

# THE BARK

## OUR LADY OF FATIMA PEAKHURST

Issue Three 2012

[ourladyoffatima.com.au/bark](http://ourladyoffatima.com.au/bark)

### SANTO'S STORY

This is the story of one boy, one family and a group of country people who together display the values so cherished in humanity: care and support of each other.

In southwest country NSW in the Wagga / Riverina district is a group of people called Country Hope, a name that symbolises the caring hand of support for country children diagnosed with cancer and other life threatening illness, and their families.

As we can all appreciate, cancer itself presents a formidable battle to adults, let alone children. Living in the country has many advantages but, unlike we city dwellers, the distance



*Santo in the electric wheelchair funded by our parish.*

when in need of specialised medical assistance is costly, not only financially but also emotionally and mentally because of the need for many trips to Sydney.

The best way to tell you about Country Hope's work is to introduce you to a young man called Santo who is a recipient of the care and support, both financially and emotionally, provided by this inspiring group.

Santo is now 12 years old and living with his family in the Riverina town of Leeton. His journey is not only inspirational but also one of courage, resilience, and most of all hope. The following is only a short summary to give you some idea of his struggle.

Young Santo came to the attention of Country Hope in 2008 when he was seven years old and diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia. This resulted in many months of chemotherapy, as well as being away from home and family as he stayed in Ronald McDonald House. On his return home he and his parents had to travel to Sydney (seven hours drive both ways) for fortnightly Specialist visits as well as at Griffith Hospital. Unfortunately he was only able to enjoy six months of remission.

Ten years old: More chemo and a bone marrow transplant, generously donated by his brother, and another nine months in hospital in Sydney.

Eleven years: His young body began to reject the bone marrow transplant, which affected other body systems. Another eight months away from family who were confronted with the possibility this battle might not be won. But not Santo. His tenacity showed through once more as he continued to fight.

In February this year, steroid induced osteoporosis presented itself with many crush fractures in his spine,

*Continued on next page...*



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which lead to his immobilisation. He has endured indescribable pain, chemotherapy, so many invasive treatments as well as the side effects from drugs plus long periods away from family. Now, in May, a new battle to face as another blood disorder was diagnosed which is thought to be either new or a product of previous treatment.

However, through all of this, Santo had a dream to go back to school. For this to be achieved he either needed a motorised wheelchair or the school had to pay for a teacher's aide. This is where your lending hand touched his life because you generously financed the chair that has been able to give him independence and mobility plus the belief that his dream will be fulfilled.

As you see by the photos, he has a smile on his face as he sits proudly in the wheelchair, a smile you gave to him by your gift.

There is also a letter from his mother (right), which needs no further words from me. (For the family's privacy, the surname has been deleted).

This is only one story of the work of Country Hope, which also provides ongoing support to families who have lost a child to illness.

Let's hope that Santo wins his battle and is able to see his dream come true. When that happens and he no longer requires the chair, it will be given to another child in need who is under the generous care of Country Hope.

All there is left to say is a most sincere thank you to all the parishioners who unknowingly, through that coin on the plate, have been part of Santo's incredible journey of Hope.

*Jan Dawkins*

*For the Lending a Hand Team*

To Whom it May Concern

It is with a sense of humility that we introduce our 12 year old son, Santo, and thank you for your consideration for support through the generosity of your organisation. We want to thank you for the support with his continuing struggle.

It's been four years now since that dark day of diagnosis. Leukaemia is a powerful adversary that continues to take its toll on our family's life. The treatment has been cruel and the fallout has now rendered him immobile and wheelchair bound – hence our current dilemma.

Not one to give in, Santo has expressed a wish to return to school after a 3-plus years absence. This too can only happen under special circumstances:

1. If he has access to a teacher assistant to accommodate his academic and physical needs and/or
2. If he has access to a motorised wheelchair.

As you would understand the family finances after this long battle have been stretched. Four years ago, we were one of those 'normal' families. Today it's not so normal. Mind you, the decision for one parent to remain at work and the other to become Santo's full time carer was the easiest decision in the world and we wouldn't have it any other way – you just have to adjust to the circumstances as they arise.

We remain ever hopeful of recovery no matter how hard or long. We acknowledge the marvellous work you have done and continue to do in the community and look forward to you reading Santo's story and thanking you for your assistance to help return to as normal a life as possible.

Yours sincerely

Santo's Mum

## WHERE IS IT?

The picture below is taken, obviously, somewhere in the vicinity of the parish. Can you guess where? There are no prizes for guessing.

The answer is on page 14.



## DID YOU KNOW

A very special congratulations to Benjamin Briggs, son of Peter and grandson of Mary. Benjamin, who suffers from autism, made his First Holy Communion in a special ceremony conducted by Fr John. Some of the ladies from the choir helped to make the occasion extra special for young Benjamin by singing hymns. Peter and the Briggs family were very proud.

There seems to be a general exodus from the parish at this time of the year, with families going on holidays. We have Pat and Neil Flynn, Helen and Peter Cozzi and Maureen Burgess doing a wonderful cruise through the Kimberleys recently. Also several people went off to Hawaii to celebrate a certain birthday: Kevin and Frances Greene, Mary and Lee Jones, Laureen and Bernie Holdsworth, Denise and Kevin McKiernan, Kathy and Len Dennett, Robyn and Tim Martin and Camille and George Phillips.

And there's more. Frances and Paul Finch and Anne and John Benfield are cruising on the Black Sea to Vienna, Pat Macks and friend off to Canadian Rockies and Inside Passage, Mary and Ian Stevenson cruising the Pacific, and Deb Cummins is still away having attended the Olympic Games. Here's hoping everyone has a wonderful time, and for anyone I missed out on we hope you enjoyed your journey as well.

Congratulations to Maria and John Vaux who became grandparents for the second time. Little Annabel Joy was



born to Lindie and Andrew Vaux recently, a little sister to Charlie. What a joyous time for all the family including great-grandmother Joan, and aunts Leah and Emma.

The Catholic Women's League recently entertained our friends from Our Lady of Consolation Nursing Home, Rooty Hill. It was a most enjoyable day with the weather being perfect, the lunch enjoyable and much appreciated and the entertainment was from Krissy and her feathered friends. Kris brings along a variety of very tame birds that she has trained and coloured, to sit on the patrons' shoulders or heads and they loved it. Of course many photos were taken, one of which is shown above. It was pleasing to send them back to the Nursing Home a very happy and contented bunch of ladies and gentlemen saying that they will definitely come back next year.

Get your tickets to the Spring Fashion Parade at 1.30pm Saturday 13 October in the Parish Centre. Just \$10 includes afternoon tea. The money helps the great work of the Catholic Women's League.

Happy anniversary to us. On 13 October Our Lady of Fatima turns 44 years old as a parish. We're quickly closing in on the grand old age of 50.

*Inez Mullen*

## FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Our happy little group is going well. There are 22 guests and 10 helpers. We meet every fortnight in the parish centre from 10am to 1pm.

Morning tea is served, then board games and cards are played till midday when lunch is served, consisting of sandwiches and cakes. These are supplied by our dedicated band of willing workers.

If you would like to join us as a guest or helper, please call Helen on 9153 5074.

*Helen Cozzi*

*The Catholic Women's League*  
*Peakhurst*  
*invites you to a*  
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# ANNIVERSARY OF MONICA BAILEY



My mother was Monica Bailey. We have just celebrated the 20th anniversary of her death.

Some people are special and some are extraordinary. This woman was a friend to everyone.

She was always happy and welcoming to all, whether they were rich or poor, healthy or ill, handsome or plain. Wherever she saw a need she tried to help. This was the example she set me all my life.

When she died, many people said she was a saint. Anyway, she was just my mother.

Whenever she saw someone hungry she supplied a meal for them, whenever she saw someone lonely she befriended them, whenever someone was in hospital or sick at home she visited them, if anyone needed a bed for a night or two or more, she found a way for them to get it, if anyone needed a shoulder to cry on she was there, whenever anyone needed transport she provided it – over and over again.

She was a tireless worker for many charities and many of her friendships were made in these organisations. She was always humble, always doing God's work.

This is just a small memorial to a special lady who we remember especially on this day each year.

One selfless, loving human being. By the grace of God, I was blessed to have this lady as my mother.

10 September, 2012.

Clare Day

# OLF HELPS YOUTHZONE



An email of thanks has been received from Latif Jufri, Youth Worker at the Hurstville YouthZone Drop In Centre.

The email is to say thanks for the donation from OLF made to the centre, with which they purchased a Weber barbecue, Foos Ball table and some video games.

YouthZone is a not-for-profit help centre for young people of the area designed, facilitated and supervised by qualified and professional youth workers. The help that the centre provides can range from legal matters to employment and education assistance.

The centre is also a community centre for social and recreational activities.

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# NEW SAFETY RULES FOR ALL PARISHES

During June this year the Sydney Archdiocesan issued WHS (Work Health and Safety) guidelines to all parishes.

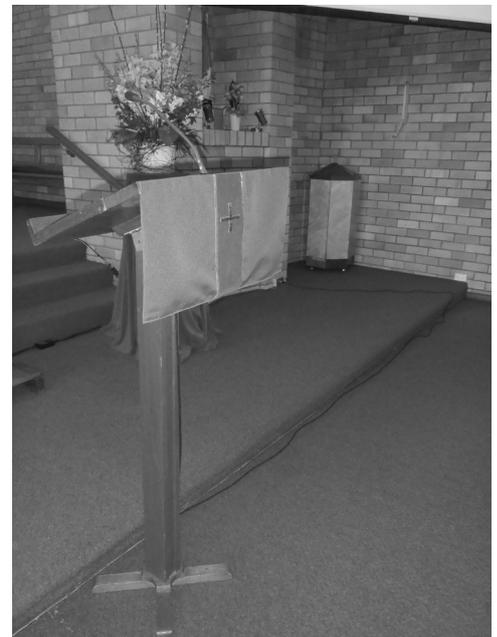
These rules comply with Australian WHS standards and outline the responsibilities to all priests, employees, parishioners and contractors who work within or enter parish grounds.

Parishioner and current chair of the Leadership Team, Deb Cummins, elected to be the parish WHS representative.

She has initiated the following:

- The induction of all committee members in WHS rules regarding safety and hazards, be they fire, electrical or physical, and their responsibility on reporting of such hazards to the parish for action.
- Miscellaneous issues, including the lengthening of the digital projector pole to provide safe servicing, new car park lighting and the securing of the lectern microphone cable, which needs to be finalised.
- The audit and tagging of all electrical appliances and equipment. This has been completed by our electrician and needs to be done on a regular basis.

- Compliance with WHS Fire regulations. The installation of smoke/fire alarms and illuminated exit signs were not required as our D.A. was already approved in the past. If any new building D.A. is required, the parish is obliged to meet the relevant guidelines.



*The lectern will soon be changed.*

- The ordering of First Aid kits and plastic drinking cups. These were donated by Galluzzo's Pharmacy.

In short we, the parishioners, have a responsibility to abide by the WHS rules and to report anything that may prove to be unsafe, even if you don't think it is important.

*Charles Centorrino*



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Regular features are Thursday night Members' Badge Draw, Friday Monster Meat Raffle and Sunday Meat Raffle.

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Representative Players have pronounced Grandviews Greens the best in the metropolitan area, so why not join up for membership now. Free coaching is available.

Social Membership is \$7 for one year,  
Social Membership \$14 for three years  
or Bowling Membership is \$60 per year.

– For the information of members and guests –



Members of the Catechists Team enjoy an evening out.



## THE CATECHISTS OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA

We are men and women who have made a commitment to bring the Good News to the children of our parish attending the local state schools. Living out our baptismal calling in making Jesus known to the children is very rewarding. However, it is a responsibility which should be shared by the whole parish.

The current shortage of catechists means that many are teaching multiple classes. As well, we have no spare catechists to step in when we go on holidays or when we are not well. The children miss out.

We invite men and women in the parish, young or old, to sit in with us in the classroom when we teach. It is a good way of finding out yourself whether you could be interested in helping us.

Why not give it a go?

*Evelyn Graham*

## CONFIRMATIONS 2012 – A GREAT PARISH CELEBRATION

On Sunday 9 September, 51 young parishioners received the sacrament of Confirmation at Our Lady of Fatima.

Bishop Terry Brady, whose mother is quite ill, officiated at the service, along with Fr John and Fr Thu.

A huge crowd was in attendance to watch the ceremony, including sponsors, family and friends of those making their Confirmation.

The Youth Group provided the music, and always did a terrific and thoroughly professional job.

The ladies of the Sacramental Team again gave freely of their time to prepare the candidates for their Confirmation, and should be congratulated.

Tony King, acolyte at the service, proudly watched 10 of the children whom he has taught as a catechist be Confirmed on the day.

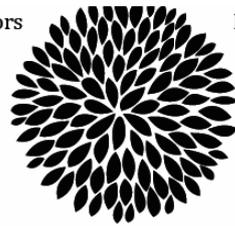
Pictured are scenes from the celebration, including altar decorations, members of the Sacramental Team, Bishop Terry with Fr Thu and Fr John, some candidates and the boys in the Youth Group with Bishop Terry.

*Dominic Alati*





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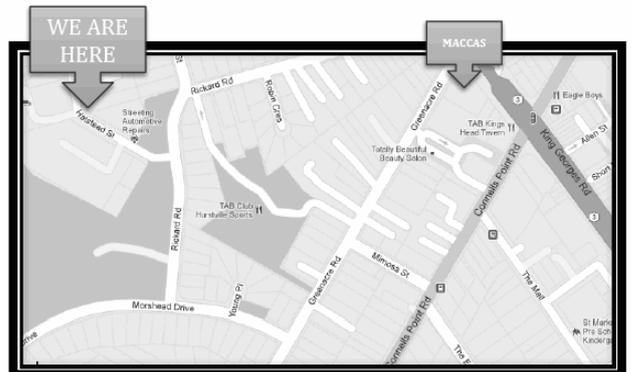
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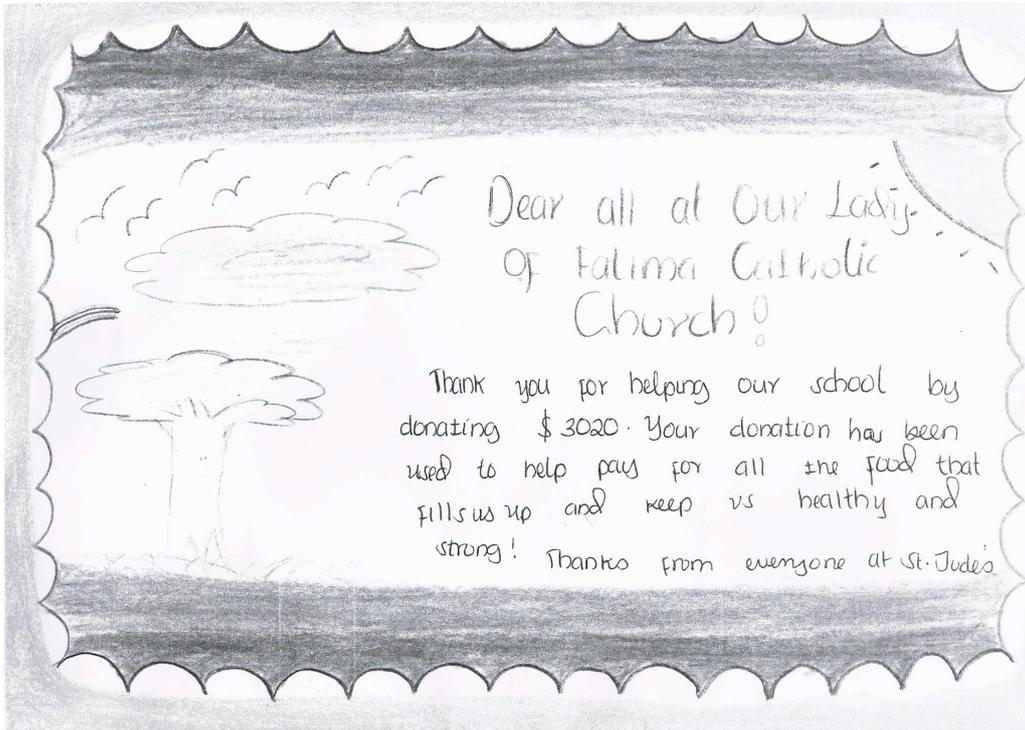
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At the outset, the original committee developed guidelines to assist them in the decision-making process. These provide a scope and direction to our evaluation of projects. Some key points are that:

- the types of causes supported should conform to the ethos of the Catholic Church but not be confined to Catholic causes
- ideally, funds provided should provide the basis for recipients to achieve for themselves and their communities
- projects should benefit a group or community rather than an individual.

## **WE ARE CALLED TO ACT WITH JUSTICE – SO OLF PEAKHURST ‘LEND A HAND’**

The Lending a Hand Ministry was formed in 2006 to carry out that part of our Parish Mission Statement which seeks to ‘outreach to the wider community through the provision of financial funding, facilities and people’.

The Lending a Hand Committee, on behalf of the Parish, seeks out and evaluates causes and projects to support to fulfil this mission.

Ten percent of the Parish’s envelope collection is allocated to this work and this has been generously enhanced over the past six years by direct donations, parish fund raising and goods donated.

As you will see from the article following this one and the front page story, our parish has most recently provided support to the School of St Jude in Tanzania and, through the donation of an electric wheel chair to the Country Hope Group, has provided the means for mobility and accessing education to a young boy whose illness has impacted severely on his young life and that of his family.

Our twice-annual visits to St Canice’s Kitchen at Elizabeth Bay cost relatively little in financial terms but are an example of the overwhelming generosity of our parishioners each and every time we call for help.

As one of the outreaching arms of OLF Peakhurst, Lending a Hand has supported communities overseas in Africa (Tanzania and Uganda), Kiribati and the Philippines, and locally in Queensland, rural New South Wales and

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as close to home as the Peakhurst Lodge Nursing Home run by the Sisters of Our Lady of China, Riverwood Community Centre and a refuge for women and children in St George.

So much has been achieved over the past six years with the support and input of our Parish family.

"We are called to act with justice, we are called to love tenderly, We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God."

Julia Goff

For the Lending A Hand Team

## MESSAGES OF THANKS FROM THE CHILDREN OF THE SCHOOL OF ST JUDE

Last year the parish, through the Lending A Hand Team, began supporting the School of St Jude in Tanzania.

This inspiring institution, founded by Australian-born Gemma Sisia and her Tanzanian husband, relies entirely on donations, much of which comes from Australia.

Parishioners will recall the visit to our parish of Kim Saville from St Jude who spoke at Mass explaining the fantastic achievements of this organisation (5pm Mass 10 March 2012).

Through the Lending A Hand Ministry, the parish made a one-off donation to the school of \$5,000 and has an ongoing commitment to sponsor a bus for three years to transport the children to and from school.

As part of the wonderful feedback from the St Jude School, the children have sent us some letters of thanks. Two are re-printed here (left and on facing page).

Emma Williams

For the Lending A Hand Team

Dear : All at our  
Lady of Fatima Catholic Church,  
we would like to tell you about Tanzania.  
In Tanzania we have lots of Mountains  
and precious minerals mined many places  
across Tanzania. We also have beautiful  
animals such as Giraffes, Elephants,  
and Lions. We have the tallest mountain  
in Africa that is Mt. Kilimanjaro it is  
the only Mtn that has ice here in  
Tanzania. We have the only mineral  
that cannot be found all around the  
world and that is Tanzanite it is  
the precious and leads to Tanzania gain-  
ing Taxes for having Tourists to come  
and see it's samples. We would  
like to thank you for Sponsoring  
our lovely Teacher, Mr. Kashira and  
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## JOHN AND ROBERT – TWO WONDERFUL CANTORS

Still going strong after all these years, John Hill and Robert O'Brien have been cantors at OLF since the Music Ministry began around 16 years ago.

Every week, they stand by the organist, sometimes with the choir, and sometimes with other singers, and deliver the music for our enjoyment of the Mass.

Both men have a great amount of admiration for each other, and regard themselves as a 'pair' of cantors, preferring to sing together.

Robert is a tenor, while John was also a tenor, but over the years his voice has dropped and is now a baritone.

Both men fondly remember the early days of the choir and the wonderful people who have been members over the years, rattling off name after name of those who have come and gone.

John Hill was born in Yorkshire. He was baptised, made his confession, First Holy Communion, Confirmation and was married in the same church.

His voyage to Australia from England is an interesting one, covered in issue 3 of *The Bark* (Nov 1996). Thinking he and the family were getting off the boat at Melbourne, they were told they would be going to Sydney. "Fair enough," said John, "Sydney it is."

He lived for many years in Hurstville where he and the family would walk to Mass at St Declan's. The family moved to Peakhurst, but were told they were still in the

Penshurst parish. It wasn't until they moved to South Peakhurst that they officially became Our Lady of Fatima parishioners.

John worked for Thomas Clark air-conditioning for 26 years, calling himself a 'utility man' because he did a number of roles. He retired in 1991 but still attends the reunions.

He is married to Connie and they have three children, with the two daughters, Catherine and Christine who live in England, and a son Stephen who lives in Leeton. He adores his grandchildren who he rarely sees.

Robert O'Brien was in the choir at St Michael's at Hurstville for some

30 years before moving to Lugarno in 1995. There was no choir at Peakhurst at the time, so he continued to sing at Hurstville until 1996 when groups of singers were established. The groups would alternate between Masses each Sunday.

Frances Long, the conductor of the Bell Choir, would come and help at Christmas.

The OLF choir was formally established when Ruth took over as conductor.

Music has always been Robert's passion. When he was younger, Robert sang in local musical societies in Hurstville and Rockdale. He currently learns the keyboard but says he's not confident enough to play at Mass.

Robert is married to Elizabeth. He has three children, Melinda (who is married to Michael Finn), Sally and Peter, and two grandchildren, William (7) and Lucy (5).

Robert was Company Secretary of Soul Pattinson for many years before retiring from the full-time role.

He says the choir always needs cantors. He acknowledges that not everybody can get up there and sing. However, he'd love to see more cantors join the parish's Music Ministry.

When asked how long he will keep singing for, he responds with a laugh, "I don't know." His respect for John Hill is enormous. "He is remarkable to be able to sing so well at his age. He never gets a note wrong," says Robert.

We hope these two wonderful cantors will sing at Mass for many years.

*Dominic Alati*

# COMMISSIONING OF EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

In July/August we advertised in the Parish Bulletin that Fr John would be conducting a course for parishioners wishing to become Eucharistic Ministers.

The response to the advertisement was wonderful with 11 parishioners expressing interest in undertaking the course.

At the course, Fr John outlined the role of the Eucharistic Minister and emphasised its importance as a Ministry of service.

This Ministry of Service was also mentioned in one of the documents discussed at the course:

Yours is a share  
in the work of the Lord's Spirit  
who makes us  
one bread, one body,  
the cup of blessing which we bless.

Yours is the work  
of ministering Christ's body and blood  
to the body of Christ, the Church.

Yours is service  
at the Lord's reconciling table.

You name for each of us  
the gifts we have offered  
and the gifts we receive:  
"The Body of Christ, the Blood of Christ".

You minister holy food to holy people  
in the holiest of all communions.

Yours is the ministry of the One  
who was broken  
and poured out for our sakes:  
the ministry of Christ  
who is our Passover  
and our lasting peace.



*Above: The Eucharistic Ministers commissioned at the 5pm Mass 8 September 2012: Angela Centorrino, Katrina Zenere, Christine Buckman, Agnes Webb, Danielle Henderson, Emma Williams and Sharon Moran with Fr John.*

At the Masses on the weekend of 8/9 September, the candidates were commissioned as Eucharistic Ministers.

We thank the following parishioners for their commitment to this wonderful role of service to our Parish Community:

- Dominic Alati
- Christine Buckman
- Angela Centorrino
- Danielle Henderson
- Sharon Moran
- Leanne Stevens
- Nicholas Stevens
- Agnes Webb
- Emma Williams
- Katrina Zenere
- Marie Ryan (who will be commissioned on her return from overseas).

*David Payne  
For the Liturgy Committee*

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# TWO DIFFERENT MEMORIALS



In June this year, my family and I had the opportunity to travel to America. In New York, a visit to the September 11 Memorial was a must.

Near the memorial is St Paul's Chapel (pictured above), an Episcopal chapel regarded as Manhattan's oldest public building still in continuous use. It is where George Washington worshipped, and outside is a graveyard so old that many of the inscriptions on the tombstones have worn away.

Remarkably, the chapel survived the collapse of the Twin Towers in 2001 without even a window being damaged. In the days that followed, the chapel was used as a place where recovery workers could seek rest and refuge. It



appears that in the 11 years that have passed, the chapel has become more of a tourist attraction than a chapel.

Visits to the September 11 Memorial must be pre-booked and ours was for 4pm on a very hot June day.

The memorial itself came somewhat as a surprise. I expected something like the Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbour, a reverent and sombre place where people quietly reflect over the lives that were lost. Instead, the roar of the running water from the two huge pools meant the memorial was anything but quiet.

The pools, where the original buildings once stood, are actually massive waterfalls. Water cascades down two levels into a pit, the bottom of which cannot be seen. Around each pool are etched the names of all the victims – to us just names, but to many, real lives tragically taken. On one name lay a single rose.

Over the memorial's shoulder stands the new building, called One World Trade Centre, which is almost complete, and will be a massive 104 storeys high.

I found the tree under which people lay tributes. I placed an Australian flag as well as a holy picture and medal of Saint Mary MacKillop that Fr Thu had blessed before our journey (pictured left). I said a prayer and drifted back to watch other people at the tree.

Around the grassed area children ran about while adults rested sipping bottles of water in the warm weather.



While many of us feel detached, this scar on the face of New York may never heal.

On the other side of the country is another memorial, known as the Arlington West Memorial (pictured below). This one is dedicated to the American military personnel who have lost their lives in the war with Iraq. It is a temporary memorial placed on the beach next to the famous Santa Monica Pier every Sunday from dawn till dusk – a project of the Veterans For Peace.

White crosses are placed in the sand, with each cross representing the loss of a life. There are now so many that red crosses are also used, each representing 10 lives lost. For every life lost in the past week, a flag-draped coffin and a blue cross it is placed at the front. When we were there, two coffins had flags.

To date, over 4,000 American military have died in the war. It is impossible to count all people from all countries who have died in the war, but it is estimated to be over 100,000. Recently, five Australian soldiers died on one day alone. Many have also died indirectly, such as committing suicide, while thousands of others have been injured, many permanently.

It seems odd that such a memorial be placed next to a bustling tourist attraction. At the back of the picture you can see people queuing – they are in a queue for the beach shower. What an unusual place for such a solemn memorial. I suppose positioning it where thousands of people, including tourists from around the world, will see it is actually the perfect place.



The Arlington West Memorial is a stark reminder of the severe cost of war and international aggression.

The September 11 Memorial and the Arlington West Memorial are two very different memorials, both dramatic and poignant.

*Dominic Alati*

## MEMORIES OF A CHAMPION



*Pictured: Norman Burns (Noel's brother), Governor General Sir William Slim, Jockey Mel Schumacher and an attendant.*

My father, brother and I were Shearing Contractors from Narromine in the Central West. In the year of 1952 we purchased a yearling at the Easter Sales for 1100 Guineas and we named him Baystone. He won 13 races, most notably the 1958 Melbourne Cup.

In that same year on the Queens Birthday weekend he was beaten in the Brisbane Cup in a photo finish with 7 stone 10 pounds. He then won the Cup with 8 stone 9 pounds – a big increase.

He won the lead up race on the Saturday, then called the Hotham Handicap. It was and still is a good guide. He was the first horse in a 100 years of the running of the Cup to carry the No.7 saddle cloth to victory and he also drew No.13 at the barrier. Since 1952 there hasn't been another Cup winner go through the sales ring. Fate plays a strange hand.

The Trainer we had was Jack Green and the jockey was Mel Schumacher.

On his retirement, Baystone went to a property in Narromine owned by Mr George McKillop, who was a close relative of Mary MacKillop even though their names were spelled differently.

Ah, such fond memories.

*Noel Burns*

## OLF SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2012

The last sacrament for the year is the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Applications can be collected from the Piety Stall, Parish House or downloaded at the parish website: [www.ourladyoffatima.com.au](http://www.ourladyoffatima.com.au)

All four parts to the Sacrament must be attended.

### Part 1 Parent Information Night

Monday 15 October 7:30pm

Part 2 Lesson 1 Monday 29 October 7:30pm

Lesson 2 Monday 5 November 7:30pm

### Part 3 Liturgy of the Word

Monday 12 November 7:30pm

### Part 4 INDIVIDUAL RECONCILIATION

Saturday 17 November 3:15pm - 4:30pm

## THE BARK IS ON THE WEB

If you missed out on a copy of *The Bark*, or want to check something in a recent issue, *The Bark*, can be accessed through our parish website.

The address is [www.ourladyoffatima.com.au/bark](http://www.ourladyoffatima.com.au/bark)

All issues from 2010, 2011 and 2012 are there in PDF format and can easily be downloaded.

The parish website also has other important pieces of information, and a News section with the latest info.

You can access the latest Bulletin and roster, plus read a brief version of our parish history.

It is hoped that the website will enjoy a face-lift in the near future, making it more functional for website visitors as well as for Parish Ministries.

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## ARTICLES FOR THE BARK

Relevant contributions for *The Bark* are welcome. All articles should have a spiritual relevance to our church. Preference is for articles and pictures to be emailed to: [domalati@hotmail.com](mailto:domalati@hotmail.com) Otherwise, leave at the Parish House with your name and contact details. Articles left anonymously will not be accepted.

We prefer articles you have written yourself, and they will receive priority. Reprinting articles from other publications and the internet is a breach of copyright and cannot be used unless you have received approval. Likewise, articles in *The Bark* are not to be used elsewhere without permission from the editor or author.

Articles should be no more than 300 words. Pictures help your article and make it more likely to be read. We encourage you to send articles and/or pictures of events directly related to our parish, or key events in the lives of our parishioners.

Articles are published and edited at the editor's discretion and no guarantee can be given that an article will appear.

Opinions on church issues are welcome. Opinions expressed in articles are those of the author and not necessarily those of *The Bark*, Our Lady of Fatima, Peakhurst or the Catholic Church.

Please support our advertisers without whose generous assistance *The Bark* would not be printed.

## 'WHERE IS IT' ANSWER

The answer to the 'Where is it?' picture on page 2 is Mortdale, on the corner of Boundary Road and Roberts Avenue, opposite the BP Service Station.

The sign points up Roberts Avenue and is about 2.5kms from the church.

Petrol was expensive that day!



# FUNNIES

There was a little old church out in the countryside, painted white and with a high steeple.

One Sunday, the priest noticed that his church needed painting. He checked out the Sunday ads and found a paint sale. The next day, he went into town and bought two litres of white paint. He went back out to the church and began the job.

He got done with the first side. It was looking great. But he noticed he had already used a litre. He didn't want to run back in town and being the creative person that he was, he found some thinner in the shed out back, and began to thin his paint.

It worked out great. He finished the remaining three sides with the last litre of paint.

That night, it rained. The next morning when he stepped outside to admire his work, he saw that the first side was looking great, but that the paint on the other three sides had washed away.

The pastor looked up in sky in anguish and cried out, "What shall I do?"

A voice came back from the heavens saying, "Repaint, and thin no more!"

This fundamentalist Christian couple felt it important to own an equally fundamentally Christian pet. So, they went shopping. At a kennel specialising in this particular breed, they found a dog they liked quite a lot. When they asked the dog to fetch the Bible, he did it in a flash. When they instructed him to look up Psalm 23, he complied equally fast, using his paws with dexterity.

They were impressed, purchased the animal, and took him home.

That night they had friends over. They were so proud of their new fundamentalist dog and his major skills, they called the dog and showed off a little.

The friends were impressed, and asked whether the dog was able to do any of the usual dog tricks, as well. This stopped the couple cold, as they hadn't thought about 'normal' tricks.

"Well," they said, "let's try this out."

Once more they called out to the dog, and then clearly pronounced the command, "Heel!"

Quick as a wink, the dog jumped up, put his paw on the man's forehead, closed his eyes in concentration, and bowed his head.

Delivering a speech at a banquet on the night of his arrival in a large city, a visiting bishop told several anecdotes he expected to retell at some meetings the next day.

Because he wanted to use the jokes again, he requested the reporters omit them from any accounts they might turn in to their newspapers.

A cub reporter, in commenting on the speech, ended his piece with the following: "The bishop told a number of stories that cannot be published."

An Englishman, a Frenchman and a Russian are in an art gallery viewing a painting of Adam and Eve frolicking in the Garden of Eden.

"Look at their reserve, their calm," muses the Englishman. "They must be English."

"Nonsense," the Frenchman disagrees. "They're naked, and so beautiful. Clearly, they are French."

"No clothes, no shelter," the Russian points out, "they have only an apple to eat, and they're being told this is paradise. Clearly, they are Russian."

## One liners

Atheists lack creed ability.

It's Chic to Turn Cheek.

Welcome to all new members. We hope you find Yahweh around.

Have some fast food – it's Good Fry Day!

Haitians – Hoodoo they think they are?

What happened when Jesus preached to his disciples in the rain? They bore wetness to the truth!

Son screen protects you from sin burn!



# CATHOLIC CHURCH PEAKHURST PARISH OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA

825 FOREST ROAD PEAKHURST 2210

**Parish Priest:** Fr John Crothers **Assistant:** Fr Thu Nguyen  
Parish Secretary: Lynelle Lembryk – PH: 9533 2594 – Fax: 9533 5908  
Email: olfpeakhurst@atu.com.au – Web: www.ourladyoffatima.com.au

## LITURGIES

**Saturday Vigil:** 5pm **Sunday:** 9:15am and 6pm. **Wednesday and Friday:** 9:30am Mass followed by Rosary.

## SACRAMENTAL SCHEDULE

**Baptism:** 10:30am 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month. Contact Parish House for details.

**Marriage:** Six months notice required. Contact Parish House for details.

**Anointing:** Any time day 9533 2594 or night 9580 1310.

**Reconciliation:** Saturday 4:30pm.

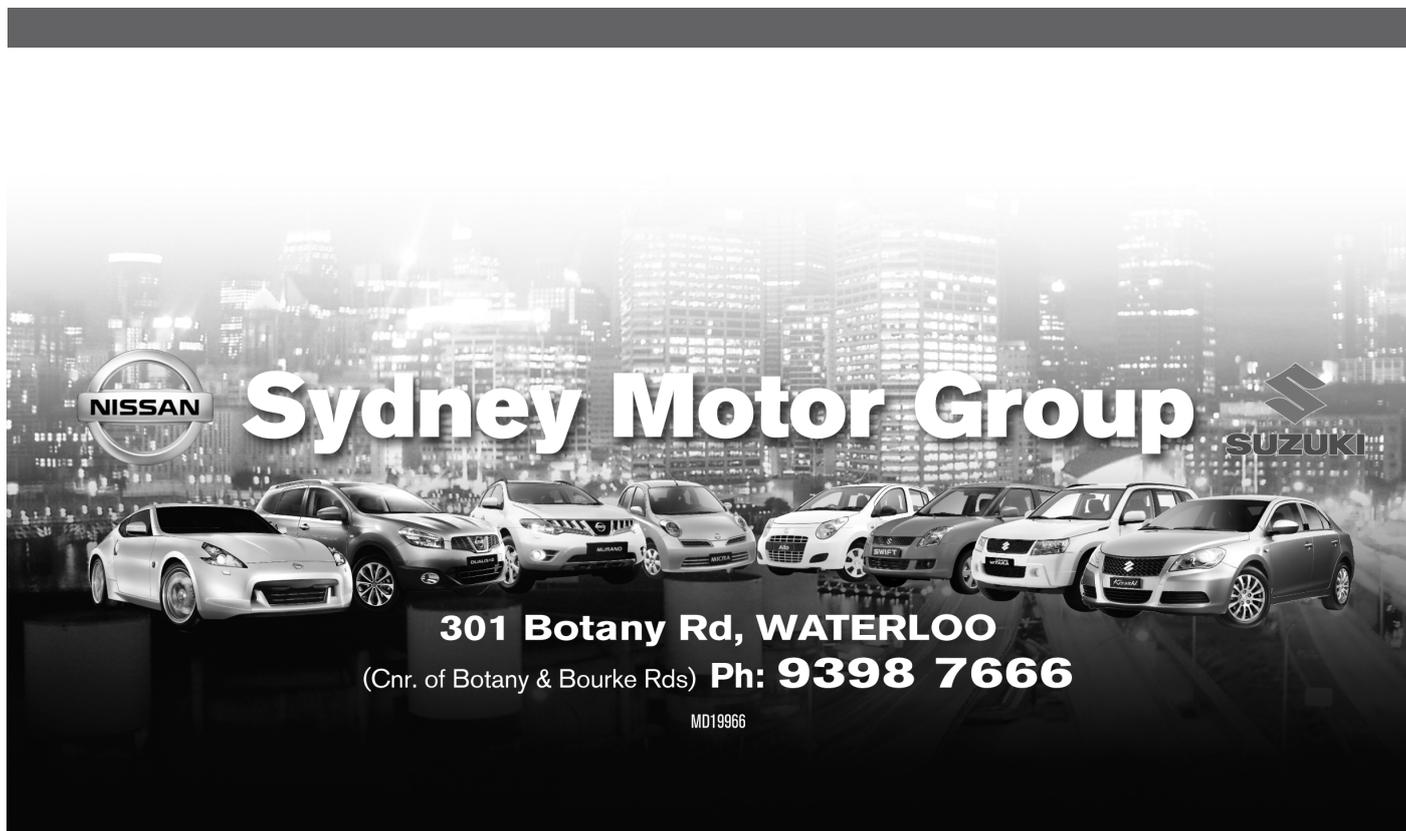
## LEADERSHIP TEAM

Deb Cummins (Chair), Charles Centorrino, Fran Harvey, John Benfield, Frances Finch, Ronny Martinovic.

## THE BARK

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Thanks to the following people who help produce *The Bark*: The Production Team, John Vaux, Lynelle Lembryk, Fr John, Fr Thu, the Leadership Team, everyone who contributes articles, the advertisers and supporters.



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