During the Olympics it has been, of course, a great thing to see Australia do well in the various the Olympic competitions and we are rightly proud of the efforts of our athletes. After all it teaches us something noble about humanity: the feeling of a common endeavour, generosity, honesty and respect for the body. This shows us how sport more generally can become a factor that creates civilisation and serves true recreation that stimulates people to disclose their best and avoid anything that harms themselves or others.

At the same time we see how the sceptre of cheating by some hangs over the Olympiad. Much of this is driven by nations trying to portray themselves as powerful in order to intimidate others. This is abhorrent and raises the question of how we view and understand properly love of our country.

G.K. Chesterton once remarked something like this: patriotism is loving your country, not because it’s strong, rich or powerful, but because it’s your country.

Chesterton is trying to keep us from one of two extremes. That is on the one hand a patriotism that is really a form of nationalism over and against all others or, on the other hand, a view that has love of one’s country as something to be found reprehensible.

Properly understood, the virtue of patriotism builds up the common good and provides the conditions for a generous nation that protects the inherent rights and dignity of every person. It is the very virtue that we pray our politicians have as they grapple with the very real challenges that our nation faces. Perhaps they might look to the best presented by our athletes in Rio. Not just the medal winners, but those who demonstrate the very best of common endeavour, generosity, honesty and respect.

Fr. Anthony

Solemnity of the Assumption
Holy Day of Obligation
Monday, 15th August

Masses:
St. James’ 7:30am and 9am.
St. Bede’s: 7pm.
800TH ANNIVERSARY MASS—CHANGE OF DATE
Due to circumstances beyond our control the 800th Anniversary Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral has been moved to 7pm Friday, 7th October on the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary.

CHARITABLE WORKS FUND (CWF) APPEAL – 07 AUGUST.
We wish to thank you for your generous support of the appeal last weekend. Your gifts will go towards helping the CWF continue its vital work in our communities through its benefiting agencies. We thank you on behalf of CatholicCare, Epipheta Centre, the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (catechists), the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, our Seminaries and Catholic Chaplains.

JAMES PARKER SPEAKING TOUR.
A gay rights activist turned husband and father returns to Sydney to speak on "Why I Changed My Mind about Same-Sex Marriage". Venues: 18 August CAEC Lidcombe 7.30pm, Parishes: 23 August Kensington 7.30pm, 26 Aug Liverpool 7.30pm, 27 Aug North Ryde 6.15pm, 28 August Surry Hills 12.30pm, 08 September Caringbah 7.30pm, 10 September Summer Hill 7.30pm, 27 September Beverly Hills 7.30pm (Chris Gordon speaking). More Info: Chris Gordon, Life Marriage and Family Centre CAS, Ph: 9307 8402.

ST JAMES’ STORY TIME
An invitation is extended to all parishioners with babies, toddlers or preschoolers to join us for our weekly story time. Story time is held each Monday and Thursday at 2.30 pm in the school library. Our Teacher Librarian carefully selects stories each week for the young audience. Come along and join the group, mothers and their young children are most welcome.

ST JAMES’ SCHOOL COMEDY NIGHT
We cordially invite parishioners and their friends to a comedy night: Comedy for a Cause. It will be held on Saturday 27th August at the Harold Park Hotel, starting at 8pm. Tickets can be purchased online for $40 at comedyforacause.net/StJames. All proceeds will be used to purchase a shade shelter for the lower playground.

PILGRIMAGE OF MERCY – ST MARY’S CATHEDRAL HOLY DOOR.
"The practice of pilgrimage has a special place in the Holy Year, because it represents the journey each of us makes in this life". Pope Francis. Throughout this Year of Mercy, you are invited to come to St Mary’s Cathedral and make a Pilgrimage of Mercy. Walk through the Holy Door and make a pilgrimage along the Way of Mercy - six different Mercy Stations throughout the Cathedral where you can stop, reflect and pray. For more information see www.sydneycatholic.org/yearofmercy.

St Aloysius’ College is an Independent Catholic School for boys in Years 3 to 12 conducted by the Society of Jesus and located at Milsons Point. The St Aloysius’ College Bursary Program aims to make a Jesuit education accessible by providing financial support to eligible boys and their families. St Aloysius’ College seeks to graduate ‘men for others’ who are faithful and committed, integrating a deep spirituality with a passion for justice and academic excellence. Apply now for means-tested bursaries in Years 7 and 11 for 2017 and Year 7 for 2018. Further information may be obtained from the College Website: www.staloysius.nsw.edu.au or by contacting the Registrar on 02 9936 5535 or email: registrar@staloysius.nsw.edu.au.

MENTION MY NAME.
Catholic Cemeteries and Crematoria and Southern Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust have come together to form a suicide 'post prevention' support program. The Mention My Name Group offers a safe, nonjudgmental place where people can share their grieving in the spirit of comfort and hope. These groups provide ongoing support to those bereaved from suicide long after the initial loss. Please direct all your enquiries to Patricia Thomas on 02 9649 6423 Email: patri-ciat@catholiccemeteries.com.au.

THINKING OF BECOMING A CATHEDRAL TOUR GUIDE.
St Mary’s Cathedral is looking to recruit volunteers to become Cathedral Tour Guides. If you enjoy meeting new people and have a love for architecture, history or art and have a few hours to spare then you are invited to help us show off the Cathedral and its treasures to tourists, visitors and school groups. Previous experience is not essential. All Guides are required to commit to a regular schedule of attendance as agreed with the Tour Coordinator. We also have volunteers who commit to one Sunday “shift” per month. Tours are offered for groups who have pre-booked during the week and are conducted from 1 hour to 1.5 hours. If you are interested and would like further information please contact: Kevin Gothard Tour Coordinator 02 9544 3948 or kevingothard@optusnet.com.au.

THE BENEDICT XVI RETREAT CENTRE.
Now offers a series of fun, innovative facilitated activity programs to complement and enrich any group retreat. Whether you are looking for adventure, team building, opportunities for reflection or simply to have fun with your group, our specially trained facilitators can tailor a program to meet your needs and budget. Activities include flying fox, archery, bushwalking, leadership challenge, communications challenge, camp craft, environmental programs and more. Contact Danielle Puhlmann on (02) 4572 2899 / email danielle.puhlmann@sydneycatholic.org to find out more or visit www.benedictxvicentre.org.au.

WELCOME TO THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY
Lamar Imrich, son of Alexandra Imrich. Baptised at St James, Forest Lodge
**Readers for next Sunday, 21st August 2016**

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<td><strong>First Reader</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Second Reader</strong></td>
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<td>Drew Morrow</td>
<td>Sr Bernice McDonnell</td>
<td>Ann-Marie Swann</td>
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**Please pray for the sick:**


**Please pray for the deceased:**

Mary Loh, Hazel O’Connor, Ken Owens, Pam Mara, Geof Gale, Bill Donnelly, Peter Walsh, Terrie McCabe, Adife Cetin, Graeme Blackburn, Sam Tinman, Georgia Hoad, Maria Lo, Rosie White, Petra Seranilla, Benedicto Zamora, Dr Lucy Landia, Eric Russell-Smith, Betty Rowswell, Laurie Zammit, Tom Gibbons, Mick Kennedy, Allan White, Phil Garde, Sean & Pat Flanagan, Frank & Melina Galluzo, O’Connor family members & all the faithful departed Parishioners.

"of all things visible and invisible"

There are elements of creation that can be seen with the eye and there are elements that cannot, like air and wind, that we can sense with our other physical senses. Sight, taste, hearing, feeling and smelling are sense proper to our physicality. Religious faith teaches us that we have senses that belong to our rationality and senses that belong to our spiritual life. These senses must be attended to, exercised and developed if we are to live the life of a whole human being.

What does this mean? The sense that belong to our rationality and spirituality enable us to live in relationship: in relationship with other human beings, with fundamental physical and rational forces that move the universe, and with the Divine—the Origin, sustainer and unfold of all things.

"Amen, amen I say to you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. What is born of flesh is flesh and what is born of spirit is spirit…. The wind blows where it will, sand you can hear the sound it makes but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes, so it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit" (John 3:5-8)

Living in faith means we belong to both parts—the whole world and are called to move in harmonious relationship with it.

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**Wordsearch**

Try to find these words:

- LVQYIBABOORFMA
- CHOSERSVHSEOH
- MIKYICNOUWOJTACRMIDCIPLESHR
- BVWLCATESTHEDDIVEAKRICKRE
- OYZXVRQUITDKTVHHDJOTCZEKBKVVU
- KEYSQSHZSAMEWPWH
- WJKWSFATHEROVER
- USZVWFIRELVEX
- ZULMLADSPUFFSJJ
- QKENAJIPHTSGDL
- YFTWVAXJCHFIVEP

**Do you _______ that I am here to _______ on _______? No, but rather, _______.**

**earth**

**division**

**peace**

**suppose**

**bring**
ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

COLLECT

O God, who have prepared for those who love you good things which no eye can see, fill our hearts, we pray, with the warmth of your love, so that, loving you in all things and above all things, we may attain your promises, which surpass every human desire. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10

The king’s leading men spoke to the king. ‘Let Jeremiah be put to death: he is questioning disheartening the remaining soldiers in the city, and all the people too, by talking like this. The fellow does not have the welfare of this people at heart so much as its ruin.’ ‘He is in your hands as you know,’ King Zedekiah answered ‘for the king is powerless against you.’ So they took Jeremiah and threw him into the well of Prince Malchiah in the Court of the Guard, letting him down with ropes. There was no water in the well, only mud, and into the mud Jeremiah sank. Ebed-melech came out from the palace and spoke to the king. ‘My lord king,’ he said, ‘these men have done a wicked thing by treating the prophet Jeremiah like this: they have thrown him into the well where he will die.’ At this the king gave Ebed-melech the Cushite the following order: ‘Take three men with you from here and pull the prophet Jeremiah out of the well before he dies.’

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Lord, come to my aid!

SECOND READING

Hebrews 12:1-4

With so many witnesses in a great cloud on every side of us, we too, then, should throw off everything that hinders us, especially the sin that clings so easily, and keep running steadily in the race we have started. Let us not lose sight of Jesus, who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection: for the sake of the joy which was still in the future, he endured the cross, disregarding the shamefulness of it, and from now on has taken his place at the right of God’s throne. Think of the way he stood such opposition from sinners and then you will not give up for want of courage. In the fight against sin, you have not yet had to keep fighting to the point of death.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 12:49-53

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were blazing already! There is a baptism I must still receive, and how great is my distress till it is over! ‘Do you suppose that I am here to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on a household of five will be divided: three against two and two against three; the father divided against the son, son against father, mother against daughter, daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law, daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.’

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Receive our oblation, O Lord, we beseech you, for the forgiveness of sins, for our hope, and for the eternal life we expect through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION:

With the Lord there is mercy; in him is plentiful redemption.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Made partakers of Christ through these Sacraments, we humbly implore your mercy, Lord, that, conformed to his image on earth, we may merit also to be his coheirs in heaven. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.