



Diego Velázquez (1599-1660), 'Kitchen Maid with the Supper at Emmaus', c.1617-1618.
© National Gallery of Ireland.

Warm Easter greetings to all members of the Boonah Catholic community and beyond!

1. Our own **LITURGY BRISBANE** continues to provide Sunday Readings for home reflection on this 3rd Sunday of Easter.

The first document contains the Sunday readings with associated commentaries and prayers. It is suggested that families gather to read the Scriptures aloud together . . .

The second resource is designed for families with young children. An extract from the Sunday gospel is provided, along with some reflection questions, a family activity and a worksheet for children:

<https://www.liturgybrisbane.net.au/prepare/sunday-readings-and-family-prayer/>



This week I include a tender gospel reflection from Br Julian McDonald an Aussie religious who is working in Rome. He refers to the image at the top of our bulletin:

<https://www.catholicreligious.org.au/gospel-reflections/2020/4/24/are-we-sometimes-blind-to-what-jesus-is-showing-us>

2. At the end of 'Sunday Readings' there is a prayer from the National Council of Churches in Australia.

We have been invited to pray this prayer at 7pm each day. It can be prayed by all believers. Add it into your daily electronic calendar!

Gracious God, we give thanks anew for your providence and presence.

We prayerfully seek your grace, amidst COVID-19 here and overseas.

We pray for those in need of healing.

We pray for your peace with those who are anxious or grieving.

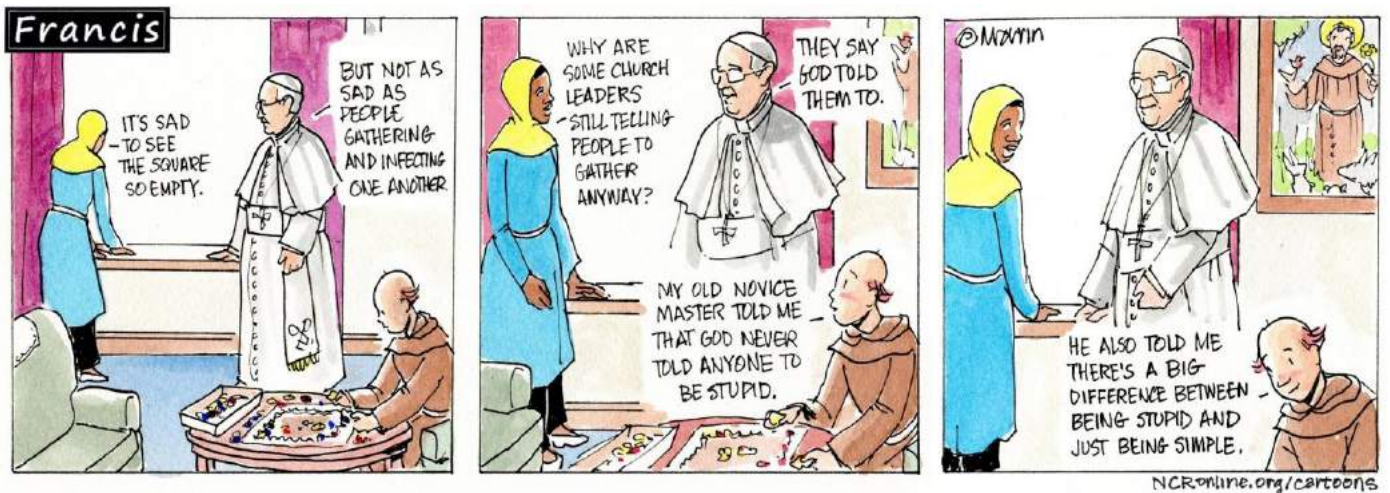
We pray you will continue to strengthen and sustain all those who are serving in response.

We pray for your Holy Spirit's discernment amidst the many choices and decisions facing our national, community and medical leaders.

We pray we each might see quickly what more we can do to help those who are vulnerable.

This prayer for our nation in the family of nations, with all that is on our hearts, we gather now and pray through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



23rd April 2020



21st April 2020

3. Ricky Manalo is a Paulist Priest in the USA trained in liturgical theology. He is also a prolific composer and a colleague. We met at the American Academy of Religion annual meeting in 2008.

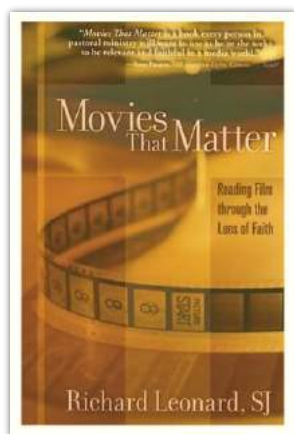
Ricky posted a setting of Psalm 53 (*a psalm for protection*) sung in an abandoned cathedral in Eastern Turkey on FB. It is sung for Francis of Rome in Aramaic (likely the language of Jesus and probably a dialect) by Georgians. There are no instruments only human voices:

<https://www.chonday.com/25879/palaramic5/>

4. We pray with and for those who are sick in our parish and beyond: all across the globe infected with COVID-19; former pastor of Boonah parish Fr. Ellis Clifford, Chris Healy, Bill Castley, Paul White, Thyrlene Devin, Bridget Muller, Liliana Toohill, Libby Shields, Jonathon Hancock, Pio Artesi, Marko Babic, Dermot Peters, Max Gardiner, Nicole Wimmer, Bernice Lippiatt, Pat Toohill, Trish Merlehan, Kath Pascoe, Donald Dwyer, Suzy Collyer, and Paul Maschio. *O God, strengthen these your servants.*

5. Richard Leonard is an Australian Jesuit priest. In this time where we are limiting our movement in our areas for the common good, we have time to think, reflect and nourish our heart, soul and mind. If we share a household with others, there is the same opportunity.

Richard's book **Movies That Matter: Reading Film Through the Lens of Faith** was published in 2006:



This thought-provoking and inspiring work by popular film critic and Jesuit Richard Leonard explains how movies are today's parables and why people of faith need the skills to converse about them intelligently and productively. In *Movies That Matter*, Leonard views fifty important movies through "a lens of faith" and offers surprising insights on the spiritual dimension of each film. From *Finding Nemo* to *Gandhi* to *The Godfather*, Leonard's informed, Christian point of view guides us to a new appreciation of both the films and our own spiritual beliefs. Leonard also lists teachable moments found in each movie and provides questions for personal reflection or group dialogue, especially in the future.

It can be ordered through Book Depository and probably through some Catholic bookshops in Australia. As many of us now access Stan or Netflix or other good movie sites this might be fun:

<https://www.bookdepository.com/Movies-That-Matter-Richard-Leonard/9780829422016?ref=grid-view&qid=1587408592126&sr=1-1>

6. Thanks so much to parishioners who are able to continue their weekly giving to the parish at this time. There is hot off the press news that the Archdiocese is soon to launch an online giving app for us. Some are phoning me and arranging to give their gifts in person and then I am banking them. This is a viable option . . . phone me!

7.



0600 on 25th
 April 2020 at
 the corner of
 Church & John
 Streets, Boonah.

Lest we forget.

8. I offer this prayer *On Generosity* by the renowned scripture scholar Walter Brueggemann:

On our own, we conclude:
 there is not enough to go around

we are going to run short
 of money
 of love
 of grades
 of publications
 of sex
 of beer
 of members
 of years
 of life

we should seize the day
 seize our goods
 seize our neighbours goods
 because there is not enough to go around

and in the midst of our perceived deficit
 you come
 you come giving bread in the wilderness
 you come giving children at the 11th hour
 you come giving homes to exiles
 you come giving futures to the shut down
 you come giving easter joy to the dead
 you come - fleshed in Jesus.

and we watch while
 the blind receive their sight
 the lame walk
 the lepers are cleansed
 the deaf hear
 the dead are raised
 the poor dance and sing

we watch
 and we take food we did not grow and
 life we did not invent and

It dawns on us - late rather than soon-
 that you "give food in due season
 you open your hand
 and satisfy the desire of every living thing."

By your giving, break our cycles of imagined
 scarcity
 override our presumed deficits
 quiet our anxieties of lack
 transform our perceptual field to see
 the abundance.....mercy upon mercy
 blessing upon blessing.

Sink your generosity deep into our lives
 that your muchness may expose our false
 lack
 that endlessly receiving we may endlessly
 give
 so that the world may be made *Easter new*,
 without greedy lack, but only wonder,
 without coercive need but only love,
 without destructive greed but only praise
 without aggression and invasiveness....
 all things *Easter new*....
 all around us, toward us and
 by us

all things *Easter new*.

Finish your creation,
 in wonder, love and praise.

Amen.

future that is gift and gift and gift and
families and neighbours who sustain us
when we did not deserve it.

9. Last Tuesday I presided at the funeral of Margaret Nykvist in our parish. Our condolences and sympathy to her families, extended relations and friends. *May Margaret rest in peace.* May all who have died across the globe at this time be given eternal life.

Have a safe and generous week ahead in places where we enflesh Easter!

John

pastor

Boonah Catholic community