

Catholic Parish of Lindfield-Killara

Diocese of Broken Bay

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT 8 - 12 - 19

This week: Is 11:1-10; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12
Next week: Is 35:1-6, 10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND CANDLE OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Celebrant: Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Saviour of the world. We gather around this Advent wreath, which we honour as a remembrance of your first coming at Bethlehem, your final coming in glory, and your daily coming amongst us in grace. Strengthen our hearts with the example of your love that we may receive you each day with joy & gladness.

The second candle is lit.

Celebrant: *O Emmanuel, Saviour of Israel, you are God-among us.*
All: Come and save us, O Lord our God.

Celebrant: *O Wisdom of the Most High God, you rule your people with gentle might.*
All: Come & teach us the way of prudence.

Celebrant: *May this light remind us of Jesus, who is the true light of the world.*
All: God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God.

Celebrant: *During the Advent season may almighty God let the light of his Son shine upon us. May God fill our hearts with joy at the coming of Jesus and lead us to life everlasting.*
All: Amen.

Please join in singing one more verse of the Entrance Hymn.



CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

Our parish, with its two churches of Immaculate Heart of Mary at Killara and Holy Family at Lindfield warmly invites you to join us for our celebrations of the Lord's birth at Christmas. Our celebrations are as follows:

CHRISTMAS EVE EVENING :

Lindfield: 6:00pm Christmas Vigil Mass
Killara: 5:30pm Christmas Vigil Mass

These are the Children's Masses.

(please note that once again the Children's Mass at Lindfield will be celebrated in the church, not in the hall).



A CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS GIFT TO THOSE IN NEED:

We invite the children at both Children's Masses to bring an envelope containing a donation towards the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal. We will invite the children to come forward at the time of the Presentation of the Gifts to put their envelopes in the boxes under the Christmas Tree.

Lindfield: 10:30pm Mass
(an earlier 'Midnight Mass')
preceded by Carols at 10pm.

CHRISTMAS MORNING :

Lindfield 7:45am Mass (not 8:15am)
Killara 9:00am Mass (not 9:15am)
Lindfield 10:15am Mass

NO Chinese Mass & NO evening Mass
on Christmas Day.

WAS YOUR CHILD BAPTISED HERE IN OUR PARISH THIS YEAR?



Then we invite you to the **9:15am Mass** at our Killara church **TODAY** Sunday **8th December** for a special blessing for your child, and for morning tea together after Mass. We do hope that you can be there.



A CHANGE TO THE DATE OF OUR MONTHLY YOUTH AND FAMILY MASSES IN 2020:

In order to avoid as many clashes with school holidays etc. as possible next year our monthly Youth and Family Mass will be at 5:30pm on the last Sunday of each month (so sometimes it will be the fourth Sunday, sometimes it will be the fifth Sunday—but it will always be the last Sunday of the month).

Therefore our first Youth and Family Mass for 2020 will be on Sunday 26th January—a great way to celebrate Australia Day!

Food for the Soul ...

*I am baptising you with water, for repentance,
but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I.
I am not worthy to carry his sandals. (Mt 3:11)*

THE GOD WHO IS REVEALED IN CHRISTMAS

Christmas is God's answer to human longing, God's response to the centuries of prayers that lay hidden in our groaning, in our sighs, our frustrations, and our religious efforts, each of them a plea, mostly silent, for a divine intervention, all of them asking God to come & rid the world of injustice & our hearts of loneliness and heartache. But God's answer didn't exactly meet our expectations even as it surpassed them. What was born with Jesus' birth and what still lies seemingly helpless in mangers all around the world wasn't exactly what the world expected.

What the world expected was a superstar, someone with the talent, sharpness, and raw muscle-power to out-gun everything that's bad on this planet, someone charismatic enough to make everyone who opposes him slink away in defeat. God's answer to that: A baby lying helpless in the straw!

Why?

Why would God choose to be born into the world in this way?

Because you can't argue with a baby! Babies don't try to compete, don't stand up to you, don't try to best you in an argument, and don't try to impress you with their answers. Indeed, they can't speak at all. You, on your part, have to coax everything out of them, be it a smile or a word, and that effort, which demands great patience, usually draws out what's best in you. Moreover, you can't push at a baby too hard, it will begin to cry and the session is over.

And that is the Savior who was born in Bethlehem, and that is how God is still basically in the world. Like a baby. God does not outgun anyone, out-muscle anyone, threaten anyone, or overpower anyone. The power of God revealed in Christmas is the power of a baby, nothing more, nothing less: innocence, gentleness, helplessness, a vulnerability that can soften hearts, invite in, have us hush our voices, teach us patience, and call forth what's best in us. We watch our language around a baby in the same way as we watch our language in a church, with good reason.

The power of Christmas is like the power of a baby, it overwhelms in such a way as to eventually overwhelm. There is a greater power than muscle, speed, charisma, unstoppable force: if you were to put a baby into a room with the heavy-weight boxing champion of the world, who ultimately would be the stronger? The boxer could kill the

baby, but, no doubt, wouldn't, precisely because something inside the baby's powerlessness would overwhelm the boxer. Such is the way of God, the message of Christmas.

But we have always been slow to understand this. We want our messiahs to possess more immediate power. And we are in good company here. The messiah that people longed for during all those centuries leading up to Jesus and Bethlehem was precisely conceived as a human superhero, someone with the earthly muscle to bang heads together and purge the world of evil by morally superior muscles. Even John the Baptist expected the messiah to come with that kind of power. His concern was justice, repentance, asceticism. He warned people of an approaching time of reckoning and expected the longed-for messiah to come precisely as a violent fire, a winnowing fan that would separate the bad from the good and burn up the former with a righteousness that came straight from God.

When he heard reports of Jesus gently inviting sinners in rather than casting them off, John was scandalized. That kind of a messiah didn't fit his expectations, or his preaching. That's why Jesus, in sending a response to him, invited John not to be scandalized in him. John hadn't wanted a gentle, vulnerable, peace-preaching messiah. He wanted bad people punished, not converted. But, to his credit, once he saw how Jesus' power worked, he understood, accepted a deeper truth, stepped back in self-effacement, and pointed people in Jesus' direction with the words: He must increase and I must decrease. I'm not even worthy to untie his scandal strap!

We too are slow to understand. Like John the Baptist, our impatience for truth and justice makes us want and expect a messiah who comes in earthly terms, all talent and muscle, banging heads together so as to rid the planet of falsehood and evil. We want the kind of messiah we see at the end of every Hollywood thriller: Mother Theresa turned into Sylvester Stallone or Bruce Willis as I write this, beating up the bad guys with a violence they can only envy.

But that's not the Christmas story, nor the power revealed in it. An infant lying in the straw in Bethlehem didn't outgun anyone. He just lay there, waiting for anyone good or bad to come to him, see his helplessness, feel a tug at his or her heart strings, and then gently try to coax a smile or a word out of him.

That's still how God meets us. too.

(Fr Ron Rolheiser omi, The Centre for Liturgy, University of St Louis)

Making a Joyful Sound Unto the LordPlease be part of a choir for Christmas ~

Even if you are not regularly part of our choirs, we invite you to be part of the special choir for the 10:30pm Vigil Mass for Christmas at Lindfield (and the Carols at 10pm preceding it). Please be part of making this Christmas celebration special. Rehearsals take place on Saturdays 14th and 21st December in Lindfield church from 10:30 - 12 noon, or contact Catherine Willis: (catherinecwillis@gmail.com).

Our Pre-Christmas Anointing Mass and pre-Christmas Luncheon



A reminder that our final Healing Mass for the year will be celebrated at Killara on the second Friday of the month, **THIS Friday 13th December**, and at the later time of **11:00am** as it will be followed by our pre-Christmas **lunch**, rather than morning tea, in the parish hall at Killara.

We invite all who seek God's healing strength. **We would especially invite our senior parishioners for the Mass and the luncheon afterwards.** If you or someone you know would like to attend but is unable to get there or needs assistance in travelling please ring Fran Grant who will be happy to organise transport: **9880 7679**.

To help us with catering please put your name on the sheets in the foyers of both of our churches or contact the Parish Office.

More food for the soul . . .

FR RICHARD ROHR OFM'S MEDITATION:

DARKNESS

Experiences of darkness are good and necessary teachers. They are not to be avoided, denied, run from, or explained away. Even if we don't experience clinical or diagnosed depression, most of us will go through a period of darkness, doubt, and malaise at some point in our lives. I hope during these times we can reach out to someone—a therapist, spiritual director, friend—to support us. And when we feel strong may we be the shoulder someone else can lean on.

There's a darkness that we are led into by our own sin (the illusion of separation), and selfishness (living out of the false or separate self), and stupidity. We have to work our way out of this kind of darkness by brutal honesty, confession, surrender, forgiveness, apology, and restitution. It may feel simultaneously like dying and being liberated.

But there's another darkness that we're led into by God, grace, and the nature of life itself. In many ways, the loss of meaning, motivation, purpose, and direction might feel even greater here. Some call it "the dark night of the soul." Yet even while we feel alone and that God has abandoned us, we can also sense that we have been led here intentionally. We know we are in "liminal space," betwixt and between, on the threshold—and we have to stay here until we have learned something essential. It is still no fun and filled with doubt and "demons" of every sort. But it is the darkness of being held closely by God without our awareness. This is where transformation happens. Of course, the darkness that we get ourselves into by our own "sinful" choices can also become the darkness of God. Regardless of the cause, the dark night is an opportunity to look for and find God—in new forms and ways. Neither God nor goodness exist only in the light but permeate all places, seen and unseen. It seems we have to "unknow" a bit every

time we want to know in a new way. It is like putting your car in reverse in the mud and snow so that you can gain a new track and better traction.

United Church of Christ pastor and Living School "sendee" Mark Longhurst describes how both light and dark are essential for transformation.

In spirituality . . . we elevate the light over the darkness and praise the light and expel the darkness. Light conquers the darkness, the darkness will not overcome the light, John's Gospel says [1:5]. . . . The more Genesis works its wisdom on me, though, the more light and darkness seem bound up together. . . . God separates light from darkness, but they both need each other, and they both bear the breath of God. This, too, I think, is the truth of our lives. The light and the darkness are bound up with one another. Spiritual transformation does not happen only on the light level. We have to do the inner work of facing the shadow, or repressed realities, of who we are, both the beautiful and the bad. Some of our most painful experiences in life—whether death, divorce, or disease—often turn out to create a capacity in us for greater love. What we think is light shows up in what we think is darkness—and vice versa. [1]

Periods of seemingly fruitless darkness may in fact highlight all the ways we rob ourselves of wisdom by clinging to the light. Who grows by only looking on the bright side of things? It is only when we lose our certainties that will we be able to deconstruct our false images of God to discover the Absolute Reality beneath all our egoic fantasies and fears.

[1] Mark Longhurst, "Beyond Light Supremacy: Let There Be Light *and* Darkness," *Patheos* (October 11, 2019),

THE SEASON OF ADVENT . . .

The Season of Advent is a beautiful season of our Church year, but it can so easily become a *lost* season – lost amidst the Christmas rush, the Christmas parties and the Christmas shopping. It takes some effort to allow Advent to realise its potential in our lives as individuals and as a community.

Some ways to keep the time of Advent:

◆ **WEEKDAY MASS** provides rich fodder for reflection in the selection of Advent Scripture readings, while the Eucharist itself brings us the daily encounter with the Lord whose coming we prepare for.

◆ **PRAYER TIMES AT HOME:** as usual, over the next few weeks we'll print some prayer celebrations that you can use at home to keep some of this time of Advent.

◆ **THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION** provides a forum for reviewing our discipleship and preparing for a new beginning as we enter another liturgical year.

There will be a celebration of the **Second Rite of Reconciliation on Wednesday 18th December at 7:30pm** which will be for the whole parish and will be held in Holy Family Church at Lindfield. We will have a similar celebration in Lent, on which occasion it will be held in Immaculate Heart of Mary Church at Killara.

The Second Rite of Reconciliation takes the form of a communal celebration with a short liturgy leading us into the time of individual confessions (we will have several priests present) and concluding with a common prayer of thanksgiving and final blessing and hymn.

TWO UPDATES ON PARISH INFRASTRUCTURE:

◆ The organ in Lindfield church has been assessed as nearing the end of its lifetime, and could cease working at any time. The only way we could afford to replace it would be via a special appeal which we will launch soon. Unless we can raise the funds this way we would regrettably have no organ after the present one dies.

Postscript: the organ actually ceased working last Saturday. We are checking whether a temporary repair will restore it to use or whether this was its final death throes.

◆ As you will recall the essential maintenance at Lindfield presbytery was assessed at \$90,000. Our special appeal late last year raised half the funds needed (many thanks to all who contributed) and the first half of the work was completed. As the second half of the works must be done, and as our collections income cannot provide these funds, the Finance Committee has made a decision to take out a loan to complete the works.

Please return gifts to the Christmas Trees in both our churches TODAY (or by Monday to the parish office at the latest). Thank you for your support.



2020 PARISH RETREAT AT TARRAWARRA ABBEY



The retreat in 2020 will run from **Tuesday afternoon 21st April till Monday morning 27th April.**

This is a beautiful and prayerful time at a Cistercian Monastery amidst the exquisite scenery of the Yarra Valley.

Please contact Fr Colin to reserve a place.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME DATES FOR 2020

The letter giving all the details and dates for our Sacramental Preparation Programmes for First Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Holy Communion is now available **on the parish website under 'Sacraments' → 'Children's Sacraments.'**



Please download the letter and note all the dates involved in the sacraments which your child will celebrate next year.

Listening to & Learning From Each Other

"In the Body of Christ each member has a place, a dignity, a role, a gift and a vocation for the benefit of all. As the Fathers of the Second Vatican Council taught, the people whom Christ has established as his own are a communion of life, charity and truth (cf. Lumen Gentium 9)" Bishop Anthony: homily at the Mass of Inauguration on 4 November

In the first stage of the Plenary Council process we considered 'what' we need to discern. This informed the six themes: missionary and evangelising; inclusive, participatory and synodal; prayerful and eucharistic; humble, healing and merciful; a joy-filled and servant community; and open to conversion, renewal and reform.

We are now in the second stage of the Plenary Council process, and are being asked to consider 'how' to bring these themes to fruition.

Recently we held our first parish wide discernment session. Our second parish wide discernment session will be held on Saturday 14 December (see separate notice for details). We will seek to hold a further parish wide discernment session in late Jan./early Feb.

At this time of discernment for the future of our Church it is important that *all* our voices are heard. This is why everyone is encouraged to attend a parish discernment session. The Holy Spirit moves in each and every one of us and it is important that everyone's voice is heard.

The discernment process is a new process for our parish and difficult for us to learn. We each bring our unique gifts & perspectives to the table. We are all part of the Body of Christ & we each have a role in discerning what the Spirit is asking of us. What one person sees as critical for the path forward will not necessarily be what another sees. It would be misguided to assume that the Holy Spirit only works in those who think as we do. We shouldn't be afraid if others see things differently nor should we assume that they are wrong. It is unhelpful to label others as progressive or traditional - it is important to honour & value all perspectives. Our Church has thrived for 2000 years because it is capable of maintaining our important traditions while at the same time evolving & changing to meet the new challenges of different eras.

Now is the time for us to consider 'how' the six themes might be developed, and to put forward proposals based on what we feel the Spirit is saying to each of us personally. It is then the role of the **Plenary Council Listening and Discernment Groups** to consider what is before them in creating and putting forward an agenda for the Plenary Council.

During this process we are asked to speak boldly, as Jesus did, not be afraid of what the Spirit is asking of us and, importantly to listen with an open and humble heart to what others have to say.

Children's Involvement in our Christmas Masses

- * Calling all shepherds and angels *
- * Calling all children to re-enact the Christmas Story
- * Calling all children who wish to be in the Christmas choir



~ at Killara ~

We invite the children wishing to participate in the nativity play/Christmas story during Mass to come to our **PRACTICE on Friday 20th December at 4pm** at Killara church. Contact Bronwyn White on:

bgcj.white@optusnet.com.au

or Cathy Thomson on :

cathythomson7@gmail.com

* A **children's choir rehearsal** will also take place at Killara Church after the 9.15am Mass on **Sunday 22 December from 10.15 - 11am** (a morning tea will take place for parents while the children practise). All children and teenagers who would like to join the Christmas Vigil Choir are invited to attend. Contact Bernie Hallyburton if you have any questions bernie.hallyburton@gmail.com



~ at Lindfield ~

- For those interested in being part of the Children's Vigil Mass: nativity play, choir and readers please email Rose at: roseingham@optusnet.com.au. The rehearsal will be held on **Monday December 23rd at 2pm** in Lindfield church.

Preparing for Christmas – The Sacrament of Reconciliation

There will be a celebration of the **Second Rite of Reconciliation on Wednesday 18th December at 7:30pm** which will be for the whole parish and will be held in Holy Family Church at Lindfield. We will have a similar celebration in Lent, on which occasion it will be held in Immaculate Heart of Mary Church at Killara.

The **Second Rite of Reconciliation** takes the form of a communal celebration with a short liturgy leading us into the time of individual confessions (we will have a number of priests present) & concluding with a common prayer of thanksgiving and final blessing.

THE PRAYERS AND RESPONSES OF MASS

GLORIA:

We abstain from the joyful words of the Gloria during these days of Advent as we prepare our hearts and our community to celebrate once again the birth of the Lord Jesus

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION:

PSALM 71:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17

O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement.

In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to the earth's bounds.

For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor.

May his name be blessed for ever
and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,
all nations bless his name.

At Masses at which the Psalm is sung the response is: Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION :

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths; all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

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

RESPONSES TO THE PSALM FOR WEEKDAY MASS THIS WEEK:

- Mon** Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous deeds.
- Tues** The Lord our God comes in strength.
- Wed** O bless the Lord, my soul.
- Thurs** The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger, and rich in compassion.
- Fri** Those who follow you, Lord, will have the light of life.
- Sat** Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK:

Second Week of Advent

- Tues** Solemnity, The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Fri** Memoria of St Lucy
- Sat** Memoria of St John on the Cross

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

Please pray for Joan Cassidy, mother of Anthony Cassidy of our parish, who died last Wednesday. The Funeral Mass for Joan will be celebrated this Wednesday 11th December at 11am in St Nicholas of Myra's Church, Penrith.

Recently deceased: Edward (Ted) Hinds, Fr Barry Nobbs, Andrew Harvey, Michael K C Wong, Delia Rodriguez..

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Anthony Ellison, Ron Burke, Nena Umali, Wolfgang Liers, Daniella Schulze, Cyril Ferriere, Alex Noble, William Wise, Lise Therese Ferriere, Ian Coffey, Maureen Hobbs, Russell Adams.



FUSION YOUTH AT LINDFIELD KILLARA
YOUTH.FUSION
YOUTH@LINDFIELDKILLARA.ORG.AU

YOUTH GIVING BACK: COMMUNITY SERVICE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE FOR TEENS

Two Hands is a community service & social justice programme for youth at our Parish where teens can put their "faith into action"! There are a range of options for all ages: those wishing to complete community service hours; or those with a passion for social justice and/or caring for those in need. Projects/activities are available for students in year 5 and up.

Contact us via email for more information, youth@lindfieldkillara.org.au



將臨期第二主日
8/12/2019

讀經一 (他將以正義維護弱小。)

恭讀依撒意亞先知書 11:1-10

那一天，由葉瑟的樹幹將生出一個嫩枝；由它的樹根將發出一個幼芽。上主的神，智慧和聰敏的神，超見和剛毅的神，明達和敬畏上主的神，將住在內。【他將以敬畏上主為快慰。】他必不照他眼見的，施行審訊，也不按他耳聞的，執行判斷。他將以正義，審訊微賤者，以公理，判斷世上的謙卑者，以他口中的棍杖，打擊暴戾者，以他唇邊的氣息，誅殺邪惡者。正義將是他腰間的束帶，忠誠將是他脅下的佩帶。豺狼將與羔羊共處；虎豹將與小山羊同宿。牛犢和幼獅一同飼養；一個幼童即可帶領牠們。母牛和母熊將一起放牧；牠們的幼雛將一同伏臥。獅子將與牛一樣吃草。吃奶的嬰兒將遊戲於蝮蛇的洞口；斷奶的幼童將伸手探入毒蛇的高穴。在我的整個聖山上，再沒有誰作惡，也沒有誰害人，因為大地充滿了對上主的認識，有如海洋滿溢海水。那一日，葉瑟的根，將成為萬民的旗幟；列邦必將尋求他；他駐節之地，將是輝煌的。——上主的話

答唱詠 詠72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17

【答】：在他的歲月中，正義必要興盛，到處國泰民安。(詠72:7)

領：天主，求你給君王傳授你的權柄；求你給太子傳授你的公

正。使他照正義統治你的百姓；使他按公道管理你的平民。【答】

領：在他的歲月中，正義必要興盛，到處國泰民安，直至月亮失明。他將統治大地，從這海到那海，由大河的流域，至地極的邊界。【答】

領：他必拯救哀號的貧民；他必扶持無援的窮人。他將憐恤不幸和貧乏的群眾，並要救護窮苦貧病者的生命。【答】

領：他的名號常存，永受讚揚；他的名號常留，與日爭光。萬邦要因他而得福；萬民要稱頌他。【答】

讀經二 (基督拯救了眾人。)

恭讀聖保祿宗徒致羅馬人書 15:4-9

福音前歡呼

領/眾：亞肋路亞。

領：你們當預備上主的道路；修直他的途徑。凡有血肉的，都要看見天主的救援。(路3:4,6)

眾：亞肋路亞。

福音 (你們悔改吧！因為天國臨近了。)

恭讀聖瑪竇福音 3:1-12

那時候，洗者若翰在猶太曠野出現，宣講說：「你們悔改吧！因為天國臨近了。」這人就是那藉依撒意亞先知所預言的：「在曠野裡有呼號者的聲音：你們該當預備上主的道路，修直他的途徑。」這若翰穿著駱駝毛做的衣服，腰間束著皮

帶，他的食物是蝗蟲和野蜜。

那時，耶路撒冷、全猶太，以及全約但河一帶的人都出來，到若翰那裡，承認自己的罪過，並在約但河受他的洗。他見到許多法利塞人和撒杜塞人，來受他的洗，就對他們說：「毒蛇的種類！誰教你們逃避那即將來臨的憤怒？那麼，就結與悔改相稱的果實吧！你們自己不要想：我們有亞巴郎為父。我給你們說：天主能從這些石頭，給亞巴郎興起子孫來。斧刀已放在樹根上，凡不結好果子的樹，必被砍倒，投入火中。」「我固然用水洗你們，為使你們悔改；但在我以後，要來的那一位，比我更強，我連提他的鞋也不配，他要以聖神及水洗你們。他的簸箕已拿在手中，他要揚淨自己的禾場，將他的麥粒收入倉內，至於糠秕，卻要用不滅的火燒掉。」——上主的話。

華人天主教會 北區中心主日彌撒12時，彌撒後午餐聚會。歡迎各教友參加。主日學12noon牧職修女 司徒金美修女 ☎0419-426899 中心聯絡 Gloria Cheung ☎0416-118089

第二十九屆家庭營 26th -

28th December 2019成人組: 聖馬加利大堂周景勳神父主持, 主題《生命的飛揚》On-line Registration:

ccc-inc.org.au

29/12主日彌撒周景勳神父主禮, 2:30pm, Lindfield中心講座, 隨後晚宴與周景勳神父聚餐, 詳情報名聯絡 Helen Shek

An Advent Poem

No one can celebrate a genuine Christmas without being truly poor. The self-sufficient, the proud, those who, because they have everything, look down on others, those who have no need even of God- for them there will be no Christmas.

Only the poor, the hungry, those who need someone to come on their behalf, will have that someone. That someone is God. Emmanuel. God-with-us. Without poverty of spirit there can be no abundance of God.

St Oscar Romero

ST VINCENT DE PAUL—CARDS AND CALENDARS

Columban Calendars (\$10 each) are now available in both of our churches. As usual, great reproductions of masterpieces and a nice small gift for a friend. A new range of Christmas cards are also available, \$8 for a packet of 10. Please place payment in the poor box.

JUNIOR WORDSEARCH

From David's family will come a king

A K I M B S J W T W H V Y B Q
G B N S C R I P T U R E S A I
L O R O B E S M O S E A J P S
V N J F V J A S E Y E I M T A
B G U L R W R W N Z A W Q I I
Y X D G B R D Q A L N G Y S A
N A G X G F P Z P U Y X N T H
A Q E Q V C A L V E S X C X W
H R M M G X B Z F O L L O W A
I O E W O L V E S R I V E R T
E H N T F B Q M N K V Q T T E
X G T B W C H E E R F U L J R
M S G E L O Y B E F C O C F L
F J Z D O M J K Q B F G W Y R
C W R I X S C A M E L S S Q S

Try to find these words:

- Baptist
- calves
- camels
- cheerful
- follow
- Isaiah
- judgement
- river
- robes
- scriptures
- water
- wolves

FOR THE PERIOD

Catholic Parish of Lindfield -Killara

Holy Family Church

corner Pacific Hwy & Highfield Rd, Lindfield

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church

corner Fiddens Wharf Rd & Charles St, Killara

Fr Colin Blayney, Parish Priest

colin@lindfieldkillara.org.au 9416 7195

Fr Thomas Alackakunnel VC, Asst Priest

thomas@lindfieldkillara.org.au; 0421 406162

Parish Office

Parish Office Hours: 9.30 am -4pm

Address: Lvl 1, 2 Highfield Road (cnr Pacific Hwy)
Lindfield NSW 2070

Postal address: PO Box 22, Lindfield NSW 2070

Phone: 9416 3702

Email: parish@lindfieldkillara.org.au

Parish Website: www.lindfieldkillara.org.au

Parish Staff

Parish Secretary:

Philita Marundan

philita@lindfieldkillara.org.au

Parish Office Coordinator

Child Protection Coordinator:

Alison Williams (M,W,Th only)

alison@lindfieldkillara.org.au

Catechist Coordinator :

Sue-Anne Sherwood

sue-anne@lindfieldkillara.org.au

Sacramental Programme Team:

Sue-Anne Sherwood (contact as above)

Maia Schulze Tsang maia@lindfieldkillara.org.au

Parish Facilities' Coordinator (volunteer) :

Anthony Cassidy: anthony@lindfieldkillara.org.au

Youth Ministry Coordinator (volunteer)

Jean Shatek: youth@lindfieldkillara.org.au

Parish School

Holy Family School: 4 Highfield Rd, Lindfield 2070

Principal: Mr Lou Dogao Phone: 9416 7200

Email: info@holyfamily.nsw.edu.au

School Website: www.hflddb.catholic.edu.au

THE PARISH SCRIPTURE STUDY

GROUP meets *this* Wednesday 11 December from 10-11am in the Library in the Shirley Wallace Parish Centre. We are studying St Paul's Letter to the Romans - it will be helpful to have read chapter 9.



Dive into the Scriptures!

MANY THANKS FROM CANA for your support of last week's stalls—a total of \$1291 was raised. A great thank you to our team of dedicated parishioners who ran the stalls in both of our churches — ably led by Cathy Thomson of our Killara community.

What's happening in the parish ?

PARISH DIARY

DECEMBER

Sun 8th

*Welcome morning tea for all families whose children have been baptised this year—after the 9:15am Mass at Killara

* Morning tea also after 10:15am Mass

Tues 10th

Year 6 Graduation Mass

Fri 13th

Healing Mass and pre-Christmas luncheon for senior parishioners (starting 11am at Killara)

Wed 18th

11:15am End of year Mass for Holy Family School
7:30pm Advent Second Rite of Reconciliation (at Lindfield church)

EVERY WEEK:

PARISH PLAYGROUP 'Characters Playgroup' meets every **Wednesday** from 9.45 to 11.30am (during school terms) in the Shirley Wallace Parish Centre on the first floor of Holy Family church. Please register via Trybooking: www.trybooking.com/JYKW

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP gathers every Wednesday in 'The Basement' youth 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 or Catherine 9415 6345 catherinecwillis@gmail.com

EXPOSITION OF THE EUCHARIST after the 8:00am Mass on Fridays at Killara as a time for quiet prayer in the presence of the Lord.

Catechist News !

Thank you to all those that have recently signed up to be a catechist in 2020. **We have had a wonderful response to our appeal for catechists! Thank you!**

However, there are still a few classes needing a catechist:

- Wed. 2 catechists needed for a Yr 1/2 and a Yr 3/4 class

- Fri. Lindfield Learning Village (1 catechist need for a Yr 7/8 class)



Have Your Say... Round 2
Did you miss the last discernment meeting? Then please join us for another chance to submit your ideas about the future of our Church!

Second Parish-Wide Discernment Meeting
Saturday 14 December
from 3.30pm
Shirley Wallace Centre, Lindfield Church

If you missed the discernment meeting last week but would like to contribute a submission to the Plenary Council 2020, this is your chance! Questions? Please contact us at parish@lindfieldkillara.org.au

Saturday		7 December	14 December
Lindfield	6:00pm	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel	Fr Colin Blayney
Killara	5:30pm	Fr Colin Blayney	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel
Sunday		8 December	15 December
Lindfield	8:15am	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel	Fr Colin Blayney
Killara	9:15am	Fr Colin Blayney	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel
Lindfield	10:15am	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel	Fr Colin Blayney
Lindfield	12:00pm	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel
Lindfield	6:00pm	Fr Colin Blayney	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel

WEEKDAY MASS THIS WEEK

	Mon.	Tues	Wed	Thu.	Fri	Sat.
Killara	8am	8am			11am ²	
L?field	9:15	6pm ¹	9:15	9:15	-	9:15

¹ Year 6 Graduation Mass

² Advent-Christmas Healing Mass



The potluck dinner in St Brigid's Hall following our final Youth and Family Mass for 2019 last Sunday.

A very practical way you could support your parish:
Could you advertise here in the parish bulletin? Please contact the Parish Office for details.

Our Catechists gathered for their end of year Mass and luncheon last Tuesday. Well done to all on a great year's work.



A Service of Prayer to pray at home during Advent. . . . Prayer before the Christmas Tree

The Christmas Tree can be a wonderful symbol of our rejoicing and giving in the Advent and Christmas Seasons. You might like to pray this prayer at home before your Christmas tree:

Leader: Let us ask God to bless us and this sign of our faith in the Lord.

Response: Lord, give light to our hearts.

1. That the Church may always reflect the joy of Jesus who enlightens our hearts, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, give light to our hearts.

2. That this tree of lights may remind us of the tree of glory on which Jesus accomplished our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, give light to our hearts.

3. That the joy of Christmas may always be in our homes, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, give light to our hearts.

4. That the peace of Christ may dwell in our hearts and in the world, let us pray to the Lord. **Response:** Lord, give light to our hearts.

The prayer of blessing:

All: Lord our God,
we praise you for the light of creation:
the sun, the moon, and the stars of night.
We praise you for the light of Israel:
the Law, the prophets,
and the wisdom of the Scriptures.
We praise you for Jesus, your Son:
he is Emmanuel, God-with-us,
the Prince of Peace,
who fills us with the wonder of your love.
May this tree, arrayed in splendour,
remind us of the life-giving Cross of Christ,
that we may always rejoice in the new life
that shines in our hearts.

May the light and cheer it gives be a sign of the joy
that fills our hearts.

May all who delight in this tree think of the birth of Jesus,
the true light who has come into the world.

Lord, bless this tree and the gifts beneath it.

And most of all bless us, so that we may know the meaning of giving
during this Advent and Christmas Season. Amen.



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