



Our First Communion children visit Our Lady's shrine in thanksgiving after following a beautiful Mass with their families and friends

The Seven Daily Habits of Holy Apostolic People by Fr. John McCloskey *Part 1*

Sanctification is a work of a lifetime and it requires our determined effort to cooperate with God's sanctifying grace coming through the sacraments. The seven daily habits that I propose to you are the morning offering, spiritual reading, the Holy Rosary, Holy Mass and Communion, at least fifteen minutes of mental prayer, the recitation of the Angelus at noon, and a brief examination of conscience at night. These are the principal means to achieve holiness. If you are a person who wants to bring Christ to others through your friendship, these are the instruments by which you store up the spiritual energy that will enable you to do so. Remember that growing in these daily habits is a grad-

ual work in progress. Don't expect to insert all seven or even two or three of these in your daily schedule immediately. This haste would be inviting failure and God wants you to succeed at both your pace and His. **The first habit is the morning offering**, when you kneel down and using your own formula, you briefly offer up all the day ahead for God's glory. Conquer yourself each day from the very first moment, getting up on the dot, at a set time, without granting a single minute to laziness. If with the help of God, you conquer yourself in the moment, you have accomplished a great deal for the rest of the day. **The second habit is at least 15 minutes of silent prayer**. Prayer is simply one on one direct conversation with Jesus Christ, preferably before the Blessed Sacrament

in the Tabernacle. This is your "quality time" when you can open up in speaking about what is on your mind and in your heart. At the same time you will be able to acquire the habit of listening carefully and prayerfully like another Mary to see what Jesus is asking of you and what he wants to give you. It is there that we come to understand his saying, "Without Me, you can do nothing." **The third habit is fifteen minutes of spiritual reading**, usually consisting of a few minutes of systematic reading of the New Testament to identify ourselves with the words and actions of our Saviour, and the rest of the time spent on a classic book of Catholic spirituality.

Next week: Part 2

Pope Francis Rejects German Proposal for Intercommunion

Cardinal: After speaking with Pope Francis about the matter, Cardinal-elect Ladaria said the Pope "came to the conclusion that the document is not mature enough to be published" and cited three main reasons for the decision. First, admission to Communion of Protestant spouses in interconfessional marriages "is a topic that touches the faith of the Church and has relevance for the universal Church. Allowing non-Catholics to receive the Eucharist, even in certain limited conditions, would also have an impact on ecumenical relations with other churches and ecclesial communities, "which should not be underestimated." Finally, he said the question of Communion is a matter of Church law which deals with access to the sacraments of the Catholic Church.



Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish
Thurgoona

Parish Priest: Fr John Fowles



Show me your faith apart from your works and I by my works will show you my faith. James 2:18

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Parish Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday from 9:30am to 12:30pm

Mass Times

Saturday: - (Vigil) 6pm
Sunday: - 9:30am & 5:30pm
Monday: - 8am
Tuesday: - 10am,
2nd Tues of month-Anointing of the sick,
3rd Tues of month-Mass of Mercy
Wednesday: - 8am
Thursday: - 7pm, Mass & Family Novena
Friday: - 8am
1st Saturday of Month only:-8am- with devotions to Bl.V.Mary
Working Bee: Sat - 9am to 11am

Sacraments and Devotions

Adoration - Fri 8:30am to 10:30am
Precious Blood - Fri 10am
Rosaries - Thurs 6:30pm and Sun 9am
Reconciliation - Thursday after Novena Sat 5:30 to 5:50pm before Vigil, Sun 9 to 9.20am & 5.00 to 5:20pm
Baptism and Marriage - By appointment
Legion of Mary Praesidia :
Mon 9:30am - Mystical Rose
Wed 8:30am - Mary Immaculate
Thur 6.00pm - Mother of Divine Grace
Mary's Mantle - 1st Sunday of month after 9.30am mass

~ Parish Notices ~

Feasts of the Week: Mon. 11th June St. Barnabas, Apostle
Wed. 13th June St. Anthony of Padua

Monthly Anointing of the sick: This Tuesday 12th June 10am
Faith and Family: This Wed., 13th June. Topic: We see in the wounded heart of Jesus how divine mercy forgives, heals and restores. "So bring your hand and put it into My side..." as it were, to touch the sacred heart of Jesus.

Hammer and Nails: Friday 22nd June. All men are warmly welcomed to gather around the fire and enjoy and share a BBQ while benefitting from the words of our guest speaker.

Confirmation Preparation Classes: To be held - Marian Centre 4.30pm on the following days - 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th of August; 5th, 12th, 19th of September.

Confirmation will take place on the 23rd September 9:30am Mass. If you have children ready to be confirmed please make arrangements with Fr John.

Ignite Youth Conference 2018: 'Empty!' National Catholic Youth Conference, Brisbane. 26th-30th September, 2018. Register before 30th June for Early Bird prices. For full details and to register online: www.igniteconference.com.au



Collect O God, from whom all good things come, grant that we, who call on You in our need, may at Your prompting discern what is right, and by Your guidance do it. ...

First Reading Genesis 3: 9-15

The Lord God called to the man after he had eaten of the tree. 'Where are you?' he asked. 'I heard the sound of you in the garden,' he replied 'I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid.' 'Who told you that you were naked?' he asked 'Have you been eating of the tree I forbade you to eat?' The man replied, 'It was the woman you put with me; she gave me the fruit, and I ate it.' Then the Lord God asked the woman, 'What is this you have done?' The woman replied, 'The serpent tempted me and I ate.' Then the Lord God said to the serpent, 'Because you have done this, 'Be accursed beyond all cattle, all wild beasts. You shall crawl on your belly and eat dust every day of your life. I will make you enemies of each other: you and the woman, your offspring and her offspring. It will crush your head and you will strike its heel.



Responsorial Psalm Ps 130:1-2,3-4,5-6,7-8;

With the Lord there is mercy, and fullness of redemption.

Second Reading 2 Corinthians 4:13 -5:1

As we have the same spirit of faith that is mentioned in scripture – *I believed, and therefore I spoke* – we too believe and therefore we too speak, knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus to life will raise us with Jesus in our turn, and put us by his side and you with us. You see, all this is for your benefit, so that the more grace is multiplied among people, the more thanksgiving there will be, to the glory of God. That is why there is no weakening on our part, and instead, though this outer man of ours may be falling into decay, the inner man is renewed day by day. Yes, the troubles which are soon over, though they weigh little, train us for the carrying of a weight of eternal glory which is out of all proportion to them. And so we have no eyes for things that are visible, but only for things that are invisible; for visible things last only for a time, and the invisible things are eternal. For we know that when the tent that we live in on earth is folded up, there is a house built by God for us, an everlasting home not made by human hands, in the heavens.

Gospel Acclamation John 12:31,32

Alleluia, alleluia! The prince of this world will now be cast out, and when I am lifted up from the earth I will draw all to myself, says the Lord. Alleluia!

Gospel Mark 3:20-35

Jesus went home with his disciples, and such a crowd collected that they could not even have a meal. When his relatives heard of this, they set out to take charge of him, convinced he was out of his mind. The scribes who had come down from Jerusalem were saying, 'Beelzebul is in him' and, 'It is through the prince of devils that he casts devils out.' So he called them to him and spoke to them in parables, 'How can Satan

cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot last. And if a household is divided against itself, that household can never stand. Now if Satan has rebelled against himself and is divided, he cannot stand either – it is the end of him. But no one can make his way into a strong man's house and burgle his property unless he has tied up the strong man first. Only then can he burgle his house. 'I tell you solemnly, all men's sins will be forgiven, and all their blasphemies; but let anyone blaspheme against the Holy Spirit and he will never have forgiveness: he is guilty of an eternal sin.' This was because they were saying, 'An unclean spirit is in him.' His mother and brothers now arrived and, standing outside, sent in a message asking for him. A crowd was sitting round him at the time the message was passed to him, 'Your mother and brothers and sisters are outside asking for you.' He replied, 'Who are my mother and my brothers?' And looking round at those sitting in a circle about him, he said, 'Here are my mother and my brothers. Anyone who does the will of God, that person is my brother and sister and mother.



Fra. Angelico

Communion Antiphon Psalm 17:3

The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer; my God is my saving strength.

Lord hear our prayers for the: *Sick:* Joan McLaurin, Fran Kernaghan, Ernest Denouse, Danielle Scora *Departed:* Geoff Jervois, Jack Evans, John Evans, John Foster.

Readers: this week: Sat 6pm - Damien Tocher Sun 9.30am - Simon Horsfall

Readers & Cleaners Roster - 16/17th June 2018

Readers: Sat: 6.00 pm - Peter Tobin Sun: 9.30 am - Brother Denis Devich

Cleaning: Isabella and Dennis

Financial Report: Please make cheques payable to "Thurgoona Catholic Parish" or Direct Debit: BSB 012-708: Ac No. 3546 39223. Please include name on transfer. First Collection: \$365.80 Envelope:\$425.00 Direct Debit \$120.00 Loose: \$239.60

The Promised One: Scott Hahn

In today's Gospel Jesus has just been healing and casting out demons in Galilee. Along with the crowds, who flock to Him so that He can't even take a break to eat, come people who do not understand what He is doing. Even His friends think He has lost His mind and needs to be taken away for a while. But the scribes who came down from Jerusalem are not just honestly mistaken; they accuse Him of being possessed by the prince of demons. The reality is just the opposite. Jesus is revealing Himself as the one promised. He is the seed of the woman who has come to crush the head of the demonic serpent. In the parable of the strong man, Jesus reveals that He has come not just to punish the devil but to free those bound by him. As St. Bede explains, "The Lord has also bound the strong man, that is, the devil: which means, He has restrained him from seducing the elect, and entering into his house, the world; He has spoiled his house, and His goods, that is men, because He has snatched them from the snares of the devil, and has united them to His Church." The scribes blaspheme by attributing this work of the Holy Spirit to demons. Jesus adds a statement that shocks us at first: "whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness." That does not mean that there are any limits to the mercy of God. Rather, the only sin that cannot be forgiven is the deliberate refusal to accept the mercy offered through the Holy Spirit.