

We Remember those in God's Care

- ❖ *all who have died recently;*
- ❖ *Billie Francis, and all whose anniversaries occur now.*

We Pray for

- ❖ *Marie Rhodes, Steve Clark Ryan, Leo Caffery, Sebastian Geisler, Tim O'Neill, and all our sick.*

Reflection (cont....)

I have been mulling over this in recent months, and have been drawn back to Matthew 22:34-40. "When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." So who are our neighbours? To me, the kind, gentle people I met in Saudi certainly are. Do we need to build a large bridge to be 'neighbours'? I don't know, but what I do know is that we're off to a great start because we have something fundamental in common: we worship the same God.

*Michael Barry
Parishioner*

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YOUR GENEROSITY
can live on!

Thinking of making
or renewing
your Will?



Please think of us.

For more information
please contact
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OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL PARISH
in the care of the Carmelites since 1937

28 June 2009

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

US President Barack Obama recently made a trip to the Middle East and delivered a landmark speech in Cairo. The speech has been billed by the popular media as an attempt to build a bridge between the Christian and Muslim Worlds. The unsaid under-current is that these worlds are vastly different so that pretty big bridge building is necessary. To me, this is not completely true.

Last April I was lucky enough to travel to Saudi Arabia for work. Our work site was on the edge of the Red Sea about 200km from Meccah, the birthplace of Islam, so we flew into the nearest international airport (which happens to be at Jeddah) and then commuted through the desert to our site. Jeddah airport is set up to accommodate large numbers pilgrims, with the majority of it being simply tarmacs and enormous easy-access super-tents with no walls or other infrastructure. On our departure I also noticed that the weigh-in scales are "zeroed" at -15kg (from memory) so that a pilgrim's allowance of holy water is built into baggage weights. But details aside, I came away from Saudi with the strong impression, from the people I met, that their lives fit into their religion – not vice versa.

With this impression, my interest in the history and origins of Islam was sparked. Over the intervening year I have tried to educate myself in this regard. This process is by no means complete and all that follows are my opinions and understandings at this time – not necessarily the facts! I can now see, however, that when I visited Saudi last year I knew virtually nothing of Islam, except what I had been fed by our media. I did not know that Islam was born when, as Islam tradition has it, God appeared to Muhammed via the angel Gabriel in caves outside Meccah stating in the year 610. Muhammed's memorised what he was told and then relayed this to his followers who wrote them down in a book now known as the Qur'an. More importantly to me, I did not know that that Islam holds that Gabriel appeared on behalf of God. Our God. This discovery moved me deeply: I had no idea that Christianity and Islam were at all related, but it turns out that we share the same God – we just use different names for Him. Islam also sees Jesus as a messenger of God who was born of the Virgin Mary. There are divergences, of course, but the existence of at least this common ground took me completely by surprise.

(cont.....pg 4)

PARISH MASS TIMES

Weekends:

Saturday Vigil ó 6 pm;
Sunday - 7.30 am, 9.30 am, 5.30 pm

Weekdays *this week*:

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday &
Saturday - 9 am
Wednesday ó Anointing Mass, 10 am

RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 9.30 am ó 10 am

MEDITATION

Wednesdays 6.30 am ó 7 pm

BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS

by appointment

This week at Mt Carmel

Today is 28 June

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wisdom 1:13-15. 2:23-24

Corinthians 8:7. 9. 13-15

Mark 5:21-24. 35-43

First Eucharist Mass, 9.30 am & 11 am

Youth ministered Mass, 5.30 pm

Youth Group in Carmel Community Room,
6.30 pm ó 8.30 pm

Monday 29 June

Communion Service, 9 am followed
by Rosary

Little Rock Scripture Study Group in
Church, 9.45 am

Wednesday 1 July

Mass of Anointing, 10 am

Thursday 2 July

Readers Preparation in Sacristy, 7.30 pm



SUNDAY 5 JULY

14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Ezekiel 2:2-5 Corinthians 12:7-10

Mark 6:1-6

Cycle for Safety bike ride, 10.30 am
Fernvale to Lowood

Monday 6 July

Little Rock Scripture Study Group in
Church, 9.45 am

St Vincent de Paul Meeting in Carmel
Community Room, 7.30 pm

Thursday 9 July

Readers Preparation in Sacristy, 7.30 pm

MT CARMEL SOCIAL CLUB

Next Bus Trip to

GOVERNMENT HOUSE

on Thursday 16 July

leaving from Church at **9.30 am**

Tour of Government House

with Morning Tea on Lawn ó

Lunch at Broncos and then

visit Mt Cootha

All Inclusive \$25

Because of security at

Government House

no bookings after 8th July

Phone John 3397 7281

What's Happening?

Next Sunday sees us heading off on our 'Cycle for Safety' jaunt along the rail trail in the Brisbane Valley from Fernvale to Lowood. Some are pedalling, some are walking and some are in backup vehicles. Monies raised will assist in funding some projects recommended to make our church environs a wee bit safer, ie non slip surfaces (already done), loose tile replacement and sensor lighting. We meet at the park in Fernvale from 10.00 a.m. on **Sunday July 5th** and head off to Lowood at 10.30 a.m. After lunch in Lowood, we return perhaps a little less energetically to Fernvale and home. Total return distance is a mere 18 kilometres.

On Sunday July 5th at all Masses we are marking the 150th Anniversary of the Brisbane Church in our own parish. A special banner will be erected and a candle lit. These will remain as a feature for the rest of 2009.

Back to basics on Saturday July 18th. We are having another working bee, mainly concerned with weeding and general tidying up around the church and priory environs. We commence at 8.00 a.m. and conclude with morning tea at 10.30 a.m. Please indicate if you are coming and what tools you will be bringing. Wheelbarrows are always handy.

July 19th is the parish celebration of Our Lady of Mount Carmel with the main celebration at the 9.30 a.m. Mass, followed by morning tea hosted as usual by the Lay Carmelites with Kathy Dillon looking after the dietary needs of our younger parishioners.

Thanks to the responses to our draft Mission Statement. 8 thoughtful responses have been received so far. The deadline is June 30th after which our little committee will meet to digest them, then seek with our coordinator, Mary Franzmann, a time when we can get together as a larger parish group to move on with the next phase, working towards a Statement with agreed underlying principles. The statement in draft form once again reads

We are our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish.

Our Mission is to live the Gospel Message of Jesus by sharing in a vibrant, relevant way, the passion of our faith.

We are committed to welcoming, accepting and supporting all in our faith journey.

Our inclusive community seeks spiritual awakening and renewal, inspired by the Carmelite charism.

Finally, special prayers again for our younger parishioners who are receiving the Sacrament of First Eucharist this weekend.

Fr Laurie