



31 October 2010

Welcome *A warm welcome to all who join us today in giving worship and praise to our great God and Saviour. May this be a time of growing in grace and strengthening our relationship with the Lord and with each other. Please join us for a cuppa after the service. If you are visiting today, please sign our visitor's Book. We have an information leaflet explaining our church's ministries and activities, feel free to take one or ask for one.*

WORSHIP TODAY

9:30 AM Pastor Jim de Witte
Message: The Great Lie
Reading: Matthew 12: 22-32

6:00 PM Pastor LaMont Ferreira
(Pastor Jim in Langwarrin)
Message: The Bigger they are the harder they fall
Reading: 1 Samuel 17:32-51

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

9:30 AM Pastor Jim de Witte
6:00 PM Pastor Jim de Witte

OFFERINGS

THIS WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – Music Ministry (Reformation Sunday)

NEXT WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – Kids Church

LAST WEEK

Freewill/Pledges	\$1,808.90
Dandenong High School Chaplaincy	\$683.30
Donation hall	\$200.00



ROSTERS

COFFEE SERVING :

Today: N & M Steunenber, H van der Jagt
D Mekking

Next Week: H. van der Kruk, P. Noorbergen,
M. van Daalhuizen.

PA & VIDEO :

Today: Matthew Noorbergen, Dave Barrot.

Next Week: Jennifer van Neutegem,
David Cameron.

GREETERS

Today: Peter & Atie Bruinewoud.

Next week: Martin & Coby van Rossen.

From the Pastor's Desk

In recent weeks many in Australia got very excited about Mary MacKillop becoming Australia's first ever Catholic saint. The community at large is excited about our Aussie Saint. The headline in the Age newspaper from an article by Cardinal George Pell was 'Mary MacKillop's canonisation an important day for Australian Catholics'. The newspapers had souvenir editions, with a poster of Mary MacKillop. Thousands attended the Vatican to celebrate the canonisation declaration.

For those of you who know nothing about Mary MacKillop, a few introductory historical details are

in order. In short, Mary MacKillop (born 1842 in Melbourne) helped to establish ‘The Sisters of St Joseph’ in order to create dozens of Australian Catholic schools to educate Catholic children; many of whom came from poor Australian families. Temporary excommunication failed to stop the feisty Mary (who fought many battles within the Catholic Church) from achieving her goals and is remembered by Australian Catholics for reaching out to the underprivileged in society.

Part of the process for her canonisation was ‘scientific’ evidence of at least two miracles attributed to Mary. The evidence, we are told, must show that miracles have occurred and that Mary MacKillop, in death, has persuaded God to cure at least two desperately ill people. Thousands of hours has gone into the examination of "documentary and anecdotal" evidence of Mary's life to secure this proof. Panels of bishops, doctors and others in Sydney and Rome engaged in rigorous interrogation of the evidence and the conclusion is beyond doubt. But the documentation is largely secret. What evidence can there be that a dead person, Mary MacKillop, has the power of intercession with God and, further, has persuaded God to do something.

By all means honour her life and work, but to raise to the level of a saint who, in death, can intercede for us before the throne of grace is not what we read in Scripture. According to the Catholic Church a ‘saint’ is a totally surrendered Christian (Catholic) who has meritoriously bypassed purgatory, lives in Heaven and intercedes for Catholics on earth. They serve as inspirational examples to the Catholic flock because they are considered very holy; due in large part to their "good works" on behalf of the Catholic Church. They are, however, venerated – not worshipped. Be that as it may, Catholics believe saints are good value as far as personal heavenly lobbying is concerned.

Describing Mary MacKillop, Sydney Catholic Archbishop George Pell claimed Mary had “earned her

stripes”; a clear reference to the Catholic view of ‘grace plus works’ – in effect, a works based salvation.

When it comes to the Bible, however, there are actually quite a few references to the word “saint”, all of which are at odds with a Catholic understanding.

In fact, the word ‘saint’ is clearly applied to all believers, not just to some. In all cases apart from one verse (Phil 4:21 and this is contextually applying to all Christians) the word is never used in the singular. The “saints” according to the New Testament are the church (all true believers). There is not even a hint of the Catholic view of saints found anywhere in the New Testament. To be a "Christian" is to be a "saint" - a holy one; that is, a saved sinner accepted by God, totally, because of what Jesus (only) has achieved for him/her as a substitute for them on the cross. In short, he paid the penalty for their sin - hence, the 'sinner' is now a 'saint' because the sinner has been adopted into the family of God (our Father, our Dad). Australia has had countless Christian saints, and still has.

Sin has been effectively dealt with, no need for purgatory. Nor is there any mediator in heaven apart from Jesus Christ, being still in the form of a man; the Divine Messiah is God’s sole representative in Heaven as the Great High Priest, Prophet and King. It is Jesus only, Who stands between those who formally estranged from God - sinners to saints.

Paul, writing to Timothy, states very clearly that “... *there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.*” 1

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Newsletter compiled by Adrian de Vos. Email newsletter@dcrc.org.au Phone 9547 6878 News items dead line is 5 PM Wednesday.		

Timothy 2:5-6 (ESV)

Through all of this I feel grateful for the Reformation, which we remember on this day, which swept through Europe in the 16th century. One of the catch cries of the Reformation was “Christ alone.” Let us hold unwavering to that. Why is it that there are many who want to add to the finished work of Christ? Is Jesus not enough? Is not what He accomplished enough? Did He not say on the cross *"It is finished."*?

SUPPORT FOR OUR VCE STUDENTS:

Both **Cameron and Emily de Witte** have Year 12 exams in the coming weeks. You may like to encourage them with a card, a phone call, and with your prayers as they prepare and sit for exams.

Below is the time tabled exams so you can be prayerful for them on the day.

Cameron

28.10.10 English (done!)

01.11.10 Maths

03.11.10 Maths (a.m.)

Geography (p.m.)

05.11.10 Health & Human Development

09.11.10 Visual Communication

Design

11.11.10 Software development

Emily

Church Op Shop

We open Thursdays 11.30am-4.30pm and Fridays 10am- 4.30pm. Donations can be dropped off during these times. Please remember we cannot accept electrical items. If you would like to volunteer some time to help us either for set up on Thursdays at 10am, pack up on Fridays at 4.30pm, or general help sorting donations and sharing cuppas with customers, please speak to Anneke Laverman or Anita de Witte. We would love some extra help!

ChildSafe Training

ChildSafe is a program designed and promoted by Scripture Union to assist organisation in providing an environment that is child safe and friendly. Because we have a duty of care when working with children, ChildSafe has developed a range of standards, guidelines and training material.

A number of years ago we, as a church signed up for the ChildSafe program. At that time most people undertook the initial training module, but we haven't kept that up-to-date. We have been using ChildSafe material with our enrolment forms and registration of children in our programs. Since then the denomination has registered with ChildSafe and is a recognised training provider.

On Saturday 6th November Ray Rus (Denominational Children's Ministry Co-ordinator) will be holding a training day in our church for a number of CRCA churches. We need all people that are involved in our children's and youth programs to attend this day. That is people involved in Kidz Church, Creche Church, J-Team, Kids Hope and URY.

On the day we will undertake the training modules and do the 'test' on-line to be registered as a ChildSafe team member. The training is from 8.30-11.30am for team members and 8.30-2.30 for team leaders.

Information packs are being distributed now.

COLLEGE BOXES

Ladies please bring your savings for the college with you to church. October is the month that the boxes are emptied. I will be pleased to take them from you. In case you do not have a savings box and would also like to do something for the students, please contact me. Yours in Christ.

Janny Appel.

Church Council

Church Council meets again this coming Thursday (4th November) at 7.30pm in the church.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Richard Steendam October 31
Maurice Eleveld November 6

May the Lord bless you And send from above The
peace of His presence,
The joy of His love.

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

THE GRACE GROW GROUP (Triple G)
Meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 2.00-3.30
pm. Leader is John Nicholson. Everyone is welcome.
Contact Regina Gnanathurai on 97956252

OASIS GROWTH GROUP:

meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month
(but not during school holidays) at the Burggraaf's:
7:15 – 9:15 pm. New members welcome to attend.
Ph: 9791 2601

COFFEE BREAK LADIES BIBLE STUDY,
Meet at the church at 10am. All ladies are welcome
we have fellowship and study God's Word every
Tuesday morning.

VENTURE BIBLE STUDY

(young adults bible study)

Venture Bible Study meets again this Sunday at 4pm
at the home of Mark Kruizinga, 41 Bergman Rd,
Langwarrin.

If you would like to come and join please see David
Barrot or ring him on 0401 073 954.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday night Bible Study. For further
information about our group contact Mark Meenks
on 97045516.

Family Voice Australia

Last week we are blessed by the ministry and
teaching of Peter Stevens from Family Voice
Australia (FAVA). FAVA's work involves promoting
Christian values, particularly those affecting the
family, to our civic leaders including state and
federal members of parliament. To that end FAVA
remains a strong Christian voice for family, faith and
freedom. Peter is an ordained minister who speaks to
a wide variety of churches and interested groups like
schools and the RTC.

The ministry of FAVA is a faith ministry, with Peter
dependant on gifts and support from individuals and
churches. If you want to support his ministry then put
a gift in an envelope marked 'FAVA' or Peter
Stevens. Cheques should be made payable to Family
Voice Australia.

Check out their website: www.fava.org.au and keep
up-to-date with their ministry and work.

CRCA Women's Convention

will be on

Friday 24 – Monday 27 February 2012

At Camp Clayton, Ulverstone, Tasmania

www.campclayton.org.au

Bedding and towels will be supplied
and no need to use high bunk beds!

So start planning to be there...

Only 17 months to go!



Association For Christian Senior Citizens Homes Inc.

Outlook Gardens Christian Retirement

Village and Hostel

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General meeting of the Association for Christian Senior Citizens' Homes Inc. will be held at 2.p.m. on Saturday 20th November, 2010 in the Outlook Gardens Community Centre, next door to the Reformed Church of Dandenong, at the corner of Gladstone Road and Outlook Drive, Dandenong North.

Members of the Association and other interested persons are invited to put this date in their diaries and to attend this meeting.

For all enquiries please contact Hostel Reception: 9795 7566.

Car Boot Sale- Thank you!

What a rainy day we had last Saturday! But this did not dampen our enthusiasm. The Op Shop was warm and dry so recorded bumper sales. The hot food and drinks went down well. Thankyou to everyone who pitched in and helped on the day, it was a great team effort and a lovely day of fellowship. This year we decided to donate the proceeds to COM. We were happy to give \$675 to John and Anne to distribute where needed. They still need more money to cover the children's Christmas gifts- an opportunity will be given later in the year to help in this way. Another big need is the snake proof wall they are hoping to build around the orphanage. Anyone wishing to donate towards this worthy cause should see John and Anne Van Breen.

Friday, November 19, 2010

7.30pm

At the

Reformed Theological College

125 Pigdons Road, Waurnd Ponds

On this occasion we hope to graduate our students with various awards. We will also valedict some students who have completed their course but do not have results as yet.

We would love you to come and and celebrate with us!

The speaker on this occasion will be the Rev. Brian Vaatstra, minister of the Kingston Christian Reformed Church.

After the ceremony you are invited to afternoon tea in our dining hall for congratulations and fellowship!

Looking forward to your presence.

With warm greetings,

Dr. Henk DeWaard Academic Registrar

Pastoral and Prayer Points

- **John Van Neutegem** was hospitalized on Monday evening after another seizure. His medication was adjusted and this past Friday John was due to go to Casey Hospital for respite for two weeks through the palliative care program. So John will continue to have good medical care. It is a blessing for Debbie and the family that John is very much at peace with his circumstances. We can thank God for His grace to John in that. Continue to pray for God to sustain John and Debbie and the children through this respite time and in his declining physical strength.

- **Peter Kaka** will be away in Sudan to see his family for 3 weeks, leaving on the 17th November. As Katherine is not yet driving, she will need support with the 3 little ones during this time as well as a ride to church on Sundays.

Offer to visit during this time and encourage her.

- Pray for **Siska and David Barrot** as they prepare for the birth of their baby and that all may go well.

- Many people have struggled with colds, coughs and 'flu symptoms during this season of changeable weather. May you experience relief and

restored health again.

- Pray for all those who are preparing for exams or completing work requirements both at VCE level and at tertiary levels.

National day of prayer 6th November

We encourage you to pray with your family and friends, church services, small groups and your own personal prayer times and wherever people have a desire to pray for the Mission.

Thank you for sharing with us in the ministry of TLM

Graham Peck

Chief Executive Officer

LEPROSY MISSION PRAYER

Almighty Father, the giver of life and health, look mercifully on those who suffer from leprosy.

Stretch out your hand to touch and heal them as Jesus did during His earthly life.

Grant wisdom and insight to those who are seeking the prevention and cure of the disease:

Give skill and sympathy to those who minister to the patients;

Reunite the separated with their families and friends;

And inspire your people with the task set before The Leprosy Mission,

That it may never lack either the staff or the means to carry on its healing work,

In accordance with your will, and to the glory of your holy name

We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ,

Your Son, our Lord.

Amen

