

# *the bark* **Our Lady of Fatima Peakhurst**

**ISSUE ONE 2013**

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

## **CWL TURNS 100**

The Catholic Women's League was founded in England by Margaret Fletcher in 1906, with a branch established in Australia in 1913. Many embraced the opportunity to bond with like-minded Catholic women in areas of spirituality and social justice. So the League rapidly spread interstate and throughout the world.

Mary Help Of Christians is our Australian patron, with the international motto: 'For God and country'.

Congratulations and accolades have been sent by Cardinal George Pell and NSW Governor Her Excellency Prof Marie Bashir on the outstanding contribution of the CWL within the church and in the wider community over the last 100 years. We look back with gratitude and into the future we trust in God's love.

Members generously supported the community during the harsh years of WWI and the Economic Depression in the 1930s with Breakfast Clubs, Soup Kitchens and clothing for the poor and unemployed. CUSA provided friendship and



**CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE  
SYDNEY CENTENARY**

social support during these difficult times.

Our Peakhurst CWL branch is in its 26th year and has a membership of 28.

We meet on the third Wednesday of the month at 1.30pm in the meeting room. New members are always welcome.

The city meetings are held at Polding Centre on the second Tuesday of the month at 10.30am. These are very interesting and informative. Guest speakers are varied. Recently Kath Evans spoke on her 'journey' as the recipient

*Continued on next page...*



*Pictured left, some of the ladies from Peakhurst CWL with Loretta Chester and Chris McKirdy (seated) from the city office.*



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of the second miracle of cancer through intercession of Mary MacKillop.

April speaker is Judith Dunn (author) on 'Colonial Women'.

Our combined Sydney branches support a special project each year: Fistula Hospital in Ethiopia; School in East Timor; Marist Youth; Affordable Housing – teaching responsible living and building skills for the home they will help build then rent; building and equipping a preschool in Sri Lanka and providing school uniforms and their own 'wraps with love' made by Australian 'nannas'.

Our annual Forum Day, for example 'Journey to Justice' (2012), gives an insight into the career choices of eminent speakers.

Catholic Women's League fosters the spiritual, cultural and social development of women. Firm friendships and support during difficult times are just some of the bonuses of membership.

Some charities we support are St Anthony's Home; Vinnie's Sister Noeline's work with underprivileged people in Kings Cross; Autism Spectrum; Our Baby Jack's Care. We are very appreciative of parish participation in our fund raising activities.

#### Centenary highlights for 2013

**19 April:** Centenary Mass at St Mary's Cathedral, Celebrant Bishop Terry Brady followed by lunch at Parliament House.



**23 June:** Peakhurst CWL Centenary Mass 9.15am, Loretta Chester Sydney CWL V President guest speaker, morning tea after Mass.

**June:** CWL official Centenary DVD 'At the Heart of Women' will be shown after weekday Mass – notification later in the Bulletin. This is an excellent blend of Church history and Australian current events of the times.

**October:** Garden Party at Government House; Civic Reception, Lady Mayoress's Room, Sydney Town Hall; High Tea Ridges.

We hope you can join us.

*Marlene Wallace and Judy Eldridge*



**LIONS' BBQ**

KID'S GAMES

KID'S RIDES

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**or phone:** 0430 374 321

**Saturday 6 April 2013 - 8.30am to 3.00pm**

# FR THU MOVES TO NEW PARISH

We learned early in February, just days after returning from a trip home to see his family, Fr Thu had been appointed Administrator at Lurnea parish.

It was a move Fr Thu had applied for, but came a little sooner than expected.

On the weekend of 2/3 February, Fr Thu said his farewell Masses at Peakhurst. He had actually already started at Lurnea, but organised a fill-in priest so he could stay an extra weekend to bid his thanks and farewells.

Fr Thu had been with the parishes of Peshurst and Peakhurst for almost two years.

Fr John said in the St Declan's Bulletin, "We will miss his energy, his gentle and caring nature and his friendly smile."

He also said, "At a personal level it has been a real pleasure to share the house with Fr Thu. We have had a lot of good times and a lot of laughs."

At the 9.15am Mass on 3 February, John Vaux, on behalf of the parish, presented Fr Thu with a gift. It was followed by a brief morning tea for him – brief because he had to get back to Peshurst to say Mass and goodbye there as well. (Pictures from the morning tea are at right).

In his farewell, Fr Thu acknowledged that it was short notice, but added that sometimes, that's how life can be for priests.

He said that he enjoyed his time at Peakhurst and Peshurst and working with the parish community.

His farewell message to our parish is reprinted here:  
*Let me firstly tell you how much I enjoyed my time to journey with you at OLF Peakhurst. I would like also to apologise for the short notice of my leaving the parish. Since the time I started I was always impressed by your involvement, leadership and faith-commitment even though priests were not residing in the parish. I sincerely thank you for your support, friendship, hospitality and love that you shared with me when I was with you. I've been overwhelmed recently by your expressions of appreciation and support to me in my ministry at Lurnea. I will never forget you. Please keep me in your prayers as I keep you in mine. May God bless you and your loved ones. Fr Thu*

We wish Fr Thu congratulations and every success in his new appointment.

Dominic Alati

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# WELCOME FR MOSES

We're pleased to welcome Fr Moses to the parish as the new Assistant Priest at Peshurst and Peakhurst.

Fr Moses was most recently at Caringbah Parish, also an 'Our Lady of Fatima'.

While he is still settling into his new role and introducing himself to the many faces of both parishes, hopefully in coming issues he will have a chance to share his story with us through *The Bark*.

# A SISTER'S GIFT



Last year, literally out of the blue, Jonathan Howells, the perfectly healthy and fit 13-year-old son of our long-serving and loyal employee Matthew, was diagnosed with cancer.

Today I am happy to report that Jonathan is in remission. However as a result of his chemotherapy treatments, Jonathan lost his hair at the time of his treatments (all grown back now).

Seeing Jonathan experience this prompted his younger sister Elizabeth (only 10 years old) to cut off about 35cm of her long hair. Elizabeth's locks will be used to make wigs for cancer patients and the money raised (\$10,000) will be donated to The Centre for Children's Cancer and Blood Disorders at the Sydney Children's Hospital.

The story was covered in the local newspaper, *The Southern Courier*, and as a result, donations have almost reached the \$10,000 target.

Elizabeth wrote this for the 'Everyday Hero' donation website: "Hi my name is Elizabeth, I am 10 years old. In January 2013 I am cutting my hair really short so that it can be used to make a wig for someone who has cancer. My brother had cancer last year and I know how he always felt like the odd one out and didn't want to go anywhere because he had no hair. If I could help just one person feel better about going out I



would be really happy about it. So if you could please sponsor me so that I can donate that money to Sydney Children's Hospital Randwick so that they can continue their great work of saving children's lives. They do it every day. One of the lives they saved was my brother's."

Here is the web address of the Elizabeth's 'Everyday Hero' donation page if you would like to make a donation. It was expected that her page would meet its deadline at 20 March, but an extension would be requested:

**[give.everydayhero.com/au/elizabeth-howells](http://give.everydayhero.com/au/elizabeth-howells)**

*Florence Bonano*

*General Manager - Sydney Motor Group*

## THANKS & FAREWELL

Three years ago we moved to Lugarno and joined OLF Peakhurst. Our time here has been a time of welcome and healing. Now we are leaving to begin a new chapter in our lives in our new home at Budgewoi. We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all those who made us so welcome. I would especially like to thank the members of the Altar Society for sharing their talents and accepting me as co-ordinator. It has been an honour to be a part of the Altar Society and the Liturgy Committee. A special thank you to Fr John and Fr Tu.

So thank you everyone and farewell.

*Christine & Dan Buckman*

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# WELCOME POPE FRANCIS



As *The Bark* goes to print, a new Pope has been announced. Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio from Argentina was elected Pope by the world's Cardinals after just two days of voting. He will be known as Pope Francis. He is the first Jesuit to be elected Pope and the first to hail from Latin America. He is the first non-European pontiff in 1000 years.

Former pope, Benedict, stood down from the role in February after almost eight years.

The new Pope, aged 76, was ordained a priest in 1969 and became a professor of theology. He was promoted through the ranks of the Jesuits and became Cardinal in 2001.

He is renowned for living a simple lifestyle, using public transport and cooking his own meals. Somehow, we think that's about to change. However, we do extend a warm welcome to him to visit us at Peakhurst whenever he is in the area – there is a bus from Mortdale.

## VIOLINIST AT 9.15AM



Regulars at 9.15am Mass have been treated with the addition of a violin to the music group.

Once a month, young violinist Thuy Pham, joins the group, adding the beautiful sound of a violin to our morning Mass.

Thuy is part of the large and vibrant Vietnamese community of St Luke's Revesby, and plays with their parish string ensemble.

Thuy has been playing the violin for 12 years and is currently studying Music at the Conservatorium.

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# PLAYTIME OFF TO A GREAT 2013

The lovely children of Our Lady of Fatima Playtime are off to a good start this year with three large groups meeting on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. It is lovely to watch the children grow and learn to share and play together.

Last spring, we were very fortunate to have the lovely ladies from Aussie Farm 4 Kids come to each of our sessions with their wonderful collection of farm animals.

It was great for the children to be able to interact with the animals and to learn how to pat them. We learnt that guinea pigs like to be brushed with old tooth brushes, and even some chickens like to be patted! All the children loved the opportunity to be so close to the animals.



*Pictured above L-R: Pippa, William and Finn enjoying Aussie Farm 4 Kids*

In January, we held a working bee at Playtime to repaint the cubby house. We managed to get the job done, and the paint had just managed to dry when it bucketed down with rain! We think there was definitely divine intervention involved there! Anyway the children seem happy with their new 'digs'. Many thanks to all those who helped with the working bee.

We are now looking forward to Easter at Playtime. Each year we have the children participate in Easter themed activities, as well as an Easter egg hunt. As you can well imagine, this is very popular with the children!

Thank you, as always, for the wonderful support of the entire Parish.

*Julie Young  
Playtime Co-ordinator*

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# LITURGY LINES

Christmas was a very special time in the Parish. The Christmas Masses were particularly well attended. The Children's Mass was a highlight.

As usual, January was a fairly quiet time in regard to Liturgy in the Parish with a number of Ministries having a well-earned break over the holiday period.

On the weekend of 26/27 January our Masses focused on Australia Day and we took the opportunity to give thanks for our wonderful country.

Catechist Sunday was celebrated on 3 February. During the 9.15am Mass a 'sending forth' ceremony was held for the catechists and at all Masses on this weekend prayers were said for the catechists and their work in the State schools.

Our Lenten Season commenced with Ash Wednesday on 13 February. Our theme for the Sundays during Lent is the 'Sorrowful Mysteries'.

Jenni Payne commenced the Altar Servers Training Course on 10 March. This is Jenni's 24th year as 'coach' of the Altar Servers Team.

The Stations of the Cross were held in the church, as a special devotion during the Lenten Season, on 18 February and 4 and 20 March.

About 70 parishioners attended Fr John's talk on "Did Adam and Eve exist? Fact and Fiction in the Scriptures" on Monday 25 February and close to 100 parishioners attended his talk on "The Royal Commission. Will it be a turning point for the Australian Catholic Church?" on Monday 11 March. Both talks inspired many questions and gave those who attended much to reflect on.

Our Lenten Reconciliation Paraliturgie will be held in the church at 7.30pm on Monday, 25 March.

Holy Week commences on 24 March with Palm Sunday. The Easter Triduum begins with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, reaches its high point in the Easter Vigil and closes on the evening of Easter Sunday. Parishioners are encouraged to attend all of the Holy Week ceremonies including Good Friday Stations and Passion.

As we approach Holy Week and the Easter Triduum, I would like to thank, on behalf of the Liturgy Committee, everyone involved from the Parish in making our liturgies special. Thank you for giving so generously of your time in so many ways.

David Payne for the Liturgy Committee

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# NEW CATECHISTS



There is always a need for more Catechists to deliver the scripture to children in our local government schools.

Some new faces joined the team this year, and they, along with those already on the team, were commissioned at the 9.15am Mass on 3 February 2013.

Some of our Catechists, old and new, are pictured above after the Commissioning Mass.

If you would like more information on being a Catechist, please call Evelyn Graham on 9534 2605.

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We look forward to welcoming you soon.

# UPDATE ON SANTO FROM LENDING A HAND



You might recall the front page article in an edition of *The Bark* last year which featured the story of Santo, a young man in southwest country NSW in the Wagga /Riverina district. He suffers from Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia which

has required regular chemotherapy treatment. This has involved having to travel regularly to Sydney, a trip of seven hours each way. Sometimes, his exhaustive treatment required hospitalisation in Sydney for many months, away from home and family.

We originally received a beautiful letter from Santo's mother, which was included in *The Bark* article, telling us of Santo's challenges to that point, explaining that Santo had expressed a wish to return to school after a 3-plus year absence. However, this could only happen under special circumstances. He had to have access to a teacher assistant to accommodate his academic and physical needs, and/or had to have access to a motorised wheelchair. Lending A Hand, on behalf of Our Lady of Fatima Parish, provided a motorised wheelchair through the country charity Country Hope. His wish had been fulfilled.

We have just recently received great news from Ellie Webb who runs Country Hope. She tells us, "Santo is going very well at the moment. It seems he has turned a big corner. He has started high school and is able to attend a couple of hours per day. The wheel chair is a blessing for him, working well around the school. He is encouraged to get out of the wheel chair and sit at a desk as often as he can."

It is comforting to hear feedback that our contribution via Lending A Hand is assisting people like Santo which, as per the parish mission statement, is "actively demonstrating Christ to the wider community".

*Tony Thorpe for the Lending A Hand Team*

# EDUCATING IN UGANDA – OUR GRADUATE

Denis Obwona, the young man our Parish has sponsored from Uganda, who has been studying for a Diploma in Clinical Medicine and Community Health at Mbale School of Clinical Officers, has passed his final examinations.

The exams were sat for in June of last year but as with all things African, the staff appointed to mark the papers took their time and have only just released the results... by telephone.

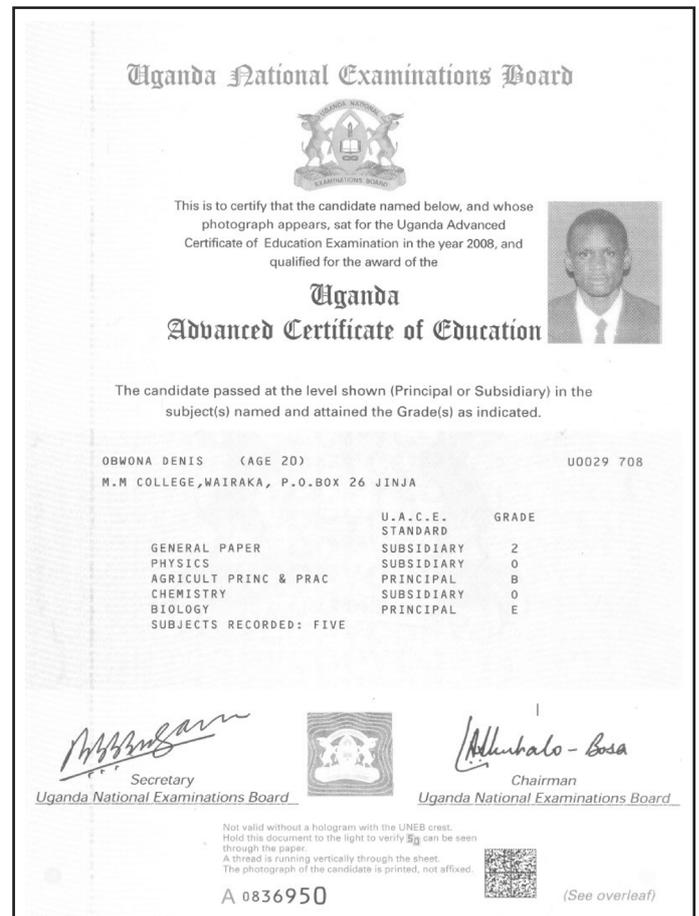
Denis has been told he passed, but he had to go to Mbale to receive the results officially. In the meantime he is practicing his newly acquired trade at Entebbe Hospital awaiting his appointment up-country.

Denis is also able to assist the village where he grew up in. He is unable to perform surgery but is able to do most other things which is more in keeping with the needs of his village.

There is no doubt that we are all indeed proud of Denis's achievements and we now look forward to hearing of his future successes.

We received copies of Denis's results. His Advanced Certificate of Education is pictured below.

*John Vaux for the Lending A Hand Team*



# DID YOU KNOW

Good luck to everyone taking part in the Silver Circle. The money raised goes to help the Catholic Women's League.

We wish Fr Thu all the best at his new parish at Lurnea. And we welcome Fr Moses. Fr Moses recently enjoyed some time with his family who were visiting from home.

Just as this edition of *The Bark* is issued, Julia and David Goff will be sailing into our beautiful harbour after being on a cruise around New Zealand on none other than the Queen Mary. We trust you both had a wonderful trip and a well deserved one, I might add. Hopefully, we will hear a story about the trip when you have come back to earth Julia.

Another very lucky couple is Kathy and Len Dennett. Just after having a great trip to Hawaii with their friends, Kathy and Len went on a very interesting and enjoyable adventure when they flew to Barcelona in October and embarked on the Celebrity Solstice, which is the second largest and highest star rating passenger ship to enter Sydney Harbour. They cruised for 44 days back to Australia. On the way back they visited Alexandria, El Alamein, Luxor, Suez Canal, Red Sea, Petra, Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea, Dubai, Muscat, Kochi (Cochin), Kuala Lumpur, Singapore, Cairns, Brisbane and home. Wow, I hope you kept a

diary to remember all of those places and I trust you had a wonderful time. I might add that, in between these wonderful adventures Kathy and Len celebrated their son Paul's wedding to Debbie on 14 October.

Congratulations to Anne-Maree Williams who was a recipient of a Hurstville Council's International Volunteer's Day award in December. Anne-Maree was nominated by St Joseph's Primary School.

Ronny Martinovic is now the chair of the Parish Leadership Team. And Helen Hardy has taken over the reins of the busy Altar Society.

Fr John's Lenten talks have been fascinating and shouldn't be missed. Big crowds turned up for each of the talks. We're fortunate to have such an insightful man and excellent communicator as our Parish Priest.

The annual World Day of Prayer has been held again this year (always on the first Friday of March) and this year it was held at St Matthews Uniting Church, Peakhurst. The subject country was France and it was very interesting. A fairly large contingent represented Our Lady of Fatima, which was great to see.

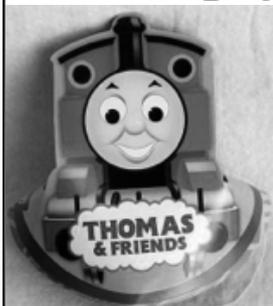
Bye and God bless.

*Inez Mullen*

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# HELPING A QUEENSLAND PARISH

Our Parish through the Lending A Hand Committee has assisted the new Parish of Our Lady Of The Southern Cross with two projects.

The first was by providing funds (\$2,300) towards the cost of a new organ, and more recently by providing a contribution (\$5,000) towards the cost of replacing the PA/sound system in St Monica's Chapel within the grounds of St Augustine's College.

The parish was established by Archbishop John Bathersby of Brisbane, and Father Mauro Conte was formally installed as its first Parish Priest in June 2011.

The parish covers five suburbs.

Currently Sunday Mass is held in the Augustine Centre within the grounds of St Augustine's College while weekday Masses and other liturgical events are held in St Monica's Chapel.

The raising of funds and the building of a parish church is some way off.



The initial focus for the parish is to build and strengthen the parish community.

The new parish is in the south west of Brisbane; the local Deanery is centred on the City of Ipswich and known as the South Country Deanery – a large Deanery encompassing 11 parishes.

Father Conte, on his own behalf and that of his community, has expressed deep appreciation of the helping hand that the parishioners of Our Lady of Fatima Peakhurst have provided in the early development of this new Parish and for our prayerful support in the aftermath of the December 2010/January 2011 major flood event in southern Queensland.

*John Horan  
For the Lending A Hand Team*



## GRANDVIEWS

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# COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS

Many of you know Chris Kerr or you have heard me speak of him. I receive many emails from Chris sharing his stories out in the wilds of Africa, but this particular story really made me count my blessings.

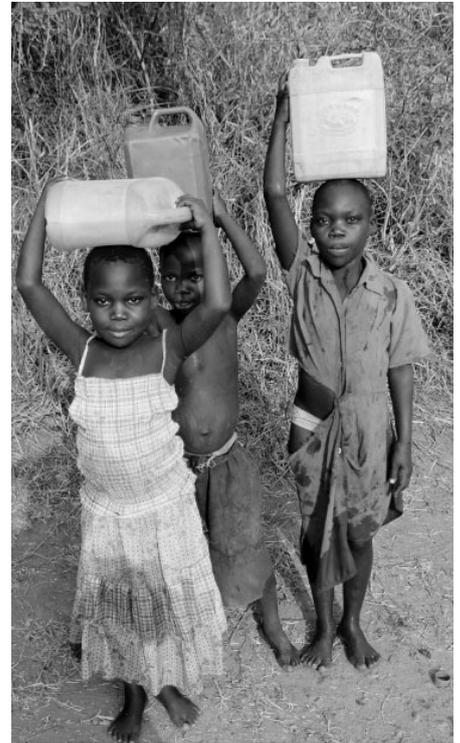


I am leaving Chris's story just as he wrote it because as you read on, you will note that he has a definite writing style. Sometimes he makes me laugh and sometimes he makes me sad and sometimes I just wonder...

Let me now share his story of the Water Hole.

*We... you and me... turn on the tap and get fresh water. A staple yah. No walkin'. No trekkin'. No crocodiles. The fence / compound / water-hole was built after a few kids were taken by crocodiles a coupla years ago. Now, sending our (your) kids as young as some of these*

*to fetch water would not even be contemplated in our world, yah... and not necessary, but here it's a given. It's hard yakka too... I know cos I've tried carrying a 20-litre (= 20kg) jerry-can from the river to my lodgings!!! It's a one k walk from the road to the river... downhill... then a one k trudge from the river to the road... up-hill and then a maybe three or*



*four k walk home. The children don't go to school cos their parents can't afford the fees and at least 50% of the children do not attend school. Elegantly dressed too, yah? The parents work in their gardens to eke a living. Growing cassava. Coffee. A few square metres of cotton... all reduced to nothin' cos of wild-fires!!! Mud-wattle houses destroyed.*

*And I complain to myself that the drinking water here is not cold!!!*

*Live simple, take care.*

This is the finishing tag line Chris uses on all his emails. "Live simple". Is this how we should live or is it too idealistic in this complicated world that we live in?

*John Vaux*

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# CONGRATULATIONS



Dennis and Clare Day are thrilled to announce the engagement of their youngest son, Luke, to the lovely Sarah Colubriale.

We wish them every happiness together.

## SUPPORT THE ADVERTISERS OF THE BARK

Parishioners reading *The Bark* probably focus on the articles included in *The Bark* without necessarily noticing the advertising that is also contained in each edition. Advertisers pay to have their adverts included in *The Bark* and some have been advertising for many years.

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I encourage readers of *The Bark* in future to check out the advertisements as they read the articles. Where they have a need, give our advertisers the opportunity to provide the goods or services they require. When they make contact they should also mention that they are calling as a result of seeing the advertisement in Our Lady of Fatima's *The Bark* magazine.

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# THE MIRACLE OF SANTA FE

In the mid-1980s I decided to do a tour of America on a Con Tiki tour bus.

One of our stops was Santa Fe in New Mexico in the hot and steamy south of America.

Mark, Rod and I had formed a friendship and tended to do the sightseeing at each stop while most of the others sat on the bus sleeping off hangovers. Why they paid for a trip to America was beyond me when all they saw was the bottom of a glass and the roof of a bus.

Unfortunately, Mark, Rod and I would get a bit carried away with our sightseeing. Much to the annoyance of our tour leader, we would always get back to the bus late. This brought boos and jeers from those that weren't able to venture off it.

One of the attractions in Santa Fe is a little church called Loretto Chapel. The reason it is an attraction is because of a unique and mysterious staircase that leads to the loft.



When we approached the entrance, we were alarmed that they wanted a 25-cent entry fee. A church with an entry fee!

"You don't have to pay to enter a church in Australia," I grumbled, dipping my fingers in the holy water just a little bit deeper than usual.

"No," said Rod. "But you have two collections and a poor box at every door."

"Can one of you guys lend me a quarter?" asked Mark.

What we were unaware of was that it wasn't used as a Catholic Church anymore, but as a tourist attraction and wedding chapel.

The chapel was ornately beautiful without being remarkable, with high arched ceilings, white brick walls, stained glass windows and hanging lanterns. "This better be worth 25 big ones," said Mark.

A recorded voice came over the loudspeaker.

"Welcome to Loretto Chapel, home of the Miraculous Staircase."

We looked to the rear of the chapel where a spiral death trap snaked its way up to a choir loft high above us. The staircase was roped off from tourists, and just as well, because it broke just about every safety rule possible.



The spiral staircase was made entirely of wood. While it has a handrail now, originally it did not.

The recorded voice recounted the story of the staircase.

In the 1870s, the Sisters of Loretto needed a way to get up to the choir loft of their newly built chapel, which for some reason was built without access.

"Forgetting a staircase! Builders never change," said Rod.

The nuns did not fancy the traditional ladder and a normal staircase would have used too much space.

The Sisters prayed to St Joseph and after nine days a stranger knocked on their door. Using only primitive tools and non-native wood, the stranger built a perfect spiral staircase. It makes two complete revolutions, has no nails and no centre support.

The man disappeared without being paid and the mystery of his identity was never truly solved.

The Sisters believed it was St Joseph himself who answered their prayers and built the stairs – now known as the 'Miraculous Staircase'.

My two non-Catholic companions were half impressed and half cynical. They looked for holes in the story to debunk the mystery.

"Where did the wood come from?" "How could he build something so perfect with his basic tools?" "Why do they charge 25 cents to see it?"

We walked away with no answers, but filled with a sense of wonder nonetheless.

However, another unexpected miracle was about to take place. We got back to the bus on time.

*Dominic Alati*

# SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2013

Enrolment forms are available at the Piety Stall, Parish House or downloaded from the parish website [ourladyoffatima.com.au](http://ourladyoffatima.com.au)

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION (EUCHARIST)

For children in Year 3 and above.

**Welcoming Masses:** Saturday 6 April 5pm, Sunday 7 April 9.15am or Sunday 7 April 6pm

**Lesson 1:** Monday 29 April 7pm

**Lesson 2:** Monday 6 May 7pm

**Reconciliation for preparation for First Holy**

**Communion:** Saturday 11 May 3pm

**Lesson 3:** Monday 13 May 7pm

**Rehearsals:** 5-6pm Thursday 16 May (for the 5pm First Holy Communion Mass)

6-7pm Thursday 16 May (for the 9.15am First Holy Communion Mass)

7-8pm Thursday 16 May (for the 2pm First Holy Communion Mass)

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:** Saturday 18 May 5pm

Sunday 19 May 9.15am OR Sunday 19 May 2pm

## CONFIRMATION

For children in Year 6 and above who have already received the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. Enrolment forms available from Monday 10 June 2013.

**Parent and Candidate Information Night:**

Monday 29 July 7.30pm

**Welcoming Masses:** Saturday 10 August 5pm, Sunday 11 August 9.15am or Sunday 11 August 6pm

**Lesson 1:** Monday 12 August 7.30pm

**Program Mass:** Saturday 17 August 5pm, Sunday 18 August 9.15am or Sunday 18 August 6pm

**Lesson 2:** Monday 19 August 7.30pm

**Spirituality Day:** (held in Parish Hall)

Sunday 25 August 2.30-7pm

**Rehearsal Night:** Thursday 5 September 5.30pm

**CONFIRMATION:** Sunday 8 September 2.30pm

## FIRST RECONCILIATION

Children in Year 2 and above. Enrolment forms available from Monday 2 September 2013.

**Parent Information Night:** Monday 14 October 7.30pm

**Welcoming Masses:** Saturday 19 October 5pm, Sunday 20 October 9.15am or Sunday 20 October 6pm

**Lesson 1:** Monday 28 October 7.30pm

**Lesson 2:** Monday 4 November 7.30pm

**Liturgy of the Word:** Monday 11 November 7.30pm

**INDIVIDUAL RECONCILIATION**

Saturday 16 November 3.15-4.30pm

# 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.

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# FUNNIES

There was a monastery in Europe perched high on a cliff several hundred feet in the air. The only way to reach the monastery was to be suspended in a basket that was pulled to the top by several monks who pulled and tugged with all their strength. Obviously the ride up the steep cliff in that basket was terrifying.

One tourist got exceedingly nervous about halfway up as he noticed that the rope by which he was suspended was old and frayed. With a trembling voice he asked the monk who was riding with him in the basket how often they changed the rope. The monk thought for a moment and answered brusquely, "Whenever it breaks."

One day, Joe, Bob and Dave were hiking in a wilderness area when they came upon a large, raging, violent river. They needed to get to the other side, but had no idea of how to do so.

Joe prayed to God, saying, "Please God, give me the strength to cross this river."

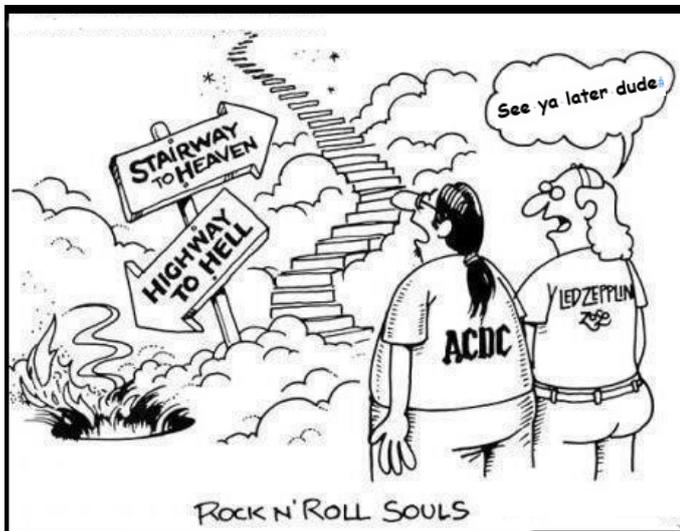
Zap! God gave him big arms and strong legs, and he was able to swim across the river in about two hours, although he almost drowned a couple of times.

Seeing this, Dave prayed to God, saying, "Please God, give me the strength and the tools to cross this river."

Zap! God gave him a rowboat and he was able to row across the river in about an hour, after almost capsizing the boat a couple of times.

Bob saw how this worked out for the others, so he also prayed to God saying, "Please God, give me the strength and the tools and the intelligence to cross this river."

Zap! God turned him into a woman. She looked at the map, hiked upstream a hundred yards then walked across the bridge.



**"Around here, every Sunday is Palm Sunday"**

A Buddhist Monk was driving in India when suddenly a dog crosses the road.

The car hit and killed the dog.

The Buddhist Monk looked around and seeing a temple, went to knock on the door.

A monk opened the door.

The first monk said: "I'm terribly sorry, but my karma ran over your dogma."

A small child with a bad cough was taken by her parents to a hospital emergency room. A nurse, examining the child's lungs with a stethoscope, told the child, "I have to see if Barney is in there." "I have Jesus in my heart," the child replied. "Barney is on my pyjamas."

God is talking to one of his angels. He says, "I just created a twenty four hour period of alternating light and darkness on earth."

The angel says, "What are you going to do now?"

God says, "Call it a day."

A 5-year-old boy was asked to say grace before Christmas dinner. The family members bowed their heads. He began his prayer, thanking God for all his friends. Then he thanked God for Mummy, Daddy, brother, sister, Grandma, Grandpa, and all his aunts and uncles. Then he began to thank God for the food. He gave thanks for the turkey, the dressing, the fruit salad, the cranberry sauce, the pies and the cakes.

Then he paused. Everyone waited... and waited. After a long silence, the young boy looked up at his mother and asked, "If I thank God for the broccoli, won't he know that I'm lying?"

# CATHOLIC CHURCH PEAKHURST PARISH OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA

825 FOREST ROAD PEAKHURST 2210

**Parish Priest:** Fr John Crothers **Assistant:** Fr Moses Kim  
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.

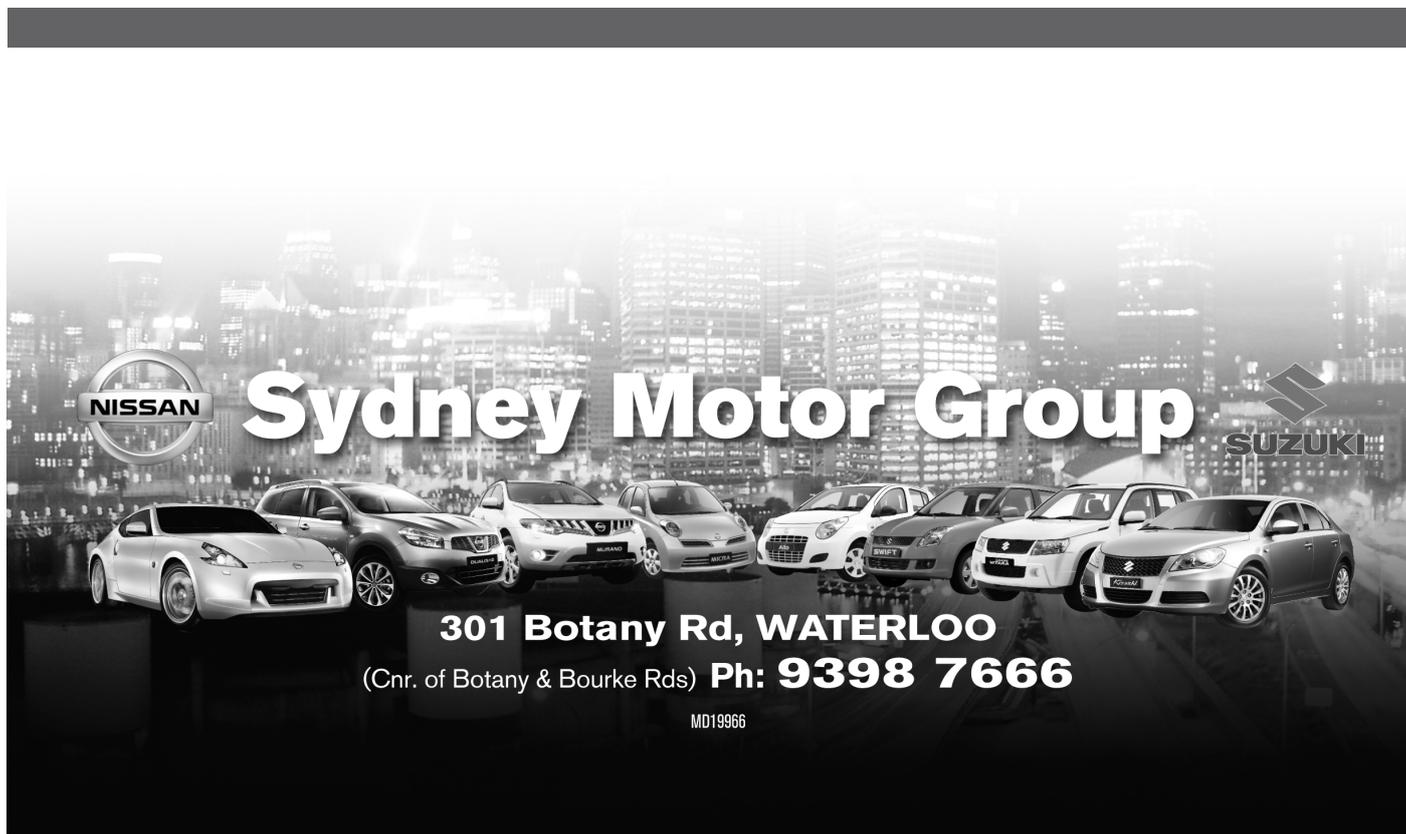
## LEADERSHIP TEAM

Ronny Martinovic (Chair), Fran Harvey, John Benfield, Frances Finch, Robert De Marcellis, Agnes Webb.

## 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 Moses, the Leadership Team, everyone who contributes articles, the advertisers and supporters.



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