



ephpheta Centre

Catholic Centre for Deaf and Hearing Impaired People

Deaf Catholic News

SPECIAL EDITION

Why another Special Edition?

February - April 2013

Volume 14 No 1

Easter is early this year! We want to make sure you get all the important Easter related information with plenty of time & it's too early for enough news for a full Newsletter Edition so we're doing another Special Edition for 2013.

A Reflection for Lent

Lent begins on 13 February this year – what does Jesus ask of us in this season?

The message for us about Lent is contained in the gospel reading on Ash Wednesday - we hear that Jesus says to his disciples

“Give alms...Pray to your Father...Fast without a gloomy face...”.

We can look at the words of Jesus as our guide through Lent, our time of spiritual preparation for the gift of the Resurrection.



Giving

Jesus is telling us that we should give to one another and to those people who have greater needs than ourselves. This might be giving to a charity which supports poor people or people in need. It might be making a gift of your time in seeing a person who is sick or lonely. It might be giving of your patience and your hospitality. We all can give to others and support other people. We all have something which we can give.



Prayer

During Lent we are called to pray, to spend some quiet time with Jesus.

For some of us, we might have got out of the way of privately praying to Jesus. So how do we start to spend some time in prayer as part of our Lenten preparation for Easter?

Maybe we can look at the Gospel reading for the day, or turn back to the prayers which we may have learnt as children.

Find a quiet place – away from distractions. Quiet your mind and your body and talk to God. Spend some time in listening to God.



Fasting

In the season of Lent, we are encouraged to focus on giving up things, such as certain foods on certain days. In today's world we are surrounded by shops full of food and many things to buy. Why would we want to fast when all around us are lovely tempting things?

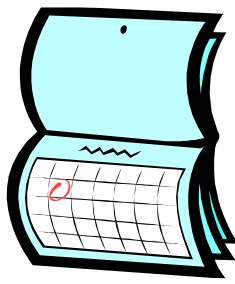
What fasting can do is to make us focus on what is really important. By giving something up during Lent, we can find a place in our lives for more important things. By making a conscious effort to not do something, we can at the same time decide to do something more positive to help us to be the people which Jesus calls us to be. Lent helps us to stop and look at some of the things in our life which we may want to change. For some Lent is seen as a time of penance and suffering –but really the period of Lent is a gift to us so that we can focus on the things in our lives which we know to be important.



Blessings to you as we enter the Lenten season.

Save the Dates

Some very important things to book in to your diary now so you don't miss out! See below for more information...



3rd February - Reading for Mass Workshop
17th February - Toongabbie Mass
3rd March - Community Presentation

Easter Mass Times & Information:

13th February - Ash Wednesday Masses
22nd February to 22nd March - Lenten Groups
23rd March to 30th March - Holy Week

Reading Workshop - 3rd February

We are having a special Reading Workshop to help our regular Mass Readers translate the English Readings into beautiful Auslan for the congregation. Anyone who would like to be a regular Reader is welcome.

The workshop will be after the first Mass for 2013, at Punchbowl. Danni & Nicole will be working with the group, giving ideas and tips on how to sign Readings better for Mass.



When: Sunday 3rd February (after lunch)

Where: Ephpheta Centre, 4 Turner St, Punchbowl.



Mass at Toongabbie - 17th February

The usual Mass at Seven Hills on the 17th February has **changed address and time**. It is now at Toongabbie, **St Anthony of Padua**, 27 Aurelia St Toongabbie at **10am**.

When: Sunday 17th February, 10am

Where: St Anthony of Padua, 27 Aurelia St Toongabbie

This will be an Integrated Mass with the hearing parish. Afterwards you are welcome to join in for lunch at the local RSL Club. Free parking available under the Shopping Centre, next door.



Community Presentation - 3rd March

There will be a Community Presentation on an interesting topic after Mass at Punchbowl on Sunday 3rd March. The details are still being confirmed so the topic will be a surprise!



If you enjoy listening to interesting stories and learning new information, come and join us!

When: Sunday 3rd March (after lunch)

Where: Ephpheta Centre, 4 Turner St, Punchbowl.



EASTER MASS TIMES & INFORMATION

This year, we have our usual Easter timetable - everyone is welcome, even if you only like to come to church at Easter time!



Ash Wednesday - 13th February

We will have our usual two Ash Wednesday Masses this year.



Punchbowl - Ash Wednesday morning

When: Wednesday 13th February, 12.00pm

Where: Ephpheta Centre,
4 Turner St, Punchbowl.

Penrith - Ash Wednesday night

When: Wednesday 13th February, 7.00pm

Where: St Nicholas' Catholic Church,
326 High St, Penrith

Lenten Groups

This year we will have Lenten groups in people's homes. Times and addresses are **not yet confirmed**. You must tell Nicole if you want to come.

Lenten group will be on the following dates:

Friday 22nd February

Friday 1st March

Friday 8th March

Friday 15th March

Friday 22nd March



Soon, we will confirm where the Lenten groups will be, then Nicole will contact you to let you know confirmed times & addresses before Lenten group starts.

If enough people are interested, we can have both a day group and night group so let Nicole know which you prefer!



You do not have to attend every date, but you must tell Nicole if you want to come to any date! If you want to come, please talk to Nicole or email her on nicole@ephpheta.org.au

HOLY WEEK PROGRAM

– 23RD MARCH TO 30TH MARCH

This year, we have our usual Easter timetable and everyone is welcome, even if you only like to come to church at Easter time!

Saturday 23 March (Palm Sunday Vigil)

6.00pm - Mass at

St Luke's Catholic Church,
1 Beaconsfield St, Revesby.
(Integrated Mass)



Palm Sunday is a special occasion so we will have a special Palm Sunday Mass at the usual Saturday Vigil venue. **Revesby Venue is TBC**

Thursday 28 March (Holy Thursday)

9.00am - Mass at St Jerome's Catholic Church (next to Ephpheta Centre), 2 Turner St, Punchbowl. (Integrated Mass)

7.00pm - Mass at St Nicholas' Catholic Church, 326 High St, Penrith. (Integrated Mass)



Friday 29 March (Good Friday)

3.00pm - Good Friday Service at Ephpheta Centre, Chapel of St. Francis de Sales, 4 Turner St, Punchbowl.

Please join us for hot cross buns & tea/coffee after our Service.

Saturday 30 March (Easter Saturday Vigil)

7.00pm - Mass at Ephpheta Centre, Chapel of St. Francis de Sales, 4 Turner St, Punchbowl.



Please bring a plate to share for supper after Mass & spare change for the wonderful Easter Raffle.





Noticeboard



Deaf Cafe



for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people!

Deaf Café is for anybody, no need to book just turn up, we will have the coffee hot and the cake and biscuits waiting!

Deaf Café is a great place to meet & chat with new people or catch up with old friends over a cuppa.

Tea & coffee available all day! Gold coin donation. Bring your own lunch or you can buy your lunch for \$3.

The next dates are: **8th February,**
8th March & 12th April

(always on the 2nd Friday of the month)

Time: **10am to 2pm**

At: the Ephpheta Centre, 4 Turner St, Punchbowl. See you there!



When: Third Friday of every month, 10am-12pm

Where: The Ephpheta Centre
4 Turner Street, Punchbowl

Plenty of street parking OR easy 7 min walk from Punchbowl train station

For more info contact:

Danni Wright - danni@ephpheta.org.au

TTY: 9708 6904 Mobile: 0410 567 621 (sms)

15th February - Welcome

The value of networking for Deaf parents

18th March - Easter

Kids Easter 'cooking' & Easter Bonnets

19th April - Mother's Day

Make a Mother's Day card or gift.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS - BIG KIDS WELCOME



Deaf Young Adults Group

We will have a new Deaf group once a month on the fourth Saturday afternoon, for young adults (must be over 18) but there will be no alcohol.

We will have cards and board games, discussions & chat with new friends.

When: First group on **Saturday 23rd February** at 1.00pm til 4.00pm. Then the next dates are:

- Saturday 23rd March
- Saturday 27th April

Where: Ephpheta Centre, 4 Turner St, Punchbowl.

Contact: No need to RSVP, just come!

Any questions contact Robert on robertnock@deaf.com.au or 0414 454 055 or Danni on danni@ephpheta.org.au or 0410 567 621 (sms)



Deaf Mother's Club of the West

We look forward to our 2013 gatherings as follows:

Tuesday 26th February - Marayong

Tuesday 26th March - Marayong

Saturday 6th April - outing TBC

Sunday 5th May - Cockatoo Island

Sunday 12th May - Mother's Day Classic, Parramatta Park

Tuesday 28th May - Marayong

June - Lawn Bowls (date and venue TBC)

Tuesday 23rd July - Marayong

Tuesday 27th August - Marayong

Sunday 8th September - Chowder Bay Walk

Tuesday 22nd October - Marayong

Saturday 16th November - Shark Island

Tuesday 26th November - Christmas Luncheon

For "Marayong" above, we meet at the After School Care Building, Holy Family Church, 116-132 Quakers Road, Marayong from 10.30am till 2pm. Morning tea is provided but please bring along your own mug and lunch.

Please check Deaf Mother's Club of the West Facebook page for any events and updates.





Deaf Men's Day Out

A tour of the Warragamba Dam.

When: Friday 15th February 2013

What to bring: Money, Hat, Sunglasses, Camera.

We will have BBQ sausages and bread-rolls and cold drinks for lunch. Donation of \$5 to cover lunch expenses.

Where: Meet at Warragamba Dam - Visitor office, Production Avenue Warragamba at 10.30am

OR



Meet at Ephpheta Centre, 4 Turner St Punchbowl at 9am if you need transport. **You MUST let me know NOW if you need transport.**

More information about the Warragamba Dam, please visit the website:
<http://www.sca.nsw.gov.au/dams-and-water/major-sca-dams/warragamba-dam>

Please let David know so he can order enough food and drinks for you.

David Parker at Ephpheta Centre -
email david@ephpheta.org.au
SMS 0408 669 672
Fax 02 9709 5638 or
TTY 02 9708 6904



Deaf Youth Day Out Treasure Hunt

A new exciting event for 2013. What is it? Yep a treasure hunt with a twist on 23 February 2013.

Mystery! Team Work! Fun!

You will be engaging in a fun treasure hunt with team activities which are designed to make you laugh in and around Parramatta.

Who: Young deaf and hard of hearing people aged between 12 and 17 years old.

Where: Prince Alfred Park
 253 Church Street Parramatta (near Riverside Theatre)

When: Saturday 23 February 2013

Time: 1.30—5pm

Cost: \$10 per person



LIMITED TO 15 YOUNG DEAF PEOPLE ONLY.
BE QUICK!

For more information or questions please contact
 David or Amanda

David: david@ephpheta.org.au
 SMS: 0408 669 672

Amanda: afaqirzada@deafsociety.com
 SMS: 0423 276 079

www.deafyouthsydney.org.au



Out and About in the Deaf Community

Beautiful Baby Ethan Harris

Steven and Vivien Harris are pleased to announce that Ethan Harris was born on Friday morning, 16th November 2012, 3160g and 49cm long. Both baby and mother are doing very well. Their daughter Olwen is pleased to have a little brother.



John Paul's Ordination

We at the Ephpheta Centre were proud to see John Paul Escarlan receive his Holy Order of Deacon at his Ordination!

Some of the Deaf Community were there to celebrate with him. John Paul spent time with our community while studying at the Holy Spirit Seminary, Parramatta. He is on his way to become a priest! (Perhaps then he can come and work with the Deaf Community?!)

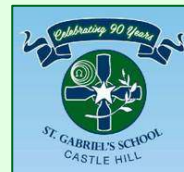
The lovely Ordination service was at St. Michael's Parish in Blacktown, on Friday evening, 23rd November 2012, and refreshments (and of course cake!) were enjoyed afterwards with the Parish.



St GABRIEL'S 90th ANNIVERSARY

Celebrations Continue

Just after the last newsletter, we received more lovely photos and information related to the St Gabriel's 90th Anniversary Reunion Weekend so we wanted to include them for your enjoyment.



On Sunday 4th November, the usual

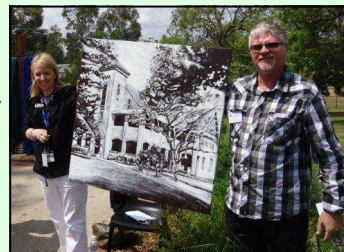


Punchbowl Mass was cancelled so the community could go to a special celebration at St Gabriel's school itself.

There was a special

St Gabriel's School's 90th Anniversary Mass celebrated by Bishop Anthony Fisher. It was followed by the huge "90th-A-Fair", a school fete in their grounds.

It was great to see the wonderful Art Show by Patrick Phillips (a St Gabriel's ex-student) held inside the school. We also had Br Reg Shepherd talking to ex-students as "a teacher".



It was a most enjoyable day for everyone attending.

Mass Times



FEBRUARY

3rd	Sunday	10.30am
	PUNCHBOWL & Workshop	
10th	Sunday	9.30am
	NORTH GOSFORD	
13th	Ash Wednesday	12.00pm
	PUNCHBOWL	
13th	Ash Wednesday	7.00pm
	PENRITH	
17th	Sunday	10.00am
	TOONGABBIE	
	<i>(for more information, see page 2)</i>	
	NO SEVEN HILLS MASS ON 17TH FEB	
23rd	Saturday	6.00pm
	REVESBY	

MARCH

3rd	Sunday	10.30am
	PUNCHBOWL & Community Presentation	
10th	Sunday	10.30am
	MANLY	
17th	Sunday	11.00am
	SEVEN HILLS	

HOLY WEEK

24th	Palm Sunday	6.00pm
	(Saturday Vigil) REVESBY TBC	
28th	Holy Thursday	9.00am
	PUNCHBOWL (St Jerome's)	
28th	Holy Thursday	7.00pm
	PENRITH	
29th	Good Friday Service	3.00pm
	PUNCHBOWL	
30th	Easter Saturday Vigil	7.00pm
	PUNCHBOWL	

APRIL

7th	Sunday	10.30am
	PUNCHBOWL	
14th	Sunday	9.30am
	NORTH GOSFORD	
	(More Mass information in the next Newsletter)	

Church Addresses



**Chapel of
St Francis de Sales
4 Turner St
Punchbowl**



**Our Lady of
the Rosary
92 Glennie St
North Gosford**
Integrated Mass



**Our Lady of
Lourdes
7 Grantham Rd
Seven Hills**



**St Mary's
6 Raglan St
Manly**
Integrated Mass

Easter Addresses

**St Nicholas'
326 High St
Penrith**
Integrated Mass



**St Luke's
1 Beaconsfield St
Revesby**
6pm
Integrated Vigil Mass

**St Jerome's
(next to Ephpheta Centre)
2 Turner St
Punchbowl**
Integrated Mass

We pray...

For those who have died

16 November 2012 - George Goswell
17 January 2013 - Oleg Maksymow (Tania Palmer's father)

For those who are sick

George Krams
Fred Heatherill

DIRECTOR'S DIARY

Welcome to this special edition of the newsletter. Lent begins right at the doorstep right after the New Year celebrations on Wednesday 13th February hence the reason for an early edition with lots of Easter information.

Firstly, Happy New Year to all and I trust that you had a wonderful Christmas with family gatherings, holidays or just a quiet break. I hope 2013 will bring you many blessings for the year and pray that we keep a positive attitude throughout. Ephpheta Centre will begin the year with some exciting news for 2013. No doubt you would want to know the news but "Have the pache" and you will see soon enough.

Please spare a thought for those involved with the bushfires in many parts of Australia. We are blessed with many volunteer fire-fighters who give up their time for our protection and to care for those in distress. Please say prayers for them and the families who have lost everything in the fires.

Blessings,


Big Steve KSS



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We're on the Web!
www.ephpheta.org.au

 Join us on Facebook!
<http://www.facebook.com/deafcentre>

The Ephpheta Centre is supported
by the Charitable Works Fund. 

Email addresses of our staff

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Nicole - nicole@ephpheta.org.au
Peter - peter@ephpheta.org.au
Stephen - stephen@ephpheta.org.au

*Please send your news, stories,
information and requests to
Danni to be considered for the
next newsletter!*

WEBSITE NEWS

Have you seen our website recently?

Our website is now being updated
weekly so it is always full of current
information - we hope everyone will get
used to checking it!

If you have any ideas for our website
please contact Danni.

