

out with the cars driving by the school was very creative.

With funerals, only 10 could come along to the service, yet families found ways to be creative with all of this. I even did a funeral in a house! It was loving and it was creative. It's how we deal with the experience of the NOW that we can be purified through it.

Also, too, where Jesus says, 'this wicked generation is looking for signs, yet the only sign they will be given is the sign of Jonah'. (Mt 16:4). At first this seems like a crazy quote, yet this story with Jonah is about resurrection and redemption. The sign of Jonah symbolises resurrection which Jesus ultimately has to go through. So the sign Jesus is pointing to is HOPE. The God of the impossible who does all things. Maybe we have been given this time of lockdown to really look at what matters. What are the little deaths we have to die to, so that we can rise to newness of life? What are some of our catch cries like 'the glorification of busyness' that we have to let go? What are our crutches (our vices) that we have to learn to lessen?

I also think for the Catholic Church, who is considered in some circles behind the times, they were the first to jump to social media to live stream mass! There has to be a sense of HOPE and spiritual awareness through that. The Body of Christ continues to find expression in new ways, in new forms. Still through symbolic hands and feet and heart, yet in a new way. I have been heartened by the creativity of priests during this time. The good, the funny and the cringe-worthy attempts priests have made. Yet it still shows the power of the Holy Spirit at work. Thank goodness I was a drama teacher and know how to speak in front of a camera.

4. How can we be more present to others and more compassionate during this time?

Fr Marty: From what I can see, people have been very compassionate to each other. The volunteers who gave packages to those who were house bound. The kids and parents who wrote notes to the hospital carers. The outpouring of compassion has been amazing. People rocking up to hospitals with free coffees from businesses that were going broke. Amazing. Even funeral directors during this time have been more compassionate. Just a small thing I noticed. It's like we are all in this together.

I believe this has been a great opportunity for families to renew relationships with each other. Who knows the blessings which have come from this. I think the jobkeeper payment has been important, as so many people have been deeply affected by this. If you follow it through, you'll be overwhelmed at the number of people who need support at this time. I have found this to be a source of compassion.

Fr Marty

St Vincent de Paul Society Winter Appeal

Due to restrictions this year, we are unable to conduct the appeal at the weekend Masses. However, there are 3 ways you can still donate :

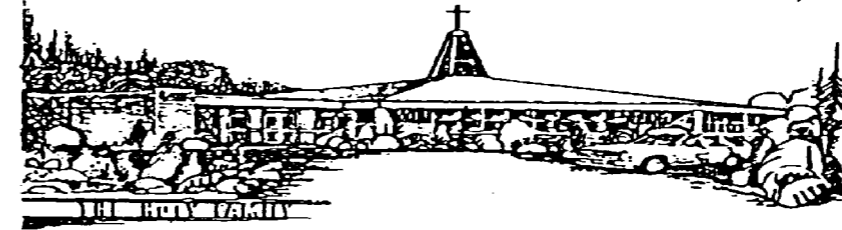
1. Pick up an envelope from the Parish Office.
2. Contact the Parish Office and request for an envelope to be posted to your address.
3. Direct Debit to the Conference bank account; BSB : 064-786, Account Number : 525860100, Account Name : SVDP Holy Family Runaway Bay, Reference : Winter Appeal and your name. Email your details to our conference email HF4216@svdpqld.org.au

If required, please include your details for a receipt.

Thank you for your generosity and may God bless you.

Peter Fox, President

HOLY FAMILY PARISH, RUNAWAY BAY



13th Sunday in Ordinary Time A/2

Sunday 28th June 2020

PARISH PRIEST
Fr. Marty Larsen

PARISH STAFF
Audrey Ho
Parish Secretary

Jan Levinge
Marriage Coordinator

Email :
rbay@bne.catholic.net.au
Parish Office: 16 Simbai St
PO Box 125 Runaway Bay
Q4216

Website :
www.holyfamilyrunawaybay.org.au
FOR ALL ENQUIRIES:
Tel: 5537 4320 (Press 2)
Fax: 5537 5476
Facebook :
holyfamilycatholicchurchrunawaybay

Hours:
8.30am—3.00pm
Monday—Tuesday
8.30am-1.00pm
Wednesday-Thursday
(closed FRIDAY)

Reconciliation:
4.50pm on Saturday

Baptisms
Every 2nd & 4th
Saturday & Sunday at 11am.
Please contact the Parish
Office.

St Francis Xavier School:
Principal : Kathy Fuller
Tel: 5537 2633

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time 28th June 2020

1st Reading : 2Kg 4:8-11,14-16
2nd Reading : Rom 6:3-4, 8-11
Gospel : Mt 10:37-42

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time 5th July 2020

1st Reading : Zech 9:9-10
2nd Reading : Rom 8:9,11-13
Gospel : Mt 11:25-30

Date claimers!

July 9th : Church will be deep cleaned.

July 10th: Fr Marty's birthday and STAGE3 restrictions updated.

July 14th: Second Rite of Reconciliation at 6.00pm. (Must book to attend.)

July 16th: Private Prayer 10am-11am only.

July 18th: 4.30pm Mass. Booked out.

July 25th: 4.30pm Mass. Booked out.

August 1st: 4.30pm Mass. Please register with the Office.

During Fr Marty's holiday period (June 12-July 3), he has the following reflections for you to consider in light of the lockdown, which we are slowly coming out of. These responses will cover the next three weeks of the newsletter.

1. *Could you provide us with a reflection on how you see God, the incarnation, the resurrection in this time of Covid 19?*
2. *How are you seeing broader notions of spirituality and faith through the crisis and the pandemic of Covid 19.*
3. *How important are Catholic notions of hope, love and community during this time?*

Fr Marty: The age-old question: Why does God do bad things to good people? I always like the scripture verse: Mt 5: 45, "God causes the sun to rise on the evil and the good and sends the rain on the righteous and the unrighteous." **It just simply is the way things are.** One of my great thoughts is- that life goes through cycles and seasons. The rhythms of live and the rhythms of death. I have found that after walking with about 86 families through the death of a loved one, that last line could never be truer. **Yet it is how we deal with it (the situation) which makes people find meaning and purpose, which is ultimately faith.** Some families have been creative with their children's learning online. Our teachers from SFX have been amazing with the transitions they have had to make to online learning in such a short period of time. That took a leap of faith. Many of them have done this with a sense of hope and humour and compassion for their students. There has been a wonderful sense of spirit in the school regarding this. The Easter shout

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