

## ***The need to just do it***

I have a friend who recently turned 70. At her birthday party, she told her gathered friends and family something of the values and principles that had governed her life. One of these principles was a constant exhortation, a motto she would recite when she was forced to negotiate with the many challenges that life presented. It was a motto that she shared with a well-known athletic shoe company – Just Do It!

Whenever my friend was confronted by a distasteful task at work or an unavoidable confrontation with a co-worker, she would tell herself “Just do it!” and face the problem. When serious ill health visited her in her fifties, she faced the ordeal of invasive treatment with the same invocation, “Just do it!” And even when family decided to plan a big 70<sup>th</sup> birthday, she related to us that, despite her misgivings, she embraced the occasion by telling herself “Just do it!”

In today’s gospel, Luke tells us that Jesus at an important turning point in his ministry “resolutely took the road to Jerusalem” or as the original Greek has it, “[Jesus] set his face for Jerusalem” (Luke 9:51).

We cannot know how much Jesus knew of his coming mission in Jerusalem; what his expectations were; or what he thought might be the outcome. Did Jesus suspect what we know, that his mission in Jerusalem would end in his arrest, trial and death?

The story that Luke tells about Jesus up until this point is one that is characterised by conflict and confrontation. Jesus must have known that taking his revolutionary message to the heart of the Jewish nation and the site of the Roman Imperial headquarters, would only escalate the controversy surrounding him. But he was resolved to “Just do it!”

Luke hints that Jesus’ final, fateful journey to Jerusalem will not ultimately end in defeat, but rather in Jesus being “taken up” into heaven and exalted. Jesus’ “path to life” would lead down into the very depths of despair and even death.

This is the paradox that lies at the heart of human existence. Often, we are the victim of circumstances beyond our control. There is a certain fateful inevitability to events that befall us in our everyday lives and test our resolve. And, yet, we do have the “freedom” of which Paul speaks in today’s second reading to imitate Jesus and “set our faces” to these challenges with love, tolerance, and hope.

Responding to disaster and disappointment with such a positive ‘just-do-it’ attitude would seem meaningless if it were not for the promise of the gospel. As Paul writes elsewhere, “For I am convinced that neither death, nor life ... nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:38-39).

## **Bellerive - Lindisfarne Catholic Parish**

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## **Thirteenth Sunday Year C**

30th June 2019

### **Today’s Reading:**

1 Kings 19:16,19-21

Galatians 5:1,13-18

Luke 9:51-62



### **Next Sunday’s Readings:**

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

Isaiah 66:10-14; Galatians 6:14-18;

Luke 10:1-12, 17-20

### **Weekend Mass times:**

Saturday vigil 6:00 pm Church of the Incarnation, Lindisfarne,

Sunday 8.30 am John Paul II, Rokeby

10.30 am Corpus Christi, Bellerive

6:00 pm Corpus Christi, Bellerive

### **Weekday Masses**

Tuesday 12:00pm Church of the Incarnation, Lindisfarne

Wednesday 12:00pm Corpus Christi, Bellerive

Thursday 10:00 am John Paul II, Rokeby

Friday 9:30 am Corpus Christi, Bellerive

1.30 pm Lillian Martin Warrane

Dear Parish Family,

We can breathe a little sigh of relief as we come to the end of the great feasts at the close of the Easter season and re-enter Ordinary Time. Pentecost, Trinity and Corpus Christi give focus to tenets central to our faith, but now we settle into a time of consolidation and growth as we resume our reading of Luke's Gospel. We take up the story again as Jesus resolutely takes the road for Jerusalem, with anticipation for all that was to happen there. The encounters along the way challenge and inspire us on our journey of faith.

In exciting news for our parish, Deacon Ben Brooks has elected to celebrate his First Mass of Thanksgiving at John Paul II Church in Rokeby following his Ordination to the Priesthood in July. Ben grew up in Bellerive and spent many years working in the Rokeby community as a member of the Society of Christian Doctrine. He will be ordained a priest at St Mary's Cathedral on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July during a Mass commencing at 7pm, and will celebrate his Mass of Thanksgiving the next morning, Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July at 10.30am at John Paul II Church. You are all most welcome to attend and support Ben during this wonderful moment for him and for the church of Tasmania.

In coming weeks, I will be in personal contact via letter with all those involved in the various ministries in our parish which require compliance with the new Safe Communities Policy. Do not be alarmed by these requirements, they are aimed at ensuring a safe and nurturing environment for the young and vulnerable members of our community, and we will attempt to provide all the support necessary to enable us to meet our obligations. I am continually heartened by the generosity of so many who give their time and talent to enrich the life of our parish.

The Vinnies Winter Appeal progressive total stands at an impressive \$4567, and with a few weeks still to run we are within reach of last year's total. Your generosity is astounding. The donations for couch surfing teenagers are also rolling in, and are being gratefully received by secondary students. Again, thanks for your care and enthusiasm.

Have a great week,  
Fr Richard

## **PASTORAL COUNCIL REPORT**

The main points of the Pastoral Council discussion were:

- various aspects of the Safe Communities protocols
- preliminary discussion around the 2020 Parish Vision initiative
- Sacramental Preparation Programme
- Vinnies Winter Appeal and the parish homelessness response
- Cleaning contracts for the churches and presbytery
- Ordination and Thanksgiving Mass of former parishioner Ben Brooks

## **VINNIES VOLUNTEERS**

At Corpus Christi we have an active and experienced group of volunteers working for the St Vincent de Paul Conference. This year we have seen a significant increase in calls asking for assistance. More conference volunteers are needed if we are to serve the poor in our community. If you are interested in joining this important outreach of this parish please contact Catherine or Terry at Mass or by phoning 62444149 or 0413308084.

## **BELLERIVE LINDISFARNE COMMUNITY**

We invite you and your group to our Winter Wonderland afternoon tea and entertainment by the Black Cherries, a quiz, lucky doors prizes & trade table. Lindisfarne Activities Centre on Wednesday July 24 2019 at 1.30 pm. If you would like further information or help with transport please call Catrina Boon 0417439269 or Mary Hemming 0438136396

**SOLEMNITY OF OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL** Carmelite Monastery, 7 Cambridge St., Launceston Tuesday 16th July 9.30am Sung Mass. Celebrant and Homilist: Archbishop Julian Porteous. A Novena of Masses and Prayers July 7th – 15th. Intentions may be sent to Mother Teresa Benedicta via post or [tascarmelvoc@gmail.com](mailto:tascarmelvoc@gmail.com) Morning Tea after Mass. All are welcome

## **CHARASMATIC PRAYER MEETING**

Wednesday 10th July at 7:30pm in the O'Loughlin Room

**NAME BADGES** There are still some to be collected in the foyer.