

The West Wagga Wag

Issue 121

March 2013

Coming Events

Ho.T Lenten Group: Tues
San Isidore Rosary Wed 10
Senior Legion: Weds
St Vde Paul: Thurs
Lenten Prayer Vigils for Peace:
Thurs
Parish Film Night: Fri 8
Diaconal Ordination of Stephen Onyekwere: Sat 9
International Women's Day:
Sun 10
Prayers for Healing: Fri 15
2nd Rite Reconciliation: Mon 18
Solemnity of St Patrick: Mon 18
Solemnity of St Joseph: Tues 19
Passion Sunday: Sun 24
Chrism Mass of the Holy Oils:
Mon 25
Holy Thursday: Mar 28
Good Friday: Mar 29
Easter Sunday: Mar 31
Priestly Ordination of Brad Rafter: Apr 5
Divine Mercy: Sun Apr 7
Solemnity of the Annunciation:
Mon Apr 8

Inside this issue:

March Jokes	3
Aussie Seminaries	4
Bishop With 150 Wives	6
Louis Pasteur	8

Wag Contacts

Email:
westwaggaparish@hotmail.com

Phone: 6931 3601

The due date for the next Wag is:
Sunday February 24th.

Praying for our Next Pope

Novena

Beginning March 1, 2013, the first day when the Chair of Peter will be vacant, I encourage you to join in this **Worldwide Novena for the Election of the Next Holy Father**. Please join Catholic brothers and sisters the world over in the daily praying the Novena Prayer below (or any other prayer to the Holy Spirit that you may prefer) that the Holy Spirit may truly inspire the hearts of the cardinals of the conclave to choose the man that Jesus wants to guide the Church at this precise moment of human history. This Conclave Novena will end on the day the Church and the world hears the words,

"Habemus Papam!" ("We have a Pope!").

Conclave Novena Prayer:

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Father, send down your Spirit over the conclave. Let the Holy Spirit inspire the hearts of the cardinals, that they may choose the man most pleasing to You, as Successor of Peter and Your Vicar on Earth. May Mary, Your Mother and Mother of the Church, be our Advocate. Amen.

*Dr. Mark Miravalle,
Professor of Theology and Mariology*



Adopt a Cardinal

Greetings from Germany!
We wanted to inform you about an initiative we started yesterday. We made a homepage -

www.adoptacardinal.org

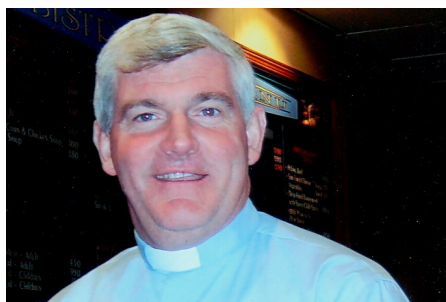
where you can "adopt" a cardinal to pray for him the time before, during and shortly after the conclave.

We are absolutely thrilled that we have already more than 110,000 people praying with us.

This afternoon we went live with the English version as well. So if you want to join us in prayer this would be most welcome! If you like the initiative and the webpage we would be delighted if you could pass on the information.

Blessed John Paul II, please pray for us!

pastor's page



“Judge not, that you be not judged” (Mt 7:1). When Jesus said this he was giving us a real eye opener off insight. It seems whatever we do unto others comes back to bless us or bite us. If we are nice to others, they often return the favour and even befriend us. Conversely, if we are judgmental, critical and fault-finding then we fall into a different category which Jesus, who loves us does not ever want for us!

Because Jesus loves us so much he admonished us; “For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?” (Mt 7:2-5).

During Lent we are often more concerned about going without something pleasurable than we are about avoiding other hurtful things. It is true that too much sugar and high living can be both deleterious to our health and holiness when it is overdone. Yet reigning in our wayward pettiness can also be both healthy and holy. There are not a few vices that we might concentrate on during Lent, but I thought having a look at being judgmental might be helpful. It might surprise most people to know that God made us to be judging people. How then can it be so wrong? But of course we are wounded by Original Sin and that should be enough said! Original sin really did mess us up when it comes to judging.

Humanly speaking we have several discerning bodily faculties that are judging 24/7. Our entire body is one big judging organism. It judges hot and cold and we act accordingly, putting on a jumper or taking it off. The food we eat is judged on the palette as tasty or not. Our ears judge harmony or cacophony; melody or dissonance. It seems all our five external senses are always judging. It is a wholesome and beautiful thing to know that the body never lies. It always tells the truth. It discerns rightly; it is God's gift to which is worth giving our attention. Yet listening doesn't mean acting upon. I'd like another serve of Pavlova and ice-cream with my cup of black tea, but that doesn't make it a good judgment to follow. We need to judge intelligently.

Then there are our four internal senses. They really judge! Our common sense faculty not only brings all our senses together but orders them according to importance and immediate necessity. It is an extraordinary and mysterious judge. Memory compares with previous reminiscences to see which is best. The sense faculty of cognitive power has no other purpose than to judge useful from harmful and as to whether something is good for use or just plain bad for us, as in the case of judging if smelly meat might be good for our stomach or not. It not only estimates, it actually calculates judgments and arrives at important healthy conclusions that then moves us to or away from things throughout everyday life. In fact we couldn't be without this faculty and survive. And over and above these three important internal senses is the imagination which similar to memory not only compares but also weighs up cognitive judgments and after it is finished actually presents its conclusions as immaterial phantasms for the spiritual soul

which we call our intellect. That's when the real; judging begins, especially our conscience which judges moral goodness and evil. We live in our minds and our judgments determine who we are and how we act. Whether we are people who are judgmental or whether we are the people whom Jesus wants us to be; namely, spiritually discerning.

A judgmental person is the kind of person who goes beyond discerning differences in people's abilities to making inferences about their overall worthiness. To a judgmental person, a singer is inferior not just on the dimension of singing, but is inferior on the more fundamental dimension of being human as well. The classic example is Simon Cowell's very embarrassing pre-judgment of Susan Boyle on *Britain's Got Talent* in 2009. Susan went on to wow everyone; to God's glory!



“Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny. "For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ' [1 Cor 2:15-16].

‘Judge all things, but hold on to whatever is good’ (1 Thes 5:21).

Fr Gerard

March Jokes

The Sunday School teacher was describing how Lot's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt, when little Jason interrupted, 'My Mommy looked back once while she was driving,' he announced triumphantly, 'and she turned into a telephone pole!'

A wife says to her husband, "You're always pushing me around and talking behind my back."
He says, "What do you expect? You're in a wheel chair!"

A Sunday school teacher was telling her class the story of the Good Samaritan. She asked the class, 'If you saw a person lying on the roadside, all wounded and bleeding, what would you do?'

A thoughtful little girl broke the hushed silence, 'I think I'd throw up.'

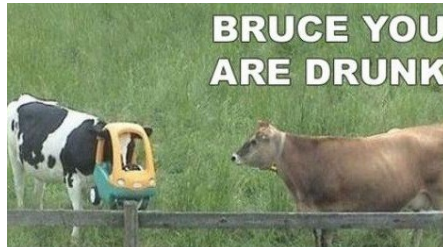
A Sunday school teacher asked, 'Johnny, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the Ark?'
'No,' replied Johnny. 'How could he, with just two worms.'

In a convent in Ireland, the 98-year-old Mother Superior lay dying. The nuns gathered around her bed trying to make her last journey comfortable.

They tried giving her warm milk to drink but she refused it. One of the nuns took the glass back to the kitchen.

Then, remembering a bottle of Irish Whiskey that had been received as a gift the previous Christmas, she opened it and poured a generous amount into the warm milk.

Back at Mother Superior's bed, they held the glass to her lips.



The frail nun drank a little, then a little more and before they knew it, she had finished the whole glass down to the last drop.

As her eyes brightened, the nuns thought it would be a good opportunity to have one last talk with their spiritual leader...
"Mother," the nuns asked earnestly, "Please give us some of your wisdom before you leave us." She raised herself up in bed on one elbow, looked at them and said: ""DON'T SELL THAT COW."

A man invites his mate back home for dinner. The wife screams at him "I've not done my hair, not done my make up, not done any housework, not done the dishes & can't be bothered with cooking! Why on earth did you invite him round?"
"Cos he's thinking of getting married"

It was time for the final and the student was depending upon getting at least one right answer on the chemistry test.

The question was "If H₂O is water, what is H₂O₄?"

This was a quick question for most, but it took the student some thinking time.

Finally, he wrote down his answer: For drinking, washing, and cleaning.

A wife asks her husband, "Could you please go shopping for me and buy one carton of milk, And if they have avocados, get 6."
A short time later the husband comes back with 6 cartons of milk. The wife asks him, "Why did you buy 6 cartons of milk?"
He replied, "They had avocados."

Why do supermarkets make the sick walk all the way to the back of the store to get their prescriptions while healthy people can buy cigarettes at the front?

Why do people order double cheeseburgers, large fries, and a diet coke?

Why do banks leave vault doors open and then chain the pens to the counters?

Some guy knocked on my door today and said, "I have a parcel for your next door neighbour."
I said, "You've got the wrong house then mate"

Paddy phones an ambulance because his mate's been hit by a car.

Paddy: 'Get an ambulance here quick, he's bleeding from his nose and ears and I tink both his legs are broken.'

Operator: 'Your location sir?'

Paddy: 'Outside number 28 Eucalyptus Street

'How do you spell that sir?'

Silence.... (heavy breathing) and after a minute:

Operator: 'Are you there sir?'

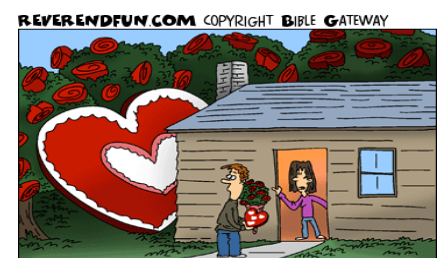
More heavy breathing and another minute later.

Operator: 'Sir, can you hear me?'

This goes on for another few minutes until....

Operator: 'Sir, please answer me. Can you still hear me?'

Paddy: 'Yes, sorry about dat... I couldn't spell eucalyptus, so I just dragged him round to number 3 Oak Street ...'



JESUS STOPPED BY AND NOBODY LOVES MORE THAN HIM, BUT BEFORE YOU GET JEALOUS OR ANYTHING YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT IT IS FOR YOU TOO

Australian Seminaries ...

The Vocation Renaissance

Vianney College, Wagga Wagga, was the first Australian seminary to be reformed (in the early 1990s); Brisbane the last, five years ago. When Mgr. Anthony Randazzo arrived from Rome at the beginning of 2009 to become Rector of the Holy Spirit Seminary, Banyo he was greeted by a mere 4 seminarians! There was almost nowhere to go, but up! Mgr. Anthony has explained briefly that happened over the next five years: "I have just begun my fifth year as Rector of the Holy Spirit Seminary of Queensland. The growth of the seminary in those five years has been quite remarkable. In 2008, the year before I began as Rector, there were 4 seminarians. This year I am pleased to say that there are 32, including six First Years. The seminary is full.

"It has been a rewarding time as I have tried to foster a renewed culture of Priesthood in the Province. When I arrived as Rector, the first action I took was to introduce Eucharistic Adoration on Thursday evenings. It has been enthusiastically embraced by all of the seminarians. The fruit of this prayer is obvious, Deo gratias.

I am also personally grateful for the support that I have received from so many faithful Catholics. Above all, the prayers of the Catholic people have helped sustain the challenging task of being responsible for such an important ministry in the Church."

Canali House, Brisbane

The Director of Vocations in Brisbane is Army Chaplain, Fr. Morgan Batt, a mountaineer and adventurer in his spare time. Fr Morgan has developed a residential experience of discernment towards ordained priesthood at a former presbytery at Herston, an inner Brisbane suburb. This is called Canali House, named after one of

Brisbane's pioneering priests, Father Joseph Canali.

Canali House enables young men to explore their vocations while sharing daily life with others testing the call. Along with himself as Director, the men share in meals, prayer, Eucharist, pastoral work, sports and household living while going around their regular work often in tertiary studies or working in the community.

At the end of their time residents will make a commitment to enter Holy Spirit Seminary, Banyo, continue discerning, or explore other vocational options.

In addition, Canali House welcomes other men who are discerning their vocations to a monthly forum called "Consilium". This forum is held on the first Thursday of the month and those attending share an evening of Mass, a meal and a meeting. The Archdiocese of Brisbane was a late starter in a systematic search for vocations; it is now a pace setter!

At the moment there are thirty-two seminarians at Holy Spirit, Banyo and of these six are First Years for 2013. Canali House has seven residents in discernment.

Meanwhile, in Sydney,

Vocations Flourish

In fact, vocations are 'on a roll' around Australia, and all of the seminaries report good numbers. Since World Youth Day, Sydney, 2008, Cardinal George Pell has ordained some 25 men for the Archdiocese, from the Good Shepherd Seminary at Homebush and the Redemptoris Mater Seminary at Chester Hill.

As the year opens, the Good Shepherd Seminary at Homebush has 32 men in training, including seven First Years. At the second Sydney seminary, the Redemptoris Mater at Chester Hill, there are 25 men preparing for the ordained ministry, of whom four are joining this year. Overall, 5 men from both seminaries are preparing to be ordained by later this year.

It is good that older Catholics realize this as, in many areas, they worship in 'greying' congregations – with few if any younger people to be seen. However, we can capture this experience of rising seminary numbers from another angle.

Normally, each August there is the National Inter-Seminary Soccer Tournament. Last year, Corpus Christi Seminary, Melbourne hosted over 200 young men from the seminaries on the Australian east coast at this annual event which affirms their vocations and gives the seminarians a sense of the significant numbers of men preparing for the priestly ministry.

In 2013, this event clashes with World Youth Day, Rio de Janeiro, and will not be held as many seminarians are going to Brazil for the World Youth Day.

Meanwhile, in the Parramatta diocese, at the Holy Spirit Seminary in the suburb of St. Mary's there are twelve seminarians, four of whom have just entered to commence training.

Corpus Christi College, Melbourne

The numbers are also encouraging



Blessed with Vocations!

at Corpus Christi College in Melbourne . There are 52 seminarians in residence. Of these 52, there are 34 are preparing for the Archdiocese of Melbourne, six for Sandhurst (Bendigo) and five for Sale . The remainder are from other Australian dioceses and one is from the Archdiocese of Hanoi ! In fact, 8 men commenced training this year; 6 from Melbourne and 1 each from Sale and Sandhurst .

There are also 3 men studying for the ordained ministry at the North American College in Rome and 2 deacons in Melbourne are awaiting ordination to the priesthood later this year.

Of course, the seminarians throughout the country reflect the changing face of multi-cultural Australian Catholicism. Many 'traditional' Australians whose family backgrounds are in Ireland , Britain or in Western Europe tend to forget that immigration over the last 20 years has brought increasing numbers of Vietnamese, Filipinos, south Asians and Africans to Australia .

Many of these recent arrivals are

Catholics – especially those from the Philippines , Vietnam and south Sudan . Hence, some young men of Vietnamese, Filipino and African background are in the seminaries!

Wagga Wagga

Meanwhile, there are another 23 seminarians at Vianney College , the Diocesan seminary in Wagga, NSW. Among the 23 are 6 young men who commenced studies recently. At Wagga, there are candidates from Lismore and Armidale as well.

At St Charles Seminary in Perth , there are 20 men in training including six who commenced training this year. Five of the older seminarians are studying in Rome . At the Redemptoris Mater (Neocatechumentate) Seminary also in Perth , there are 17 students for the priesthood, including four men who commenced training recently.

At the second Perth seminary, the Redemptoris Mater, Rector, Father Michael Moore has eighteen men preparing for the priesthood, of whom four have just commenced their preparation.

The enthusiasm for vocation is reflected in the increased numbers of young men seeking admission to some Religious Orders and Congregations

Father Tony Percy, Rector of the Good Shepherd Seminary at Homebush says that these increasing numbers will gradually address the challenge of the priest shortage in Australia . There is definitely a renewed interest in the Church and in the priesthood,' he says. 'World Youth Days in Sydney 2008 and Madrid 2011 have helped.' World Youth Day, Rio de Janeiro , Brazil this year should accelerate the trend.



The Bishop with 150 Wives



On the Tiwi Islands, north of Darwin, where Fr Francis Gsell was working, it was Tiwi custom for girls to be promised in marriage to older men, sometimes even before they were born. Men were able to have as many wives as they could support.

Girls were usually handed over at the age of 14. Fr Gsell accepted this

tradition and never challenged it.

However, when a young girl, Martina, came to him with a spear through her leg and an angry mob close behind, he knew that he

could no longer be a cultural bystander – Martina's life depended on what happened next.

In a moment of inspiration, Fr Gsell approached the angry mob, including the husband, and began long deliberations that would change the Tiwis' marriage traditions from that day on.

Eventually, the appeased mob

dispersed with a treasure trove including blankets, flour, a knife, an axe, tobacco and tins of meat and Fr Gsell was left with a vulnerable, relieved young woman whom he had promised to look after.

Martina was to become Fr Gsell's first "wife" and, once the news spread, many families approached the priest to accept more young women into his custody, including a four-day-old baby.

The girls were placed into the care of Sisters who now lived in the Mission and his "wives" numbered 150 by the time Fr Gsell left in 1938.

Memo from God

Effective immediately, please be aware that there are changes you need to make in your life. These changes need to be completed in order that I may fulfil my promises to you -- to grant you peace, joy and happiness in this life. I apologize for any inconvenience, but after all that I am doing this seems very little to ask of you. I know, I already gave you the 10 Commandments. Keep them. But follow these guidelines, also.

1. QUIT WORRYING

Life has dealt you a blow and all you do is sit and worry. Have you forgotten that I am here to take all your burdens and carry them for you? Or do you just enjoy fretting over every little thing that comes your way?

2. PUT IT ON THE LIST

Something needs to be done or taken care of. Put it on the list. No, not YOUR list. Put it on MY to-do list. Let ME be the one to take care of the problem. I can't help you until you turn it over to me. And although my to-do-list is long, I am after all, God. I can take care of anything you put into my hands. In fact, if the truth were ever really known, I take care of a lot of things for you that you never even realize.

3. TRUST ME

Once you've given your burdens to me, quit trying to take them back. Trust in me. Have the faith that I will take care of all your needs, your problems and your trials. Problems with the kids? Put them on my list. Problem with finances? Put it on my list. Problems

with your emotional roller coaster? For my sake, put it on my list. I want to help you. All you have to do is ask.

4. LEAVE IT ALONE

Don't wake up one morning and say, "Well, I'm feeling much stronger now, I think I can handle it from here." Why do you think you are feeling stronger now? It's simple. You gave me your burdens and I'm taking care of them. I also renew your strength and cover you in my peace. Don't you know that if I give you these problems back, you will be right back where you started? Leave them with me and forget about them. Just let me do my job.

5. TALK TO ME

I want you to forget a lot of things. Forget what was making you crazy. Forget the worry and the fretting because you know I'm in control. But, there's one thing I pray you never forget. Please don't forget to talk to me - OFTEN! I love you. I want to hear your voice. I want you to include me in on the things going on in your life. I want to hear you talk about your friends and family. Prayer is simply you having a conversation with me. I want to be your dearest friend.

6. HAVE FAITH

I see a lot of things from up here that you can't see from where you are. Have faith in me that I know what I'm doing. Trust me, you wouldn't want the view from my eyes. I will continue to care for you, watch over you, and meet your needs. You only have to trust me. Although I have a much bigger task than you, it seems as if you have so

much trouble just doing your simple part. How hard can trust be?

7. SHARE

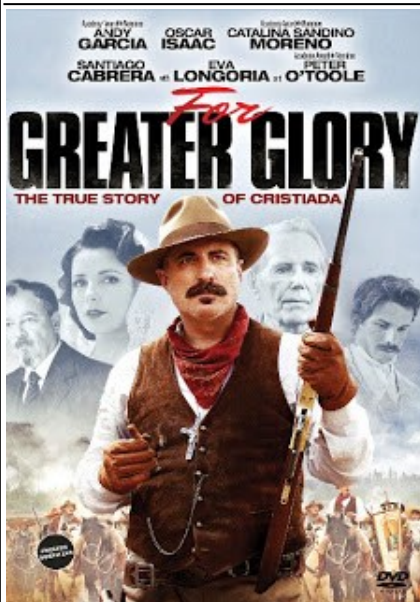
You were taught to share when you were only two years old. When did you forget? That rule still applies. Share with those who are less fortunate than you. Share your joy with those who need encouragement. Share your laughter with those who haven't heard any in such a long time. Share your tears with those who have forgotten how to cry. Share your faith with those who have none.

8. BE PATIENT

I managed to fix it so in just one lifetime you could have so many diverse experiences. You grow from a child to an adult, have children, change jobs many times, learn many trades, travel to so many places, meet thousands of people, and experience so much. How can you be so impatient then when it takes me a little longer than you expect to handle something on my to-do-list? Trust in my timing, for my timing is perfect. Just because I created the entire universe in only six days, everyone thinks I should always rush, rush, rush.

9. BE KIND

Be kind to others, for I love them just as much as I love you. They may not dress like you, or talk like you, or live the same way you do, but I still love you all. Please try to get along, for my sake. I created each of you different in some way. It would be too boring if you were all identical. Please know I love each of your differences.



Ho.T FILM NIGHT

Friday March 8th 7.30 pm - Join together to watch: □

Name of Movie PG

Bella is a powerful, moving, utterly unique story that will lift your spirits & capture your heart!

International soccer star "Eduardo Verastegui" is on his way to sign a multimillion dollar contract when a series of events unfold that brings his career to an abrupt end. Beautiful waitress "Tammy Blanchard", struggling to make it in New York City, discovers something about herself that she's unprepared for. In one irreversible moment, their lives are turned upside down ...until a simple gesture of kindness brings them both together, turning an ordinary day into an unforgettable experience

Tea and coffee provided. Come and enjoy a social evening!



Humble enough to be seen as Catholic/



A young man entered the coach of a train in a small university town in France. The ink was scarcely dry on his newly acquired diploma. As the train sped off for Paris, he took his seat in the rear of the coach near an elderly gentleman who seemed to be dozing. As the train suddenly lurched, a string of rosary beads fell from his hand. The young man picked up the rosary and handed it to the elderly gentleman with the remark, "I presume you are praying, sir?"

"You are right. I was praying." "I am surprised," said the young fellow, "that in this day and age there is someone who is still so benighted and superstitious. Our professors at the university do not believe in such things," and he proceeded to "enlighten" his elderly fellow-passenger.

The old man expressed surprise and amazement.

"Yes," continued the young man, "today enlightened people don't believe in such nonsense."

"You don't say!" replied the old man.

"Yes, sir, and if you wish, I can send you some illuminating books."

"Very well," said the old man, preparing to leave as the train came to a stop. "You may send them to

this address." He handed the young man a card, which read:

Louis Pasteur
Director of the Institute of Scientific Research
Paris

Yes, Louis Pasteur (1822-1895) an exceedingly great scientist, a devout Catholic, a Frenchman, a father...one of the great heroes of humanity.

Here is some of his work:

1848, Molecular Dissymmetry.
1857, Fermentations.
1862, So-called Spontaneous Generation.
1863, Studies in Wine.
1865, Diseases of Silk Worms.
1871, Studies in Beer.
1877, Virulent Microbic Diseases.
1880, Vaccinating Viruses.
1885, Prophylaxis of Rabies.

Pasteur's place among the masters of science is certain beyond cavil, and equally certain is it that he was till the end a faithful and fervent Catholic. In his later years he was in the habit of approaching the sacraments very frequently: "He gave up his soul to God at the last, clasp in his hands his little copper cross, and repeating fervently a confession of faith and hope." It is related that a student once asked him how it was that, after so much reflection and research, he could remain a believer. "It is just because I have thought and sought so much" replied Pasteur, "that I believe with the faith of a Breton peasant. If I had thought more and studied more I would have come to believe with

the faith of the Breton peasant's wife."

Pasteur once said:
"Posterity will one day laugh at the sublime foolishness of the modern materialistic philosophy. The more I study nature, the more I stand amazed at the work of the Creator. I pray while I am engaged at my work in the laboratory."

Listen, O Catholic Scientists! Hear this great man. Are you carrying - and using - your rosary? Are you ready to speak about this matter? Or have you been too devoted to your work to forget these words which Pasteur took to heart:

Seek ye therefore first the kingdom of God, and his justice, and all these things shall be added unto you. [Mt 6:33]

Perhaps if you do, your name too will be as ubiquitous as Pasteur.



A Quote from Louis Pasteur

“When I approach a child, he inspires in me two sentiments; tenderness for what he is, and respect for what he may become.”

The West Wagga Wag

West Wagga Parish



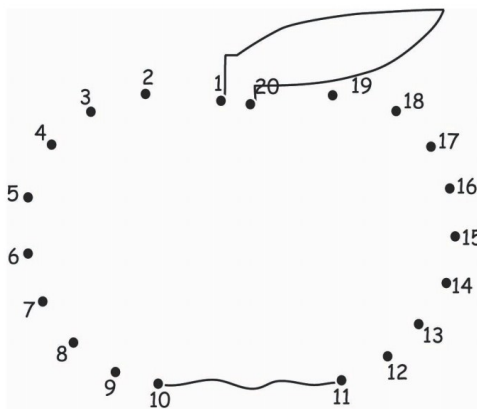
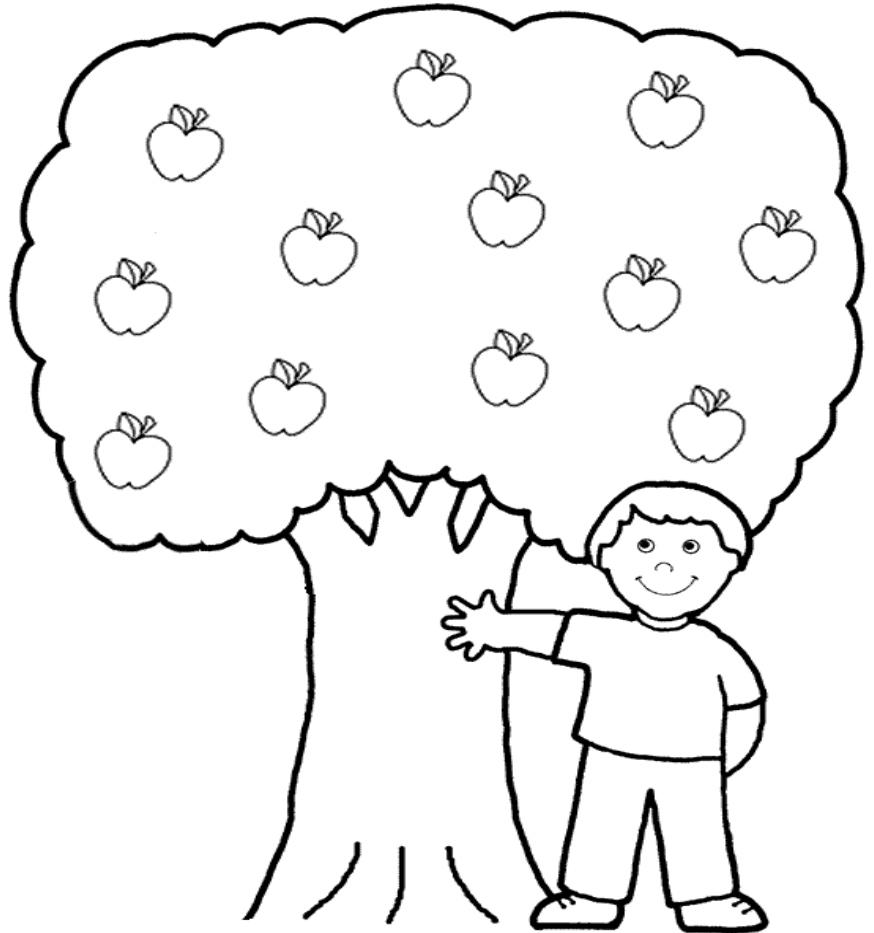
Serving: Ashmont,
Collingullie,
Glenfield, Lloyd,
and San Isidore



The Parable of the Fig Tree

" 'Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it. If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.' "

Luke 13:8-9 (NIV)



U S B F E R T I L I Z E T T A
 Y Q N D O W N O W L U O V Z T
 B A R N T P H T C E S L I I R
 R U F L H A A O S A E U N M E
 Z E R A R R S L Y V Q W E A X
 J F U B E A J D H E A P Y K N
 S B I X E B Y O F T P L A T U
 P J T G T L V E S O I L R O L
 A W R Q P E J J A H T R D J P
 T L C G C U T F O R U P F K Z
 X R O F I N D Q I F S M O G S
 P Y E N E A I S V A E O F N Q
 M O S E E M G Q B Z L R H S L
 D A P L A N T E D N L X V J D
 K Z N L U L G S B O L U C W M

YEARS
DOWN
PLANTED
FERTILIZE
THREE
FIND
USE

LOOK
VINEYARD
SOIL
PARABLE
LEAVE
MAN
ALONE

FRUIT
TOLD
FIG
CUT
TREE
DIG