



Welcome to
Eastern Hills Anglicans
18 September 2011
Festival of the Holy Cross
25th Sunday of the Year
8am PowerPoint Service

**"Christ Jesus humbled himself,
becoming obedient to death,
even death on a cross."**

Today's Celebration

Our Christian faith is that we share the new life of grace and the promise of the resurrection through Christ alone. We do so because he suffered death on the Cross. On Good Friday we get a glimpse of the horror of that event. However, on this day we celebrate the glory and the power of Christ's Cross and the new life it ushered in.

   **BacktoChurchSunday**

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

Mission Giving Today

The Chaplaincy at Camp Hill Primary School

**Martyn's Mutterings: Teaching & Comments by Fr Martyn
Festival of the Holy Cross**

As we are all children of the Age of Reason, with rationalism being the predominate mode of thinking, we sometimes fail to notice that, even as Christians, we mock the spiritual and the miraculous. I noticed this when the Roman Catholic Church canonised Mary MacKillop last year. One of the requirements of that Church is that evidence of a miracle be attributed to the saint. One was provided and, verified by an independent group of doctors. Yet still some Christians still laughed. I wonder what they expect to happen when they ask for prayers in time of need? Rationalism has robbed us of wonder at the miracle of creation and the miracle of the new creation given by Christ through the Cross, which leads us up to today's celebration of the Holy Cross.

This feast day has its origins in several events that took place in Jerusalem. The first took place on 13th September 335 and commemorates the dedication of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, built by the Emperor Constantine. He had a vision of the Cross - shortly before his decisive battle that made him sole emperor, which also brought an end of persecution against the Church. The second concerns his mother Helena, who discovered the Cross of Christ (is that laughter I hear). This was easier and more probable than sceptics would fear. First, the knowledge of where sacred objects and places were located was well known to the local church and, secondly, such items would be buried in times of crisis, like the recent persecution of Diocletian and Maxentius. In regards to the burial place of Christ, the pagans deliberately built a temple over its location – so the Romans knew where it was! The Empress Helena was able to bring these things to light in the new freedom for the Church. The third event was a disaster when the Persians invaded Jerusalem and took the Cross in 614AD. The Emperor Heraclius went into battle to retrieve it in 629AD, an event celebrated on the 14th September. These events remind us of how powerful was the Cross in the mind of the Early Church. For them the Cross of Christ is not only an object of sorrow but also of victory over evil – a weapon of peace of the unconquered King of Peace, Christ our Lord. A wonder and a joy which should also be ours. Our laughter too should be of joy and not cynicism and God's grace.

CHANGE OF DATE

Festival of St Francis of Assisi

Earth Mass & the Blessing of Animals

8am Sunday 16 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, 11th September

Twenty-second Ordinary Sunday of the Year

Ezekiel 18: 25-28. The reading again introduces the Gospel. Ezekiel the Prophet is being reminded of the obligation of his responsibility to confront evil when it is present amongst God's holy people. This is not necessarily, what people want to hear – but he must do so – for he is responsible for their souls.

Philippians 2:1-11. Today in Paul's letter, he quotes a hymn from the Early Church, which is like a creed to confessing the faith of Christians in the life of Christ as one like us and with us.

Matthew 21:28-32. In this reading, we need to understand that Jesus is no longer in the villages of Galilee but in Jerusalem and here he is confronting the nobles of the priesthood and the remaining aristocrats of the kingdom of Judah. This is a dangerous game and could be lethal – and it was.

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, 19 September, Theodore of Tarsus, Archbishop of Canterbury

I remember an English comedian stating that a new discovery had been made by the great British scientist Günter von Hildebrandt! Of course, the joke illustrates the point that what is truly important is also international. We have no hesitation in asking a renowned scientist to come to Australia, regardless of nationality – as long as they do not arrive in a boat.

The same was true in the life of the Church in previous centuries. The greatest minds were usually clergy and they had positions of responsibility in Church and State – especially when the king could not read and write! This was true of Theodore who was born at Tarsus in what is now present day Turkey, around the year 602AD. He was an Asiatic Greek and had been educated in Athens. He was a monk and a sub-deacon, but the Pope seeing his qualities immediately ordained him priest, then bishop and made him Archbishop of Canterbury. His gifts were soon put into practice with a survey of the whole of England and then a Synod to reform of the Church. He created new dioceses and held several Synods to order the life of the Church, which issued laws dealing with the rights and obligations of both clergy and religious orders. He regulated defined the work and responsibilities of bishops to their own diocese - as some were wandering all over the place. Theodore also created parishes with their own parish priests and many other matters were dealt with to bring about the good order of the Church. Theodore was also a scholar and established a school at Canterbury, which nurtured the future leaders of the Church. However, Theodore was the eighth Archbishop of Canterbury but he was the first to have the willing allegiance of all Anglo-Saxon England. Remarkably, he began his work at the age of 66 and continued in active work until he died at the age of 88. He died on the 19th September 690 and was buried close to St Augustine the first Archbishop of Canterbury.



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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THIS WEEK: PARISH COUNCIL