A SIMPLE PERSON OF FAITH IN THE 21ST CENTURY: WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
Wed 21 Oct, 7.30–9pm  John Maher Auditorium, Our Lady’s Parish, Monash St, Sunshine
For many people, faith is based on creeds, doctrine and head knowledge. It’s about mastering the ‘facts’ and having the ‘right’ answers. But best-selling author Margaret Silf believes that faith is not about mastery but about mystery, and that living in that mystery allows us to properly shift our focus from religion to relationship—a relationship with the Divine.

About the speaker: Margaret Silf is passionate about making Christian spirituality accessible to people with no theological background. She is a writer and has led retreats around the world. She left paid employment in the computer industry to devote her time to writing and leading retreats, workshops and days of reflection. Her writing reflects her experiential approach, drawing connections between the eternal truths of the Christian vision and the moment-by-moment events and choices of everyday living.

Info and RSVP: Suzanne Hermon on 9926 5761 or evangelisation@cam.org.au

DEANERY LEADERSHIP TEAM
Meeting on Thursday, 15th October, 7.30pm at Holy Eucharist Parish, St Albans South.
Please share your wisdom, insights and ideas with us at this meeting.

CONVERSATIONS WITH MARY
A monthly gathering for prayer and reflection with Mary MacKillop.
At the Heritage Centre, 362 Albert St, East Melbourne, 11am -12 noon
- Thursday 15th October  - Mary and her relationship with Fr Woods
- Monday 16th November  - Mary and justice for those unfairly treated

PARENT EDUCATION PROGRAM
The next parent (and community) forum at Marian College, Glengala Rd, Sunshine West, will be held on Tuesday 13th October, 7.00-8.30pm. “Technology, Alcohol and Drug Issues” Bookings essential: 9363 1711. The Forum is free and for adults only.

INFORMATION SESSION
For families who are considering enrolling their daughter in year 7 2017 and onwards. To be held on Wednesday 14 October from 4-6pm at Marian College 196 Glengala Rd. To book please call 9363 1711.

MASS TIMES
ST THERESA’S
Drummartin St, Albion
9.00am Friday
10.30am Sunday

MOTHER OF GOD
Blanche St, Ardeer
10.00am Wed (Polish)
9.00am Thursday
11.30am Friday
6.00pm Friday (Polish)
6.00pm Saturday
10.30am Sunday (Polish)

QUEEN OF HEAVEN
Holt St, Ardeer
9.00am Wednesday
9.00am Sunday
4.30pm Sunday (Syro-Malabar).

RECONCILIATION
Saturday 17th October, 10am at St Theresa’s..

EVENING PRAYER GROUP  Thursdays, 7.00pm at Queen of Heaven. All welcome.

MASS OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK
Friday 16th October, 11.30am at Mother of God, followed by lunch. Please offer a lift to any elderly or sick neighbours so all can attend.

60th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
Join Vincent and Jane Micallef in celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary at 9.00am Mass on Sunday 18th October at Queen of Heaven. Morning tea will be provided after mass. Please join us.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY APPEAL
The annual Collection will be taken up next weekend. Support the many missionaries working in many countries throughout the world.

CLEANERS
Saturday 17th October (MG) B Labbad (QH) E Princi, r Buttigieg, J Farrugia (StT) No Cleaning

ROSTERS
Special Ministers at Queen of Heaven, Cleaners at Mother of God, and a revised roster for Counters are available today

THANKSGIVING
Weekly TG Pledge: $1645
Last Week’s Giving: $1266  Presbytery Collection: $532

COUNTERS
18 October
Team 2:  M Azzopardi, E Correya, M Poulter

READINGS
Today
Wisdom 7:7-11
Psalm 90
Hebrews 412-13
Mark 10:17-30

Week
Isaiah 53:4, 10-11
Psalm 33
Hebrews4:14-16
Mark 10:35-45
In the gospel read at today's Mass, St Mark tells us how a young man approached Jesus and asked him what he must do to possess eternal life. Our Lord responded that he must keep the commandments. The young man replied that he kept all these commandments from his childhood.

The gospel tells us that Jesus fastened his gaze upon him and loved him. Then Jesus gave him the greatest gift he can give to any person. He gave him a vocation to follow him. Jesus said to go sell what he had and come and follow him.

But this young man's face fell, and he went away sad, for he had great wealth. He lost a direct call from Jesus to become an apostle. He was attached to his wealth. What this young man did can happen to us as well. We all come across people who are more interested in making money work hard and they say I don't have time to be at Mass on Sunday. All it takes is a heart attack and all their wealth is left behind. The wealth of this world can be for some the ruin of their soul. Let us focus on what has an eternal value that is the salvation of our soul.

Christ gave the call to follow him to others. We should be grateful to God that several accepted this call. Christ called a group of fishermen around the Sea of Galilee, and they accepted. They became the twelve Apostles.

Some God calls to the sacrament of the priesthood. The priesthood is the greatest honour God has conferred upon the human race. It is an honour he did not give to angels. But Christ, in bestowing such honour upon the priesthood, did not promise his priests a life of ease and luxury. On the contrary, he promised them suffering. In his parting message to his Apostles immediately before his passion and death, he said, 'They will forbid you in the synagogues, indeed the time is coming when whoever kills you will think he is doing a service to God.' One might expect his departing message to his Apostles to be one of success and happiness, but instead it was a promise of persecution and death.

The Church, for the first two and a half centuries suffered the greatest possible persecution. The Roman Empire, using the Roman army, the world's greatest known force, utterly failed to wipe out a religion established by Christ using twelve uneducated fishermen. The survival and growth of the Church is unexplainable in any natural sense.

Christ sends sufferings to those he loves. Christ loves his priests and followers. Consequently, he has sent them sufferings. Even his Mother was no exception to this rule. A sword of sorrow pierced her heart.

Christ said, "He who does not take up his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. He who loses his life for my sake shall find it. Blessed are they who suffer persecution for justice's sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Let us not refuse to follow Christ as did the young man in today's gospel. But wherever his cross leads, let us willingly follow it.

Joe Farrugia