WOMAN, YOU HAVE GREAT FAITH,
LET YOUR WISH BE GRANTED.

‘...why did Jesus hesitate, seeming to share in the intolerance of his contemporaries? The immediate task of the mission he had received from his Father was to call the chosen people back to the role that had been given them in a plan that was to benefit the whole human family –“I was sent to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.”

‘If they had been true to the covenant, learning to identify with the ways of God, they would have fulfilled their mission to be “a light to the nations,” a living invitation to find the true God. Jesus so angered the people of his own town of Nazareth, when he spoke of the inclusive ways of God, that they wanted to stone him. This issue was probably an important factor in the conflict that led to his death.

‘In his exchange with the woman, he was probably referring to the messianic banquet of the end-time, that he had foretold would be shared by people coming from the East and the West. In the end, the extraordinary generosity of his words to the pagan woman, “Woman, you have great faith,” cancels out the apparent rejection of his first words to her. They invite us to rejoice that we share in her faith. We know he is the true “light to the nations,” fulfilling in his person the great destiny of Israel, bringing the whole human family to join in the messianic banquet.’

From a homily by Fr John Thornhill, SM
The Pastor’s Pen

Robin William’s sudden and unexpected death has stunned the world. We remember him in his acting roles in ‘Good Will Hunting’, ‘Good Morning Vietnam’ and ‘Dead Poets’ Society’ to name a few of his films. It seems behind his persona, he had needs that were crying out for attention. In film he was depicted in a role: in real life, ‘Who was he?’ Why was the transition so difficult for him from acting to reality?

The prophet Ezekiel was charged with a most difficult task when the Israelites had given in to evil ways, he was to give them an ultimatum, “Are you with God or not?” those who had given in to evil would be punished while the faithful who were marked with the cross, would be spared. Ezekiel straddled that delicate role of bringing God’s chosen people to a state of honesty.

That begs the question, “Who keeps me honest?” Who can tell me the truth about myself even when I may not want to hear it? Maybe it is a good friend, a spouse, a family member or my spiritual director?

In human terms, such a response may well help one to make the transition from the fictitious to the real: to a life of truthfulness, honesty, forgiveness and love.

Fr Kerry

Parish Office

Prayer Reflection

An invitation is extended to parishioners interested in coming together for a time of quiet reflection and shared prayer in the Parish Centre at 10.00am on Monday 18 August.

For any enquiries please contact Angie at the Parish Office 4061 6633 or Cathy 0419 688 050.

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.

Gifts for St Vincent De Paul Pantry

This week we are asking for gifts of food items (non perishable) to be taken up at all Masses next weekend. Food items can be left at the Parish Centre or at your Church.

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.

Time for a laugh

Because they had no reservations at a busy restaurant, my elderly neighbour and his wife were told there would be a 45 minute wait for a table.

“Young man, we’re both 90 years old,” the husband said. “We may not have 45 minutes.”

They were seated immediately.

Birthday Celebrations

Congratulations

Helma Williamson on reaching 100 years. Love and best wishes from all your family and friends.

May God continue to bless you in your wonderful journey of life.

Diocesan Synod

This year’s Synod gathering will be held at Lennon Hall, St Augustine’s College on Friday 29 August from 5pm - 9pm and on Saturday 30 August from 9am - 1pm.
**Baptisms**
This weekend we welcome **Billy & Tilly Gaia** into our Parish community through Baptism.

**Proclaim 2014**
There is still opportunity for parishes to participate in Proclaim 2014. Listen and watch Fr Michael White and Tom Corcoran, authors of *Rebuilt*, share their experiences and how they helped their parish grow on the Live conference webcast.

Thursday 21 August & Saturday 23 August at 10:30am

**Maltese Gathering**
Commencing with Mass at 8.30am on Sunday 31 August at Holy Cross, Reed Rd, Smithfield, followed by morning tea at The Bonner Centre.

Please bring a plate to share.

For more information contact:
Vicky ' 4055 2885 or Stella ' 4039 1854.
RSVP by Wednesday 27 August.

---

**This Sunday's Texts:**
- Is 56:1, 6-7
- Rom 11:13-15, 29-32
- Mt 15:21-28

**Next Sunday's Texts:**
- Is 22:19-23
- Rom 11:33-36
- Mt 16:13-20

**Breakthrough Catholic Youth Festival 2014**
Due to insufficient response the Youth Festival for this year has been cancelled, therefore -

**Cairns CYM** would like to invite all Youth and Young Adults to a youth mass followed by pizza and drinks next Sunday evening, 24 August, 5:30 pm at St Therese's Church in Edmonton. The evening will conclude with 'Meet The Man' a time of prayer, music and reflection facilitated by Stephen Kirk.

For more info please contact Anne Chellingworth
M: 0407 716 430 or achellingw@cns.catholic.edu.au

**Catholic Leader In this issue:**
- Pope calls for action to help Iraq’s persecuted Christians.
- Brisbane woman credits intercession of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop for leading her through battle with life-threatening condition.
- Talking point: Sr Elvera Sesta on “God calling us by name.”

**Quote**
“Holy Communion is the shortest and safest way to heaven.”

*Pope St Pius X*

---

**PLANNED GIVING:**
*Envelopes $2905.47; Loose $544.15*

**THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>10.00am</td>
<td>Prayer Reflection - Prayer Room, Parish Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>4.00pm</td>
<td>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - Prayer Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>1.30pm</td>
<td>Divine Mercy Prayer Group - Eda Celledoni’s Home, Mourilyan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>10.00am</td>
<td>Rosary and Prayers for Priests - Prayer Room, Parish Centre</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Church Closing Roster**
*Week commencing 17 August*
Peter Dryden
**Church Cleaning Roster - Mourilyan**
Mary Rose Lissa
**Altar Linen Roster 18 August**
Mary Mizzi
As foreshadowed we now turn to a solution proposed by Pope Emeritus Benedict as to the meaning of “Kingdom of God”. He writes, “The new proximity of the Kingdom of which Jesus speaks, is to be found in Jesus himself. Through Jesus’ presence and action, God has here and now actively entered into history in a wholly new way. The reason why ‘now’ is the fullness of time (the time for penance, conversion and joy) is that in Jesus it is God who draws near to us and rules in a divine way without worldly power, rules through love that reaches to the end, to the Cross.” (to be continued).