

# Catholic Parish of Lindfield-Killara

## Diocese of Broken Bay

Holy Family Parish Church, Lindfield  
Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Church, Killara

MASS TIMES:	LINDFIELD:	KILLARA:	
Saturday	6:00pm	Saturday Vigil:	5:30pm
Sunday:	8:15am 10:15am 12:00 (Chinese Community Mass) 6:00pm (for both our communities) (5:30pm on 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sun. of month)	Sunday:	9:15am
<b>Weekdays:</b>			
Monday	9:15am	7:30am	
Tuesday		7:30am	
Wednesday	9:15am (School Mass)	7:30pm	} see p.2 (Feast of the Assumption)
Thursday	No Mass	~	
Friday	9:15am	7:30am*	
Saturday	9:15am	~	

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturdays 5:00 – 5:30pm (Lindfield)**

**For 15 minutes after the 5:30pm Mass (Killara)**

\* **NO 9:15 Mass at Lindfield nor 7:30am Mass at Killara on the 2nd Friday of each month**

\* **Healing Mass on the 2nd Friday of each month at 10am at Killara**

**NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME      12 – 8 – 18**

*This week: 1 Kg 19:4-8; Eph 4:30-5:2; Jn 6:41-51*

*Next week: Prov 9:1-6; Eph 5:15-20; Jn 6:51-58*

**‘The bread that I shall give is my flesh,  
for the life of the world.’**

Jesus’ words indicate that his presence amongst us in the Eucharist is *for* something, is *for* a purpose: **it is *for the life of the world.***

The Eucharist is celebrated so that Jesus can bring life to the world.

And **we** are a *eucharistic people*; **we** are the people who celebrate the Eucharist:  
which means that **we** are *for something*: **we** are *for the life of the world*:  
that we, if we really are a eucharistic people,  
are meant to bring life to those around us, to the world around us.

Which means that the Eucharist, whenever we celebrate it, **asks us questions** about:

- resisting judgement and condemnation of others
- working for justice and equity
- a commitment to compassion and the common good.

If the Eucharist is *for the life of the world*,

then we, the eucharistic people, have to consider our own commitment to those issues, and many others like them.

Do we live it out in our attitudes and our actions?

Is the Eucharist *for the life of the world*?

*Fr Colin*

## Youth News ...

# YOUTH@LINDFIELD KILLARA PARISH



Fusion Youth at Lindfield Killara



youth.fusion



youth@lindfieldkillara.org.au



### For kids in school years 3 to 6

An environment where kids can have fun, feel safe and explore their faith. Different "theme" each month.

**We meet ... the Second Sunday of the month, from 4.00 to 5.30 pm**

Next....

"Theatre Sports"  
SUN 12 AUG  
4-5.30pm

## Youth & Family Mass

LINDFIELD KILLARA CATHOLIC PARISH

Our Youth & Family Mass is for the young and young at heart. Join our growing faith community for a young, faith-filled Mass. Afterwards, we share a pot-luck supper together or enjoy a barbeque.

Next...

SUN 12 AUG  
5.30 pm

Featuring:  
Harpist Kathleen Quinn



### For teens in years 7-12

FUSION is a warm and welcoming space for teenagers - helping them navigate their teenage years and grow, through social justice activities, leadership-building, games (and food!)

**We meet... currently, on one Friday a month, after the Youth & Family Mass, and for various excursions and other activities throughout the year.**

Next...

SUN 12 AUG

Board Games (after youth mass & supper) until 9pm

FRI 17 AUG

5.30-7.30pm - Yrs 7,8,9  
7.00-9.00pm - Yrs 10,11,12

FOR MORE INFORMATION... PLEASE CONTACT US VIA EMAIL OR SOCIAL MEDIA (SEE ABOVE)  
OR RING THE PARISH OFFICE.

## Solemnity of the Assumption of our Lady This Wednesday 15th August (a holy day of obligation)

*This feast celebrates the belief that has been part of Christian faith since as early as the fourth century that Mary, as the Mother of the Lord, by God's grace shared fully in her Son's Resurrection and was raised body and soul to eternal life at the end of her earthly life. In this Mary stands as a sign of hope for all of us as we look forward to our own sharing in the Resurrection of Jesus.*

**Wednesday 15th**

**9:15am at Lindfield**

(Holy Family School will also attend this Mass)

**7:30pm at Killara**

## PARISH DIARY : AUG~SEPT

**Tues. 28<sup>th</sup> Aug.:** First Communion enrolments close.

**Sun. 9<sup>th</sup> Sep.:** Parent meeting & sessions 1 & 2 for 1<sup>st</sup> Communion preparation.

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> Sep:** Morning tea after 9:15am and 10:15am Mass

**Children's Mass** at 9:15am at Killara.

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> Sep.:** Monthly Youth and Children's Mass at 5:30pm at Lindfield followed by food in St Brigid's Hall.

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> Sep.:** Monthly Healing Mass and morning tea at 10am at Killara.

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> Sep.:** Morning tea after 9:15am and 10:15am Masses.

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION PROGRAMME

Enrolments for the preparation programme for First Holy Communion are now open and close on 28<sup>th</sup> August. The enrolment process is an online one – please go to the parish website ([www.lindfieldkillara.org.au](http://www.lindfieldkillara.org.au)) and go to 'Sacraments' → 'Children's Sacraments' to find the instructions for the enrolment process and for full dates and details of our preparation programme.

## OUR MEMORIAL WALLS

As you know we now have a Memorial Wall in each of our two churches. As promised there will be Mass each year in November for those whose names are recorded on the Memorial Walls. The dates for this year are:

- \* at Lindfield ~ at the 9:15am Mass on Saturday 3rd November
- \* at Killara ~ at the 7:30am Mass on Friday 16th November

### Ordering New Plaques:



If you would like to order one or more Memorial Plaques for either church please contact Philita in the Parish Office. You can also find out more about the plaques and donate the forms required for ordering the plaques by visiting our parish website and going to 'Our Parish' → 'Memorial Walls'.

For the plaques to be in place for this November you would need to have your order in to Philita by **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.**

## ARE YOU OR IS SOMEONE YOU KNOW CONSIDERING BECOMING A CATHOLIC?



The team from our parish RCIA programme will soon begin again the journey guiding and preparing those who wish to become members of the Catholic Church. The process involves a series of meetings in which the various aspects of Catholic faith and life are presented and discussed, and culminates with reception into the Church at Easter 2019. If you are interested or would like further information please call Bill Bye 0400 986 524, Jos Beunen 0427 993 982 or the Parish Office.



**PLEASE JOIN US FOR A FORUM FOLLOW UP MEETING ON  
THURSDAY 23 AUGUST AT 7PM IN THE SHIRLEY WALLACE CENTRE  
(ABOVE THE LINDFIELD CHURCH).**

**PARISH FORUM ON THE CHILD ABUSE CRISIS IN OUR CHURCH**

In late June our parish held a Forum on Child Protection and the Child Abuse Crisis in the Catholic Church. The Forum was well attended with over 80 participants. An extensive amount of information regarding the Royal Commission and the Diocesan and parish responses was provided by our panellists from the Diocese, Fr David Ranson and Ms Jodie Crisafulli, and our other panellists who were involved with the Royal Commission, Mr Steven Crittenden and Mr Aaron Tang.

At the forum we learnt that the Royal Commission surveyed the Catholic Church authorities in Australia regarding claims of child sexual abuse they received between 1 January 1980 and 31 December 2015. The survey data showed 4,444 claimants alleged incidents of child sexual abuse involving 1,880 priests and other religious, with 3,057 claims resulting in payments totalling \$268.0 million.

We also learnt that the Royal Commission found clericalism to be at the centre of an interconnected cluster of factors contributing to the crisis in which we now find ourselves. The main themes of the feedback received from the Forum relate to issues intrinsically linked to clericalism and the lack of transparency, accountability and accessibility which clericalism can lead to. The Parish Pastoral Council has written to Archbishop Peter Comensoli to provide feedback from our Forum. A copy of our letter to Archbishop Peter is available at the back of the Lindfield/Killara churches or from the parish website.

Videos of the presentations given on the evening can be found on the parish website: <http://www.lindfieldkillara.org.au> 'Our Parish'; 'Safeguarding of children in our Parish'

Even if you were unable to attend the Forum but would like to have a voice in our "road to healing" please come along to our meeting.

**MESSAGE FROM PARISH SOCIAL JUSTICE TEAM: HOMELESSNESS WEEK**

**Ending Homelessness together** is the theme of Homelessness Week, which wraps up today. A few facts about homelessness:

- Right now, more than 116,000 Australians are homeless.
- Two in every five people experiencing homelessness are under 25.
- Only 7% of people experiencing homelessness are sleeping rough. The majority is hidden in crisis accommodation, rooming houses, caravan parks and overcrowded dwellings.
- The main causes of homelessness are poverty, unaffordable housing and family violence.
- There are currently 189,000 Australians on social housing waiting lists.

The solution to homelessness is more affordable housing. Some people with complex needs may need additional support to sustain their housing, but for most people, the answer is housing.

If you would like to join the campaign calling on our government to fix the housing system, visit [www.everybodyshome.com.au](http://www.everybodyshome.com.au)

Homelessness ruins lives, ruins health, decimates hope, makes it impossible to find work, to keep friends or to think about the future.

Everyone needs and deserves a safe, affordable home.



## CHARITABLE WORKS FUND APPEAL ~ UPDATE

The current Charitable Works Fund Appeal concludes **this weekend 11/12 August.**

Through your donation, you support:

- **Catechists** - Bringing God's love to nearly 20,000 students in State Schools
- **Hospital Chaplaincy** - Providing care to Catholic patients in hospital
- **St Lucy's School** - A school of excellence for children with disabilities K-6
- **St Edmund's School** - A Year 7-12 co-educational special high school for teenagers with a wide range of disabilities.
- **The Ephpheta Centre** - Supporting the Catholic Deaf community in wider Sydney.

Our quota for the whole financial year: \$ 45,000.00

Amount needed from current appeal: \$ 15,000.00

Amount collected on last week's appeal: \$ 4871.35

Please support the appeal generously. **Donations are 100% tax deductible.**

### *Parish Staff and Contact Information*

**Parish Priest: Fr Colin Blayney**

[colin@lindfieldkillara.org.au](mailto:colin@lindfieldkillara.org.au)

**Assistant Priest: Fr Thomas Alackakunnel VC** [thomas@lindfieldkillara.org.au](mailto:thomas@lindfieldkillara.org.au) 0421 406162

#### PARISH OFFICE:

**Address:** Level 1, 2 Highfield Road (cnr Pacific Hwy) Lindfield NSW 2070  
(Postal: PO Box 22, Lindfield NSW 2070)

**Ph:** 9416 3702    **Fax:** 9416 3913    **Email:** [parish@lindfieldkillara.org.au](mailto:parish@lindfieldkillara.org.au)

**Parish Office Hours:** Monday to Friday 9:30am-1:00pm and 1:30pm-4:00pm

**Parish Secretary:** **Philita Marundan:** [philita@lindfieldkillara.org.au](mailto:philita@lindfieldkillara.org.au)

**Parish Office Coordinator:** **Alison Williams** [alison@lindfieldkillara.org.au](mailto:alison@lindfieldkillara.org.au)

**Parish Website:** [www.lindfieldkillara.org.au](http://www.lindfieldkillara.org.au)

*Please see the parish website for full staff contact details.*

Saturday		11 Aug	18 Aug
Lindfield	6:00pm	Fr David Strong SJ	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel
Killara	5:30pm	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel	Fr David Strong SJ
Sunday		12 Aug	19 Aug
Lindfield	8:15am	Fr David Strong SJ	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel
Killara	9:15am	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel	Fr David Strong SJ
Lindfield	10:15am	Fr David Strong SJ	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel
Lindfield	12:00noon	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel
Lindfield	6:00pm	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel	Fr David Strong SJ

## THE PRAYERS AND RESPONSES OF MASS

### GLORIA:

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

### MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION:

♩=60 *mf*  
We pro-claim your Death, O Lord, and pro-  
*cresc.* *ff*  
fess your Res-ur-rec-tion un-til you come a - gain.

### THE PSALM PSALM Ps 33:2-9.

I will bless the Lord at all times,  
his praise always on my lips;  
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.  
The humble shall hear and be glad.

Glorify the Lord with me.  
Together let us praise his name.  
I sought the Lord and he answered me;  
from all my terrors he set me free.

Look towards him and be radiant;  
let your faces not be abashed.  
This poor man called; the Lord heard him  
and rescued him from all his distress.

The angel of the Lord is encamped  
around those who revere him, to rescue them.  
Taste and see that the Lord is good.  
He is happy who seeks refuge in him.

*At Masses at which the Psalm is sung the response is: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live for ever. Alleluia!

### RESPONSES TO THE PSALM FOR WEEKDAY

#### MASS :

**Monday:** Heaven and earth are filled with your glory.

**Tuesday:** How sweet to my taste is your promise!

**Wednesday:** The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.

**Thursday:** Do not forget the works of the Lord!

**Friday:** You have turned from your anger to comfort me.

**Saturday:** Create a clean heart in me, O God.

## THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,

*(all bow at the following words in bold):*

**and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of  
the Virgin Mary, and became man.**

For our sake  
he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the  
Father.

He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father & the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is adored and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy,  
catholic and apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism  
for the forgiveness of sins  
and I look forward  
to the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen

meets in the *Meeting Room at the rear of and under Holy Family Church* each Wednesday **from 8:40am – 9:05am** (finishing in time for 9:15am Mass). Everyone is welcome. For further information contact Kay at 9416 2194 [Kay.Hunt@optusnet.com.au](mailto:Kay.Hunt@optusnet.com.au) or Catherine 9415 6345 [catherinecwillis@gmail.com](mailto:catherinecwillis@gmail.com)

## PARISH YOUNG ADULTS GROUP

The next gathering  
for the year takes  
place *next Sunday*

**19<sup>th</sup> August** immediately following the 6pm  
Mass and will be held in the lounge in the  
Shirley Wallace Parish Centre on the first  
floor of Lindfield church. All young adults  
welcome – a relaxed and informal time  
(including dinner).



## WORLD YOUTH DAY 2019 – Panama 22-27 January 2019



If you are 18-30  
and interested in  
attending World  
Youth Day in  
January with the  
Broken Bay Diocese,

you must register with the Diocese soon!  
Contact Kelly Paget via  
email [Kelly.paget@dbb.org.au](mailto:Kelly.paget@dbb.org.au). General  
information about WYD can be found on the  
ebsite: [www.wydpanama2019.com.au](http://www.wydpanama2019.com.au) and  
information about the tour prices, etc. can  
be answered by  
emailing [wyd2019@cosmostours.com.au](mailto:wyd2019@cosmostours.com.au)

## KEY CHECK



In preparation for our  
annual insurance review  
we are checking the key  
register is in order. If you  
have been issued a key over  
the years that starts with code E054 we  
would be extremely grateful if you could  
email ([parish@lindfieldkillara.org.au](mailto:parish@lindfieldkillara.org.au)) or  
phone the office (9416 3702) the rest of  
the code. We appreciate your volunteer  
work in the parish.

## A CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP



## “I am the Bread of Life”

by Beryl Cates

Nourishment for the hungry soul, the spiritually exhausted, faithful believer, bruised and lonely in our striving evolving world. Eucharistic worship came to our southern land with the early convicts for whom attendance at the Anglican ritual was compulsory, The Government's Orderly book: “*Headquarters, February 2nd 1789. “The church drum to beat at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning for prayers, the convicts to assemble for Divine Service...and they are expected to appear as clean as circumstances will permit.”* To ignore the directive “*without reasonable excuse*” meant, “*three pounds of flour deducted from the ration of each labouring convict.*”

However the Anglican service was attended, in that bigoted age Catholic prisoners rejected any thought of participation. The Catholic convicts of the time, 1700 and mainly Irish, brutalised and traumatised beyond bearing, were left with rations cut and longing for a priest to celebrate Mass and have the sacraments available for them.

In 1800 three convict priests arrived, sentenced for involvement in the 1798 Irish rebellion: Fathers James Harold, Peter O'Neil and James Dixon. Fathers Harold and O'Neil had been acquitted of the charges but the exonerating documents had not arrived before their ship left for the Colony. Once here both began promoting unrest among the Irish prisoners and were sent first to Norfolk Island, O'Neil to America and eventually back to Ireland.

With the hope of quelling his compatriots' restlessness and unruliness, Governor Gidley King granted remaining Father Dixon, “*conditional emancipation to carry out his clerical functions*”. Later, permission to celebrate Mass “*under strict government supervision.*”

The imagination stirs with the thought of the grimness and unseen grandeur of that first Mass offered God on Australian soil, 15 May 1803. The priest a convict, congregation probably a few government officials with wives if any, the remainder ragged, homesick felons. No one knows where it was offered but in local religious lore possibly the home of a James Meehan, address unknown. What theme did Fr Dixon choose for his homily to his disparate congregation?

What of us today and our Eucharistic worship? Time was when it was compulsory for Catholics “*to go to Mass*” and non-compliance *without reasonable excuse* meant punishment in the now mythical flames of hell, unless forgiven with a *purpose of amendment* in Confession (Sacrament of Reconciliation). Then the Church changed its focus markedly from fear of draconian punishment for offending God to love of God, whom no creature can offend, and participation in Eucharistic worship began falling. Was it really fear that once filled our churches?

“*Love of God and neighbour*”. Never at any time in our cultural history has there been more practical concern for those mugged by life or who never had a chance. Marathons and Appeals promoted by government and NGO bodies raise money regularly for causes to help them. Individually and in groups, founded often by recovered victims with those sponsored by churches, businesses and citizens' societies, people are striving to give practical help to those suffering onslaughts from life. We've progressed exponentially since those brutalised convicts were sentenced to leave all they knew and loved to lives of physical and emotional trauma in a foreign land... If love of neighbour is religious practice, we're more religious than secular as claimed.

But what of *God*? Are we now so concerned about *love of neighbour* we're ignoring God? No longer expressing *love of God* in worship and gratitude for all God has given us. including life itself? Not with others meeting regularly to worship, not because

(continued overpage...)



*(continued from page 8:)* they *have to* but they *want to*. Not reading anything spiritual or bonded with other believers seeking further what Jewish Martin Buber called a closer I-Thou relationship with the Divine?

We hesitate...draw back. That is all too close. Better serve God though self-giving for others without being hampered by commitment to those God given directives for morality and integrity in the family and every relationship and encounter in daily living. A person has to live in the world hasn't he/she?

Few go through life excused from encountering tragedy at times so extreme and unrelenting that even with the generous helpfulness of others it is unbearable. History reveals this a traditional time when the sufferer, with nowhere else to go for solace and support, moves through that natural barrier between us and the Transcendent and to incredible joy finds the Presence of the Divine within.

But it is also the time many flounder. Is this the reason for some, but not all the sad suicides and incidences of depression today? Of much of the violence that is erupting daily in our homes and streets? That we're now a culture that has made God an outsider? That loving, caring Power greater than ourselves that has given us purpose for living and assuring every sufferer its loving, caring Presence is intimately close and what is happening is charged with meaning reaching into the infinite. Its benefit to the soul here and in life to come beyond all imagining.

Individually and collectively we need God. And, in the interaction of all things in God in that age old tension between good and evil, the more a person lives in union with the Divine within the more the influence for good on the whole.

*"I am afraid of saying 'Yes' Lord. Where will you take me?"*

*I am afraid of drawing the longer straw. I am afraid of signing my name to an unread agreement. I am afraid of the 'yes' that entails others 'yesses'. And yet I am not at peace." - Henri Newman "Prayers of Life"*



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**Jason Roach**  
Licensed Real Estate  
Agent, Director  
**Parishioner**

Jason 0448 455 556 or  
[jason.roach@century21.com.au](mailto:jason.roach@century21.com.au)

If I can ever be of assistance to you, a family member or a friend with any property advice for buying, selling or renovation tips, I would be delighted to help.

# CHINESE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

常年期第十九主日

12-8-2018

**讀經一** ( 靠那食物的力量，他走到天主的山。 )

恭讀列王紀上 19:4-8

那時候，先知厄里亞進入曠野，走了一天的路，來到一棵杜松樹下，坐下求死，說：「上主啊！現在已經夠了！收去我的性命吧！因為我並不如我的祖先好。」以後，他就躺在那棵杜松樹下，睡著了。忽然，有位天使拍醒厄里亞，對他說：「起來，吃吧！」他看了看，見在他頭的旁邊，有一塊用炭火烤熟的餅，和一罐水；他吃了喝了，又躺下睡了。上主的使者第二次又來，拍醒厄里亞說：「起來，吃吧！因為你還有一段很遠的路。」他就起來，吃了，喝了。厄里亞靠那食物的力量，走了四十天四十夜，一直到了天主的山曷勒布。——上主的話。( 默想片刻 )

**答唱詠** 詠 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9

**【答】**：請你們體驗，請你們觀看：上主是何等和藹慈祥！( 詠 34:9 )

頌：我要時時讚美上主；我的口舌不斷讚頌上主。願我的心靈，因上主而自豪。願謙卑的人聽到，也都歡喜雀躍。**【答】**

頌：請你們同我一起讚揚上主，讓我們齊聲頌揚他的名字。我尋求了上主，他俯聽了我的祈求：由我所受的一切驚惶中，將我救出。**【答】**

頌：你們瞻仰他，要喜形於色；你們的面容，絕不會羞愧。卑微人一呼號，

上主立即俯允，並且救拔他，脫離一切艱辛。**【答】**

頌：在那敬畏上主的人四周，有上主的天使紮營護守。請你們體驗，請你們觀看：上主是何等和藹慈祥！投奔他的人，真是有福。**【答】**

**讀經二** ( 在愛德中生活，就如基督愛了我們。 )

恭讀聖保祿宗徒致厄弗所人書 4:30-5:2

**福音前歡呼**

頌/眾：亞肋路亞。

頌：主說：我是從天上降下的、生活的食糧；誰若吃了這食糧，必要生活，直到永遠。( 若 6:51 )

眾：亞肋路亞。

**福音** ( 我是從天上降下的、生活的食糧。 )

恭讀聖若望福音 6:41-51

那時候，耶穌說：「我是從天上降下來的食糧。」猶太人便對耶穌竊竊私議，說：「這人不就是若瑟的兒子耶穌嗎？他的父親和母親，不是我們都認識嗎？怎麼他竟然說：我是從天上降下來的呢？」耶穌回答說：「你們不要彼此竊竊私議！凡不是派遣我的父所吸引的人，誰也不能到我

這裡來；到我這裡來的，我在末日要叫他復活。先知書上記載：『眾人都要蒙受天主的訓誨。』

凡接受父的教導而學習的，必到我這裡來。這不是說有人看見過父，只有那從天主來的，才看見過父。我實實在在告訴你們：信從的人，必得永生。「我是生命的食糧。你們的祖先在曠野，吃過『瑪納』，卻死了。這是從天上降下來的食糧，誰吃了，就不死。「我是從天上降下的、生活的食糧；誰若吃了這食糧，必要生活，直到永遠。我所要賜給的食糧，就是我的肉，為使世界獲得生命。」——上主的話。( 講道後默想片刻 )

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*(continued from p.12...)* appropriately what creation succeeds in producing, the wine (blood) what creation causes to be lost in exhaustion and suffering in the course of that effort.



What we see in the Eucharist, the goodness and joy of life and the pains and shortcomings of that same life, is the same tension that we need to hold up each day within our ordinary lives. How do we do that?

By enjoying life and all its legitimate pleasures without guilt and without ever denigrating them in the name of God, truth, and the poor, even as we go and stand where the Cross of Christ is forever being erected, namely, where the excluded, the poor, the sick, the unattractive, the lonely, the hungry, the crushed, and the bleeding find their place.

We properly live the tension of the Eucharist, the ambiguity of bread and wine, whenever we honor both the smell of fresh bread and the process by which it came to be. What that means is that we must fully honour the beauty of nature, the grace of an athlete, the energy inside music, the power and sacramentality inside sex, the humor inside a good comedian, the vibrant feel of health, and the color and zest that lie everywhere inside of life itself, even as we are conscious of and in solidarity with all that is being excluded from or victimized by these wonderful energies which ultimately take their origin in God.

In John's Gospel, water becomes wine and wine becomes blood and blood and water both eventually flow out of the pierced side of Jesus. That happens too in the Eucharist and it happens in our lives. The task is to hold them both in our hands, as happens at Eucharist, and then offer them up to God.

*Fr Ron Rolheiser omi, Centre for Liturgy, University of St Louis*

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**Lord, in Jesus your Son, you restored to us the gift of everlasting life.  
Grant that life to:**

**Recently deceased:** Ellen Lee.

**And for:** Thomas and Eileen Wade.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK :** Izzer Dondit Anisco, Joseph Balisteros, Faye Bartlett, Ida Cameron, Joe Agius, Maureen Hobbs, Ian Coffey, Yvette Marie and Jeff Oras, John and George Agius, Fr Franciscus Choi, Ken Kan, Gizelle Tan, Basilisa Choi, Cyril Ferriere, Br Braden, Brian Couper, Kieran Norton, Sean Maguire, Pakie Maguire, Naneth Bernado, Michael Swan.



## REFLECTING ON THIS SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURES . . . .

*I am the living bread that came down from heaven;  
whoever eats this bread will live forever.*

### BREAD AND WINE

Bread and wine are ambiguous, both in life and in the Eucharist.

On the one hand, bread is perhaps our primary symbol for food, health, nourishment, and community: Give us this day our daily bread! Let us break bread together! Bread is a symbol for life and coming together.

Few things speak as wonderfully about life as does the smell of fresh bread. The fragrance of fresh bread is the smell of life itself! Yet there is another story to bread. Out of what is bread made? Kernels of wheat that had to be crushed in their individuality to become something communal, flour, which then had to endure fire to be baked into the substance that gives off the smell of life. As St. Augustine once said in a homily:

For surely this loaf was not made from one grain of wheat? The grains were separate before they came together to become one loaf. They were joined together by water, after first having been ground (contritionem—the Latin verb he uses here). For if the many kernels are not ground and are not moistened by water, they could not come to this form, that we call a loaf. . . . And then without fire, there is still not a loaf of bread.

Bread must be baked too in a fierce heat. Bread then speaks of both joy and pain.

Wine too speaks in this double way: on the one hand, it is a festive drink, perhaps our foremost symbol for celebration. Wine has nothing to do with basic nourishment or necessity. It is not a protein needed for health, but an extra that speaks of what lies beyond the hard business of making and sustaining a living. Wine speaks of friendship, community, celebration, joy, recreation, victory. We celebrate everything, not least of all love, with wine.

But, like bread, wine has another side: Of what is wine made? Crushed grapes. Individual grapes are crushed and their very blood becomes the substance out of which ferments this warm, festive drink. No wonder Jesus chose it to represent his blood.

It is helpful to keep this ambiguity in mind whenever we participate in the Eucharist. Bread and wine are held up to be blessed by God and to become the flesh and blood of Christ, and they are held up precisely in their ambiguity.

On the one hand they represent everything in life and in the world that is healthy, young, beautiful, bursting with energy, and full of colour. They represent the goodness of this earth, the joy of human achievements, celebration, festivity, and all that is contained in that original blessing when, after the first creation, God looked at the earth and pronounced it good. The Eucharist too gives off the smell of fresh bread.

But that's half of it. The Eucharist also holds up, in sacrifice, all that is being crushed, broken, and baked by violence. The wine, fittingly, is also blood. At the Eucharist, we hold up both, the world's health and its achievements along with its depressions and failures, and ask God to be with us in both. Pierre Teilhard de Chardin once put it this way: In a sense the true substance to be consecrated each day is the world's development during that day – the bread symbolizing

*(continued on p. 11):*