



Pius News

2nd Sunday of Lent Year A

12th March 2017

THE FLAVOR OF GOD'S ENERGY BY FR RON ROLHEISER OMI

All things considered, I believe that I grew up with a relatively healthy concept of God. The God of my youth, the God that I was catechized into, was not unduly punishing, arbitrary, or judgmental. He was omnipresent, so that all of our sins were noticed and noted, but, at the end of the day, he was fair, loving, personally concerned for each of us, and wonderfully protective, to the point of providing each of us with a personal guardian angel. That God gave me permission to live without too much fear and without any particularly crippling religious neuroses.

But that only gets you so far in life. Not having an unhealthy notion of God doesn't necessarily mean that you have a particularly healthy one. The God whom I was raised on was not overly stern and judgmental, but neither was he very joyous, playful, witty, or humorous. Especially, he wasn't sexual, and had a particularly vigilant and uncompromising eye in that area. Essentially he was grey, a bit dour, and not very joyous to be around. Around him, you had to be solemn and reverent. I remember the Assistant Director at our Oblate novitiate telling us that there is no recorded incident, ever, of Jesus having laughed.

Under such a God you had permission to be essentially healthy, but, to the extent that you took him seriously, you still walked through life less than fully robust and your relationship with him could only be solemn and reverent.

Then, already a generation ago, there was a strong reaction in many churches and in the culture at large to this concept of God. Popular theology and spirituality set out to correct this, sometimes with an undue vigour. What they presented instead was a laughing Jesus and a dancing God and while this was not without its value it still left us begging for a deeper literature about the nature of God and what that might mean for us in terms of a health and relationships.

That literature won't be easy to write, not just because God is ineffable, but because God's energy is also ineffable. What, indeed, is energy? We rarely ask this question because we take energy as something so primal that it cannot be defined but only taken as a given, as self-evident. We see energy as the primal force that lies at the heart of everything that exists, animate and inanimate. Moreover, we feel energy, powerfully, within ourselves. We know energy, we feel energy, but what we rarely recognize its origins, its prodigiousness, its joy, its goodness, its effervescence, and its exuberance. We rarely recognize what it tells us about God. What does it tell us?

The first quality of energy is its prodigiousness. It is prodigal beyond our imagination and this speaks something about God. What kind of creator makes billions of throwaway universes? What kind of creator makes trillions upon trillions of species of life, millions of them never to be seen by the human eye? What kind of father or mother has billions of children?

And what does the exuberance in the energy of young children say about our creator? What does their playfulness suggest about what must also lie inside of sacred energy? What does the energy of a young puppy tell us about what's sacred? What do laughter, wit, and irony tell us about the God?

No doubt the energy we see around us and feel irrepressibly within us tells us that, underneath, before and below everything else, there flows a sacred force, both physical and spiritual, which is at its root, joyous, happy, playful, exuberant, effervescent, and deeply personal and loving. That energy is God. That energy speaks of God and that energy tells us why God made us and what kind of permissions God is giving us for living out our lives.

When we try to imagine the heart of reality, we might picture things this way: At the very centre of everything there sit two thrones, on one sits a King and on the other sits a Queen, and from these two thrones issues forth all energy, all creativity, all power, all love, all nourishment, all joy, all playfulness, all humour, and all beauty. All images of God are inadequate, but this image hopefully can help us understand that God is perfect masculinity and perfect femininity making perfect love all the time and that from this union issues forth all energy and all creation. Moreover that energy, at its sacred root, is not just creative, intelligent, personal, and loving, it's also joyous, colourful, witty, playful, humorous, erotic, and exuberant at its very core. To feel it is an invitation to gratitude.

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The challenge of our lives is to live inside that energy in a way that honours it and its origins. That means keeping our shoes off before the burning bush as we respect its sacredness, even as we take from it permission to be more robust, free, joyous, humorous, and playful – and especially more grateful.



Second Sunday of Lent 12th March 2017



During these early weeks of Lent we hear of Spirit, wilderness, temptation, wild beasts, angels, and, in this week in particular, of promise and transfiguration. What do these words tell us about how we are asked to spend the Lenten season?

We hear of the loving promise made between God and Abraham. On Mount Tabor, God speaks of Jesus as 'beloved' son and urges Peter, James and John to "Listen to him". He urges them to listen to what Jesus has been saying about the direction his ministry will now take — Jesus' journey to Jerusalem and his death and eventual resurrection—a journey on which we, as people of a loving Covenant, are invited.



This journey is intended to help us discern what really matters, and to recognise that our responsibility for others goes beyond our immediate community.

Project Compassion urges us to recognise Martina from Timor-Leste as a neighbour, full of dignity and grace. She has taken the long journey to transform her life, make important links with a supportive community and create a better future for herself and her children.

Our God on Mount Tabor, who sends the Son 'not to be served but to serve', invites us on this journey to transform the world through the sacrifices of our daily life.



Please donate to Project Compassion 2017 and help people in rural areas of the Philippines build better futures for their families and their neighbours.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

Free organ recitals

Wednesday, March 15, 1pm – 1:30pm
St Francis Xavier's Cathedral

Adelaide's David Heah will be the organist.

Volunteer Briefing

Did you know that **all volunteers** in the Adelaide Archdiocese are mandated by law to report child abuse and neglect? In order to ensure all our volunteers are equipped to identify and respond appropriately to concerns about children and young people, we invite any volunteers who have not yet participated in Child Safe Environments training or an equivalent course, to attend a 90 minute volunteer briefing session, run by the Archdiocesan Child Protection Unit. The session will be held on March 14 at 5.30pm at Manresa, Norwood Parish, 137 William St, Norwood.

Please note that, with respect to child-safe initiatives, as per Archdiocesan Policy, **all Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist** are required to provide certification of attendance to Child Safe Environments Training.

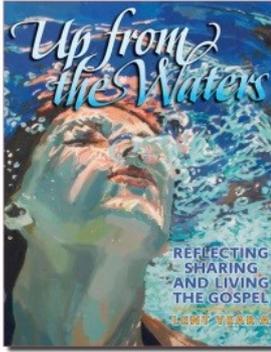
RSVP: childprotection@adelaide.catholic.org.au
or 8210 8159.

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.

UP FROM THE WATERS



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.

Lenten Discussion Groups have commenced but it's not too late to join a group—see one of the priests after Mass today.

Fr John OMI

Caritas Bay-City Fun Run – Mar 19

Caritas Australia has entered a team in the Sunday Mail Bay-City Fun Run called "Project Compassion".

For further information phone Angela Hart, Diocesan Director on 8210 8172 or email angelah@caritas.org.au

Birthline Telephone Counselling Course

Full training is given on a free 10-week Telephone Counselling Course from May 2 - July 4 on Tuesday evenings from 7pm to 9pm on all aspects of our organisation. Please email birthline@birthline.org.au or contact Grace on 0413 380 833.

Easter Raffle

The Easter Raffle has started. Can you please help us by donating something to go in the baskets. If you would prefer, you could give Dot some money and she will buy the Easter goodies for you.

Thank you
Dot, Lou & Marie

Diary Dates:

Fridays in Lent: Stations of the Cross 7.30pm
April 4th: Regional Reconciliation at Modbury Parish 7pm
April 16: Easter Sunday

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.

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 or go to the website: <http://40daysforlife.com/Adelaide>. See the notice board for all details

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: Gen 12:1-4;
 2 Tim 1:8-10; Mt 17:1-9

Next Week's Readings 3rd Sunday of Lent
Year A: Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8;
 Jn 4:5-42



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

Recently Deceased: Peter Redman

Feast day of the Week

St Cyril of Jerusalem Saturday March 18th

Cyril of Jerusalem (c.313 – 386 AD) was born at or near the city of Jerusalem, and was apparently well-read in both the Church fathers and the pagan philosophers; he was a distinguished theologian of the early Church. Cyril was ordained a deacon by Bishop St. Macarius of Jerusalem in about 335 and a priest some eight years later by Bishop St. Maximus. About the end of 350 AD he succeeded Maximus as Bishop of Jerusalem, but was exiled on more than one occasion due to the enmity of Acacius of Caesarea, and the policies of various emperors. Cyril left important writings documenting the instruction of catechumens and the order of the Liturgy in his day. He is venerated as a saint by the Roman Catholic Church, the Eastern Orthodox Church, and the Anglican Communion. In 1883, Cyril was declared a Doctor of the Church by Pope Leo XIII. He is highly respected in the Palestinian Christian Community.



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

MINISTRY ROSTER 18/19 March 2017	6.30pm	9.30am	5.30pm
Ministers Please Note:	C Anna Szczepanik	C Jos Hensing	C Sonia Mohanaraj
This roster follows the original	R1 Martyn Pearce	R1 Bernadette Davies	R1 Kathy Healey
roster. If you have made any changes	R2 Jean Canil	R2 Sue Griffith	R2 Amy Bartjes
they will not be reflected here. Please	EM1 Roman Szczepanik	Em1 Marie Sterai	Em1 Terry Roberts
check the notice board at the back of	Em2 David Lloyd	Em2 Tommy Morrison	Em2 Stuart Feirclough
the church for updates.	Em3 Patricia Beaven	Em3 Doris Taylor	Em3 Jijimol Poulouse
	Em4 Jim Kelly	Em4 Annette Stone	Em4 Esma Gagliardi
	M James Lloyd	M Peter Roberts	M

Church Cleaners: Team A: Mohan/Augustyn/Zammit/Caruana/Golding

Altar Linen: 19th March: Jackie