



Welcome to
Eastern Hills Anglicans
11 September 2011
24rd. Sunday of the Year
10th.
10th. Anniversary of the New York
Twin Towers Terrorist Attack
Web Page Edition

**"Falling to his knees, his fellow
servant begged him, 'Be patient with
me, and I will pay you back.' "**

Today's Celebration

By a coincidence, today's Gospel on forgiveness coincides with the tenth anniversary of the Twin Towers terrorist attack. Even after this passage of time it may too difficult to forgive. It is hard to forgive in some circumstances – yet our Lord managed to forgive his executioners as he hung on the Cross. We all need to pray for our Lord's help to embrace his doctrine of love.

Back to Church Sunday

Sunday 2 October

8 00am Eucharist followed by a BBQ Brunch

*Back to Church Sunday is a **proven** way to encourage people to return to Church.*

** Many of those who have returned found it an ideal opportunity, the **invitation that they have waited for**, to come back to worship.*

** It is a **simple way for parishioners** to be involved in outreach and evangelism*

*** HOWEVER, nobody will come if no one gives the invitation!**

TAKE & USE THE INVITATION CARDS TODAY

Cursillo Morning Tea

Sunday 18th September at 10:45am please?

Martyn's Mutterings: Teaching & Comments by Fr Martyn Forgiveness or Paralysis!

"Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?" When Peter suggested forgiving someone up to seven times he was going way over what was expected and regulated in Judaism of that time and that was for someone of the faith - not outsiders. Our Lord, in response, gives a parable that makes nonsense of such calculations. Mind you, we probably identify with the steward in the Gospel who wanted to throttle his fellow servant rather than forgive him! So, is there another way of looking at forgiving others?

In Mark's gospel, there is the story of the paralyzed man who was brought to Jesus on a stretcher by his companions. When they could not reach our Lord, they opened the roof and lowered him down. Our Lord caused scandal by first pronouncing forgiveness of the man's sins and then demonstrated his authority to do so by physically healing the man of his paralysis. The image is clear; we can be paralysed by sin and in need of the mercy, which Christ alone gives. Indeed, until we receive forgiveness our hearts and minds cannot fully function and flourish.

Now there is also another form of paralysis when someone sins against us, when we have done nothing to deserve such treatment. We become the victim of sin and caught and bound in it by our resentment at such treatment – our instinct may be to retaliate and then we are truly caught. At the centre of our heart and mind is a wound, which will not heal. In this situation, forgiveness is a "letting go" – we set ourselves free from this contagion of paralyzing sin. However, this is not an easy process and we can understand the hurt and pain of innocent victims of terrorism – but we cannot help noticing that they are caught in the moment of the hurt and pain and cannot move forward. Our Lord's teaching to forgive may be difficult to put into practice but he has made it the mark of genuine of faith and trust in him. We may want to use the words of the disciples when they said on another occasion, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus replied, "For mortals it is impossible, but for God all things are possible." Therefore, we need the gift of the grace of God to accomplish this almost supernatural ability to forgive and that is why our Lord became human - to share this gift with his brothers and sisters.

Festival of St Francis of Assisi Earth Mass & the Blessing of Animals 8am Sunday 11 October

Guest Speaker Don Gibson

Pets are an important part of our life.

They bring joy, happiness love
and affection.

Through them we connect
to God's wonderful creation.

So gather on this festival day
to give thanks to God
for our pet companions.

***Bring your family pets along
Followed by a BBQ Brunch***



Readings for Next Sunday, 18th September Festival of the Holy Cross

As this is a feast day, we interrupt the sequence of readings from Paul's Letter to the Romans and Matthew's Gospel. Instead we have readings associated with the theme of the Cross of Christ.

Numbers 21:4b-9. This is a story about Moses in the desert with the difficult and grumbling Israelites. For their complaining, they are attacked by snakes. Moses makes a bronze image of the snake and all whom look on it are saved from death. This story becomes an image used by our Lord describe the place and function of the Cross.

Philippians 2:6-11. Paul has a type of creed of belief in his Letter to the Church at Philippi, in which the Cross is the central part in understanding salvation.

John 3:13-17. In the time of Jesus, when the Rabbis wished to discuss the most holy aspects of their faith would meet in secret. Nicodemus is having such a meeting with Jesus, who through the story of Moses and the bronze serpent, mentioned in the first reading, describes salvation being accomplished through "The Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life."

Walking Group: Next Outing 3pm Sunday 2 October

Meeting at the rotunda across from the Mormon Church at Kangaroo Point. Walk across the Goodwill Bridge and through the Botanical Gardens. The walk will finish with afternoon tea back on the cliffs. Everyone is invited, see you there!

Saint of the Week, 9 September: Charles Lowder, Priest

Charles Lowder was born in Bath in England 1820. He was highly intelligent and studied Kings College London and then went to Oxford University where he gained a BA and MA. Whilst at Oxford he was inspired by Henry Newman and Edward Pusey, the restorers of the Catholic tradition of the Church of England. After ordination, he went to work in London and experienced fierce opposition from evangelicals. His willingness to work in slum parishes, where many feared to serve or avoided; Stepney, Pimlico and the London Docks proved the genuineness of his faith. In 1855, he founded an association of priests known as the *Society of the Holy Cross*. Many of its members were inspired by Father Lowder and worked in the slums. A group of women founded a community of nuns, known as the *Community of the Holy Cross* to assist the priests and allowed Lowder to extend the mission's work of providing schools, a refuge for prostitutes, a hostel for homeless girls, night classes and parish clubs, an insurance scheme for dockworkers, coal for the poor and general poor relief.

Father Lowder was immensely loyal to the Church of England and despite his groundbreaking work suffered persecution for holding onto the Catholic traditions of the Church, (many of these traditions are now quite ordinary today, like vestments). There was even an attempt to prosecute him under the provisions of the *Public Worship Regulation Act* but his reputation amongst ordinary people caused the action to be dropped.

In 1873 cholera broke out in the parish and his work as well of those of the Priests and nuns earned the love and respect of his people who now called him "the Father of Wapping", "the Father" or "Father Lowder". Lowder became the first Anglican priest to receive this title. His health gave way and he died at the age of sixty on the 9 September in 1880.



www.easternhillsanglicans.com.au

Regular Sunday Services.

8am PowerPoint Mass. 9.30am Sung Mass

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Hall Bookings Go to our web page www.easternhillsanglicans.com.au
check the *Hall Bookings Calendar for availability and then*
E-mail request to :Pat Bowman patricia.bowman@bigpond.com
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