LIGHTENING BURDENS

“Come to me all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest.” These are some of the loveliest words in the Gospel. And they have great relevance for us. Nowadays many people live very pressurised lives. Stress has become a big factor in modern life.

During the 30 years he spent at Nazareth, Jesus lived among the ordinary people. He knew at firsthand how burdensome life was for them. Consequently, he had sympathy for the ordinary people and wanted to lighten their burdens. Hence his invitation: “Come to me, all you who labour….”

Many people accepted that invitation, and came to him with their burdens of sickness and misery. All had their burdens lightened as a result of meeting him. His mere presence could bring peace to an anguished soul.

What a contrast there was between his attitude towards the ordinary people and that of the scribes and Pharisees. The latter, with their emphasis on the exact observance of the Law, and their multiplication of rules and regulations, placed an impossible burden on the people. And they had little sympathy for those who found this burden too much for them. They wouldn't lift a finger to help them.

We too should accept his invitation and come to him with our burdens. Some of our burdens may be baggage, which we could and should let go of. There is a Zen story about an old man going on a spiritual journey with a heavy bag on his back. On his deathbed he passes on the bag to his disciple. When the disciple opens the bag he finds that it is empty. Yet he wonders why it weighed so much. And the old man says, “It is the weight of everything in my life that I did not need to carry.”

Jesus doesn't promise that we will have no burdens. Some burdens we just have to bear. But the Lord does give us the strength to carry them. When we trust in God, another power becomes available to us, namely, the power of God. In the lovely words of Isaiah: “Those who hope in the Lord renew their strength, they put out wings like eagles. They run and do not grow weary, walk and never tire.” (40:31)

Religion should not make life more burdensome for us. Quite the opposite. If Jesus placed any burden on us at all, it was that of loving one another. But in exhorting us to love one another, he is not laying a burden on us. He is inviting us to open our hearts and to open our hearts is to begin to live.

Love can make a burden light and a sacrifice sweet. A women who is deprived of food for a day can barely last out till the end of it. But a mother, who gives up food for a day so that her children may have something to eat, hardly notices it.

**STORY**

Today those who do menial jobs are poorly paid and generally taken for granted. They are valued, not for themselves, but only for the service they provide.

The Irish writer, John McGahern, told of an incident that happened when he was a writer in residence at Trinity College, Dublin. A women came in one day a week to clean his room. In less than an hour she would have everything shining and in its proper place. She was a charming women and often they talked as she cleaned. She told him how she waited each morning for the private bus at 6am that took the cleaners to Trinity, and that she was able to be home in time to cook the family dinner.

Of the professor who occupied the room before McGahern she said, “I cleaned his room for 14 years, and he never once spoke to me. I used to say “Good morning” at first, but after a while I didn’t say anything. They say he’s one of the cleverest men in the university, but I say he has the manners of a bowsie.”

How a little sensitivity, or a word of appreciation, would help to make a heavy burden light. It makes the world of difference when people are recognised and treated with respect.

*New Sunday & Holy Day Liturgies, Flor McCarthy SDB*
PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS
O God, who chose the Apostles to make disciples of all Nations, and who by Baptism and Confirmation has called us to build up your Holy Church,

We implore you to choose from among us, your children, many priests and religious who will love you with their whole hearts and will gladly spend their lives to make you better known and loved by all.

Through Christ our Lord.
Amen

Pray for our seminarians: Dean Klifayong Bongat, Adi Indra, Jackson Saunders, Nathan Verallo & DJ Suguitan.

With St Liborius, St Stephen & St Augustine, let us be a spiritual benefactor to each other in prayer, especially for the health and well being of:

Ted Verryt, Patricia Schultz, Kevin Tobias,
Mary Furlong, Marie Casey, Maureen O’Keefe,
Russell Milkins, Teresa Brandreth, Christine Longmire
Bryan Keogh, Marianne Cuskelley, Bert Youla
Zoey Lovejoy, Mary McAdam, Patricia Ennor
Gerald Smith, John Haugh, Alan Surplce
Len Fitzgerald Yvonne Holland Charles Naughton

ST LIBORIUS PIETY SHOP
Opening Times:
Sunday- Before & after 10.30 Mass
Saturday- Before & after 6.00 Mass
Orders- Tracy @ Parish Centre 5446 8235
After Hours sales - Anne 0447 390 162

In faith and hope let us pray for those who have gone before us and whose anniversaries occur around this time.

Recently Deceased: Harold McCartin, Jill Doran

Anniversaries:
Frances Webster, Frank Noonan, Hilda Moore,
Kathleen Beplate, Eileen Noonan, Philip O’Shea,
Hugh Noonan, Eileen Noonan, Bernard Serong
Anthony Brown, Eila Sait, Rose Nevins,
Fr Gerry Gallagher, Tony Brown,\nFr Paul Ly (Kuang-Yao), Gregory Ryan,\n
May they rest in the peace of Christ. Amen.

PARISH MATTERS

As we gather to worship, we acknowledge the Traditional owners and custodians of this land- the Jaara Country we are standing on- the Jaara people of the Dja Dja Wurrung community and their forebears who have been custodians of this land for centuries.

150th ANNIVERSARY
29th July, 2018
A meeting to commence planning for the 150th anniversary of St Liborius will be held on Wednesday, 12th July, at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. If you would like to be part of this group, please contact Tracy in the parish office.

WANTED
If anyone is interested in becoming a Lector, Welcomer or Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion please contact Maureen Bourke 5446 8821. We are in urgent need of new members willing to fill positions in our Roster.

BRUNCH KITCHEN
Please note Brunch kitchen is in recess and will recommence on July 18th.

CWL BIRTHDAY
Catholic Women’s League ladies will be celebrating the Branches birthday at the Borough Club.

When: Wednesday 12th July at 12 noon.
If you would like to join us please give your name to Mary Haugh 54467049 or Maureen Bourke 54468821 by Sunday 9th July. All welcome. If you need transport please let us know.

MOTHER’S PRAYER GROUP
Please note Mothers Prayer group is in recess and will recommence on July 21st.

St Liborius Parish Pastoral Team Report
13th June, 2017
The Parish Pastoral Team met at the parish centre, all were in attendance. Tracey Cole (Chair) welcomed the members and led us in a prayer.

The need of repairs to St Liborius church was discussed. A company has examined the building and we are awaiting their report.

Bishop Tomlinson will come to the parish on visitation 17-19th November, 2017. Father Antony outlined his plans for the three days, which will include the three churches of the parish, two schools and nursing homes. The Bishop will celebrate Mass at St Liborius, Raywood and Myers Flat, also a school Mass with the children. There will be opportunities for parishioners to meet the Bishop at shared meals at both Raywood and Eaglehawk.

150th Celebrations of St Liborius. It was decided to celebrate this anniversary on 29th July, 2018. This is close to both the anniversary of the laying of the foundation stone of the church in 1868 and the Feast Day of St Liborius.

School Report. Mr Frank Dullard spoke of his concerns with the Gonski Report. He believes the Catholic education system will be disadvantaged in the future because of the Report. In other school news, the new running track is proving very popular and the area surrounding the track will be improved and maintained. Prep enrolments for 2018 will be finalised soon. Staff and pupils are looking forward to the production of Annie.

Volunteers needed. The two Communion rounds on Tuesday and Friday take Holy Communion to parishioners unable to come to Mass, and also to Catholic residents of local nursing homes. One of the Communion rounds is in danger of stopping due to lack of volunteers. A notice has been placed on the bulletin asking for parishioners to help with this. It is hoped some extra volunteers will allow this service to continue.

Church Organ. It has been reported that the organ at St Liborius needs repairing. This was discussed and it was decided to bring the organ from Myers Flat to Eaglehawk rather than commit to further repairs to the organ.

Rejuvenation of Parishes. A PPT member spoke of programs in other parishes to rejuvenate their community. He recommended a talk that will be held in Bendigo on 25th July Engaging in the Hopes of Parishes by Fr Brendan Reed.

The meeting ended with a prayer and we then enjoyed a birthday cake for Brian Bourke, whose birthday was that day.
INTRODUCING THE BIBLE - NEW TESTAMENT

When: Thursday 13th July 2017
Time: 5.00 – 7.00 pm
Where: St Joseph’s Parish Meeting Room,
46 Russell Street Quarry Hill.

With Lyn Breen (AFE Sandhurst). What is the Bible? What can we know about the writing of the Gospels, Letters and Book of Revelation? Free. All welcome. Email Lyn at adultfaith@sandhurst.catholic.org.au or call (03) 5441 2544.

YOUTH MINISTRY WORKER - CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SANDHURST

Applications are invited from people of varying ages and experience for this full time position with the Catholic Diocese of Sandhurst – Bendigo. The successful applicant will require excellent communication skills and the ability to relate to a wide range of people. They will be able to demonstrate a keen sense of networking and marketing, promoting the values, principles and values of Catholicism within parishes and schools. The successful applicant will also have previous experience in working with young people in schools.

Applications to sally.holmes@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

For any questions please contact Sally Holmes on Ph 54453617

Applications close Monday, July 17, 2017.

PARISH ASSISTANT

I have become aware that not all parishioners are able to read the Bulletin every week and due to possibly having missed the item where we advertise for a parochial assistant, this role is to help me perform my duties in catering for our parishioners of St Liborius.

Michael Nolan was the successful applicant for this position.

Michael is on call 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. Where there is a need or requirement and I am unavailable, Michael is the next point of contact for assistance regarding sick visits or hospital visits and can be contacted via the parish 5446 8235. If urgent he can arrange for me or another priest to attend in such situations. There seems to be a concern by some regarding Michael’s level of involvement with the Parish. The people concerned will be taking over some of Michael’s activities to lighten his work load, this will happen in due course.

Fr. Tony Joseph

Youth Corner

STRONGER RETREAT - REGISTRATIONS ARE NOW OPEN!

Registrations for the 2017 Stronger Retreat are now open on strongeryouth.com. Register now if you’re 13-26 years old to join 130 other young people from our diocese having fun, growing in discipleship and learning about your faith with our keynote speakers Fr Rob Galea, Fr Dan Serratore and Sr Bernadette Toohey.

When: September 15-17
Venue: Kyneton
Cost: $165

For more info follow @StrongerYouth on Facebook or contact Danielle at Danielle.sullivan@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

PARISH COUNCILS

Parish councils are now part and parcel of most parish’s. Once I attended a study day for members of the Parish Council. The facilitator began by asking the members why they had joined the council, Almost all answered, “because the parish priest asked me to”.

At first I was disappointed. I had presumed they were all volunteers. And now I was discovering that they were more like conscripts. But then I thought, Why this way Jesus did it. Jesus saw that the ordinary people were “like sheep without a shepherd”. The sight moved him to think of the need for a mission among his disciples. Hence, out of the many disciples he had, he chose 12 to be apostles, and sent them out. The apostles were not volunteers. But neither were they conscripts. They were recruited. Jesus called them, and they agreed to join him. Remember the way Jesus said to the apostles at the Last Supper: “You did not choose me, no, I chose you.”

Becoming an apostle involved a further step. It involved a progression from disciple to apostle. Not that one ever ceases to be a disciple, for we will be learners all our lives. Next the facilitator asked them why they had agreed to join the council. Two main answers were forthcoming: 1) they wanted to be more involved in their parish; 2) they wanted to give something back.

Becoming a member of the parish council involved the transition from passive to active Christians. Instead of being just takers they now become people who are willing to give. Faith is always demanding because it leads us beyond ourselves.

Why did Jesus involve the apostles in his work? He did this first of all for the sake of the people: he couldn’t attend to them all himself. And secondly he did it for the sake of the apostles. It gave them a stable and secure work and an opportunity to use their gifts and talents. Jesus himself is the true shepherd, but he desires his disciples to act as shepherds of the people in his place and after his manner. He makes them his co-workers. God made human beings partners in the work of creation. And Christ made his disciples partners in the work of salvation.

There is no baptism if we have not the baptism of the blood of Christ. We are co-workers with Christ. At the end of every Mass we are not simply dismissed. We are sent out to share with others what we have received from the Lord. Many lay people are willing to get involved if given a chance. Here it is not academic qualifications that are required but a willingness to serve - to visit sick people, to spend time with the elderly, to comfort bereaved, and so on.

To be involved benefits the lay people themselves; it does wonders for their faith. And it benefits the Church. It means that the Body of Christ is a lot of arms and legs. And a lot of work gets done that otherwise would not get done. The words of Jesus still ring true: “The harvest is great, the labourers are few.”

New Sunday & Holy Day Liturgies, Flor McCarthy SDB

STAFF APPOINTMENTS

Applications to Sally Holmes@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

PARISH COUNCILS

Staff Appointments - In response to our recent advertisement for Educators I am pleased to announce the following staffing appointments:

Mrs Rochelle Sexton Educational Speech Pathologist
Miss Kelei Fitzpatrick Student Administration Educator
Ms Alex Love-Linay Literacy Intervention Educator
Miss Jayne Mooney Montagne 1:1 Educator

Year 9 & 10 Literacy Learning Circles - As part of our movement into the subject selection process in Champagnat we are offering the opportunity for you to meet with your students Numeracy and Literacy educators during week 1 of Term 3 on Wednesday 19 July. We will be providing 15 minute timeslots for you to see both your Numeracy and Literacy educators between the times of 10am and 6 pm to enable discussions about their progress in both of these key areas. At the same time, bookings can also be made with Phil Molloy for careers counselling and or Brent Brasher for VCE Careers.

Marist Pledge Invitation - On Wednesday 1 formally invited our Year 9 students to consider taking our Marist Pledge. The writing of the Marist pledge was a joint project by me and a Year 9 key person from each year level. It is designed to be a public statement of commitment as a senior Marist here at Marist College Bendigo. There is absolutely no obligation to take the pledge and no pressure will be applied on any student to say yes.

Australian Girls Choir - After many weeks of preparation and excitement the choir has been a truly wonderful experience for all involved. An enormous thank you to our many host families. The feedback from the girls in the choir has been nothing but overwhelmingly positive. It has also been good to hear so many positive stories from the host families and how much they enjoyed having their guests.

Year 10 Immunisation - The Meningococcal vaccine will be administered to our Year 10 students in Term 3 on September 4. Permission paperwork will be sent home early in Term 3 for parents to complete.

Yours sincerely,
Darren McGregor - Principal
**ST VINCENT DE PAUL**  
**Child Safety**  
**Piety Stall**  
**God Start**  
**Duane**  
**Caritas Project Compassion**  
**R.S.J. Brian Bourke: 5446 8821**  
**KSC Community Welfare Project**  
**Co**  
**Friday Communion Round**  
**Co**  
**Tricia Blanks, Brian Bourke,**  
**Mary Haugh, Maureen Bourke**  
**Catholic Women’s League**  
**Flood & Trish Blanks**  
**Parish Sacramental Team**  
**Every Tuesday at 7.00pm**  
**Mothers Prayer**  
**Every Friday 10.00am till 11.00**  

**MONTHLY**  
**Secular Franciscans**  
**Every 2nd Mon of the month at 7.30pm.**  
**Liturgy Meeting**  
**Every 1st Tue of the month at 1.30pm.**  
**Parish Finance Team Meeting**  
**Quarterly at 7.30pm.**  
**Parish Pastoral Team Meeting**  
**Quarterly at 7.30pm.**  
**Card making**  
**Every 2nd Wed of the month at 1.30pm.**  
**Catholic Women’s League**  
**Every 4th Wed of the month at 1.30pm.**  
**BEC Meeting - Group D**  
**Every 1st Fri of the month at 1.30pm.**  
**R.S.J. Meeting**  
**3rd Wed of every 2nd month at 10.30am.**  
**Bendigo Textile Group**  
**Every 2nd Sun of the month at 10.00am.**  
**Contact: Barbara Lomas 0417313760**  
**Knights of the Southern Cross**  
**Every 2nd Thu of the month.**  
**Contact: Brian Bourke 5446 8821**  
**Filipino Mass**  
**4th Sunday of the month.**

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**SACRAMENTS**  
**Reconciliation**  
**Everyday of the week 40mins prior to Mass except on Sunday.**

**Anointing of the sick**  
Please ring parish office.

**Baptisms**  
Please call in to the parish office for a Baptism kit ($30). Base preparation is conducted on the first Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm at St Kilian’s Parish Centre. Bookings required. Phone 5441 6244.

**Weddings**  
Bookings must be made at least six months prior. Please ring parish office.

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**ROSTERS**

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<th>Mass</th>
<th>Welcomers</th>
<th>Lectors</th>
<th>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</th>
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<tr>
<td>This Weekend</td>
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<td>K Taylor</td>
<td>2nd: D Duane</td>
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**What a Life!**

**BIBLICAL SONGS**

Noah: “Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head”
Adam and Eve: “Strangers in Paradise”
Lazarus: “The Second Time Around”
Esther: “I Feel Pretty”
Job: “I’ve Got a Right to Sing the Blues”
Moses: “The Wanderer”
Jezebel: “The Lady is a Tramp”
Samson: “Hair”
Salome: “I Could Have Danced All Night”
Daniel: “The Lion Sleeps Tonight”
Joshua: “Good Vibrations”
Esau: “Born To Be Wild”

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**PLANNED GIVING — Thank You**

**COLLECTIONS FOR 2nd July**

| ENVELOPES: | $619.00 |
| LOOSE: | $261.50 |
| DIRECT DEBIT | $280.00 |
| TOTAL: | $1160.50 |

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**CONTACT US**

**Office Hours:** Tue 10.30am-1.00pm  
Wed/Thu 10.30am-2.30pm  
Fri 10.00am-3.00pm

| Phone: | 5446 8235 (Parish Office) |
| Address: | 50 Panton Street Eaglehawk 3556 |
| Email: | eaglehawk@sandhurst.catholic.org.au |
| Web: | stlibrius@catholicparish.wordpress.com |

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**PARISH ORGANISATIONS**

**Parish Pastoral Team**
**Ex-Officio:** Fr Antony Joseph, Frank Dullard. Michael Nolan, John Pallotta. **Members:** Tracey Cole, Chris O’Brien, Margaret Watson, Brian Bourke, Anne Maree Holden.

**Parish Finance Team**
John Pallotta, Matthew House, Kathy Taylor, Tracey Cole.

**Parish Priest Consultant Team:**
Margaret Watson, John Pallotta, Tracey Cole, Michael Nolan.

**Planned Giving**
David Trewarne

**Parish Liturgy Team**
Mary Haugh, Elizabeth McDermott, Maureen Bourke.

**Parish Loss & Grief Team**
Elizabeth McDermott, Jane Bretherton, Patricia Angelini, Joan Noonan, Cathy Mitchell, Tricia Blanks, Eilis Whelan

**Parish Sacramental Team**
Denise Webb, Jenny Chirgwin, Holly Webster, Claire Flood & Trish Blanks

**Catholic Women’s League**
Mary Haugh, Maureen Bourke

**Legion of Mary**
Anne O’Brien

**RCIA Team**
Tricia Blanks, Brian Bourke, Maureen Bourke, Anne-Maree Holden

**Tuesday Communion Round**
**Co-ordinator:** Sandie Westaway

**Friday Communion Round**
**Co-ordinator:** Liz McDermott

**KSC Community Welfare Project**
Brian Bourke: 5446 8821

**R.S.J.**
Margaret Tobias

**Caritas Project Compassion**
Brian Bourke

**Children’s Liturgy**
Denise Webb & Natalie Duane (1st and 3rd Sunday of month)

**God Start**
Anne O’Brien

**Piety Stall**
Michael O’Dea, Anne O’Brien

**Child Safety**
Brian Bourke

**St Vincent de Paul:** 54462585