

APRIL 2017

JPC NEWSLETTER

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Executive Manager

Rachel Miers

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Theresa Mills

Board Members

Thomas Beddoe

Evelyne Albrecht

Damien Backholer

Sonya Tissera-Isaacs

Brian Tooth

Margaret Urquhart

Br Shane Wood (minutes)

Next Newsletter Deadline

July 2017

From The Chaplain's Desk

Fr John Hill CSSR

Easter must be the hardest thing to write something about. Over the last few days I have been scratching my head about what to write. For some reason I started thinking about how things like plants and trees grow from little seeds. When I was a child, after I ate an apple, I used to put the seeds in the ground then waited to see what happened. Like a typical child, I was wanting something to happen immediately, and for a few days so watched the place where I planted the seed. Nothing seemed to have happened, so I gave up watching and amused myself with other things. After several months I noticed a very little tree

appeared where I planted the seeds. I asked my mother about it, and she told me — surprise, surprise — it was an apple tree. The little tree fascinated me because it came from just a small seed. Although they looked so different — the seed and the tree — yet they were still the same. They were both apples. So, there was something the same about them, yet something really different.

At Easter I often think of the seed and the tree. The Easter stories in the gospels contain some confusing things. When Mary Magdalene goes to the tomb, she runs into Jesus but doesn't recognise him. She thinks he is the gardener and starts talking to him. It makes you wonder why she couldn't recognise him. Had his appearance changed that much, or was he wearing different clothes? Whatever about his appearance, it was so different that Mary didn't recognise him.

There is a similar Easter story about two of Jesus disciples walking on the road. They feel depressed and lost because Jesus had died. As they are walking and talking, Jesus comes and joins them, and walks with them on the road. Like Mary, they don't recognise him. Again, the gospel story does not tell us why. We don't know what it is about his appearance that stops his disciples and friends recognising him. So, what is going on?

To understand Easter, we have to remember that when Jesus rose from the dead, he had become a new person. It was still Jesus, but there was something very different about him. What is frustrating for us is that the gospels don't give us any explanation at all about his appearance. Fortunately, in one of his letters, St. Paul gives us an image to help us understand, and it is the image of the seed and the tree. He says that Jesus before his resurrection was like the seed. Jesus after his resurrection was like the fully grown tree. To meet Jesus before his death and resurrection was like seeing a seed. When his disciples and friends met Jesus after his resurrection, it was like seeing the fully

grown tree. In a way that we cannot see, imagine or understand, Jesus became a new person when he rose from the dead. He was so full of God's love and life that he even appeared to be different.

What does all that mean for us?

Firstly, Easter means that we also share God's love and life, especially through our baptism and our sharing in Mass. Secondly, the more we are open to accept God's love and life, we will be changed. Our appearance is not changed, as happened with Jesus. But we are changed on the inside, deep in our hearts. But, like Jesus, if we accept God's love and life into our hearts, then we will be changed and become a different person.

So, while you might be rushing around, doing a whole lot of things like shopping and cooking for Easter, I hope and pray that something will also happen to you on the inside: may you experience God's love and life deep in your heart.

From the Executive Manager's Desk

Rachel Miers

Hello, recently JPC staff celebrated Shrove Tuesday with pancakes and it coincided with Signee Tots activity day. We had some lovely families from our community join us and it was a special moment. Katrina, Mariana, Gail and Christine all whipped up a storm and our Dutch pancakes were a hit with our Signee Tots kids their families and our staff! Shrove Tuesday happens to be a favourite day of mine - I call it Pancake Day. What interests me is the history of "Shrove Tuesday"in the past it was known as the last day before fasting for Lent. Families used up the last of butter, eggs and milk before Lent, and made pancakes. This custom dated back to the 16th!

I was discussing the meaning of Lent to one of our community

members. Lent, to me can mean a number of things,

- 40 days of preparation for Easter,
- to take this time to focus on my faith,
- to practice sacrifice for the greater good for e.g. like making a meal for someone or volunteering your time, to become a better person.

This season is a good time for all of us to reflect and to think of what we can sacrifice and what we can do for others.

In other news, JPC is excited to host the Deaf Catholic Conference on Sunday 20th to Wednesday 23rd—and it all starts with our special event ‘Ephpheta Sunday’ with a Church Service and Lunch. The theme for the conference is “Our Community of Faith – Reflect, Embrace and Nurture”- this symbolises ‘yesterday, today and tomorrow’. JPC invites the Deaf Community and deaf/hearing organisations to reflect on the history of Catholic Deaf Community, our faith and embrace its richness and look at ways we can nurture it for tomorrow!. We will also have a dinner —open to all—on Tuesday night (22nd). We will release more information in April as we are all finalising the details first, but you can read a bit about it on the next page.

We will hold our Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Wednesday 19th 4.30pm and you are welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served 3.30pm - so please RSVP for catering purposes. (RSVP to a staff member admin@jpc.org.au)

I extend a warm welcome to two new board members: Damien Backholer and Evelyne Albrecht. And, to Mac Adam who joined our Strategic Planning Sub Committee. We look forward to working with them and helping to make JPC a better organisation for our community.

I wish you a lovely Easter break with your family and friends. Happy Easter.

Rachel

Congratulations to Raffle Prize Winners – from Christmas Rally 2016

1st Prize – TV – Bob Dobbyn

2nd Prize – Coffee Machine – Jera Zwolinski

3rd Prize – Hand made quilt – Rebecca Adam

4th Prize – Christmas hamper – Chrissy Le

5th Prize – Scentsy Flower Vine – Marisa Hedley

6th Prize – Bottle of Wine with \$20 Myer Voucher – Raylee Thornton

7th Prize – Bottle of Wine with \$20 Myer Voucher – Damien Backholer

8th Prize – iTunes Voucher \$30 – Christine Elder

9th Prize – iTunes Voucher \$30 – Lance Hately

10th Prize – Sparkling Wine – Elva Dalzotto

11th Prize – Shopping Cooler Bag & Knitted Stockings – Des Townsend

12th Prize – Pocket Stunt Kite- Elva Dalzotto

DEAF CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

Our Community of Faith - Reflect , Embrace, Nurture

SUN 20TH AUG - WED 23RD AUG 2017

***JPC COMMUNITY CENTRE &
CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP CENTRE (CLC) , MELBOURNE, VIC***

Our Deaf Catholic Community is very important to us so we want to come together and acknowledge the worth and richness we share, we want to share knowledge and information with others who live and work in our community and we want to look at what our needs are and how we can help keep our happy, healthy and faithful community alive for many years to come. This event is for Deaf and hearing people living and working in the pastoral areas in our Deaf community's around Australia and neighboring countries.

Conference highlights - Guest speakers, presentations for pastoral workers, general community members and anyone interested in the Deaf Catholic Community.

Special Celebration Mass: The conference will officially commence on Sunday 20th August with the Ephpheta Sunday mass and lunch at John Pierce Centre, Melbourne. *All welcome!*

Social Dinner: We will have a dinner at the conference venue on Tuesday 22nd August with special guest speaker - *All welcome!*

Presentations: The presentations will run on Monday, Tuesday and half day Wednesday and are open to all who register - the topics will include changes to our community, pastoral support to seniors , families and deaf youth, discussions about using interpreters in Catholic settings, Deafhood and Deaf space.

Closing Mass: On Wednesday 23rd August, we will close the conference with a special mass at St John the Evangelist Church, Melbourne- *All welcome!*

Costs for registration and accommodation: Conference package options will be shared soon and you will be able to choose some or all of the events. You will also see the options and pricing for accommodation (if you need it) at the CLC or at suggested areas near the conference venue. We will send another special newsletter with all the details and updated information can be found on our website: <http://www.jpc.org.au/community/deaf-catholic-conference-2017/>

We can send you more info about the registrations costs and the accommodation options.

We hope you can join us for this special conference!

It will be the first in VIC in over decade!!

Ann Darwin

31st March, 1947 - 22nd January, 2017

What a remarkable woman!

Ann Darwin nee Mitchell was born in Glasgow, Scotland on 31st March, 1947. She was sent to a deaf school run by the Sisters of Charity of Saint Vincent de Paul. Until she was 13 years old, her parents, James and Alice decided to migrate to Melbourne, Australia with her older sisters, Margaret and Mary, for a better life. Her eldest brother, Joe came to Australia later, with his newly married wife, Betty. Ann was always proud of her maiden name, Mitchell and of her Scottish blood.

She attended the Glendonald School for the deaf at Kew until she left school and she started her job as a full time typist at Victoria Barracks. She was an avid Melbourne AFL team supporter!

Ann started to learn Auslan and got very involved with the deaf community when she played netball with the Victorian Deaf Netball Team in the 1970s. And then in 1972, Ann and Gail Finn were asked by newly appointed chaplain – Fr Father Peter Robinson - to go to his place regularly before establishing Catholic Deaf centres around Australia (including John Pierce Centre). Father Robinson lived behind the Good Shepherd Convent at Castlebar Road, Chadstone and he was desperate to learn more of our deaf world or culture. Ann was involved with the Catholic Association of Melbourne committee for many years. She was a good leader within the Catholic Deaf community and it was obvious that her passion for the Deaf community and their rights, started from here.

During the summertime (January), Ann and her Catholic Deaf people joined Fr. Robinson's other hearing Catholic group as volunteers to help out with camp duties at Porepunkah near Bright, Victoria. This camp was for families who struggled either physical or financial problems.

Even though it was a hard work, there was lots of laughter! This became Ann's favourite camping site with her family and her close Deaf friends with their kids for many years.

Ann first met Barry in Sydney in 1975 at her close friend's 30th birthday party. They got married in 1978 at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Mentone and had two children, Fiona and Andrew. After living in Mordialloc for many years, they moved to Altona at their retirement age, close to their daughter. Fiona and her husband

Mark Ward have two young boys, Mitchell and Henry, and Ann was very fond of her two grandsons and she talked about them often.

Her recent happiest moment was her son, Andrew's wedding to Paul Fleming in Loch Lomond, Scotland (in September, 2016). Andrew wore the Scottish tartan, Mitchell kilt for the ceremony. That made Ann so proud of her Scottish blood!

In the 1980s she shifted her focus from deaf sports to deaf advocacy work, beginning with her involvement with VCOD (Deaf Victoria). At VCOD she served on the board, on and off, for a total of 16 years (board member and President). Ann also served on the Vicdeaf board for 11 years.

Ann was a well-known leader and advocate for deaf people's rights in Victoria and Australia and we value all the work she did for our community.

Ann served on the Deaf Australia (DA) board for 21 years, and as the organisation is only 30 **years old, we can see Ann's involvement played a huge part Deaf Australia's history and achievements. She** had various roles while at DA including President, Secretary and board member. She worked with five presidents and four CEOs and even after she left the **board, she still attended Deaf Australia's AGM (2016) and helped with marking the roll.**

DA awarded Ann an Honorary Life Membership in 2006 because of her dedication to the Deaf community. She was **incredibly generous with her time for Deaf Australia and other organisations. She had a deep knowledge and connection to the community, an understanding of the politics and of the comprehensive history of Deaf Australia – she was truly amazing.**

Ann and Barry joined Geelong Deaf Social Group after they retired from work and have been involved for 8 years now. Ann was the Secretary for the past 19 months (in 2016).

Ann did ALL this work for these organisations in the deaf community – as a volunteer! She worked hard and expected others to do the same. Her attitude was: *“you chose to be here, do your work”*. She was very generous but she didn’t expect anything in return.

Without her voluntary support it would have been much harder for Deaf organisations in Australia to achieve so much. There are not many people like Ann who have always been willing to offer their time as she did over the years.

She was very honest and straightforward. She was not afraid to express her opinion and stand up for her rights and the rights of deaf people. Yet she was also very respectful of other people’s rights and opinions.

She was also very positive and forgiving and often said to people, *“Put it behind you, move on. Think positive.”*

Ann was very good at listening. She loved to chat and she had a lot to say, but she really listened to other people and considered their views. She was not afraid to change her mind after listening to other people’s views.

And she was very funny! She had a wonderful way of dropping a funny comment into the middle of a serious discussion and watching people take a little time to ‘get it’ and laugh and then she’d join in the laughter.

She was always interested in other people and their lives, their work, their dreams, their families, and was always encouraging people to never give up on achieving their dreams.

She was interested in everyone from the cleaner to the Prime Minister. She didn't care what your job was or how important you were, she cared about who you were as a person and the good you did in life.

She was a humble person herself. When she needed to, she could stand up in front of a room full of people and make a speech but she didn't look for attention or boast about herself.

She was a wonderful role model and helped make many people's lives better. She was much loved – in Victoria and all over Australia – by deaf people and hearing people in the deaf community. There are so many people in our community who will miss her a lot.

On 22nd January, 2017, she died of an ovarian cancer which was sudden and unexpected - even to her beloved husband, Barry and her children Fiona and Andrew. She was 69 years old (two months short to her 70th birthday). Her sudden death was really devastating for Barry, Fiona, Andrew and their families, and for her only living sister, Mary who lives in Glasgow.

May we remember her, learn from her and may she rest in peace.

By Karen Lloyd (Ex Manager of Deaf Australia) and Gail Finn (close and long-time friend)

Religious Signs Project - update

By Fr John Hill

We are thrilled to announce that we have now set up our own website (a page within our own JPC site) and we have begun building library of signs. It will be live soon! We have set up our own mini studio at JPC, so filming religious signs will now be easier than ever. We will continue to film over the over the next couple of months and we will launch the completed soon after.

This site will be useful to assist deaf people in developing their faith, it will also assist interpreters and anyone involved in a deaf and religious environment.

***We thank the Deafness Foundation again
For the funding which has made this project?
Possible!***

Community Board Member Profile: Theresa Mills

Favourite Auslan sign? Email !! (Rachel taught me that one!)

Favourite colour? ORANGE

AFL team? Melbourne

Favourite holiday place? Sunshine Beach QLD

Ideal dinner guests? Mary McKillop & John Howard

Favourite meal? Anything shared with family or friends

Coffee or Tea? Coffee in the morning, tea for the rest of the day

Favourite TV show? Doc Martin

Favourite part about the JPC Community: The Deaf community who

are such a special community its part of my very fabric bring a CODA, I also feel close to Mum and Dad at the JPC it's so special that so many remember them so fondly. And last but not least the JPC staff under Rachel's very capable leadership who are very dedicated and keep the JPC running so smoothly.

THANKFUL THOUGHT:

***Having faith does not mean having no difficulties,
But having the strength to face them, knowing we are not alone.***

Pope Francis

***Using an activity to tell the Easter Story:
"Resurrection Eggs"***

By Melissa Thompson

Chocolate eggs, rabbits, fluffy yellow chickens, hot cross buns, pastel colors and chocolate bilbys - these are the elements of Easter we see in advertising, events and crafts at this time of year. They are also very exciting to children. But how do they connect to the Christian story of Easter? How do they show the true reason behind this holiday?

In the Northern Hemisphere, Easter is at the beginning of spring (with baby lambs, rabbits, and chickens), so you can see a connection between "new life" and the "resurrection of Jesus". Colourful flowers are starting to bloom and the land is coming alive after the darkness of winter. This imagery connects with Jesus walking alive from his tomb.

Here in Australia, we don't have the same seasons so it can be hard to

understand (especially for kids) the connection between eggs and bunnies to Jesus' resurrection. So, here is an activity that may help....

'Resurrection Eggs' is a storytelling activity used to tell the Easter story. It is a way to use eggs (which are very important to little people at this time of year!) to tell the Easter story.

To set up for the 'Resurrection Eggs', you will need 12 different colours of the traditional plastic Easter eggs, usually used for Easter egg hunts. Write the numbers 1-12 on the eggs in a permanent marker, and put the eggs in order in an egg carton. Inside each egg there is an item to tell a part of the Easter story. With my son, we open the eggs one after the other, progressing through the story. At the same time, we build an 'Easter Garden', with leaves on a road for Jesus and his donkey to ride on, a flower garden where Jesus prayed, a cross on a hill, and a cave with a rock that is used to cover the entrance. I use a little white felt man as Jesus, who moves through the garden as we tell the story. We build our Easter Garden on Good Friday, and place 'Jesus' in his cave, with the rock covering the entrance. We then take him out on Easter Sunday.

To make the garden first: get a tray with soil on it. A paper cup is laid on its side, and covered over with soil, to make a cave on the side of a hill.

Here are the contents of each 'Resurrection Egg' and the activities we do as each are opened:

Egg #1 - leaves to put on the road – to explain Palm Sunday when Jesus rode to the city of Jerusalem on a donkey, his twelve disciples with him. The people cheered Jesus. They cut down palms and lay them on the road. As an activity after opening the egg, go outside and collect leaves to place in your 'Easter Garden'. While outside, also find some flowers, a rock and two sticks. These will be added to the garden as different eggs are opened.

Egg #2 - a bottle of perfume and cotton balls to explain Mary to cleaning Jesus' feet. There is a sensory experience for the child, smelling

the perfume. I use lavender oil, because this is calming and soothing.

Egg #3 - a cracker (the bread at The Last Supper). The child can eat the cracker when it is taken from the egg.

Egg #4 - a wet sponge (drink from the supper). The water can be squeezed out of the sponge onto your garden.

Egg #5 - flowers - to put in the garden where Jesus prayed. Add flowers collected outside to your Easter Garden at this point.

Egg #6 - coins - the money paid to Judas.

Egg #7 - a paper crown - upon opening this one we stopped, and decorated the crown with jewels, and then put it on Jesus, like a king.

Egg #8 - a small cross - which Jesus carried up the hill in the garden. I also have some string in the egg, which is used to bind the two sticks collected from the garden into a cross shape. This is put it on the hill in the Easter Garden.

Egg #9 - 4 dice - to represent gambling for Jesus' possessions.

Egg #10 - gauze - which we wrapped 'Jesus' in, before putting him in the cave.

Egg #11 - a rock - which we put in front of the cave entrance.

Egg #12 - is empty to represent Jesus being gone from the tomb - the Resurrection.

Here are some images of my own son, telling the Easter Story using 'Resurrection Eggs':

You can tell from the different ages of my son in these photos that this is something we do every year. I would love to know your Easter traditions.

Come and join us at the next Signee Tots days and we can share our Easter stories and of course our eggs!!

We love to see young children and their families at our Signee Tots playgroup sessions. These run on some Tuesdays throughout the school term, between 11am – 1pm.

To clarify, these sessions do not have religious content and are open to everyone!

We invite all families with pre-school children, who use Auslan.

Every session this year focuses on a different country. We will also have special school holiday sessions, open to families with older children. Here is our schedule for the next few months. I would love to see you there!

Upcoming dates: Tuesdays:

11th April – Outing (TBC)

9th May – ‘Japan’.

13th Jun – ‘Scandinavia’.

11th Jul – School Holiday Outing (TBC).

For more information please contact:

Melissa Thompson

m.thompson @jpc.org.au

DEAF ART:

Upcoming Fridays: (10:00am - 2:00pm)

Term 2:

- 21st,
- 28th - Card making - Dawn May
- 5th - Origami - Melissa Anderson
- 12th,
- 19th - Card Making - Dawn May
- 26th,
- 2nd,
- 9th,
- 16th.
- 23rd - Card Making - Dawn May
- 30th - Outing

Term 3:

- 21st,
- 28th,
- 4th,
- 11th
- 18th

It's going to be a busy term so put the dates in your diary and come along and learn a new art or chat with friends!

We love to work with new mediums and recently we were very lucky to paint with watercolour! See above for photos from our time with Jennifer Bernal. Jennifer was very kind to work with us and look forward to learning more from her in the future!

Contact Katrina for more info: 0400 660 601

Ladies Day Out

Come and join this fun group once a month for an outing or for just chatting! Recently we went to Jayberries in Yarra Valley and had a lovely day together.

We also have some great days coming up **Wednesdays:**

- * WED 26th - Shrine of Remembrance
- * WED 24th - Cheese Farm
- * WED - 28th - Soup and Movies at JPC
- * WED 26th - TBC
- * WED 30th, Wednesday - Peninsula Spa

Deaf Men's Group

Deaf Men's Group meet fortnightly on Mondays (from 10am to 2pm). Most meetings are held in the JPC Hall and we play cards, talk, share news. But recently we took a trip to MCG. It was very interesting and great to have a guided tour with an interpreter. **Come and join the men's group when ever you like — It's an open house!**

Coffee/ Tea are provided, but please BYO Lunch.

Mondays:

- * 10th April,
- * 24th,
- * 8th,
- * 22nd,
- * 5th,
- * 19th,
- * 3rd,
- * 17th,
- * 31st,
- * 14th,
- * 28th.

We appreciate any donations to cover costs of morning & afternoon tea for our community groups. Thank you!

PANKINA:

Pankina group had a great end to 2016 with our end of year celebration on 23rd November. We played Bingo and then had Christmas raffle.

Congratulations to all who won!

On 7th December we had our Christmas lunch at Blackburn hotel with over 60 people!

This year we welcomed everyone back to JPC for our Pankina meeting on 23rd January and we were all happy to get out of the house after the long holiday break!

We hope you can join us for some meetings this year:

Upcoming Dates: *Mondays and some Tuesdays due to Public Holiday -*

Monday 3rd April - BINGO

Tuesday 18th April - 777's and Draw for Easter Raffle

Monday 1st May - BINGO

Monday 15th May (Special 25th ann. celebration)

Monday 29th May - AGM

We would like to make special mention of our dear friend Ann Darwin. We were shocked and saddened about her passing as she was always a great support to Deaf people. We also think and pray for Allen Mann who passed away in February.

For info on any community activities, please contact Katrina Mynard:

Mobile SMS: 0400 660 601

E: k.mynard@jpc.org.au

REST IN PEACE:

Ann Darwin (wife of Barry) - 22nd Jan 2017

Milly Jane Burrows – 31st Jan 2017

Adrian John Mckinnon Flynn (Son of John Flynn) - 11th Feb 2017

Allen Mann - 3rd Feb 2017

Maria Pysarenko - 19th Feb 2017

Roy Erskine Mayhew - 26th Feb 2017

LEAVE A BEQUEST:

By leaving a gift to John Pierce Centre in your Will, you will have a lasting impact, supporting our centre for years to come. A bequest makes a lasting positive change. It is a powerful reflection of the values and principles you treasure. It enables you to create a legacy of love and care for those who most need assistance and it will continue your life's aims beyond your own lifetime. For more information, please contact our Administration Office on 03 9525 1158 or email admin@jpc.org.au
Thank you.

JPC HALL FOR HIRE:

Did you know that you may hire the JPC hall for a small fee, for your workshop, seminar, events or meetings?

We are proud of our centre and we have many features to offer:

- Off street parking (easy access to tram line)
- Large, versatile area
- Natural lighting
- AV equipment (including projector)

- Full kitchen
- Male, female and disable access toilets
- Kids play area
- Cooling and heating

**For more information please contact us: Christine Elder on:
admin@jpc.org.au**

Calendar for Signed Masses

First Sunday Mass every month at John Pierce Centre (start in March 2016)

Second Sunday Interpreted Mass at St. Francis Church, Elizabeth Street, Melbourne.

Third Sunday Mass every month at John Pierce Centre

No 1st Sunday Mass in April	
Holy Thursday Mass, 13th April Mass	Prahran, JPC 3.00pm
Good Friday Service, 14th April Service	Prahran, JPC 3.00pm
Easter Sunday Mass 16th April Mass	Prahran, JPC 11.00am (and lunch at hotel -

	your cost)
(1st Sunday Mass)7th May Auslan only	Prahran, JPC 11.00am
(3rd Sunday Mass) 21st May Interpreter provided	Prahran, JPC 11.00am
(1st Sunday Mass)4th June Auslan only	Prahran, JPC 11.00am
(3rd Sunday Mass)18th June Interpreter provided	Prahran, JPC 11.00am
(1st Sunday Mass)2nd July Auslan only	Prahran, JPC 11:00am
(3rd Sunday Mass)16th July Interpreter provided	Prahran, JPC 11:00am

MASS FOR YOU AT HOME:

Do you want to watch Mass from home?

Mass For You At Home is broadcast on channel eleven on Sunday at 5.30am to 6.05am then is repeated on Channel ten from 6.00am to 6.30am.

The masses were filmed in February and will be aired once a week over the course of the year.

There were priests from different parishes who came to say Mass, some were new and others you may have seen before. We are proud to be a part of this program and there are so many people and organisations that are involved too...and we are very grateful to all!

Special thanks to Archdiocese of Melbourne, Channel Ten, John Rowland Media, Echo interpreting and to the JPC team.

Also, our very own Fr John Hill will be appearing on air on these dates:

- * **Sunday 6th August 2017 with interpreter Teresa Paulet**
- * **Sunday 13th August with interpreter Mark Quinn**

You may even see Mariana on TV too!

We hope you will wake up early on Sunday mornings to watch and enjoy the mass!

Special message:

A special happy birthday to June Thomas who turned 90 years young!

VOLUNTEERS:

We need volunteers for gift wrapping for Mother's Day at The Good Guys Store in Chadstone.

Can you help?

Leading up to Mother's Day, we will be gift wrapping at the Good Guys Store in Chadstone (for gold coin donations to JPC) and it would be great if you can help for a couple of hours!

Please contact us if you can help! Or please share our details with someone you think may be interested!

It is a great way to chat with friends too!

Please contact JPC staff for more details: admin@jpc.org.au.

Thank you!

ARE YOU BUYING SLAVERY-FREE EASTER CHOCOLATE?

Pope Francis said that "every person ought to have the awareness that purchasing is always a moral – and Not simply an economic – act."

The International Labor Rights Forum (ILRF) estimates that there are 1.5 million children working in the cocoa sector in West Africa. Many of these children have been enslaved, or forced to work in exploitative conditions.

If you buy chocolate featuring one of these three certification symbols you will know that production of the chocolate is okay.

Buy and Eat only slavery-free chocolate. To buy slavery-free Easter chocolate look for any of these certification labels on the wrappers:

FAIRTRADE, Rainforest Alliance and UTZ.

So why not help to share this message—Tell at least 5 other people about slavery-free chocolate this week!

(For more info - Go to: <https://acrath.org.au/slaveryfree-easter> for information and resources.)

Come & join us for these special services at JPC!

Address: JPC Community Hall - 25-35 High St, Prahran.

- **Holy Thursday - 13th APRIL - 3.00pm (please bring a plate of food to share for afternoon tea)**
- **Good Friday - 14th APRIL - 3.00pm (please bring a plate of food to share for afternoon tea)**
- **Easter Sunday - 16th APRIL - 11.00am**

We will go to College Lawn Hotel (near JPC) for lunch after Easter Sunday Mass. Lunch at your cost. Please let us know if you are coming so we can walk together.

(Note: The JPC office will be closed on Easter Monday 17th April)

You can always find our more information about JPC on our Facebook page and our website

www.jpc.org.au

And if you have some news to share, please tell us, we may be able to add it to the next issue of our *Newsletter!*