

Holy Cross Retreat

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

Letter 269

4th April, 2025

Daylight Saving



This weekend, daylight saving ends, so we will get an extra hour of sleep! The advice is to put our clocks back one hour before we go to bed on Saturday night. In the image to the side, here, the time at 3.00am becomes 2.00am. So if you normally go to bed at 10.00pm, move the clock to 9.00pm and smile at the thought of an extra hour of sleep.

Stations of the Cross



The community will pray the outside Stations of the Cross again tomorrow morning, **Friday April 4th at 8.00am on** You are most welcome to join us. Meet at our carport, please.

Way of the Cross – Good Friday

As previously advised, we will return to our custom of holding Good Friday morning Stations in small groups, now that the Passion Play will not be held here. We will operate in small groups every 10 minutes from 10.00am. (10.00am, 10.10; 10.20; 10.30; 10.40; 10.50; 11.00)

You are welcome to pray the Stations at any time. There are copies of prayers in a plastic box in front of the first garage door.

Holy Week liturgies

Please note these days and times:

Palm (Passion Sunday) April 13th: Mass at **10.00am**

The **Coffee Cart** will be here after Mass.

Holy Thursday: April 17th: Mass at **7.30pm**

Good Friday April 18th: **Way of the Cross** (see details immediately above)
Solemn Commemoration of the Passion at **3.00pm**
(This will be held in the chapel, so come early)

Easter Sunday April 20th: **Dawn Mass 6.30am** in the St Gabriel shrine
This will be followed by breakfast in the dining room
(A donation towards breakfast is requested please)
Feel free to park on the oval.
Mass at 10.00am

The stories behind the names

Behind the names of the persons listed regularly there are stories that are not told for personal or privacy reasons. These include spouses caring for their loved one suffering from illness, disease or the effects of ageing. Their loving care is inspirational. here are some whose names do not appear among those we publically pray for, at the request of relatives, so just our Passionist community prays for them.

It was a great delight to see **Errol Lovett** (in a wheel chair) at Michael O'Callaghan's funeral. It is sad when because of illness, some who have worshipped with us for many years like **Tina Molinaro**, **Maureen Charnley** and **Rod Smith**, are unable now to come to Mass. **John Mignone** is one of the most recent in this situation.



One family we can say a bit more about, is Zoe and Sophia Chung. **Zoe** has undergone breast cancer/mastectomy/chemotherapy at Peter Mac and is now home recovering, assured that no further chemotherapy is needed. Her eleven month old daughter **Sophia** has congenital myasthenic syndrome and has been on a BPap ventilator 24/7 at Monash Children's Hospital, and eight weeks of respite stay at the 'Very Special Kids' clinic in Malvern. She is now under hospital care in the family home, with oversight provided by medical and nursing staff at Monash Children's hospital complex kids team.

Zoe's husband, **Ken**, has had the challenging task of managing hospital visits with his work life as well as dealing with the emotional challenge of both his wife and daughter being so seriously unwell. He recently completed a 500 kilometre bike ride to raise funds, and reached his target of \$7,500.

Ken has been overseeing the training of family members for supportive caring roles with Sophia. This training is provided by clinical nurses in the paediatric



tracheostomy and respiratory services department of the Monash Children's Hospital. in particular they must teach how to change and clean the tube feeds which keep Sophia alive. 'Hospital in the home' (24/7) for Sophia will be a continuing challenge. Ken has negotiated high intensity carer coverage for 6 nights and 3 days. Unfortunately, support from NDIS has been slowed by bureaucracy, despite Sophia's pressing needs.

Frank and Ann Burke are providing significant practical and emotional support to the Chung family, who are stretched to the limit physically, emotionally and spiritually. They are part of a larger support team. Let us keep up our prayers, please.

Pam Storey's brother, **Graham Burke** and has been admitted to Canberra Hospital. He is very high dependency. His family are praying for a short rather than a long farewell as he slips further each day. His wife Judy has asked for as many prayers as possible to support them both through this final journey. Thank you

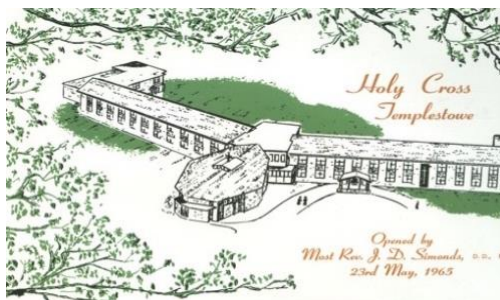
Bruno

It is wonderful to see Bruno up and about again. A few more weeks, and he'll be back to normal.

Jerome

Jerome visited Benalla last Sunday where his sister Mary was living until she passed away on February 10th. Another sister Kate, who is disabled and unwell, is still living there. The family held a memorial wake for Mary at which around a hundred people gathered, which was a most uplifting occasion for Jerome and those present.

Date claimer



Holy Cross will celebrate 60 years since its opening on Sunday May 25th. We will celebrate the occasion with 10.00am Mass, the Coffee Cart and a BBQ followed by a brief video reflection and speech in the dining room. Further details will be provided closer to the occasion.

Erick and women making friends



The Manningham Women's Friendship Group' is a highly multicultural group of senior non-denominational and non-political women, who meet monthly with guest presenters who speak on issues that are relevant to women. There is both a recreational and outreach element to the WFG together with the simple advantage of senior women coming together to share friendship. The WFG was founded by Helen Jurcevic and she serves as President. Helen invited Erick to a meeting last week where he was pleased to see a few women from Holy Cross.



Erick learned that the some women have benefited from free lessons on driving through their belonging to the group and they have discussed issues such as feeling safe as an older adult, and how to

handle scams. They have supported the homeless and contributed to purchasing wheelchairs for disabled children in countries like Burundi and Vietnam. The current mayor of the Manningham Council who attends at Greg's, Doncaster is one of the Council representatives who attend the monthly meetings to support the women.

The event included a BBQ, where police officers using one of their vehicles, and Helen's husband Joe (far left in the photo, with Helen), helped cook. Erick was very impressed.

Peter To Rot



A few months after his visit to Papua New Guinea, Pope Francis has approved the favourable votes of the cardinal and bishop members of the Dicastery for the Causes of Saints for the canonisation of Peter To Rot (1912-1945). He will be the country's first canonised saint. This will give great joy to the Catholic population and our own PNG men.

Born in 1912 in Rakunai, in the easternmost part of Papua New Guinea, Peter To Rot belonged to the Tolai community. He was the son of the village chief and after he was specially trained, he carried out with dedication the ministry of catechist in his community as a married father of three children. When the Japanese occupied Papua New Guinea during World War II and imprisoned all the missionaries, he did what he could to carry out catechetical activities and continue to prepare couples for Christian marriage.

For this reason, he opposed the practice of polygamy that the Japanese had allowed to ingratiate themselves with local tribes. As a result, he was arrested and sentenced to two months in prison. During his time in prison, only his mother, wife and children could visit him. Treated more harshly than the other prisoners, he died in prison of poisoning in July 1945. Pope John Paul II beatified him in Port Moresby in January 1995.



Last year, the bishops of Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands requested to dispense Peter To Rot's cause from a miracle. While noting the reporting of many proofs, they argued that it is very difficult to document the necessary miracle because too few hospitals can provide the scientifically necessary documentation to prove a miraculous healing. Since the local culture is essentially oral it is hard to provide written

documentation of any miracles that might have occurred. Moreover, Peter Te Rot was martyred, so no other proof is required.

Mayrose

Mayrose is taking a well deserved break and she and Ajesh are taking the children to Italy. It will be a special treat for her to see the Passionist house and Retreat Centre in Rome. Mayrose begins her holiday next week on April 11th.

Tri



We are delighted to announce that arrangements have been made for **Tri** to be ordained deacon at Holy Cross on Saturday June 21st at 11.00am. The ordaining Bishop will be Bishop Thinh Nguyen DD. Bishop Thinh was born in Saigon and emigrated to Australia in 1985 when he was aged 13. Tri was born in Mã Thành village in Yên Thành, Nghệ An Province, in the North Central Coast of Vietnam. He is the first Vietnamese Passionist to complete all of his theological studies in Australia.

It is our hope that **Phi** will be present for this ordination and that Phi CP and Tri CP can officiate at 10.00am Mass on Sunday June 22nd. More details later.

Lina

Many people have appreciated Lina's cooking in the Holy Cross Centre over the past year or more, but the arrangement with her has come to an end. Mayrose has engaged new caterers from Donvale.

Trees

We had some more pruning done to some of the trees on Wednesday, mainly alongside the building parallel to the car park. There were many branches that had become a safety risk if people walked or sat under them. Some other trees along the front of the property also needed attention. This seems a never-ending issue.

Readings

Some of St Paul's most beautiful words make up the second reading this Sunday.....

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him, I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish, if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on faith.



All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection, and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far from thinking that I have already won. All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards, to receive in Christ Jesus".

The wonders of animal life

See the attached video for an inspiring experience

Siblings and Michael McIntyre

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XedsTVmn6a8>

The strange language of English

Susan read the red book because her teacher told her to read it.

There is no egg in eggplant nor ham in a hamburger; no apple or pine in pineapple.

English muffins weren't invented in England nor French fries in France

Quicksand works slowly, boxing rings are square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea or is it a pig.

Writers write but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham?

If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth, beeth?

If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it? Is it an odd, or an end?

One goose, two geese. So one moose, two meese? No!

You can make amends but not one amend.

If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught?

If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat?

In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital?

We ship by truck and send cargo by ship? Shouldn't it be cargo by truck and shipment by ship??

We have noses that run and feet that smell?

How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites?

You fill in a form by filling it out, and an alarm goes off by going on!
Overlook and oversee are opposite, but quite a few and quite a lot are alike!

Your house can burn up as it burns down

If you wrote a letter, why didn't you bote your tongue?

When the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible.

English was invented by people, not computers, and it reflects the creativity of the human race, which, of course, is not a race at all.

Humour

Q. Why does a Moon rock taste better than an Earth rock? A. It's a little meteor.

Q. How much do rainbows weigh? A. Not much. They're actually pretty light.

Q. What is the most popular fish in the ocean? A. A starfish.

Q. Why did Beethoven get rid of his chickens?

A. All they ever said was, Bach, Bach, Bach!

Q. Why shouldn't you fundraise for marathons?

A. They just take the money and run. (Take note Erick!)

Q. What's the difference between the bird flu and the swine flu?

A. One requires tweetment and the other oinkment.

Q. What kind of job can you get at a bicycle factory? A. spokesperson

Q. What does a condiment wizard perform? A. Saucery.

Q. What do you call a happy cowboy? A. A jolly rancher.

Q. What's the difference between a \$20 steak and a \$55 steak? A. February 14th!

Q. Why did the gridiron coach yell at the vending machine.

A. He wanted his quarter back!

I heard a joke about paper today. It was tearable.

Q. What's the difference between spring rolls and summer rolls?

A. Their seasoning.

Q. What's the difference between Iron Man and Aluminium Man?

A. Iron Man stops the bad guy. Aluminium Man foils their plans.

A slice of apple pie costs \$2.50 in Jamaica, \$3.75 in Bermuda and \$3 in the Bahamas. Those are the pie-rates in the Caribbean.



Prayers

We remember those who have died recently, especially Fr Mike's grandfather **Phêrô Trần Quốc Tú** who died on Monday, and his 18 year old nephew, **Dominic** who was killed in a motor bike accident on Wednesday. Also Alicen Parrin's mother. We also remember those whose anniversaries occur around this time, especially **Michael Doyle, Dominic O'Brien, Ann McCrohan, Ron Chapman**, and we remember those who grieve them.

We remember all of our Holy Cross family who are unwell, and all who care for them, especially.....



Graham Burke, Francis Lôt, Kata Lenic, Gerry Bond, Pam Storey, Noel Smyth, Fr Jeff Foale CP, Bro Jim Coucher CP, Bro Jerome, Bro Mark Wells CP, Leslie Yang, Peter Barry, Maureen Barns, Rex Cambry, Bruno Petrocco, Carol Battistella, Lorraine Gill, Doris Castro, Zoe Chung and her daughter Sophia, Rod Smith, Alexander Lim, Pam Gartland, Monica Sleeman, Peter Owen, Bro Minh Toan CP, Julia Cantone, Bernadette Owen,

Rod Gorfine, Luke Norden, Greg Agosta, Bronwyn Burke, Helen McLean, Caroline Meade, Patricia Keeghan, Phil Drew, Anne Jenkins, Errol Lovett, and young Alfred Theodore in London.

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

Brian