

Catholic Parish of Lindfield-Killara Diocese of Broken Bay

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

MASS TIMES:	LINDFIELD:	KILLARA:
	Saturday 6:00pm	Saturday Vigil: 5:30pm
	Sunday: 8:15am	Sunday: 9:15am
	10:15am	
	12:00 (Chinese Community Mass)	
	6:00pm (for both our communities) (5:30pm on 2 nd Sun. of month)	

Weekdays:

Monday	9:15am	7:30am	} see p.4
Tuesday	7:00pm	7:30am	
Wednesday	9:15am	~	
Thursday	9:15am (All Saints' Day)	7:00pm (All Souls' Vigil)	
Friday	9:15am (All Souls)	~	
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

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 28 – 10 – 18

This week: Jer 31:7-9; Heb 5:1-6; Mk 10:46-52

Next week: 1 Kg 17:10-16; Heb 9:24-28; Mk 12:38-44

The first reading today from Jeremiah has the image of a very mixed group of people being called by, and following, the Lord:

“the blind and the lame, women with child, women in labour.”

Basically it's a group of people who would find making a journey difficult.

And that's the point: other people would have probably told them not to try, to stay at home.

But God invites even those for whom the journey is difficult.

And that's a comforting message – because at many times we ourselves will be numbered among those for whom the journey of being a disciple is a difficult one – and it's good to know that God's invitation isn't withdrawn when that's the case.

Fr Colin

YOUTH@LINDFIELD KILLARA PARISH

Coming up in November and December

SUNDAY 11 NOVEMBER

4.00-5.30PM Blast youth group
Shirley Wallace Centre



5.30PM Youth & Family Mass
BBQ supper for all after Mass

7:30 - 9.00PM Fusion youth meeting (yrs 7-12)
Parish Meeting Room (under the church)



FRIDAY 16 NOVEMBER

5.30 - 7.30 PM Fusion youth meeting (years 7-9)-SW Centre

7.00 - 9.00 PM Fusion youth meeting (years 10-12)- SW Centre

SUNDAY 2 DECEMBER

Parish Youth CHRISTMAS PARTY - More info to come!

FRIDAY 7 DECEMBER

Parish Carols Event - Youth Cake Stall

SUNDAY 9 DECEMBER

Youth and Family Mass - Last of the Year!



Fusion Youth at Lindfield Killara



youth.fusion



youth@lindfieldkillara.org.au

Community Swap Library for Lindfield Killara Parish - Books Needed!

Hi! My name is Penelope Knox, a parishioner and member of Fusion Youth group. For my school service project at Monte Sant'Angelo Mercy College, I am establishing a "community swap" library for youth and young adults located at Holy Family church.

Here's the way it works: we begin with a small library of donated books. Anyone from the Parish is allowed to take one of the books to read, but when you take a book you have to put another in its place. We hope the library will encourage our youth community to take a much-needed break from technology, become more "mindful" and read a book!

We are seeking book donations now, for primary school-aged to university students, to be a part of the initial "library". We're asking for the books to be in good condition and appropriate for a youthful audience. There will be a collection box in the foyer of both churches until November 11th.

Many thanks for your help! *Penelope Knox, year 11*

THE PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT for the 2018-19 Financial Year along with explanatory notes appeared in last Sunday's bulletin. It remains available on the parish website under 'Our Parish' → 'Parish Finances', where you will also find previous years' reports.

PARISH DIARY : OCT -NOV

Friday 2nd November: All Souls' Day (p. 4).

Saturday 3rd November: Memorial Wall Mass (Lindfield) 9:15am (see page 4)

Sunday 4th November.: Morning tea after 9:15am and 10:15am Mass

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

Sunday 11th November: Monthly Youth and Children's Mass at 5:30pm followed by parish potluck dinner.

Tuesday 13th November: Annual Thank You Evening for all volunteers (see below)

Friday 16th November: Memorial Wall Mass (Killara) 7:30am (see page 4)

Sunday 18th November: 10:15am Mass: Parish welcome to 2019 Kindergarten families at Holy Family School followed by morning tea.

Friday 23rd November: Monthly gathering of the new Dads' Club.

Tuesday 27th Nov. 7:45pm Our local Heralding Advent Ecumenical Service – at Roseville Uniting Church.

OUR ANNUAL PARISH THANK YOU EVENING FOR VOLUNTEERS ~ TUESDAY 13TH NOVEMBER (7:30PM):



we invite all those involved voluntarily in any ministry, group or activity in the parish to gather for this evening which both enables us to say thank you and also provides an opportunity for the building of the community of the parish. The evening begins with Mass at 7:30pm in Holy Family church, followed by a social evening with food and drink in St Brigid's Hall in the Shirley Wallace Parish Centre.

2019 ENROLMENTS FOR OUR PARISH SCHOOL



Enrolments are open for Kindergarten 2019 at Holy Family School.

To find out more please contact our Parish School:

P. 9416 7200

E. info@holyfamily.nsw.edu.au

W. www.hflddb.catholic.edu.au

PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE meets *this* Tuesday 30th Oct. at 7:30pm in the Shirley Wallace Parish Centre.

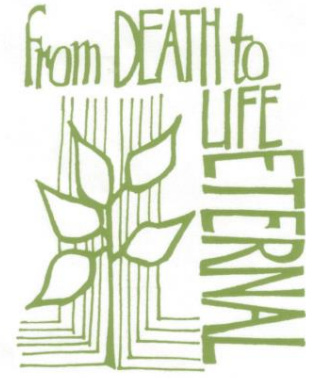
 <p>Comfort Inn North Shore</p> <p>Family owned and professionally operated motel with on-site restaurant</p> <p>Address: 1 Gatacre Avenue, Lane Cove Phone: 02 9427 0266 Email: res@cins.com.au Website: www.cins.com.au</p>	<p>RENOVATIONS & BUILDING MAINTENANCE</p> <p>CHRIS IACONO <i>Parishioner</i></p> <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 chris.iacono@bigpond.com</p>	<p>Henry & Gloria Cheung Parishioners</p>  <p>Serving the Australian Construction Industry for 32 years</p> <p>UNIVERSAL INSTRUMENTS 326 Pacific Hway, Lindfield NSW 2070</p> <p>Tel no. 94165335 Fax no. 94161538 E: sales@universalinstruments.com.au</p>
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BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

The Book of Remembrance in each of our two churches in the parish will be put in its place of honour on All Souls Day and will remain in each church throughout November.

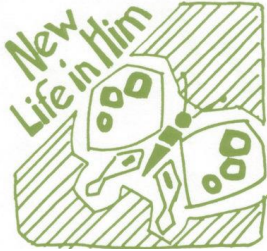
Please write in the names of relatives and friends who have died in the last year:

- at Killara the Book of Remembrance is on a stand in the middle of the church during this month of October
- at Lindfield the Book of Remembrance is on the cupboards in the main foyer of the church.



ANNUAL MASSES FOR THOSE WHOSE NAMES APPEAR ON OUR MEMORIAL WALLS:

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



ALL SOULS DAY Friday 2nd November is All Souls Day.

During Mass the Book of Remembrance, containing the names of those who for whom we pray in November, will be put in its place of honour in each of our churches.

At each Mass we will also be inviting everyone to come forward after the Gospel to place a lighted candle on the altar (candles will be provided – please do not bring your own) which will burn during the Eucharistic Prayer. The candles will be the sign of all our prayers for those who have died, their light a sign of our hope in the resurrection.

Mass times are:

Killara church:
7:30pm Vigil Mass Thursday 1st Nov.

Lindfield church:
9:15am Friday 2nd November



NEWS FROM OUR PARISH BELLRINGERS

Last Sunday we had the inaugural annual meeting of the bellringers of our parish.

There are in fact eight more ringers in addition to those pictured here. If you'd like to learn please contact Fr Colin. We have ringers aged from 9 through to grandparents.



You've no doubt heard that the Catholic Church in Australia is holding a Plenary Council in 2020.

Why is this important?

Well, for two reasons really:

- ❖ firstly, because a Plenary Council is an incredibly powerful body – it is the *only* body that can enact **legislation which binds all the bishops and dioceses nationally**. And the last time a Plenary Council was assembled was in the 1930s!
- ❖ secondly because we stand at such a decisive time in the life of our Church – confronting the abuse crisis, finding our place in a pluralistic and secular society, engaging with increasingly disconnected young people, and so much more.

We are blessed that our bishops actually want to hear our voice to ensure that the Council responds to the needs and insights of the people of the Church.

We can't ignore this opportunity for consultation.

Please put your name down to attend one of consultation sessions we have so far organised in our parish. I'd really encourage you to see this as a *responsibility* which we all have as disciples of the Gospel. *Fr Colin*

The options are:

Sat. 3rd Nov. in Killara Hall
 Sat. 10th Nov. in Shirley Wallace Parish Centre
 Each session runs from 4:00-5:30pm



To register for a session please put your name on the sheets near the church doors or contact the Parish Office.

Please be part of this opportunity to help shape the future of our Church.

OUR PARISH MISSION STATEMENT – ANNOUNCING A DESIGN COMPETITION !



As you know, in the first half of this year the Parish Pastoral Council began a consultation process in the parish geared towards developing a *Mission Statement* which arose from the community as a whole and which would add focus to our endeavours as we move forward.

A number of groups/ individuals were asked to take the issues put forward and to draft a possible Mission Statement from them. These various drafts were then considered by the PPC and one was chosen as best expressing the strongest themes emerging from the parish consultation.

Before we formally launch that statement we would like to have a 'logo' which will accompany the statement and be part of the copies that we hope everyone will have in their home. The PPC felt that as a further consultation with our community the design of this logo could be put to our community as a *'design competition'*.

As of today you will find sheets available in the foyers of both our churches. The sheet has the Mission Statement on it and can be used to include the proposed logo.

We will have a small prize for the winning entry and we hope you will get involved. Entries should reach the Parish Office by **Monday 19th November**. *Fr Colin*

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:

Save us, Sav-iour of the world, for by your
Cross and Res-ur-rec-tion you have set us free.

At Masses at which the Psalm is sung the response is: The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death, and brought us life through his gospel. Alleluia!

THE PSALM Ps 125. R. v.3

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
It seemed like a dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs.

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels
the Lord worked for them!'
What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad.

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.
Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap.

They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves.

RESPONSES TO THE PSALM FOR WEEKDAY MASS THIS WEEK:

Monday: Behave like God as his very dear children.

Tues: Happy are those who fear the Lord.

Wed: The Lord is faithful in all his words.

Thursday: Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

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

Saturday: My soul is thirsting for the living 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

PARISH WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN FAMILIES FOR 2019 AT HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL

On **Sunday 18th November** at the
10:15am Mass at Lindfield we will
have our **parish welcome for our
Kindergarten families** for 2019 at
Holy Family School. This will be
followed by morning tea for everyone.

CONGRATULATIONS to **Jacqueline Wu
and James Li** who will celebrate their
marriage in Holy Family Church at Lindfield
next Saturday 3rd November at **1:30pm**.
Jacqueline is the accompanist on the roster
for our 8:15am Masses and James and
Jacqueline will be remaining as
parishioners here after their wedding.

THE PRIME MINISTER'S APOLOGY TO VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ABUSE

The Australian Catholic Bishops'
Conference and Catholic Religious Australia
have issued their joint response to the PM's
apology, as has our own Diocese of Broken
Bay, each adding its own apology. Both can
be found via the hotlink box on the
homepage of our parish website.

PLAYGROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY

Save the date! Christmas Party with
jumping castle and a Father Christmas visit.
Please come join us Wednesday 5th
December. Contact Sue-Anne: sue-
anne@lindfieldkillara.org.au

APOLOGIES – PARISH PHONES OFFLINE

Our apologies if you have been trying to
contact the Parish Office over the last week
and a half. Our (Telstra) phone lines have
been down and at the time of printing this
had still not been fully resolved.

CLASSROOM MASS Year 3 will celebrate their classroom Mass **this Wednesday 31st
Oct** at 11am. All class families welcome.

CHARITABLE WORKS FUND APPEAL

The second Charitable Works Fund Appeal for this Financial Year takes place **next weekend 3/4 November and the following weekend 10/11 November.**

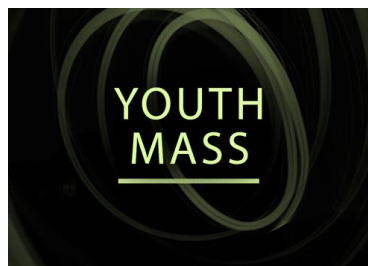


The Charitable Works Fund is 100% tax deductible and 98.25cents of every dollar goes to the following five beneficiaries:

- **CatholicCare Hospital Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care Programme** – where five Pastoral Care ministers reach over 3,000 patients, 700 families and over 180 hospital staff each year across seven hospitals in our Diocese.
- **Confraternity of Christian Doctrine** – creating and updating the curriculum and training catechists who minister to Sate School students across the Diocese.
- **St Lucy's School** – for primary school students with disabilities.
- **St Edmund's School** – for secondary school students with disabilities.
- **Ephpheta Centre** – serving the Catholic deaf community.

We are obliged to meet the quota set for us and so if we don't achieve that quota we have to make up the shortfall from our own parish funds – which of course doesn't help us to achieve our own financial goals.

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



OUR NEXT COMBINED CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH MASS

will be celebrated again on the second Sunday of the month, **NEXT Sunday 11th November, at 5:30pm (not 6pm)** in Holy Family church and will be followed by a 'pot luck dinner' for **everyone** – young and old ~ in St Brigid's Hall above the church.



OUR NEXT CHILDREN'S MASS AT KILLARA will be celebrated as usual on the first Sunday of the month, **next Sunday 4th November** at the **9:15am Mass** and will be followed by morning tea.

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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 9416 7195
Assistant Priest: Fr Thomas Alackakunnel VC thomas@lindfieldkillara.org.au 0421 406162

PARISH OFFICE:

Parish Secretary: Philita Marundan (Tues-Fri): philita@lindfieldkillara.org.au

Parish Office Coordinator and Child Protection Coordinator:

Alison Williams (Mon, Wed, Thur): 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

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
 0416 141 508

Sacramental Programme Coordinator:

Sue-Anne Sherwood sue-anne@lindfieldkillara.org.au
 0416 141 508

Assistant Sacramental Programme Coordinator:

Maia Schulze Tsang maia@lindfieldkillara.org.au

Parish Priest's Secretary: 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 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

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

Parish Website:	www.lindfieldkillara.org.au
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Saturday		27 Oct	3 Nov
Lindfield	6:00pm	Fr Colin Blayney	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel
Killara	5:30pm	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel	Fr Colin Blayney
Sunday		28 Oct	4 Nov
Lindfield	8:15am	Fr Colin Blayney	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel
Killara	9:15am	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel	Fr Colin Blayney
Lindfield	10:15am	Fr Colin Blayney	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel
Lindfield	12:00noon	Fr Gerard Kelly	Fr Lucas Leung ofm
Lindfield	6:00pm	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel

CHINESE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

常年期第三十主日

28-10-2018

讀經一（我撫慰及引導瞎子和跛子歸來。）

恭讀耶肋米亞先知書 31:7-9

上主這樣說：你們應為雅各伯歡呼，向為首的民族喝采，宣揚及讚頌說：上主救了自己的百姓、以色列的遺民。

看，我由北方引他們歸來；從大地的盡頭，召集他們，其中有瞎子，有跛子，有懷孕的，和正在生產的，形成一大隊，回到這裡來。

他們含淚前行，我卻撫慰引導，領他們踏上不會跌倒的坦途，來到溪水旁，因為我是以色列的慈父，厄弗辣因是我的長子。——上主的話。（默想片刻）

答唱詠 詠 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6

【答】：上主向我們行了偉大的奇蹟，我們的確滿心歡喜。（詠 126:3）

領：上主帶領俘虜回到熙雍，我們覺得彷彿是在夢中；那時，我們笑口盈盈，引吭高歌。

【答】

領：那時，外邦異民都讚歎不已：上主向他們行了何等奇事！上主向我們行了偉大的奇蹟，我們的確滿心歡喜。**【答】**

領：上主，求你轉變我們的命運！就像乃革布有流水的灌溉。那含淚播種的人，必含笑獲享收成。**【答】**

領：他們邊行邊哭，出去播種耕耘；他們載欣載奔，回來背著禾捆。**【答】**

讀經二（你照默基瑟德的品位，永做司祭。）

恭讀致希伯來人書 5:1-6

福音前歡呼

領/眾：亞肋路亞。

領：我們的救主基督耶穌，毀滅了死亡，藉著福音，彰顯了不朽的生命。（參閱弟後 1:10）

眾：亞肋路亞。

福音（師父！叫我看見！）

恭讀聖馬爾谷福音 10:46-52

耶穌和他的門徒，及一大群人，從耶里哥出來的時候，有一個瞎眼的乞丐，即提買的兒子，巴爾提買，坐在路旁。他一聽說是納匝肋人耶穌，就喊叫說：「耶穌，達味之子，可憐我吧！」有許多人就斥責他，叫他不要呼叫；但他越發喊叫說：「達味之子，可憐我吧！」

耶穌就站住，說：「叫他過來！」人就叫那瞎子，對他說：「放心！起來！他叫你呢！」瞎子就扔下自己的外衣，跳起來，走到耶穌面前。耶穌對他說：「你願意我給你做什麼？」

瞎子說：「師父！叫我看見！」

耶穌對他說：「去吧！你的信德救了你。」瞎子立刻看見了，就在路上，跟隨耶穌去了。——上主的話。

（講道後默想片刻）

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Sunday School 主日學 12noon

Parish Meeting Room

10 月玫瑰月頌唸玫瑰經，上午 11：50（彌撒前舉行）請各教友參加

4/11 Sunday 主日 **Eucharist Adoration & Benediction**

明供聖體及聖體降福

St. Kevin's Catholic

Church 2:00-3:15pm

God's Word 2019 Daily Reflections \$9.00

PARISH YOUNG ADULTS GROUP ~ the next gathering takes place **today Sunday 28th October** immediately following the 6pm Mass, in the lounge in the Shirley Wallace Parish Centre on the first floor of Lindfield church – a relaxed gathering over a meal with discussion



FOR YOUR DIARIES: **Tues. 27th Nov.** 7:45pm: **Heralding Advent Ecumenical Service;** **Friday 7th December** (pm): **Festival of Christmas** with food stalls.

(continued from p.12):

• **By shifting our eyes from seeing through bitterness to seeing through eyes purified and softened by grief.**

The root of bitterness is wound and the way out of bitterness is grieving. Tears clear our eyesight because they soften a heart hardened by wound.

• **By shifting our eyes from seeing through fantasy and auto-eroticism to seeing through appreciation and prayer.**

One of the key movements within our spiritual lives is the movement from fantasy to prayer, a movement that ultimately frees us from wanting to press to ourselves all that's beautiful to appreciating beauty for its own sake. We can only really see and appreciate beauty when we stop lusting for it.

• **By shifting our eyes from seeing through relevance to seeing through contemplation.**

Our longing for relevance makes us look out at the world with restless, dissatisfied eyes. We practice mindfulness and see the richness of the present moment only when our disquiet is stilled by solitude.

• **By shifting our eyes from seeing through anger to seeing through forgiveness.**

Nothing taints our eyesight as much as anger. It's the most debilitating of all cataracts. And nothing cleanses our vision as much as forgiveness. Nobody holding a grudge sees straight.

• **By shifting our eyes from seeing through longing and hunger to seeing through gratitude.**

Longing and hunger distort our vision. Gratitude restores it. It enables insight. The most grateful person you know has the best eyesight of all the people you know.

Love is the eye! So say the medieval mystics, in wisdom that needs to be added to the medical vocabulary of contemporary optometry. Seeing straight has more dimensions than we normally imagine.

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

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Agent, Director

Parishioner

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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: Cesare Bruno, Denise McLennan, Paul Wade, Constance Clough (sister of Joyce Cummins of our parish). **Anniversary:** Peter Jong, Vincent Tesoreiro, Marjorie Simpkins, Libusa Elisova, Rosario Guevara, Emilio Guevara, Jesus Guevara.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK : Alex Noble, William Wise, Lise Therese Ferriere, Daniella Schulze, Ian Coffey.

REFLECTING ON THIS SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURES

*“Immediately he received his sight
and followed him on the way.”*

SEEING IN A DEEPER WAY

Sometimes you can see a whole lot of things just by looking. That's one of Yogi Berra's infamous aphorisms. It's a clever expression of course, but, sadly, perhaps mostly, the opposite is truer. Mostly we do a whole lot of looking without really seeing much. Seeing implies more than having good eyesight. Our eyes can be wide open and we can be seeing very little.

I've always been intrigued by how scripture describes Paul immediately after his conversion. We always assume that it tells us that Paul was struck blind by his vision, but, I think, the text implies more. It tells us that Paul got up off the ground with his eyes wide open, seeing nothing. That doesn't necessarily equate with physical blindness. He may well have been seeing physically, but he wasn't seeing the meaning of what he was getting himself into. Someone had to come and open his eyes, not just so that he could see again physically but especially that he could see more deeply into the mystery of Christ. Seeing, truly seeing, implies more than having eyes that are physically healthy and open. We all see the outer surface of things, but what's beneath isn't as automatically seen.

We see this, for instance, in what's contained inside the healing miracles of Jesus. In the Gospels, we see Jesus perform a number of healings. He heals lame people, deaf people, mute people, people with leprosy, and two women who for different reasons are unable to become pregnant. What's important to see in these various miracles is that, almost always, there's more at issue than mere physical healing. Jesus is healing people in a deeper way, that is, he is healing the lame so that they can walk in freedom and in service of God. He is healing the deaf so that they can hear the Good News. He is healing the mute so that they can open their mouths in praise. And he is healing those who are haemorrhaging interiorly so that they can bring new life to birth.

We see this most clearly at those times when Jesus heals people who are blind. He's giving them more than just physical sight; he's opening their eyes so that that can see more deeply. But that's only an image. How might it be unpackaged? How can the grace and teachings of Jesus help us to see in a deeper way? Here are some suggestions:

- **By shifting our eyes from seeing through familiarity to seeing through wonder.**
G. K. Chesterton once affirmed that familiarity is the greatest of all illusions and that the secret to life is to learn to look at things familiar until they look unfamiliar again. We open our eyes to depth when we open ourselves to wonder.
- **By shifting our eyes from seeing through paranoia and self-protection to seeing through metanoia and nurture.**

It is not incidental that the first word out of Jesus' mouth in the Synoptic Gospels is the word "metanoia", a word that opposes itself to "paranoia". We open our eyes to depth with we shift from a posture of self-protection to a posture of nurture.

- **By shifting our eyes from seeing through jealousy to seeing through admiration.**
Our perception becomes distorted whenever we move from the happy state of admiration to the unhappy state of envy. Our eyesight is clear when we delight in admiration.

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