

## Holy Cross Retreat

<https://holycrosscentre.com/community/>



15<sup>th</sup>

March, 2024

## Letter 213



This photo was taken of the Province lay staff (minus a few absentees) who met with Fr Denis at Holy Cross for two days last week.

## Phi BTheol



After many years of academic studies, Phi will graduate tonight with a Bachelor of Theology degree, one week before he is to be ordained deacon. Making the transition as he did from studies in Vietnam to studies at YU was a big challenge, but one he managed well. We congratulate Phi on this milestone – the first Vietnamese Passionist to earn international theological degree.. A great thrill is that his parents and some other relatives will be able to attend both his graduation and his diaconate on March 22nd.

## Providing transport

**Madeline Brooks** is a carer for her husband and no longer has her license. She lives in the apartments on top of Aldi @ Jackson Square. Is anyone able to pick her up and take her to Mass, please? Her number: 0481 267 690

## Feasts

Every Lent, people look forward to celebrating the feasts of **St Patrick** (17<sup>th</sup>) and **St Joseph** (March 19<sup>th</sup>)

**Passion Play at Holy Cross**



**There are two performances of the Melbourne Passion Play**

**Palm Sunday (March 23<sup>rd</sup>) at 1.30pm**

**Good Friday (March 29<sup>th</sup>) at 10.00am**

**See more details on the notice board.**

## HOLY WEEK

Holy Week begins on **Palm Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>** and this will provide Phi with his first opportunity to minister as a deacon. For those able to do so, we will gather out the front of the chapel for the procession liturgy and then move into the chapel. After Mass, the **Coffee Cart** will be here so we hope for another time of warm fellowship. The **Passion Play** will be performed at 1.30pm.

### Holy Thursday: 7.30pm Mass

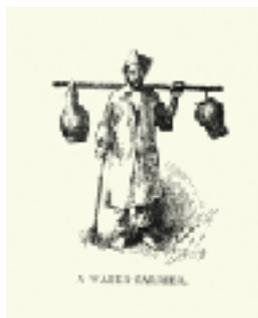
**Good Friday 10.00am: The Passion Play** is being held in the grounds on. Because of that, we are unable to have a communal celebration of the Stations of the Cross.

**Good Friday 3.00pm: Commemoration of the Passion.** If the weather permits, this will be outside 'under the trees'. If you BYO a chair, that will help us.

**Easter Sunday: 6.00am liturgy in the St Gabriele shrine.** This will be followed by a **breakfast** (by donation) in the Holy Cross Centre dining room.

### Easter Sunday: 10.00am Mass

## Cracked Pots



A water bearer in India had two large pots, each hung on the ends of a pole he carried across his neck. One of the pots had a crack in it while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water. At the end of the long walk from the stream to the house, the cracked pot arrived only half full. For a full two years this went on daily, with the bearer delivering only one and a half pots full of water to his house.

Of course, the perfect pot was proud of his accomplishments, perfect for which it was made. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it was only able to accomplish half of what it had been made to



do.

After two years of what it perceived to be a bitter failure, it spoke to the water bearer one day by the stream. "I am ashamed of myself and I want to apologize to you. I have been able to only deliver half my load because this crack in

my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your house. Because of my flaws, you have to do all of this work, and you don't get full value for your efforts." the pot said.



The bearer said to the pot, "Did you notice that there were flowers only on your side of the path, but not on the other pot's side? That's because I have always known about your flaw, and you watered the flower seeds on your side of the path every day. For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate the table. Without you being just the way you are, there would not be this beauty to grace the house."

Moral: Each of us has our own unique flaws. We're all cracked pots, but the cracks and flaws we each have, make our lives together so very interesting and rewarding. Often, it is the flaw that creates connections and provides real life.

Blessed are the flexible, for they shall not be bent out of shape.

### **Car park improvement**

The top part of the car park has now been asphalted which provides improved safety for those who park in that area. As advised last week, we request that this parking area be left as a priority for people who are disabled or who need more secure footing when getting in and out of their car. Thank you.



### Humour

1. The parish priest announced “There will be a meeting of the Board in the hall, immediately after Mass,” announced the pastor. The meeting had just got under way when a teenager wandered in. The priest asked was he looking for someone. The teenager replied, “I’ve come to the meeting”. The priest explained that this was only for members of the Board. The teenager said, Father if there is anyone more bored than me, I’d like to meet them!”

2. After the night service, a stranger approached the pastor and said, “I’d like you to pray for my hearing.”. The pastor touched the man’s ears and said a passionate, and earnest prayer. “How’s your hearing now?” the pastor asked. Surprised, the man said, “Well, it’s not until tomorrow.”

3. A boy came late to Sunday School. Knowing he was usually very prompt, his teacher asked, “Johnny, is anything wrong?”  
“No, miss,” he said. “I was going to go fishing, but my dad told me that I needed to get on up and go to church.” The teacher was very impressed and asked Johnny if his father had explained why going to church was more important than fishing. “Yes, miss, he did. He said he didn’t have enough bait for both of us.”

4. As the storm raged, the captain realized his ship was sinking fast. He called out, "Anyone here knows how to pray?" A pastor stepped forward. "Captain, I know how to pray." "Good," said the captain, "you pray while the rest of us put on our life jackets – we're one short."

5. During her sermon on Jesus's teaching that we should love our enemies, the pastor asked the congregation to raise their hands if they had enemies. Everyone did so except for Mrs. Watson in the front row, who had just turned 95.

"Mrs. Watson," the pastor asked, "that is amazing. Could you share the Christian secret that explains after 95 years you have no enemies?"

"That's easy," she replied, "I just outlived them!"

### **Biblical questions**

**Why couldn't Jonah trust the ocean?**... He just knew there was something fishy about it.

**Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible?** ... Samson. He brought the house down.

**Who is the biblical character who likes to drink soft drinks?**...HABBA-COKE (Habakkuk)

**What kind of cell phone did Delilah use?**... Samson

**How do we know Peter was a rich fisherman?**... By his net income.

**Why didn't Noah ever go fishing?**..... He only had two worms.

**How long did Cain hate his brother?** ... As long as he was Abel, too.

**Who was the smartest man in the Bible?** ... Abraham. He knew a Lot.

**What kind of person was Boaz before he got married?** ... Ruthless!

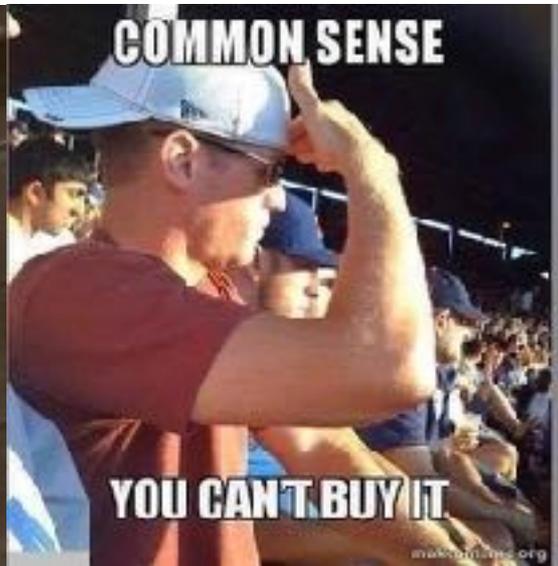
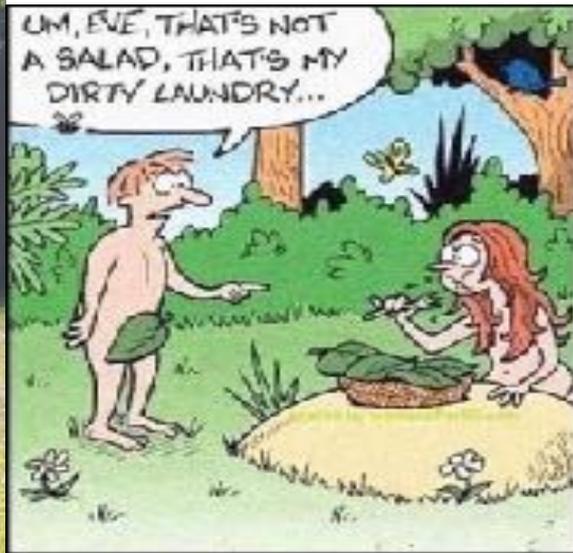
**At what time of day was Adam created?**... A little before Eve.

**Which Bible character had no parents?**..... Joshua, son of Nun.

**What animal could Noah, not trust?**... .....Cheetah

**Who was the straightest man in the Bible?**... Joseph: Pharaoh made him a ruler

**Which servant of God was the worst lawbreaker in the Bible?** ... Moses. He broke all ten commandments at once.



## Prayers

We remember those who have passed away recently, especially and We also remember those whose anniversaries occur around this time, especially:

**Carmel Cochaud and Margaret Excel** (March 17<sup>th</sup>)

**Richard Hall** (20<sup>th</sup> March)

**Matt Walsh** (22<sup>nd</sup> March)

We especially pray for our long-time associate and devoted parishioner of St Kevin's, Margaret Mangan, who was admitted on Thursday to palliative care at 'Olivia Newton John' hospital, Heidelberg.

We remember all others in our Holy Cross family who are unwell, especially, Margaret Enriquez, Maree Bartoli, Pam Storey, Tony Tome,



Carol Batistella, Peter McNamara, Peter & Bernadette Owen  
Alexander Lim, Michael O'Callaghan, Maeve & John Reardon, Shirley Barnes,  
Bronwyn Burke, Gerry Bond, Helen McLean,  
Phil Drew, Monique Hardinge, Mary Hackett, Pam Gartland,  
Greg Agosta, Patricia Keeghan, Anne Jenkins, Errol Lovett,  
Sr Gen Walsh RSC, Kate & Mary Dunn, Chris O'Toole, Gerald Quinn CP, Jeff Foale CP  
and baby Alfred Theodore in London.

The **Mass link** for this Sunday will be sent on Saturday by Chris.

Brian