

JUNE 14 & 15, 2008 – ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Issue Number 262

“THERE FACING THE MOUNTAIN ISRAEL PITCHED CAMP”.

Moses, who grew up in the court of Pharaoh, killed an Egyptian, and to avoid arrest, fled the country. He received a call from God, and going back to Egypt, pleaded with the new Pharaoh to “let his people go”. This is about one thousand three hundred years before the birth of Christ. Today’s reading takes up the story of Moses and the Hebrew people who, having crossed the Red Sea, arrive in the wilderness of Sinai.

Sinai is a god-forsaken place inhabited today by Bedouin and armed Egyptian military personnel. The army is there manning check points every thirty kilometres or so, a result of the October 2004 attack in the Sinai where a truck drove into the lobby of the Taba Hilton and exploded, killing 31 people and wounding some 159 others. Ten floors of the hotel collapsed following the blast. The locals are jittery about tourists visiting the Sinai and you need a visa and large amounts of American dollars to talk an Egyptian into driving you to St Catherine’s Monastery which is at the foot of the mountain mentioned in today’s First Reading.

While it must be stated that the location of Mount Sinai cannot be determined with certainty, it is most frequently identified with one of the desert’s highest mountains, Jebel Musa. The commentators tell us that the dwelling of the gods on lofty cloud-shrouded mountains was common in Oriental antiquity. The place is awe-inspiring, bereft of any vegetation whatsoever, although, in St Catherine’s Monastery, there is a

“bush” said to be the remains of the original burning bush.

Saint Catherine’s Monastery has been one of the world’s great centres of religious pilgrimage for over fifteen centuries. Within its imposing walls rests a citadel like no other, incredibly rich in important religious and historical structures.

Among its treasures is a library of ancient manuscripts and icons second only to the Vatican’s itself, and a 6th century church reputed to lie directly on the site of the Burning Bush.

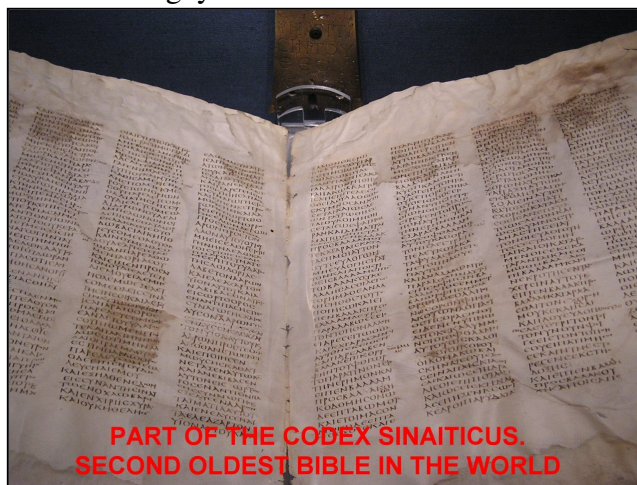
The monastery was built by order of Emperor Justinian I between 527 and 565, enclosing the Chapel of the Burning Bush ordered to be built by Helena, the mother of Constantine I. They claim the front doors are the original doors. They certainly look original. The site was associated

with St Catherine of Alexandria (whose relics were purported to have been miraculously transported there by angels) and it became a favorite site of pilgrimage.

Catherine of Alexandria was a Christian martyr initially sentenced to death on the wheel. However, when this failed to kill her, she was beheaded. According to tradition, angels took her remains to Mount Sinai. Around the year 800, monks from the Sinai Monastery found her remains.

The Codex Sinaiticus is a 4th century uncial manuscript of the Greek

Bible, written between 330–350. While it originally contained the whole of both Testaments, only portions of the Greek Old Testament or Septuagint survive. Along with



**PART OF THE CODEx SINAITICUS.
SECOND OLDEST BIBLE IN THE WORLD**

Codex Vaticanus, Codex Sinaiticus is one of the most valuable manuscripts for textual criticism of the Greek New Testament, as well as the Septuagint.

The portion of the codex held by the British Library (stolen from St Catherine's Monastery, of course) consists of 346½ folios, 694 pages (38.1 cm x 34.5 cm), constituting over half of the original work. Of these folios, 199 belong to the Old Testament and 147½ belong to the New Testament. Some parts of codex preserved in good condition, others are in very poor condition.

It was a dream of mine to go to St Catherine's Monastery, which I did two years ago. I met Father Justin, the librarian, who spent all morning entertaining me and telling me the history of the monastery and showing me how they preserve the books. Father Justin is a Texan, a convert to Orthodoxy. He was a wonderful host, very intrigued by this pilgrim from Down Under.

For a few dollars you hire a guide who takes you by camel up the mountain, where, by tradition God spoke to Moses. It takes all day to go up and back, but it is worth the trouble and the scene from the top of the mountain is breath-taking.

Father John

LITURGY CORNER

Consecration and entrusting ones self to God, is one of the longest traditions of the Christian Church. In fact, it predates the Christian community to the time of Abraham. Each celebration of the liturgy, the faithful renew their commitment to live out the task which God has entrusted to them from their baptism. However, living out one's faith and calling can be difficult. This Sunday's gospel reveals that Jesus too, in his time, was aware of this issue, and encourages his perplexed and anxious disciples. We too can take comfort in these words because we believe that Christ is always journeying with us and never allows anything that we cannot handle. In time of trial or temptation to deny Christ, have we stood up for the truth? What can I do this week to witness to Jesus' message? No good deed goes without God's knowing! "...Christ stands in need of our hands and hearts so that his grace may be truly in the world".
The Summit

Today's Readings

First Reading Exodus 19:2-6 The Lord makes Israel his very own people, a consecrated nation.

Second Reading Romans 5:6-11 Christ has reconciled and saved us through his death.

Gospel Matthew 9:36-10:8 Jesus sends out his disciples to labour in his harvest.

Next week: 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A
Jeremiah 20:10-13, Romans 5:12-15, Matthew 10:26-33

Feast Day this Week

St Aloysius Gonzaga, religious, June 21

HOLY HOUR every Thursday, 8-9pm – including Rosary, prayers, hymns & scripture reading. All welcome!

WYD 24 HOURS EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

There will be a special Eucharistic Adoration from 5pm on Friday, June 20 until 5.30pm on Saturday, June 21 to pray for the fruits of WYD. Please come and pray for the youth of the world.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING next Thursday, June 19, 7.30pm, Parish House Basement.

SUMMARY OF PARISH FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 'MAY' is on the Church noticeboard for your perusal and a copy is available for you to take home.

With the end of the Financial Year fast approaching, would you please bring your contributions up to date, and please notify the Parish Office if you have changed your address or any other details.

'HOMESTAY' – WORLD YOUTH DAY 2008 Is now closed!

Thank you to the 161 families who have opened their homes to the youth of the world, providing 479 beds. Once again our parish has much to be proud of. A special thank you to Richard and Helen Tarlinton who visited many of these homes and helped finalise their registrations.

WYD08 – If anyone can help with catering for the pilgrims at our parish between July 14 – 20, please contact Vita on 0418 237 092 or put your name on the rosters in the foyer. All welcome.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS 2008 are here! All 3 versions of the 2008/09 edition are available for sale at the parish office during the week (or fill in a form from the church foyer and drop it in the letterbox at the parish office door and we will contact you and organise collection). Parramatta/Hills \$55, Sydney and Sydney Nth \$65. Don't miss out on this fantastic book of savings. Remember the current editions expire at the end of this month. Pay by cash, cheque or credit card. All proceeds go to our Parish LIFE TEEN Youth Ministry – in the lead up to WYD '08.

BLANKETS FOR THE NEEDY We are very grateful to the many people making squares. 23 blankets have been completed so far this season for St Vincent de Paul Society. Many thanks to those who have given donations for the purchase of wool. More donations of cash or 8 ply wool/yarn would be appreciated. There will be a morning tea on Monday, June 30, 10am, Marian Centre. Anyone interested is most welcome – bring your knitting/crochet and enjoy friendly companionship. Transport is available if needed. RSVP Jo 9634 5961 or Hilary 9894 5913.

RETIREMENT VILLAGES SCHEDULE THIS WEEK:

Warrina – Mass & Anointing of the Sick, Tuesday, June 17, 4pm.

Nuffield & Hopetoun – Mass & Anointing of the Sick, Wednesday, June 18, 4pm.

Wirreanda - Communion Service & Anointing of the Sick, Thursday, June 19, 11am.

Nordby – Communion Service & Anointing of the Sick, Thursday, June 19, 4pm.

Kilvinton – Mass & Anointing of the Sick, Friday, June 20, 2pm.

Flinders – Communion Service & Anointing of the Sick, Saturday, June 21, 10am.



...events and news for ALL Parishioners...

World Youth Day 2008...The journey continues at Castle Hill: With only 30 days to go make sure you start getting involved to get the full experience of World Youth Day. Check out the website and the bulletin for the many ways to get involved. Take a few steps in the pilgrimage with Jesus that is World Youth Day!

WYD Pilgrim Meeting: There will be a meeting for **all St Bernadette's WYD pilgrims this Sunday Jun 15, 7:30-8:30pm** in the parish hall (supper served about 7:15pm). **Part of the evening will be discussing meeting and departure times for WYD week, including the Saturday vigil and Sunday Mass.** If you are attending WYD for the week or the Saturday night sleep out please try and make it (if you are only going to the mass on Sunday you do not need to attend but you are welcome). Anyone who is not registered but is still interested in finding out more information about WYD is welcome to join us. **All registered pilgrims will receive their WYD Back pack (filled with great stuff) at this meeting).**

Want to enjoy the atmosphere of World Youth Day while serving others. Why not become a **WYD Volunteer**. If you are over 18 yrs old and willing to work July 14-20 you can be a WYD Volunteer. Go to www.wyd2008.org for more details and to register.

Invitation to the International Youth Forum for your WYD pilgrims: This is to let you know about the International Youth Forum (IYF), part of the "Days in the Diocese" of the Archdiocese of Canberra-Goulburn. Between 9 to 13 July, 2,500 young people are expected to attend the IYF in Goulburn. With 2,000 pilgrims are already registered from more than 15 countries, including Germany, Indonesia, France, Vietnam, Ireland, Netherlands, Brazil and the USA, the IYF promises to be a truly international event. The IYF will span 4 days (9-13 July) and will help prepare pilgrims for the WYD in Sydney. An exciting program has been developed, with a range of activities including talks by international speakers, music, drama & workshops, sports, adoration, Mass and reconciliation. To register or to simply find out more, call Olivia on (02) 9016 4355 or visit <http://www.wyd-emmanuel.info/>

REGISTERING AS A PILGRIM FOR WYD

Are you aged 16-35: To join our **parish pilgrim group** for the WYD week go to <http://egeria.wyd2008.org> and register as a pilgrim. You then need to **join group number 3532 (LIFE TEEN Australia)**. Cost \$335 (plus optional \$15 for the solidarity fund) and covers access to all events, food, transport and reserved seating for the final Mass.

Open to all ages: Do you want to join our **parish weekend pilgrim group** (which will join together with our parish group attending the full week) for the Pilgrimage walk across the Sydney Harbour Bridge to Randwick Racecourse for the Evening Vigil & sleep out 'under the stars' and the Final Mass celebrated by the Pope. Then go to <http://egeria.wyd2008.org> and register as a pilgrim. You then need to **join group number 8803 (LIFE TEEN Australia weekend)**. This will cost \$175 (plus optional

\$15 for the solidarity fund) and covers food, transport and reserved seating for the final Mass.

Registrations will still be taken in June but WYD can't guarantee everything will be provided (such as pilgrim pack, meals, transport etc).

NOT REGISTERING BUT WANT TO GET INVOLVED

Most major events (except morning Catechesis) are open to **everyone** and are **free**. People of all ages are welcome to attend, however **priority will be given to registered pilgrims**. You will need to organise your own transport and food. Some of the events you may wish to attend are; the Opening Mass celebrated by Cardinal George Pell, the Youth Festival, the arrival and welcome of the Pope on Sydney Harbour, the Stations of the Cross, the Pilgrimage walk across the Sydney Harbour Bridge to Randwick Racecourse for the Evening Vigil & sleep out 'under the stars' and the Final Mass celebrated by the Pope. For more information on these events go to www.wyd2008.org.

...events and news for Youth & Young Adults...

LIFE Night for any **high school teens in yr 9-12!** There is no LIFE Night tonight. Next Sunday we **plan on saving the world!** For upcoming LIFE Night details go to our website, www.lifeteenaustralia.com.

Into LIFE for any **high school teens in yr 6-8!** Join us this Monday, 7-8:30pm, in the Parish hall for games and activities. Please bring \$2 for chips, drinks and lollies. It doesn't matter if you haven't been before as our great team of leaders will make sure you feel welcome.

Winter (Spring) Camps: Due to WYD our winter camps for this year have been moved to the October school holiday. Into LIFE Camp for yr 6-8 will be Oct 8-10 and LIFE Night Camp for yrs 9-12 will be Oct 10-12. Make sure you keep these dates free!

"You can now check out our parish on Facebook. Just search for "St Bernadette's Parish, Castle Hill" and join our group!"

LIFE TEEN is now producing podcasts - Check out the website, www.lifeteen.com, for your free weekly podcast about Sunday Mass.

Looking for a great website for teens and young adults? Look no further - www.lifeteen.com. **If you want to know what's on for youth and young adults at St Bernadette's check out our new look parish youth website www.lifeteenaustralia.com, or contact Sean at the Parish House on 9634 2622 or email youth@stbernadette.org.au.**

UPPER ROOM GATHERING The Solo Parents Ministry monthly gatherings, to offer support to those who are over 50 years of age and who have lost a partner or spouse through death, will take place in the upstairs room of 8 Victoria Rd (corner Villiers St, entry via Villiers St) on the second Thursday of each month from 11am - 12.30pm commencing July 10. RSVP Sr Eileen Quade 9890 2968 or equade@bigpond.com.

St Bernadette's Parish Community
Parish House, 367 Old Northern Road, Castle Hill, NSW 2154

Telephone 9634 2622 Fax 9899 3511 Email: admin@stbernadette.org.au
 Web page: http://www.stbernadette.org.au

Parish Staff

Fr John Boyle, Parish Priest
 Fr Eugene Szondi, Assistant Priest
 Fr Sunny Michael, ms, Assistant Priest
 Sr Judy McLeod, rsm, Pastoral Associate
 Mrs Alice Bradshaw, Sacramental Co-ordinator
 Mr Sean Finucane, Youth Minister
 Mr Ian Pomeroy, Into LIFE Youth Minister
 Mrs Carla Knox, Parish Secretary (Mon, Wed-Fri)
 Mrs Monica Rubic, Parish Secretary (Finance: Mon-Thu)
 Mrs Annarita Mezger, Parish Secretary (Tue & Fri)
 Mr Michael Watson, Maintenance Co-ordinator

Mass Times for this Week

Sunday	Sat	6pm
	Sun	7.30am, 9am, 10.30am & 6pm
		Parish LIFE TEEN Youth Mass
Weekdays	Mon	6.45am
	Tue	6.45 am
	Wed	6.45am, 9.15am
	Thurs	6.45am, 9.15am
	Fri	6.45am, 9.15am
	Sat	8am

Mass on Public Holidays at 8am

Reconciliation Sat 8.30am-9am; 4.30pm-5.30pm

Baptisms and Marriages: By appointment only. Contact the Parish House Please note the Church law: Parents are obliged to take care that infants are baptised in the first few weeks; as soon as possible after the birth or even before it, they are to go to the pastor to request the sacrament for their child and to be prepared properly for it. [Can. 867 §1]

St Bernadette's Parish School: Mr Paul Colyer, Acting Principal 9634 2898

Please pray for Marjorie Ross (Sr Judy's mother), Owen Trainor, Andre van der Hout, Priscila Villanueva, Jim Donohoe, Marion Rose Beasley and Mary June Burge who died recently and for Rufino Rosales (anniversary on 13/6), Clive Barker (anniversary on 16/6), Brian Artz (anniversary on 5/8), Phillip Camilleri and Miguel Fidel whose anniversaries occur about this time and in remembrance of Achille & Margherita Forestieri.

Prayers for the Sick: Michael Dowson and Joyce O'Rourke

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – June 21 - 22

ACOLYTES/ SERVERS	LECTORS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION
SAT 6.00PM Joe Josue S1	Joseph Menezes Cheryl Braisby Jenny or Albert Agius	Carole-Anne Lunn, Annarita Mezger, Maureen & Ray Scully, Sabrina Lobo, Connie Tierney, Helen Wintle, Sr Ann Love, Joe Zammit.
7.30AM Budi Kawiadji S2	Tony Falzon Patricia Bright John O'Dea	Lina Josue, Albert & Gladys Tsang, Colleen & Eric Woodhead, Jo Wickens.
9AM Edy Kesuma S3	Trevor O'Shea Brian Blacklock Joanne O'Shea	Stephen Suen, Howard Woodward, Janice Bonaccorso, Marica Bosen, Shane Robinson, Rosalind Yeo, Elizabeth Vasta, Angela Stenglin, Patricia Williams.
10.30AM Tim Lee S4	Tony Smith Philip Golamco Trinity Abbertson-Woo	Mary & Jeyaraj Winslow, Crystal & Bernie Good, Yvette Braganza, Gaye Crammond, Lydia Flores, Teresa & Damian Steenson.

6.00PM PARISH LIFE TEEN YOUTH MASS MINISTRY ROSTER – June 22

Adult Servers	Extraordinary Ministers of Communion		Musos	
Marc Clasquin Tim Bywater	Alex Aguilera Amelia Hangan Annalyce Hangan Cassie Knezevic Fran Rogers	Kate Eagleston Monica O'Callaghan Monique O'Callaghan Sean Finucane Stef Musgrave	Bass Erich Gracias Flor	Singers Alison Wong Annabel Irawan Darian Jessup-Lonsdale Erich Gracias Flor Sara Ang Veronica Sahabu
Altar Preparation Josh Becker	Projectionists Matthew Ashton	Ushers Paul Musgrave Phillip Smith	Drums	
Lectors Emma Wade Tina Muscat Vanessa Muscat	Gift Preparation Jeremy Smith Mitchell Johnson-Green	Welcomers Alfonso Aguilera Maria Aguilera	Piano Alice Bradshaw	
Altar Servers S5			Guitar Daniel Ang	
			Horns /Strings/Winds Sarah Ashton Ashley Adams	

CHILDRENS' LITURGY Older: Shane Robinson Younger: Lisa Biasucci	CHURCH HOUSKEEPING Jeannette Leach, Cathy Teh, Joanne Leach, Alicia Maunsell.	COUNTING (2nd Collection) David Dunn, Andrew Losurdo, Matthew Troy, Michael & Julie Puckeridge, Graham Murray.
FLOWER ROSTER Sandra & Serieze Fernando	COUNTING (1st Collection) Sandra Watson Denise Hicks	BOOKSHOP Paula Boyd / Rose Huby / Jane Beard / Crystal Good / Giuli & Serge Dogulin.