



St Mark's Parish Newsletter

**Third Sunday of Lent, Year B.
15th March, 2009.**

Embrace the Unknown.

Last week I met a person who had cancer at the end stage. The reality of dying and death was such that it dominated the whole conversation. Every few minutes the person would refer to cancer and death. Amazingly this person had no fear of approaching death but appreciated life's journey and placed firm trust and great hope in the Risen Lord.



Jesus often talked about death; especially in his last few months on earth. He talked about his own death regularly and openly. He knew he was going to die soon but was not sure of the exact time. The idea of death constantly recurred in his mind. It dominated his teaching and his conversation with the disciples. It was real. Hope and the resurrection were so real and obvious that for Jesus his death was necessary.

Death is something incomprehensible to mere human understanding. Sin had contaminated human life so much that the "Word made Flesh" came to destroy sin. Human life is so precious that Jesus by his resurrection draws life out of death and as St Pauls said we are co-heirs of Christ. It is an act of divine mercy that Jesus died to save us.

The new life Jesus gained for us is a life in the spirit that is no longer dominated by the material world. There is no more suffering, death and sadness but life full of joy and glory. Glorification and resurrection follow death and burial.

Fr Tuong.



Giving of our time, talent and treasure mainly involves a change of attitude about giving. It's important to think in terms of giving in gratitude to God, of considering how blessed we are, of using our gifts and talents for the good of others.

Project Compassion.



To bring about the kingdom of God, we must be transformed within ourselves and our community. This week's story takes us to Papua New Guinea where Junior is learning organic farming skills, as well as leadership, community responsibility, cooking, health and hygiene. Two years ago he was in danger of becoming one of Port Moresby's infamous 'raskols', but since participating in the Caritas Australia project run by the Archdiocese of Port Moresby's Social Action Centre, Junior has taken a path of hope. Your donation to Caritas Australia's Project Compassion helps 'street boys' in Papua New Guinea to learn practical new skills for a positive future.

**Giving envelopes and money boxes available at church entrance table!
If you require a receipt for tax deduction, record your name and address on each giving envelope used.**

Special Ministers Needed!

You are invited to nominate parishioners (young and old) who you feel have the gifts to be a....



Minister of the Word *and/or*
Announcer & Prayer Leader *and/or*
Minister of Communion.



Self nominations are also welcome.

Please fill in the coupon below and deliver to the parish office or place on next week's collection plate.

I would like to nominate..... (Name)

.....(Address if known)

for the following ministry

Minister of the Word

Announcer/Prayer Leader

Minister of Communion.

Signed:

(Your name).

Sacramental Program 2009.

Preparing Children to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation.

The parish is now taking enrolments for State School children in Years 4 and above to be prepared to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Holy Communion. Classes will commence on the 26th April.

Enrolment forms are on the church entrance table or can be downloaded from:

www.stmarksinala.net.au

Please submit your enrolment form, with a copy of your child's Baptismal certificate, to the parish office by:

Friday 17th April.

Enquiries: 3372 5658.



Easter Choir Rehearsal Times:

All parishioners are invited to join the parish choir to sing at this year's Easter ceremonies.



Rehearsal times:

Friday 20th March
7pm—8pm

Saturday 28th March
4.30 pm—5.30pm

Sunday 5th April
10.30 am –11.30 am

Monday 6th April
After the Mass of Reconciliation (begins 7pm)

Daily Mass this week:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
No Mass.	6 pm <i>Vietnamese St Patrick.</i>	8am English	6 pm <i>Vietnamese Joseph- Husband of Mary.</i>	8am English	No Mass.

Please remember in your prayers—

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries: Dien Simon Nguyen, Maria Oanh, Shirley Kleine, Andrew Tri, Teresa Chow, Julie Ali, Ine Thong, Peter Soi, Thelma Lacey, Andrew Cung, Magdalene Hickey

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 Sunday 5th April.

Parish Roster for Weekend 21st/22nd March

Saturday 6.00 pm—

Reader: Rizcel G & L. de Jesus

Announcer: Dita Gagawanan

Communion Ministers: Leilani Niedermayr

Elizabeth Dang

Youth for Christ Choir

Sunday 9.30 am

Reader: Bob Amadee

Announcer: Joy Spratt

Communion Ministers: Kathie Ober

Anna Teni

Monica Chester

All Singers

Church Cleaning:

Week Commencing 16th March:

Ellen Simpson, Rita Fernandes, Marie Shinde, Marie Robinson, Pam Dwyer & Don Robinson.

Week Commencing 23rd March:

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

Counting:

15th March:

Terry McKenna, Raul Wilton, Brian Jones.

22nd March:

Elizabeth Dang, Matta Hoang, Anne Do, Anne Nguyen, Marie Pham, Marie Nguyen.

Readings for Next Week's Mass:

2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21

Readings & Rosters available from website.

Planned Giving—

First Collection \$ 1295

Second Collection \$ 2692

Bushfire Appeal \$ 8587 to date

Project Compassion: \$ 952.85

New Parish Rosters will be prepared this week. If you will be away from April to June, or over the Easter weekend please contact Joy as early in the week as possible.

PIETY STALL HOURS

Sat 6.45 pm to 7.15 pm

Sun 8.45 am to 9.30 am

