www.sqpn.com specialises in the production of audio and video programs that promote the teachings of the Catholic Church. Its mission is to respond to the Church's call to use the media for religious information, for evangelisation, faith formation and education. Address sponsored by ACU National at the **ACU's Ryan Auditorium – MacKillop Campus, 40 Edward St, Nth Sydney.**
Time: 7-9pm. Cost: FREE.

Theology on Tap: Monday 7 Sept

No Turning Back: The conversion story of Fr Don Calloway (USA).
Where: PJ Gallagher's Irish Pub, 74 Church St, Parramatta at 6.30pm.
Details: www.theologyontap.com.au

Seminar on Ecumenism: 12 Sept

Oriental Churches and Aboriginal Spirituality. An opportunity for parish representatives – participants in the Certificate in Ecumenics & Interfaith Dialogue and anyone interested to meet and learn. Where: Institute for Mission, cnr Flushcombe Rd & Marion St, Blacktown. Time: 9.30am-3.30pm. Registrations: 9am (lunch provided). Bookings close 7 Sept. Call Maryann 9831 4911, ifm@tpg.com.au

Parramatta Marist Old Boys

All ex-students and teachers of Parramatta Marist High School are invited to their annual reunion at the Parramatta Leagues Club on Friday, 23rd October at 7pm. Bookings are essential. Call Mark Procajlo (02 9225 2597).

Part-time cleaner

St Patrick's Parish, Church Hill, has a vacancy for a part-time cleaner, 20 hrs/week. Includes general household cleaning. To register your interest, email your details to: tonyb@stpatschurchhill.org

Praying the Gospel Group

Please call Gabrielle on 4787 8999.

Reflection

by Dianne Bergant CSA

Jesus opens our eyes to the reality of God's presence in our midst, in the goodness of people and in the tenderness of life, even in its vulnerability. He opens our ears to hear the word of God spoken to us by others, revealed to us through the created world.

There is an eschatological dimension to being open to the word of God, because we are opened to hear something from the future. The prophets always speak about this future in the present tense. They see it happening already. Isaiah proclaims, 'Here is your God!' and the world is transformed. Jesus says 'Be open.' The good news always opens us to future possibilities, to personal and communal transformation, to a new creation. With the word of God, the future invades our present.

Although the eschatological future is already present to us, it is only unfolding, it has not yet opened completely. We still judge each other by appearances. We still miss the presence of God in the poor and the dispossessed, in those who suffer from disease or war or loneliness. We still shun those of another race, or those who have been shaped by another culture, or those who worship God in a different way. Although the eschatological future is already present, we have not yet put aside all of the biases of the past, we have not yet been fully transformed. But God has spoken, God has come to save us. God is trustworthy; God keeps faith forever.

Different standards



The queue in the bank lengthened while the teller explained things to a little old lady. Her daughter was with her. 'Have you got all that now Mum?' Mum obviously hadn't but the daughter was worried about all the people standing in line. 'Come on now, Mum, I'll explain it all when we get home.' I felt sorry for both of them but was relieved when they began to shuffle away. Suddenly the old lady stopped. There on the counter was a bowl of flowers. Dry flowers! The little lady just stood there and looked. 'Look dear, flowers in a bank. Now isn't that beautiful.' And she reached out reverently to touch them. Then she bent over to smell them. I felt several pairs of eyes fixed on her and the bowl of flowers. Were they all thinking what I was thinking? It's about time someone in a bank stopped to smell the flowers! I knew I was getting a message to do the same more often. Dear old lady, you held up a bank but you taught us about the beauty of taking time for more important things than money, not to mention your own beauty. Thank you! (Gordon)

© The Carmelite Sisters,
345 St Andrews Road,
Varroville NSW 2565.
Phone 02 9820 8199; fax 02 9820 3711
email: storyeditor@carmelprint.com.au
www.carmelprint.com.au



peoplespeak focuses on seeing the light of the gospel in daily events. By listening to the stories people tell of how the gospel illuminates their lives we become aware of the presence of Jesus within us and in those we meet. *peoplespeak* is produced with ecclesiastical approval by *Carmelprint* ©

Readers' contributions welcome.

SONG OF GOOD NEWS

Composer: Fr Willard Jabusch
(USED WITH PERMISSION, WORD OF LIFE
INTERNATIONAL LICENCE NO. 2201)

Open your ears,
O, Christian people,
Open your ears and
hear good news!
Open your hearts,
O, royal priesthood,
God has come to you.

**God has spoken
to His people,
Hallelujah!
And His words
are words
of wisdom,
Hallelujah!**

He who has ears
to hear His message:
He who has ears
then let him hear!
He who would learn
the way of wisdom,
let him hear God's word.

**God has spoken
to His people,
Hallelujah!
And His words
are words
of wisdom,
Hallelujah!**

Israel comes to greet
the Saviour;
Judah is glad to see His day!
From east and west
the peoples travel,
He will show the way.

YOU ARE MINE

Composer: David Haas
(USED WITH PERMISSION, WORD OF LIFE
INTERNATIONAL LICENCE NO. 2201)

I will come to you in the silence,
I will lift you from all your fear.
You will hear my voice,
I claim you as my choice,
be still and know I am here.

I am hope for all who are hopeless,
I am eyes for all who long to see.
In the shadows of the night,
I will be your light,
come and rest in me.

**Do not be afraid,
I am with you.
I have called you
each by name.
Come and follow me,
I will bring you home;
I love you and you are mine.**

I am strength for all
the despairing,
healing for the ones
who dwell in shame.
All the blind will see,
the lame will all run free,
and all will know my name.
(Refrain)

I am the Word
that leads all to freedom.
I am the peace
the world cannot give.
I will call your name,
embracing all your pain,
stand up, now walk, and live.
(Refrain)

Terra Spiritus

is an Australian Catholic
web magazine that
provides a rare space for
engagement with the
Spirit in our lives,
inspiring its readers to a
renewed and refreshed
experience of Christian
spirituality. Drawing on
specialist writers from
across Australia, *Terra
Spiritus* offers a range
of original articles on
spirituality, reflections on
prayer and relationships,
meditations on Scripture,
and even a virtual
online chapel.

Come, visit us today at
www.terraspiritus.com.au
A subscription to *Terra
Spiritus* also makes an
ideal gift for family or
friends!

Christian Traditions

The Catholic Adult Education
Centre is offering a two-day
intensive course on Christian
Traditions, covering the
history, beliefs and practices
of a variety of Christian
ecclesial communities.

**It will be given by
Peter Holmes with
guest lecturers from
other denominations
on September 17 to 18.**
Please see the flyer on the
notice board or contact the
Centre on 9643 3660.

Spirituality in the Pub 'Blessed Unrest'

Guest Speakers:

**Sr Margaret Ng rsj,
B.Ed, Dip.Counselling, M.P.S.**

Having taught in primary schools and worked
in Pastoral Care with Catholic ethnic groups
in Perth for many years, Sr Margaret came
to Sydney in 2005 to look at the issue of
Trafficking in Australia, to understand the
needs of, and to work with, those who have
been trafficked. She has attended Trafficking
courses in Melbourne and in Thailand and has
developed Networks with others working on the
issue of Trafficking. Her focus has been on a
holistic, culturally sensitive approach, working
towards eradicating Trafficking in Australia,
through awareness-raising, lobbying, advocacy
and working in collaboration with other groups
such as the Department of Immigration,
Australian Federal Police, the Salvation Army and
the Red Cross, to provide practical assistance to
meet the needs of trafficked persons.

Brett Trener

Brett Trener has been a Quaker for twenty
years. He describes his involvement in social
justice and peace activism as "seeking after
subversive wisdom". He also claims to having a
history of being a bit of a ratbag, a rabble rouser
and general troublemaker. He has an interest in
the dialectic of action and contemplation and
today follows a contemplative spiritual path.
He will talk about the paradox of inward peace
and the 'blessed unrest' of Love. He also hopes
to look at self righteousness and moralizing as
obstacles to following the often disturbing
leadings of the spirit. He lives with his partner
and two white fluffy dogs in the Mountains and
works as a sign language interpreter.

**Wednesday 9th September
from 7.30pm to 9.00pm**

**Gardners Inn Hotel
255 Great Western Highway, Blackheath.
Bistro meals at 6.00pm**

Information: Elizabeth 4787 6198