

**FIRST READING** *Isaiah 56:1-6-7*

I will lead the foreigners to my holy mountain.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

O God, let all the nations praise you!

**SECOND READING** *Romans 11:13-15.29-32*

The gifts and call of God are irrevocable.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick. **Alleluia.**

**GOSPEL** *Matthew 15:21-28*

Woman, you have great faith.

**THANKS TO THOSE WHO GAVE LAST WEEK**

1 <sup>st</sup> Collection	- Thanksgiving Offering.....	\$1100.00
	- Loose Money.....	\$190.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection	- Presbytery/Priests.....	\$271.00

**LECTORS - THIS WEEK 17/08/08**

6.00pm (SAT) – G Canavan & E Saliba  
9.00am (SUN) – C Brunetti & G Barbaro  
10.30am (SUN) – L Conte & T Vavala

**LECTORS - NEXT WEEK 23/08/08**

6.00pm (SAT) – B Nadenbousch & J Gauci  
9.00am (SUN) – L Calafiore & R Terzino  
10.30am (SUN) - F Turnbull & M Alvaro

**CHURCH CLEANERS**

23/08/08 J Aliphone, T Saleh & P Sparano

**MONEY COUNTERS**

18/08/08 P Cherubin, A Sinopoli & L Cavedon  
25/08/08 E Claridge F Carabott, M Turnbull & G Canavan

**YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING**

**RECENTLY DECEASED**

Francesco CAPUTO, Charlie CUTAJAR, Maria PERUGINO, Ilario NAPOLITANO

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Angleo PICCONE, Antonio RISOLI, Mariangela PAOLA, Luigi SPARANO,  
Antonio & Cesare NAPOLITANO, Pietro SCAPPA, Antonio NAPOLITANO, Rita BONELLO,  
Mary TUNN, Eremegildo & Diamante CENTOFANTI, Rocco & Angila CENTOFANTI,  
Michele & Giuseppina INZITARI, Giuseppe GALATI, Stella ACQUARO,  
Giuseppina, Michele & Pietro IACONIS, Giovanni FARINACCI, Grazia GIANCATERINO,  
Mario PANUZZIO, Sebastiano SCUDERI, Dionisio DEZAN

**SALMO RESPONSORIALE**

Popoli tutti, lodate il Signore.

**CANTO AL VANGELO**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Gesu’ predicava la buona novella del regno e curava ogni sort di infermita’ nel popolo. **Alleluia.**

**SPECIAL MINISTERS**

N Ziino  
L Catena, L Cavedon & A Sonza  
L De Marco, S Miano & G Santinon

**SPECIAL MINISTERS**

S Dakin  
S LoBartolo, G Moltisanti & R Mercuri  
M Mizzi, C McMahan & U Strangis

# ST JOSEPH THE WORKER

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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 Doreen Bentley-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



Reconciliation: Sat. 10.30am

20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time of Year A,

August 17, 2008

## Persistence

In the movie *The Shawshank Redemption*, the character of Andy is wrongly convicted of murder. He is sentenced to two life sentences and is incarcerated in the notoriously harsh Shawshank Prison. Andy works in the prison library which has very few resources except for some old tattered books and magazines. He begins a campaign to improve and expand the library. He approaches the prison warden for funds. The warden is reluctant to spend taxpayers’ hard earned money on luxuries for convicted criminals. Andy is not deterred. So, he asks the warden’s permission to write to the State Senate for funds. Convinced that it is a waste of time, the warden promises to personally mail the letters. Andy sets about sending one letter a week to the Senate, asking for assistance, believing that they can’t ignore him forever. It takes six years. But to Andy’s amazement, boxes of books are delivered to the prison, together with a cheque for \$200. A note is attached from the Senate stating that they now consider the matter closed!

Some of the prison officers are surprised that Andy’s persistence has paid off. Andy becomes even more determined. He begins to write two letters a week!

The State realises that they can’t buy Andy off with just \$200 and a few boxes of books. So, in the hope of silencing him, the state approves an annual payment of \$500. Andy made that \$500 stretch as far as it would go. He did deals with book clubs and charity groups. The library was refurbished and it became *the* place to be. It was the best prison library in all of New England.

Despite the desperate situation he found himself in and all the obstacles in his way, Andy never gave up. His determination, his persistence and his commitment were rewarded. In today’s gospel, we have another person in a desperate situation, with all sorts of cultural and social obstacles standing in her way. A Canaanite woman, a descendant of one of the ancient enemies of Israel, approaches Jesus but is initially not welcomed. Still she persists in her request. She is a mother and her daughter is suffering. Naturally she is bold and tenacious when the life of a loved one is at stake. She refuses to be put off or give up. Although rebuffed by the disciples and ignored by Jesus, her sheer persistence has surprising results. Her persistence is seen by Jesus as evidence of great faith. He relents and heals her daughter. Sometimes we struggle with persistence. We can give up when things become difficult. We can lose hope when things don’t turn out as we planned. We can even stop praying when we don’t get what we ask for. Whatever our situation, let us be persistent in our efforts, never giving up, and recognizing that God is with us through it all.

## EVENTS IN THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2008

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>** Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A.

2.00pm Prayers to San Rocco and 2.30pm Mass in Italian and English to celebrate the Feast of St. Rocco, followed by procession in the streets.

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> 3.00pm Mass** Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation by Bishop Timothy Costelloe.

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>** Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

**10.30am Mass** Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation by Bishop Timothy Costelloe.

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> 8.00pm** Maintenance Committee Meeting in the Parish Meeting Room.

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup>** Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A.

### **FUNERAL NOTICES**

The Rosary for Charlie Cutajar will be recited on Monday 18 August at 8.30pm.  
Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday 19 August at 11.00am.

The Rosary for Francesco Caputo will be recited on Tuesday 19 August at 6.30pm. Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday 20 August at 10.30am.

### **MEMORIAL MASSES**

Monday 18 August 7.30pm – Maria Perugina (d. Rec.)  
Tuesday 19 August 7.30pm – Mario Pannunzio (ann.)  
Wednesday 20 August 7.30pm – Ssebastiano Scuderi (1 mth)  
Friday 22 August 7.30pm – Dionisio Dezan (1 yr)

### **FEASTS**

Wednesday 20 August - St Bernard  
Thursday 21 August – St Pius X  
Friday 22 August – The Queenship of Mary

### **FESTA DI SAN ROCCO**

**Domenica 17 Agosto 2008 nella nostra chiesa di San Giuseppe Lavoratore**

#### **PROGRAMMA:**

**Ore 9.00am** - Santa Messa in Italiano cantata

**Ore 2.00pm** - Inni e preghiere in onore a S. Rocco

Partecipa l'organista Rocco Surace con la cantante Therese Molnar

**Ore 2.30pm** - S Messa celebrata dal Rev. Padre Emanuele Bonello PP  
e Padre Giuseppe Yu PE

Processione passerà per le seguenti strade: Hurley St, Tracey St, Rice St and Wilson Blvd. E sarà accompagnata dalla nota Banda Bellini. Rientro in chiesa per la benedizione con il S.S. Sacramento. Portate i vostri ammalati per una benedizione speciale.



SAN ROCCO

### **COUNTER CULTURE ACOUSTIC NIGHT**

A night of live acoustic music. A place for young people to get together.

**When:** Saturday 23 August, 7.00pm

**Where:** Padre Pio Hall, (under St. Anthony's Shrine), 182 power St, Hawthorn.

**Entry:** \$7

**Details:** [capuchinfriars@gmail.com](mailto:capuchinfriars@gmail.com)

### **ST. ALOYSIUS COLLEGE**

St Aloysius College will be having a PAST PUPILS RE-UNION on Sunday 14 September 2008 at 2.00pm – 4.30pm. All Past Pupils and Staff Welcome!



## **ST. MONICA'S COLLEGE, EPPING**

St Monica's College is a leading coeducational Catholic College (Years 7 – 12) serving the northern suburbs of Melbourne.

We invite all parents of Year 3, 4 & 5 Students to an

### **INFORMATION EVENING**

**Date:** Tuesday, September 2, 2008

**Venue:** Sports & Assembly Hall, Dalton Road Campus

**Time:** 7.30 p.m.

Tours of the Junior Campus commence at 6.30 p.m.

For further information please contact the College on 9401 2444.

## **THOUGHTS ON THE GOSPEL**

*Sometimes the gospel narrative has a ring of authenticity that is unmistakable. The response to the Canaanite woman, in today's reading, must have been puzzling – even embarrassing – to Christian converts from both Jewish and Gentile backgrounds. Jesus, in fact, echoes the Jewish custom in his time, of referring to Gentiles as 'dogs'. It can only have been retained in the gospel tradition because it was what he had said.*

*Those who heard the brave woman pleading for her daughter against all odds – she was an outsider appealing to a Jewish teacher, a plaintive voice in a very masculine world – must have remembered her story as a remarkable moment in the life of the Saviour. What is more, she is remembered as seeming to get the better of Jesus in their exchange. But this exchange leads, in the end, to a moment that those who witnessed it would never forget, confronting them with the generous and inclusive ways of God: 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted'.*

*Excerpt from a homily by Fr. John Thornhill SM*