

# 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 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)	Saturday Vigil: 5:30pm 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	NO 9:15am Mass due to celebrations of Confirmation	

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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## SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST BLESSED TRINITY 27 – 5 – 18

### TRINITY SUNDAY

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*This week: Deut 4:32-34, 39-40; Rom 8:14-17; Mt 28:16-20*

*Next week: Ex 24:3-8; Heb 9:11-15; Mk 14:12-16,22-26*

With last Sunday's celebration of Pentecost we brought the Easter Season to a close. On Monday we moved back into the Ordinary Time of the Church year.

However, the first two Sundays of this Ordinary Time are always celebrated as great feasts – today, Trinity Sunday, and next week, the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi).

Trinity Sunday celebrates the God we experience in the Easter mystery: the **Father** who reaches out in love to the world in the incarnation, death and resurrection of the **Son**, who by the power of the **Holy Spirit** draws us with him to share in the life of the **Father**.

Ordinary Time reminds us that we discover God and that we minister God's love to others *in the ordinary*: in the simple things, where we live, where we work, just by who we are and how we relate.

Ordinary Time calls us to be a people filled with the life of the Trinity who bring that life to others.

Fr Colin

**PARISH OFFICE:**

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

**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

Please see the parish website ([www.lindfieldkillara.org.au](http://www.lindfieldkillara.org.au)) for the full directory of staff and contact information.

## Youth News ...



Fusion Youth at Lindfield Killara



youth.fusion



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

# YOUTH@LINDFIELD KILLARA PARISH

## TERM 2 2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**NEXT YOUTH & FAMILY MASS..... Sunday, 10 June 5.30 pm**

Youth mass features a youth choir and family-friendly service. The earlier time of 5.30 is to accommodate young families. As usual, after mass there'll be supper for everyone upstairs in Shirley Wallace.



**BLAST YOUTH..... Sun, 10 June 4.00-5.30pm**  
(Primary School - Years 3-6)



**FUSION YOUTH..... Sun, 10 June 7.00-9.00pm**  
(High School - Years 7-12)

**FUSION MOVIE NIGHT.....FRIDAY 29 June 6.30pm**

**SUNDAY MORNING TEAS** We now have morning tea after the 9:15am and 10:15am Mass on the first and third Sundays of the month. **Last Sunday hardly a soul came to morning tea after the 10:15am Mass which was very disappointing.** Please be part of these opportunities for strengthening our Eucharistic community. *Fr Colin*

## TODAY'S CELEBRATION - – THE SOLEMNITY OF THE TRINITY FATHER, SON, HOLY SPIRIT

Trinity Sunday comes immediately on the heels of the Easter Season and brings us to face the mystery of the God in which we believe: one God, a Trinity of Persons.

Today's celebration follows the season of Easter because *it's in the Easter mystery* of the life and death and resurrection of Jesus that we encounter the mystery of God's inner being;

the *Father* who reaches out in love to the world,  
the *Son* who shows us the face of the Father,  
the *Spirit* who fills us with the life of God in Jesus.

The Trinity is not a geometrical puzzle: it is about the living God, whose inner life opens to enfold and involve us:

The **Father**, who reaches out in love: calls us to lives that open in selflessness to others;

the **Son**, who reflects the face of the Father: calls us to reflect that Face  
in who we are and what we do;

the **Spirit**, who sanctifies the world:  
calls us to move outwards to that world & to bring to it  
the touch of God  
(something we can do only if we're in touch with that Spirit).

The Trinity then isn't to be a 'fact' about God, outside of ourselves,  
and divorced from life.

It's a mystery to be lived.

It's about a personal God who invites us in,  
and who calls us to live the mystery of the Trinity in our own lives,  
through our lives to bring that mystery of communion and loving outreach to others.

As such today is not a 'feast', here today and gone tomorrow.

*It confronts us with the heart of our faith.*

*It asks us to reflect on that faith.*

*It asks us to renew that faith.*

It sends us out to allow that faith (and that God) to touch the world. *Fr Colin*

### CATECHIST CORNER – WANT TO HELP BUT DON'T FEEL ABLE TO TEACH? BIBLE DONATIONS

If you would like to donate a Bible to our children, please go to  
<http://www.trybooking.com/RTCU>

We will place a sticker in each Bible stating who donated it to the family with a blessing and prayer.

### THE HONOUR OF BEING A CATECHIST

Have you been called? Answer 'yes' today!!!!

- Tues Yr 2 Beaumont Rd ~ 12~12.30pm

- Wed Yr 7/8 Killara High School 8:50-10am or 10:05-11:15am

- Thurs Yr 2/3 Killara ~ 9.20-10am

*Sue-Anne Sherwood*

*Sue-anne@lindfieldkillara.org.au*

**GAUDETE ET EXULTATE  
'REJOICE AND BE GLAD'**

*Continuing the extracts from Pope Francis' new letter, Gaudete et Exultate. To read the full letter yourself go to our parish website and you'll find the link in the hotlink box on the homepage.*

The Pope then moves on to another barrier to true holiness: the ancient error of pelagianism – believing that we have to merit or earn God's grace:

The Catechism of the Catholic Church also reminds us that the gift of grace “surpasses the power of human intellect and will” and that “with regard to God, there is no strict right to any merit on the part of man. Between God and us there is an immeasurable inequality”. God's friendship infinitely transcends us; we cannot buy it with our works, it can only be a gift born of his loving initiative. This invites us to live in joyful gratitude for this completely unmerited gift, since “after one has grace, the grace already possessed cannot come under merit”. The saints avoided putting trust in their own works: “In the evening of this life, I shall appear before you empty-handed, for I do not ask you, Lord, to count my works. All our justices have stains in your sight”. *n. 54*

This is one of the great convictions that the Church has come firmly to hold. It is so clearly expressed in the word of God that there can be no question of it. Like the supreme commandment of love, this truth should affect the way we live, for it flows from the heart of the Gospel and demands that we not only accept it intellectually but also make it a source of contagious joy. Yet we cannot celebrate this free gift of the Lord's friendship unless we realize that our earthly life and our natural abilities are his gift. We need “to acknowledge jubilantly that our life is essentially a gift, and recognise that our freedom is a grace. This is not easy today, in a world that thinks it can keep something for itself, the fruits of its own creativity or freedom”. *n.55*

Only on the basis of God's gift, freely accepted and humbly received, can we cooperate by our own efforts in our progressive transformation. We must first belong to God, offering ourselves to him who was there first, and entrusting to him our abilities, our efforts, our struggle against evil and our creativity, so that his free gift may grow and develop within us: “I appeal to you, therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God” (Rom 12:1). For that matter, the Church has always taught that charity alone makes growth in the life of grace possible, for “if I do not have love, I am nothing” (1 Cor 13:2). *n. 56*

Not infrequently, contrary to the promptings of the Spirit, the life of the Church can become a museum piece or the possession of a select few. This can occur when some groups of Christians give excessive importance to certain rules, customs or ways of acting. The Gospel then tends to be reduced and constricted, deprived of its simplicity, allure and savour. This may well be a subtle form of pelagianism, for it appears to subject the life of grace to certain human structures. It can affect groups, movements and communities, and it explains why so often they begin with an intense life in the Spirit, only to end up fossilised... or corrupt. *n.58*

Once we believe that everything depends on human effort as channelled by ecclesial rules and structures, we unconsciously complicate the Gospel and become enslaved to a blueprint that leaves few openings for the working of grace. Saint Thomas Aquinas reminded us that the precepts added to the Gospel by the Church should be imposed with moderation “lest the conduct of the faithful become burdensome”, for then our religion would become a form of servitude. *n.59*



## Last week's visit by the Ubuntu choir

### A Message from the Parish Social Justice Committee:

Thank you to everyone who helped make the visit of the Ubuntu choir to our Parish a great success. The choir spent the week with host families from our parish and were treated to some fabulous activities such as paddle boarding and sightseeing trips to Sydney Harbour and beyond! They also worked hard, with a number of workshops at Holy Family School, St Pius, North Sydney Demonstration School and our BLAST & Fusions youth groups. They also lead a team building workshop for CHU Insurance.



This all culminated in two sensational concerts for the Lindfield Killara Parish last Saturday.

The choir attracted a fair amount of press coverage, being interviewed by the ABC and Sydney Morning Herald during the week.

Some of the choir members shared their personal stories with their audience. Behind those beautiful smiles, warm hugs and enthusiasm lies a childhood of poverty and heartbreak. The African Children's Choir provides disadvantaged young people with

the opportunity to change their lives and the lives of their community.

More than \$14,500 was raised for the choir to support their efforts in continuing their education when they return home. We also had 15 families/individuals come forward to become a sponsor for a child's education.

It was a fabulous experience, with thanks to Fr Colin for welcoming the idea and to the many, many people who helped make the week a success.

**And a postscript from Fr Colin:** A huge thank you to Fran Grant, ably assisted by Jean Shatek, without whom this wonderful visit would never have happened. Their dedication and hard work in the lead up to and during this wonderful visit was phenomenal. *Fr Colin*




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**NOTICEBOARD ?** A reminder that our parish notice board is a 'virtual' one – notices of activities provided to us by groups outside the parish can be found on our website under 'News and Events' → 'Virtual Parish Noticeboard'.

## THE PRAYERS AND RESPONSES OF MASS

### GLORIA:

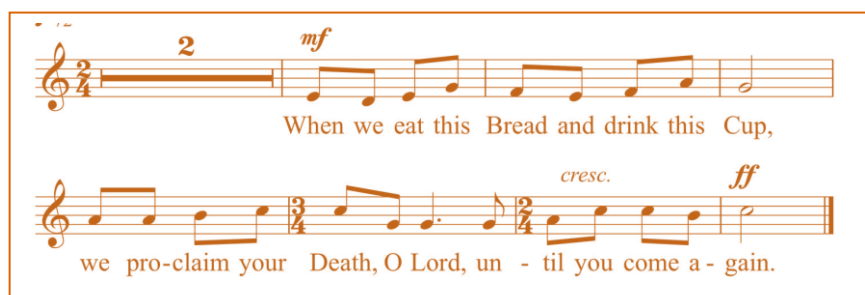
Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.

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:



When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,  
we pro-claim your Death, O Lord, un - til you come a - gain.

### THE PSALM Ps 32:4-6. 9. 18-20. 22

The word of the Lord is faithful  
and all God's works to be trusted.  
The Lord loves justice and right  
and fills the earth with his love.

With the Lord's word the heavens were made,  
by the breath of God's mouth all the stars.  
God spoke; and they came to be.  
God commanded; they sprang into being.

The Lord looks on those who revere him,  
on those who hope in God's love,  
to rescue their souls from death,  
to keep them alive in famine.

Our soul is waiting for the Lord.  
The Lord is our help and our shield.  
May your love be upon us, O Lord,  
as we place all our hope in you.

*At Masses at which the Psalm is sung  
the response is: Happy the people the  
Lord has chosen to be his own.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**  
Alleluia, alleluia! Glory to the Father,  
the Son, and the Holy Spirit:  
to God who is, who was, and who is to  
come. Alleluia!

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

**Monday:** The Lord will remember his covenant for ever.

**Tuesday:** The Lord has made known his salvation.

**Wednesday:** Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

**Thursday:** Among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

**Friday:** The Lord comes to judge the earth.

**Saturday:** My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God

### THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ,  
his only Son, our Lord,  
*(all bow at the following words in bold):*  
**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,**  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the  
dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand  
of God the Father almighty;  
from there he will come  
to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Holy Catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting. Amen

### CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

*Next Sunday is the Solemnity of Corpus Christi (The Body and Blood of Christ) – we celebrate that it is in the Eucharistic mystery that we **experience** the Easter life we have just celebrated for 50 days, being drawn into the life and love of Father, Son and Holy Spirit, which we celebrate today.*



### A LETTER TO US ALL FROM BISHOP PETER

Bishop

Peter has written a  
spiritual letter

focusing on the current Year of Youth (Called by Pope Francis) and looking ahead to the Plenary Council of the entire Australian Catholic Church in 2020.

The link to the letter can be found via one of the three hotlink boxes on the homepage of our parish website. Please take the time to read it.

### THIS WEEK'S FINANCIAL UPDATE

As we approach the end of this Financial Year a further update on our progress:

- our **Second Collection** income (which provides all the operating funds for the parish) is now **\$10,780 behind** compared to the same point last year.

**Please continue to help us to catch up on our shortfall over the next five weeks.**

**If you would like to make a one-off additional donation before the end of the Financial Year our account details are:**

For donations to the First Collection:

BSB 062 784  
Acct 1116 8002

For donations to the Second Collection

BSB 062 784  
Acct 1116 8001

Please include your surname as the reference.

*The Parish Finance Committee*



## PLENARY COUNCIL 2020



**Plenary Council 2020**  
Listen to what the Spirit is saying...

Pope Francis has approved the Australian Bishops' decision to hold a Plenary Council in Australia in 2020 and 2021. All people are invited to reflect on the question: "What do you think God is asking of us Australia?"

The Plenary Council, an assembly representing the entire Catholic Church in Australia, through its preparatory listening and dialogue sessions, will give all people the opportunity to share what is on their mind and in their

heart toward the future of the Church in Australia. It is an opportunity to speak boldly but also listen with an open and humble heart. The official launch of the Plenary Council process was at Pentecost this year.

Learn more about the process by visiting the national Plenary Council website [www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au](http://www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au) and look out for the announcement of local listening sessions here in our own parish and school community.

<p><b>RENOVATIONS &amp; BUILDING MAINTENANCE</b></p> <p><b>CHRIS IACONO</b> <i>Parishioner</i></p> <p>All work large and small <i>Lic 89879c Fully Insured</i> 50 years' experience</p> <p>Mobile : 0412 256 616 Phone : 9416 36 98 <a href="mailto:chris.iacono@bigpond.com">chris.iacono@bigpond.com</a></p>	 <p><b>Comfort Inn North Shore</b></p> <p>Family owned and professionally operated motel with on-site restaurant</p> <p>Address: 1 Gatacre Avenue, Lane Cove Phone: 02 9427 0266 Email: <a href="mailto:res@cins.com.au">res@cins.com.au</a> Website: <a href="http://www.cins.com.au">www.cins.com.au</a></p>	 <p><b>Henry &amp; Gloria Cheung Parishioners</b></p> <p>Serving the Australian Construction Industry for 32 years <b>UNIVERSAL INSTRUMENTS</b> 326 Pacific Hwy, Lindfield NSW 2070 Tel no. 94165335 Fax no. 94161538 E:</p>
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### CHARITABLE WORKS FUND APPEAL



Our quota for the whole financial year:	\$ 45,683
Total collected:	\$ 49,666

**Final result: a surplus of \$ 3983.**

Thank you for your tremendous and generous support of this important appeal which funds many good works of our Church.

### DISCUSSING DEMENTIA: EDUCATION SESSION

with Rev. Frank Van Der Korput.

Uniting Aged Care Chaplain at Northaven and Kari Court **Saturday 2 June 2018**

**9.30am - 12 noon**

Roseville Uniting Church, 7a Lord St Roseville

For more details see our Virtual Parish Noticeboard under 'News and Events' at [www.lindfieldkillara.org.au](http://www.lindfieldkillara.org.au)



## PARISH DIARY MAY – JUNE

**Sat. 2<sup>nd</sup> June:** Celebrations of Confirmation (both churches) 10am & noon (no 9:15am Mass that day).

**Sat. 2<sup>nd</sup> June – Sat. 16<sup>th</sup> June:** Year of Youth Cross visits our parish.

**Sun. 3<sup>rd</sup> June:** Monthly Children's Mass, 9:15am at Killara, followed by morning tea.

Also: morning tea after 10:15am Mass, Lindfield.

**Fri. 8<sup>th</sup> June:** Monthly Healing Mass at Killara (10am) followed by morning tea in the hall.

**Sun. 10<sup>th</sup> June:** Our new monthly combined Children's and Youth Mass at 5:30pm followed by parish meal.

**Blast Youth Group** meets prior to Mass and **Fusion** meets after Mass.

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June:** morning tea after 9:15am and 10:15am Masses.

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June:** Forum on the Abuse Crisis (see article on the right).

## A FORUM ON THE ABUSE CRISIS ~ TO BE HELD HERE IN OUR PARISH ~

Our Parish Pastoral Council has been working to arrange a forum on this important topic so that we can hear how our Church, and in particular our own diocese, responds to child protection these days, how instances of abuse are now dealt with, and to provide a forum for questions.

This has now been arranged for  
**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 7:00-9:00pm**  
in St Brigid's Hall.

The panel participating in the forum will include Very Rev. David Ranson, our diocesan Vicar-General; Ms Jodie Crisafulli, our Diocesan Child Protection Officer; Aaron Tang, a member of our own parish and a lawyer who worked with the Royal Commission; and Stephen Crittenden, the former ABC religious journalist who was the principal policy officer and lead writer of the Royal Commission's final volume on religious institutions.

We are also working on securing an independent chair for the forum.

Julie Blyth will be available as a counsellor on the night should that need arise for anyone. Julie was a Royal Commission counsellor and has been working in the field of child sexual abuse (including within churches) for around 28 years.

We hope that this evening will be of help to all who are distressed by these crimes both within the Church and within wider society.

## CARING FOR EACH OTHER DURING THESE WINTER MONTHS

As we all know we're now heading into peak cold and flu season. Could we ask two things to help reduce the risk of spreading infection:

\* if you have a cold or the flu, or feel that it might be coming on, please refrain from receiving from the chalice;

\* likewise, if it is your custom to receive Communion on the tongue and you have a cold or the flu, or feel that it might be coming on, please consider receiving Communion on the hand during that time as germs can be passed to the Communion Minister's fingers and thence on to the next person receiving Communion.

## PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES FOR YEAR 2018~2019

New sets of planned giving envelopes are now available in both churches.

## CHINESE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

## 天主聖三節 ( 節日 )

27/5/2018

讀經一 ( 天上地下，只有上主是天主，再沒有別的神。 )

恭讀申命紀 4:32-34,39-40

那時候，梅瑟對人民說：「你且考察，在你以前及過去的世代，從天主在地上造了人以來，由天這邊，到天那邊，是否有過像這樣的大事？又是否聽過像這樣的事？是否有一民族，如同你一樣，聽到了天主由火中說話的聲音，還仍然活著？或者，是否有過一個神，以災難、神蹟、奇事、戰爭、強力的手、伸展的臂，和可怕的威能，企圖將某一民族，由另一民族中，領出來，如同上主你們的天主，在埃及，在你們眼前，對你們所做的一樣？

「所以，今日你該知道，且要牢記在心：天上地下，只有上主是天主，再沒有別的神。你應遵守他的法令和誡命，就是我今日所訓示給你的，好使你到你的後代子孫，得享幸福，在上主你的天主，永遠賜給你的土地上，長久安居。」——上主的話。

( 默想片刻 )

答唱詠 詠 33:4-5, 6,9, 18-19, 20,22

【答】：上主選為自己產業的百姓，真是有福！( 詠 33:12 )

領：上主的言語是正直的；他的一切作為都是信實的。他愛護正義和公理；他的慈愛瀰漫大地。

【答】

領：因天主的一句話，諸天造成；因上主的一口氣，萬象生成。因為他一發言，萬有造成；他一出命，各物生成。【答】

領：請看，上主的眼睛，常關注敬畏他的人；他的雙目，常眷顧靠他仁慈的人，為使他們的性命，脫免死亡，使他們在飢饉時，生活如常。【答】

領：我們的靈魂，請仰望上主；他是我們的保障和扶助。上主，求你向我們廣施慈愛，有如我們對你的期待。【答】

讀經二 ( 你們所領受的聖神，使你們作義子。因此，我們呼號：「阿爸，父呀！」 )

恭讀聖保祿宗徒致羅馬人書 8:14-17

弟兄姊妹們：

凡受天主聖神引導的，都是天主的子女。其實你們所領受的聖神，並非使你們作奴隸，以致仍舊恐懼；而是使你們作義子。因此，我們呼號：「阿爸，父呀！」聖神親自和我們的心神，一同作證：我們是天主的子女。我們既是子女，便是承繼者，是天主的承繼者，是基督的同承繼者；只要我們與基督一同受苦，也必與他一同受光榮。——上主的話。( 默想片刻 )

福音前歡呼

領：亞肋路亞。

眾：亞肋路亞。

領：光榮歸於父、及子、及聖神；就是歸於那今在、昔在，及將來永在的全能者、上主天主。

( 參閱默 1:8 )

眾：亞肋路亞。

福音 ( 因父及子及聖神之名，給他們授洗。 )

恭讀聖瑪竇福音 28:16-20

那時候，十一個門徒就往加里肋亞，到耶穌給他們所指定的山上。他們一看見耶穌，就朝拜了他，雖然有人還心中疑惑。

耶穌於是上前對他們說：「天上地下的一切權柄，都交给了我，所以，你們要去使萬民成為門徒，因父及子及聖神之名，給他們授洗，教訓他們遵守我所吩咐你們的一切。

「看！我同你們天天在一起，直到今世的終結。」——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. 餐費成人\$6  
小童\$4

牧職修女 司徒金美修女  
聯絡 ☎ 0419- 426899  
中心聯絡 Gloria Cheung  
聯絡 ☎ 0416-118089

Sunday School 主日學 12noon  
Parish Meeting Room

5 月 聖母月, 27/5 彌撒前上午  
11 : 50 頌唸玫瑰經,

27/5 彌撒後午餐聚會舉行 5 月  
及 6 月生日會及結婚記念慶祝會  
, 請各教友參加,

6 月 3 日聖體聖血節雪梨總主教  
區舉行聖體出遊,  
集合點: 2:15pm ANZ corner of  
Pitt St. & Martin place, CCC 旗  
幟。

由 Martin place, Pitt St.出發, 到  
達聖瑪利主教座堂後隨即舉行明  
供聖體及聖體降福

下期 CCC 期刊主題青年年之神  
恩浩蕩 3/6 截稿

*(continued from p.12...)* grandmother massaged her skin, over and over again, and the rash that seemingly couldn't be eradicated disappeared. Skin needs to be touched. This is what happens in the Eucharist and that is why the Eucharist, and every other Christian sacrament, always has some very tangible physical element to it—a laying on of hands, a consuming of bread and wine, an immersion into water, an anointing with oil. An embrace needs to be physical, not only something imagined.

G.K. Chesterton once wrote: “There comes a time, usually late in the afternoon, when the little child tires of playing policeman and robbers. It's then that he begins to torment the cat!” Mothers, with young children, are only too familiar with this late afternoon hour and its particular dynamic. There comes an hour, usually just before supper, when a child's energy is low, when it is tired and whining, and when the mother has exhausted both her patience and her repertoire of warnings: “Leave that alone! Don't do that!” The child, tense and miserable, is clinging to her leg. At that point, she knows what to do. She picks up the child. Touch, not word, is what's needed. In her arms, the child grows calm and tension leaves its body.

That's an image for the Eucharist. We are that tense, over-wrought child, perennially tormenting the cat. There comes a point, even with God, when words aren't enough. God has to pick us up, like a mother her child. Physical embrace is what's needed. Skin needs to be touched. God knows that. It's why Jesus gave us the Eucharist.

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

**NO 9:15AM MASS NEXT SATURDAY 2ND** Please note that there will be no 9:15am Mass next Saturday as Fr Colin and Fr Thomas will be involved with the celebrations of Confirmation in both our churches with Bishop Peter.

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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.

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

**Recently deceased:** Sr Veronica McCarthy (aunt of Anthony Cassidy), Anthony Pittorino.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK :** Joe Agius, Eleanor Villena Quema, 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 ....

*You received a Spirit of adoption,  
through whom we cry, "Abba, Father!"*

### EUCCHARIST AS GOD'S PHYSICAL EMBRACE

There's a story told of a young Jewish boy named Mortakai who refused to go to school. When he was six years old, his mother took him to school, but he cried and protested all the way and, immediately after she left, ran back home. She brought him back to school and this scenario played itself out for several days. He refused to stay in school. His parents tried to reason with him, arguing that he, like all children, must now go to school. To no avail. His parents then tried the age-old trick of applying an appropriate combination of bribes and threats. This too had no effect.

Finally, in desperation they went to their Rabbi and explained the situation to him. For his part, the Rabbi simply said: "If the boy won't listen to words, bring him to me." They brought him into the Rabbi's study. The Rabbi said not a word. He simply picked up the boy and held him to his heart for a long time. Then, still without a word, he set him down. What words couldn't accomplish, a silent embrace did. Mortakai not only began willingly to go to school, he went on to become a great scholar and a Rabbi.

What that parable wonderfully expresses is how the Eucharist works. In it, God physically embraces us. Indeed that is what all sacraments are, God's physical embrace. Words, as we know, have a relative power. In critical situations they often fail us. When this happens, we have still another language, the language of ritual. The most ancient and primal ritual of all is the ritual of physical embrace. It can say and do what words cannot.

Jesus acted on this. For most of his ministry, he used words. Through words, he tried to bring us God's consolation, challenge, and strength. His words, like all words, had a certain power. Indeed, his words stirred hearts, healed people, and affected conversions. But at a time, powerful though they were, they too became inadequate. Something more was needed. So on the night before he death, having exhausted what he could do with words, Jesus went beyond them. He gave us the Eucharist, his physical embrace, his kiss, a ritual within which he holds us to his heart.

To my mind, that is the best understanding there is of Eucharist. Within both my undergraduate and graduate theological training, I took long courses on the Eucharist. In the end, these didn't explain the Eucharist to me, not because they weren't good, but because the Eucharist, like a kiss, needs no explanation and has no explanation. If anyone were to write a four hundred page book entitled, *The Metaphysics of a Kiss*, it would be not deserve a readership. Kisses just work, their inner dynamics need no metaphysical elaboration.

The Eucharist is God's kiss. Andre Dubos, the Cajun novelist, used to say: "Without the Eucharist, God becomes a monologue." He's right. A couple of years ago, Brenda Peterson, in a remarkable little essay entitled, *In Praise of Skin*, describes how she once was inflicted by a skin-rash that no medicine could effectively soothe. She tried every kind of doctor and medicine. To no avail. Finally she turned to her grandmother, remembering how, as a little girl, her grandmother used to massage her skin whenever she had rashes, bruises, or was otherwise ill. The ancient remedy worked again. Her

*(continued on p.11...)*