

Holy Cross Retreat

<https://holycrosscentre.com/community/>



14th

February, 2025

Letter 262

Jerome



Jerome had surgery on Monday morning and he heard and saw nothing of the doctor over the next three days. He had been bleeding and they wanted to get that trouble cleared up. Finally, yesterday the doctor told him, “you can go home tomorrow”. We are not sure what time that will be. His breathing was laboured, but he was in cheerful spirits yesterday when I saw him yesterday afternoon. On that same of his surgery as most of you know, at 2.30pm, his sister, Mary James passed away. Mary was a Baptist, and she did not want a funeral. There will be a memorial when all the family, especially Jerome, can make it up to Benalla. Thank you to all the people who sent messages which I was able to pass on to Jerome.

Budi



We had news on Tuesday, that Budi, who was living with us last year at Holy Cross, was called home from Vanimo, PNG to Indonesia, because his father Antonius Nonci, was ailing. In fact Antonius died at 9.45pm on the same day as Mary James (Monday). We are saddened by this news and assure Budi of our love and prayers.

Mulching

On Monday this week we had our arborist, Robert Taylor back to mulch all the undergrowth that had been cleared in recent weeks. Robert noticed a couple of diseased trees and a few dangerous overhanging branches. This is always expensive work, but it is necessary and to be expected when we have as many trees as we do. For anyone interested, there is some firewood available five metres off the edge of the main carpark towards the building.

Coffee Cart Sunday



This Sunday the Coffee Cart will be back, thanks to our generous donor. Please put on a name tag and stay for a while to meet or catch up with a few friends. This activity occurs every month except during the depths of winter to help build our sense of community.

We hope a few people can provide cakes or biscuits to add to the enjoyment of the coffee.

St Gabriel's festa



Only one more week til the St Gabriel's festa celebration on Sunday February 23rd. This will consist of Rosary (10.00am), Mass (10.30am) and Procession (11.30am). Stay for lunch and for the music. The bust and relic of St Gabriel will be available for veneration from Thursday 20th til Sunday 23rd, at Holy Cross.

Erick



Erick will resume his university studies in counselling in two weeks' time. One of the requirements is practical experience or 'Placement'. Erick's placement which he began two weeks ago, is at Doncaster High on Wednesdays and Thursdays each week. He will have less time to devote to the newsletter when he is editing it.

Come Away Day

The first **Come Away Day** for 2025 will be held at Holy Cross on **WEDNESDAY MARCH 5th – ASH WEDNESDAY**. The team met last Monday February 10th to prepare for the day and chose the theme of the day is '**LET GO ... LET GOD**'.



This is an opportunity to focus on the deeper meaning of our Lenten journey. The day's program provides opportunities for prayer, silent reflection and group interaction in the beautiful grounds and facilities of Holy Cross. All are welcome. Just come as you are. BYO lunch. **Registration is from 9.30am.**

The program will include blessing with ashes and it will conclude with a celebration of the Eucharist and Anointing of the Sick. Departure time is around **3pm**. The suggested cost is \$30.00 or a donation according to your means. As parking will be in demand, please consider using the **Carpark** via the Services Delivery Drive which is **on the right** as you drive down the slope. Registration is helpful to us for planning purposes. For any further details contact Sr Brigid cp on bridget.m64@gmail.com. Brochures detailing the 2025 Program are available in the back porch of the Chapel. Please put this date in your Diary and consider inviting a friend along to share the Come Away Day experience.

On the same day, (**Ash Wednesday**) and there will be Mass in the Holy Cross chapel at 9.30am.

JD



We will have more detail next week but last night, JD attended his graduation as a **Master of Theology**, in Adelaide. Congratulations JD on achieving this, especially doing so, in a second language. Thanks to YTU for the generous and professional assistance provided including an abiding interest from the President!

Passion seminar



Chris Monaghan and **Brendan Connell** (pictured centre right in the back row) led a three day seminar for our younger men the week before last on **'Preaching the Passion'**.

Pictured are: Wilbard (living in Oxley Brisbane), Dominic (iving in Hobart) and Pastor, (living in Adelaide), are from Tanzania). O'Brien (living in Marrickville, Sydney) is from Zambia. Joseph (Hobart) and Tony (Adelaide) are from PNG.

JD and Mike (Holy Cross), Truc (Hobart), Kien (Adelaide), Tuan Paul (Endeavour Hills), Doan and Cong (Marrickville) are from Vietnam.

Erick (Holy Cross) is from Burundi. Justin (Hobart) is originally from India and Sony (Endeavour Hills) also from India, was not present for the photo. Luke Bully (Endeavour Hills) born in South Africa, was unable to attend the seminar. This is an interesting glimpse of our personnel, in Holy Spirit Province at this time.

Fundraiser

You are invited to book a table for the Fundraiser event in August (details below). Anyone who is able to recommend potential donors who might be willing to contribute to the auctions, please contact Tina. Music will be provided by Chris and Dominic so bring your dancing shoes.



FUNDRAISER FOR HOLY CROSS PASSIONIST CONGREGATION

To support the ministry of the Passionist Community at Templestowe

★ Silent Auctions ★ Major Auctions ★ Raffles ★ Entertainment

Details

The Veneto Club
Sala Venezia Room (2nd floor)
191 Bulleen Rd, Bulleen

📅 Saturday 9th August 2025

🕒 6:00PM

🍴 3 course dinner & dancing

^ Drinks at bar prices

Tickets

\$85pp Available from Holy Cross
after 10AM Sunday Mass

OR online via trybooking

LINK: www.trybooking.com/CYSMZ

QR code:



TICKET SALES CLOSE 20TH JULY

If you have ticket enquiries or can assist with cash donations or items for the silent or major auctions please call:

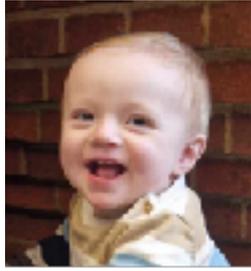
📞 Tina – 0439 034 116 📞 Peter – 0413 015 061



Vietnam

Every year our [Province Formation Commission](#) meets, and this year we are meeting in Saigon on February 21st & 22nd. Sr Brigid and Lien Thai from Holy Cross are members of our Commission, of which I am Coordinator. This means I will be away from February 18th-25th and I'll be able to compare Saigon's hot weather with Port Moresby!

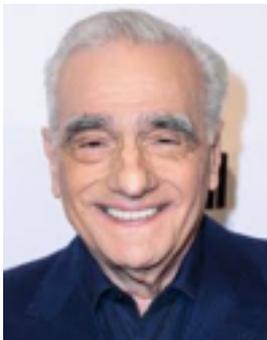
Little Freddie



This is how his Grandad, Peter Day refers to young Alfred Theodore who is to finally have surgery in London next Wednesday. We have been following Freddy since he was found to have a tumour in utero. The doctors considered operating before he was born, but the tumour stopped growing and now he is more than twelve months old, they are prepared to operate on the tumour. Please keep your prayers going.

Putting faith into practice

In an interview on February 5th with Jesuit Antonio Spadaro, Martin Scorsese spoke of his admiration for the movie *'The Gospel According to St. Matthew'*, in the light of his childhood having been



surrounded by thuggery and violence. "I began to understand that faith wasn't just something you practiced in church," Scorsese said. "Imitating Christ had to be something you translated into daily life.

How, I wondered, could I take those elements of love and compassion, which meant so much to me when I was growing up, out into the streets and into the world, which was so violent and full of conflict? That's how I learned what faith is: by losing it, doubting it, coming back to it, being gifted with the ability to make films, and finding a kind of faith in that."

Making *'Silence'*; was a very good experience for me, and for a lot of people who made it with me. It changed by life and theirs as we attempted to become aware of the mystery of God's love and put it in a film".



Provincial Council

The Provincial Council met at Holy Cross this week from Monday-Wednesday. In these complex times, their task is unenviable, but much appreciated.

Humour

- Did you hear they arrested the devil? They got him on possession.
- Joe's IQ test results came back. They were negative.
- What happened to the archaeologist who lost her job? Her career was in ruins.
- How goes a lumberjack know how many trees he's cut down? He keeps a log.
- A broken guitar is for sale. You can buy it with no strings attached.
- What do you call a murderer with two butts? An assassin.

- A woman couldn't stop collecting magazines? She had a number of issues.
- Jack made a lot of money cleaning up leaves. He was raking it in.
- Why did the computer get glasses? To improve its website.
- What kind of shoes do plumbers wear? Clogs.
- A friend went shopping for a pair of camouflage pants. But he couldn't find any.
- A teacher told a chemistry joke but he didn't get much of a reaction.
- Bill was fired from a keyboard factory. He wasn't putting in enough shifts.
- Tony used to be afraid of hurdles. But he got over it.
- Susan excels at sleeping. In fact, she can do it with her eyes closed.

Q. How many times can you subtract 10 from 100?

A. Once. The next time you would be subtracting 10 from 90.

Q. Why can't you explain puns to kleptomaniacs?

A. They always take things literally.

Q. What do you call a parade of rabbits hopping backwards?

A A receding hare-line.

Q. What's the different between a cat and a comma?

A A cat has claws at the end of paws; A comma is a pause at the end of a clause.

Q. What did the bald man exclaim when he received a comb for a present?

A Thanks— I'll never part with it!

Q. What rhymes with orange

A No it doesn't.

Q. What's orange and sounds like a carrot?

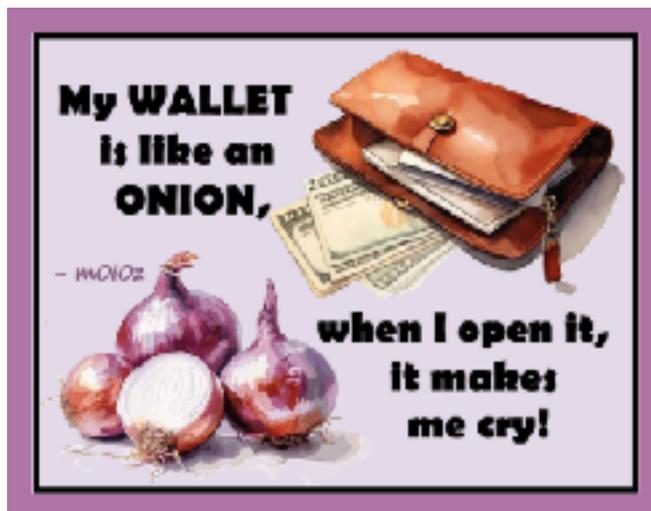
A A parrot.

Q. What is an astronaut's favourite part on a computer?

A The space bar.

Q. Did you hear about the two people who stole a calendar?

A They each got six months.



Thanks to the people that said its fine to allow your pets to sleep on your bed. My goldfish is now dead.

Thanks for explaining the word 'many' to me, it means alot.

A man died today when a pile of books fell on him.
He only had his shelf to blame.

How good is this ...

A combined BBQ & Beer Cooler

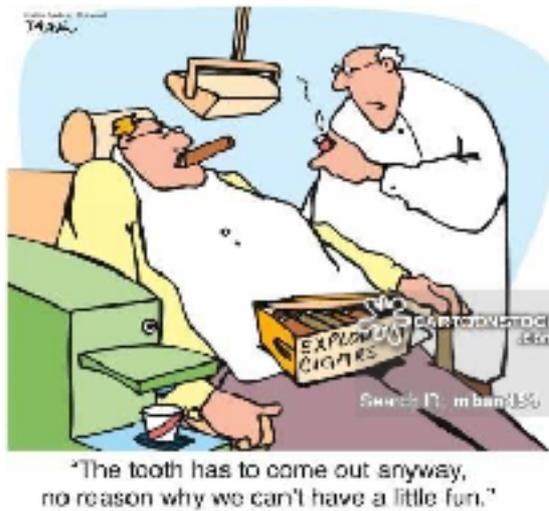
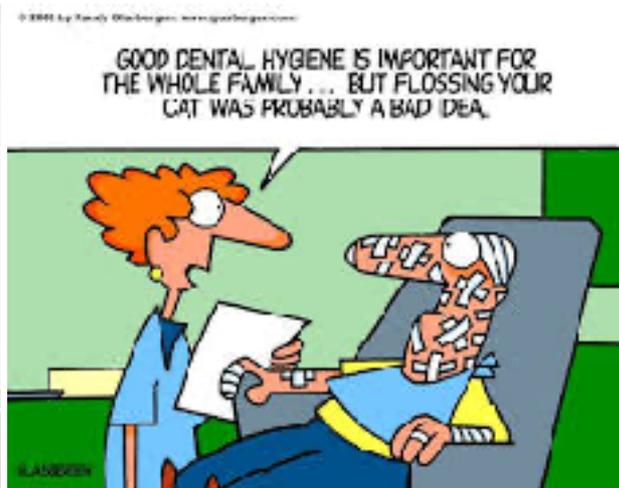
This, surely, is Aussie engineering at its very best!



When you're finished barbecuing and the ice has melted, just pull the handle and the fire goes out.

OMG ... is this a great country, or what?





Prayers

Gerry Bond turns 93 next Monday, February 17th

We remember those who have died recently especially **Mary James (Dunn)** and **Antonius Nonci** (father of Fr Budi) as well as those whose anniversaries occur around this time, **Judith Edwards**, **Rocco and Elise Rapone**, **Margaret Titterington** and those who grieve for them.



We pray for all of our Holy Cross family who are unwell as well as all who care for them especially Bro Jerome, Michael Beuger, Rod Gorfine, Noel Smyth, Bro Minh Toan CP, Peter Barry, Pam Gartland, Rex Cambry, Monica Sleeman, Desley Reynolds, Tony Brooks, Zoe Chung and her baby daughter Sophia,

Carol Battistella, Gerry Bond, Alexander Lim, Paul Darbyshire, Dominic Ísgro, Doris Castro, Lorraine Gill, Michael O'Callaghan, Julia Cantone, Bronwyn Burke, Pam Storey, Adrian Woon, Luke Norden, Bernadette Owen, Peter Owen, Kaya Lenic, Greg Agosta, Helen McLean, Phil Drew, Caroline Meade, Patricia Keeghan, Anne Jenkins, Errol Lovett, and baby Alfred Theodore in London.

The **Mass link** for this Sunday will be sent on Saturday by Chris

Enjoy the weekend

Brian

