



Tea Tree Gully Parish - St David's Catholic Church

Incorporating - Our Lady of Hope Chapel - Greenwith

8264 4694

Under the care of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate

email: pp@stdavidsttg.org.au



21 April 2024

4th Sunday Easter Yr B

Readings next weekend 5th Sunday Easter — Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31, 1 John 3:18-24, John 15:1-8

God's Exuberant Energy

All things considered, I believe that I grew up with a relatively healthy concept of God. The God of my youth, the God that I was catechized into, was not unduly punishing, arbitrary, or judgmental. Granted, he was omnipresent so that all of our sins were noticed and noted; but, at the end of the day, he was fair, loving, personally concerned for each of us, and wonderfully protective to the point of providing each of us with a personal guardian angel. That God gave me permission to live without too much fear and without any particularly crippling religious neuroses.

But that only gets you so far in life. Not having an unhealthy notion of God doesn't necessarily mean you have a particularly healthy one. The God who I was raised on was not overly stern and judgmental, but neither was he very joyous, playful, witty, or humorous. Especially, he wasn't sexual, and had a particularly vigilant and uncompromising eye in that area. Essentially he was somber, heavy, and not very joyous to be around. Around him, you had to be solemn and reverent. I remember the Assistant Director at our Oblate novitiate telling us that there is no recorded incident, ever, of Jesus having laughed.

Under such a God you had permission to be essentially healthy. However, to the extent that you took him seriously, you still walked through life less than fully robust and your relationship with him could only be solemn and reverent.

Then, beginning more than a generation ago, there was a strong reaction in many churches and in the culture to this concept of God. Popular theology and spirituality set out to correct this, sometimes with an undue vigor. What they presented instead was a laughing Jesus and a dancing God, and while this was not without its value, it still left us begging for a deeper literature about the nature of God and what that might mean for us in terms of a health and relationships.

That literature won't be easy to write, not just because God is ineffable, but because God's energy is also ineffable. What, indeed, is energy? We rarely ask this question because we take energy as something so primal that it cannot be defined but only taken as a given, as self-evident. We see energy as the primal force that lies at the heart of everything that exists, animate and inanimate. Moreover, we feel energy, powerfully, within ourselves. We know energy, we feel energy, but we rarely recognize its origins, its prodigiousness, its joy, its goodness, its effervescence, and its exuberance. Moreover, we rarely recognize what it tells us about God. What does it tell us?

The first quality of energy is its prodigiousness. It is prodigal beyond our imagination and this speaks something about God. What kind of creator makes billions of throwaway universes? What kind of creator makes trillions upon trillions of species of life, millions of them never to be seen by the human eye? What kind of father or mother has billions of children?

And what does the exuberance in the energy of young children say about our creator? What does their playfulness suggest about what must also lie inside of sacred energy? What does the energy of a young puppy tell us about what's sacred? What do laughter, wit, and irony tell us about God?

No doubt the energy we see around us and feel irrepressibly within us tells us that, underneath, before and below everything else, there flows a sacred force, both physical and spiritual, which is at its root, joyous, happy, playful, exuberant, effervescent, and deeply personal and loving. God is the ground of that energy. That energy speaks of God and that energy tells us why God made us and what kind of permissions God is giving us for living out our lives.

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God is ineffable, that is the first truth that we hold about God. That means that God cannot be imagined or ever circumscribed in a concept. All images of God are inadequate; but, that being admitted, we might try to imagine things this way. At the very center of everything there lies an unimaginable energy that is not an impersonal force, but a person, a loving self-conscious mind and heart. From this ground, this person, issues forth all energy, all creativity, all power, all love, all nourishment, and all beauty. Moreover, that energy, at its sacred root, is not just creative, intelligent, personal, and loving, it's also joyous, colorful, witty, playful, humorous, erotic, and exuberant at its very core. To live in it is to feel a constant invitation to gratitude.

The challenge of our lives is to live inside that energy in a way that honors both it and its origins. That means keeping our shoes off before the burning bush as we respect its sacredness, even as we constantly receive permission from it to be robust, free, joyous, humorous, and playful – without feeling we are stealing fire from the gods.

Fr Ron Rolheiser OMI

Potted Plant Trading Table for Vinnies

Bob Schultz has kindly donated many potted plants to be sold at the 5.30pm Saturday evening Mass on 27th April and 7am and 10.30am Mass on 28th April. (NEXT WEEKEND)

The money raised will be given to our St Vincent de Paul Conference to help them supply food etc for the many needy people of the parish.

Please thank Bob for his hard work by purchasing a couple of plants to support our local Vinnie's. CASH ONLY SALES



ARCHDIOCESE NEWS

Marian Procession The 75th Marian Procession will be held on Sunday May 19 beginning at Victoria Park and processing up Wakefield Street into Victoria Square.

**The change of location this year is due to road closures on King William St for a Port Adelaide football club home game. The Procession will commence at 2pm and all are invited to attend with their parish or community. Group assembly will begin from 1.30pm. For more information please contact Archdiocesan Events on 8210 8220 or events@adelaide.catholic.org.au

Invitation to Masterclass Series with Professor Amy-Jill Levine | May 9 & 10 2024

The Lakes Resort Hotel | 141 Brebner Drive, West Lakes Amy-Jill Levine is Rabbi Stanley M. Kessler Distinguished Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies. Amy-Jill is internationally known as a highly engaging speaker on the historical Jesus and the gospel stories. Along with several children's books on biblical stories co-authored with Rabbi Sandy Eisenberg Sasso, she has written six "beginner's guides" to the Gospels and she is the New Testament editor of the new Oxford Biblical Commentary Series. Amy-Jill will present two separate whole day seminars on Thursday May 9 and Friday May 10 and her topics will include:

Day One (May 9) Women who walked with Jesus – a message for all in the Church today

Day Two (May 10) The Jewish Jesus – understanding context for Jesus' ministry and teaching

To register for one or both of these days, please contact the parish office for details to be emailed to you

Mass Count

As you may be aware, the Archdiocese of Adelaide conducts a Count of Attendance for All Masses held on weekends during the month of May each year. This is used in their pastoral planning and financial reporting. This year the counts will be held from the 4th May through to 26th May. Please make sure when you come to the church during May that you fill out a slip, one per person at each Mass attended each weekend.

DIARY DATES

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

If anyone would like to join the team, please phone Amanda Bartels 0414 255 458 or Joan Smit on 0407 441 126 and we will explain what is required and how the Liturgy is presented.
You will be supported by Amanda and Joan.

ESTIA NURSING HOME GOLDEN GROVE

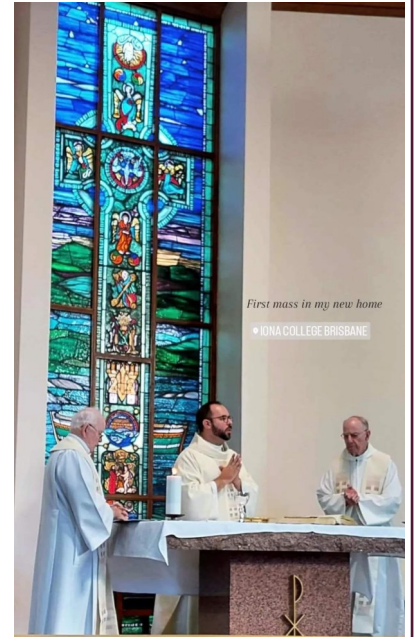
Mass for the residents will take place on Wednesday 24th April at 10.30am.

ANZAC DAY Mass

Thursday 25th April at 9.15am Mass

School resumes Tuesday 30th April

Sacramental Meeting for parents and students at 6pm in the church.
This meeting is for children enrolled in this year's sacramental programme.
Then a rehearsal for Sacraments on Tuesday 7th May at 6pm.



Feast of St Eugene De Mazenod - 21st May- Oblate Feast Day

The Oblates invite you to join with them on Tuesday **21 May at 10am** at St David's Church, for Mass to Celebrate their feast day.

Please stay for a shared brunch after Mass.

The Feast Day will be hosted by the De Mazenod Family who meet on the first Monday of each month at 6pm.

Please place this date into your diaries.



Q2 Program

APR / MAY / JUN

All Youth aged 16-30 are welcome!

Beach Clean for St Eugene - Thursday 25th April
(Further details to be announced)

Youth Mass - Sunday 12th May

St Pius X, Dernancourt 5:30pm Mass, tea/coffee + chats to follow

Gospel Session - Tuesday 21st May

St David's, Tea Tree Gully 6:30pm - 8:30pm

Youth Mass - Sunday 9th June

St Pius X, Dernancourt 5:30pm Mass, tea/coffee + chats to follow

Taize Meditation - Monday 17th June

Our Lady of Hope Chapel, Greenwith 6:30pm - 8:30pm



BEACH CLEAN for ST EUGENE

Thursday 25th April @1:00pm

Seaview Road & Ozone Street, Henley Beach South
Hosts: Caroline & Anthony



TEA TREE GULLY PARISH

Parish Office Phone: 8264 4694 Email: secretary@stdavidsttg.org.au Web Page: <https://www.stdavidsttg.org.au>

Church Office & Presbytery: 2-4 Vizard Rd, Tea Tree Gully 5091 facebook.com/ttgparish

Our Lady of Hope Chapel: Cnr Golden Way & Golden Grove Rd, Greenwith. Contact via St David's Parish Office

STAFF

Priests: Fr James Jeyachandran OMI - Parish Priest (pp@stdavidsttg.org.au)
Fr Didier Indibi OMI—Assistant Priest (didierindibi@gmail.com)

Office Manager/Secretary - Denise Crawford - secretary@stdavidsttg.org.au

Church Sacristan - David Reynolds - contact via Parish Office

Child Safe Contacts: St David's Church - Amanda Bartels - contact 0414255458 or Parish Office

OLOH - Leah Tunks - contact 0431049947 or Parish Office

CH&S Officer:- Rina Borlace— contact Parish Office

MASS TIMES

St David's Church **Weekday Mass times:** Monday - Saturday 9.15am Rosary - 8.50am daily

Weekend Mass times: Saturday Vigil - 5.30pm, Sunday 7.00am & 10.30am

Our Lady of Hope Chapel: Sunday 9.00am

Reconciliation: Saturday morning after Morning Mass and Saturday evening from 5pm- 5.20pm.

Exposition: first Saturday of the month after morning Mass



We are a 'Child Safe'
Organisation

Mass Intentions and Feast Days for week commencing

20 April 2024

Saturday 20: 9.15am -

5.30pm: Dean Copperstone -RIP

Sunday 21: 7am: for the people of the parish

9am:

10.30am -

Monday 22: 9.15am - Dorothy Williams - Special Intentions

Tuesday 23: 9.15am - Vince De Robertis - RIP

Wednesday 24: 9.15am -

Thursday 25: 9.15am - ANZAC DAY

Friday 26: St Mark 9.15am: - Book of intentions

Please pray for the sick of our Parish:

names are on the list for a short period, unless parish is notified

John & Dorothy Williams, Judith Murray, Ros Rimmer,
Bob Culshaw, Gloria Grew, Ron & Clare Cashin, Sally Perry,
James Perry, Pauline Read, Brenda Crawford, Pat Abela,
Colleen Wallace, George and Mary Willcox, Cathy Cullen,
David Reynolds

DECEASED ANNIVERSARIES

Peter McLaughlin, Anne Nye, Jessie Kessner, Keith Hughes,
Robertus Bos, Amelia Hannagan, Teresa Ormerod, Edna O'Reilly,
Leo Fogarty, Cheryl Chasser, Stan Webb, Albert Heinzberger, Allan
Neale, Eileen Ferguson, Louis Zaniol

Cleaners Roster: 24-27 April - Saturday Group

please come to the Parish Office to collect keys—

Linen for April - Georgina Mizzi

please take dirty linen, at least twice per week

Counting Roster: Next Weekend -28/4 Group 5

Morning Tea Hosts: 28 April

St David's - Cos & Rita

OLOH - Maynard, Samarzia

If you would like to help with any of these ministries, please contact Parish Office. Remember you must obtain a Police Clearance to volunteer at the church.

Baptisms: Saturday 27th April at 11am

Elke Audrey Cahill Kenyon, daughter of Thomas & Lauren



Vinnie's TTG Conference.

FOOD ITEMS REQUIRED: SPREADS, LONG LIFE MILK, TINNED MEAT & VEG, RICE, BAKED BEANS

Another face of the St Vincent de Paul Society is Mini Vinnies which is very active in our schools. The children are helped to develop a deeper understanding about poverty, charity and philanthropy and how to be socially responsible in an increasingly self focused world. The young people contribute by fundraising, preparing food for guests of Fred's Vans and collecting non-perishable food and toys for the Christmas appeal. They also collect clothing and personal items for those in the Crisis Centres and the Refuge and Asylum Seeker Centre.

Wasim Saman, *President TTG Conference*