

Gospel Reflection:

Even before Jesus was born we hear of how John leapt in his mother's womb when the also-pregnant Mary came to visit. In today's Gospel we hear of John's birth and naming. The events are remarkable!

John was a person of great humility. Rather than encouraging adulation he told the people honestly that he was simply the messenger, the one who would prepare the way. He said publicly that the one who was to come, he was unworthy even to unfasten his sandal straps. He admitted that his baptism was simply one of repentance, and that when the Messiah came, he would baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire.

John prepared the way very well. Excitement continued to build during the time before Jesus captured the public eye. And John continued his important work of pointing the way!

In today's world there are so many distractions. We are falsely told by advertisers that having this thing or looking a particular way will bring us happiness and fulfilment. As we follow their lead we end up poorer and even less fulfilled and content. But we try again and again with the same result.

We may hear the Holy Father, our Bishop, priest or deacon speak. Sometimes we discount what is said, claim that it isn't for us, or take what we like and leave the rest. And the lack of serenity and contentment continues.

But we can choose to listen to the voice that points to the Lord any time we wish. We can take seriously the words of the Baptist. We too, can seek repentance and forgiveness of our sins. We too can use the gifts of the Holy Spirit that we received at our own Baptism and that were strengthened on the day of our Confirmation.

As we hear in this weekend's first reading, "The LORD called me from birth, from my mother's womb he gave me my name."

We are that special to the Lord. When we follow the path he sets out for us we grow in love, hope, faith and fulfilment. Our psalm response this weekend is, "I praise you for I am wonderfully made." How true that is. We too are called to use our many gifts to help others find the Lord, just as John the Baptist did. That means that we are called to allow our own self-importance to slip away as we point the way to Jesus. It means that we are called to set an example for others to follow, so that if they follow us, they'll be following Jesus.

There are very special people in our own families. They too were known by God before they were ever conceived. They too are wonderfully made. And we're called to follow John's example and point the way to their Saviour and their salvation. That's quite enough to keep us busy this week. Have a good week!

*Excerpt from Fr. Pat Umberger.
www.frpat.com*

Kids Corner

E M L E U Z Y U S S L T S G S
I L V V E M Y E S K O N S Y Z
Q S I W X G A E R M C E E W I
Q K U Z U X N X O U U P N D O
Z E C H A R I A H X S E E F P
B X Z L E B B Q D H T R V U D
H F K D Y A E I T R S A I W V
E K L E P Z U T M X O I G K V
L I N T G N G E H D R J R Q V
W O I E R A P E R P C K O Y W
H Z S T R I V E R O F D F A E
E G M U Q U I E D P M J R W G
K U I R B M G Y I N W N V W X
A L P U P P V I M I T P X V H
D B H M D M V M M S V T B Y K

BAPTIZE - ELIZABETH - FORGIVENESS - HONEY -
JORDAN - LOCUSTS - PREPARE - REPENT - RIVER -
WILDERNESS - ZECHARIAH

St. Kevin's Catholic Church

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No. 1485

SUNDAY BULLETIN

24 June, 2007

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. John Mello c.s.
Scalabrinian Fathers

Assistant: Rev. Fr. Christmar Daguno
In Residence: Rev. Fr. John Raccanello c.s.

MASS TIMES:

SATURDAY VIGIL: 6.00 PM

SUNDAY: 8.00 AM; 9.15 AM,

10:30 AM (ITALIAN); 6.00 PM

EVERY 3RD SUNDAY: (TAGALOG); 11.30 AM

DAILY MASS:

MON – SAT: 8.30 AM (HOLY ROSARY: 8.00AM)

(EXTRA MASS FRIDAYS AT 12 NOON)

RECONCILIATIONS:

FRIDAY: 11.30 AM – 12 NOON;

SATURDAY: 11.00 AM; 4 PM–5 PM

CENACLE OF PRAYER:

WEDNESDAYS AT 9 AM

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

EVERY FRIDAY 9 AM – 11.45 AM

MASS WITH ANOINTING OF THE SICK

EVERY 2ND FRIDAY OF MONTH: 8.30 AM & 12

NOON

DEVOTION & MASS TO THE SACRED HEART OF

JESUS

EVERY 1ST FRIDAY AT 7.00 PM

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday - 23 June

8.30am: Souls in Purgatory

6.00pm: Dec. William Benton

Sunday - 24 June

8.00am: Dec. Kathleen M. Bellhouse, Phyllis Keats, Dec. Friends & Relatives of Bellhouse family.

9.15am: Recovery of Angelita Gillego & Conchita Flores. Dec. Gregoria, Vicente, Dominador, Cipriana & Panfilo Omega. Eda Mary Louise Heath, George W. Heath Snr.

10.30am: (Refer to Italian Bulletin)
6.00pm: For vocations to the Priesthood & religious life.

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BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST Year C

Today's readings: Is 49:1-6; Acts 13:22-26; Lk 1:57-66.

Responsorial Psalm: I praise you for I am wonderfully made.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! You, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways.
Alleluia!

Next week's readings: 1 Kg 1(16, 19-21; Gal 5:1, 13-18; Lk 9:51-62.

PROCLAMATION OF THE FAITH

Dying you destroyed our death. Rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus come in glory.

Mon. 25 June:

8.30am: Special intention for healing.

Tue. 26 June:

8.30am: Souls in Purgatory

Wed. 27 June:

8.30am: Recovery of Angelita Gillego.

Thu. 28 June: (St Irenaeus - Memorial)

8.30am: Souls in Purgatory

Fri. 29 June: (Solemnity of Sts Peter & Paul)

8.30am: Special intention for vocations to the Priesthood.

12 Noon: Souls in Purgatory

7.30pm: Dec. Giovannina Martino in Agresta (1 month)

Sat. 30 June:

8.30am: souls in Purgatory



ROSTERS NEXT WEEKEND

ALTAR SERVERS: Sat. 6 pm: Joe Vumbaca — Sun 8.00am: Peter Bellhouse.

9.15 am: Joe Hamilton, Leigh Simon – Sun 6pm: Robert McLachlan.

READERS: Sat. 6 pm: Joe McAlinden - Sun 8.00am: Yvonne Clarke - 9.15 am: -Ellen Antonino - Sun 6pm: Gabrielle Beninati.

CLEANERS: GROUP E: Bill Cliff, Joan Cliff, Rod Cruz, Carmel Hogan, Steven Casazza.

ALTAR SOCIETY: 23/6: Olga Seres. 30/6: Jopie Wynen 7/7: **Welcome! Pamela D'Cruz** 14/7: Maria Smit & Elizabeth van Baarle. 21/7: Olga Seres. 28/7: Jopie Wynen. 4/8: Pamela D'Cruz.

Around the Parish Pump



WORLD YOUTH DAY UPDATE

WYD Cross & Icon Countdown ... only 14 sleeps to go!!!

Excitement is building up with the arrival of the Cross and Icon to our Diocese only 14 days away. Mark the following dates in your diary!

1. Special Mass TONIGHT Sunday 6pm which commemorates the young and those "young at heart" in our community

For sharing and fellowship after Mass, we will boldly venture into our first "Spaghetti Night" – a great way to meet and greet your fellow pilgrim, listen to great music, and watch the latest DVD clips on events that are happening with the Cross and Icon.

2. Briefing Session – Sunday July 1st, 7 pm St Kevin's Parish Hall

It is critical that those who have volunteered or want to help out attend the meeting. In preparation for the big day, the Diocese had commissioned a copy of the Cross to be made. The replica of the Cross will be present at the meeting. We also hope to have WYD T-shirts on sale by this weekend.

SPECIAL INVITATION:

Manly Parish would like to extend an invitation to you to the WYD Journey of the Cross & Icon Youth Mass which will be held **on Sunday 8th July 2007 at 5pm** in Mary Immaculate Church, Manly. The **handover ceremony** from Sydney Diocese to Broken Bay Diocese **will commence at 2:30pm** at the stage in Manly

AD2000 MAGAZINE - JULY:

Available now at the foyer. Only \$3. Read the update on the New Wagga Wagga Schools.

SACRAMENTS AT ST KEVINS:

First Holy Communion:

Sunday 9 September, 2007 at 12 Noon

First Reconciliation (Confession):

Thursday 29 November, 2007 at 7.30pm

A flyer will be available shortly....

BETHLEHEM OLIVE WOOD

Help support Christians in the Holy Land!

After all Masses next weekend the **31st of June/1st July** we will have **The School of Joy's** olive wood carvings from Bethlehem on display.

The funds raised from this venture go towards funding **The School of Joy** that cares for intellectually disabled children in Bethlehem.

As the school receives no government support it relies solely on the generosity of Christians world wide who buy their handicrafts.

For further information please see Peter or Chloe Barsha at the Back of the Church.

TODAY AT ALL MASSES -

St Kevin's Finance Committee members will speak on "Sacrificial Giving" in our Parish. Please read also page 3

THE BEGINNING EXPERIENCE:

Invites you to a live in weekend on 27-29 July, 07. For information: www.beginningexperience.org or call Helenia: 4572 5121. Gerry: 9920 1921.

CELEBRATE LOVE: is coming to **NARRAWEENA** again! Weekend 4 & 5 August. Presented in a Catholic context, it is a private experience open to married couples of any faith. Cost \$150/couple. To book call Liz Fenech on 02 9662-7272 or log on: www.celebratelove.com.au

YOUTH MASS: Father Christmar and Father Vince call upon the youth and their families to a **Eucharistic celebration on Sunday, 1st July 2007 at 12 Noon at Chatswood Parish, 94 Archer Street.** Join the community for refreshments after Mass.

CATHOLIC WEEKLY: Don't miss the Corpus Christi procession photo special. Available at the foyer.

Corso and then the Cross & Icon will process around to Mary Immaculate Church and arrive at approx. 4pm with live music and the **Youth Mass commencing at 5pm**, followed by outdoor celebrations and BBQ.

**Come along and be part of
this special event.**

SACRIFICIAL PLANNED GIVING PROGRAMME

New sets of envelopes are now available in the alcove on the pulpit side of the church. A statement with receipts for CWF and Project Compassion are at the back of the packets.

Upkeep of Parish properties is ever present, and it's through the spirit of your generous contributions to the Sacrificial weekly envelopes, that enables the Parish to be in good stead.

To proceed with confidence our next vital project to install proper ventilation in the Upper Hall.

To spread the financial burdens we appeal to those parishioners who have yet to make a commitment, and join those who have been generous over many years.

Gifting cards have been placed in the pews. Completed cards may be placed in either collection now or on following weeks.