



St Mark's Parish Newsletter

**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C.
14th February, 2010.**

Hidden Treasure

The material world has many different levels of quality and value. These are interpreted differently from person to person and from place to place. What is good and valuable to one person may not be useful to another. A tour of a 'trash and treasure' market or a quick look through the "Weekend Shopper" reveals that the value of the material world is a combination of both the shining and the rusty.



The Beatitude we hear today reflects two opposites we often talk about...namely a curse and a blessing. People generally state a blessed life contains riches and power and that poverty, hunger and sorrow reflect a cursed life.

For Jesus a curse or a blessing does not entirely depend on the material world. Whether a person is rich or poor depends very much on the quality of the relationships that person has with others and with God. The one who turns away from God is considered poor and cursed while the one who places their trust in God is considered blessed. A life that is firmly planted in God who is love and who is the author of life and unlimited source of goodness is indeed a blessed life.

Jesus has established a new standard of life that is higher than the old one. The new standard has a hidden treasure—those who fully place their trust in God will see it with the eyes of faith.

Fr Tuong.

Lent 2010



Remember me

God is near us, closer than the air we breathe. Be reminded of this by undertaking the Lenten program – *Remember me*. Join with contemporary writers of spirituality such as Thomas Merton and Evelyn Underhill who give insights into prayer, contemplation and spirituality within this Lenten journey. *Remember me* utilises a beautifully presented full colour book and set of CDs. You are invited to attend one of the following groups:

Lenten Group Venues:

Young Adult & Youth Group—new members always welcome!

Tuesdays 7pm

Parish Office

Begins: 23/2

Lucy & Doris Heffernan's home

Mondays 7pm

99 Buddleia St Inala

Begins 22/2

Kathie Ober's group

Wednesdays 7pm

Parish Office

Begins 17/2



Pope Benedict XVI writes:

“May every family and Christian community use well this time of Lent, therefore, in order to cast aside all that distracts the spirit and grow in whatever nourishes the soul, moving it to love of God and neighbour. I am thinking especially of a greater commitment to prayer, *lectio divina*, recourse to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and active participation in the Eucharist, especially the Holy Sunday Mass. With this interior disposition, let us enter the penitential spirit of Lent.”



Ash Wednesday Mass Times:

Wednesday 17th February:

English 8 am

Vietnamese 7 pm

St Mark's Primary School will have distribution of the ashes (No Mass) at 9.30 am and 10.15am in the church.

The Day of Ashes, the first day of Lent, probably dates from at least the eighth century. On this day the faithful approach the altar where the priest, dipping his thumb into ashes previously blessed, marks the forehead of each with the sign of the cross, saying as a reminder of our mortality: "Remember that thou art dust and unto dust thou shalt return." The wearing of ashes is also a sign of repentance—for example in Job 42:6 we read: "I retract what I have said and repent in dust and ashes." The ashes are made by burning the blessed palms that were distributed the previous year on Palm Sunday.



Project Compassion

Project Compassion promotes peace by pursuing justice. Please take home a Project Compassion money box and/or a set of envelopes and give generously this Lent. Your donations allow Caritas Australia, the Catholic Agency for International Aid and Development, to work with communities to reduce poverty and hunger around the world.

What your dollars can do!

\$400 could provide a grant for a family to start a small business in East Timor.

\$100 could provide training and materials for a family in Malawi to build a pit latrine

\$50 could enable two people living with HIV/AIDS to access their daily medicines in El Salvador

\$15 could supply blankets for a maternity ward in Papua New Guinea

\$7 could provide one chicken for a Cambodian family to begin chicken raising

\$2 could provide tree seedlings to help reforest eroded land in Malawi

All donations \$2 and over are tax deductible if you record your name and address on each giving envelope used. Receipts are issued after Easter.



But let our people, too, learn to devote themselves to good works, to supply urgent needs, so that they may not be unproductive.
Titus 3:14

Join Archbishop Bathersby for the Knowing Jesus Regional Gathering.

See dates and times on the poster on the church noticeboard.

Gathering program includes:

Welcome, prayer, Archbishop's Address, Multimedia Reflection, Witness, Small Group Sharing, Q&A segment, Pray 2010 promotion, blessing and close.

Transport is available for the Sunnybank Session on the Thursday 4th March from 7pm to 9.30 pm—contact parish office!

Can you Help? A Sudanese family at Birkenhead Crescent, Forest Lake require transport for 2 boys to the 9.30am Mass on Sundays. If you could help on one Sunday per month it would be greatly appreciated. Call Kathie at parish office on 3372 5658.



Ellen Simpson thanks Fr Tuong, the choir and the many parishioners who have given her their sympathy and support.



St Mark's Parish Pastoral Council 2010 to 2011.

Nominations of parishioners who would be willing to serve on a Parish Pastoral Council for two years are being sought.

Please contact Fr Tuong, Kathie Ober or the parish office with your nominations:

Phone 3372 5658

Email: stmarks@bne.catholic.net.au

Closing Date for Nominations: Friday 26th February, 2010.

Alternatively you can place your nomination in an envelope on the collection plate. Once all the nominations have been received, individuals will be contacted and asked to attend an Information evening.

Youth Mass

21st February 9.30am

Would any young people who would like to be part of this year's Passion Play on Good Friday please come to this Mass. Following the Mass you are invited to meet youth group members in the school undercover area.



Big thank yous to....

Pat Stringer & Mick Coolwell who installed a grab rail near the altar. Jimmy Vu and friends who installed the PA system in the church.



The Vietnamese Community will celebrate their new year—the Year of the Tiger - this weekend. Happy New Year!



On Sunday 14th February from 8am to 1pm there will be **Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Arts, Crafts & Culture Markets** on the land next to the Trocaire Units. All are most welcome!

Pray 2010

The Archdiocese is organising a major gathering on prayer at St Bernards Parish Upper Mt Gravatt from July 7 to July 10 this year. There will be over 40 keynote presentations, more than 270 prayer workshops and numerous opportunities for praying in a rich diversity of styles, drawing upon the wisdom and experience of over 130 international, national and local presenters.

More information at:
www.pray2010.org.au

Daily Mass this week, please note changes:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7pm Vietnamese (New Year)	7pm Vietnamese	<u>Ash</u> <u>Wednesday</u> 8am English 7pm Vietnamese	6 pm Vietnamese	8am English	No Mass.

Please remember in your prayers—

Those who are ill: *Moya Stringer, Ronnie Dickson*

Anniversaries: *Gunter Ernst, Lidia Robazza, Milovale Togia, Paul Nhan, Concepcion Gagawanan, Maria Mai.*

Parish Directory.

Parish Priest:

Fr. Vudinh Tuong

Pastoral Coordinator:

Kathie Ober

Youth Group Coordinator

Tam Hoang

PHONE NUMBERS

Presbytery and Parish Office: 3372 5658

Fax: 3372 5863

School 3372 3408

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mon to Fri 9.00 am to 3.00 pm

Contact: Joy Spratt

ADDRESSES

Presbytery: 96 Lilac St Inala

Parish Office: 96 Lilac St Inala

Postal: PO Box 352, Inala 4077

Email: stmarks@bne.catholic.net.au

Youth Group: youthhofstmarks@gmail.com

Web: www.stmarksinala.net.au

MASS TIMES - Next WEEK END

Vigil Mass (Saturday):

English 6.00 pm

Vietnamese 7.15 pm

Sunday:

Vietnamese 7.30 am

English 9.30 am

Reconciliation (English and Vietnamese) for the coming week:

By appointment—20 minutes after the morning weekday Mass or 20 minutes before the evening Mass. Saturdays 5.30 to 5.50 pm.

**Baptismal Enrolment Session:
after the 9.30 am Mass on 7th March**

Parish Roster for Weekend 20th/21st February.

Saturday 6.00 pm—

Reader: Susan Mollee

Announcer: Rizcel Gagawanan

Communion Ministers: Kathie Ober

Margaret Murphy

Leilani Niedermayr

Youth for Christ Choir

Sunday 9.30 am

Reader: Monica Chester

Announcer: Van Ho

Communion Ministers: Pat Gorman

Lusia Winterstein

Annie Anae

Parish Youth Mass.

Church Cleaning:

Week Commencing 15th February:

Ellen Simpson, Rita Fernandes, Marie Shinde, Marie Robinson.

Week Commencing 22nd February:

Thi Hong Nguyen, Cuong Tran Nguyen, Dang Thi Hang Nga.

Counting:

14th February:

J & M Byrne

21st February:

Terry McKenna, Raul Wilton, Brian Jones.

Readings for Next Week's Mass:

Deut 26:4-10; Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13

Readings & Rosters available from website.

Planned Giving—

First Collection \$ 1168.70

Second Collection \$ 2727.10

PIETY STALL HOURS

Sat 6.45 pm to 7.15 pm

Sun 8.45 am to 9.30 am