

Reflection
by Dianne Bergant CSA

Today we consider the call to continue the mission of Jesus by engaging in some form of ministry. The first and the last readings are called narratives; the epistle contains a statement of the faith that undergirds our response to our call; the psalm response celebrates the gracious goodness of God that makes all of this possible.

Our call is more than a summons to faith; it is a call to ministry. Isaiah is called in order to be sent; the fishermen are called in order to gather others to Jesus. So it is with us. We are called to be sent out to the world. This call comes to us in the ordinariness of life. It will usually come to us as we wash our nets or our dishes, as we teach or raise children, as we prepare a brief for trial or examine a patient; as we repair cars or work at the computer. The call of God comes to us in the ordinariness of life.

We are called to proclaim the message of the resurrection by any and every means possible. Some, like Isaiah and the disciples of Jesus, will witness in open and dramatic ways. They will teach and preach; they will nurse the sick and care for the elderly. Others will witness in less conspicuous ways. They will insist on fair practices in their own workplaces; they will weed out expressions of prejudice and violence so that a new and just world can be fashioned for themselves and for their children. Called in the ordinariness of their lives, they will witness to the death and resurrection in that very ordinariness, thus transforming everything into extraordinariness.

- Liturgyhelp online



Sacred Heart Care Group

This is just a reminder that our Care Group is here to assist parishioners in times of need. Please contact our Care Group if you think we can help.

Call Carmel Vanny 4787 8706 or
Michelle Funnell 4757 2638.

A VOCATION VIEW:

God does not ask you to be successful:
God does ask you to be faithful.
Put your vocation ahead of your career.

Around him, flaming creatures were standing ...

The prophet Isaiah and Peter were both overwhelmed by a sense of unworthiness in a mystical experience of the presence of God. Yet the cleansing rite of the burning coal in the case of Isaiah, and the reassuring words of Jesus— 'Do not be afraid'—in the case of Peter, released them from the paralysing effect of their God experience, which had caused them to gaze in terror and awe at the greatness of God and at the yawning gap between the human and the divine. They were able to respond to the call they had received immediately and unreservedly.

We too experience God's call in our daily lives—probably a gentle nudge rather than a mystical experience—but the words of Jesus, 'Be not afraid', can certainly free us. Although we may be weighed down by the ordinariness of our daily lives and feel drowned in a sense of mediocrity, the call to service rekindles our enthusiasm and we are able to say with heartfelt sincerity, 'Here I am, Lord.'

- from Daily Prayer online



**CARITAS APPEAL
FOR HAITI EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS**

"More than \$35 million has already been pledged by Caritas supporters around the world but we need urgent support so we can ensure we can continue this life saving and life giving work".

Total for Sacred Heart Blackheath - \$3090.65 - *Thank You!!*

Your generous donation is being put to good use ...

"Already we have reached more than 17,000 people with emergency supplies of food, clean water, hygiene kits, shelter and medical assistance. Our rescue teams were still pulling people from the rubble as late as Tuesday and now we are scaling up our response as we manage the challenges", said Jack de Groot, CEO of Caritas Australia.

"Caritas through our extensive network on the ground in Haiti are coordinating a makeshift camp at a golf course in Port au Prince where up to 50,000 people are already seeking shelter. In addition we have established distribution points across the affected area covering 32 parishes where we will assist an additional 150,000 people. Two hospitals are being supported by Caritas agencies and a further 12 primary care clinics are offering basic treatment".

"The response of the Australian public so far to the dire need in Haiti has been very generous and as this disaster fades from our television screens Caritas will continue to work to get the country on its feet".

If you missed the Parish appeal but would like to make a donation, you can support the Caritas Australia Haiti Emergency Relief Appeal by calling 1800 024 413 or online at www.caritas.org.au

**Caritas Australia - Annual Project Compassion Appeal
'Pancake Cook-Up' ~ Sunday 14 February**

Lent will soon be upon us and, as always, we shall be conducting our Project Compassion Appeal to support the aid and development work of Caritas Australia in many countries around the world.

As has been the custom these past few years, we shall be launching our appeal on the Sunday before Ash Wednesday with a Pancake Cook-Up. So, only a light breakfast that day!

If you would like to be involved, either with the Pancake Cook-Up (making some mix, cooking or serving/selling) or if you would like to help with the conduct of the Appeal throughout Lent, please see/call Christa or David on 4787 5105.



Dedication of Padre Pio Church

The parish community of Glenmore Park warmly invites everyone to the dedication of the first church in Australia named for Padre Pio.

Bishop Kevin Manning will be the principal celebrant at the **Mass of Dedication at William Howell Drive, Glenmore Park, at 11am on Sunday, 14 March.** Details 4737 9735, admin@padrepio.org.au

PILGRIMAGE: Fr Kevin Lee from Padre Pio Parish, Glenmore Park, will be leading a pilgrimage to Spain, Lourdes, Portugal and France which will commence on 2nd May 2010 for 25 days. Mass will be celebrated every day. Included in the price of \$6,890.00 are air fares, hotels, breakfasts, dinners, entrances into various venues, deluxe coach and pick up from and to airports. To make this Pilgrimage viable, we are in need of 6 more people to join the tour. For more information, please contact Priscilla Clements 4737 8581 or email Priscilla at dapc@bigpond.net.au or contact the Office at Padre Pio Parish on 4737 9735.

The **Gregorian Schola of Sydney** will begin its programme for 2010 very soon. We welcome new members. If you would like to join us singing Gregorian Chant, please ring 8741 2341 or email Lawrence.Grech@bigpond.com

Short Introductory Course in Canon Law: Conducted by the School of Law Sydney of the University of Notre Dame Australia. Taught by the Very Rev Robert M McGuckin. Classes are each Thursday from 9.30am to 12.30pm for 13 weeks, commencing 25 February 2010 on the Broadway site of the Sydney campus. Students have the choice of either just attending classes (\$656.70) or also doing assessments and an exam (\$796.00). No previous knowledge required. Parishioners, lawyers, law students and seminarians are welcome to enrol. For further details and to enrol, contact the University's Prospective Students' Office on 8204 4419 or the School of Law Sydney on 8204 4300.

Fertility Educators Needed: Natural Fertility Services is looking for suitable applicants in the Parramatta and greater Sydney area to train as Fertility Educators. Some prior experience of Natural Family Planning is desirable but not essential as training is provided. Sessional work available to those who complete the training and become accredited educators. Details: Manager, NFS (02) 9390 5156.

Pray 2010 - The Power of Prayer: The Archdiocese of Brisbane is hosting a 3-day event to provide practical teaching and experiences of different prayer forms and encourage Catholics to deepen their relationship with Jesus through prayer. **When: 7-10 July, 2010.** Details of the program and individual and group registrations at: www.pray2010.org.au/register

Invitation to Singers to join in Diocesan Choir for Bishop's Installation

As part of the musical preparations for the Installation Mass, I am able to offer singers from parishes within the Diocese of Parramatta, the opportunity of being part of a diocesan choir which will sing with the St Patrick's Cathedral Choir and Schola for this significant occasion. I would like to be able to offer everyone a place but unfortunately space is severely restricted and I can only offer 20 places.

To be eligible for a place in the choir, you are required you to fulfil the following criteria:

- 1) The ability to attend all scheduled diocesan choir rehearsals on -
 - ♦ **Sunday 14th February; 2.30pm – 3.30pm**
 - ♦ **Monday 22nd February, 7.00pm – 9.00pm**
 - ♦ **Monday 1st March; 7.00pm – 10.00pm**
(Full Choir's Dress Rehearsal; all soloists & orchestra)
 - ♦ **Thursday 4th March - Choir Call 6.00pm for Installation Mass**
(music commencing at 7.00pm)
- 2) **An individual RSVP response** by way of completing the application form, is to be received no later than **MONDAY 8th February, 2010.** Please note, group responses will not be considered, due to the restriction on numbers.
- 3) **Applications forms** should be completed in full and returned to - Mili at St Patrick's Cathedral Office; email: admin@stpatrcathedral.com.au fax 9630 8817 or telephone 8839 8411.
- 4) When responding, please indicate your voice type - e.g. soprano, alto, tenor, bass – and your singing experience.

Selection of choir participants will be made on the basis of RSVPs received before the closing date, ability to attend rehearsals, and record of previous participation in other diocesan occasions at the cathedral. Notification of a place will be given prior to the first rehearsal, with some music to be sent in advance by email.

I look forward to considering your application to participate when it has been received at the Cathedral Office.

Yours sincerely,
Bernard Kirkpatrick
Director of Music, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta.

***Application forms for the Diocesan Choir** are available on the seat near the baptismal font in our Sacred Heart Church today.