



Not from the Pulpit: Fr Andrew Bullen SJ



In the aftermath of Fr Tony's Requiem Masses, here and at St Aloysius, we are saying and hearing, "Thank you, what a memorable ceremony; how it honoured Fr Tony; how wonderful the choir was; all those priests; and his family, how dignified; thank you." One of the many blessings has been how the community that loved Tony have been full of gratitude, for him, for what he did, who he was, and also for all that has been done in the light of his death.

We have been thanking each other, and this reminds us that the Christian Community, the Church, gathers and becomes itself to give thanks; we are a network of gratitude who gather frequently to give thanks – "eucharistein" is the Greek verb. The Lord placed himself at the very core of it, of us in thanksgiving mode: becoming all the more a community of gratitude is a late gift to us all from Fr Tony. For that and all that came before, thank you Tony.

Parish Notices



Healing Mass – THIS WEDNESDAY

Wed 7 March @ 10.30am, Ron Dyer Centre

Manresa Group Lunch

Fri 9 March @ 9.00am Berowra Waters Fish Café - RSVP Rosemary 9955 2997

Experiencing Mark

Wed 14 March @ 6.30pm, St Francis Xavier Church

Join the parish community for a reflective evening, exhibiting a full reading of the Gospel according to Mark, featuring a new translation by parishioner Alan Hogan. Running time approx. 2 hours with interval.



Project Compassion - Week 3 – Bayan from Jordan

Bayan is a 12-year-old Syrian girl, living with her family in Jordan, a keen student, who has her sights set on a career as an ophthalmologist. Read the full story at: www.caritas.org.au
 Donation boxes and envelopes at the back of the churches. Please give generously.

Ecology Group 2018: OFF TO A FLYING START

The Bulletin next week will contain a report from the Ecology Group on its activities for 2018 including supporting the Time2Choose campaign rally on March 24th and a major petition to the NSW on plastic bags. More next week.

*** Volunteers Needed for Easter Liturgies ***

Sign-up forms will be left in the sacristies at St Mary's Church and St Francis Xavier Church from this weekend. Alternatively, you can please email Diana Baird diana.baird4@bigpond.com or phone 9460 0747 / 0490 313 847

Sunday's Readings

First Reading

[Ex 20:1-17](#)

The Lord delivers the Ten Commandments.

[Ex 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17](#)

The Lord delivers the Ten Commandments.

Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 18:8-11. R. Jn 6:68](#)

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

Second Reading

[1 Cor 1:22-25](#)

Understand the power of Christ crucified.

Gospel Acclamation

[Jn 3:16](#)

Gospel

[Jn 2:13-25](#)

Jesus drives the money-changers from the temple.

In Our Prayers

Baptisms

Hugo Ward, Hunter Kubicek, Artie Volckman, Elena Zammit, Ariana Nicholson, Marcus Wyngaard, Tom Haynes

Weddings

Iskander & Vester

Sick

Ron Whitmore, Sr Natalina Todeschini, Brian McClosky, Craig Chase, Rosa Maria Santos, Vedran Simunovic, Bruce Horsfield, Tony Breslin, Gavin O'Connor, John Fitzgerald, Sandra Tsui, Mary O'Connor, Sister Anna Ventura rsm, Joyce Paton, Josephine Rowe,

Recently Deceased

Fr Anthony Smith SJ, Domenic Cioffi, Sharon Collins, Judy Flitcroft, Gerard Forsythe
 Helen McCauley

Anniversaries

Pat Bullen (Mother of Fr Andy Bullen PP)

Conversations

Felix Jenney, Captain Marist College North Shore – Commencement Address

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There is nothing as powerful as imagination. I call each of you to imagine the possibility of what you could be, what you can do. How can you transform the world? Imagination inspires vision, the limitless potential each of you have. Imagine the possibility and go after it as if your life depends on it, why? Because it does. Muhammad Ali stated that “ *Champions aren't made in gyms, champions are made from something they have deep inside them; a desire, a dream, a vision*”. Imagine the possibility, the endless scope in which your opportunities lie and through which seize greatness. Transform the world. Greatness is not a rare DNA strand, each and every single one of us is capable, all it takes is the spark, the thought. Imagination has the power; to shape worlds, to build Churches, to construct cities and to empower individuals. It may not have been built in a day, but Rome was once a fragment of imagination. It now houses 2.86 million people, an entire country and thousands of years worth of history. All of which made possible through here (tap head) and here (tap heart).

Each year our College introduces a new theme, a new idea for each of us to carry into our lives. Boys, your potential is limitless. Don't be satisfied with good, you're not just good, you're great. Imagine what you could become, who you could be; the only person that can get you there, is yourself. Go all in, and don't hold back. Imagine. In addition to our key concept of *imagine*, we have four words which we will aspire to, as we strengthen the bonds of our community through the values of respect, presence, integrity and action.

Respect is stitched into the very fabric of our school, and who we are as its students. Our community, our cohort, is derived from many different cultures, people, opinions and talents. In today's society, with new perspectives on gender and marriage, and world leaders with their own controversial political agendas, respect is called upon as a balancing act in our world. We must respect one another's beliefs, whilst remaining true to who we really are. It begins with us and it begins with you. At school we already have areas in which we encourage respect; respect for women, learning, faith and each other. We shouldn't have to wait for our attention to be drawn to these areas, it should be part of who we are and how we live out the core values we have been brought up with, through our families, teachers and other role models. You have the power and the influence to change the world. The ability to imagine, to create, to influence the world in a more respectful, unifying light.

Presence is powerful in its simplicity. The touch of a hand, a conversation, a moment. It delves deeper than your attendance at school, it is being in the moment, it is having that conversation and extending the hand of brotherhood. Those lucky enough to be on an Immersion or involved with Solidarity experiences, you will know how important being present to others can be. Presence is authenticity. Release yourself from technology, from distraction, and live in the moment. Breathe. Touch. Hear. The more present you are in the moment, the more pure it becomes. Imagine the influence this can have over one life, and imagine the influence it can have over many. This gift of our presence in the community is so precious. How can we help to transform the world?

Imagination will provide you with the dream and the opportunity, action will allow you to make it happen. What use is imagination, without having the courage to step up and make your dream a reality? I do not regret when I step up and fail, what I regret is not taking action at all. Failure is key, without failure, what do we learn? Life can get hard, we experience pain, loss, discomfort. But don't just go through it, grow through it. Lead by example. St Mary Mackillop's mantra illustrated this through her saying “ *Never see a need without doing something about it*”.

Through having integrity, we are called to model: strong moral principles, the Catholic values inspired by the Gospels and those values witnessed through the Marist Charism. Have the courage to be your own person. I say have the courage, because it isn't easy at times to be an individual. We fear judgement, we fear not fitting in. But freedom of these constraints is made possible, through being your own person. If it was easy, everybody would do it. The greatest minds of our generation have become what they are through their audacity to be themselves. Malala Yousafzai, the youngest winner of a Nobel Prize stood in the face of the Taliban purely for her belief in women's education. South Africa wouldn't have abolished the apartheid unless Nelson Mandela stood up and fought for equality and Winston Churchill wouldn't have won the Second World War without his stubborn resistance during its darkest hours. Be true to yourself. Have the courage to live out our Catholic values that the Charism our school promotes. Before all of this, have the courage to have faith - it isn't easy in this secular world that we live in. Be open to faith, embrace belief. You never know what you might take from it. All things are possible, for one who believes.

Let 2018 be a year of change. If you always do what you've always done, you'll always be, where you've always been. Every one of you has a dream, a spark of imagination. That's all it takes. Be respectful, live in the moment, be true to yourself and live out your imagination. I believe one man can change the world, I believe that man is you. Prove me right.