
Granville

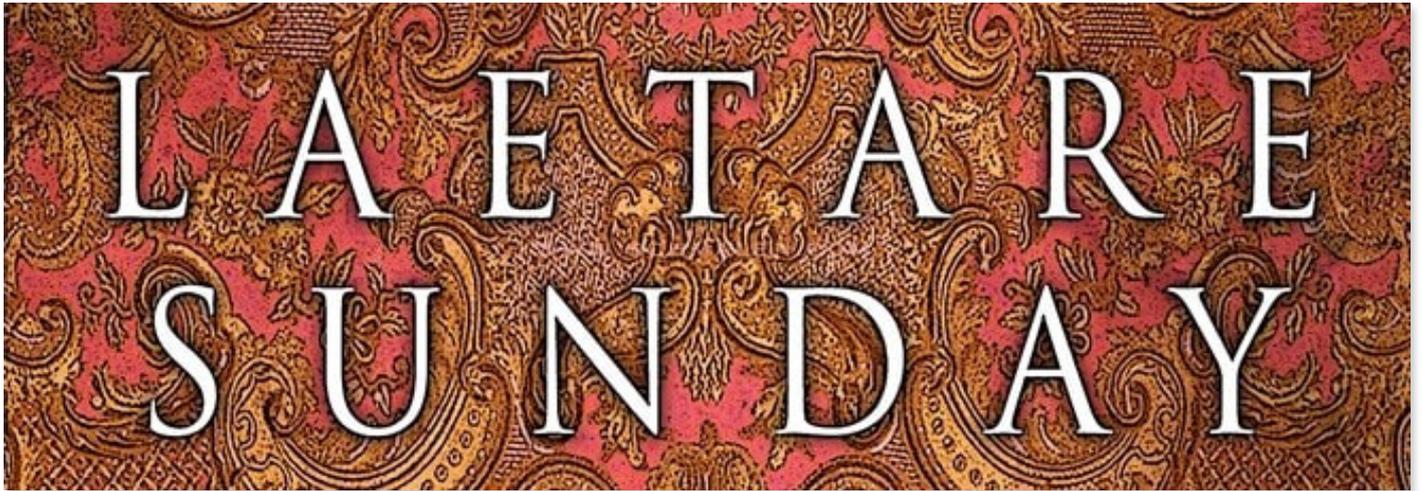
Catholic Church Record

Vol. II. No. II.

March 15, 2026

4th Sunday of Lent, Year A

The Official Bulletin of Holy Cross Parish



THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD AND THE SILENT GUARDIAN

The Fourth Sunday of Lent marks a distinct shift in our Lenten pilgrimage as we celebrate Laetare Sunday. This title comes from the Latin word for “Rejoice,” and the Church signals this mid-Lenten pause by replacing the sombre purple of the season with rose-coloured vestments. This liturgical oasis is designed to refresh our spirits, reminding us that the goal of our sacrifice is not sorrow, but the great joy of the Resurrection. In the Gospel for this Sunday, we hear the account of the Man Born Blind. Jesus heals him not only of physical darkness but of spiritual blindness, leading him to confess, “Lord, I believe.” In our month-long reflection on St. Joseph, we find in him a man who possessed the most perfect sight of faith.

St. Joseph lived his entire life in the light of the Incarnation. While the Man Born Blind required a miraculous touch to see the physical world, Joseph walked by a steady, interior light that allowed him to see God’s hand in every circumstance. This is the essence of the Laetare spirit; the ability to find joy even

when the fullness of the promise is not yet visible. Whether an angel spoke in a dream or he had to flee into the night, Joseph saw beyond the immediate trial and trusted the divine plan. He teaches us that the greatest healing we can receive this Lent is the opening of our spiritual eyes to see God’s presence in our ordinary duties.

The journey of the man in the Gospel was one of gradual revelation. He first saw Jesus as a man, then as a prophet, and finally as the Son of God. St. Joseph’s relationship with Jesus was also one of deepening mystery. As the Foster Father who taught Jesus His trade, Joseph daily beheld the Light of the World growing in wisdom and stature. This week, we ask St. Joseph to help us overcome our own spiritual blindness - the pride and doubt that prevent us from seeing Christ in our neighbours. When we allow grace to penetrate our hearts, our Lenten penance is no longer a burden but a joyful preparation for the light of Easter.

The spirit of joy is why we

celebrate Laetare Sunday. St. Joseph, under his title “Solace of the Afflicted,” reminds us that true joy is found in fidelity. Even when his path was shadowed by poverty, he possessed an interior peace because he lived for Christ alone. In our own lives, we are called to be children of the light, as St. Paul describes. Our almsgiving and acts of charity this week should be done with a cheerful heart, reflecting the warmth of Christ’s love. By letting go of our own blindness, we become a source of light and refreshment for a world that is often weary and discouraged.

Looking toward the final weeks of Lent, let us ask St. Joseph to strengthen our vision. May we have the courage to stand by the truth of the Gospel, even when we face misunderstanding. Let us pray that our hearts may be purified of everything that obscures the face of Christ, using this mid-Lenten pause to renew our fervour. With St. Joseph as our guide, we can move through the remainder of this season with a steady hope, knowing that the dawn of the Resurrection is near.

THE PARISH OFFICE

Address

200 The Trongate,
South Granville, N.S.W. 2142

T 0497 190 444

E granville@parracatholic.org

Tuesday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Parish Administrator

Rev. Fr. Galbert Albino

Assistant Priest

Rev. Fr. Joseph Nguyen

Business and Projects Manager

John Portelli

Sacraments and Youth Co-ordinator

Rosette Chidiac

Catechist Co-ordinator

Lana Leatherby

Piety Shop

Claudette Takchi and Annette Wirz

Holy Family Primary School

T (02) 8633-8200

Holy Trinity Primary School

T (02) 8633-8500

Delany College

T (02) 8633-8100

DONATIONS

BSB: 067-950

Account: 00007247

Name: Granville Catholic Parish

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

Holy Mass

Tuesday, 9:15 a.m.

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, 9:15 a.m.

Friday, 9:15 a.m.

Saturday, 9:15 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Confessions

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, 4:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Nigerian Community Mass

Second and fourth Sunday of the month,
11:00 a.m.

Rosters

Church and Toilets Cleaning

Tuyet Suong, Trinh Thi Xuan Thu, Hoang
Duong, Anna, Chi Kieu

Flower Arranging

No flowers during Lent

SOCIAL MEDIA



holycrossgranville.org.au



HolyCrossGranville



Holy Cross Parish App



@holycrossgranville

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Holy Mass

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, 8:15 a.m.

Thursday, 8:15 a.m.

Friday, 8:15 a.m.

Saturday, 8:15 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

Confessions

Saturday, 5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.

Holy Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

Holy Mass in Latin

First Thursday of the month, 6:00 p.m.

Ghanaian Chaplaincy Mass

Second and last Sunday of the month,
11:30 a.m.

Vietnamese Chaplaincy Mass

Sunday, 5:00 p.m.

Rosters

Church Cleaning Group 4:

G.Pinto, M.Moses, S.Martin, M.Magpayo,
C.Elegado, N.Begley, J.Osei-Yamoah,
L.Tordilla, J.John, A.Abosh, O.Ifeanyi,
J.Raj, S.Pattalath-Joseph

Readers

Vigil Ingrid Bifulco, Racquel La Rosa,
Rosette Chidiac

10:00 a.m. Sisters, Mary Georges, Merlin
Sandhiya

Children's Liturgy

Sr. Susanne and Claudette Takchi

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Joseph Akkary, Janelle Allan, John Anjoul, Marlene Ashton,
John Augustus, Antonio Bifulco, Ann Blesson, John Borg,
Vincenzo Colosimo, Lucy Farrugia, Carmello Gioenco,
Evangeline Grabato, Thomas Hayek, Elizabeth Hicks, Peter
Higgins, Terese Jones, Therese Khalil, Kay King, Jacob Lee,
Josephine Magro, Zoe Mrzljak, Sid Morgan, Scott
Moulton, Ben Nursoo, Sarah-Joy O'Connor, Don Provest,
Ricardo Tognini, Sam Wardan, Anthony Vella, Gerard
Watts.



Lord Jesus Christ, our Redeemer,
by the grace of your Holy Spirit
cure the weaknesses of your servants,
and mercifully restore them to full health.

IN MEMORIAM

Perfecto Arribas Jr., Victor Azzopardi, Joseph Bains, Dick Cahill,
Gwen Cahill, Vincent Cahill, Albert Camilleri, Les Camilleri,
Tessie Camilleri, Phyllis May Denmeade, Christine Derwin, Joe
Paul Fehir, Alan Frost, Carmen Galea, Maria Gambin, John
Graham, Joe Grech, Mary Grech, Sam Grech, Melissa Irons,
Salim Karaki, Paul Karam, Chini Maya Kc, Nouhad Khoury,
Thomas Lam, Rustica La Rosa, Laurie Lowe, Mouna Malkoun,
Roy McDonald, Aileen McIntyre, Jack McIntyre, Giovanna
Mondello, Santo Mondello, Kudzai Gerald Mutongewa,
Anthony Newell, Jessica Nguyen, Vincent Nguyen, Michael
O'Brien, Zackary Orenshaw, Doris Pickering, Edward Pidgeon,
Robert Pidgeon, Sheila Pidgeon, Anna Pham, Flory Pinto, Peter
Robertson, Geoff Senior, Garry Smith, Carlito So, Noel So,
Emanuel Tabone, Alex Taktak, John Toye, John Vella, Peter Van
Duc Vu, Graham Wales, Carmel Watts, Phyllis Webb, Mershed
Wehbe, Yesmine Wehbe, Dib Zaiter, Laila Zaiter



Stations of the Cross on Fridays During Lent and Additional Confession Times

Throughout the holy season of Lent, the Stations of the Cross will be prayed twice each Friday, providing all parishioners with the opportunity to participate in this significant spiritual exercise. This devotion will be held at 5:30 p.m. at Holy Family Church and again at 6:30 p.m. at Holy Trinity Church.

We invite you to join us as we pray the Via Crucis, reflecting upon the passion of Our Lord to better prepare our hearts for Holy Week and the joy of Easter.

To further assist in this spiritual preparation in these final weeks of Lent, extra opportunities for the Sacrament of Penance have been scheduled. Confessions will be heard following the Stations at both churches on Friday, 20 March and Friday, 27 March. Please take advantage of these extra times to seek God's mercy.

Altar Servers wishing to serve at 3:00 p.m. on Good Friday at Holy Trinity Church

A meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, 1 April for all altar servers wishing to serve at the 3:00p.m. Commemoration of the Passion of the Lord on Good Friday at Holy Trinity Church.

Serving during the Paschal Triduum is a profound way to participate in the most solemn days of the Church's year.

To ensure all roles are coordinated and the liturgy is conducted with due reverence, there will be a mandatory briefing and rehearsal for all volunteers:

All experienced servers and those wishing to assist for the first time are encouraged to attend. Your commitment to this ministry helps us all enter more deeply into the prayer of the Lord's Passion.

10th Annual Good Friday "Cross Walk"

We warmly invite all parishioners and members of the community to join us for our annual Stations of the Cross "Cross Walk" this Good Friday. This meaningful tradition has become a cornerstone of our parish's Lenten devotions since it first commenced in 2016, providing a solemn opportunity to reflect on the Passion of Christ through communal prayer and physical pilgrimage.

The walk will begin at 5:30 p.m. at Holy Trinity Church. From there, we will process together through our local streets toward Holy Family Church. Along the route, we will pause at the homes of various parishioners to pray one of the Stations of the Cross, to meditate on each station.

This event is a beautiful public witness of our faith, and its success relies on the hospitality of our people. Thank you to everyone who has so generously offered their homes as one of the stations this year. Your kindness allows us to bring this devotion directly into the heart of our neighbourhood.

Good Friday Cross Walk "Safety Marshalls"

On Good Friday, we will again hold our Stations of the Cross "Cross Walk" from Holy Trinity Church to Holy Family Church.

This is an annual event of the parish which this year celebrates its 10th anniversary.

We are asking for people to volunteer as marshalls to help along the way. The role of the marshall is to help us safely cross roads and to guide people along the route.

Please contact the parish office if you are able to assist. In this way, we can safely carry out this noble work in honour of Our Lord as we commemorate His saving Passion.

First Confession (Sacrament of Penance) and First Holy Communion (Sacrament of the Eucharist)

Enrolment forms are now available for first confession (Sacrament of Penance) and first Holy Communion (Sacrament of the Eucharist). To be eligible, your child must have been baptised in the Catholic church, be in year 3 or above and attend Mass every Sunday.

Enrolment forms can be collected from the parish office during regular office hours and must be returned to the parish office by 10 April.

The First Communion Mass will be said on Saturday, 20 June at 12:00 p.m. at Holy Trinity Church.

Please be aware that those enrolling their children for these Sacraments will be obliged to attend Mass every Sunday in the parish as well as attending all lessons and the preparation.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Enrolment forms are now available for the Sacrament of Confirmation. To be eligible, your child must have been baptised in the Roman Catholic church, be in year 5 or above and attend Mass every Sunday. **Enrolment forms can be collected from the parish office during regular office hours and must be returned to the parish office by 10 April.**

The Mass will be said on Thursday, 25 June at 6:00 p.m. at Holy Family Church. Attendance at all lessons and the preparation is mandatory.

Please be aware that those enrolling their children for this Sacrament are obliged to attend Mass every Sunday. May the Holy Spirit guide our candidates as they prepare to become faithful witnesses of Christ.

CROSS WALK

Friday 3rd April
5:30 p.m.

Join us for a solemn procession of
the Stations of the Cross
through the streets of Granville
in honour of Good Friday

Starting

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
Cnr. Bennalong & Randle St

Ending

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH
200 The Trongate



HOLY CROSS PARISH, GRANVILLE

Lenten

DEVOTIONS



Stations OF THE Cross

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH
5:30PM Fridays

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
6:30PM Fridays



ADORATION of the Blessed Sacrament

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH
6:30PM Wednesdays

*Following the 6PM Mass
Includes Evening Prayer & Benediction*



Daily MASS

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
6:30PM Tuesdays
8:15AM Wed - Sat

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH
6PM Wednesdays
9:15AM Tue & Thur - Sat



SACRAMENT of Penance

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH
6:30PM - 7PM Wednesdays
4:15PM - 4:45PM Sundays

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
5PM - 5:45PM Saturdays



Booklets for LENT



Available for Download on
the Parish Website.
Visit the 'Resources' Tab.



HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, GRANVILLE
Cnr. Randle St & Bennalong St, Granville

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH, EAST GRANVILLE
200 The Trongate, South Granville

Schedule subject to change. Please see the Granville Catholic Church Record for any changes

Palm Sunday



29 MARCH

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

4:30PM - VIGIL MASS *Sat 28th March*
8:30AM - HOLY MASS *Sun 29th March*
5PM - HOLY MASS *Sun 29th March*

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

6PM - VIGIL MASS *Sat 28th March*
10AM - HOLY MASS *Sun 29th March*

Holy Week



Holy Tuesday

31 MARCH

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

7PM - TENEBRAE

A solemn service of psalms, prayers & candles

Holy Thursday



2 APRIL

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

5:30PM - MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

7:30PM - MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Followed by Adoration before the Altar of Repose



Good Friday

3 APRIL

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

9:30AM - STATIONS OF THE CROSS

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

10:30AM - STATIONS OF THE CROSS

HOLY FAMILY & HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

3PM - COMMEMORATION OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

5:30PM - CROSS WALK

Easter Sunday



Easter Vigil

4 APRIL

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

5:30PM - VIGIL MASS

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

8PM - VIGIL MASS

Easter Sunday

5 APRIL

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

8:30AM - HOLY MASS

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

10AM - HOLY MASS

HOLY TRINITY, GRANVILLE
CNR. RANDLE ST & BENNALONG ST

HOLY FAMILY, EAST GRANVILLE
200 THE TRONGATE





THE GIFT OF SIGHT AND SPIRITUAL LIGHT

On this Fourth Sunday of Lent, known traditionally as Laetare Sunday, the Church pauses its sombre violet and adopts the rose hue of dawn. This shift in colour serves as a brief, joyful refreshment, signalling that the light of Easter is fast approaching. The Gospel for this Liturgical Year presents us with the dramatic healing of the man born blind - a narrative that is less about physical eyesight and more about the interior illumination that comes through Christ.

The man in the Gospel had lived his entire life in physical darkness, but his encounter with Jesus brings about a double healing. First, his eyes are opened to the physical world; second, and more importantly, his soul is opened to the reality of the Son of God. This journey from darkness to light is the very essence of the Lenten season. Each of us is born with a form of spiritual blindness, a clouded vision inherited from our fallen nature that prevents us from seeing God's presence in our daily lives.



THE CLAY AND THE WASHING

The manner of the healing is deeply symbolic. Jesus spits on the ground, makes clay with the dust, and anoints the man's eyes. This action recalls the creation of man in Genesis, where God formed Adam from the dust of the earth. It reminds us that Christ is the Creator who has come to remake us. He then

commands the man to wash in the Pool of Siloam.

This washing has always been understood as a reference to the Sacrament of Baptism. Just as the man had to obey and wash before he could see we must be continuously washed by the sacramental life of the Church to maintain our spiritual vision. During Lent, we are like the man at the pool; we are undergoing a purification of our senses so that we might see the world not as the secular age sees it, but as God intends it to be.



THE BLINDNESS OF THE HEART

As the story progresses, we see a tragic irony. The man who was physically blind gains his sight and eventually falls down in worship. Meanwhile, the Pharisees, who have perfect physical vision, become increasingly blind to the truth standing right in front of them. Their pride and their rigid attachment to their own legalisms act as a thick veil. They refuse to see the miracle because it does not fit their preconceived notions of how God should act.

This serves as a stern warning for us. It is possible to be a "practising" Catholic while remaining spiritually blind. If we allow ourselves to become self-righteous, or if we use our faith as a way to look down on others rather than as a means to seek God's mercy, we are like the Pharisees. True sight requires humility

and the willingness to admit, "Lord, I do not see as I should. Open my eyes to my own faults and to your great goodness."



LIVING AS CHILDREN OF LIGHT

In the second reading, St. Paul tells us: "You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light." To live as a child of light means to live with a sense of eternal perspective. It means recognising that our time on earth is a preparation for the beatific vision - the face-to-face meeting with God in heaven.

With our spiritual eyes opened, we begin to see the hidden opportunities for grace in our struggles. We see that the Cross is not a dead end, but a gateway. We see that our neighbour is not a nuisance, but an image of the Creator. This new sight is the gift that Christ offers us today. As we continue our Lenten ascent, let us pray for the grace to cast off the works of darkness and to walk in the radiance of the Truth.



A CALL TO ACTION

Examine your life this week for any blindspots where pride or resentment have clouded your judgment. Ask the Holy Spirit to illuminate your soul during a quiet visit to the church. Trust that the Lord desires to restore your vision and lead you into His marvellous light. May we always walk in the brightness of His truth.

4th Sunday of Lent, Year A

The Readings

Introit

(Cf Isaiah 66:10-11)

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

First Reading

The first book of Samuel

(1 Samuel 16:1. 6-7. 10-13)

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

Responsorial Psalm

(Ps 22 R. v.1)

℟. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. ℟.

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. ℟.

You have prepared a banquet for me
In the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. ℟.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. ℟.

Second Reading

Letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

(Ephesians 5:8-14)

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep,
rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.

Gospel Acclamation

(John 8:12)

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

The Gospel of John

(John 9:1. 6-9. 13-17. 34-38)

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.'

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

Communio

(Cf John 9:11,38)

The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed,
I saw and I believed in God.