WESTERN SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB/CLUB

Tuesday, 8th Sept

This year our theme is Getting to Know our Neighbours. Our speakers are two of our neighbours from the Western suburbs, Laurie Krepp, a teacher at St Theresa’s School and Kaye Cameron. They will speak about their work with Myanmar/Burmese refugees living in Malaysia who are hopeful of being resettled in Australia and of the work they do to help provide services such as education for their children which otherwise may not be available to them. **Tuesday, 8th September at the Italia Club,** Furlong Road, next to the Sunshine Hospital. Come at 6.00pm for a meal and then we will move into a room off the bistro area ready for a 7.30pm start.

**MASS TIMES**

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

**MOTHER OF GOD**
Blanche St, Ardeer
9.00am Thursday
6.00pm Saturday
10.30am Sunday (Polish)

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

**RECONCILIATION**
Saturday 12 Sept, 10am at Queen of Heaven

.MEMORIAL MASS for Bert Princi
Monday 7th September, 7.30pm at Queen of Heaven.

**ANNUAL COLLECTION FOR RETIRED PRIESTS**
The Father’s Day annual collection will be held today.

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

**CLEANERS**
Saturday 12th September
(SST) A Nadalin
(MG) No Cleaning
(QH) J Tavita

**THANKSGIVING**
Weekly TG Pledge: $1645
Last Week’s Giving: $1247
Presbtery Collection: $429

**COUNTERS**
13 September
Team 3: M Azzopardi, E Correya

**READINGS**
Today
Isaiah 35:4-7
Psalm 146
James 2:1-5
Mark 7:31-37

Week
Isaiah 50:5-9
Psalm 116
James 2:14-18
Mark 8:27-35

**STUDY TOUR OF THE BIBLICAL LANDS 2016—INFORMATION SESSION**
Saturday 12 September, 2–5pm at Catholic Theological College, 278 Victoria Pde, East Melbourne.
CTC is offering a fully escorted Study Tour of the Biblical Lands in Nov/Dec 2016. This information session will include itinerary, costs, study options and information regarding the places to be visited in Jordan, Israel and Palestinian Territories and Turkey. Journey with CTC to the heart of your faith!
Details: Jenny Delahunt on 9412 3314 or jenny.delahunt@ctc.edu.au RSVP: Wednesday 9 Sept.

**AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT—PUBLIC LAUNCH**
Tuesday 15 September, 1pm, 131–141 Harbourside Esplanade, Docklands
Bishop Vincent Long OFMConv will launch the 2015 Social Justice Statement, ‘For Those Who’ve Come Across the Seas’. All are welcome.. Details and RSVP: justice@cam.org.au or 9926 5727

**TIMELESS YOUTH CAMP FOR YEARS 7 & 8**
Wednesday 23 to Friday 25 September
Leave behind the ordinary these school holidays and experience all the adventure of a fun, friendly, faith-filled youth camp hosted by the Catholic Archdiocesan Office for Youth.
The Timeless Youth Camp will explore how God's time and our time are connected. Located on the edge of the Dandenong Ranges, Cost: $60, includes all meals and accommodation. (Any cost concerns, please contact the AOY to receive a concession rate) Details: http://www.cam.org.au/youth/
The Gospel story of the healing of the deaf mute is striking because it is one of the few stories where the crowd makes the request of healing from Jesus. This is understandable given that the man cannot speak for himself, but the scene, as Mark writes it, is very touching. Mark tells us that the crowd brought the man to Jesus. ‘They’ beg Jesus to heal him, ‘they’ are ordered not to tell anyone about the miracle, but ‘they’ go straight out and tell everyone about it.

What happens there is what happens here every Sunday. Coming to Mass is not a private affair. It is not my Mass, my prayer, my Church. The pronouns we use reveal a lot about our attitudes. It’s our Eucharist, our prayer and our Church. Within the Mass there are opportunities for private prayer, but Eucharist is, essentially, an action of the assembled community. In our own way we bring deaf and mute to Jesus each time we gather. This is what the Prayers of the Faithful are all about. This is why they are so important.

When we visit another parish we can tell a lot about it by the care with which the intercessions are composed and compiled. If they only attend to the needs of the parish and never with the wider Church or the world, if they focus on the needs of the Catholic world and never with the plight of those in crisis, who may not share our faith or may hold to another or no faith, it says so much.

The Church has always believed in the power of intercessory prayer. Not that God needs to be reminded what our world needs. God knows that better than we know it. But intercessory prayer sorts our priorities and establishes who has a claim on our affections and concerns. It also enables others to know that we stand in solidarity with them.

And miracles still happen when we are one with those for whom we hope and pray. Sometimes the first miracle that occurs is that we notice the needs of some group beyond our immediate circle. Their suffering moves us and we choose to help them.

Let’s pray in this Eucharist that Christ removes our blindness, opens our ears and loosens our tongues so that we speak up for those who are most in need of a healing word that brings them justice and peace.

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