

Holy Cross Retreat



Letter 165

14th April, 2023

Greetings,

Easter

We were grateful to celebrate liturgies during Holy Week with our wider Holy Cross family. Tri, very generously arranged for Good Friday to be live-streamed and Chris recorded Easter Sunday Mass. Chris has been recording Sunday Mass for three years, without missing a single week. Saturday used to be his day of! We are grateful for the rostered readers who have been coming each week early on a Saturday, over those three years, to do the recording. After they leave, Chris spends three-four more hours putting together the final video.

Unfortunately the weather affected Good Friday and 6.00am Easter Sunday (which we normally celebrate outside). There was still a very good turn-out for Mass and breakfast on Sunday morning. Special thanks to the San Gabriele Committee for their generous work and thanks for the donations given towards breakfast.

The rain stayed away until shortly after the Good Friday performance of the Passion Play ended, which was greatly appreciated by all involved and greeted with a cheer.

Pre-Chapter meetings



Every four years, our Province holds a Provincial Chapter to review the previous four years and plan for the coming four years. A new Provincial and Council are elected for the next term. This year our Chapter will be held in Sydney from July 10th-14th. In preparation for the Chapter, Regional Assemblies have been held to allow discussion around areas of interest or concern. This year those Assemblies were held in Sydney, Melbourne and Saigon. From the discussions that took place, a number of questions have been formulated for the next stage of consultation and discussion. That discussion is taking place this week via Zoom.

Originally, delegates were elected to attend the Chapter. Thirty years ago we voted to have 'Open' Chapters whereby any eligible professed member could attend and vote. This year we are reverting to an 'elected delegate' model, essentially because of the changed reality of the Province which includes so many brothers now from Vietnam.

*It is the set
of the sails,
not the direction
of the wind
that determines
which way we will go.*

The experience of COVID-19 influenced our thinking - to reduce the high expenses of travel. As a result a designated number of representatives from Aust/NZ, PNG and Vietnam have been elected to attend the Chapter.

One lay representative and five Province delegates have been appointed to a Committee to focus on one of five nominated areas and to formulate proposals to present to the Chapter. The delegates participated yesterday and again today, in discussions around all areas: (1) Culture and Identity, (2) Mission and Ministry, (3) Community and Formation, (4) Finance, (5) Leadership and Governance. The Chapter also has to consider what needs to be done to update our Province legislation, and a separate Zoom session was held to discuss that last Tuesday.

Water pipe broken



On Holy Saturday we discovered water gushing from a break somewhere below the concrete near our garages. We were unable to secure the services of our plumber, Tim Bone, until Tuesday morning, so we turned all water off each night from 10.00am until 5.30am.

Tim and his assistant, Issac spent from 9am-6pm on

Tuesday and 8.30am-1.00pm Wednesday. Most of this time was spent trying to locate the source of the leak and digging holes near where they hoped it might be. Neither of these two holes on the right contained the source.

Eventually (around 4.30pm Tuesday) they had dug deep enough (around 1.4 metres) in one place to discover the source – a 3 centimetre copper pipe, probably damaged by pressure from bricks that had been used as fill nearly sixty years ago.

The photo on the next page shows the hole they dug to find the leaking pipe. Water from that source had travelled up towards



Serpells Road for a short distance and then back in the opposite direction. Full marks for the great detective work.



Q. What do plumbers have when they fall asleep?

A. Pipe dreams.

Q. Why did the plumber fall asleep on the job?

A. His work was draining

A plumber decided to end his long term relationship. He texted her and said. "It's over Flo".

Come Away Day at Holy Cross

The next Come Away Day will be held at Holy Cross on **Wednesday 19 April**. The theme of the day is "The Spirit empowering us." During Holy Week we have journeyed with our Lord through his passion, death and joyful resurrection. We are now sent out in the power of his Spirit to love and serve our risen Lord in all aspects of our daily lives. The day's program provides opportunities for prayer, reflection and group interaction in the peaceful grounds of Holy Cross. All are welcome. BYO lunch. Registration is from 9.30am. You are invited to support the day financially according to your means. A donation of \$25.00 is suggested as a guide. The day concludes at 2pm with a celebration of the Eucharist. For further details contact Frank Burke, burke.frank942@yahoo.com.au or 0407998781.

Vale Michael Doyle

Michael passed away on Easter Sunday around 11.30pm, ten days short of Mardi's first anniversary. Despite declining in recent weeks, Michael remained alert and interested. The care he has received from his son Patrick (full time carer) and from Kathleen (and Chris) and Marianne (and Amit) has been extraordinary.

The greatest conviction Michael came to was that God loved him unconditionally. He was deeply thankful to have 'found' this more deeply through the Passionist charism and shared over some years with our Passionist Companions. Over several years he and I exchanged many books and discussed them together. Being a very learned man and ex-Professor and Dean of education at ACU, Michael became particularly interested in cosmology, evolution and theology.

Just over two years ago Michael emailed me: "Though immobile, I am well , happy, and accepting of my situation. I am exactly where God wants me and He supports me with many graces. Whereas I could feel frustration at not being able to move around when and where I want to, and humiliation when I have to be moved by sling from one place to another, including a commode and all that is involved with that, I remain peaceful and accepting. My prayer life gives me great strength. I say the Breviary each day - I consider myself a priest without 'faculties', but still a priest. We have online Mass each day (Fr Dillon). But probably the most influential is an hour in the morning before the appointed rising time in which, lying in bed, I talk with God about His amazing Unconditional Love for me I find this hour often exhilarating and has a great influence over the rest of the day".

Michael's funeral will be livestreamed from Holy Cross at 1.30pm next Tuesday.
www.vividstream.com.au/live/michael-doyle

Michael's son Patrick will lead the rosary at Holy Cross on Sunday, at 6pm.

50 years

Congratulations to [Carl and Fedora Vasarelli](#) on their 50th wedding anniversary.

Drawing or photo?

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=6pw9zgtseZE>

Quick change

This is as clever and amazing as any of this type of performance

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=BwzVhdnRXYo>

Humour

1. A small boy leading a donkey. passed by an army camp. Two soldiers decided to have some fun with the boy. One of them said, "Why are you holding your brother, so tight?" The boy replied, "So he won't join the army!"

2. Bill's son came home from school and said, "Hey Dad, I got a role in the school play". "What part did you get, son"? Bill asked.

I have to play the Dad".

"Go back tomorrow", Bill said, "and tell them you want a speaking part!"

3. A drunk was trying to fit his key into a lamppost. A police officer came by and said "It seems there is nobody home, mate".

"There must be," replied the man, "there's a light on upstairs".

4. Tony was at the bar bragging about his fitness. The locals were used to it, but a visitor was annoyed and said, "I'll bet you I can push something in a wheelbarrow for 200 metres and you can't wheel it back". Tony looked at the skinny stranger and laughed. "OK, let's do it. I'll bet you \$50".

A wheelbarrow was borrowed from the bartender and they went out the front.

"OK wise guy", Tony said. "What are you going to do?"

The visitor had hold of the wheelbarrow and said, "Get in!"

5. Tanya's son came home from university for the weekend and she asked him how he was going. He replied, "Good".

And how are the professors?? She continued. He replied, "Good".

The university have a good football team this year. How do you think they will go?"

He replied, "Good".

Tanya continued, "Have you decided on your optional course this year?"

"Yes", he replied

“What is it?” she asked
 “Communications!”



“Who called this meeting again?”



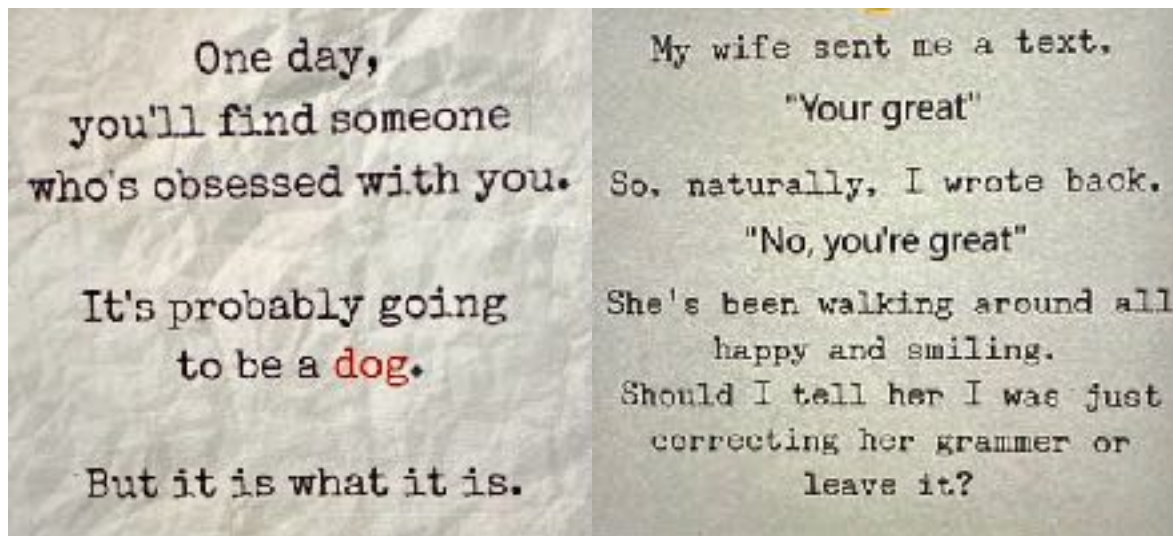
Suddenly the birds realized that they had wandered into the wrong zoom call.

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Sam's boss texted him: "Send me one of your funny jokes!"
Sam texted him back: "I'm busy working. I'll send one later."
"That's hilarious," his boss said. "Send another one!"





"I found the clog."



In order to get the grounds tidier for the Passion Play and Easter, our team of mulchers cleared a large pile of branches that had been gathered over recent months, in the area down towards the dam. Erick, Phi and Tri are pictured here with our arborist, Robert Taylor.

Prayers

A number of readers know Aileen and Murray Straight from Christchurch. On Monday their daughter's husband Dave Kempton was killed while working on his truck, in Blenheim (NZ). Dave and Nicola have two children, Olivia 19 and Sean 17.

Please remember the extended family in your prayers. We remember Dave as well as Nicola, Olivia, Sean, Aileen and Murray and the extended family.

We remember Michael Doyle and those celebrating anniversaries, especially Ann McGuigan (18th April) and Kathleen Jordan (19th April) as well as Michael's wife Mardi, also 19th April.



We also remember those in our Holy Cross family who are unwell, especially, Phil Drew (former Passionists who has suffered a stroke and is in Geelong hospital), Pam Storey (still in hospital) John Reardon, Maeve Reardon (surgery on Monday), Maree Bartoli, Ted Hallam, Bronwyn Burke, Gerry Bond, Gerald & Margaret Wright, Alexander Lim, Michael O'Callaghan, Paul Darbyshire, Angelo Vigilante, Lynda Chin, Des Grisell, Peter Owen, Chris O'Toole, Marg Casey Cathy Petrocco's sister, Marissa, Greg Agosta,, John Lazzari, Helen McLean, Errol Lovett, Peter DeMarzi, Pam Gartland, Anne Jenkins. Jim Monaghan, Sr Gen Walsh RSC, Peter McNamara, Fr Brian Gleeson CP, Mary Hackett, Patricia Keeghan, Mary and Kate Dunn

The **Mass link** will be sent on Saturday, by Chris.

Brian

