



Not from the Pulpit: Fr Phil Crotty SJ



Diwali is India's festival of light. It is a feast celebrated across the whole of India in the lunar month of Kartik (October-November) on the night when there is no moon. It is a time when the monsoon has passed, the crops are being harvested and there is a sense of peace, harmony and gratitude in every home. This peace and harmony is celebrated with the lighting of a multitude of tiny terracotta oil lamps called deeya. These tiny lamps, placed along the walls of the houses, the shops, the town buildings, are all lit in the evening just as darkness begins to cover the earth. The result is the creation of a magical world wherein

every village, every street, every house is etched with a multitude of tiny flames. It's a time when families whitewash their homes which have been stained by the rain and mud of the monsoon. Then each family paints a mandala in front of the door of their homes, a symbol of welcome to God the giver of light and harmony and fields full of rice.

We are far from the villages and rice fields of India, but we can join with our brothers and sisters from India in thanking God for his overwhelming generosity. On Holy Saturday night we Christians likewise celebrate the presence of the God of light among us when we light the pascal candle at the door of the church on Easter Saturday night. The cantor then sings:

This is the night of which it is written, the night shall be as bright as day, dazzling is the night for me and full of gladness".

Parish Notices

Diwali Mass – THIS WEEKEND

Sun 5 Nov @ 6.00pm, St Mary's Church

Parishioners are invited to the special celebration of India's most important festival, Diwali or the Festival of Lights, to welcome and share the spirit of inter-faith with our Indian friends. Afterwards there will be Indian treats at the back of the church. All welcome.



Jesuit Mission – 66 years serving in India

In 1951 the first Australian Jesuit Missionaries sailed for Hazaribag, India.

Compelled by their Ignatius spirit, they travelled to the margins to find those

most at need. The Jesuits established schools, tertiary institutions, hostels, and village learning centres. Through the generous support of Jesuit Mission friends, over 25,000 students are educated each year in India by Jesuit Mission supported initiatives. Jesuit Mission grew from its Indian roots and now works in 10 countries to create a better world for God's most vulnerable people. For more information, please take a booklet "Born Into A Better World" from the pew or back of the church, or visit: www.jesuitmission.org.au



St Vincent de Paul Quarterly Update

The members of Our lady of the Way Conference of St Vincent de Paul Society wish to advise that during the first quarter of this financial year seventy-two home visitations took place. The members distributed \$7280 on welfare including \$7560 on food vouchers. On behalf of our clients we say thank you.

Melbourne Cup raffle tickets for Emerton – ON SALE THIS WEEKEND

Tickets \$ 1 each. \$500 prize for the person who holds the winning ticket – the one with the three place getters in the Melbourne Cup in any order.



Melbourne Cup High Tea – its on again!

Tues 7 Nov @ 2.00-4.00pm, Ron Dyer Centre

Tickets \$5 with all proceeds going to the Emerton Parish Community.

Bookings essential: <https://www.trybooking.com/SKLM> or call Judy Tusino: 8918 4147

Conversations

A Lutheran's love letter to Pope Francis

Aana Marie Vigen: Republished with permission from America Magazine

Dear Pope Francis,

Maybe you have heard: 2017 is a big year for Lutherans. Many are giddy with excitement as we commemorate the audacity of a certain 16th-century Augustinian monk, who on Oct. 31, 1517, nailed his 95 theses to a church door in Wittenberg. Fingers flutter across keyboards feverishly extolling or disputing Martin Luther's contributions and flaws.

But I—one who has marinated in American Lutheranism most of her life—find myself writing to you, the leader of the Roman Catholic Church. Perhaps it is an odd moment for Lutheran fan mail. Yet, ever since you

became the Bishop of Rome in 2013, I have become increasingly convinced that you are the pope that Luther was looking for 500 years ago. Here are four reasons why.



1. You help us to see Christ in our neighbor.

Luther continually emphasized “neighbor love” as a crucial way to love Christ and to respond to a hurting world. He identified the neighbor as the one suffering, whoever that may be. He railed against the neglect of the poor and hungry. He called for the creation of a community welfare chest. He abhorred the practices of usury and the selling of indulgences. You once said: “How I would like a church that is poor and for the poor!”—and you have given the world countless examples of what such a church looks like.

Your first pastoral trip as pope outside of Rome was to visit migrants fleeing poverty and violence. You have washed the feet of Muslims, of women, of prisoners. You installed bathrooms and showers at the Vatican for those living on the streets of Rome. After your historic 2015 address to a joint session of the U.S. Congress, you had lunch not with Washington elites but with people living in a homeless shelter.

2. You help us to see God in creation.

Luther was in love with life in its varied and dazzling forms—its life-giving waters, its creatures and landscapes. He continuously referenced creation and everyday life in his writings. He relished sharing food, drink and conversation—connecting this kind of communing with the sacrament. In short, Luther saw the divine present “in, with and under” all creation. You chose the name of St. Francis of Assisi, a lover of the earth and all of its creatures. Your first encyclical, “Laudato Si’,” lays bare how climate change exacerbates every other social ill and the cruel irony that those who contribute the least to the degradation of our common home are paying the highest price for it. It asks us to confront not only harsh planetary realities but also the parts of ourselves that we would rather not see—selfishness, complacency and willful ignorance.

But “Laudato Si’” also expresses profound hope. You write, “For all our limitations, gestures of generosity, solidarity and care cannot but well up within us, since we were made for love” (No. 58). The heart of the Christian story centers upon a prophetic claim to new life. This resurrection is not merely about saving souls but about practicing acts that restore and renew life here and now. It means unfreezing our hearts and turning them outward to authentic love of self, neighbor, planet and God.

3. You combine humility with audacity.

Luther charged the church of Pope Leo X as being “puffed up” with opulent pride and avarice. It infuriated him to see anointed clerics abusing the trust, financial resources, faith and fears of their flock. He deeply wanted Christians, ordained and lay, to understand that we are paradoxically free in Christ and yet called to be “servants of all.” Your witness on the world stage has been one of great humility—starting with the decision to live in the simple papal apartment instead of the apostolic palace. You are not afraid to apologize. You understand Luther's insight that we are paradoxically both saint and sinner—that every person is always both beloved and broken, capable of expressing grace and healing and yet always in need of healing and forgiveness.

At the same time, you are a rock star. You have been on the cover of Rolling Stone and have been named Time's “Person of the Year.” Like Luther, you have risen to international prominence in a visual

culture and astutely employ its technologies. Luther used the Facebook and Snapchat of his day: woodcuts, the printing press, public displays of treatises. Through unscripted interviews and press conferences, Twitter and TED Talks, you use your elevated position to focus our attention on issues we often wish to avoid: obscene inequality, chronic hunger, human rights abuses, the ravages of war.

4. You inspire creative hope and action.

Luther did not set out to break from the Roman church, but his fiery rhetoric and daring example ignited a movement and renewal of faith that he could not fully anticipate or contain. His translation of the Bible into German opened its pages to the general public for the first time and his hymns helped them participate more fully in the liturgy. His humor and passion drew people into bold action and creative community. You also inspire millions across the planet. In word and deed, you make it abundantly clear that everyone has something to contribute. Together, there is much that all of us—scientists, religious leaders, business executives, artists, engineers, teachers, entrepreneurs, lawyers, theologians, politicians—can do.

Now is our moment to be, as Luther might put it, “the priesthood of all believers” (and, I would add, nonbelievers). You inspire me, Pope Francis. You help me find the grit to live with intention. So I boldly close this love letter with a fervent request: that you pray for the United States and the world in these tumultuous and confounding times, that we will stumble our way through with minimal injury to ourselves and to others.

I ask you to pray without ceasing that humanity wakes up to creation’s myriad cries in time to do something meaningful about them. God bless you, Holy Father. Know that I pray with and for you

Aana Marie Vigen is an associate professor of Christian social ethics at Loyola University Chicago.



Sevenhill wine offer

The Jesuit Refugee Service will benefit through a pre-Christmas wine offer from the Sevenhill Cellars in the Clare Valley. The offer provides the perfect opportunity to enjoy a considerable saving on wines for the festive season while supporting the valuable work of the Jesuit Refugee Service. For every six-pack sold, Sevenhill will donate \$10 to the Parish’s fundraising for the Jesuit Refugee Service.

The five wines available during November in the North Sydney Parish are:

- 2017 Inigo Riesling
- 2017 St Francis Xavier Single-Vineyard Riesling
- 2015 Inigo Shiraz
- 2014 St Ignatius (Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Malbec and Cabernet Franc)
- 2012 Brother John May Reserve Release Shiraz

Order forms are available at the back of all churches and wine will be delivered to your nominated address with free freight. Don’t miss this opportunity to enjoy premium wines from Sevenhill and support the Jesuit Refugee Service through the North Sydney Parish.



toys 4 them

Emerton/ JSS Christmas Appeal

This Christmas we are looking to support Jesuit Social Services in the Emerton and Wilmott area through a toy appeal. We welcome gifts of unwrapped toys for children of

various ages (as below) which can be left in the sacristies or under the steps in the Ron Dyer Centre. Toys should be new and gifts of food non-perishable.

Toys & games:

Babies and pre schoolers
Children 5-8 years
Children 8 -12 years
Teenagers 14-17 years

Christmas party food:

Cakes
Biscuits
Sweets

Cash donation will also be most welcome. For cash donations please use the appeal envelopes located at the back of all churches. All Donations are 100% tax deductible. Please include your name and address. Thank you from the JSS team.

Mater Hospital – Remembering - A time to remember and celebrate those who have died

Sun 19 Nov @ 10.00am, Woolcott Ave, Waverton park

Morning Tea from 10.00am (Waverton Bowling Club) Ceremony begins at 11.00am.



Uncle Max 'Dulumunmun' Harrison will lead us in a ceremony, remembering those we love that have died. You are welcome to bring with you a memory item of that loved one that you can place at the Tree of Remembering for the ceremony. RSVP and further information: mary.bryant@svha.org.au or call 9900 7688 by Sun12 Nov.



St Aloysius' College presents: A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols

Sat 2 Dec @ 7.30pm-9.00pm, St Mary's Cathedral

A devotional service celebrating the birth and life of Jesus Christ. Featuring the College Choir/Junior School Zipoli Choir and the St Mary's Cathedral Scholars. General public are very welcome to attend this free event.

Host Families Wanted for Youth travelling to ACYF

Wed 6 Dec – Sat 9 Dec

The Parish will be hosting Young Catholics from Jesuit Parishes across Australia as they come to participate in Australian Catholic Youth Festival, and are seeking families willing to host two or more pilgrims in their home. You will only need to provide minimal sleeping accommodation, and drop/pick up youth each morning and evening. Please contact Michael at michaelp@northsydney Catholics.com Please contact the Youth Minister: michaelp@northsydney Catholics.com



Tidings of Comfort and Joy

Wed 13 Dec @ 8.00pm, St Mary's North Sydney

Join the Parish for Reflections on Advent, accompanied by Chamber Choir and Orchestra.

As we await the coming of Christ into the world, we reflect on the waiting we do in our own lives. With the guidance of Holst, Rutter, Bach and more, we will have the opportunity to more deeply reflect on the meaning of God's presence in our lives. The evening will present works from Handel's Messiah, Bach's Christmas Oratorio, as well as Holst's Fantasies on classic carols, and contemporary arrangements of age-old carols. This is a not-to-be missed event. No bookings required.

Catechists needed to teach children from Kinder – Year 10

The Catechist team that works in the State Primary and Secondary Schools of our parish needs to expand to meet the needs of the many Catholic families whose children attend these schools. We have had several retirements after long and faithful service in the Primary sector; our third Primary school is expanding in Anzac Ave, Cammeray and Cammeragal High School in the Secondary.

Are you able to give 30 to 40 minutes a week? No teaching experience is necessary full training will be provided. For each year level the lessons are provided within the Curriculum.

Pope Francis has a special place in his heart for catechists saying, "Faith is a pure gift ... a gift received and a gift given. A catechist is right there, at the centre of this exchange of gifts"

If you can help please contact the parish office: 8918 4101

Sunday's Readings

First Reading

Mal 1:14 – 2:2. 8-10

[One God created us all, is Father to us all.](#)

Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 130](#)

Second Reading

[1 Thes 2:7-9, 13](#)

Paul thanks God that their preaching was well received.

Gospel Acclamation

[Mt 23:9, 10](#)

Gospel

[Mt 23:1-12](#)

Those who humble themselves shall be exalted.

In Our Prayers

Baptisms

Annabelle Kean, Ashton Windfield, Ailish Dyson, Henry Hinton, Lucas Falvo, William Gold

Weddings

Alyse Browne & Michael Berriman

Sick

Ron Whitmore, Sr Natalina Todeschini, Brian McClosky,

Craig Chase, Rosa Maria Santos, Vedran Simunovic, Rosa Pessaro, Bruce Horsfield,

Juliana Siow, Veronica Johnson, Tony Breslin, Gavin O'Connor, Barry Collis, Fr Tony Smith SJ, Joseph Meagher

John Fitzgerald, Margaret Mary Collis, Sandra Tsui, Neave Mackey (17 yrs), Mee-Na Cheok

Recently Deceased

Fr John Wilcken SJ, John Goldrick, Harris John van Beek, Margaret McDonald, Fr Paul Coleman SJ, Fr John Doenau SJ, Didier Bertini,

Rosemary May Middleton (mother of Fr Chris SJ), Connie Koning (mother of Fr Robin SJ), Fr Ken McNamara SJ, Tony Bland, David

Gillingham, Adrian Fica, Tom Menzies

Anniversaries

David Jenkins