

*As we come and worship, we remember the wurundjeri people, the original custodians of this land*

**FIRST READING** *Chronicles 36:14-16.19-23*

The wrath and the mercy of the Lord are revealed in the exile and liberation of his people.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

**SALMO RESPONSORIALE**

Il ricordo di te, Signore, e' la nostra gioia.

**SECOND READING** *Ephesians 2:4-10*

When we were dead through sins, he brought us to life.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

**Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

**GOSPEL** *John 3: 14-21*

God sent his Son into the world that we might be saved through him.

**THANKS TO THOSE WHO GAVE LAST WEEK**

1<sup>st</sup> Collection - Thanksgiving Offering.....\$722.00  
- Loose Money.....\$364.00  
2<sup>nd</sup> Collection - Presbytery.....\$313.00

**LECTORS - THIS WEEK 18/3/2012**

6.00pm (SAT) – G Canvan & E Saliba  
9.00am (SUN) – R Pino & C Agostinelli  
10.30am (SUN) – C Antonio & A DeCata

**LECTORS – NEXT WEEK 25/3/2012**

6.00pm (SAT) - D Pullicino & E Krygger  
9.00am (SUN) – L Catena & C Monforte  
10.30am (SUN) – N Sua & L Conte

**CHURCH CLEANERS**

24/3/2012 P Sparano, R Bango & R Fato

**MONEY COUNTERS**

19/3/2012 A Sinopoli, F Nardoza, L Cavedon & R Comito  
26/3/2012 E Claridge, F Carabott & G Canvan

**YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING**

**RECENTLY DECEASED**

Filomena BONACCI, Felice MERLINO(d. Rec. Italy)

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Philip BAJADA, Harold KENNAN, Ronald BARTLETT, Gina DI DONATO,  
Giuseppe & Antonina CATALANO, Domenica & Domenico VARRENTI,  
Anduino, Antonio & Fra Diego VENDITTI, Annamaria & Carolina TESTA,  
Pasquale, Emilia & Liberata RAPONE, Vincenzo COSTA, Teresa RESATICI, Giuseppe FATO,  
Carmela ROSATO, Elena MARKESICH, Antonio & Beniamino PASCUZZI, Sylvia ALAGONA,  
Giuseppe PITTO, Leopoldo MANABO, Florencio MANABO, Celia MANABO, Mel MANABO

# ST JOSEPH THE WORKER

NORTH RESERVOIR

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**SUNDAY MASS TIMES:**

Sat 6.00pm - English  
Sun. 9.00am - Italian  
Sun. 10.30am - English

Fr Emmanuel Bonello–Parish Priest  
Sr Estelita Manabo-Pastoral Associate  
Mr Peter Chowne -School Principal  
Mrs Liz Pistoni – Parish Secretary

**WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:**

Mon. 9.10am Comm. Service  
Tue. 10.00am Italian  
Wed. 9.10am - English  
Thur. 9.10am - English  
Fri. 9.10am - English  
Sat. 8.30am - English

**Maltese Mass**

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the Month 6.00pm

**Baptisms – Sunday 12.00pm**

**Marriages - By Appointment**



4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent Year B

18 March 2012

## We are God's Work of Art

By far the most popular of all Salvador Dali's religious works of art is his Christ of St John of the Cross. Inspired by a drawing done by St John of the Cross himself, it depicts Christ on the cross, hanging over the Bay in Dali's home town, Port Lligat. The artist speaks of having had a 'cosmic dream' which led him to see the nucleus of an atom as 'the very unity of the universe', in other words 'the Christ'.

Like all great artists, Dali's works draw forth a range of emotions from those who view them; he appeals to some and not to others. I would suggest that this remarkable painting, over which Dali agonised, convinced that he would never have been able to repeat it if an accident had spoiled it, would appeal to most of us because it leads us to meditate on that great mystery and paradox-the triumph of the Cross.

Saint John uses the strange episode in the Old Testament, when Moses lifted up a bronze serpent in the desert to save all those who had been bitten by poisonous snakes. It was symbolic of Christ, for he was lifted up on the cross as a focus for us who are seeking healing from the poison of sin.

It is only by looking at the cross that we can get our lives and indeed the whole order of creation into true perspective. It is to see Christ at the heart of the universe, uniting all things in himself. Teilhard de Chardin, the great Jesuit priest, scientist, poet and mystic of the last century, had a similar cosmic vision which inspired his remarkable insights into the mystery of Christ and the whole created order.

Today is traditionally called 'Laetare Sunday', or 'Rejoice Sunday', because of the opening words of the entrance antiphon. It is a day when we are invited to take a breather in the middle of Lent. We are invited to allow ourselves to be lifted out of the humdrum day to day struggle towards the vision of Easter and the Resurrection-so to find in Christ's rising from the dead, our ultimate destiny, and the whole of creation.

So, in the midst of all the struggles to cope with our own personal weaknesses as well as the troubles of the world around us, it might be worth noting another remarkable artistic insight.

St Paul tells us that "we are God's work of art". Most of us struggle with our self-image and would probably be mildly amused at the idea that we might be suitable subjects for great artists to paint.

But of course that is precisely the point at which Paul wants to challenge us. We are not to be weighed down by our sins and failures. We do not have it in our power to resolve all our problems.

But once we can understand that it was out of God's generosity that Christ was sent to save us, then we indeed become subjects for the greatest artist of them all and it would be an insult to God to think otherwise.



Your support for Project Compassion allows Caritas Australia to work through right relationships to bring freedom and lasting positive change for some of our world's most vulnerable communities. In this week's story we meet Bae Lisa from the Philippines, one of over 300 indigenous leaders engaged by Caritas Australia's partner to work together towards peace and authentic human development in Mindanao's fractured communities, where over two million people have been displaced since the 1970's. Bae Lisa works to deepen understanding of the conflict and build a peace process owned by conflict-affected communities.

**Please donate to Project Compassion today to allow such partnerships to continue and expand to others in need.**

### **CUPPA**



There will be a Cuppa in the Narthex after the 10.30am Mass this weekend. Please stop and enjoy the hospitality of the parish and meet some fellow parishioners.

### **FEAST OF ST JOSEPH**

Monday 19 March 2012 is the feast of St Joseph spouse of Mary, Protector of the universal church. So please note that on Monday 19 March 2012 mass in honour of St Joseph will be celebrated at 9.10am.

### **MEMORIAL MASSES**

Tuesday 20 March 7.00pm – Sylvia Alagona (1 mth)  
Wednesday 21 March 7.30pm – Felice Merlino(d. Rec Italy)  
Thursday 22 March 7.30pm- Giuseppe Pitto (1mth)  
Sunday 25 March 6.30pm- Elena Markesich (1mth)

### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

Every Friday evening during Lent at 7.00pm in the Church, both in English and Italian.

## *Trivia Night*

As part of fundraising for Term1, St Joseph the Worker Primary School will be holding a Trivia Night on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March at 6.00pm sharp, in the School Hall.

Come along for a fun evening amongst family and friends.

An evening filled with games, raffles, lots of prizes and quiz questions...of course!!

Entertaining and loads of fun!!

\$10 per person entry fee and a maximum of 10 people per table.

We will help you with seating arrangements if you do not have a group of 10 people. Adults Only!

We ask that everyone BYO a plate of nibbles to share at your table.

Coffee will be sold in the hall throughout the evening.

Please call the school office to book a table on 9469 7800

or contact Romina 0418 525 088 or Teresa 0419 139 326

Hope to see you all there!!!

## **COMMISSIONING OF PARISH PASTORAL AND LITURGY TEAMS**

This weekend at the Sunday 10.30am mass after the homily we will have a ceremony of commissioning for the Parish Pastoral Team and the Parish Liturgy Team members. This little ceremony will help us knowing these members and pray for them as they commit themselves to serve the community in the Liturgy that is, helping people pray well and in the pastoral needs of our parishioners.

**Please note that the usual PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM name has been now changed to be called:**

### **THE PARISH PASTORAL TEAM.**

As a parish community we thank all the members of the Parish Pastoral and Liturgy teams:

#### **Parish Pastoral Team**

Sr. Estelita Manabo (Pastoral Associate), Peter Chowne (School Principal), Rosanna Truda, Joe Pullicino, Bob Ziino, Teresa Nguyen, Ricky Sawi, Angelina Recana, Jeanne Frangiosa, Lucy Greco.

#### **Parish Liturgy Team**

Sr. Estelita Manabo (Pastoral Associate), Jeff Tanti, Miriam Mizzi, Lina De Marco, Elizabeth Bartlett, Jeanne Frangiosa, Sam Miano, Patricia Caligiuri

## **WE ARE GRACED BY THE EUCHARIST**

There will be a parish gathering which will be held on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2012 at 7.00pm in the Parish School Hall.

The theme of the gathering is “**We are Graced By The Eucharist**”

The Eucharist (Mass) is the celebration that brings us together as a community when focusing on the presence of the Body and Blood of Christ given to us in the forms of bread and wine, we are caught up in God's selfless love for each of us and for all humanity.



The Guest Speaker will be: Rev. Dr. Elio Capra SDB.

Fr. Elio Capra is well known for his work in the area of Sacramental Theology. He is a Salesian Priest who is currently lecturing in Liturgy and Sacramental Theology in the Catholic Theological College. He has a special gift of welcoming, including everyone and his presentations includes music, art and much laughter. His presentation and reflection includes formation of the mind, heart and spirit, calling us to a new way of thinking.

This will lead us to welcome in our hearts the Year of Grace (Pentecost 2012 – Pentecost 2013) and like the disciples of the first Pentecost we commit ourselves to start afresh from Christ.

We will gather at 7.00pm for a cup of coffee or tea. Then the talk will start at 7.30pm. Meeting is expected to finish approximately 9.00pm.

I invite you to encourage other parishioners and friends to attend. Please let me know before 26.3.12 whether you are able or unable to attend. This will help the Parish Pastoral Team members in their preparation for the cuppa and seating. I look forward to seeing you at this our special community gathering.

May Saint Joseph the Worker help us to make Jesus Real by following our parish motto:

**“LET US WORK TOGETHER”.**

Fr. Manny Bonello.