

Dear friends

There's that mis-used word again!

When Bishop Vincent was here in the parish for Mass recently and again when he came to celebrate Confirmation, he spoke about us being a people of *mission* – a word that is central to our journey of life in faith. But it's a word that has for so long been mis-used and limited in our story of faith. I remember as a child being told about 'the missions'. This mostly referred to distant places where religious sisters/brothers or priests would go – or occasionally a non-typical 'lay' person – to look after poor communities. Of course there are still distant places in need of generous care. But 'mission' isn't meant to be only some kind of exceptional place. Nor is 'mission' only for people in particular vocations. The word 'mission' is from the Latin 'missio' – and it refers to the ways our faith 'sends' us into life in the world. That sending can be across the street, across the building, across the family, across hearts, across the nation or across the world. It hasn't been commonly known that **'missionary' and 'apostle' are the same words** from different languages. The Greek 'apostolos' is an apostle. Yes, Jesus had **apostles** in the bible – but we would be missing the message if we said that apostles or being apostolic is only about those twelve in the bible! That would be as silly as saying that faith is only for the people in the bible!

Our call – our dignity – as missionaries

A 'disciple' means a 'follower who is a learner'. In our Christian faith, we believe that we as disciples – are each then called to apostolic life – to be apostles. So disciples becomes apostolic when they says 'yes' to being sent into life, to live and share faith in their many different ways. So if 'apostle' and missionary' is the exact same word from different languages, that means that each baptised disciple, when he/she says 'yes' to being sent into life, to live and share his/her faith - is a **missionary**.

Might be worth a few reads!

This reflection is not meant to be some kind of language puzzle – but I hope might be worth reading and re-reading a few times as a prayerful exercise to gently reaffirm the dignity given to us as people who share in God's mission; God's mission that is in and for the world that God loves. As people of faith, we are called to be missionary disciples – or from a different language source, but the exact same idea - We are called to be apostles – or pull in a few other words we might have heard and we could say the exact same thing yet again as - We are called to be ministers of God's mission in and for the world. There's our identity, dignity and challenge as baptised Christians – and there's our identity, dignity and challenge as a parish community.

With friendship in God's mission, fr Paul



OUR LADY OF THE WAY
PARISH EMU PLAINS

What does the LORD require of you but to act justly, to love tenderly, and to walk humbly with your God MICAH 6:8

HSC MASS 9.30AM: This Sunday we welcome students from our local schools who will be commencing their HSC exams next week. We offer these students our prayers and encouragement at this important milestone in their life's journey.

May the love and peace of God be with you at this time.

CELEBRATING **40 Years** of Catholic Education at

Our Lady of the Way Primary—Sunday 20th October 2019

Everyone welcome to a BBQ breakfast and *Cuppa* after the 9.30am Mass + other special events.

CATHOLIC MISSION APPEAL: DO NOT FEAR for I Am with you! In line with traditional beliefs, in parts of Ghana, children born with a disability or who mother passes during childbirth, are considered to be "spirit children" and thus at risk of being harmed or killed. The church in Ghana is dedicated to protecting these children and educating families to ensure every child has a chance to live a full life. This ministry in Chana is the focus of this year's appeal which will be held on the weekend of the **26/27 October**.

PLENARY 2020 LISTENING AND DISCERNMENT: The next stage of Plenary 2020 is about Communal Discernment rather than individual discernment and as such we are called together as a group to discuss our future. Please note the flyer in your Bulletin—over the next 6 weeks The Plenary team will relay information to us to see how it can assist us to progress forward in the years ahead.

Our community is very grateful for the efforts of our Plenary team. Thank you



CATECHISTS: IMPORTANT REMINDER: Can all catechists pick up their envelope at the back of the church this weekend. Each envelope will contain letters to be distributed this week in class, as well as a cd with the song to teach the children. Yrs 5-6 only have the letters. Contact Cate 0407704052 for more information. Thank you.

PARISH TEAM

Paul Roberts
Parish Priest
George Bryan
Deacon
Chris Rannaste
Parish Secretary
John Cowen
Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson
Jim Prendergast
Finance Committee

CONTACT US

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FR. PAUL'S BLOG:
paulfromifm.org.au

MASS TIMES

Weekend Masses
Saturday 6:00 pm
Sunday 8:00 am & 9:30 am
3rd Sunday of the Month
Filipino Mass 1.00 pm

Weekday Masses

Wednesday 9.15 am
Thursday 8.15am & Friday 7.15am.

Children's Liturgy
During 9.30 am Mass on the 1st & 3rd Sundays each month

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation:
Saturday 4.45pm-5:30 pm
Baptisms: By appointment
Weddings: By appointment

First Holy Communion and / or Confirmation
Please contact Parish Office
olowpar@pnc.com.au or
emuplains@parracatholic.org
R.C.I.A : The process for adults interested in becoming Catholic. Office: 4735 1041

Please pray for Recently Deceased Frank Cummins the Anniversary of Frank Lindsay, Judy Clements , Jorge Montillia & Joseph Bede Linch

Please pray for those who are sick in our community:
Grace Perry, Kevin Rose, Karen Gulliksen, Harry Beasley, Maddison Farrugia, Leone Kirton, Vicki Wells, Mark Simmonds, Max Scott, Anita Glynn, Libby Lawson, Paul Dalton, Bernie Payne, Shirley & Les Coburn, Graham & Christine Hall, Michelle Gardam, Melissa Reardon, Jacqui Walker, Mary Berkout , Patricia Knoke, Brian Payne, Mervin McCaster, Marie Mahoney, Jeffrey Ridley, Habib Kaltoum Rahme, Michael Mercieca, Carmen Smith , (baby—Jordan Edwards), Joyce Dukes ,Beryl Page, Frances Payne, Val Smith, Barbara Grant, Gregory Clare, William Simmonds, Judy Chesters, Maria Apap, Paul Cudmore, Angela Lonergan, Ken Skillicorn ,Frank Cummins, Emma Woods, Brian O'Hara, Bruce Gillett, Denis Woodward & Chris Thompson.

