

# FR ALO WRITES...

## “Faith, Love and Rules”

Matthew 15:21-28

Women and children in Jesus’ time were considered to be second class in socio-religious society. The Gospel writers tried their best to point out how Jesus approached this issue. And indeed Jesus’ approach was different to the common approach of his time. In today’s Gospel an extreme thing happened. It concerned not only a woman but also a non Jewish woman. This passage (Matthew 15:21) describes the only occasion in which Jesus ministered outside Jewish territory. (Tyre and Sidon were fifty miles, approximately 400kms north of Israel, and still exist today in modern Lebanon.) A Gentile woman, a foreigner who was not a member of the Jewish people, puts Jesus on the spot by pleading for his help. At first, Jesus seemed to pay no attention to her, and this made his disciples feel embarrassed. Jesus did this to awaken faith in her, and also to break down the belief that pagans (and women) were second class, and were not worthy to be treated like the Jews.

What did Jesus mean by the expression "*throwing bread to the dogs*"? The Jews often spoke disparagingly and looked down on the Gentiles by calling them "*unclean dogs*". It was because they did not understand the Torah or Law of Moses. This attitude was applied to women and children because they could not understand the Torah. There is another reference to "*dogs*" in Matthew's Gospel where Jesus says to his disciples, "*Do not give to dogs what is holy*" (Matthew 7:6). Jesus tests this woman's faith to see if she is earnest in receiving *holy things* from the hand of a holy God. Jesus, no doubt, spoke with a smile rather than with an insult because this woman immediately responds with wit and faith - "*even the dogs eat the crumbs*".

In the last few weeks, in one of my homilies, I said that there are many young couples who come to ask for baptism. Some couples are catholic, sometimes only one of them is catholic and sometimes both husband and wife are non catholic. Indeed I had some doubts about those couples who are not catholic. I suspected that they wanted to baptise their children to make it easier to go to our school. At least two couples admitted this. And I refused to baptise some of their children. Am I right to do that? I do not know the right answer. Probably, speaking of rules, I think I am right. However baptism does not only concern rules, but we can also see the spiritual side of it.

I met another parish priest a few days ago who has some issues like those I am facing now. However, his approach is different. He welcomes all of them and baptises the children. Indeed he had concerns about the faith of the parents, yet he did it out of love and trust that God will do it his way. He learnt from his experience in the past. A non catholic couple came to ask for baptism of their first child. They were sincere with their motive: "*we want our son to go to your school, Father*". The priest respected their honesty, so he baptised the child. The following year the couple came with their second child to be baptised with the same motive. The priest baptised her. It happened with the third one as well. Finally one day, to his surprise, the couple came and asked to be enrolled in the RCIA (Rite of the Christian Initiation of Adults) program in the parish. The priest could not believe what happened. He welcomed them with a big smile. Pope Francis reminds us to live and love all people. Our approach to people should be based on love and not rules. He said: "*When we remain in love, the commandments follow on their own, out of love*".



### THIS WEEK

#### SATURDAY 16 AUG

6:00pm Mass

#### SUNDAY 17 AUG

9:30am Mass + Kids Church, Morning Tea  
11:00am French Mass  
3:30pm Indonesian Mass  
6:00pm Mass

#### MONDAY 18 AUG

9:00am Mass  
9:30am Reconciliation

#### WEDNESDAY 20 AUG

9:00am Mass

#### FRIDAY 22 AUG

9:00am Mass

#### SATURDAY 23 AUG

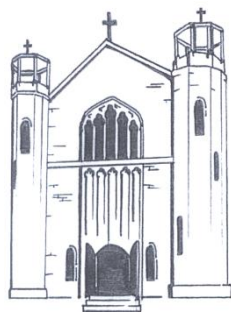
6:00pm Mass

#### SUNDAY 24 AUG

9:30am Mass + Kids Church, Morning Tea  
3:30pm Indonesian Mass  
6:00pm Mass

### ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH?

Welcome! Let us know how we can support you in your faith journey. Please introduce yourself to the parish priest and/or one of the hospitality team at morning tea.



# PARISH DIRECTORY

4 Roma Ave Kensington NSW 2033  
 T: 9663 1070  
 F: 9313 6348  
 E: [kensoparish@pacific.net.au](mailto:kensoparish@pacific.net.au)  
 W: <http://olrkensington.org.au>

**PARISH PRIEST**  
**Fr Aloysius Lamere msc**

**PARISH SECRETARY**  
 Maria Caetano (Mon-Fri 9am-1pm)

**MASS TIMES**  
 Sat - 6pm (Vigil)  
 Sun - 9:30am (Family), 6pm  
 Mon, Wed, Fri - 9am  
 Indonesian Mass Sun - 3:30pm  
 French Mass Third Sun - 11am

**RECONCILIATION**  
 Mon 9:30am or by appointment

**HOLY HOUR + RECONCILIATION**  
 Thursday before 1<sup>st</sup> Friday - 7:00pm

**INDONESIAN COMMUNITY**  
 Fr Aloysius Tamnge msc – 0426 042 624

**BAPTISMS**  
 First Sunday - 11am, bookings required

**WEDDINGS**  
 By Appointment

**SACRAMENTS**  
 Contact parish office

**OLR PRIMARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL**  
 Marie Nilon – 9663 3346

**OLSH COLLEGE PRINCIPAL**  
 Jenny Fowler – 9662 4088

## RESPONSES

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**  
 Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

**FIRST READING**  
 Isaiah 56:1, 6-7

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**  
 O God let all the nations praise you!

**SECOND READING**  
 Romans 11: 13-15, 29-32

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**  
 Alleluia, alleluia!  
 Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.  
 Alleluia!

**GOSPEL**  
 Matthew 15:21-28

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**  
 With the Lord there is mercy; in him is plentiful redemption.

## OREMUS

*Let us Pray*

**SICK**  
 Fr Roger Duggan msc, Neville Dunn, Mr MacKenzie, Fr Chris Murphy msc, Tom Regan, Pam (Rose's friend), Derek Chick, Tony (Dulwich Hill), Br James Maher msc, Francesco Alessi, Fr Peter Robinson msc, Lucia Simeone, Assunta Ciaglia, Natalina Beghetto, Frank Zakrzewski, Llewellyn Samuel, Antonio Laquian, Joe Di Blasio, Rina Vecchief, Betty Mansfield, Anton's mum, Nella Custorella, Marie LaBrooy, Patty Ingram, Dee Piper, Rosaria Ciaglia, Frank George, Colleen Corcoran, Zanita Banzon, Angela Breen Ortega

**BELOVED DECEASED**  
 Bishop Ted Collins msc,  
 Sr Barbara Lawlor fdnsc,  
 Sr Kathleen Gaffy fdnsc

**ANNIVERSARIES**  
 Matthew Keating, Maria Sidoti

## ROSTERS

| AUGUST 16/17 | SAT 6PM   | SUN 9:30AM   | SUN 6PM                              |
|--------------|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| Acolyte      | Dennis Fenech   | Roel Castillo  | John Allen                           |
| Readers      | Cathy Shiner<br>Thelma Slunsky                        |  | Marieann Duncan<br>Jim Nguyen        |
| E. Ministers | Alice Mouco<br>Vien Suhadi                            | Nani Widarto<br>Henny Ramali<br>Hartono Ong<br>Amelia Iovanella<br>Barbara Hitchcox<br>Sheila McAndrew | Lyn King<br>Susan Taumoepenu         |
| KidsChurch   | Charisse Low, Jacki Ma                                |  |                                      |
| Counting     | Johannes Tantohardjono, Bob Brenac, Giovanna Ziccardi |  |                                      |
| Comm to Sick | Roel Castillo   |  |                                      |
| AUGUST 23/24 | SAT 6PM   | SUN 9:30AM   | SUN 6PM                              |
| Acolyte      | Gus Alimhamzah  | John Allen   | Fred Luca                            |
| Readers      | Sr Helen Hearne<br>John Dorahy                        | Big Kids Church<br>Big Kids Church   | Tony King<br>Will Thorp              |
| E. Ministers | Dewi Suryani<br>Vien Suhadi                           | Thomas Chia<br>Hartono Ong<br>Brigid Siely<br>Barbara Hitchcox<br>Trish Veness<br>Amelia Iovanella     | Kristina Keneally<br>Marieann Duncan |
| KidsChurch   | Charisse Low, Jacki Ma                                |  |                                      |
| Counting     | James Lunch, John Sparke, Helen Liew                  |  |                                      |
| Comm to Sick | Roel Castillo, Trish Veness                           |  |                                      |

## YOUTH

**Big Kids' Church**

Join the team and lead the 9:30am Mass every fourth Sunday. Ages 10-15.  
Contact: Ana Corpuz – 0416 166 149.

## MARRIAGE &amp; FAMILY



Because Every Marriage Matters

**Wollongong | Sep 20 & 21**  
**Kincumber | Oct 11 & 12**  
**Residential Retreat | Nov 28-30**

You want your marriage to be the best ... committed, intimate, joyful and passionate. Presented in a Catholic context, the **SMARTLOVING MARRIAGE SEMINAR** is a private experience open to married couples of any faith.

Whether you've been married for one year or fifty years, if you long for deep, satisfying intimacy with your spouse, this seminar is for you.

**Proven results | Private and confidential | Spiritually sound**

**Bookings Essential | Meals included**

**Save \$200 with the Australian Government**

**Stronger Relationship Trial Subsidy!**

**[www.smartloving.org](http://www.smartloving.org) | 02 9319 6280 | [info@marriageRC.org](mailto:info@marriageRC.org)**

**A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend**

is a *Marriage Enrichment* experience for married couples – set in peaceful, picturesque surroundings, away from the distractions of everyday life. During the weekend, couples have a unique opportunity to reconnect, rekindle and refresh their relationship. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset . . . your Marriage!

**Weekend dates: 12 – 14 September (7 – 9 November) at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW. Bookings: Ardell & Bill Sharpe tel. 02 4283 3435 or**

[wsharpe@bigpond.net.au](mailto:wsharpe@bigpond.net.au) [www.wwme.org.au](http://www.wwme.org.au) [www.facebook.com/WWMEasternUnit](http://www.facebook.com/WWMEasternUnit)

**Theology of the Body Two-Day Seminar**

Why are we here? What does it mean to be human? What is this restlessness, this ache in the human heart that nothing in the world seems to satisfy?

Join international speaker Bill Donaghy from the Theology of the Body Institute in the USA, as he leads a very special two-day seminar in Sydney, unpacking John Paul II's ground-breaking reflections on human love and the divine vision for masculinity and femininity.

This unique event is ideal for men and women, young and old, clergy and laity, students and professionals. The seminar will be held on Tues 30 Sep and Wed 1 Oct at ACU in Strathfield. Places are limited and registration is essential. For more information email [tob@catholicyouthservices.org](mailto:tob@catholicyouthservices.org) or call 02 9764 4357.

## PARISH CHAT.....

**Holy Hour - First Thursday Vigil (7pm)**

This Hour of Grace and Mercy is a time to encounter the healing presence of Jesus and refresh your soul. Reconciliation is also available during Adoration.

**Sunday Evening Mass****Eucharistic Ministers**

We are currently very short of Eucharistic Ministers for Sunday Evening Mass. If you can assist, please contact Maria at the **Parish Office 9663 1070**.

**rites of Christian Initiation OF ADULTS (RCIA)**

Preparation for initiation into the Catholic Church at Easter 2015 will begin on Sunday **7 September 2014 (10.30am)** at the parish office. If you are a Catholic, share the blessing with non-Catholic relatives and friends. Invite them to embark on this great journey in getting to know God. If you are a non-Catholic, take a walk and experience a wonderful God. If you are interested, please speak to Fr Alo or ring the parish secretary, Maria at (02) 9663 1070 | drop an email to [kensoparish@pacific.net.au](mailto:kensoparish@pacific.net.au). The best part of all this is that it costs only \$0. Grab this opportunity before it is too late. Try it for 1 session risk free!

**VERBUM DEI CD SALES**

After each Mass next weekend, the Verbum Dei Missionaries will be selling their CD's. The cost is \$20 each. A great way of supporting their evangelising mission and also a great gift for friends and family.

**St Vincent De Paul Society**

A very big thank you to all who generously contributed to the Vinnies Winter Appeal. A total of \$4,578.10 was donated.

**MSC Mission Office**

Fr Adrian Meaney would like to thank the parishioners of OLR Kensington for their generosity after his visit last weekend. Approximately \$3,600.00 was raised to assist those less fortunate.

# WE'RE CELEBRATING...

**Baptism/Holy Communion/Confirmation:**  
 Abigail Baron-Hayes, Piper Bessant,  
 Charmaine Clemente, Natasha Graul,  
 Regina Hermawan, Waverley Hyem,  
 Shannon Lo, Amberley Munoz,  
 Emma Murphy, Rebecca Murphy,  
 Regina So, Jaya Tatnell, Maria Vakafua,  
 Marisol Valencia Lim, Thia Yap, Brigid Yap

## NOTICES

### 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. Go to [www.proclaimconference.com.au/livestream](http://www.proclaimconference.com.au/livestream) on Thursday 21st August and Saturday 23rd August at 10:30am.

### Remembering Marriages at St Mary's Cathedral

Those married at St Mary's Cathedral are invited to return with their families for a special **Mass of Thanksgiving, Blessing and Renewal of Vows** on **Sunday, 12 October** at **10.30am**, followed by morning tea in the beautiful and historic Chapter Hall. Certificates will be presented for 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> or 60<sup>th</sup> anniversaries. Those with ancestors married at St Mary's are also invited to join in this wonderful celebration. To register your interest, **RSVP** the **Event Coordinator** via email [valentina.markovina@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:valentina.markovina@sydneycatholic.org) or phone **Helen** on **(02) 9220 0414**.

## JOKE CORNER

At the Red Sea, Moses beholding the astonishing sight of the waters parting, groaned "Oh, Lord, I was just going in for a dip"

# Take Pity on Me!

Jesus was reluctant at first to cure the woman's daughter but her faith touched his heart. Starting with 'W' follow the arrows to decode the message.

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

