

The West Wagga Wag

Issue 173

July 2017

Coming Events

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Holy Trinity

- 6 to 7am daily;

- overnight from 9pm Friday through to 7am Saturdays

Corpus Christi	Sun 18
St Thomas the Apostle	Mon 3
St Maria Goretti	Thurs 6
St Benedict	Tues 11
St Mary Magdalene	Sat 22
St James the Apostle	Tues 25
Sts Joachim and Ann	Wed 26
St Ignatius of Loyola	Mon 31



Our Lady of Fatima

Third Apparition

July 13 1917

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The date for submissions for the next Wag is: Wednesday July 2nd.

1000th meeting of Our Lady of Fatima Praesidium, Legion of Mary!



In this Centenary year of the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary at Fatima, the West Wagga Wagga Parish is celebrating the Legion of Mary group called **Our Lady of Fatima Praesidium** which commemorated its 1000th meeting on January 18, 2017. The Legion apostolate has been an integral part of the parish mission.

The original title of the first Praesidium in the West Wagga Parish was Our Lady of Perpetual Help. When parishioners asked for a praesidium to be re-founded in West Wagga Wagga in December 2003 after some years of retirement, it was decided that the West Wagga Wagga and South Wagga Wagga parishes would unite with an existing praesidium from the South Wagga Wagga Parish. Its title was our Lady of Fatima Praesidium.

The present members include president Mrs Patricia Danvers, and secretary Mrs Joan Tilden, Craig Lennon, and Stephanie Vineburg. Past members include Mr Tom Horrocks, Mrs Heather Letchford, Maria Venagas, Mrs Rosa Sulaman, and Anna Pratelli. Fr Arthur Givney CCS was this Praesidium's first spiritual director, followed by Frs Thomas Casanova CCS, Gerard Ryan CCS and Ron Donoghue CCS. Fr Gerard continues as spiritual director.



The Legion of Mary is an association of dedicated persons serving under the blessed Virgin Mary, our Queen and mother. It is one of the largest organisations of lay people involved in apostolic works in the Catholic Church, with well over 3 million active members. It has been in Australia since 1932.

All Catholics are welcome to participate in the merits, benefits, and graces of being a part of the Legion of Mary which meets in the parish each Wednesday evening at 7 PM. The Parish congratulates the members of Our Lady of Fatima Praesidium in the Centenary Year of 2017.

A special thanks to the teachers and parents who put in so much work to prepare the children

First Holy Communion!

Holy Trinity Primary School students, St Michael's Cathedral, Sunday 25 June.

A special thanks to the teachers and parents who put in so much work to prepare the children.



pastor's page - Holy Communion



Last week our parish had the great joy of seeing children receive Jesus in Holy Communion for the first time. We pray that every time they receive Jesus, it will be with greater and greater Faith and Love. If we really understood what an amazing privilege it is to receive Jesus - Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity - in the Most Blessed Eucharist, we would have just as big a celebration every time, and we would try never to miss a Mass, even daily, let alone Sunday Mass.

A great example and patron of devotion to Jesus in Holy Communion is St Peter Julian Eymard. He founded the Blessed Sacrament Fathers in the 1800's. In the centre of Melbourne you will find one of their churches, a beautiful church with the Most Blessed Sacrament visible for Adoration all day. St Peter was remarkable when he was a child. One day when he was five his sister Marianne could not find him. Finally she tried the church near their home and found that he had climbed up next to the Tabernacle. She asked what he was doing there. He answered, "I am near Jesus and I am listening to Him."

As he grew older St Peter Julian desired to receive communion but knew he had to wait until he reached the age of twelve years to do so. In the meantime, he would go to Mass with his sister and, when she returned from receiving communion, would sit close to her and put his head on her chest saying, 'Godmother! I can feel his presence.'

On the evening before his first holy communion, he wrote a little book of Acts in the presence of Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. The sixth act was the guiding light of his life: 'My dear Jesus, I give

myself to You as you have given Yourself to me.' " On the following morning, Passion Sunday, March 16, 1823, he had the happiness of receiving Jesus for the first time. He immediately told Jesus, 'I shall be a priest, I promise You!'

He wrote of St Joseph, *Words cannot express the perfection of his adoration. If Saint John leaped in the womb at the approach of Mary, what feelings must have coursed through Joseph during those six months when he had at his side and under his very eyes the hidden God! ... can we doubt that Joseph must often have adored Jesus hidden in the pure tabernacle of Mary? How fervent that adoration must have been: My Lord and my God, behold your servant! No one can describe the adoration of this noble soul. He saw nothing, yet he believed... So likewise with you! Under the veil of the Sacred Species your faith must see our Lord. Ask St. Joseph for his Lively, constant faith.*

St. Joseph worshipped Jesus as no saint before had done. From his deep, calm soul he poured out a very ocean of love - tenderest love, humblest love ... No angel might love Jesus as Joseph loved Him, as Joseph was bound to love Him. No temporal love but Mary's could be more like an eternal love than the love of Joseph for the Child, because of its likeness to the love of the everlasting Father. Aside from the Blessed Virgin, Saint Joseph was the first and most perfect adorer of Our Lord.

And St Peter wrote of Mary, *Mary devoted herself exclusively to the Eucharistic Glory of Jesus. She knew that it was the desire of the Eternal Father to make the Eucharist known, loved and served by all men; that need of Jesus' Heart was to communicate to all men His gifts of grace and glory. She knew, too, that it was the mission of the Holy Spirit to extend and perfect in the hearts of men, the reign of Jesus Christ, and that the Church had been founded only to give Jesus to the world.*

All Mary's desire, then, was to make Him known in His Sacrament. Her intense love for Jesus felt the need of expanding in this way, of

consecrating itself - as a kind of relief, as it were - because of her own inability to glorify Him as much as she desired.

Ever since Calvary, all men were her children. She loved them with a Mother's tenderness and longed for their supreme good as for her own; therefore, she was consumed with the desire to make Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament known to all, to inflame all hearts with His love, to see them enchained to His loving service.

*To obtain this favour, Mary passed her time at the foot of the Most Adorable Sacrament, in prayer and penance. There she treated the world's salvation. In her boundless zeal, she embraced the needs of the faithful everywhere, for all time to come, who would inherit the Holy Eucharist and be Its adorers... Her prayers converted countless souls, and as every conversion is the fruit of prayer, and since Mary's prayer could meet no refusal, the Apostles had in this Mother of Mercy their most powerful helper. **"Blessed is he for whom Mary prays!"***

Eucharistic adorers share Mary's life and mission of prayer at the foot of the Most Blessed Sacrament. It is the most beautiful of all missions, and it holds no perils. ... It is, moreover, the most necessary to the Church, which has even more need of prayerful souls than of powerful preachers; of men of penance rather than men of eloquence. Today more than ever have we need of men who, by their self-immolation, disarm the anger of God inflamed by the ever increasing crimes of nations. We must have souls who by their importunity re-open the treasures of grace which the indifference of the multitude has closed. ... When there are many such souls around their Divine Chief, God will be glorified, Jesus will be loved, and society will once more become Christian ...

May St Peter Julian Eymard pray for all in our parish that our faith in Jesus in the Eucharist may grow, and no less our love.

Fr Thomas Casanova CCS

July Jokes



The Amazing Pig with a Peg Leg

Two farmers, John and Henry, were sitting around talking about their day when John notices a pig with a wooden leg hobbling across the front yard. He turned to his friend and asks, "Henry, why does that pig have a wooden leg?"

"Well, John, that pig..." his eyes mist up, "That pig's mighty special! A few weeks back a wild boar attacked me while I was in the woods. That pig there came a runnin', went after that boar and fought him off. Saved my life!"

"And the boar tore up his leg?"

"No, just got a few scratches, nothing too serious. But that night the barn caught fire. That ol' pig started squealin' like he was stuck, woke us up, and before we got out here, the darn thing had herded the other animals out of the barn and saved them all!"

"Ahh so that's when he hurt his leg?"

"No, John, the next day my tractor hit a rock and rolled down the hill into the pond. I got knocked clean out. When I came to, that pig had dove into the pond and dragged me out...but that's not how he hurt his leg. Oh no, no, he was fine. Cleaned him up real nice, too."

"Okay, Henry. So just tell me. How did he lose his leg?"

"Well", Henry begins to explain, "A pig that amazing...you don't want to eat all at once."

Did you hear about the pig with laryngitis? He was disgruntled.

What do you call someone who steals pigs? A ham-burglar.

I've got a really bad case of pig flu. I must have had it for a weeeeeeeeeeeek now!

What do you call a pig that's wrong? Mistaken bacon.

Two explorers are lost in the desert. They've been wandering around aimlessly for days and they're close to death.

They are close to just lying down and waiting for the inevitable, when all of a sudden one of them sees something ahead in the distance.

He shouts, "A bacon tree, a bacon tree!" and rushes off towards it as fast as his weakened body will allow.

The second explorer follows him.

With renewed strength, they struggle on through the dunes until at last they get near to the tree.

They can see it's full of every kind of pig meat you can imagine - fried bacon, back bacon, smoked bacon and more.

The first explorer shouts, "We're saved, we're saved!"

The second explorer says, "Wait - are you sure it's not just a mirage? We are in the desert after all."

The first explorer says, "Just smell that bacon - have you ever heard of a mirage that smelled of bacon?"

And so he runs to the tree with the second explorer following a few paces behind.

Just as he gets near it, there's a burst of machine gun fire and the first explorer falls to the ground, mortally wounded.

With his last breath, he warns the second explorer, "Get back! You were right. It's not a bacon tree. It's a ham-bush!"

What do you call a pig with a rash? Ham and eczema.

How do pigs write secret messages? They use invisible oink.

What do you call a pig who drives recklessly? A road hog.

What do you call a pig with skin problems? A wart-hog.

What do you call a laundromat for pigs? The Hogwash.

How do pigs get to the hospital? In ham-bulances.

Why can't you play basketball with pigs? Because they hog the ball.

A guy unfortunately loses both of his ears in an accident at work.

The surgeon tells him there are no human transplant ears available but they have one dog's ear and one pig's ear they can transplant if he wants.

The guy isn't very happy about this but soon realizes it's better than being deaf, so he agrees to go ahead with the operation.

A month later, he goes back to the hospital for a check up and the surgeon asks him how he is getting on with his new ears.

The guy says, "Well, the dog ear is fantastic - I can hear for miles and no-one ever talks behind my back any more."

The surgeon asks, "Great! And what about the pig's ear?"

The guy says, "Well to be honest, it's not so good. I seem to be getting a lot of crackling in it."

Exercise for people over 60

Begin by standing on a comfortable surface, where you have plenty of room at each side.

With a 2kg potato bag in each hand, extend your arms straight out from your sides and hold them there as long as you can. Try to reach a full minute, and then relax.

Each day you'll find that you can hold this position for just a bit longer.

After a couple of weeks, move up to 5 kg potato bags. Then try 20kg potato bags and eventually try to get to where you can lift a 50kg potato bag in each hand and hold your arms straight for more than a full minute. (I'm at this level.)

After you feel confident at that level, put a potato in each bag.



Harry Potter, wrong model of a hero, Vatican newspaper says

Catholic News Agency, 2008



J.K. Rowling's successful character Harry Potter is the wrong model of a hero, says the Vatican daily *L'Osservatore Romano* in its Monday-Tuesday edition.

In an article signed by Edoardo Rialti, *L'Osservatore* says that many have tried to establish a parallel between Rowling's main character and "the great fantasy masterpieces of John Ronald Reuel Tolkien and Clive Staples Lewis, the Christian authors of the most beloved fables of the 20th Century."

Rialti says that despite the "superficially apparent common points" between Harry Potter and the heroes in Tolkien's and Lewis' stories, Rowling "transmits a vision of the world and the human being full of deep mistakes and dangerous suggestions, even more seductive since it is mixed with half-truths and compelling storytelling."

The author recalls Tolkien's essays about fables, in which he says that "fables can depart from the physical world and the universe created, but not from the moral order: we can imagine a universe

illuminated by a green sun, but we cannot bulk to the temptation of presenting as positive a reality in which the moral and spiritual structure are inverted or confused, a world in which evil is good."

"And this is exactly what happens in Harry Potter," *L'Osservatore* says. "Despite several positive values that can be found in the story, at the foundations of this tale is the proposal that of witchcraft as positive, the violent manipulation of things and people thanks to the knowledge of the occult, an advantage of a select few: the ends justify the means because the knowledgeable, the chosen ones, the intellectuals know how to control the dark powers and turn them into good."

"This" –the article continues– "is a grave and deep lie, because it is the old Gnostic temptation of confusing salvation and truth with a secret knowledge."

L'Osservatore admits that Harry Potter is "rich in Christian values," for example, "he is an industrious and scientific magician."

"But the main characters of the great fables never become magicians, and the seductive power of magic has always had grave and destructive consequences: the stories of Tolkien and Lewis describe the rejection of magic and power, not of a certain magic and a certain power, but of power and magic as such."

Therefore, the author of the article argues, "There is nothing more antithetical to Harry Potter than Tolkien's young Frodo or Lewis'

Pevensie siblings."

Tolkien and Lewis portray "the extraordinary discovery of true Christianity, for which the main character of history is not an exceptional human being, like in the ancient paganism or in today's ideologies, but a person who says yes to the initiatives of God's mysteries."

Instead, *L'Osservatore* says, "Harry Potter shows a pale disregard for the 'muggles', the common human beings who do not have magic."

In Rowling's stories "we are told that, at the end, some things are not bad in themselves, if used for a good purpose: violence becomes good, if in the right hands and [used by] the right people, and maybe in the right dose."

Thus, "Harry Potter proposes a wrong and malicious image of the hero, an unreligious one, which is even worst that an explicitly anti-religious proposition." In the Bible, the Devil "never says 'there is no God', but presents instead the seductive proposition: 'you will be like God'".

The article concludes by saying that "More relevant than ever is the judgment expressed by the then Cardinal Ratzinger to the series of critical articles written by the German journalist Gabriele Kuby about Harry Potter: 'It is good, that you enlighten people about Harry Potter, because those are subtle seductions, which act unnoticed and by this deeply distort Christianity in the soul, before it can grow properly'".

**"What do you get when
you combine a joke
with a rhetorical
question?"**



Bishops and politicians consecrate Church in Poland to Immaculate Heart of Mary

Poland’s bishops consecrated the Church in the country to the Immaculate Heart of Mary on Tuesday [6th June] in the presence of the president and prime minister.

Archbishop Stanisław Gądecki, president of the Polish Bishops’ Conference, celebrated the Mass at the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in Zakopane, at which clergy and



country will also perform the consecration on September 8, the feast of the Nativity of Mary.

In November, President Duda was also present when the country’s bishops proclaimed Christ as King of Poland in November last year.



faithful pledged to defend marriage, protect the rights of the unborn and resist “moral decay”.

The Mass was attended by president Andrzej Duda, prime minister Beata Szydło, members of the government, MPs and representatives from local government.

Each diocese and parish in the



Poland - free from the Islamist attacks happening in other European countries

Catholic who died saving a woman’s life at London Bridge hailed as a hero



Ignacio Echeverria, who died trying to help a woman being attacked by terrorists at London Bridge, was a committed Mass-goer who always stood up for the weak, his friends and family have said.

Mr Echeverria, 39, was among eight people killed in the attack on Saturday. Early reports said he had gone to a woman’s aid using his skateboard as a weapon.

His sister Isabel said on social media: “My brother Ignacio tried to stop the terrorists and lost his life trying to save others.”

The Spanish prime minister Mariano Rajoy said he would be remembered for his “heroic and exemplary behaviour” and has asked that he be awarded an order of civil merit.

His brother Joaquin told the Spanish El Mundo newspaper that he never missed a Sunday Mass. A friend told

another paper that he had belonged to a group of young Catholics who had met weekly in Madrid and that he always stood up for the weakest. “When we were young, if he saw that someone was picking on a child in a bar, he came out in his defence,” the friend said.

Another friend, Rafael Duarte, noted that an uncle of his was a missionary bishop in Peru. Bishop Antonio Hornedo of Chachapoyas, who died in 2006, was a Jesuit who has a plaque in his honour in the town of Comillas.

In London Mr Echeverria worked for HSBC’s anti-money laundering team. Mr Duarte said: “He was an indefatigable worker and he did not hesitate to confront the bosses if he wasn’t happy with something ... He helped those who were marginalised.”

posted Thursday, 8 Jun 2017

Friends say that Ignacio Echeverria, who attacked a terrorist with a skateboard, was deeply committed to his faith

[God making a platypus]
 Angel: what’s that?
 God: Part duck part beaver.
 Angel: Oh

God: it lays eggs
 Angel: I see
 God: It’s poisonous!
 Angel: ... Australia then?



Christian Soccer Player Refuses To Wear Gay Pride Jersey, Withdraws From National Team



Jun 08, 2017 by Will Maule

Christian soccer player Jaelene Hinkle has withdrawn herself from the U.S. soccer team after it was announced that the squad would be wearing rainbow coloured 'gay pride' jerseys in their upcoming game. She cited "personal reasons" for her refusal to play, according to The Christian Post.

The star proudly declares Colossians 3:23 on her Twitter which says: "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men." "If you live for people's acceptance, you'll die from their rejection," the tagline also

notes on her profile.

Hinkle also notably converted a gay pride logo into a celebration of the cross on Instagram the same day the Supreme Court ruled in favour of same-sex marriage in 2015 while sharing her opinion on the decision.

"Jesus didn't come to save those who already believed in Him. He came so that the lost, rejected, and abandoned men and women would find Him and believe. I believe with every fiber in my body that what was written 2,000 years ago in the Bible is undoubtedly true. It's not a fictional book. It's not a pick and choose what you want to believe. You either believe it, or you don't. This world may change, but Christ and His Word NEVER will," she declared.

"My heart is that as Christians we don't begin to throw a tantrum over what has been brought into law today, but we become that much more loving. That through our love,

the lost, rejected, and abandoned find Christ."

Then, she explained the true Biblical meaning of the rainbow symbol. "The rainbow was a covenant made between God and all His creation that never again would the world be flooded as it was when He destroyed the world during Noah's time."

"It's a constant reminder that no matter how corrupt this world becomes, He will never leave us or forsake us. Thank you Lord for Your amazing grace, even during times of trial and confusion," she said.

"Love won over 2,000 years ago when the greatest sacrifice of all time was made for ALL mankind."



Today's "Christians" want a costless faith. They want a Saviour but they don't want a Lord. They want to redefine what's wrong instead of defending what's right.

This woman did the loving thing and she's hated for it. She refused to support a movement that stands in opposition to God's Word.

Jesus said it best, "Remember the word that I said to you, 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you." You can call yourself Christian until you're blue in the face, but until what you do lines up with what He says, you're walking in a fairy tale faith.



Dale Partridge

'Only in the mystery of Christ's Redemption do we discover the "concrete" possibilities of man.

"It would be a very serious error to conclude... that the Church's teaching is essentially only an "ideal" which must then be

adapted, proportioned, graduated to the so-called concrete possibilities of man, according to a "balancing of the goods in question".

"But what are the "concrete possibilities of man"? And of which man are we speaking? Of man

dominated by lust or of man redeemed by Christ? This is what is at stake: the reality of Christ's redemption. ..."

Saint John Paul II, Veritatis Splendor 103 from CHAPTER III - "LEST THE CROSS OF CHRIST BE EMPTIED OF ITS POWER"

Do you know what ‘meek’ of ‘meek and humble of heart’ really means?

Elizabeth Pardi

My notion of what Christians are called to be was completely off.

A friend of mine once told me her agnostic sister-in-law had opened the Bible for the first time and happened to land on Matthew 5:5, “Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.”

Irritated, she shut the book, convinced that her suspicions about Christianity ultimately favouring weak, blindly submissive individuals had been confirmed.

There was once a time when I couldn’t have agreed more with her. My notion of the ideal Christian – presumably a person fitting the description of meek – was someone who meagrely followed a set of rules they didn’t really understand and consistently maintained a monotonous disposition.

I assumed that qualities like passion, self-confidence and playfulness were in direct opposition to meekness and other such characteristics that Christians were called to emulate.

Even after I began practicing the faith, I was still put off by the word meek and everything I believed it to entail.

It wasn’t until I heard a talk by Fr. John Riccardo that I realized how misled I had been.

In explaining the original meaning of the term meek, Fr. Riccardo explained that the word as people tend to recognize it today is not at all how it was intended when used by Jesus in Matthew 5:5 and 11:29 or by St. Paul in 2 Corinthians 10:1.

“Meek” was translated from the Greek word “praus” (pronounced prah-oos), which is a military term referring to a horse. As writer Sam Whatley explains in a *River Region’s Journey* article, “Wild stallions were brought down from the mountains and [trained.]”

Depending on their temperament, some were used for tasks like pulling carts and others were used for racing. The finest stallions, however, would be trained for war.

“They retained their fierce spirit, courage, and power, but were disciplined to respond to the slightest nudge or pressure of the rider’s leg,” Whatley writes. “They could gallop into battle ... and come to a sliding stop at a word. They were not frightened by arrows, spears, or torches. Then they were said to be meeked.”

As Fr. Riccardo explained, meek in the sense that biblical writers meant it refers to strength that is under control. It’s strength that knows



when to assert itself and when to be passive, as opposed to reacting purely out of emotion. It’s strength that can effectively defend itself and what it values, all the while knowing that it, in itself, is not in control but is instead a capable and crucial instrument of the one who is.

When I heard this description of meek, clearly portraying neither a blind follower nor a passionless coward, it became clear why we are instructed to strive for such a characteristic. Anything else is either taking matters wholly into our own hands, inevitably leading to disaster, or washing our hands completely of any responsibility, thus deeming ourselves powerless.

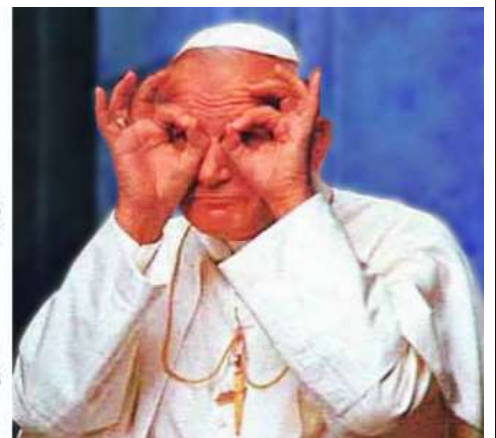
In reality, like the warrior upon his warhorse, our relationship with God is meant to be a cooperation in which he holds the power. It is his far surpassing intellect and preparedness that guides the path, and our trained ability to remain in tune with his direction that enables us to walk it.

‘It is urgent then that Christians should rediscover the newness of the faith and its power to judge a prevalent and all-intrusive culture. As the Apostle Paul admonishes us: “... Take no part in the unfruitful words of darkness, but instead expose them... [Eph 5:11]”

Veritatis Splendor 88

**Judging
right and wrong
with Gosepl eyes**

**St John Paul II’s
VERITATIS SPLENDOR**



The West Wagga Wag

West Wagga Parish



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



Find the words below hidden in the 225 letters to the right.

SACRIFICE	HAND
OFFERING	KNIFE
ABRAHAM	WOOD
SERVANTS	ALTAR
WORSHIP	LOVE
DONKEY	FEAR
BURNT	FIRE
THICKET	LAMB
HORNS	RAM
ISAAC	SON

Abraham Is Tested

Abraham answered, "God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." Genesis 22:8a (NIV)



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