



There are an estimated 370 million indigenous peoples in the world, representing approximately 5 per cent of the total world population. Indigenous people account for more than 5,000 languages in over 70 countries on six continents; that is, nearly 75 per cent of all languages believed to exist. In many cases their ecologically sustainable practices protect a significant part of the world's biological diversity. Despite two UN Decades on Indigenous People, this group continues to face serious discrimination in terms of access to basic social services, including education and healthcare. A great number are marginalized and live in precarious conditions, often due to forced displacement and the impacts of globalization and climate change.

In today's Gospel we are told by Matthew that Jesus, at a time when his message was falling on deaf ears and indeed caused conflict and opposition, still found it in His Heart to bless and praise the Lord of Heaven and Earth. Why you may ask? He thanks his Father 'for revealing to mere children' the mysteries of God and god's plan for humanity.

Those same mysteries, He said, were hidden from, i.e. not seen or understood by, the learned and the clever. It continues to be so, for eyes to see, ears to hear and hearts to respond. Like only mere children can and do...

We are very much aware on this "National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander" Sunday of the many past and present efforts to bring about indigenous recognition of and respect for their rightful place in our society and indeed in Australia's Constitution....

Let us celebrate all that has been achieved with gratitude. Let us indeed anticipate the completion of our journey of recognition and unity, and praise the Lord of Heaven and Earth. There should be much more praise and thanksgiving in our lives, for the many blessings. The more our hearts are filled with gratitude, the more we will be in tune with our spiritual selves and act accordingly with a spirit of deep respect and generosity of attitude. In our different cultural ways!...(NATSICC)

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 CHILDREN's web: Google, EWTNKIDS
 Deepen your faith-find answers on
 Tim Staples; Catholic Sacraments.
 www.vocationcentre.org.au



6th July 2014 (A)

INDIGENOUS SUNDAY

1ST READING: Zechariah 9:9-10

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

2ND READING: Romans 8:9. 11-13

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: St Matthew 11:25-30

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord; blessed is he who hopes in God.

WEEKEND MASS TIMES:

Sat. Vigil: 5pm
 Sunday: 8am, 9:30am & 5pm

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:

Mon, Tues & Thurs: 7:30am
 Wed: 6pm
 Fri: 9:15am
 Sat: 9:15am (Sthn Cross Hostel)

HOLY HOUR: Wed: 5pm

RECONCILIATION:

Wed: 5:15 – 5:45pm
 Sat: 4:15 – 4:45pm

BAPTISMS:

Sundays 9:30am Mass

BAPTISMAL PROGRAMME &

WEDDINGS:

By appointment

ANOINTING MASS:

Quarterly: 1st weekend

1ST SAT OF EACH MONTH:

11am Mass in honour of Our Lady.

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAMME:

100% tax deductible. Please join by contacting parish office.

FAITH FORMATION:

Sundays 3:30pm (in presbytery)

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat Vigil: Diefke Family
Sun 8am: †Salvatore Blanco
Sun 9:30am: †Tony Amaro (40 days)
Mon: †Anthony Chong
Tue: Sam Fayad & Family
Wed: †Clare Unsworth
Thur: †Mary & Daphne Jones
Fri: Carmel Dunn (sick)

OUR SICK: *Marie Busuttill, Pat Raby, Maria De Andrade, Mollie Burgess, Patricia Flannery, Josephine Helback, Carmella Ciccari, Joy Williams, Moira Butler and Jenny Yong...*

Foley Gardens Self-care Retirement Village – waiting list available. Please call Fr. Jerzy on 93491292 or 0411125357 for further details.

CHURCH PARKING is available in the school grounds for weekend Masses. Please enter from Haig Avenue.

Reminder: Feast Day of the Blessed Mother of the Church will be celebrated in our Parish next Sun 13th July at 12pm with Mass followed by lunch in the hall. All welcome.

PLANNED GIVING APPEAL

Towards a Stronger Community, Faith in Action

As a Church we endeavour to run it as efficiently as possible relying on the generosity of everyone in our community. Planned Giving is one of the ways that we can achieve this goal. Joining this system of weekly 100% tax-deductible donations, we can become more responsible and caring members of our Community. Those who wish to contribute through this system anonymously, Planned Giving envelopes for will also be available to you. We count on you and your generosity.



2014 - 2015...

This weekend: Vigil: J Haggar (A) P Low, Volunteer (R) F Doherty, G Hage (C) G Guerrero (M)
8:00am: G Diab (A) P Tjugito, A Burke (R) O Sarmiento, V Meyer (C) P Low (M)
9:30am: A Varghese (A) M Tjokrowidjaja, Delwin T (R) C Findlay (C) A Burton (M)
5:00pm: R Yang (A), F Francis, K Kalapura (R), Volunteers (C) **Counter:** G Hogan

Next weekend: Vigil: J Haggar (A) F & G Hogan (R) S Kim, Volunteer (C) G Guerrero (M)
8:00am: G Diab (A) M Marshiella, T Long (R) A Burke, Sr Betty (C) P Low (M)
9:30am: A Varghese (A) H Evening, S Gerakiteys (R) M Tjokrowidjaja (C) A Burton (M)
5:00pm: R Yang (A), Volunteer, A Fernandez (R), Volunteers (C) **Counter:** B Dunn, H Morris

Dear Brothers and Sisters, It is a great joy for me to be here today in Alice Springs and to meet so many of you, the Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders of Australia. I want to tell you right away how much the Church esteems and loves you, and how much she wishes to assist you in your spiritual and material needs. 1. At the beginning of time, as God's Spirit moved over the waters, he began to communicate something of his goodness and beauty to all creation. When God then created man and woman, he gave them the good things of the earth for their use and benefit; and he put into their hearts abilities and powers, which were his gifts. And to all human beings throughout the ages God has given a desire for himself, a desire which different cultures have tried to express in their own ways. 2. As the human family spread over the face of the earth, your people settled and lived in this big country that stood apart from all the others. Other people did not even know this land was here; they only knew that somewhere in the southern oceans of the world there was "The Great South Land of the Holy Spirit". But for thousands of years you have lived in this land and fashioned a culture that endures to this day. And during all this time, the Spirit of God has been with you. Your "Dreaming", which influences your lives so strongly that, no matter what happens, you remain for ever people of your culture, is your only way of touching the mystery of God's Spirit in you and in creation. You must keep your striving for God and hold on to it in your lives. 3. The rock paintings and the discovered evidence of your ancient tools and implements indicate the presence of your age-old culture and prove your ancient occupancy of this land. Your culture, which shows the lasting genius and dignity of your race, must not be allowed to disappear. Do not think that your gifts are worth so little that you should no longer bother to maintain them. Share them with each other and teach them to your children. Your songs, your stories, your paintings, your dances, your languages, must never be lost. Do you perhaps remember those words that Paul VI spoke to the aboriginal people during his visit to them in 1970? On that occasion he said: "We know that you have a life style proper to your own ethnic genius or culture – a culture which the Church respects and which she

does not in any way ask you to renounce... Society itself is enriched by the presence of different cultural and ethnic elements. For us you and the values you represent are precious. We deeply respect your dignity and reiterate our deep affection for you"...(Alice Springs, 29 Nov 1986. John Paul II).

