

**FIRST READING** Numbers 21:4-9

When those that were afflicted looked upon it, they were healed.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Do not forget the works of the Lord!

**SECOND READING** Philippians 2:6-11

He humbled himself, therefore God has exalted him.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia! We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your cross you redeemed the world. Alleluia.

**GOSPEL** John 3:13-17

The Son of man must be lifted up.

**THANKS TO THOSE WHO GAVE LAST WEEK**

1 <sup>st</sup> Collection	- Thanksgiving Offering.....	\$1027.00
	- Loose Money.....	\$470.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection	- Presbytery/Priests.....	\$502.00

**LECTORS - THIS WEEK 14/09/08**

6.00pm (SAT) – G Canavan & E Saliba  
 9.00am (SUN) – G Tempone & M Crupi  
 10.30am (SUN) – G Silvio & J Broadbent

**LECTORS - NEXT WEEK 21/09/08**

6.00pm (SAT) – B Nadenbousch & E Saliba  
 9.00am (SUN) – S LoBartolo & A DiRico  
 10.30am (SUN) - T Fitzsimmons & G Silvio

**CHURCH CLEANERS**

20/09/08 J Aliphone, T Saleh & P Sparano

**MONEY COUNTERS**

15/09/08 P Cherubin, A Sinopoli & L Cavedon  
 22/09/08 E Claridge, F Carabott & G Canavan

**YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING**

**RECENTLY DECEASED**

Sebastiano CARMUSCIANO (d. Rec. Italy) Antonio SACCO (d. Rec. Italy)

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Giovanni DAMIANO, Domenico MARINO, Giovanni MARINO, Santo FAMULARE, Salvatore, Cesare & Concetta FAMULARE, Raffaele & Antonietta BONELLI, Giovanni PLIDORI, Sergio DUSSIN, Raffaele & Maria MACCARONE, Bruno & Antonio ARENA, Domenico, Antonio, Maria & Carmela SCHIPANO, Gregorio, Rocco & Giuseppe ROMEO, Annunziata CATALANO, Isabella FIORITO, Francesco, Luigi & Santo ROCCA, Lucia MANCUSO, Maria CHIODO, Natale & Antonia SIRIANNI

**SALMO RESPONSORIALE**

Sei tu, Signore, la nostra slavezza.

**CANTO AL VANGELO**

Alleluia, alleluia! .  
 Noi ti adoriamo, o Cristo, e ti benediciamo, perche' con la tua croce hai redento il mond. Alleluia.

**SPECIAL MINISTERS**

N Ziino  
 D Biasibetti, R DeZan & G Barbaro  
 J Vincitorio, Sr Doreen & M Mizzi

**SPECIAL MINISTERS**

S Dakin  
 F Pascuzzi, G Tempone & C Alberti  
 U Strangis, M Sernia & J Broadbent

# ST JOSEPH THE WORKER

NORTH RESERVOIR

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 School Tel: 9460 7506 Fax: 9462 2949

**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

**The Triumph of the Cross**

September 14, 2008



## The Cross: God's loving wisdom

It seems very odd indeed for us to celebrate the Triumph of the Cross. What triumph? In fact the cross is offensive, a powerful symbol of the depth of our inhumanity. It exposes our human capacity to inflict pain, suffering, contempt and cruelty upon one another. Above all, the cross on which Jesus was most painfully executed represents a gross travesty of justice because he was a totally innocent victim of political expediency and religious malice. So where is the victory when the cross appears to represent the triumph of evil and exposes the very dark side of our inhumanity? It is here that the cross in God's hands is revealed as the *ultimate sign of contradiction*. Through it God issues the most potent and direct challenge to us – about our values and about the way we organise our lives. Through the cross, God uncompromisingly wants to turn our world, and our lives, upside down. Where we are so easily seduced by the glamour, accumulation and trappings of power in all its forms, the crucified Jesus reveals God's total opposition to them. The Crucified Jesus reveals completely who God really is, namely, that God loves our broken and sinful humanity. That love is so total and unconditional that God became one of us in Jesus. St Paul put it beautifully when he wrote in today's Word that God chose to empty Himself in order to become one of us and take the form of a Servant. In Jesus, God freely chose to become the Powerless One. In Jesus Crucified, the cross revealed that God would rather take violence upon Himself than inflict violence and punishment upon sinful humanity. The cross in the hands of the powerful and dominant corrupts, hurts and destroys. But the very same instrument in God's hands heals and redeems. Through the cross, God showed that He stands with those who suffer under the weight and abuse of power. The cross ultimately reveals the victory of love and non-violence over power. It is truly the victory and wisdom of God. Throughout religious history and in current times, an enormous amount of evil and violence has been committed in God's name. God in the Crucified One rejects this. No violence can ever be justified in God's name. The Church in recent times has come to appreciate this a lot better. Towards the end of his pontificate, John Paul II apologized for the religious excesses of the Catholic Church's past where much evil was done in the name of religious orthodoxy. St Paul himself was a zealous practitioner of religious violence. It was only after his own conversion that he began to see that what he had begun to see that what he had done before was wrong. He then switched to preaching the Crucified One. "To those who are perishing, the cross is folly, but to us who are being saved, it is the power of God" (1 Corinthians 1:18) The cross is the sign of hope, life, reconciliation, love and healing. It is the power and wisdom of God. Look upon the Crucified One and be healed. We can indeed celebrate the triumph of the cross.

### **WELCOME FR JOSEPH SULTANA**

Welcome to Fr Joseph Sultana a friend of Fr Manny who has also come to Australia for a holiday, from the parish of Xaghra Gozo Malta, and will be staying at St Joseph the Worker for a week. We wish him a enjoyable and relaxing stay.

### **PRIEST RETIREMENT FOUNDATION**

The special collection was taken up last week for the sick and retired priests of the Archdiocese of Melbourne. If you were not able to contribute, envelopes are available at the doors of the church especially for those who wish to make credit cards donations or obtain tax deductability.

### **ITALIAN LADIES**

Martedì 16 Settembre la comunità Italiana avrà alcune ore di preghiere e riflessioni condotte da Suor Anna Genovese e Padre Eduardo Zammit, con inizio alle ore 9.00am in cappella, segue Santa Messa alle ore 10.00am e Adorazione Eucaristica con possibilità di confessioni. Si conclude alle 12.30 con uno spuntino provveduto. Tutti benvenuti!!

### **BAPTISM**

Congratulations to **Michael Bonacci** son of John and Vanessa who will be baptised this weekend. We welcome him into our parish community and assure the family of our prayerful best wishes on this happy occasion.

### **MEMORIAL MASSES**

Monday 15 September 6.30pm – Francesco Caputo (1 mth)  
7.30pm- Angelo Civitareale (1 yr)

### **FEASTS**

Monday 15 September – Our Lady of Sorrows  
Tuesday 16 September – Ss Cornelius & Cyprian  
Saturday 20 September – St Andrew Kim Taegon, & St Paul Chong Hasang & Companions

### **CUPPA**



Today after the 10.30am Mass there will be a cuppa in the Narthex. Please stop and enjoy the hospitality of the parish.

### **CONVEGNO-RINNOVAMENTO NELLO SANTO SPIRITO**

17 – 18 Settembre aperto a tutti, dalle 9.00am alle 4.00pm. Sabato 20, & Domenica 21 Settembre con la partecipazione di Padre Giuseppe Cassarino, Padre Giacchino D'Agostino, e P Victor Farrugia. Località: Nella sala parrocchiale di Our Lady Help of Christians, 49 Nicholson St, East Brunswick. Costo: \$15 al giorno per persona. Per informazione Enza – 9489 5007.

### **THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES**

The current series of Thanksgiving envelopes ends in September. We greatly thank those who have contributed. A new series of Thanksgiving envelopes will be issued for the following six months, and will be delivered to the homes within the next week.

We ask parishioners who are not currently listed through Thanksgiving to please consider supporting the parish in this way. Please contact the Parish Office for further details.

### **MISSION FAIR 2008**

The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver will hold their Annual Mission Fair on Saturday 11 October 2008 9.00am – 3.30pm at 154 Cotham Rd, Kew.

Proceeds from this year's Fair will assist in the construction of a Monastery for the Poor Clare Sisters in the Diocese of Malindi, E. Kenya. Come to our Fair and support missionaries and the people for whom they are working, with your prayers and help. Enquiries: 9817 3715.

### **SOLENNI CELEBRAZIONE ALLA VERGINE DEL S. ROSARIO**

**NELLA NOSTRA PARROCCHIA DI SAN GIUSEPPE LAVORATORE**

**DOMENICA 5 OTTOBRE 2008**

#### **PROGRAMMA**

##### **ORE 2.00PM**

Pregiere e Inni Processione con la statua  
Recita del S. Rosario con i Misteri presentati dai bambini.

##### **ORE 3.00PM**

Santa Messa  
concelebrata da Padre Emanuele Bonello e Padre Giuseppe Yu

#### **OUR LADY OF THE HOLY ROSARY SUNDAY 5 OCTOBER 2008**

##### **PROGRAMME**

##### **2.00PM**

Prayers and procession with the Statue of Our Lady with Mysteries of the Rosary presented by the children.

##### **3.00PM**

Holy Mass – Concelebrated by Fr Emmanuel Bonello and Fr Joseph Yu.  
Benediction for the sick and families.  
The children will be entrusted to the maternal protection of Mary.



### **SCHOOL OF PRAYER COURSE**

**Praying the Scriptures with Fr Gregory Bourke:** What is God saying to me NOW? What did the Bible mean at the time it was written? Over 6 Tuesday nights, 16, 23, 30 September and 7, 14, 21 October at 6.30pm – 8.30pm. Held at Thomas Carr Centre, 278 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne. Cost: \$80. For enquiries or enrolment contact Annemarie on 9412 3325.

### **THOUGHTS ON THE GOSPEL**

The Cross has always been central to Christian faith. Today's celebration is very ancient; its origins are associated with St Helena, the mother of Constantine, the Roman emperor who embraced Christianity as the religion of the empire. Helena journeyed to the Holy land where she established churches in Jerusalem and Bethlehem. Legend has it that she brought back to Rome some of the wood of the cross of Christ.

The title of today's celebration echoes the attitude of Christian faith in Helena's 4<sup>th</sup> Century. It is a very different attitude from the one we have taken for granted for many centuries. In the 4<sup>th</sup> century, the Cross was Christ's glorious trophy, carried by the risen Lord as a symbol of his Pascal Mystery, his victory over all evil, even death itself.

In the Middle Ages, however, as appreciation of the Pascal Mystery faded, the Cross became associated with the human sufferings of the Saviour. The familiar crucifix was seen as an invitation – as it certainly is – to repentance and conversion. Today's liturgy teaches us that the truths that inspired these two different views can be brought together.?

*Excerpt from a homily by Fr John Thornhill SM*