

Dear brothers and sisters,

The prophet Elijah was important for the first Carmelites. Mount Carmel, where they lived, was associated with Elijah and his victory over the prophets of Baal. After this Queen Jezebel set out to get revenge on Elijah who, terrified and depressed, fled into the desert. Our First Reading today, 1 Kings 19:9, 11-13, describes his escape to 'Horeb, the mount of God', or Sinai. Moses had communed with God up on there while the people remained below, witnessing from afar the terrifying manifestation of the divine presence in thunder and lightning, thick clouds, and trumpet blast.

But for Elijah it is different. There is a terrifying wind, a great earthquake and lightening. But the Lord is not 'in' any of these. After the fire comes 'a sound of sheer silence'. What lifts Elijah out of his depression and renews his vocation is a totally new sense of God present in quiet and calm. The Lord once manifest in terrifying upheavals of nature is now known in 'sheer silence,' a silence that has a 'voice'. The Carmelite contemplative tradition like the whole Judaeo-Christian mystical tradition has its foundation here. The presence of God is not terrifying but gentle and loving. It evokes trust not terror.

In the Gospel, (Matt 14:22-33), Jesus sends his disciples off to cross the lake by boat while he disperses the crowd and goes up the mountain alone to pray. The disciples are struggling to make headway in a boat out on the lake on a dark and stormy night. It is symbolic of the Church in situations of chaos and destruction. The plight of the disciples without the presence of Jesus evokes the Church struggling against forces that threaten to engulf it, keenly sensing all the while the physical absence of its Lord.

But Jesus joins the disciples, walking on the sea – in biblical imagery a prerogative of God. The phrase with which he identifies himself, 'It is I', recalls the self-identification of God to Moses at the Burning Bush. The presence of Jesus brings peace and calm. Peter 'models' our human mixture of boldness and fear, strength and weakness. We can make our own his cry for rescue ('Lord, save me') and feel the Lord's strong hand reaching out to raise us from the deep. As Jesus and Peter get into the boat, the wind subsides and the disciples 'worship' him.

Like Elijah at Horeb, the disciples have come to a new awareness of God's saving presence among them. So, also for us in the tempests of our personal lives and the times we live in.

—*Blessings, Greg*



The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Friday 14th August—Mass at 7.00pm (*You must register for this Mass. More below*)

Saturday 15th August—Masses at 8.30am and 6.00pm

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Celebrated every year on August 15, the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary commemorates the death of Mary and her bodily assumption into Heaven, before her body could begin to decay—a foretaste of our own bodily resurrection at the end of time. Because it signifies the Blessed Virgin's passing into eternal life, it is the most important of all Marian feasts and a Holy Day of Obligation, which means all baptised Catholics are obliged to attend Mass.

Please note: Due to the Mass is also a thanksgiving Mass to celebrate for Fr Greg's 50th Anniversary of his profession as a Carmelite and his 70th birthday. The number of people attending this mass will be restricted due to Covid-19 restriction, so you will need to register your attendance at this Mass. You can do this by using the Eventbrite app or go to www.eventbrite.com.au and search "Thanksgiving Mass for Fr Greg" or by contacting the parish office or register on the list in the Church foyer.

Child Protection Week Competition 2020

- Open to all young people 12 – 18 years.
- Create a 2-minute media clip outlining the importance of 'Putting children's needs first'.
- First prize \$500 Gift Voucher
- Entry forms are available from the back of the church or visit: www.perthcatholic.org.au/safeguarding
- Entry closes Friday 14th August.



The Safeguarding Office in consultation with the Archbishops office will shortlist a number of finalists. On Tuesday 8th September a Showreel featuring these finalists' media clips will be made available on the Safeguarding Website www.perthcatholic.org.au/safeguarding and through some Catholic Secondary Schools. Peers/friends/students are encouraged to watch the showreel and vote for the best clip. The winners will be announced at the 11 am CPW Mass held at St Mary's Cathedral. Let your voice be heard! Get creative! The entry forms and flyers are available from the church foyer.

You are invited

Thanksgiving Mass (Mass for the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary)
—Friday 14 August at 7pm in the Church

50th Anniversary

Fr Greg has two milestones coming up in August; the 50th Anniversary of his profession as a Carmelite on August 15th and his 70th birthday on August 20th. You are invited to join your community at this joyful celebration of the Eucharist to thank God for the gifts of Fr Greg's life and service.



Due to the Phase 4 Covid regulations, numbers will be limited, so you will need to register your attendance at this Mass. You can do this by using the Eventbrite app or go to www.eventbrite.com.au and search "**Thanksgiving Mass for Fr Greg**" or by contacting the parish office or register on the list in the Church foyer.

After Mass Celebration—7.30pm to 9.30pm (FULLY BOOKED)

We are sorry this event is now full. COVID safe maximum number allowed in the parish hall has been reached. But if you miss out registering for the supper, please we encourage you to come and register for the celebration morning tea instead.

Celebration Morning Tea (PLEASE HURRY, FOR CATERING PURPOSES, BOOKING CLOSE THIS MONDAY 10TH OF AUGUST)

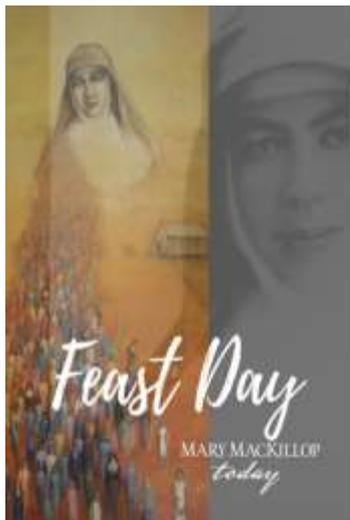
For those who wish to share in the celebrations but are unable to attend on the Friday evening, and also to allow more people the opportunity to celebrate with Fr Greg, there will be a Devonshire tea held after the 8.30am Mass for the Assumption on the 15th August. Make your booking via the Eventbrite app, or go to www.eventbrite.com.au and search for "**Celebration Morning Tea with Fr Greg**" or via the list on the foyer or contact parish office. Again, if you reserve a place at the morning tea and are then unable to attend, please contact the office to withdraw your reservation.



PLEASE NOTE: If you miss out on reserving a place at the Mass or the supper or morning tea, please contact the office to put your name on a "wait list", in case others cancel their reservation.

Gifts

Some parishioners have been asking about giving a gift to mark the occasion. Envelopes are available in the foyer near the Mass request slip if you wish to use these. You may leave your monetary gift in the collection box at the back of the Church or to parish office. We will present the gifts on the evening.



Thank you for your prayers

Mary MacKillop Today supports thousands of people in Timor-Leste, Peru, Papua New Guinea, Fiji and here in Australia, bringing hope to communities for generations to come.

Please pray for Mary MacKillop Today especially during the challenging times we all face, so that we can continue to transform lives through our vital works carrying on the legacy of Saint Mary MacKillop.

If you'd like to learn about Mary MacKillop Today please contact us via Ph: (02) 8912 2777
Email: hello@marymackilloptoday.org.au or visit:

www.marymackilloptoday.org.au

PARISH PRAYER CONCERNS

Recently Deceased: Samira Khoury and Michele Romanelli;

Deceased: Jane Pight, Clyde Antony, Joseph Louis, Beryl Theresa and Rosalie Caroline Rodrigues;

Anniversaries: Doug Bolton, Christopher Ety and Robert Jennings,

The Sick of the Parish: Sr Kathleen Price and all the sick who are in need of our prayers.

"Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation."

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE PARISH?

We are slowly emerging from our Covid19 hibernation! Our PREP program, Playgroup and Alpha Program have recommenced. The Connect Group, Bible Study group, SVDP and prayer groups have also commenced, and Yoga is on again. Other groups will begin as their members feel comfortable to return.



PILGRIM STATUE—This week in the home of Mrs Clair Harris—26 Lyndhurst Way, Dianella. Ph: 9276 9124

Please put your name on the roster in the foyer if you would like to host the statue in your home.

Our Parish Team

Parish Priest: Fr. Greg Burke - pp@infantjesusparish.org.au
 Assistant Priests: Fr. John Pallipadan— ap@infantjesusparish.org.au and
 Fr. Tadgh Tierney - tadgh_t@yahoo.com.au
 Infant Jesus Primary School: Principal - Paul Hille - in-fo@infantjesus.wa.edu.au
 Parish Secretary: Billie Dewitt - secretary@infantjesusparish.org.au
 Reception: Theresa Choo - enquiries@infantjesusparish.org.au
 Youth Co-Ordinator: **Roger O'Neill** - 0434 988 711 | rogersoneill@gmail.com
 PREP Coordinator: Sue Goodwin - prep@infantjesusparish.org.au
 Sacramental Coordinator: Faith Rico - sacramental@infantjesusparish.org.au
 Parish Account Officer: Darren Parnell - accounts@infantjesusparish.org.au
 Maintenance Manager: Andrew Davini - maintenance@infantjesusparish.org.au
 Admin Assistant: Carol Smith - admin@infantjesusparish.org.au
 Parish Safeguarding Officers: Paul Hille - paul.hille@cewa.edu.au
 Columbarium Committee: Angela Youens - columbarium@infantjesusparish.org.au
 Parish Inclusion Coordinator: Sue Baile - 0497 163 387
 PARISH OFFICE: 47 Wellington Road, Morley 9276 8500
 Office hours: Monday - Thursday 9.30am -12.30pm
 Facebook: infantjesusmorley Web: www.infantjesusparish.org.au



PROJECT COMPASSION RECEIPTS

If you have donated through the project compassion boxes or envelopes, you may collect your receipts from the sacristy after Mass.

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR PARISH BULLETIN TO THE STAND AT THE END OF MASS

In accordance with WA government COVID-19 directives, parish bulletins or any other printed materials may not be re-used.

UNDERSTANDING THE LITURGY

Holy Days of Obligation for Australia and New Zealand are 15 August (Assumption) and 25 December (Christmas). The importance of a day in the liturgical calendar is determined by its rank (*solemnity, feast, memorial*); a Holy Day is simply a solemnity celebrated like a Sunday, that is, with obligation.

If we want our Masses to continue...

then please put your hand up to clean the pews after Sunday Masses. Under the Covid-19 regulations, we are required to regularly clean the areas being used. After Mass, offer your help to wipe down seats and pew backs. Gloves and cleaning materials are provided. Thank you.



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