



# Pius News

**8th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A**

**26th February 2017**

## **OF WINNERS AND LOSERS BY RON ROLHEISER**

Our society tends to divide us up into winners and losers. Sadly, we don't often reflect on how this affects our relationships with each other, nor on what it means for us as Christians. What does it mean? In essence, that our relationships with each other are too charged with competition and jealousy because we are too infected with the drive to out-do, out-achieve, and out-hustle each other. For example, here are some of slogans that pass for wisdom today: *Win! Be the best at something! Show others you're more talented than they are! Show that you are more sophisticated than others! Don't apologize for putting yourself first! Don't be a loser!*

These phrases aren't just innocent axioms cheerleading us to work harder; they're viruses infecting us so that most everything in our world now conspires with the narcissism within us to push us to achieve, to set ourselves apart from others, to stand out, to be at the top of the class, to be the best athlete, the best dressed, the best looking, the most musically talented, the most popular, the most experienced, the most travelled, the one who knows most about cars, or movies, or history, or sex, or whatever. At all costs we drive ourselves to find something at which we can beat others. At all costs we try to somehow set ourselves apart from and above others. That idea is almost genetically engrained in us now.

And because of that we tend to misjudge others and misjudge our own meaning and purpose. We structure everything too much around achieving and standing out. When we achieve, when we win, when we are better than others at something, our lives seem fuller; our self-image inflates and we feel confident and worthwhile. Conversely, when we cannot stand out, when we're just another face in the crowd, we struggle to maintain a healthy self-image.

Either way, we are forever struggling with jealousy and dissatisfaction because we cannot help constantly seeing our own lack of talent, beauty, and achievement in relationship to other's successes. And so we both envy and hate those who are talented, beautiful, powerful, rich, and famous, holding them up for adulation even as we secretly wait for their downfall, like the crowd that praises Jesus on Palm Sunday and then screams for his crucifixion just five days later.

Community can only happen when we can let the talents and achievements of others enhance our own lives and we can let our own talents and achievements enhance, rather than threaten, others. But we're generally incapable of this. We're too infected with competitiveness to allow ourselves to not let the achievements and talents of others threaten us and actualize our own talents in a way so as to enhance the lives of others rather than to let ourselves stand out.

Like our culture, we too tend to divide people into winners and losers, admiring and hating the former, looking down on the latter, constantly sizing each other up, rating each other's bodies, hair, intelligence, clothing, talents and achievements. But, as we do this, we vacillate between feeling depressed and belittled when others outscore us or inflated and pompous when we appear superior to them.

And this becomes ever more difficult to overcome as we become more obsessed with our need to stand out, be special, to sit above, to make a mark for ourselves. We live in a chronic, inchoate jealousy where the talents of others are perennially perceived as a threat to us. This keeps us both anxious and less than faithful to our Christian faith.

Our Christian faith invites us not to compare ourselves with others, to not make efforts to stand out, and to not let ourselves be threatened by and jealous of other's gifts. Our faith invites us to join a circle of life with those who believe that there is no need to stand out or be special, and who believe that other people's gifts are not a threat, but rather something which enriches all lives, our own included.

When we divide people into winners and losers then our talents and gifts become sources of envy and weapons of competition and superiority. This is true not just for individuals but for nations as well. One of these competitive slogans within our culture tells us: *Show me a good loser and I will show you a loser!* Well, seen in this light, Jesus was a loser. People were shaking their heads at his death, and there was no championship ring on his finger. He didn't look good in the world's eyes. A loser! But, in his underachieving we all achieved salvation. Somewhere there's a lesson there!

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# Project Compassion Sunday 26th February 2017



Please take home a Project Compassion box &/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed "Love your neighbour".

You will be helping to empower our world's most vulnerable neighbours to build a better future for our common home.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.



### **Lenten Bible Study *Understanding the Gospel according to Matthew***

Fr Jack Boog of Modbury parish is presenting this course on the Mondays of Lent in the Modbury Church, 50 Reservoir Road, Hope Valley, starting on Monday March 6th at 7pm.

All welcome

### **World Day of Prayer International**

You are cordially invited to join with the family of nations from 170 countries from around the world in celebrating the annual, international and ecumenical Prayer Service.

Date: Friday 3rd March 2017

Venue: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 29 Muller Road, Greenacres, 5086

Time: 7.30pm

The program this year has been prepared by Christian women for the Philippines, taking as their theme, "Am I being unfair to you?" After the service you are invited to join us for light refreshments in the church hall.

RSVP Thursday February 23rd, by calling Jan, 0427 777 046 or by email: [gmjfhitch@ozemail.com.au](mailto:gmjfhitch@ozemail.com.au)

All most welcome

### **40 Days For Life Lenten Campaign March 1-April 9 2017**

Help Save Lives in Adelaide! Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired 725,000 volunteers world wide. After 19 coordinated campaigns—12,668 babies have been saved from abortion; 141 abortion workers have been converted; 75 abortion clinics have been closed.

Venue: Outside the Pregnancy Advisory Centre, 21 Belmore Terrace, Woodville

Vigil hours: 8am-6pm daily

For more information call Alan Tyson on 0412 389 875 or 8364 4516 or 0400 364 403 or email: [itm54au@gmail.com](mailto:itm54au@gmail.com) or go to the website: <http://40daysforlife.com/Adelaide>. See the notice board for all details

### **Lectures on the Faith**

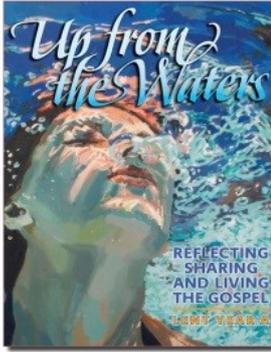
Mons Robert Aitken will begin a series of lectures explaining the Catholic Faith on Monday March 20. The lectures are designed to give Catholics a better understanding of their Faith. They would also be of value to those who are not Catholic but are interested in knowing what the Catholic Church is and what it teaches.

The lectures will be in the Cathedral choir room from 7.30pm-9.00pm. There is no cost. Phone 8295 2349 or 8431 7771 for more information.

### **Free organ recitals**

The first of three Fringe 2017 free lunchtime half hour organ recitals in the cathedral will be given on Wednesday February 22 at 1pm. Others will be at the same time on Wednesdays March 8 & 15.

Adelaide's Andrew Georg will be organist for the first recital. Christopher Trikilis, from Melbourne, will present the second, and Adelaide's David Heah will give the third



### Lenten Reflection Books

Thank you to everyone who is taking part in this

#### LENTEN PRAYER/REFLECTON/DISCUSSION.

Please TAKE YOUR BOOK, and you can pay the **\$6.50** for the book when you meet together in your group. When you take your book, please INITIAL beside you name, so we know who has taken a book.

There is still time to join a group for this LENTEN PRAYER. You may do so simply by filling in one of the forms and handing it to either Fr Mathew or Fr John. If you wish, you may indicate your preference as to which group to join.

Fr John OMI

### PARISH RENEWAL

We are still in the process of a parish renewal. Please read the notices in the main foyer of the Church to see what we are achieving and where we are hoping to go. Take time to study the ministries already active in the parish and pray about where God might be calling you to serve, especially if you are not currently involved in any ministries. The parish can only grow if each of its members is involved actively and spiritually.

### CALL TO MINISTRY.

Thank you to all those who have "ticked the boxes". We are still collating the information, so do please take a blank form fill in your name etc. and TICK AS MANY BOXES where you feel able to help.

We do NEED YOU.

Fr John OMI

#### **USED STAMPS HELP THE MISSIONS**

##### **Some practical things about how to prepare the stamps:**

When you tear or cut off the stamps from the envelope, make sure to leave a good margin of paper around the used stamp. The perforation of the stamp **MUST NOT BE DAMAGED**. Leave about **4 millimetres** of paper around the stamp.

You can be **GENEROUS** with how much paper you leave. The Used Stamps are sold by weight, so any paper left of the back of the stamp adds to the weight and 'value' of the stamp.

Thankyou,  
Jenni Zupp.

### **ASH WEDNESDAY**

Don't forget, Lent starts this Wednesday, March 1st, with the Ash Wednesday masses and the distribution of the ashes. See below for the mass times in the parish.

#### **Diary Dates:**

**March 1st: Ash Wednesday, Masses 9.15am & 7pm**

**March 3rd: World Day of Prayer**

**April 4th: Regional Reconciliation at Modbury  
Parish 7pm**

**April 16: Easter Sunday**

**Mass Times at St Pius X**

**Saturday Vigil** 6.30pm  
**Sunday** 9.30am & 5.30pm  
**Tues & Wed** 9.15am Mass  
**Thurs** 9.30am  
**Fri** 9.15am  
 3rd Sunday of the Month 12.30pm Indonesian  
 Mass

**Daily Morning Prayer:** Tues, Wed, Fri 8.40am  
 Thurs, 8.55am

**Rosary:** Tues, Wed, Fri 8.55am. Thurs 9.10am

**RECONCILIATION:** Saturdays 11.30am-12noon

**EXPOSITION:** Fridays during school term  
 time  
 10am—12 noon  
 6pm – 9pm



**Today's Readings:** Is 49:14-15;  
 1 Cor 4:1-5; Mt 6:24-34

**Next Week's Readings 1st Sunday of Lent**  
**Year A:** Gen 2:7-9, 3:1-7; Rom 5:12-19;  
 Mt 4:1-11



**PLEASE REMEMBER THE SICK OF OUR PARISH IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Alan Birtles, Alan Hughes, Alex Stirrat, Alicia Prince, Alison Hellams, Anna Johnston, Anne McEvoy, Anthony Young, Anton Niemoeller, Ayyette Ramos, Barbara Stirling, Bernadette Thornton, Bill Adcock, Charles Greeneklee, Charlotte Johnstone, Cherri Hyde, Christine Brasser, Christine Gordon, Claudia Rose, David Beaven, Damian Canavan, Elisabeth Burns, Emma Altin, Eva McCarthy, Fr Alfred Farrugia, Fr David Shelton OMI, Fr John O'Doherty OMI, Fran Lewis, Geoff Monteleone, Georgina Evans, Gill Chuachett, Graham Hellams, Granville Davies, Greg Cashmere, Helen Durkin, Hermy Ramos, Herby Weber, Ian Roberts, Ian Wallace, Jackie Chin, Jason Luis, Jean Keanan, Jet Robinson, Josie Cinmino, Justin Rowe, Katie Correll, Kath Bradfield, Kathleen Duggan, Lara Luis, Lisa Johnstone, Margaret Baugham, Martin Cox, Maria Galinato, Maria Schinella, Marie Trainor, Marthese Cinelli, Mary Meatheringham, Maryrose Aquilina, Maureen Cunningham, May Green, Michael Frederick, Mollie Davidson, Moya Nussio, Murray Williams, Paddy McLean, Pat Durkin, Paul Halman, Peter Hale, Peter Kelly, Philip McKelliff, Ray Bragg, Renata Stirrat, Richard Walsh, Robert Kean, Roeben Johnstone, Ron Todd, Ros Venn, Stanley Sagucio, Tania Altin, Terry Bayldon, Theresa Sara, Tony Petrie, Tony Siciliano, Trish Hehir

**Feast day of the Week**

**St David Tuesday February 28th**

Born in Wales on a clifftop during a violent storm around the year 500, St David, who belonged to an aristocratic family, became a famous preacher and founded monasteries and churches from Wales to Brittany. He live an ascetical life which he shared with others. His Rule forbade the eating of meat. It is said that he made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem and was mad a bishop by the Patriarch. After his death, his shrine in West Wales became an important place of pilgrimage.



**St Vincent de Paul Food Bank**

This week—**WEETBIX, BREAKFAST CEREAL, RICE, FULL CREAM LONG LIFE MILK, PASTA, PASTA SAUCE,** Cans of Tomatoes, Jam, Milo, Vegemite.

**Items for baby layettes: cotton vests, socks or booties, nappies, nappy pins, disposable nappies, cotton blankets, cotton sheets, towels, soap, wipes, wash cloths, baby shampoo, bibs, onesies, wool.** Items can be left in foyer.

*Thank You*



**Parish Prayer Network:**

Prayers for any need.

All you need to do is call one of the following:  
 Marie 8264 9569, Maureen 8261 6906  
 or Beth 8396 2079

<b>MINISTRY ROSTER 4/5 March 2017</b>	6.30pm	9.30am	5.30pm
<b>Ministers Please Note:</b>	C Patricia Beaven	C Dorothy Nappa	C Terry Roberts
This roster follows the original	R1 Hughette Rignanese	R1 Margaret Duggan	R1 Philip Matthews
roster. If you have made any changes	R2 Keith Collins	R2 Roderick Essery	R2 Anne Goss
they will not be reflected here. Please	EM1 David Lloyd	Em1 Annette Stone	Em1 Judith Mohan
check the notice board at the back of	Em2 Jim Kelly	Em2 Malcolm Davies	Em2 Stuart Feirclough
the church for updates.	Em3 Roman Szczepanik	Em3 Bob Powell	Em3 Michael Wright
	Em4 Anna Szczepanik	Em4 Marian Powell	Em4 Jijimol Poulouse
	M James Lloyd	M Michael & Tim Carter	M Sonia

**Church Cleaners:** Team G: Cid/Tindull/Crasto/Yates

**Altar Linen:** 5th March: Dot