Faith allows us all to conquer thinking/sinking feeling.

Just before the episode in today’s Gospel passage [Peter] witnessed the feeding of the five thousand. As he heard and saw, his faith in the Christ grew; but faith sometimes needed testing and strengthening.

‘Like Elijah, Peter and the other disciples experienced something of the destructive power of nature; they were exposed to a heavy sea and a strong wind, and were in danger of death. Jesus and the disciples had become separated. Jesus, who had withdrawn to the hills to pray, came to them, walking on the water, showing his mastery of nature. Peter may have wanted to be nearer to Jesus, asked him, possibly impetuously, to bid him come to him, to which he received the answer “come”. And Peter walked, but soon began to sink.

‘The passage seems to suggest that Peter’s difficulty was not with the sea but with the wind. He asked the saviour to save him, which he did. Peter, like Elijah, was reproached for his lack of faith. Did this mean that had Peter continued to walk on the waves he would have reached the Christ, or did it mean that he doubted that Jesus would save him? The disciples responded by declaring that Jesus was truly the Son of God.

Peter the disciple, like Elijah the prophet, had learned something important, that to be a servant of God demanded trust and faith. Without these no apostolate would succeed.’

From a sermon by Robert Pollock OP
http://torch.op.org/preaching_sermon_item.php?sermon=5636&ref=lit
**The Pastor's Pen**

The Scriptures of the last two weekends record that “Jesus withdrew by boat to a lonely place where he and his disciples could be by themselves” and “He went up into the hills by himself to pray” — Jesus took the initiative to get away, to be with God, whatever was the catalyst.

Jesus did that often, he read the signs, he knew when he was on overload; he saw the positive value in escaping, to be away, to be alone to be in His presence, for the purpose of communion — coming in union with God. That creates a situation for an increased awareness of God’s presence and encourages dialogue, deep and meaningful, from heart to heart.

When aware and being present to God, one savours prayerful silence, the pressures of time and words, pale into insignificance, while the meeting, the encounter becomes the moment of BEING.

Fr Kerry

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**Parish Office**

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**Youth Mass**

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**Sacramental Update**

As part of the program for the Sacrament of Eucharist, candidates are encouraged to attend the Saturday night Mass at 6:30pm or the Sunday morning Mass at 9am where they will be involved in a special Children's Liturgy.

Any questions about the sacramental program maybe be addressed to Lisa deBuck 40633524.

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**Parish Pastoral Council**

The first meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council was held on Monday 4th August. All members were present: Father Kerry Crowley, Liam Kenny, Nev Smith, Barbara Bortolanza, Paul Erbacher, Jim Ferguson, Susan Hoad, Jan Shang, John Terry, Stephen Todd and Stephen Yearwood.

Stephen Todd was elected Chair and Jim Ferguson Deputy Chair. The role of the Council was discussed and members considered the Positives, Negatives and Possibilities for Change in the Parish.

All members invite approaches from all parishioners. The next meeting will be held on September 15.

Diana O'Brien
Ph: 4061 2260
Mobile: 0412 060 501

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**Jubilee Celebration**

You are invited to join the Bishop, Fr. John Newman and Fr Hilary Flynn at the Cathedral 10am Mass on Sunday 7th September for their Cairns Jubilee Celebration Mass followed by morning tea.

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**Friday 15th August**

**Feast of The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

a Holy Day of Obligation.

**Thursday**: Mother of Good Counsel Church (Vigil) 6.30pm
**Friday**: Good Counsel Primary School (Good Counsel Ch) 9.00am
**Friday**: St Rita's Primary School (St Rita's Ch) 10.30am
**Friday**: Good Counsel College (Champagnat Centre) 12 noon

Along with the Feast of the Immaculate Conception (December 8), the Assumption is a principal feast of the Blessed Virgin and a Holy Day of Obligation - one of the most important feasts of the Church year.
**Church Closing Roster**

Week commencing 10 August

Norm Stewart
Church Cleaning Roster - Mourilyan

Sharon Worth
Altar Linen Roster

11 August

June Tierney

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**THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**

**Tuesday** 4.00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - Prayer Room

**Wednesday** 1.30pm Divine Mercy Prayer Group - Eda Celledoni’s Home, Mourilyan

7.30pm G C College P & F - Staff Room/College

**Thursday** 10.00am Rosary and Prayers for Priests - Prayer Room, Parish Centre

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**Baptisms**

This weekend we welcome Chloe Pensini, Lucas Tanti into our Parish community through Baptism.

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**National Vocations Awareness Week: 3 – 10 August 2014**

On this second Sunday of National Vocations Week, we focus on the vocations of Ordained Ministry & Consecrated Life. We remember those who sense a call to share in the life and mission of the church as priest, deacon or in a religious congregation or order. We pray for the young men and women whom God is calling to become diocesan priests, deacons, religious priests and religious brothers or sisters. In a special way pray for priests called to our Archdiocese that will lead us to Christ, bring together our communities through God’s word and the breaking of Christ’s body and blood and reconcile us to God through the sacrament of reconciliation.

**This Sunday's Texts:**

1Kg 19:9, 11-13
Rom 9:1-5
Mt 14:22-33

**Next Sunday's Texts:**

Is 56:1, 6-7
Rom 11:13-15, 29-32
Mt 15:21-28

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**Breakthrough 2014**

This year’s Breakthrough - Catholic Youth Festival will be held on 22nd, 23rd, 24th August at the Genazzano Conference Centre. The festival promises to be a dynamic experience of faith for 18-30 yr. olds.

Registrations are now open.

breakthroughyouthfestival.weebly.com

Contact Anne Chellingworth, (Diocesan Youth Ministry Coordinator) at 0407 716 430 or email achellingw@cns.catholic.edu.au.

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**United in Marriage**

Congratulations to

Natalie Riera & Antonio Serravalle who were married in Mother of Good Counsel Church Innisfail last weekend.

We offer them our prayers and best wishes.

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**Moses, parting of the Sea**

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**PLANNED GIVING:** Envelopes $2621.62; Loose $468.75
Recently Deceased

Lena NUCIFORA, Andreina SQUARCI, Sax MAINGAY (Tully), Dennis HOGAN (El Arish), Cardinal Edward Clancy (Sydney)

Anniversaries

Dr Edward PERRY, Edward HOGAN JNR, Scott LISSA, Nardo RISO, Alice HANCOCK, Kate JOHNSTON, Harry ARCHER, Maria CALTABIANO, Herbert MORAN, Guiseppi PAGANO, Paul JOSLYN, John WRIGHT, May MASON, Edward WALTON, Carmelo SORBELLO, Ottavio SILVIO, Fr William O’FLYNN OSA, Robert MOYLE, Patricia DORE, Doris BORG, Elba MANGIANTINI, Shirley EATON, Italia COCO, Maud HAYLES, Maria COSTANZO, Eileen SHAW, Rosa SAKACH, Jason WISMAN, Elio FAVARO, Antonina GALIPO, Kevin WALTON, Evelyn FRENEY, Patrick HOGAN, Francesco MALVASO, Paddy FOSTER, Giuseppe MARANO

WEEKDAY MASSES

MONDAY 11th
9.30am Funeral Mass - Andreina Squarci
1.00pm Funeral Mass - Lena Nucifora

TUESDAY 12th
8.00am Innisfail

WEDNESDAY 13th
8.00am Innisfail
10.30am Southern Deanery Catholic Women

THURSDAY 14th
6.30pm Innisfail - Vigil

FRIDAY 15th
9.00am Villanova - Lay led Liturgy with Communion
9.00am G C Primary - Church
10.30am St Rita’s Parish & School - St Rita’s Church
12 noon G C College - Champagnat Centre

SATURDAY 16th
10.45am Warrina

SUNDAY 17th
11.00am Italian Mass - Innisfail

RECONCILIATION (Innisfail) Saturday 11.30am

Most Catholics who embark upon a deeper study of their faith are not very interested in knowledge for the sake of knowledge, but knowledge which will deepen their faith and nourish their prayer life. On this basis I think that the conclusion reached by Pope Emeritus Benedict as to the meaning of “The Kingdom of God” in his recent work “Jesus of Nazareth” is persuasive and helpful. We will explore that next week.