



Old coats



We have already had a great response to an appeal for warm coats for homeless people. Thank you to those who have already donated. This is greatly appreciated.

Just for one last week, if you have a surplus coat, could you leave it on the large table in the chapel foyer, please or drop it in to front foyer of office.

Reading glasses



Thank you to those who dropped in old reading glasses. If you have any old reading glasses that you no longer need, we can get them up to Papua New Guinea where they can help some very poor women and men be able to see and/or read better. There will be a box on the table at the back of the chapel next Sunday or if you prefer, like the coats, you could drop the glasses into the office Monday-Friday between 10am-3pm.

Fundraiser...Olive oil



Arrangements are going very well for the Holy Cross fundraiser, next month. The Committee would appreciate any donations of 750mls of good quality olive oil, if anyone is in a position to assist with that.

JD

Having completed a Master of Theology of Theology degree through YTU, D Tan has been awarded entry into ongoing studies for a Master of Philosophy in Biblical Studies. This is a pathway for him to complete a Doctorate. We extend congratulations to him.

Tri

Tri returned from his time in Brisbane. He participated in the Passionist Retreat Team's half yearly retreat and had a few days of relaxing. He will now take up his diaconate ministry. His final semester results for his double degree (B Theology & B Ministry) was a High Distinction and 3 Distinctions.

Jerome



Jerome has had a rough time, but he is both patient and resilient. He has had to make a number of adjustments, including having less confidence in his short term memory. A nurse has come each morning at 9.00am and that, added to Chris' constant care, is helping him adjust. The man who was such a great homemaker and gardener, has to accept that he can no longer do those things as the result of ageing. Many of us know that experience, and many more of us will find out what happens at the next stage and beyond.

Chris



Chris has spent a lot of time in the past two weeks helping to organise Jerome's transition from hospital to home care. There is a routine in place now, which will enable him to take up a retreat and lecturing request in Indonesia. He will leave tomorrow and return on July 21st.

Birthday



I was able to celebrate my birthday, with a round of gold with friends Kevin and John and a very nice community meal and cake (acknowledging Erick's birthday as well. This was all provided by members of our Holy Cross Passionist family, which was really appreciated.

The guys went a bit far with the tee shirt as you can see, and gave me a Rugby type top and Mike, from his monthly allowance. also gave me a really nice jumper. The next birthday is Jerome's (in August) followed by a big one for Chris, in October.

Pam Storey is home after a very long stay in hospital including complex surgery. There is still a lengthy recovery period ahead for her.

When is enough, enough?



How are people expected to live like this? It was reported that a 230kg bomb was used to destroy a beach front café in Gaza last week which killed an Hamas operative and forty others. At least nine of those killed were women, and several were children or teenagers. They included artists, students, social activists, a female boxer, a footballer and cafe staff. More than seventy suffered moderate to severe injuries.

Does space go on forever?

It is a simple enough question. In fact Conrad, aged 6 sent in that exact question to the ABC's 'The Conversation'. The answer he was given is in this webpage article:

<https://www.abc.net.au/education/does-space-go-on-forever/14053466>

The rain storm Africa by Angel City Chorale

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-c9-poC5HGw>



Changing worldviews

Part 1 finished at the point where Edwin Hubble concluded that the universe began from a single point because the universe continues to expanding as the galaxies keep moving away from each other at ever increasing speed.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vly76M-4txo>

The last sentence of this song is unfortunate, but the song by Erick idle, is worth hearing.

I have been asked who is the author of this text. Unless otherwise indicated, the text in the newsletter is from the editor.

Part 2

Einstein had done mathematical calculations to support this belief, but he refused to believe that everything was not fixed and planned. "God does not play dice", he famously said. Like New Testament Thomas, he refused to believe, until he looked through Hubble's telescope himself seven years later! One can imagine the thoughts and emotions that ran through Einstein as he saw, what he had not wanted to be true!



Sometimes people do not want to believe something that is outside of their worldview experience. It is good therefore for us to reflect on what sources have shaped our worldview? Some of these will have been general sources, such as the



Bible, the Church, our school(s), priests or pastors, nuns, brothers, teachers, family, friends, culture, the media etc. Narrow unenquiring teachers may not share information with their students that different teachers do. We know that priests in different parishes have communicated very different theologies. A priest once boasted to me that he had not read a theology book in forty years."

There is a report of dialogue between two American churches, one Catholic and one Presbyterian, that took place with humour, outside the church on their signage board. The highlights that different theologies, different denominations or different religions, can affect our worldview.

Our Lady of Martyrs Catholic Church: *All dogs go to heaven.*

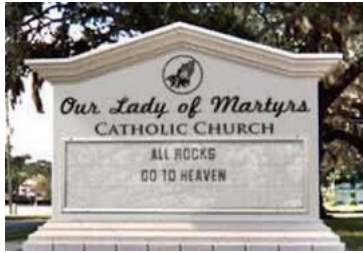
Beulah Cumberland Presbyterian Church: *Only humans go to heaven/ read the bible.*

OL of M: *God loves all his creations/ dogs included*

BC: *Dogs don't have souls/ this is not open for debate*

OL of M: *Catholic dogs go to heaven/Presbyterian dogs can talk to their pastor*

BC: *Converting to Catholicism does not magically grant your dog a soul*



OL of M: *Free dog souls with conversion*

BC: *Dogs are animals/ there aren't any rocks in heaven either*

OL of M: *All rocks go to heaven*

It is clear and common sense that we gain our worldview from a variety of sources. As those sources learn new information, they may change their stance. The theory of evolution, first proposed by Darwin in 1850, was a challenge for Christian churches. The Catholic church does not see evolution as incompatible with the Bible, because it does not hold that the Bible should be read literally. Some other Christian denominations share this view. Some fundamentalist churches hold to 'creationism' (the literal description of creation in the Bible) or intelligent design' (there were no random processes in creation, rather the creator designed the world as it is) and they insist that the Bible be taken literally.

What we have to ask is whether there is anything learned in our 'old story' that has left us disconnected in the light of the discoveries of modern science? For many adult Christians today, the abandonment of regular worship, the 'relaxation' of moral attitudes by so many people, especially the young, and the refusal of the hierarchy to respond to some pastoral needs such as the provision of regular Eucharist, invites much questioning and reflection. Sexual abuse in the church has shattered the faith (worldview) of many people and their confidence in 'the system'.



Whether we like it or not, there is a new worldview developing? How is this affecting us? What questions does it raise? What feelings does it leave us with?

Why our worldview is different!



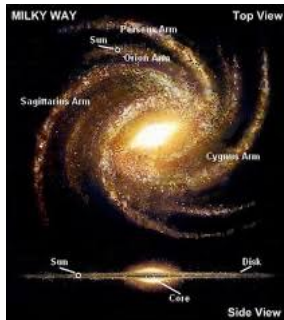
The worldview of indigenous cultures reflects their deep appreciation of the interconnectedness of life. Such primal cultures are sometimes derogatorily called 'primitive', but they hold a sense of how things were and are, that we have lost. Western (Christian) culture, gradually separated the 'holy' from the 'profane'. This became extreme under the influence of philosopher, Renee Descartes and it has had an unhealthy emphasis and influence on Christian spirituality.

Whereas Church 'going' was highlighted as the essential responsibility of a faithful Catholic, we know that church living is what we are called to focus on. We seek to meld them, but we must remember that we don't 'go to' church; we are church! Our worship comes out of our belonging. Some people have come to see that cooking a casserole for someone in need is truly putting faith into practice, and that all the prayers and external 'actions', have to be backed up by practical action, as the letter to St James highlights.



A new worldview is inviting us to ask new questions such as, is hydrogen spiritual? Is water spiritual? We might at first baulk at such questions, but the truth is, that life, including human life, and therefore us, emerged from hydrogen the original element, and water becomes us! Water allows us to think, move, speak, act and pray. Without water we are nothing. Such new thinking invites us to see God's presence all around us, sustaining us in everyday ways. Holiness is found in the ordinary!

When an old worldview, or way of seeing things, is threatened, advance is sometimes stopped. Although Galileo discovered that the sun, not the earth is the centre of the universe, 'no one' wanted to believe him! Not only the church authorities disbelieved,



so did the scientists! Last century we discovered far more than Galileo had discovered. He discovered that earth is not the centre of the universe! We discovered that the sun is neither the centre of our galaxy nor the universe. Our sun is one of hundreds of billions of suns in one (Milky Way) galaxy. There are more than 200 billion galaxies! Some scientists say that the discovery of other galaxies was the most significant discovery of the 20th century.

It makes an incredible difference to know what we now know about the universe. Galileo's discovery did not fit with the Bible story. Recent scientific discoveries do not fit with the Bible either, and this affects our worldview, so we need to understand the Bible much better than most people do. The first thing to recognise is that it is not a science book. It contains many forms of literature, including myth. Of course, the popular understanding of myth today suggests 'make believe', but a myth is meaning making story that explains belief. Every culture carries such myths and to understand the culture, we need to know the myths.



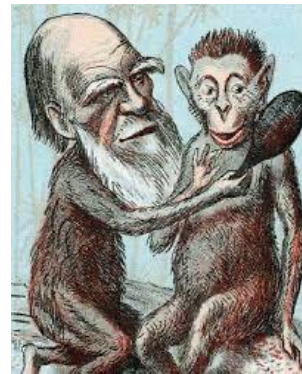


The Australian aboriginals have 'the Dreaming and the Rainbow Serpent',. One of the Maori stories of creation has great similarities with Genesis. *"In the beginning there was no sky, no sea, no earth and no Gods. There was only darkness, only Te Kore, the Nothingness. The very beginning was made from*

nothing. From this nothingness, the primal parents of the Maori came, Papatuanuku, the Earth mother, and Ranginui, the Sky father".

Such stories helped people understand who they were, where they came from and why they were here. Santa Claus is popular myth in Western culture. One can claim that such a person does not exist, but he does exist for young children, and parents have no difficulty in promoting that belief for them.

Before considering the Bible in a little depth, it is good first, to reflect again, a little on the common reaction to discoveries. A common response to those who announce discoveries is scorn or rejection. Even the term 'Big Bang' was coined by Fred Hoyle as term of derision. Charles Darwin knew that his theory would cause ridicule and scorn, so he took many years to publish it. His book was popular and new editions sold out immediately, but most people, did not want to believe that we had a common ancestor! In fact for many years it was promoted that Darwin taught that humans were descended from apes. Darwin never proposed that. He believed that both apes and humans had a common ancestor. People who have visited zoos have little trouble believing that, if they look not only at the apes!



MEN WILL NEVER FLY, BECAUSE FLYING IS
RESERVED FOR THE ANGELS.
- MILTON WRIGHT (BISHOP) -

The Wright brothers were the first humans to invent and fly an aeroplane, in 1903. Their father was a Bishop, and when asked some years earlier what he thought about the idea that one day humans might be able to fly, Bishop Wright said "Only angels fly"!

Abraham Ortelius (1527-1598) suggested that when you look at a map, Europe, Africa and the Americas must have been joined at one time and that perhaps they had separated as a result of earthquakes or other eruptions. It could not be proven and seemed to most people to be impossible.





Almost four hundred years later in 1912, Alfred Wegener proposed that all the countries had at one time belonged to a super continent called Pangaea (meaning the entire earth). Wegener suggested that they must have drifted apart through what he called Continental drift. Notable scientists rejected his theory. In 1968 Jack Oliver (building on the work of Warren Carey in 1953) was able to give evidence that the continents sit on seven large plates and twenty or so smaller (tectonic) plates). How could someone have imagined this possibility before maps were drawn?

Incredibly, some primitive peoples did, and expressed it in their myth!

Science, theology and scripture are telling us that the western story is evolving. We know our sun is half way through its nine-billion year life. Feelings such as we identified in Susan's experience with Social Security, can stop us from accepting or embracing change, because "It's too hard". If we choose to not believe in the things new discoveries tell us, who would we be fooling apart from ourselves? Why would we do that?



Our main trouble is not so different to those who lived at the time of Galileo. Much of what we are learning does not 'fit' with the Bible. So it is good to reflect on images of God that were carried in the Scripture story we learned in early life? How was this passed on to you and interpreted by you? In the Scripture story how was the earth formed? How were humans made? What implications are in the

story regarding our attitude to the earth, other peoples, and men as distinct from women? How much did patriarchy influence norms for tribal living.

Israel and Judah were separate kingdoms from 930BC. Israel (north) was conquered by Assyria in 720. Judah (south) was conquered by Babylon in 586. During this time of separation, different names for God were used and we can detect this in the book of Genesis. An editor brought the stories together around 450BCE. We can read one story of creation in Chapter 2 of Genesis which scholars suggest was written around 900 BCE by the Jahwist tradition. This tradition refers to God as 'Yahweh'. The creation story in Chapter 1 of Genesis was written around three hundred years later (around 600BCE) by the Priestly tradition. This tradition refers to God as 'Elohim'. [\(To be continued\)](#)

Names of GOD		
LORD (YHWH) A translation of God's name	Adonai My Lord	Elohim "God"
Father Relationship between God and his children	El Shaddai God Almighty	El Elyon God Most High
El Olam The Eternal God	El Roi The God who Sees	Emanuel God with us
Kyrios "Lord" or "Master"	Theos The Greek word for God	Jesus The name of the Son of God

Humour

A burglar entered a house he was intending to rob when all of a sudden a quiet voice said, "I can see you and so can Jesus". The burglar looked around the room but could see no one so he started going through some draws when he heard the voice again, "I can see you and so can Jesus."

The burglar jumped up and by the window he spotted a cage almost obscured by the curtains, and inside the cage was a parrot who piped up again, "I can see you and so can Jesus". "So what", said the burglar, "you're only a parrot". The parrot replied, "Maybe. But Jesus is a rottweiler!"

A USA farmer was in western Victoria for a holiday. He and a local grain grower got talking. The farmer showed him his wheat paddocks and the visitor said, "Pretty small eh? Ours are three or four times that size".

Next the farmer showed him his cattle. The visitor said our Longhorns would be twice the size of your Angus". The conversation had nearly died when a mob of kangaroos hooped past.

"What are they?" asked the visitor.

"Just our local grasshoppers" the farmer said casually!

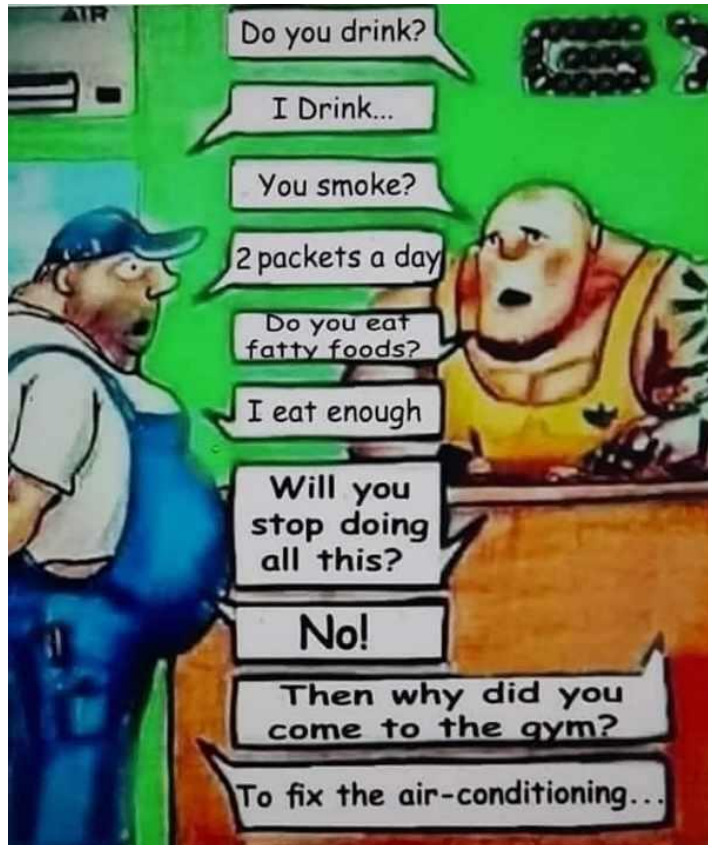
Barry rang the local police station. "I'm calling to report my neighbour Wazza is hiding marijuana inside his firewood". The next day police officers descended on Warren home. They searched the house and then went to the woodshed. Using axes, they busted open every piece of firewood, but could find no marijuana. They left. The next thing Wazza's phone rang. "Hey Wazz, did the cops come?" "Yeah, they did" was the reply. Did they chop up your firewood?" "Yes they did" Warren replied. "Happy birthday mate" Barry called down the phone.

Mr. See owned a saw. And Mr. Soar owned a seesaw. Now, See's saw sawed Soar's seesaw before Soar saw See, which made Soar sore. Had Soar seen See's saw before See sawed Soar's seesaw, See's saw would not have sawed Soar's seesaw. So See's saw sawed Soar's seesaw. But it was sad to see Soar so sore just because See's saw sawed Soar's seesaw.

A certain young fellow named Beebee wished to marry a lady named Phoebe. "But, I must see, what the minister's fee will be, before Phoebe be Phoebe Beebee

Silly Simon is shining Sally's shoes in the shoe shop. He smiles as he shines shoes because she shines Simon's shoes too

The sixth sick sheikh's sixth sheep's sick



Prayers

We remember those who have died recently, especially **Tonino D'Intini** (uncle of Frank Giantomasso) and those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially: **Antonio Barbero, Marjorie Flew, Paul Matisons, Carolyn Thompson** and **Eileen McLoughlin** that they have found joy in God's eternal presence.



We pray for members of our Holy Cross family who are coping with illness and all who care for them, especially

Pam Storey, Noel Smyth, Nello Campomizzi, Denise Egan, Peter Addicoat CP, Caroline Hagedorn, Nancy Reynolds, Kata Lenic, Treenah Wadham, Lesley Yang, Jenny Wullings, Peter Barry, Jeanelle Bergin, Stephanie Snow, Rex Cambry, Peter & Bernadette Owen, Fr Brendan Lane, Graham Burke, Marilyn Cilmi, Luke Norden, Maureen Barns, Zoe Chung and her daughter Sophia, Pam Gartland, Bronwyn Burke, Carol Battistella, Alexander Lim, Patricia Keeghan, Doris Castro, Phil Drew, Rod Smith, Julia Cantone, Rod Gorfine, Caroline Meade, Greg Agosta, Helen McLean, Bro Jerome, Anne Jenkins and Errol Lovett.

Mass on line

Chris will send the link for Sunday Mass, on Saturday afternoon.

God bless,
Brian