

Let us remember in our prayers ...

Recently deceased: Kevin Bell, Chris Geraghty

Anniversaries: Kevin Quinn, Rosalind D’Castro, Michael Quinlan, Carmel Bob

Sick: Beula Reddy, Ken Metcalf, Tom Brennan, Yvette Henderson, Sr Deidre Brown CJ, Julia Audino, Alberto Audino, Liam Brady, Jason, Frank Audino, Abigail Fells, Cate, Anne Hutchins, Veronica Kong, Helen Hawkes, Paddy Walker, Danielle Hewitt, Greg Gee, Sue, Sr Veronica OSB, Noreen Willett, Marcelle Ranasinghe, Noreen Willcocks, Sr Terri Emslie PBVM, Tan Ngiap Choo, Jim Lilleyman, Leo Travers, Br Noel Hickey FMS

CULTURE PROBLEM IS CLOSER TO HOME THAN POPE LEO THINKS *By Phyllis Zagano*

Nearly a year after Pope Leo XIV told a Rome synod team leaders meeting the problem of including women in Catholic Church ministry and management was essentially a cultural issue, there has been little movement on the issue in dioceses around the world. To complicate matters, women are treated as second-rate in many secular societies, and the church, while countercultural in so many ways, supports such stumbling blocks for women. Significantly, as the Curia has added women to meaningful managerial positions, the altar rail remains a barrier to women in liturgical ministry. As for management, this month, Salesian Sr Alessandra Smerilli became the new prefect of a major curial office at the Vatican, the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development. For five years, she was the dicastery’s secretary, or No. 2 official, under Canadian Cardinal Michael Czerny. Now she leads some 80 dicastery members in an office dedicated to the church’s central mission: acting on the precepts of the Gospel throughout the world. Two other women have been announced to lead Curia offices: Consolata Missionary Sr Simona Brambilla has led the Dicastery for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, responsible for men and women religious since 2025; and Maria Montserrat Alvarado will lead the Dicastery for Communication, overseeing Vatican media, radio, the press office and publishing, from November. These are not minor positions, and the women filling them are accomplished managers dedicated to Catholicism. Catholic social teaching supports women in the workforce. Pope Leo XIII complained about the exploitation of women as factory workers in his encyclical *Rerum Novarum* (1891). Since then, however, Vatican statements mentioning women often praise, or even prefer, women as wives and mothers. Leo XIII even wrote women are naturally suited to domestic work and they must protect their modesty. It fits into a worldwide cultural and religious problem that oppresses women. In Afghanistan, under the Taliban, girls are banned from school after sixth grade; some meet in hidden classrooms. Like all women there, young and old, they are covered head to toe. Today, some 2.5 million girls in Afghanistan are sentenced to marriage and modesty, mostly hidden from the rest of society. Catholic teaching is not so extreme, but the church exists in some very culturally closed societies. As for women in ministry, while many expand the term "ministry" to include all manner of office work, teaching, social service and the like, technically it refers to the spiritual work of ordained clergy. In fact, the dictionary definition of "the ministry" is "clergy." And even as the church moves women into increasingly important management positions the Catholic Church still bans women from ordained ministry. The ban is more than a speed bump along the way to having women fully recognised as persons inside and outside of Catholic circles. There are significant theological objections to women priests and, consequently, to women bishops. But those objections do not extend to women deacons. Despite the historical, theological and anthropological affirmations regarding women deacons, even the slightest attempts at including women in liturgy — ordained or not — come against the cultural brick walls around the world, to which Leo XIV alluded. In 2021, his predecessor, Pope Francis, **changed canon law** to allow women and men not headed toward ordination to be formally installed as lectors (readers) and acolytes (altar servers), but only a scattering of dioceses have done so. Are ancient blood taboos stopping progress? For those who say banning women from the sanctuary has been abandoned, perhaps the church's 1967 instruction on sacred music will give them pause: "Whenever the choir also includes women, it should be placed outside the sanctuary (presbyterium)." The document is still in force. The church changes century by century, if at all. Look carefully at the next televised Mass from St Peter's Basilica and see where the women are. The cultural problem may be closer than Leo thinks.

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ST JOSEPH'S UPCOMING EVENTS			
Young Family Group 29 November	Faith Formation for Little Tots 18 October	Youth Group 15 November	Seniors’ Morning Tea 19 November

ART TOUR AT ST JOHN OF GOD HOSPITAL SUBIACO **2pm, Tuesday 6 October, SJGH Subiaco**
Interested in Art? Then meet us at Reception (Salvado Rd entrance) to join an SJGH Subiaco Art Tour in celebration of Foundation Day.

Parish Priest	Monsignor Kevin Long PhD kevin.long@perthcatholic.org.au
Pastoral Associate	Sr Marie Fitzgerald RSM marie.fitzgerald@mercy.org.au
Sacristan, Funeral and Liturgy Coordinator	Claudia O’Malley 0408 186 790 enquiries@stjosephssubiaco.org.au
Director of Music	Catherine Haydon catherine@catherinehaydon.com
Youth Ambassador	Tina Perez youth@stjosephssubiaco.org.au
St Vincent de Paul Society Subiaco Conference	Steve Nalty Subiaco.President@sudpwa.org.au
Safeguarding Officers	Elaine Eng 0422 481 299 Anthea Wilkinson 0417 179 773 Paul Carpenter 0487 608 803

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Sacramental Coordinator	Elaine Eng 0422 481 299 elaine.eng@stjosephssubiaco.org.au
Wedding Secretary	Elizabeth Ogilvie weddings@stjosephssubiaco.org.au
Financial Director (Honorary)	Peter Farrer-Smith FCPA FCIS AFAIM peter.farrer-smith@cewa.edu.au
Parish Pastoral Council Chair	Anne Birt enquiries@stjosephssubiaco.org.au
Uthana Mission	Rod Pereira ask@uthanamission.org.au
Safeguarding Officers	Fiona Chong 0416 271 714 Amanda Bozikovic 0429 580 576 safeguarding@stjosephssubiaco.org.au

WEEKLY HYMNS					9am Sunday 4 October
Lyrics are available on the Parish website by using the QR code (right), or by visiting stjosephssubiaco.org.au/lyrics . Hymn books are also available at Church entrances. Please return them at the conclusion of Mass.					
Mass	Entrance	Offertory	Communion	Recessional	
9am	All Creatures of Our God and King (10)	Seek Ye First (294)	In Christ Alone (189) Make Me a Channel of Your Peace (227)	Now Thank We All Our God (243)	

UTHANA MISSION: A STORY OF FAITH COMPASSION & HOPE **24 & 25 October, Uthana Mission Annual Appeal**
In the lead up to this year’s Uthana Appeal on 24 & 25 October founder Rod Pereira shares another uplifting story.

Uthana Mission was born from my faith and a passage from Matthew’s Gospel (25:35). These words inspired the first Uthana Mission project. One day in Kolkata I saw a woman lying on the ground. She was starving, completely naked and abandoned and in desperate need of help, yet she asked for nothing. At first, I nearly walked past her. I was embarrassed, uncomfortable and reluctant to become involved. But as I continued walking, the words of Matthew’s Gospel came into my mind. I stopped, turned around and went back to her. With the help of a young Belgian woman, I gathered some clothes, gently wrapped them around her and carried her into a taxi. As I lifted her, it was heartbreaking to realise just how much she had suffered. We took her to a hospice run by the Missionaries of Charity, to receive the care she so desperately needed. The following day, I returned to see how she was doing. She had been washed, dressed and fed. She looked so different from the woman I had found the day before. She approached me and, in a humble Indian gesture of gratitude, bent down, touched her forehead and then my feet. I was deeply moved. I could do nothing but gently lift her up and embrace her. Over the following months, whenever we brought others to the hospice, I would see this same woman washing, feeding and caring for them. The woman who had once been so helpless and abandoned was now helping others who were suffering just as she had. It was a powerful reminder that sometimes, when we offer someone a second chance, they go on to become a source of hope for others. It was this experience that inspired me to establish Uthana Mission’s very first project: our Food Programme. Today, 21 years later, that same spirit of compassion continues. We employ a local team, many of whom come from disadvantaged backgrounds themselves. Under the guidance of an appointed manager, they prepare, pack and distribute meals. Every single day, 365 days a year, they provide food to the hungry, abandoned and destitute, particularly the elderly and those living with mental illness, at one of Kolkata’s major railway stations. For many, this meal is more than just food. It is a reminder they have not been forgotten, that someone cares and that their lives still have value. When I look back on that day in Kolkata, I realise Uthana Mission did not begin with a grand plan, but with a simple act of compassion, a moment of faith and a decision to turn back. This is what your Uthana Mission support makes possible. Your generosity can mean the difference between starvation and survival, despair and hope, being forgotten and being given a second chance. Thank you, dear Parishioners, for being part of this mission of faith, compassion and love. Together we can ensure no one is forgotten. Your prayers, encouragement and financial support are greatly appreciated.

MASS TIMES <i>(Subject to change - refer to Parish Diary for latest information)</i>		PARISH CONTACT DETAILS	
Tuesday	5.30pm	Office	Tuesday - Friday: 9.30am to 4.30pm
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday	9am	Phone	9381 0400
Saturday Reconciliation	4.30pm	Postal	PO Box 568, Wembley 6913
Saturday Vigil	5pm	Email	enquiries@stjosephssubiaco.org.au
Sunday	9am & 5pm	Website	www.stjosephssubiaco.org.au
PARISH BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS	First Collection EFT Details		
	Account Name:	St Joseph's Presbytery Subiaco	
	BSB:	086 006	
	Account #:	887 970 525	
	Reference:	Name	
	Second Collection EFT Details		
	Account Name:	St Joseph's Church Subiaco	
	BSB:	086 006	
	Account #:	564 990 302	
	Reference:	Name	

PARISH DIARY				MONSIGNOR KEVIN
Sunday 4 October	9.45am 10.30am 11.30am 12.15pm 3pm	Twenty-Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time Baptism: <i>Violet Gabrielle Hart</i> Baptism: <i>Mia Garzon Andrade</i> Baptism: <i>Sophie Tran</i> Baptism: <i>Kayden Pillai</i> Wedding Rehearsal: <i>Janelle Sputore & James Gill</i>	<i>Monsignor Kevin</i> <i>Monsignor Kevin</i> <i>Fr Stephen Ochola</i> <i>Fr Stephen Ochala</i>	
Monday 5 October	3pm	Monday, Week 27 of Ordinary Time Optional: St Faustina Kowalska, Virgin Wedding Rehearsal: <i>Keeley Liddelow & Alex Kovacevich</i>	<i>Fr Nikola Cabraja</i>	
Tuesday 6 October	2pm 6pm	Tuesday, Week 27 of Ordinary Time Optional: St Bruno, Priest Upper Room: <i>St Joseph’s Ladies Book Club</i> Upper Room: <i>St Vincent de Paul Meeting</i>		Lecturing at Catholic Education WA
Wednesday 7 October	5.30pm	Our Lady of the Rosary, Memorial Upper Room: <i>Centering Prayer</i>		Lecturing at Catholic Education WA
Thursday 8 October	3pm 4.30pm	Thursday, Week 27 of Ordinary Time Memorial Service: <i>Michelle Krauth</i> Wedding Rehearsal: <i>Ashtyn Lea Mason & Reinel Christian Santa Ana</i>	<i>Monsignor Kevin</i> <i>Fr Jason Yeap</i>	
Friday 9 October	1.30pm	Friday, Week 27 of Ordinary Time Optional: St Denis, Bishop & companions, Martyrs; St John Leonardi Wedding Service: <i>Ashtyn Lea Mason & Reinel Christian Santa Ana</i>	<i>Fr Jason Yeap</i>	
Saturday 10 October	1pm 3pm	Saturday, Week 27 of Ordinary Time Wedding Service: <i>Keeley Liddelow & Alex Kovacevich</i> Wedding Service: <i>Janelle Sputore & James Gill</i>	<i>Fr Nikola Cabraja</i> <i>Monsignor Kevin</i>	