

# 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<br>10:15am<br>12:00 (Chinese Community Mass)<br>6:00pm (for both our communities) (5:30pm on 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sun. of month) | Sunday: 9:15am         |

## Weekdays:

|           |         |        |
|-----------|---------|--------|
| Monday    | 9:15am  | 7:30am |
| Tuesday   | 12:15pm | 7:30am |
| Wednesday | 9:15am  | ~      |
| Thursday  | 9:15am  | ~      |
| 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

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**TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME      23 – 9 – 18**

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*This week: Wis 2:12, 17-20; James 3:16-4:3; Mk 9:30-37*  
*Next week: Num 11:25-29; James 5:1-6; Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48*

*‘They did not understand him.’*

A challenging phrase which asks us whether **we** really understand Jesus, whether we grasp the essence and heart of the Gospel.

*Because it can be easy in the life of faith to get caught up in inessentials,  
in what’s peripheral,  
in what is superficial.*

The Gospel invites us to the heart of things,  
to ensure that love – and its **prerequisite**, justice – is the core of all that we do.

Do we **understand** Jesus? Do we **grasp** and live the heart of his message?

*Fr Colin*

# Youth News ...

## YOUTH@LINDFIELD KILLARA PARISH



Fusion Youth at Lindfield Killara



youth.fusion



youth@lindfieldkillara.org.au

### Youth & Family Mass

LINDFIELD KILLARA CATHOLIC PARISH

Our Youth & Family Mass is for anyone looking for a joyous, faith-filled celebration with youthful music and a warm, community feel. Feed the family after Mass at our supper

**NEXT MASS:**  
**SUN 14 October**  
**5.30 pm**

**Special focus on Social Justice  
and the Homeless**



### FOR TEENS IN YEARS 7-12

FUSION is a welcoming space for teenagers, helping them navigate their teenage years. Youth leaders (young adults from our Parish) lead the teens in social justice activities, games and discussion. We meet regularly one Friday night and one Sunday night per month and for other activities throughout the year.

#### Fri 28 September

Yr 7,8,9 meets 5.30-7.30pm  
Yr 10,11,12 meets 7-9pm  
in Shirley Wallace. Dinner served at 7pm for all.

#### Sun 14 October

Meet after Youth Mass supper (approx. 7.30 to 9.00pm) in Parish Meeting Room



### FOR KIDS IN YEARS 3-6

At BLAST kids have fun whilst learning what it means to be part of a faith community. We have a different "theme" every month led by FUSION youth members of our Parish. We meet monthly on Sundays, from 4.00pm to 5.30pm, just before the Youth & Family Mass.

#### Sunday, 14 October

"My Own Two Hands": Social Justice

Please note there will be **no** BLAST meeting in September.

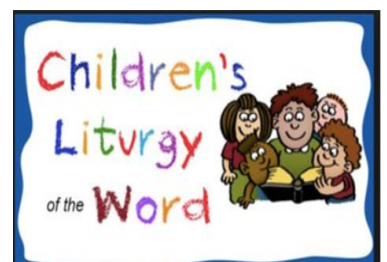
**FOR MORE INFORMATION... PLEASE CONTACT US VIA EMAIL OR SOCIAL MEDIA (SEE ABOVE) OR RING THE PARISH OFFICE.**

Dear Parents,

We are in great need for more volunteers to join the roster to help run Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) at the 8:15am and 10:15am Mass at Holy Family Church Lindfield.

We have volunteers up to mid-September, but need more help from there onwards. Getting involved is very rewarding and without your help, we may not be able to have the CLOW for the children.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact our CLOW coordinators, Helen and Richard Martin at: [richardianmartin@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:richardianmartin@yahoo.co.uk)



## PARISH DIARY : OCT

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> Oct.:** Morning tea after 9:15am and 10:15am Mass

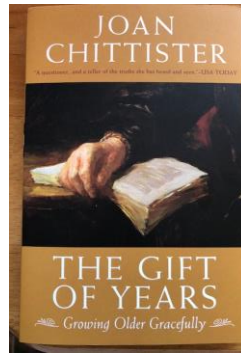
Children's Mass at 9:15am at Killara.

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October:** Mass for HSC and IB students at 6pm followed by pizzas.

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> October:** Monthly Youth and Children's Mass at 5:30pm followed by parish potluck dinner.

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October:** inaugural gathering of the new parish Dads' Club (see p.5).

## NEW IN THE PARISH LIBRARY



*“The Gift of Years: Growing Older Gracefully”* by noted contemporary spiritual writer Joan Chittister.

The Parish Library is in the Shirley Wallace Parish Centre and books can be borrowed simply by writing your name and contact details and the name of the book in the Borrowers' Book located on the library shelves.

All Year 12 HSC and IB students and their families invited to...



AT HOLY FAMILY  
CHURCH LINDFIELD

-----  
PIZZA SUPPER  
AFTER MASS IN

-----  
SHIRLEY WALLACE  
CENTRE

-----  
LOCATED ABOVE  
THE CHURCH



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E:sales@universalinstruments.com.au

## OUR DIOCESAN COMMITMENT TO SAFEGUARDING

*We the people of the Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay are committed to fostering communities of safety and care for all people, especially for **children and others in the community who are vulnerable.***

*Our commitment is underscored by our faith in Jesus Christ who teaches the fundamental sanctity of each human person, and by our dedication to sustained education, practice, and conversation about our moral, legal, and spiritual obligation to safeguard all those within our community.*



## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

First Holy Communion will be celebrated this year as follows:

- **at Killara:**
  - at the 9:15am Mass on Sunday 23rd September
- **at Lindfield:**
  - at the Vigil Mass on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September
  - at the 10:15am Mass on Sunday 30th September



In addition to the fact that our celebrations are spread over a number of Masses so that the number of First Communicants at each Mass is not too large, the First Communion Masses will be celebrated in such a way that **they take no longer than a normal Sunday Mass.**

### Lindfield Dental Practice



**Dr Peter Chung**  
DDS, MDS, PhD  
Clinical Assoc Professor

Open: Mon-Sat

**P: 9416 5000**

Suite 1, 345 Pacific Highway  
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Agent, Director  
**Parishioner**

Jason 0448 455 556 or  
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.

## THE PLENARY COUNCIL 2020 – HOW YOUR VOICE CAN BE HEARD....



Preparation for the Plenary Council 2020 begins with open Listening and Dialogue. It is the first step to preparing the agenda for the Plenary Council. Your experience of faith and the Church is important. Read about how you can #shareyourstory at [plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au](http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au).

The Plenary Council agenda will be developed from the stories you share and the questions you raise. **To join a small group for Plenary Council Listening and Dialogue, please contact the parish office.** All people are welcome – come along, and bring a friend. Visit [plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au](http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au) for more information.

### CAN YOU HELP US?

#### A NEED IN OUR CHURCH AT KILLARA

Our church at Killara does not have an audio-visual projection system.

As you know we often have need to project videos – messages from the bishop, Project Compassion information during Lent, matters pertaining to the forthcoming Plenary Council and the list goes on.

It is rare for a church today to be without this facility but its purchase and installation is an expensive matter.

If you would be willing to contribute to adding this much-needed facility to our church at Killara please contact the Parish Office or myself.

*Fr Colin*

### ANNOUNCING:

#### A NEW DADS' CLUB FOR THE PARISH



Around a dozen dads were able to attend the meeting last Sunday re the formation of a Dads' social

club in the parish and all were keen to do so.

The first gathering will be on **Friday 26th October at 7:00pm** in the Shirley Wallace Parish Centre about Lindfield church **and then on the fourth Friday evening of each month after that.**

If you're a Dad and would like to be kept in the loop regarding activities please contact Michael Willet ([willetm@gmail.com](mailto:willetm@gmail.com)) and give him your email address.

*Fr Colin*

**NO PARKING** A reminder to those attending weekday Mass at Lindfield that there is **NO PARKING** in the Lindfield church carpark during school term. The carpark serves both the Parish Office and the school staff and so is at maximum capacity. In addition, cars often have to depart at short notice and we have had vehicles parked in.

**PARISH YOUNG ADULTS GROUP** The next gathering for the year takes place **next Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> September** 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).



## 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:

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

*At Masses at which the Psalm is sung the response is: The Lord upholds my life.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**  
 Alleluia, alleluia! God has called us with the Gospel to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia!

### THE PSALM Ps 53:3-6. 8.

O God, save me by your name;  
by your power, uphold my cause.  
O God, hear my prayers;  
listen to the words of my mouth.

For the proud have risen against me,  
ruthless ones seek my life.  
They have no regard for God.

But I have God for my help.  
The Lord upholds my life.  
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart  
and praise your name for it is good.

### RESPONSES TO THE PSALM FOR WEEKDAY MASS THIS WEEK:

**Monday:** Whoever does justice shall live on the Lord's holy mountain.

**Tues:** Guide me, Lord, in the way of your commands.

**Wed:** Your word, O Lord, is a lamp for my feet.

**Thursday:** In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

**Friday:** Blessed be the Lord, my Rock!

**Saturday:** In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises Lord.

## 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

## FROM PARISH SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP:

### PARISH GROCERY DRIVE: ASYLUM SEEKERS CENTRE,

We will be running a Grocery Drive for the Asylum Seeker Centre at Mass on **29 & 30 September**, coinciding with Social Justice Sunday.

Urgently needed: Cornflakes, Vegetable Oil (1L), tinned fish, deodorant (men and women), sanitary pads, shampoo.

Always needed: Coffee, tea, canned chickpeas, red kidney beans, mixed beans, dried apricots, dried dates, dried lentils, nuts, soup, tomato soup, tinned corn, tinned tomatoes, dishwashing liquid, laundry powder (small packages), toothpaste, toothbrushes.

Save the Date: Sunday, 14 October – a social justice event not to be missed!

**Also:** Please mark the afternoon of Sunday 14th October in your diaries. More to come!

**Like to be involved?** Please email [socialjustice@lindfieldkillara.org.au](mailto:socialjustice@lindfieldkillara.org.au) to add your name to our mailing list.

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## Catechists

*'God doesn't call the qualified, God qualifies the called'*

### WE BELIEVE IN

**K** - kingdom building  
**I** - impacting lives  
**D** - deeper Relationships  
**S** - spiritual growth

We are looking for teachers and assistants for:

- Tues 9.15-10am - Lindfield East - Yr 5
- Thurs 9.15-10am - Killara Primary - Yr 4 (small class)
- Wed morning 75 min - Killara High - 1 teacher and 1 assistant
- a new school in Lindfield next year.

Please come forward now so you can attend the training in October and November and be ready to teach next year. *Sue-Anne Sherwood: [sue-anne@lindfieldkillara.org.au](mailto:sue-anne@lindfieldkillara.org.au)*

## Congratulations to the children receiving First Holy Communion this weekend

### Lindfield Sat 22 Sept

Marco Berarducci  
Thomas Chan  
Xavier Chan  
Zeke Chan  
Lauren Ka Wai Chang  
Sarah Ka Lin Chang  
Caleb Chien  
Emma Colwell  
Chiara Katia Crino  
Amelia D'Arcy  
Charlie Dykes  
Alexander Fijan  
Katherine Soo Ji Ham  
Aidan Lilley  
Aidan Chung Ho Mak  
Fleur Manion  
Senan Meade  
Juliette Noga-Piekarska  
Adeline O'Regan  
Estelle O'Regan  
Alexander Peel  
Sophie Scott  
Daniel Vassallo  
Eliza Weekes

### Killara Sun 23 Sept

Zachary Agresta  
Camilla Andersen  
Keira Barry  
Leonardo Bazouni  
Aaron Blayney  
Kate Bromby  
Seung Woo Chu  
Dominik Cikes  
Luca Della-Franca  
Thomas Frederick  
Edgerton  
Olivia Anneka Farthing  
Soorim Lulu Gazal  
Ethan Haegebaert  
Charlie Hennessy-Bowden  
Elizabeth Jackson  
Benjamin Jones  
James Jurcevic  
Ethan Kenderes  
Rhys Kenderes  
Leona Kim  
Lucas Kropman  
William Macdonald  
Amelia Mair  
Hannah Martin

Thomas Martin  
Paulena Moran  
Ned Moyes  
Catherine Ysabel Papa  
Xavier Pica  
Callum Sillett  
Sofia Utichi  
Stephen Walter  
Noah Watson  
Arin Yoon



## Parish retreat at the Benedictine Abbey at Jamberoo



Last week our parish retreat group spent Monday through to Thursday morning sharing a beautiful reflective time at the Abbey, joining the Nuns for their beautiful singing of the Divine Office, enjoying the beautiful location on the Illawarra Escarpment, finding nourishment in talks by Sr Magdalene on Benedictine spirituality and Sr Hannah on The Prayer of the Heart, and enjoying a balance between times of silence and community conviviality.

We will offer this opportunity at Jamberoo again next year, as well as an opportunity for a parish retreat at Tarrawarra Abbey.



## *Parish Staff and Contact Information*

We are the one parish of Lindfield-Killara containing our two distinct but collaborating and cooperating communities centred on our two churches at Killara and Lindfield.

**Holy Family Church:** cnr Pacific Hwy and Highfield Rd, Lindfield  
**Immaculate Heart of Mary Church:** cnr Fiddens Wharf Rd and Charles St, Killara  
**Parish Priest: Fr Colin Blayney** [colin@lindfieldkillara.org.au](mailto:colin@lindfieldkillara.org.au) 9416 7195  
**Assistant Priest: Fr Thomas Alackakunnel VC** [thomas@lindfieldkillara.org.au](mailto:thomas@lindfieldkillara.org.au) 0421 406162

### PARISH OFFICE:

**Parish Secretary: Philita Marundan (Tues-Fri):** [philita@lindfieldkillara.org.au](mailto:philita@lindfieldkillara.org.au)  
**Parish Office Coordinator and Child Protection Coordinator:**  
**Alison Williams (Mon, Wed, Thur):** [alison@lindfieldkillara.org.au](mailto:alison@lindfieldkillara.org.au)

**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

### Catechist Coordinator (Primary Schools):

**Sue-Anne Sherwood** [sue-anne@lindfieldkillara.org.au](mailto:sue-anne@lindfieldkillara.org.au)  
 0416 141 508

### Sacramental Programme Coordinator:

**Sue-Anne Sherwood** [sue-anne@lindfieldkillara.org.au](mailto:sue-anne@lindfieldkillara.org.au)  
 0416 141 508

### Assistant Sacramental Programme Coordinator:

**Maia Schulze Tsang** [maia@lindfieldkillara.org.au](mailto:maia@lindfieldkillara.org.au)

**Parish Priest's Secretary: Maia Schulze Tsang** [maia@lindfieldkillara.org.au](mailto:maia@lindfieldkillara.org.au)

**Parish Facilities Coordinator (volunteer): Anthony Cassidy** [anthony@lindfieldkillara.org.au](mailto:anthony@lindfieldkillara.org.au)

**Youth Ministry Coordinator (volunteer): Jean Shatek** [youth@lindfieldkillara.org.au](mailto:youth@lindfieldkillara.org.au)

**Parish Primary School:** Holy Family School, 4 Highfield Rd, Lindfield 2070

**Ph:** 9416 7200    **Fax:** 9416 9342

**Principal:** Mr Lou Dogao

**Email:** [info@holyfamily.nsw.edu.au](mailto:info@holyfamily.nsw.edu.au)

**School Website:** [www.hfldbb.catholic.edu.au](http://www.hfldbb.catholic.edu.au)

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| <b>Parish Website:</b> | <a href="http://www.lindfieldkillara.org.au">www.lindfieldkillara.org.au</a> |
|------------------------|--|

| Saturday  |           | 22 Sep                 | 29 Sep                 |
|-----------|-----------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Lindfield | 6:00pm    | Fr Colin Blayney       | Fr Thomas Alackakunnel |
| Killara   | 5:30pm    | Fr Thomas Alackakunnel | Fr Colin Blayney       |
| Sunday    |           | 23 Sep                 | 30 Sep                 |
| 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 | 12:00noon | Fr Kelly               | Visitor                |
| Lindfield | 6:00pm    | Fr Thomas Alackakunnel | Fr Thomas Alackakunnel |

# CHINESE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

常年期第二十五主日

23-9-2018

**讀經一** (判他受可恥的死刑。)

恭讀智慧篇 2:12, 17-21

惡人胡思亂想，說：「我們要陷害義人，因為他太令我們討厭，反對我們的作為，指責我們違犯法律，控訴我們行為不檢。我們要看他的話，是否屬實，看他究竟有什麼結局。」因為，如果義人是天主的兒子，天主一定會幫助他，拯救他脫離敵人的手。來吧！我們用恥辱和酷刑試驗他，查看他是否溫良，考驗他是否忍耐。我們判他受可恥的死刑，看他是否蒙受眷顧，如同他所說的一樣。」惡人這樣思想，真是荒謬，因為邪惡使他們喪失了理智。——上主的話。(默想)

**答唱詠** 詠 54:3-4, 5, 6, 8

**【答】**：上主必扶持我的生命。(詠 54:6)

領：天主，求你因你的名，拯救我；求你並以你的權能，為我伸冤。天主，求你俯聽我的祈求，側耳傾聽我的投訴。

**【答】**

領：因為傲慢的人，起來攻擊我；蠻橫的人，想謀害我的生命。他們沒有把天主放在眼內。

**【答】**

領：請看，天主必定給我助陣；上主必扶持我的生命。上主，我甘願向你奉上祭獻，我要讚頌你的美名。**【答】**

**讀經二** (正義的果實，是在和平中種植的。)

恭讀聖雅各伯書 3:16-4:3

**福音前歡呼**

領/眾：亞肋路亞。

領：天主藉著福音，召叫了我們，為使我們獲得主耶穌基督的光榮。(參閱得後 2:14)

眾：亞肋路亞。

**福音** (人子將要被交在人手中.....)

誰如果想做最大的，就得做眾人的僕役。)

恭讀聖馬爾谷福音 9:30-37

那時候，耶穌和門徒經過加里肋亞。耶穌不願叫人知道，因為他那時正教訓他的門徒。耶穌給他的門徒說：「人子將要被交在人手中，為人所殺；被殺以後，過了三天，他必要復活。」門徒卻不明白這番話，又害怕詢問他。他們來到葛法翁，進入屋裡，耶穌問他的門徒說：「你們在路上爭論些什麼？」他們都默不出聲，因為他們在路上，彼此爭論誰最大。

耶穌坐下，叫那十二人過來，給他們說：「誰如果想做最大的，就得做眾人中最小的，並要做眾人的僕役。」耶穌於是拉一個小孩子過來，放在門徒中間，又抱起他來，給門徒說：「誰因我的名字，收留一個這樣的小孩子，就是收留我；誰收留我，並不是收留我，而是收留那派遣我來的。」——上主的話。(講道後默想片刻)

華人天主教會 北區中心,主日彌撒 12 時, 彌撒後, 午餐聚會.  
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中心聯絡 Gloria Cheung  
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Sunday School 主日學  
12noon Parish Meeting Room

23/9午餐北區中心慶祝中秋節暨舉行9月及10月生日會及結婚記念慶祝會餐費  
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華人天主教會暨高齡之家高齡之家, 依士活中心 慶祝中秋節聯歡會,  
日期 :23/9 1:00 -5:00 pm

慶祝梁加恩神父九十大壽感恩彌撒將於6/10星期六4:30pm  
Strathfield Santa Sabina College舉行, 隨後晚宴喺大三元海鮮酒家,每位 \$50



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*(continued from p.12...)* that if you have done something wrong that you know is wrong and that you know that you should feel sorry for, but you can't in fact feel sorry for, then if you can wish that you could feel sorry, that's contrition enough, not perfect, but enough. It's the best you can do and it puts you at the right place at the level of desire, not a perfect place, but one better than its alternative.

And that "imperfect" place does more for us than simply providing the minimal standard of contrition needed for forgiveness. More importantly it accords rightful dignity to whom and to what we have hurt.

Reflecting on our inability to genuinely love our neighbour, Marilynne Robinson submits that, even in our failure to live up what Jesus asks of us, if we are struggling honestly, there is some virtue. She argues this way: Freud said that we cannot love our neighbour as ourselves, and no doubt this is true. But since we accept the reality that lies behind the commandment, that our neighbour is as worthy of love as ourselves, then in our very attempt to act on Jesus' demand we are acknowledging that our neighbour is worthy of love even if, at that this point in our lives, we are too weak to provide it.

And that's the crucial point: In continuing to struggle, despite our failures, to live up to the Jesus' great commandment of love we acknowledge the dignity inherent in our enemies, acknowledge that they are worthy of love, and acknowledge our own shortcoming. That's "imperfect" of course, but, I suspect, Thomas Aquinas would say it's a start!

*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:**

*Please pray for the repose of the soul of Frances Healy and Patricia Kenny who died recently. The Funeral Mass for Frances was celebrated at Lindfield last Tuesday, and the Funeral Mass for Patricia was celebrated at Killara on Thursday.*

**Recently deceased:** June Connors, Bill O'Connell, Janice Breslin, Pattie Upton, Faye Bartlett.

**Anniversary:** Bernadette Rainsford (Steffel). **And also for:** Doreen Farrow.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK :** Daniella Schulze, Ian Coffey.

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

*Then he sat down, called the Twelve, and said to them,  
"If anyone wishes to be first,  
he shall be the last of all and the servant of all."*

### THE STRUGGLE TO LOVE OUR NEIGHBOUR

"The most damaging idolatry is not the golden calf but enmity against the other." The renowned anthropologist, Rene Girard, wrote that and its truth is not easily admitted. Most of us like to believe that we are mature and big-hearted and that we do love our neighbors and are free of enmity towards others. But is this so?

In our more honest, more accurately perhaps, in our more humble moments, I think that all of us admit that we don't really love others in the way that Jesus asked. We don't turn the other cheek. We don't really love our enemies. We don't wish good to those who wish us harm. We don't bless those who curse us. And we don't genuinely forgive those who murder our loved ones. We are decent, good-hearted persons, but persons whose heaven is still too-predicated on needing an emotional vindication in the face of anyone or anything that opposes us. We can be fair, we can be just, but we don't yet love the way Jesus asked us to, that is, so that our love goes out to both those who love us and to those who hate us. We still struggle, mightily, mostly unsuccessfully, to wish our enemies well.

But for most of us who like to believe ourselves mature that battle remains hidden, mostly from ourselves. We tend to feel that we are loving and forgiving because, essentially, we are well-intentioned, sincere, and able to believe and say all the right things; but there's another part of us that isn't nearly so noble. The Irish Jesuit, Michael Paul Gallagher, (who died a short time ago and will be dearly missed) put this well when he wrote: "You probably don't hate anyone, but you can be paralysed by daily negatives. Mini-prejudices and knee-jerk judgments can produce a mood of undeclared war. Across barbed wire fences, invisible bullets fly" (Into Extra Time). Loving the other as oneself, he submits, is for most of us an impossible uphill climb.

So where does that leave us? Serving out a life-sentence of mediocrity and hypocrisy? Professing to loving our enemies but not doing it? How can we profess to be Christians when, if we are honest, we have to admit that we are not measuring up to the litmus-test of Christian discipleship, namely, loving and forgiving our enemies?

Perhaps we are not as bad as we think we are. If we are still struggling, we are still healthy. In making us, it seems, God factored in human complexity, human weakness, and how growing into deeper love is a life-long journey. What can look like hypocrisy from the outside can in fact be a pilgrimage, a Camino walk, when seen within a fuller light of patience and understanding.

Thomas Aquinas, in speaking about union and intimacy, makes this important distinction. He differentiates between being in union with something or somebody in actuality and being in union with that someone or something through desire. This has many applications but, applied in this case; it means that sometimes the heart can go somewhere only through desire rather than in actuality.

We can believe in the right things and want the right things and still not be able to bring our hearts onside. One example of this is what the old catechisms (in their unique wisdom) used to call "imperfect contrition," that is, the notion *(continued on p. 11)*: