



**Not from the Pulpit: Fr Michael Stoney SJ**



What an astonishing miracle happened at Pentecost! Not so much the powerful wind, the tongues of fire and the speaking of foreign languages. These are the literary tricks used by biblical writers to emphasize the power of God’s presence among us. But how on earth could such a humanly insignificant group of inexperienced and uneducated apostles with so many personal and spiritual flaws make such a powerful impact on their fellow Jews? ‘Amazed and astonished’ according to the writer of the Acts of the Apostles; ‘drinking too much wine’, according to some in the crowd.

And it has continued powerfully for 2000 years with so much influence for good in the lives of millions – despite the tragic stories of failure in each generation. Our own century, too, has seen the sordid stories revealed by the current Royal Commission, as well as much renewal and service of people.

We too, of course, are a vital part of this continuing miracle. Our focus must not be about maintenance of the present church or a ‘numbers game’. Our 21<sup>st</sup> century of bewildering change requires more from us, I suggest. Our generous involvement in parish life is most praiseworthy, I know, but the call is for a new creativity, a sensitive awareness of the challenges of our culture and a courageous reinventing of our Church’s mission to present God’s unconditional, bewildering love of our world.

Happy Pentecost as we try to ‘amaze and astonish’ our contemporaries.

**Parish Notices**

**Jesuit Milestones**

This weekend, Fr AV Smith, the much loved former Parish Priest of Our Lady of the Way, celebrates his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday. Also this week, Fr Manuel Carracedo, who lived with the North Sydney Jesuit community for many years, celebrates 70 years in the Jesuit order. Congratulations to Frs Tony and Manuel.

**Parish Retreat – SAVE THE DATE**



Sat 26<sup>th</sup> Aug – Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> Sept.

The Retreat allows you to continue your ordinary daily life with its usual routine of going to work, caring for the family or whatever is the shape of your busy program while putting aside some time for prayer each day. Enquiries: Phone Kay Hooper 0428 830 482



**St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal**  
Weekend 17/18 June

**Spanish Mass – 9 July @ 11.00am at St Mary’s**

Please join us in celebrating Mass in the Spanish tradition followed by light refreshments within the RDC

**Father Factor** - Wed 14 June @ 7.30pm Parish Hall, 3 Mary St, Hunters Hill

Robert Falzon, acclaimed co-author of *The Father Factor*, will address the critical importance of fathering for success & happiness, provide practical info on intentional fathering & recovering from poor or absent fathering. Free entry, all are welcome.



**Join us for an OMG WINTER SLEEPOUT!**

Fri 16 June @ 6pm – 8pm, Ron Dyer Centre

\*Includes hot food and drinks \* Loads of fun games to play.

\*Bring \$5 entry, a water bottle and a sleeping bag, blanket, tent or cardboard box

\*Wear warm clothes and bring a torch if you have one. Parent registration and

collection from the Ron Dyer Centre. Bookings: [www.trybooking.com/QGKC](http://www.trybooking.com/QGKC): places are limited.

OMG is a youth initiative of the Parish. It seeks to involve children in senior primary (Yrs 5&6) in our Parish community. More Information: [marcia.o.sullivan@bigpond.com](mailto:marcia.o.sullivan@bigpond.com)

**Ethica Accessories – Trivia Night**

Wed 28 June @ 7.30pm: \$50 ticket includes wine and nibbles. Bookings at [www.trybooking.com/201408](http://www.trybooking.com/201408)

**Laurence Freeman in Conversation with Miriam-Rose Ungunmerr**

Fri 7th July – 3pm -7pm: Australian Catholic University Strathfield.

When introducing Christian meditation around the world, Fr Laurence has often referred to dadirri - the deep inner listening and quiet still awareness that, Miriam Rose, an elder in the Nauiyu (Daly River) community, has said, is the gift we Australians are thirsting for. This is a unique opportunity to be part of their initial conversation to be held over 2 sessions. Register at: [www.acu.edu.au/awakeningthesacred2017](http://www.acu.edu.au/awakeningthesacred2017)

**Ecology Group: Petition re Climate Change: What can I do for the earth and the poor?**

In *Laudato Si*, the papal encyclical on Care for our Common Home, Pope Francis calls on us “to apply legitimate means of pressure to ensure that each government carries out its proper and inalienable responsibility to preserve its country’s environment...” All faiths across Australia are currently petitioning the government to do better by the environment in their next policy review.

This is your invitation to sign the petition and play your role in Francis’ push for more respect of our Common Home. The petition is supported by many faith groups, including Australian Religious Response to Climate Change (ARRCC), Caritas, Catholic Earth care, Faith Ecology Network (FEN) and many others. The petition will be available for signature at Masses this weekend 3/4 June and next weekend 10/11 June. A copy of the petition is also available on the parish website: [www.northsydneycatholics.com](http://www.northsydneycatholics.com)

**From the Parish Council:**

Starting this weekend, a monthly newsletter focused on Ignatian Formation will be published within the Parish. Copies of this week’s newsletter can be found throughout the churches and on the website.



**Ministry Leaders Gathering:** In February this year, the Parish Council organised its first “I Can Do” weekend. Our objective was to have and support a large and increasing group of volunteers who are fully-alive and engaged, who are formed and trained, and who are involved in ministries that are vibrant, relevant, self-sustaining and effective in meeting the needs of the community. We produced the “I Can Do” booklet (available on the Parish website) which described the inspiring works done by over 40 ministries of members of our

parish community. Last Sunday, we gathered leaders and representatives of these ministries to pray together, reflect on where we have been and where we are going, be with and know each other and discover ways of helping each other grow these ministries and ensure their sustainability into the future. Ministry leaders discussed what was working well in their ministries, and sought solutions to the challenges they faced. All were inspired by the stories of others and there was a genuine sense of awe in a room filled with people of extraordinary generosity and determination. Edwin Lapitan

**Sunday’s Readings**

**First Reading**

[Acts 2:1-11](#)

The Spirit comes to the Apostles as tongues of fire.

**Responsorial Psalm**

[Ps 103:1. 24. 29-31. 34. R. v.30](#)

**Second Reading**

[1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13](#)

We are one body with different gifts.

**Gospel**

[Jn 20:19-23](#)

Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit into the Apostles.

**In Our Prayers**

**Baptisms**

Micaela Duong, Adriana Carson, Olivia Hunt, Jessica Keller, Eloise Antonio, Tyson Gutierrez

**Sick**

Christine Mitchells, Andrew Dyer, Sr Natalina Todeschini, Donna Lukas, John Taylor, Margaret McDonald, Frances Boyle, Brian McClosky, Sr Anna Gaha IBVM, Craig Chase, Rosa Maria Santos, Vedran Simunovic, Bill Peatey, Rosa Pessararo, Bruce Horsfield, Juliana Siow

**Recently Deceased**

Monsignor Eugene Joseph Harley OAM, Eric Mansfield, Onofrio Comes, Deidre Pauline Southon, Catherine Kennedy, Joann Coleman, John Taylor

**Anniversaries** Matthew Travers, Victor Francis Quarrell, Irene Fallon, Leslie Betts, Chris Ringstad, Kevin Lee, Stephen Younie

*Future readings available on the Parish website*

*Prayer requests to [communications@northsydneycatholics.com](mailto:communications@northsydneycatholics.com)*