

The West Wagga Wag

Issue 200

November 2019

Coming Events

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Holy Trinity

- 6 to 7am daily;
- overnight from 9pm Friday through to 7am Saturdays

Monthly Cuppa, after 9am Mass on last Sunday of the month.

St Charles Borromeo	Mon 4
Dedication of the Lateran Basilica	Sat 9
St Martin of Tours	Mon 11
St Margaret of Scotland	Sat 16
Dedication of the Basilicas of Ss Peter and Paul	Mon 18
The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Thu 21
St Cecilia	Fri 22
Christ the King	Sun 24
St Andrew, Apostle	Sat 30



Inside this issue:

<i>Planes, Trains & Automobiles</i>	3
<i>Drought prayer campaign</i>	4
<i>St John Bosco's approach</i>	6
<i>Kids' Page</i>	8

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The date for submissions for the next Wag is: **Wednesday Nov 27th.**

Church Triumphant, Militant and Suffering

November is Holy Souls month.

But November starts with the celebration on the first of November of All Saints day, of those who make up the Church Triumphant in Heaven.

And November continues with a call to us, the Church Militant, to help our brothers and sisters in purgatory by our prayers.

Watch and listen out for the Holy Souls parish activities you can join in during November



Immaculata Mission Team

Thanks to all who helped with and took part in the Immaculata Mission Team visit to our parish on Friday 25th of October!

We had a great time of fellowship, fun, food and fervent prayer.

Unplanned movie

What a great turn out to see the pro-life movie of the true story of Abby Johnson!

Thanks to those who contributed to advertising, invited others to come, shouted tickets and gave lifts to help as many people see and be impacted by this great witness to life!

UNPLANNED

FORUM 6 CINEMA WAGGA

HOST UNPLANNED WAGGA
WEDNESDAY 6TH OCTOBER 6:30 PM FORUM 6 CINEMA WAGGA
\$10.00 (incl. GST) \$2.00 (incl. GST) \$2.00 (incl. GST)

THIS SCREENING IS CONFIRMED
Screening happened already! Missed out?
Email your friend to see

TICKETS SOLD
206

TICKETS AVAILABLE
44

TIME LEFT TO BUY
00:00:00:00

PLAY TRAILER

UNPLANNED

PASTOR'S PAGE - CONCERNED CATHOLICS AND THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS



Recently, news was shared of an American lady who suffered terrible imprisonment and torture at the hands of ISIS before she died as a martyr, holding firm to her faith in Jesus Christ. Not only did she keep the faith, but also was given the gift of peace that could only have come from God. She even shared that peace in a letter smuggled to her family by another prisoner.

Kayla Mueller wrote,

"I remember mom always telling me that all in all in the end the only one you really have is God. I have come to a place in experience where, in every sense of the word, I have surrendered myself to our creator because literally there was no else. + by God + by your prayers I have felt tenderly cradled in freefall...I have been shown in darkness, light + have learned that even in prison, one can be free. I am grateful.

"I have come to see that there is good in every situation, sometimes we just have to look for it... I pray each day that if nothing else, you have felt a certain closeness + surrender to God as well + have formed a bond of love + support amongst one another.

"Please be patient, give your pain to God. I know you would want me to remain strong. That is exactly what I am doing... Do not fear for me, continue to pray as will I + by God's will we will be together soon."

This is the language of Faith, Hope and Love, the language of the saints. It points to the grace which unites us to God and to each other.

In November we celebrate the Saints in heaven, including all those who have not been canonized; and we remember with love and prayers the Holy Souls, the people who have died loving God imperfectly and are being purified, getting ready for the perfect happiness of our everlasting home. We need also to remember that together with these two groups we form the Kingdom of God, the family of grace. We are united to them and to each other by Faith and Baptism, joined in the love of God.

Sometimes this unity of grace is disturbed by the failings of different members of the Church. Even the Apostles had arguments, and Jesus told them in response, "unless you become like little children, you cannot enter the Kingdom of God." I would imagine that any disputes and divisions between members of the Church would become very small in the face of an attack like that of ISIS. The external dangers of atheism, anarchy, anti-life and anti-family movements etc. should help us stick together.

A group calling itself "Concerned Catholics" recently came into Wagga. The problem is that this group has among its aims to change some of the structure, sacraments and teachings of the Church which was founded by Jesus, rather than simply helping us live the life of the Church as Jesus gave it.

Of course it is right for us to be concerned for building up the Kingdom of God, and facing with courage problems in the Church. Following the parable of Jesus, we should seek to remove the plank from our own eye before removing the splinter from the eye of another. We should also follow the Gospel

pattern of confronting a person at fault face to face; then with another friend; then with the whole community. The Pope and Bishops have a special responsibility to tackle sins of abuse and heresy by leaders; and also to help everyone carry out the two great missions given by Jesus: for us to be holy; and to share Christ's light with the world.

We love the Church; we are so grateful to God for giving us the blessings which come from the Catholic Church: here we can know for certain what God has taught us about Himself, about redemption, and about what is morally right and wrong; here we have the Presence of God in the Word and in the Sacraments; here Christ who is Prophet, Priest and King teaches, blesses and guides us through His gift of the Priesthood. From when we were baptised till the time of our death, the Church is there to help us on our journey into eternal life.

So we can have great confidence in God's own plan in establishing the Church and His promise to be with us always, even to the end of the world, and to guide us into all truth. The problems come not from the teachings, structure or sacraments of the Church but from the weakness of its members. Our concern should be for the members of the Church to be more faithful, but not to change the Church from what God wants us to be. We look to the Sacred Scriptures (i.e. the Bible), the Councils of the Church and the Saints to better understand what it means to be Catholic, and we are guided in this today by the Pope and Bishops who are appointed, ordained and guided by the Holy Spirit. Hopefully the Holy Spirit will give us a Bishop for Wagga soon! We pray in trust.

Fr Thomas Casanova
ccs

November Jokes



Planes

Just saw an aircraft made of bubbly chocolate. Think it was an aeroplane.

Bought a new plane the other day. Disappointed that they wouldn't let me keep the hangar.

A friend has bought an old plane, taken the wings off, and turned it into a restaurant. I don't think it will take off.

Asked for some helicopter crisps in the local shop. Didn't have any. Had to make do with plane.

Was on a really cramped plane the other week. Ended up with jet leg.

Was given haggis as an in flight meal once. I've had bad food before, but that was plane offal.

Two wrongs don't make a right. But two Wrights can make a plane.

Saw an aircraft with no branding. It was quite plane.

A young guy in a two-engine fighter was flying escort for a B-52 and generally being a nuisance, acting like a hotdog, flying rolls around the lumbering old bomber. The hotdog said over the air, "Anything you can do, I can do better." The veteran bomber pilot answered, "Try this hot-shot."

The B-52 continued its flight, straight and level. Perplexed, the hotdog asked, "So? What did you do?"

"I just shut down two engines, kid."

Trains

A few years ago, I decided to visit my sister who was living in France. I assumed that most French would speak English. I found that many people spoke only their own language and this included the ticket inspector on the train. He punched my ticket, then chatted cordially for a bit, making several expansive gestures. I simply nodded from time to time to show him that I was interested.

When he had gone, an American tourist, also on the train, leaned forward and asked if I spoke French.

'No', I admitted.

'Then that explains', she said, 'why you didn't bat an eyelid when he told you that you were on the wrong train.'



Someone has stolen my steam train. They must have had the means, the opportunity, and the locomotive.

Never liked the troll who lives under the local railway bridge. He's my arch enemy.

I asked a train engineer how many times his train had derailed. He said, "I'm not sure, it's hard to keep track."

Ticket inspectors. You've got to hand it to them...

How would you work out how heavy a whale is? You would take it to a whale weigh station....

How do trains hear?
(Through their engine-ears!)

Automobiles

What's worse for traffic than when it's foggy? When it's hailing taxis.

My friend always went the extra mile at work. That's why he lost his job as a taxi driver.

Another friend quit his job as a taxi driver. He got fed up with people telling him where to go.

What would you call the USA if everyone had a pink car?
(A pink car-nation!)

A friend had an interview for a job at a local taxi company. He turned up twenty minutes late, and the chap interviewing him said "the job's yours."

A chap I know gave up his job as a taxi driver. He kept driving his customers away.

What has four wheels and flies?
(A garbage truck!)

What did the tornado say to the sports car? (Want to go for a spin!)

What part of the car is the laziest?
(The wheels, because they are always tired!)

So there's this snail, and he's really tired of being slow, so he goes to the nearest Renault dealer and buys one. He has them paint a big red S on the side, (for Snail) so everyone will see him and, marvelling at his new speedier lifestyle, exclaim "Look at that S-car-go!"





Catholic Church announces national drought prayer campaign

Media Release

October 23, 2019

The Catholic Church in Australia is dedicating the month of November as a time to pray for those affected by crippling drought conditions and to pray for the gift of rain.

Parishes, schools, families and other Catholic communities across the country are being encouraged to participate in the National Prayer Campaign for Drought, which also invites people to provide assistance to those most in need.

The Bureau of Meteorology says that, on some measures, the current drought is the worst in 100 years or more, with most parts of Australia's eastern states declared to be in drought.

Bishop Columba Macbeth-Green OSPPE from Wilcannia-Forbes oversees a diocese that covers about half of New South Wales, including some of the most drought-affected areas in the country.

He said the month of prayer is an additional response to the local work being done in affected communities.

Prayer

Eternal God,

In wisdom and love
you created our earth
to sustain us and give us life.

We turn to you now
in faith, hope and love,
asking you to look with favour
on our drought-stricken land,
on our starving animals,
on our failing crops.

Strengthen, sustain and give new heart
to our farmers
and to all who are affected by
drought;
be with those who support them.

In your loving providence,
send abundant rain
and restore our parched earth.

Father of all compassion,
hear our prayer
through Jesus Christ your Son,
in whom the promise of new life
has dawned, and
through the power
of the Holy Spirit,
the Lord the giver of life:
Renew your faithful people;
Renew the face of the earth.

Our Lady of the Southern Cross,
Mary, help of Christians –
Pray for us.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop –
Pray for us.

15 Comforting Bible Verses for Troubled Times



There are so many terrible things occupying the headlines these days, it can be hard to wrap your head around them. When will the madness end?

The people who lived in Bible times were no strangers to atrocity. But many were also well acquainted with the character of God—a loving, protecting Father quick to console His people. He comforted them then and comforts us now.

Take a few moments to soak in these passages of Scripture and let them sustain you in the days ahead.

“The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?”

—Psalm 27:1

“It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.”

—Deuteronomy 31:8

“Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.”

—Psalm 23:4

“He sets on high those who are lowly, and those who mourn are lifted to safety.”

—Job 5:11

“The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.”

—Lamentations 3:22-23

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.”

—John 14:27

“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.”

—Psalm 46:1

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort.”

—2 Corinthians 1:3

“Let your steadfast love comfort me according to your promise to your servant.”

—Psalm 119:76

“I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

—John 16:33

“If I say, ‘Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light about me be night,’ even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you.”

—Psalm 139:11-12

“Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the Lord has comforted his people and will have compassion on his afflicted.”

—Isaiah 49:13

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.”

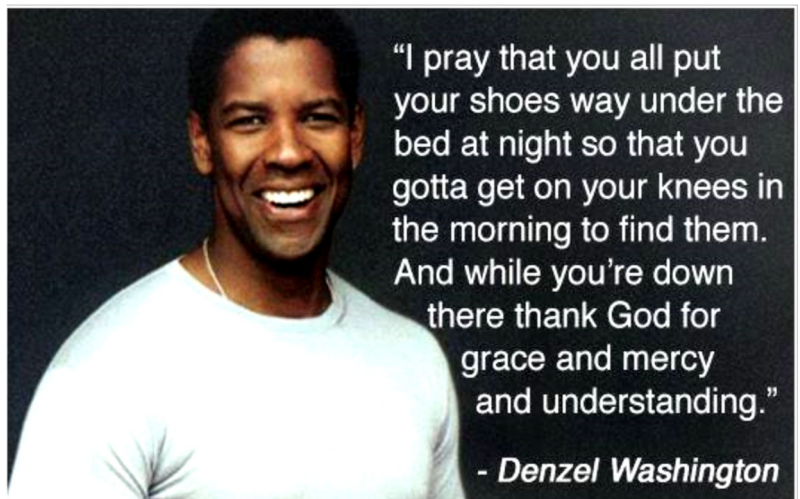
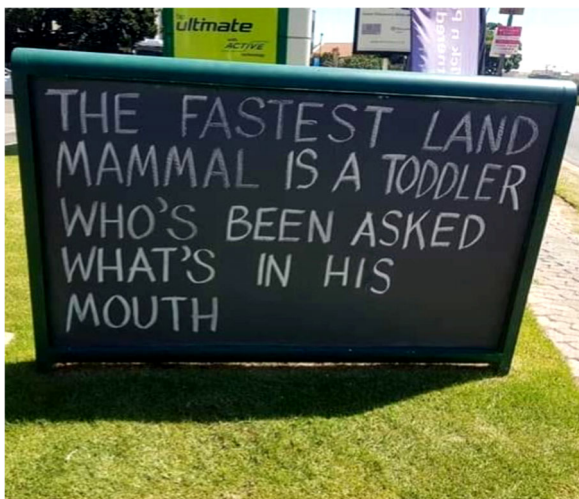
—Matthew 5:4

“Cast your burden on the Lord, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved.”

—Psalm 55:22

“No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

—Romans 8:37-39



“I pray that you all put your shoes way under the bed at night so that you gotta get on your knees in the morning to find them. And while you’re down there thank God for grace and mercy and understanding.”

— Denzel Washington

7 tips on how to discipline a child, from St John Bosco

Saint John Bosco's helpful advice for the weary parent or frustrated teacher - Philip Kosloski

One of the most challenging things about raising a child is knowing how, and when, to discipline. What is a parent (or teacher) to do when a kid knows the exact buttons to push for maximum challenge, and nothing seems to be working?

Meet Saint John Bosco. You may call him "Don," if you like.

Don Bosco knows precisely what you're going through, as he devoted his entire life to forming young rebellious boys. He took in hundreds of disadvantaged youth, educating them and exerting all of his energy towards turning these boys into upright men who would serve the greater good of society.

As his efforts grew, John Bosco needed the help of others. This meant forming new teachers, too.

In his letters to the teachers, John Bosco lays out a detailed "Preventive System" of education that seeks to dispose "the pupils to obey not from fear or compulsion, but from persuasion. In this system all force must be excluded, and in its place, charity must be the mainspring of action."

Here are seven tips that Saint John Bosco gave his teachers that are still relevant today and can help the weary parent or frustrated teacher guide children to the path of virtue.

1) Punishment should be your last resort.

In my long, career as an educator, how often this has been brought home to me! No doubt it is ten times easier to lose our patience than to control it, to threaten a boy than to persuade him. No doubt, too, it is much more gratifying- to our pride to punish those who resist us, than to bear them with firm kindness. St. Paul often lamented how some converts to the faith too easily returned to their inveterate habits; yet he bore it all with patience as zealous as it was

admirable. This is the kind of patience we need in dealing, with the young.

2) The educator must strive to make himself loved by his pupils, if he wishes to obtain their respect.

When he succeeds in doing this, the omission of some token of kindness is a punishment which rekindles emulation, revives courage and never degrades.

Every educator must make himself loved, if he wishes to be feared. He will attain this great end if he makes it clear by his words, and still more by his actions, that all his care and solicitude are directed towards the spiritual and temporal welfare of his pupils.

3) Except in very rare instances, corrections and punishments should not be given in public, but privately and apart from the others.

We should, therefore, correct them with the patience of a father. Never, as far as possible, correct in public, but in private, or as they say — in camera caritatis — apart from the others. Only in cases of preventing or remedying- serious scandal would I permit public corrections or punishments.

4) To strike one in any way, to make him kneel in a painful position, to pull his ears, and other similar punishments, must be absolutely avoided.

The law forbids them, and they greatly irritate the boys and lower the reputation of the educator.

5) The educator must see that the laws of discipline, and the rewards and punishments entailed, are made known to the pupil, so that no one can make the excuse that he did not know what was commanded or forbidden.

[In other words, children need boundaries and respond well to them. No one feels secure if flying blind, and they'll always crash.]



6) Be exacting when it is a matter of duty, firm in the pursuit of good, courageous in preventing evil, but always gentle and prudent. I assure you, real success can only come from patience.

Impatience merely disgusts the pupils and spreads discontent among the best of them. Long experience has taught me that patience is the only remedy for even the worst cases of disobedience and irresponsiveness among boys. Sometimes, after making many patient efforts without obtaining success, I deemed it necessary to resort to severe measures. Yet these never achieved anything, and in the end, I always found that charity finally triumphed where severity had met with failure. Charity is the cure-all though it may be slow in effecting its cure.

7) To be real fathers in dealing with the young, we must not allow the shadow of anger to darken our countenance.

If at times we are taken unawares, let the bright serenity of our minds immediately disperse the clouds of impatience. Self-control must rule our whole being-our mind, our heart, our lips. When someone is at fault, arouse sympathy in your heart and entertain hope in your mind for him; then you will correct him with profit.

In certain difficult moments, a humble prayer to God is much more useful than a violent outburst of anger. Your pupils will certainly draw no profit from your impatience; you will not be edifying anyone who may observe you.

Iranian official admits mass conversions from Islam to Christianity are “happening right before our eyes”

Iran’s Minister of Intelligence has warned a gathering of Shia Muslim leaders that mass conversions to Christianity are taking place right across the country.

According to Article 18, a nonprofit organisation that advocates religious freedom in Iran, Mahmoud Alavi told the Shia clerics who had gathered in Qom that mass conversions are “happening right before our eyes.”

Alavi went on to admit that he had summoned converts to Christianity for questioning, in violation of



Some Iranian converts.

Article 23 of Iran’s constitution, which states that “no-one may be molested or taken to task simply for holding a certain belief.”

“Some [of the converts] said they were looking for a religion that gives them peace,” Alavi said. “These converts are ordinary

people, whose jobs are selling sandwiches or similar things.”

Article 18’s Advocacy Director Mansour Borji said this is a “huge shift away from Iran’s usual rhetoric that converts are agents of the West who have undergone significant training to undermine national security.”

Astonishingly, this comes as British Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt revealed Christian persecution is close to “genocidal levels”, with Christians in some parts of the Middle East facing the possibility of extinction.

101 year old convert’s First Holy Communion



Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. At 101 years old, Dona Penha has seen quite a bit of life. But the centenarian experienced something new a three years ago, as she received her First Communion during Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel nursing home in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

For those who witnessed the occasion, it was a great testimony to the love of God.

“It was a very beautiful moment that showed us that it is never too late to receive the Eucharist, which for someone seeking God, neither time nor shame can prevent,” said

the administrative assistant of the nursing home, Josiane Ribeiro. She added that occasions like this help “reaffirm faith.”

Ribeiro told CNA that Dona Penha arrived about a year ago at the



nursing home, which is run by the Sisters of the Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima Association. There is a chapel on site where Mass is celebrated during the week.

Dona Penha began to attend Mass with the other women. One day, she asked to go to Confession. Father Domingos Sávio Silva Ferreira

realized she had not yet received Communion and asked the sisters to prepare her to receive the sacrament, Ribeiro recalled.

After that preparation, Dona Penha received Communion for the first time. According to nursing home officials, those who were with her could see that “that was what she really wanted.” Even at 101 years of age, they said, “she is very lucid, and prepared to receive First Communion from the heart.”



“Thou hast made us for Thyself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in thee.”

Saint Augustine

The West Wagga Wag

West Wagga Parish



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



THE WIDOW & THE JUDGE

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

PERSISTENT	LISTEN
DISCIPLES	JUDGE
REFUSED	NIGHT
PARABLE	LORD
CHOSEN	JESUS
BOTHER	TOWN
JUSTICE	SHOW
UNJUST	FEAR
WIDOW (1)	PRAY
WIDOW (2)	DAY

Keep On Praying

Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. Luke 18:1 (NIV)



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