

# John Pierce Centre

*Spirit of the Deaf Community*

Newsletter: April 2013

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## **Our New Pope – Francis I by Fr John Hill CSSR**

Photo of Pope Francis I waving.

On March 14, I was having breakfast just before 6 am when I was told a new Pope had just been elected, but at that stage we did not know who. So, I turned on the TV and waited to see who it would be. At this time there were thousands of people in St. Peter's Square outside the Vatican. They had heard about white smoke coming from the chimney in the Vatican, and so knew there was a new pope. When his name was announced, there was silence at first, and then cheering and applause. The name Jorge Mario Bergoglio wasn't what they expected. For many he was a surprise choice. He is the first pope from South America, where nearly one-third of the world's Catholics live. He is also the first pope from outside Europe for more than 1,000 years.

Pope Francis is from Argentina and is 76 years old. His father came from Italy, his mother was from Argentina, and he is one of five children. After he left school, he started to study chemistry, but before he finished his university course, he decided to become a priest. He was ordained in 1969. He then worked mostly as a university professor, but also as a priest in a poor city parish. In 1998 he was made archbishop of Buenos Aires, the capital of Argentina. In 2001 Pope John Paul made him a cardinal.

## **Two Popes meet**

Photo of two Popes greeting each other.

Two popes meet. Has this ever happened before? At least 600 years ago — maybe! That was the last time a pope resigned. We are living in exciting times, and have watched history being made: a pope resigns, the new pope is South American, and everyone is watching to see what he does. What sort of pope will he be

## **From the Executive Manager's Desk, by Rachel Miers**

Hello, I hope you all had a wonderful Easter weekend break, full of good food with your family and friends. If you do happen to have any chocolates left over from Easter, please keep to yourselves. Easter seemed to come and go quickly as I remember writing my Christmas message for JPC newsletter not long ago.

Recently, people came to JPC offices to share their Christmas and summer stories with our staff.

JPC has been busy planning lots of activities for this year with Pankina, Ladies Day Outings, Deaf Men's Group, Signee Tots, CODA activities and Deaf Art. Come along and join in any one of the activities.

Photo of Kevin Ziebell, Rachel Miers and Travice De Silva cutting cake

I warmly congratulate Travice De Silva and The Good Guys Chadstone on their second birthday. JPC provided a birthday cake to mark this special occasion. There is a photo below of Kevin Ziebell, Rachel Miers and Travice De Silva cutting the cake. Please join me in wishing them a happy birthday and do drop in their store.

You are welcome to attend JPC Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 17th April at 3pm. There will be light refreshments afterwards. JPC Board would like to invite people who may be thinking of joining the Board.

JPC is going to try something new, to save on the costs of printing newsletter. We are exploring the distribution of email newsletters. If you would like to help us to save the costs and receive JPC newsletter via email, just send us an email, fax or give us a call. If you wish to receive newsletter in print, please do send in a contribution of \$10 per year.

Autumn is around the corner. Spring happens to be my favourite season where I can enjoy the beautiful flowers. Autumn is my second favourite as I appreciate the beauty of the trees. I noticed recently the summer days are now getting shorter. I will leave you with a quote below by William Bryant. Autumn, the year's last loveliest smile.

Rachel

### **Interested in joining JPC Board**

We are looking for people who are thinking of joining JPC Board who may have expertise in governance, legal, marketing, funding or strategic planning.

JPC Board attends bi monthly Board Meetings at JPC Community Centre from 5.30pm on Wednesday evenings. Its only six times a year.

Please contact Rachel Miers, Executive Manager via email [manager@jpc.org.au](mailto:manager@jpc.org.au) to discuss of your interest or speak to a Board Member.

## **From the Chaplain's Desk, by Fr John Hill CSSR**

NEW POPE — NEW LIFE?

Photo of Pope Francis I

When a new pope is elected, there is always great interest in the first things he does or says. Just after he was elected and spoke to the people in St. Peter's Square, the first thing he did was to ask them to pray for him. I had never seen or heard of this before, when a new pope has been elected. People also wait to see what name a new pope takes, because this might give some clues about what sort of pope he will be. He took the name Francis in honour of the famous St. Francis of Assisi, who lived with and worked for the poor. As an archbishop and cardinal, he lived in a small unit, and did his own cooking. In a place like Buenos Aires, that would be very unusual for the archbishop to live like that. Instead of being driven to his office, he took public transport.

Because he is new and seems different, many people are wondering what kind of pope will he be, and how will he handle some really difficult problems. In places like Australia, Western Europe and the United States, people have stopped believing in the church. Many feel betrayed because priests have sexually abused children, and seem to be protected by the church. There are also problems about the church's administration in the Vatican. It has been criticised for being out of touch with the real world, and needs to be better organised.

In his speeches so far, he has called for Catholics to renew their faith in Jesus, and to be confident that God's Holy Spirit is with us. Without faith, the church will have no future.

We have just had Easter, a celebration of hope and new life. Maybe this and different new pope will be like an Easter gift that God gives the church, and will help bring new life. At Easter we celebrated the new life Jesus gave to the world. This year, let's pray that a new pope will be sign of new life for us and the whole church.

## **Advertisement – Tobin Brothers Funerals, Celebrating Lives**

Tobin Brothers Funerals provide specialist service and care to members of the Deaf Community. Fran Webber, who is a Funeral Planner for Tobin Brothers, has basic conversational Auslan skills and is familiar with the Deaf community and culture.

Fran is able to arrange funerals when a death has occurred and be present on the day of the funeral service. Fran is also able to meet with clients interested in pre-arranging a funeral or taking out a Fixed Price Funeral Plan. For further enquiries, please contact Fran on 03 9373 7000 or via email [info@tobinbrothers.com.au](mailto:info@tobinbrothers.com.au)

## **Mass For You At Home by Gabe Noonan**

### Five Photos

- Monsignor Anthony Ireland offering his prayers and Kirk Barnett.
- Church Service
- Audience in Church Service
- Gail, Gabe and Mark working hard
- Kirk interpreting on television.

Thank you to Kirk Barnett for providing the photos.

Once again, Mass For You At Home was filmed at the Channel 10 studios at the Como Centre in South Yarra in early January 2013. Albert Street Productions has always produced this programme but they closed business last year. Albert Street Productions were strong supporters of MFYAH for many many years. This year a new company, John Rowland Media produced the programme, with the support of the Archdiocese of Melbourne and the generosity of Channel 10.

Some of you may not know, but all the Masses you see through the year are filmed, recorded and saved at Channel 10 in January, then put on the TV once a week for one year!! That means, we go to Mass in the studio 7 times every day for 8 days in a row!! We are very "Holy" by the end of January!!

It was very hot again this summer, so it is always nice to go into the cool studio to do the filming. There are priests from different parishes who come to say Mass, and Bishop Elliott came to say the Easter Sunday Mass & Midnight Mass. It is always interesting to hear their different homilies and see how they connect with the people at home through the TV camera.

Echo Interpreting have supported JPC for many years, and again this year we had interpreters from Melbourne who have been involved with MFYAH before. They worked very well with the priests and all the staff at Channel 10. We also had 2 interpreters fly down from Sydney to interpret, using their NSW signs for Mass. It was great to get a variety of styles and signs. I know people watching the TV in NSW like to see their own interpreters on the screen.

Maree Gilbert and Bruno Broglio were involved everyday, helping set up the altar and organising the Mass. We are very lucky to have their experience with MFYAH. All the filming went smoothly, and Fr John Hill and myself were there to support the interpreters.

There are many people and organisations involved in getting this programme to air, and we are very grateful to all involved: Archdiocese of Melbourne, Channel 10, John Rowland Media, Echo Interpreting, Ephpheta Centre and JPC staff.

At the moment, Channel 10 are putting it on the TV at 6a.m. every Sunday morning. This may change to 5.30 a.m. later this year, but we will let you know. I hope you will wake up early on Sunday mornings to join in the Masses!

UPDATE: Mass will move to Channel 11 at 5:30am after Easter. For more information, click on website [www.mfyah.com.au](http://www.mfyah.com.au)

## **Signee Tots / CODA Activities by Josephine Hynes**

Signee Tots:

Welcome back to a new year, we continue to run Signee Tots on a fortnightly basis throughout the school terms, see below dates for Term 2. We've welcomed some new families late last year and we hope to continue expand the group and also to develop ideas and activities for Signee Tots.

We had a surprise early visit from the Easter Bunny recently! The children loved the craft activities and and especially the Easter egg hunt!

Photo of children enjoying the easter egg hunt.

### **Dates for Term 2:**

23rd April	Arts & Crafts
7th May	Mother's Day
21st May	Finger Painting
4th June	Kids Cooking
18th June	Footy Day

We are aiming to continue to run at least one CODA activity every school holidays. If anyone has any suggestions for future CODA activities, themes and/or ideas for Signee Tots please feel free to contact me and put in some suggestions.

### **CODA Activities**

Recently we had a great day out Bike Riding in Port Melbourne, it was perfect weather and everyone who came along enjoyed the day. Everyone rode from Port Melbourne all the way to Elwood; it was a leisurely ride for all. We had a perfect spot to sit and have lunch under a gazebo overlooking the beach. When we finished lunch some of the children went and enjoyed a swim in the beach, I heard it was freezing! Overall, it was great to see all the children and adults relaxing and having a chat. To finish off the day some of the families went and enjoyed frozen yoghurt at 'Orange Leaf'.

The next CODA activity will be on Tuesday 9th April, which will be at BOUNCE; this will be a fantastic day out for all! I hope you all have a lovely Easter and spend it with those close to you.

- Photo : Nathan Roberts, Gavin Doyle-Bates, Liam Devlin and Kane Hynes
- Photo: Liam Devlin, Gavin and Shaunagh Doyle-Bates, Nathan Roberts, Lily Hynes and Kane Hynes

### **Thankful Thought**

Families are the compass that guide us. They are the inspiration to reach great heights and our comfort when we occasionally falter.

Brad Henry

### **Pankina by Cheryl Clarke, Secretary**

Last December, 72 people attended Pankina Christmas Break Up Lunch at JPC Community Centre. People won prizes from the Christmas Raffles. Also there was a Christmas Lunch at Roxburgh Park Hotel which all members had an enjoyable time and the food was yummy!

We had a Welcome Back Day at Pankina on the 21<sup>st</sup> January and all people were excited to see each other. All they talked about their holidays and the awful hot weather!!!

Pankina is having a special celebration event on Monday 29th April – It is our 21<sup>st</sup> year anniversary celebration lunch. Come along to this exciting event. See flyer below.

Flyer – Pankina Deaf Seniors Group 21<sup>st</sup> Year Celebration

Date: 29<sup>th</sup> April Monday

Lunch: 12pm Catering Provided

Drinks: BYO Cold Drinks ( No Alcohol please)

Cost: \$15 per person

Where: JPC Hall, 25 – 35 High St, Prahran VIC

Event: Morning and Afternoon Tea will be provided. Spit Roast lunch. Story about Pankina and BYO Cold Drinks. All tickets must be purchased by April 15<sup>th</sup>. See Monica and Malcolm.

Pankina will have their Annual General Meeting (AGM) on the 27th May. Hope you can come and support Pankina.

### **Community Activities by Katrina Mynard**

Activities become very important at JPC. This helps me to know those people coming to JPC are alright. If I find anyone not attending then we will know there may be something wrong with them. One of our highlights we've had in JPC was to have Fr Cyril and his carer Hester here from England. They came here in August last year. They spent time in Melbourne for one week. Fr Cyril is deaf and blind and having him here and did the Mass all on his own on our special "Ephpheta" Mass in August was amazing.

### **Deaf Art**

Rico Halwas is a regular volunteer at JPC. He likes to come along to the Deaf Art days on Fridays. We met Rico when we found him volunteering at Lexington Park a few years back and after a few attempts to contact him, we finally found him and asked him if he would be interested in some volunteer work at JPC. Rico's now been with us for two years.

Rico has a passion for Art and often when he's here at JPC, he is helping some people and often gets side-tracked from his own work.

Rico really believes that what people make at Deaf Art shows their hard work and they should be proud of themselves. He also loves staff at JPC and feels so comfortable here. Rico believes strongly that this Art Group helps those people who are isolated.

Our Community person, Dennis Martin also joins our Deaf Art. Dennis likes to learn something new and he says it is like “brain” exercise. Mosaic was the first thing he made at Deaf Art. He thought it was a very big job and felt it was impossible to do, but when he found out about our Deaf Art here at JPC, he learnt that he can do it and ever since then, loves making them. He likes doing things at his own pace.

And now he wants to learn how to knit/crochet because he wants to keep his hands busy while watching T.V.

Dennis felt JPC is a wonderful place and the people are very supportive.

Our Staff Member, Jules thinks Dennis is a very creative person.

In future, he hopes to learn to paint or draw. He has already started to learn Charcoal drawings. Magdalena, the teacher has been very helpful.

### **Deaf Men’s Group**

Formerly known as ‘Men’s Time Out’.

This group has changed their name from ‘Men’s Time Out’ to now being called ‘Deaf Men’s Group’.

They recently decided to set up a committee. They now have a President, Secretary, Treasurer and committee members.

They are a very strong, relaxed and self-organised group. In February they watched a DVD called ‘War Horse’ that was captioned. They were able to talk about the movie afterwards as a group. Any men of all ages are welcome to come.

Dates: April - July (Every second Monday 10am— 2pm)

8th April    22nd April  
6th May     20th May  
3rd June    17th June  
1st July     15th July  
29th July

### **Ladies Day Out**

Instead of ‘Women’s Circle’, we’ve changed the name to ‘Ladies Day Out’, as seen above. We’ve been to going out once a month as a group, we first went to the Peninsula Spa with an overnight stay in Rye. We’ve since been to the Cinemas at Crown Casino also the St Kilda Sea Baths for a swim and in November we went to the Races on a Saturday. Final outing in 2012 was in December where many women gathered together in Blackburn Café for Christmas Lunch.

Last year in November, it was an invitation for all ladies and men together to have a fun day together. We chose to go to the races at Sandown. Thanks to Monica and Malcolm for organising a picnic and shared with all of us. About 10 people attended.

Our first day out for the year 2013, was on 20th February. We all went on a free tourist bus trip from Flinders Street, through to the MCG, Victoria Market and hopped off at Harbour Town Shopping Centre in Docklands.

From there most of us went window shopping then we all met again at Harbour Town Hotel for Lunch. This is now a growing group, we had 20 ladies attend on that day. On 20th March – we went on a River Cruise in Melbourne along the Yarra. This was another big turn out. More than 25 ladies turned up and enjoyed the day.

On 10th April – We've changed our days from 17th April to 10th April due to availability on bookings. This outing is to see the 'Anne Frank Exhibition'. This exhibition will finish on 28th April. The 10th April is the only available booking for us to go and see.

See JPC Flyer on our website or on our notice board at JPC Hall and for future update outings.

Photo:

- Monica and Malcolm Stevenson, Cheryl Clarke and Bob Dobbyn at Sandown Racecourse.
- Thelma Hamilton, Valerie Saulle and Elaine Leiner
- Helen Bowen & Eileen Peters at lunch in February.

### **A cloud angel**

Photo:

- A cloud in the shape of an angel

A cloud angel rose over South Florida on the day that a new pope was named at the Vatican, which got many people to take photos when they saw this cloud angel.

### **IT Corner**

#### **Quick, take a photo.**

Photo:

- iPhone

The camera icon is always there on your lock screen. Just swipe up the screen to open the camera app.

### Use Airplane Mode in low / no – coverage areas:

Photo:

- Settings (From iPhone)

When you are in a low / no coverage areas, your iPhone will use more power in low/no coverage areas. It would be best to turn on Airplane Mode, like above, it can increase battery life and however you will be unable to make or receive calls.

To turn on Airplane Mode, go to Settings and set Airplane Mode to on.

### **Recipe – Chocolate Pudding: with rich chocolate sauce and berry coulis (perfect for cold weather!**

Ingredients:

2 cups castor sugar	1.5 cups Vegetable Oil
4 eggs	2.5 cups pureed bananas
2.5 cups plain flour	2-teaspoon bi-carbonate of soda
1 cup quality cocoa, sifted	

Method: Using an electric mixer, beat oil, sugar and eggs together thoroughly. Add Vanilla. In a separate bowl, sift the flour, bi-carb and cocoa together. Gradually add banana puree and dry ingredients to the oil, egg and sugar mixture.

If using individual moulds (metal or ceramic), spray with cooking oil and spoon mixture into mould—just above half way to allow for expansion with cooking. The individual moulds will take about 20—30 minutes to cook in a moderate oven. Turn out onto wire rack to cool.

#### Fresh Berry Coulis (Sauce)

Ingredients:

1 punnet fresh raspberries or strawberries ( or mixture of both)	2—4 tablespoons castor sugar
1 tablespoon lemon juice	

Method: Cut stems, wash berries. Place berries in food processor or blender with sugar and lemon juice. Blend thoroughly until sugar is dissolved. Adjust sweetness if necessary.

#### Rich Chocolate Sauce:

Ingredients:

1 litre water	2 cups quality cocoa, sifted
4 cups brown sugar	250 g quality dark chocolate
1 cup cream	2 tablespoon Arrowroot (for thickening)

Method: Place water, cocoa, brown sugar and chocolate in a large saucepan. Heat gently until thoroughly melted and blended. Add cream and stir. Adjust sweetness—add more brown sugar if necessary. In a separate bowl, mix arrowroot with water to make a thin paste. Now, stirring all the time, slowly add to the chocolate mixture until the sauce thickens to a good consistency—you decide. Once sauce has come to the boil, remove from heat

## Emmaus Group by Gail Finn

Emmaus Group have agreed with the idea to have an extra Mass here at John Pierce Centre starting this May. That means we will have two signed Masses - First Sunday and Third Sunday of each month until November this year. This is only a six-month trial. Signed Masses at St. Francis Church, Elizabeth St, Melbourne have moved to the second Sunday from the first Sunday of each month. (See Calendar for Signed Masses below). We are happy to encourage new faces to join us preparing for the Third Sunday Mass e.g. readings, gospel and reflection after the First Sunday Mass. In this way, we can increase our understanding of the Bible as well as makes our faith in God stronger.

ATTENTION: Mass For You At Home on TV, both channel and time has changed from Channel 10 to Channel 11 at 5:30am starting 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2013.

## Congratulations – Wedding

Photo:

- Robert McDonald and Janet Miller

Robert McDonald and Janet Miller, married 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2013

Congratulations to Robert and Janet, who were married at JPC, reception with family and friends.

## Calendar for Signed Masses

### **2013**

21 <sup>st</sup> April	JPC Mass Prahran 11.00am	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter
5 <sup>th</sup> May	JPC Mass Prahran 11.00am	6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter
12 <sup>th</sup> May	City, St. Francis 1.30pm	Ascension of the Lord
19 <sup>th</sup> May	JPC Mass Prahran 11.00am	Pentecost Sunday
2 <sup>nd</sup> June	JPC Mass Prahran 11.00am	The Body and Blood of Christ
9 <sup>th</sup> June	City, St. Francis 1.30pm	10th Sunday in Ordinary Time
16 <sup>th</sup> June,	JPC Mass Prahran, 11.00am	11th Sunday in Ordinary Time
7 <sup>th</sup> July	JPC Mass 11.00am	14th Sunday in Ordinary Time
14 <sup>th</sup> July	City, St. Francis 1.30pm	15th Sunday in Ordinary Time
21 <sup>st</sup> July	JPC Mass Prahran 11.00am	16th Sunday in Ordinary Time
4 <sup>th</sup> August	JPC Mass Prahran 11.00am	18th Sunday in Ordinary Time
11 <sup>th</sup> August	City, St. Francis 1.30pm	19th Sunday in Ordinary Time
18th August	JPC Mass Prahran 11.00am	Ephpheta Sunday

## REST IN PEACE

Beverly Kelly - 5th December, 2012

Peter Brett □ - 21st December, 2012

(wife of Rebecca, father of Jeremy and Matthew, grandfather of Noah and Maia)

Marella De Waas - 23rd December, 2012

(daughter of Jessie Tagell)

Richard Mills – 5th January, 2013

(husband of Heather Mills, father of James and Emily)

Royce Ritchie – 17th January, 2013

Reginald Hayes – 7th February, 2013  
(father of Jules Hayes)

Owen Putney – 8th February, 2013  
(former JPC manager)

Phillip Mark - 11th March, 2013

Victor Whelan – 17th March, 2013  
(father of Carmel Phillips, father-in-law of Noel and grandfather of Brett and Matthew)

### **Obituary by Jeremy Brett**

#### **Vale Peter Brett**

**26 May 1939 – 21 December 2012**

Photo:

- Young Peter Brett
- Peter Brett with thumbs up

The JPC Community has lost a popular member, with Peter Brett dying on 21 December 2012 after a long illness. His final weeks were spent as he wished, at home in the care of his family. Whilst Peter is missed, we can be grateful for his presence in our lives and the legacy that he leaves.

Peter was a popular member of the JPC and Deaf community. His family understand this popularity because his unconditional love, compassion, humour, knowledge and respect gave his sons the best possible childhood and up-bringing. His popularity can be explained by his honesty, decency, intelligence and friendship.

His friends were charmed by the stories of his life, told through a beautiful and expressive style of communication. The story of his childhood in Malta, eventful passage to England via South Africa, and adventures in the rubble of London during the Blitz are fondly remembered by those who knew him. His adventures around the globe led him to and from Australia many times, and he had friends all over the world. He rode camels at the pyramids of Egypt and looked up at skyscrapers in New York. He criss-crossed Australia and had friends in every state. His last trip was his favourite and he fell in love with the beautiful Canadian wilderness.

He embraced modern technology, keeping in touch with old friends, and making new friends. He could communicate with anyone and everyone. It did not matter if you were hearing or Deaf, old or young, rich or poor, Japanese, American, English, Israeli, Australian or French, it only mattered that you were interested in communicating.

Peter was a Christian, and was an avid scholar of the bible. He embraced Christian teachings throughout

his life. Even in the most challenging of times, Peter accepted the imperfection of the world and its people without bitterness or envy. He lived life by his own moral standard, with grace and humility, showing love and respect to those around him.

His greatest love was the love for his family. Letters exchanged as pen pals between Peter and Rebecca from opposite sides of the globe led to a life-long relationship and two sons, and all were with him as he passed away. His own up-bringing was less kind. His father died when he was only four, and his step father was a cruel and brutal man. Most of his childhood was spent in boarding schools away from his loving mother, sister and brother. The educational opportunities for deaf people in the 40s and 50s were not as they were today, and his intellectual potential was largely wasted in the jobs he took through his working life. It is a mistake to measure any man by their employment and income. Family always came first for Peter, and by this measure, he was richer than any man we have known.

His presence lives on through his wife Rebecca, and sons Jeremy and Matthew and grandchildren Noah and Maia.

### **Advertisement – Good Guys Partnership with JPC**

The John Pierce Centre is fortunate to have been selected as a Community Partner with the Good Guys Store. The Good Guys Stores are a chain of Independent Electrical and White-goods stores spread throughout Australia that support local Communities by donating a portion of all sales to their Community Partners.

Mr Travice De Silva the proprietor of the store chose to support the Family Support Services provided by the Centre and especially to Deaf families in the wider Chadstone area.

If you visit the store which is located at the Chadstone Lifestyle Precinct at 675 - 685 Warrigal Road in Chadstone, keep an eye out for the JPC display on the community board and you can be sure that the staff of the Good Guys will give you special and attentive service.

We plan to have a couple of events at the Good Guys stores this year to publicize the work of the John Pierce Centre in the area of Family Support; you are welcome to be a part of these events

### **Newsletter Contribution \$10 per year for Postage**

Or wish to receive free newsletters via email, please let Gail know – [g.finn@jpc.org.au](mailto:g.finn@jpc.org.au)

### **Newsletter Deadline**

Next Newsletter Deadline – 10<sup>th</sup> July 2013

### **Office Hours**

Office Hours, Monday to Friday 9.30am – 4.00pm Email [admin@jpc.org.au](mailto:admin@jpc.org.au) Website [www.jpc.org.au](http://www.jpc.org.au)

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