

MARCH 14 & 15, 2009 – THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT - YEAR B

Issue Number 300

THE PROBLEM IS ALCOHOL ADVERTISING

The marriage between sport and alcohol advertising needs to be terminated. Major sporting bodies are too reliant on sponsorship from companies that target young people in an attempt to bolster alcohol consumption. The paradox is that sport, in part, concerns the promotion of a healthy lifestyle while there is evidence that alcohol consumption, any alcohol consumption, has dubious good-health outcomes.

Advertising of tobacco products at sporting venues and during commercial breaks of televised sporting fixtures was once considered the norm even though the evidence of the harmful nature of tobacco products was clearly understood by the tobacco companies themselves, sports administrators, medical practitioners and government agencies. The tobacco lobby was so powerful that it continued unchecked to ruin the health of generations of Australians vulnerable to the cool image associated with cigarette smoking.

The vacuum left with the withdrawal of tobacco sponsorship in sport has been filled by the promotion-of-alcohol-consumption lobby. The benefits associated with this relationship are dubious.

The Church should comment on this social situation because it affects the society in which we live. Most of us like to have a drink and there is nothing wrong with that. The “wowsers” image of the religious fanatic talking up the evils of drink lives with us still, but that should not deflect us from commenting and having a position on this serious matter.

Since the advertising of alcohol products targets the young and the vulnerable, the Church has a duty-of-care to speak up in defence of those who are most at risk. Marketing girlie alcohol

drinks, for instance, that look like lolly-water in attractive glass containers with enticing but unclear labels called “alcopops” is one case of immoral advertising. These sugary pre-mixed spirits are the preferred drink of teenagers, yet one in four can't taste the liquor in them and don't realise how drunk they are getting. Complaints to the companies that market such products fall on deaf ears because, with advertising, sales soar, market share up-sizes and profits increase. The media is complicit with these actions because the alcohol industry has an open chequebook mentality and cultivates media moguls whereas the churches are babes-in-the-wood when it comes to the media and show a naivety which is detrimental to getting a ‘good news’ message across.

The Australian Hotels Association and the peak body of registered clubs in NSW, ClubsNSW, both have strong links to government and the media. They are powerful lobby groups. They employ

large numbers of people.

The extension of poker machine availability into hotels in NSW seems to have found community acceptance without a murmur. The mixture of legal gambling and alcohol on the one premises is considered acceptable. The cash-strapped NSW Government is reliant on the income from pokies and promotes “responsible gambling” programmes as a sop to appease complainants.

Most drownings in Australia are alcohol related, as are many road accidents and assaults.

With backyard swimming pool deaths, it can be that the parent on playground duty takes his/her eye off the ball consuming alcohol with friends in an innocent family setting. A pool gate is left open or a visiting four-year old scales the council approved enclosure fence. A family get-



together turns into a tragedy. The common element is alcohol. At the other end of the scale is the binge-drinking teen who gets into a fight on a Saturday night at a 'safe' venue overseen by over-built bouncers sporting coiled wire coming out of their orifices, complete with alcohol charged mates ready to take on the world. The casualty departments of our major hospitals are at breaking point on Saturday nights. And the common element is alcohol.

The Sea Eagles and in fact the whole NRL is in a mess at the moment over alcohol. The code seems to be unable to get its act together. Last Friday week's one million dollar alcohol-fuelled season launch at a hotel where a star Manly player was asked to leave the function because he was too drunk is all too common. The events that followed are all alcohol related.

That Max Delmege, an owner of the Manly Sea Eagles, would allow a player facing sexual assault charges to play with his team this weekend shows how morally bankrupt a club can be. He is quoted as saying it was "one of the most difficult decision of my life". With such little understanding of the seriousness of the situation he should be removed from the board. Thank heavens for David Gallop's intervention.

Most parents don't want their children watching alcohol advertising during sports events on TV, but as late as Friday, the Rudd Government was still resisting placing bans on alcohol advertising.

The health of our society means we need to agree that the liquor industry should be kept at arms length from sport. The advertising of alcohol, like the advertising of tobacco, should be prohibited on television. We should be pro-active in approaching our government representatives over this matter so that it becomes illegal to advertise any alcohol product on TV. A very effective strategy would be to ring the TV networks every time we see an advertisement promoting alcohol on TV.

Father John.

HOLY HOUR every Thursday from 8.00 to 9.00pm including Rosary, prayers, hymns & scripture reading. All welcome!

Feast Days this Week

St Patrick - Tuesday, March 17
St Joseph - Thursday, March 19

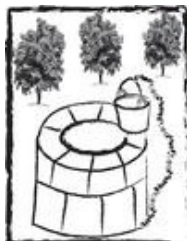
STATIONS OF THE CROSS will take place on Friday evenings at 7.30pm during Lent.



LITURGY CORNER

Because this parish is fortunate in having people (those who undertook the RCIA journey) who want to join us during the Easter Vigil, we turn from the readings of Year B to those of Year A for the third, fourth and fifth Sundays of Lent. Now this may seem a strange thing to do, but when we look closely at the readings for Year A we come to understand how closely and clearly they reflect the Christian journey - not only of the RCIA participants but of us all. On these three Sundays the Catholic Church celebrates the Scrutinies: *in order to inspire in the elect a desire for purification and redemption by Christ, three scrutinies are celebrated. By this means, first of all, the elect are instructed gradually about the mystery of sin, from which the whole world and every person longs to be delivered and thus saved from its present and future consequences. Second, their spirit is filled with Christ the Redeemer, who is the living water (first scrutiny Gospel: the Samaritan woman, John 4:5-42), the light of the world (second scrutiny Gospel: the man born blind, John 9:1-41) and the resurrection and the life (third scrutiny Gospel: Lazarus, John 11:1-45). From the first to the third scrutiny the elect should progress in their perception of sin and their desire of salvation.* (The Rites of Initiation) These three Gospel readings invite us to explore the richness of our baptism, prepare for the renewal of our baptismal promises and to remind us that, like Lazarus, Jesus calls us from death to the freedom of life which is gifted to the children of God.

Today's Readings



First Reading Exodus 17:3-7
Following God's command, Moses strikes a rock and fresh water flows out to quench the Israelites' thirst.

Second Reading Romans 5:1,2,5-8
St Paul tells the Christians in Rome that the proof of God's love is that

Jesus died for us while we were still sinners.

Gospel John 4:5-42 Jesus meets a Samaritan woman by a well and leads her to faith in him as the Messiah.

Next week: Fourth Sunday of Lent - Year A
1 Samuel 16:1,6-7,10-13; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

LECTORS PLEASE NOTE On the 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of Lent the readings from Year A (not Year B) will be used.

RETIREMENT VILLAGES SCHEDULE THIS WEEK:

Warrina - Mass & Anointing of the Sick, Tuesday, 17 March, 4pm in the Chapel.

Nuffield & Hopetoun - Mass & Anointing of the Sick, Wednesday, 18 March, 4pm in the Chapel (Farrer Brown Court)

Nordby - Mass & Anointing of the Sick, Thursday, 19 February, 4pm.

Wirreanda - Communion Service & Anointing of the Sick, Thursday, 19 February, 11am.

Kilvinton - Mass & Anointing of the Sick, Friday, 20 March, 2pm at Brian King Gardens.

Flinders - Communion Service & Anointing of the Sick, Saturday, 21 March, 10am at Donnington Court.

24 HOUR EUCHARISTIC ADORATION FOR LENT A special 24 hour Eucharistic Adoration will be held from 5.00pm this Friday (20 March) until 5.00pm Saturday. This is time for reparation and prayer that the Holy Father asked for in his Lenten Letter. Please put your names on the roster in the foyer.



BLANKETS FOR THE NEEDY. With the cooler weather coming it is time to restart blanket making for our St. Vincent de Paul Society. There will be a morning

tea on Wednesday 1st April 2009 at 10.00am in the Marian Centre to welcome new and continuing knitters/crocheters and anyone else who would like to become involved with this ministry. Transport available if needed. RSVP to Jo 9634 5961 or Hilary 9894 5913.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PROGRAM 09/10

Information letters are available from the Church foyer. All families must complete the **Faith Formation Course** prior to their child commencing preparation for the sacraments. Please note the following dates:

- **Faith Formation Course** - information evenings to be held **Mon 3 & Tue 4 Aug at 7:30pm in the Church.**
- **Faith Formation Course** commences week beginning **17 August** for 4 weeks.

Please watch future bulletins for **Sacramental Preparation Program** enrolment information.

LIFE BEGINS AT 50 BUS TRIP to Parkes and the Golden West from June 1-6. \$745 pp twin share all inclusive price (\$175 single supplement). \$100 deposit. Phone Harry & Robin on 9634 3354.

LIFE BEGINS AT 50: Sunday 15 March walk round Circular Quay & Botanical Gardens. Meet for the 10.20am Ferry at Rydalmere or at Circular Quay at 11.00am. For further information ring Howard on 98998983.



ROSTERS FOR EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST ARE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION FROM THE CHURCH FOYER.

HELP NEEDED Do you attend 10.30am Mass? Would you have 15 minutes to spare once every 4 weeks? We need a volunteer to help in the Bookshop. Please phone Jan Harrild on 0408 291258.

DRIVER NEEDED: One driver is needed in the Sunday 9.00am Mass transport team to pick up and drop off a resident once a month from the Anglican Retirement Village. If interested please ring Jim Gidlow on 0403 814427 or 9659 4782.

OAKHILL COLLEGE REUNION: A reunion has been planned for former Oakhill College students "Class of 1984" to be held in the Centenary Sports Centre, Oakhill College, Old Northern Road, Castle Hill. NSW 2154 at 7pm on 4th April, 2009. Inquires to Kerrie O'Leary on koleary@oakhill.nsw.edu.au.

PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES and envelopes are available from the foyer today.

LIFE Night: The **WIPEOUT LIFE** Night is coming to you live TONIGHT. It's all about the challenges... Have **YOU** got what it takes? If you're in Years 9 to 12, join us after the youth tonight from 7:30-8:30pm for the ultimate challenge.

Into LIFE is on Monday night for anyone in Years 7 and 8 at high school. Come along from 7-8:30pm for a fun night with friends. Bring \$2 for supper.

Passion Play 2009: Any high-school youth or young adults who would like to participate in this year's passion play, please contact us at the parish office on 9634 2622 or sacraments@stbernadette.org.au.

Can you sew? We need more costumes for our Passion Play. If you can help, please contact Helen Tarlington on 9634 3658.

Life Teen produces fantastic **weekly podcasts** for free to help everyone get more out of Sunday Mass. Listen to Mark 'Bible Geek' Hart give an insightful explanation and reflection on the upcoming mass readings. Download these or listen to them online. Subscribe now from **www.lifeteen.com** or search for 'lifeteen.com' at the iTunes store. An excellent resource for lectors. *Plus*, check out their new podcast **THE171** - for great, down to earth talks on faith!

www.lifeteen.com is a great website for all teens and young adults. Get more out of our Catholic faith – the real answers and facts - along with the latest music and movie reviews and even some random facts!

TRIVIA NIGHT St Bernadette's P&F invites all in the Parish to the annual Trivia Night on **Saturday 28th March** in the hall for a night of fun and laughter. Be there at 7pm for 7.30 start. The theme is SPORTS so please dress your table and yourself in favourite sporting gear!! Please call Vanessa Wadih if you have any questions (0438393536).



PARRAMATTA CYO REUNION On St Patrick's Day (this Tuesday) there will be a reunion of the Parramatta CYO at St Patrick's Cathedral, commencing with Mass at 12.30pm. Lunch provided. Cost \$15. Bookings: Jack/ June Barrett 9630 5065 Brian McFadden 9871 2818.

LORETO NORMANHURST POSITION VACANT for a Youth Minister to work 15 hours per week. A job description is available on the website: www.loretonh.nsw.edu.au.

OAKHILL COLLEGE ENROLMENTS for Year 11 students in 2010 close on 22 May 2009. Phone 9899 2288 for Applications for Enrolment.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION 2008-2009

Our next session will be held on **Tue 17th (4pm & 7:30pm) & Sat 21st (3:30pm) March** for Parents and Children, in the Parish Hall. Please continue to pray for all our parish families.

St Bernadette's Parish Community
Parish House, 367 Old Northern Road, Castle Hill, NSW 2154

Telephone 9634 2622 Fax 9899 3511 Email: admin@stbernadette.org.au
 Web page: http://www.stbernadette.org.au

Parish Staff

Fr John Boyle, Parish Priest
 Fr Eugene Szondi, Assistant Priest
 Fr Sunny Michael, ms, Assistant Priest
 Sr Judy McLeod, rsm, Pastoral Associate
 Mrs Alice Bradshaw, Sacramental Co-ordinator
 Mr Ian Pomeroy, Into LIFE Youth Minister
 Mrs Frances Gallagher, Office Manager
 Mrs Monica Rubic, Parish Secretary (Finance: Mon-Thu)
 Mr Michael Watson, Maintenance Co-ordinator

Mass Times for this Week

Sunday Sat 6pm
 Sun 7.30am, 9am, 10.30am & 6pm
 Parish LIFE TEEN Youth Mass

Weekdays Mon 6.45am
 Tue 6.45 am, 9.15 (St Patrick's Day)
 Wed 6.45am, 9.15am
 Thurs 6.45am, 9.15 am
 Fri 6.45am, 9.15 am
 Sat 8am

Mass on Public Holidays at 8am

Reconciliation Sat 8.30am-9am; 4.30pm-5.30pm

Baptisms and Marriages: By appointment only. Contact the Parish House. Please note the Church law: Parents are obliged to take care that infants are baptised in the first few weeks. As soon as possible after the birth or even before it, they are to go to the pastor to request the sacrament for their child and to be prepared properly for it. [Can. 867 §1]

Sacramental Preparation Program 2010: Information nights for families seeking First Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Communion is 3 & 4 August, 2009.

St Bernadette's Parish School: Mr Paul Colyer, Principal 9634 2898

Please pray for Frank Trunfio, Brian McGee, Eileen May Fleming, Harold Kirkpatrick and Robert Carty who have died recently and for the anniversaries of Andreas Arifin Kesuma (Mar 13), Theodorus Afianto Kesuma, Jane Cassab and Peter Eaton (Mar 11).

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – March 21 & 22

ACOLYTES/ SERVERS	LECTORS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION
VIGIL Budi Kawiadji S8	Rebecca Barrett Tony Calabria Douglas/Felicity Carvalho	Joanne Barrett, Carol Cividin, Esther Coleiro, Beverley Curtis, Lucille Wilson, Maureen Fearnside, Richard & Cheryl Koen, Warren Hiser
7.30AM Edy Kesuma S9	Yolanda Colosimo Joyan Fife Michael Cronin	Paul Hennessey, Anne Parker, Remy Sie, Bernard Rogers, Geoff Roney, Catherine Seddon
9.00AM Michael Lopez S10	Angela Crowe Nanette D'Arcy Neil Bone	Brian & Jenny Blacklock, Neil Bone, Angela Crowe, Brian D'Arcy, Jeff Davis, Jocelyn Donovan, Jack Garcia, Yulia Hong
10.30AM Joe Lorenzo S6	Irene Ngu Margaret Griffin Guy Hannan	Jeyaraj & Mary Winslow, Crystal & Bernie Good, Yvette Braganza, Gaye Crammond, Lydia Flores, Damian & Teresa Steenson

6.00 PARISH LIFE TEEN YOUTH MASS MINISTRY ROSTER - March 22

Adult Servers Marc Clasquin	Extraordinary Ministers of Communion Alex Aguilera Amelia Hangan Annalyce Hangan Cassie Knezevic Fran Rogers		Musos
Altar Preparation Josh Becker	Projectionist Matthew Ashton	Ushers Phillip Smith Paul Musgrave	Bass Erich Gracias Flor Piano Alice Bradshaw Guitar Daniel Ang Horns/Strings/ Winds
Lectors Tina Muscat Vanessa Muscat	Gift Preparation Jeremy Smith Mitchell Johnson-Green	Welcomers Alfonso Aguilera Maria Aguilera	Singers Alison Wong Annabel Irawan Darian Jessup- Lonsdale Erich Gracias Flor Sara Ang Veronica Sahabu
Altar Servers S7			

CHILDREN'S LITURGY Joanna Delvecchio Ingrid Fizely	CHURCH HOUSEKEEPING Marion Heron, Marjorie Anderson, Caroline Higgins, Bernadette Logue, Maree Greenwell	COUNTING (2nd Collection) John Loftus, Mila Mina, Joe Busittill, Joseph Collorafi
FLOWER ROSTER No flowers	COUNTING (1st Collection) Bert Hofstaetter Helga Hoefstaetter	BOOKSHOP Jan Harrild / Anne Parker / Christine Jenneke / Sharere Lee / Bernadette Boulos