St Catherine Labouré Gymea Parish

The Fourth Sunday of Lent

18 / 19 March 2023

Year A

Dear Parishioners, Thank you for another wonderful turn out to our second "Lenten Lecture". Fr Noel counted 130 in attendance. This is a really good sign as it testifies to the fact that parishioners are really wanting to engage critically with their faith and develop a deeper understanding of the Truth. I have to say that I personally found Professor Renee's talk incredibly enriching. I guess as a priest and as a lecturer you become quite used to speaking and delivering content. But Prof. Renee's talk made me realise how vital it is for me to keep seeking and receiving solid formation in order to widen my own horizons. In light of the fascinating insights she raised, I hope to really consider how our parish can promote the "wounding" power of beauty in a world that is so deprived of it. Speaking of beauty, I would encourage parishioners to make a commitment to come along to our charity concert which will celebrate the beauty of music; much of which was inspired by the genius of the Christian-Catholic tradition. **Thus far we have sold TWO HUNDRED TICKETS!** This is a great start but I would love to bring it up to three hundred so that we can cover all our costs. It will be a wonderfully relaxed night with food and wine available to purchase from 6pm. God bless! Fr Greg

In your charity, please pray for our recently deceased;

Marjorie 'Marj' Mansfield, Roy Collins (brother of Peter), Marie Dodd, John Michael Paske, Ann Fordham, Sandra Gaias, Phil Humphries, Father John Anthony de Luca, Frank Shannon, Cardinal George Pell, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

We remember those whose Anniversaries we commemorate at this time:

Milagros (Mila) Richardson, Alexander Martin, Troy Quinliven, Ken Connolly, Tracy de Lyall, Roy & Mary Esplin, Bill Godfrey, Rod Halter, Lionel & Bev Hurst, Lean Family, Sid & Sylvia Mullen, Joe & Anna Natoli, John Vincent Sidgreaves, Antonio Sorbara, The Holy Souls.

We pray for all the sick of our Parish Community and their carers. Especially:

Joan Martin, Maria Sellaro, Elaine Bain, Catherine Bassiuoni, Gerry Banister, Helen Bridges, Father Briffa, Pamela Buckley, Patricia Butler, Greg Byrne, Hugh Casey, Peter Cobcroft, Elaine Coughlan, Patricia Cutcliffe, Ludovic D'Lima, Joanne Davies, Kath Dowd, Dorothy Fraser-Bell, Margaret Gardner, Jeff Greenaway, Patricia Gordon, Melina Grieco, Maree Hinton, Louisa James, Linden Kelleher, Jim Klingberg, Evie Morgan, Anthony Morris, Ray O'Mara, Vaska Petrova, Julia Quach, Marié Rayner, Tony Ryan, JoAnne Shackleton, Evelyn Spiteri, Elaine Townsend, Yin Kwan Tsang, Doreen Vernon, June Walker, Jon Weaver, Lindy Webb, Maree Whitaker, Gary Wood ***and those who care for them.***

St Catherine Labouré Catholic Church, Gymea presents...

Ratzinger Reflections

Drawing Inspiration From the Life & Works of the Late Pope Benedict XVI

THIS THURSDAY

23 March
7.00 PM - 8:00 PM
St Catherine Laboure Catholic Church, Gymea

Fr Noel Custodio

Has Christianity Made Love Boring?

Pope Benedict XVI and the True Meaning of Christian Love

WELCOME

PARISH VISION: To be an unashamedly Catholic community where every person can experience the embrace of "mercy and truth" (Psalm 85:10).

COMMITMENT TO SUNDAY MASS: If you are just returning to Mass after a while, welcome home! Perhaps now might be the time for you to recommit to attending each Sunday? Perhaps now might be the time to get more involved in the life of this parish community? In the words of St John Vianney: **"Put all the good works in the world against one Holy Mass; they will be as a grain of sand beside a mountain."** Let's never take the graces given for granted.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

REQUIEM FUNERAL MASS the requiem Mass for the Repose of the Soul of Roy Collins (Brother of Peter) will be celebrated here, Monday 27th March @ 11am.

POPE BENEDICT XVI ORCHESTRAL CONCERT: **Purchase your tickets today!** Taking place on Saturday 1st April (on the precipice of Holy Week), this is a very unique and rare opportunity to experience a 45-piece orchestral concert right here at your local parish! The concert begins at 7:30 pm with doors opening at 6:45 pm. Food and drinks will be available for purchase from 6:00 pm and during the 20 minute interval. This is another opportunity for us to gather as a community in order to celebrate the beauty of our faith and the gift of friendship whilst listening to some truly beautiful music that was loved by the late Pope Benedict XVI. An event like this is a difficult thing to put on logistically. However, any money raised will help support the missionary work our young people will do in Mexico City whilst assisting at orphanage(s)/homeless shelters and/or will support the CWL, Gymea, "project of the year" (to help support a refuge centre in Canberra for vulnerable women). Tickets are divided into three sections: A (front of hall—$80), B (middle of hall—$70), and C (towards the rear of the hall—$60). However, within the sections there are no specific seat assignments. Seats will be allocated on a first-come-first served basis. Tickets will be available for purchase both after Mass and are also available via the QR code on the front page or the website link: www.stcaths.org.au/concert-tickets. Please invite your family and friends!

WORLD YOUTH DAY: Our "parish-based" pilgrimage is up and running. If a parishioner is interested in helping to sponsor a young parishioner to attend or contributing to the mission work in Mexico City, please contact the parish office. Thank you for the generous support of our young people thus far.

TAX DEDUCTIBILITY: Utilising the Charitable Works Fund Trust (CWFT), we have the option of offering parishioners tax deductibility for 30% of their planned giving receipts. This will commence 1 July 2023. If you are part of the Planned Giving Envelope system, including those that give monthly via their credit card, and wish to claim the 30% tax deduction, you must notify us. Please contact Maria, our Parish Bookkeeper, on a Friday either by phone or via the parish email address.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: We are introducing a Children's Liturgy at the 9:30 am Mass on Sundays starting **TODAY - Sunday, 19 March at the 9:30 am Mass**. This would be for children who have not yet made their First Holy Communion. It is vital our young families feel at home in our parish and, moreover, that their children get used to attending Sunday Mass each week. We are looking for volunteers to assist and there—no teaching qualifications needed, just a willing heart.

PLANNED GIVING: If you would prefer to support our parish through Direct Debit, please contact the parish office. Alternatively, the two EFTPOS type machines are located at the back of the Church for your use. Thank you for your generous support of your spiritual home here at St Cath's.

INTRODUCING CHURCH COLLECTIONS VIA QR CODE: From this weekend onwards, the 1st and 2nd collections during Mass can also be received via the QR code below. The QR code will direct you to the parish's *BPoint Secure Payment Service* webpage. You will be required to complete the form to make your donation; **you can either enter your details or simply type "m" or "M"** (for Mass) **for each field/question.** Select Planned *Giving-Pastoral Revenue* for the first collection and *Planned Giving-Church for the second collection.*

1ST COLLECTION
Planned Giving-**Pastoral Revenue**

2ND COLLECTION
Planned Giving-**Church**

Parish News

MISSION OUTREACH: We have received the newsletter from Mission Outreach for parishioners. They are labelled alphabetically and can be found in the white tray at the back of the church. Please collect yours at your earliest convenience.

PALMS FOR PALM SUNDAY: Volunteers are need to assist Grahame Cashman in gathering and preparing palms for Palm Sunday. If you are free on Friday, 31 March, please contact the parish office or Grahame for specific details.

ACOLYTES/EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS / READERS: Please be advised that the next Roster for May, June, July & August is due. Please contact Grahame ASAP with any time away/preference requests.

UP-COMING EVENTS

LENTEN TALKS: Please keep **Thursday nights free in Lent** for our next series of talks ("Lenten Lectures"), which will break open the incredible thought and insight of the late Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. These "Ratzinger Reflections" will be held every Thursday during Lent commencing on the third Thursday in Lent. **This Thursday night talk at 7 pm is by our very own Fr Noel Custodio on *Has Christianity Made Love Boring: Pope Benedict XVI and the True Meaning Of Christian Love.***

ST CATHERINE'S FAMILY MASS: Will take place on the third Sunday of each month at the 9:30 am Mass followed by a morning tea.

ROSARY ONLINE: Did you know that our parish has an online Rosary every Saturday Morning at 10 am? The Zoom link is as follows: **www.stcaths.org.au/onlinerosary (Password: 1234)**

MEN'S BREAKFAST: The next Men's Breakfast will be Saturday, 15 April (the third Saturday of each month). This is a great opportunity for men to catch up over a hot breakfast before hearing an inspirational talk on a topic of our Catholic Faith! This is another great initiative to invite a friend who might have lapsed in the faith.

CENSORSHIP, COERCION, & INFORMED CONSENT: Parishioners have been invited to a talk/dinner by Steve Mosher, once a pro-choice agnostic, now a devout Catholic and champion of the pro-life cause. Steve Mosher has 3 Masters degrees in Sociology, Biology and Anthropology and would have his PhD if Stanford University but was labelled a spy by the Chinese government for his critical research on their one child policy. Tickets are $85 and the event is held at the Canterbury Leagues Club on **25th March @ 6pm**. Email: specialprojects@fli.org.au

DAY OF THE UNBORN CHILD: We are exploring the possibility of organising a bus to join the prayer-procession in Sydney for the *Day of the Unborn Child*, NEXT **Sunday, 26 March**. The event begins at **12 noon** with the Angelus at St Mary's Cathedral followed by a procession through the streets of Sydney led by the Archbishop. if you are interested in joining us, **PLEASE SIGN YOUR NAME ON THE CLIPBOARDS AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH TODAY!** If we have 40 parishioners confirmed, the parish will provide a bus leaving after the 9:30am Mass.

ADORATION: Remember, our parish has Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament available every day Tuesday - Saturday from 8:30 am - 9:10 am.

CONFESSIONS: Confessions are **available from Tuesday to Saturday before & after every Mass.** *Please approach Father Greg or Father Noel if you wish to receive this Sacrament.*

PARISH GROUPS

ALTAR SOCIETY: The Altar Society assists with the cleaning of the sacred vessels and the beautification of our church. **Our Altar Society still needs volunteers. If you are available to assist the Altar Society - who clean the Sacred vessels and clean and prepare the Sanctuary for Mass please contact the Office. Training is provided.**

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE REGISTRATION 2023: The CWL group meets monthly and will offer spiritual formation as well as assist with fundraising to help various charitable ventures. *Membership forms can be found at the back of the Church and returned to the parish office.*

FRIENDSHIP CLUB: The Friendship Club is a seniors social organisation within the Gymea Parish community. Our membership (currently around 75) comprises both married couples and singles as well as those who are by themselves later in life. Members are mainly from the Gymea parish but also come from other parts of the Shire as well as further afield. We also have a number of non-Catholic members.

LEGION OF MARY: The Legion of Mary is a lay apostolic association of Catholics who, with the sanction of the Church and under the powerful leadership of Mary Immaculate, Mediatrix of All Graces, serve the Church and their neighbour on a voluntary basis in about 170 countries. Our Parish is blessed to have a longstanding Legion of Mary group, which meets every Thursday morning after the 9.15 am Mass. We are always on the look out for new members.

CONSECRATION TO OUR LADY—ACIES

The Legion of Mary invite you to consecrate yourself to Our Lady on Saturday, 25 March from 2—4 pm. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

MEDJUGORJE PRAYER GROUP: Did you know we have a wonderful group of faith-filled parishioners who gather each Thursday evening at 6 pm in our church, to say the Rosary & pray & reflect on Our Lady's messages to the world. Why not join them, everyone is welcome!

ST VINCENT DE PAUL: The St Vincent de Paul Society is a Catholic organisation that aspires to live the gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice, hope and joy, and by working to shape a more just and compassionate society. We have one of the largest conferences in Australia. The members are an asset to our parish! Get involved!

THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

Don't forget to get your copy today! Still only $2!

PARISH DIRECTORY:

Parish Priest: Reverend Doctor Gregory Morgan
Assistant Priest: Reverend Father Noel Custodio
Presbytery: 123 Gymea Bay Road, Gymea
Secretary: Monday to Thursday: Natasha Amata
Friday: Maria Awad (Bookkeeper)
Office Hours: Tuesday to **Thursday** being:
9:00 am - 12 noon then 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm
Friday: 9:00 am - 2:30 pm then closed.

Office & Presbytery telephone: 9525.1138

Email: office@stcaths.org.au
Website: www.stcaths.org.au
Facebook: www.stcaths.org.au/facebook
YouTube: www.stcaths.org.au/youtube

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Natasha Amata
Email: safeguarding@stcaths.org.au

St Catherine Labouré Parish School
Principal: Patrick Morrison
School Office: 9524.9706
Email: info@sclgymea.catholic.edu.au

PARISH DIRECTORY:

Sacramental Programme: **Karen**
Email: sacramentalprogramme@stcaths.org.au

Catechist Coordinator: **Karen**
Email: catechists@stcaths.org.au

Gymea Music/Choirs **Clare (Coordinator)**
Email: office@stcaths.org.au

Legion of Mary **Mike (President)**
Email: office@stcaths.org.au

Medjugorje Prayer Group **Barry**
Email: office@stcaths.org.au

St Catherine's Friendship Club:
Email: friendshipclub@stcaths.org.au

Gymea Conference St. Vincent de Paul Society:
Frank (President)
Email: stvincentdepaul@stcaths.org.au

Parish Event RSVP's **(automatic reply)**
Email: rsvp@stcaths.org.au

MASS TIMES

Monday - Saturday 9.15 am

Saturday 5 pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 7:30 am, 9:30 am & 5 pm

CONFESSION TIMES

Mondays - Saturdays

Before and after every weekday Mass including Saturdays)

ADORATION TIMES

Tuesdays - Saturdays

8:30 am - 9:10 am

(Fridays and Saturdays: 9:00 am Benediction)

25 / 26 March 2023 *Year A*

The 5th Sunday of Lent

	Saturday Vigil 5.00 pm	Sunday 7.30 am	Sunday 9.30 am	Sunday Evening 5.00 pm
Acolytes & Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:	Kevin Bourke Matthew Delasey Cathy Bonello	Jonathan Varga Mitch Worsley Judith Rumsey	Graham Ward Andrew Monsiff Barbara Foster Carole Venier	Laurence Klein Jim Gothard Amelia Paras
1st Reader & Psalm: 2nd Reader & Intercessions:	Maureen Pocock Jodie McKay	Judith Rumsey Adele Greenaway	Michele Anthony Sue Day	Loretta Klein Ronald Paras

Audio-Visual Operators: Mark Natalie Hugh

SENIOR CHOIR

The Clean Team: **Group D:** Norm Frost, Chris Jacobs & Jan Lambert.

The Altar Society: **Group 4:**
June Frost, Kath Burns & Laurice Dooley.

In The Counting House:
Barry Elliott & Denis O'Brien
(Back-ups Ray Brennan, Peter Cobcroft & Charles Kooyman)

May God and our Lady of Lourdes care for and protect us all.