Catholic Parish of Tindfield-Killara Diocese of Broken Bay

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

> LINDFIELD: **KILLARA:**

Saturday Vigil: 5:30pm **MASS TIMES:** Saturday 6:00pm

> 8:15am Sunday: Sunday: 9:15am

> > 10:15am

12:00 (Chinese Community Mass)

6:00pm (for both our communities) (5:30pm on 2nd Sun. of month)

Weekdays:

Monday 7:30am 9:15am Tuesday 12:15pm 7:30am 9:15am Wednesday Thursday 9:15am (School Mass) Friday 9:15am* 7:30am * 9:15am Saturday

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

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

6 - 5 - 18

'The season of glad song has come' (Song of Songs 2:12)

This week: Acts 10:25~26, 34~35, 44~48; 1 In 4:7~10; In 15:9~17 Next week: Acts 1:1~11; Eph 4:1~13 or Eph 1:17~23; Mk 16:15~20

Easter.

What does it mean?

We are an Easter people and we are living in the Easter Season. What does that mean for our lives?

The word 'Easter' comes from 'Oestre', the Anglo-Saxon goddess of fertility, of Spring. The Christians of England retained that pagan name for their greatest feast because of the appropriateness of the connotations within it: Easter celebrates a new springtime for the world through the resurrection of Jesus.

And that resurrection proclaims the Father's validation of the message of Jesus, that religion and indeed life itself is about more than slavish following of laws and regulations as espoused by the Pharisees.

Easter proclaims the new springtime of a religion and of life to be lived out of love, not out of law; to be lived from the heart, not from a rulebook.

So let's be a people of that new springtime. Let's be an Easter people.

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

PARISH OFFICE:

Parish Secretary: Philita Marundan: 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

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

Alison Williams Parish Bookkeeper: alison@lindfieldkillara.org.au **Child Protection Coord. Alison Williams** alison@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

info@holyfamily.nsw.edu.au **Email:** www.hfldbb.catholic.edu.au **School Website:**

Parish Website: www.lindfieldkillara.org.au

Saturday		5 May	12 M ay
Lindfield	6:00pm	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel	Fr Colin Blayney
Killara	5:30pm	Fr Colin Blayney	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel
Sunday		6 May	13 May
Lindfield	8:15am	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel	Fr Colin Blayney
Killara	9:15am	No Mass (see p.6)	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel
Lindfield	10:15am	No Mass (see p.6)	Fr Colin Blayney
		11am Outdoor Mass	
		(page 6)	
		Fr Colin & Fr Thomas	
Lindfield	12:00noon	Fr Peter Lo	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel
Lindfield	6:00pm	Fr Colin Blayney	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel

RICHARD ROHR'S MEDITATION:

FLESH AND SPIRIT

The Apostle Paul tends to use dialectics in his writing, jockeying two seemingly opposite ideas to lead us to a deeper and third understanding. One of his most familiar dialectics is the way he speaks of flesh and spirit. Paul uses the word sarx, typically and unfortunately translated as "flesh" in most contemporary languages with a negative connotation in opposition to spirit. John's Gospel uses this same word, sarx, in a wonderfully positive way: "The Word became flesh" (John 1:14). So flesh must be good too! But Paul's usage had the larger impact.

If you read Galatians or Romans, you'll probably understand these two terms in the usual dualistic way, which has done great damage: "Well, I've got to get out of my flesh in order to get into the spirit." This was even true of many canonised saints, at least in their early stages—as it was with the Buddha. But I want to say as strongly as I can: you really can't get out of the flesh! That's not what Paul is talking about.

The closest meaning to Paul's sarx is today's familiar word "ego"—which often is a problem if we are trapped inside of it. So what Paul means by "flesh" is the trapped self, the small self, the partial self, or what Thomas Merton called the false self. Basically, spirit is the whole self, the Christ Self, the True Self "hidden with Christ in God" (Colossians 3:3) that we fall into by grace. The problem is not between body and spirit; it's between part and whole.

Sarx or ego is the self that tries to define itself autonomously, apart from spirit, apart from the Big Self in God. It's the tiny self that you think you are, who takes yourself far too seriously, and who is always needy and wanting something else. It's the self that is characterized by scarcity and fragility—and well it should be, because it's finally an illusion and passing away. It changes month by month. This small self doesn't really exist in God's eyes as anything substantial or real. It's nothing but a construct of your own mind. It is exactly what will die when you die. Flesh is not bad, it is just inadequate to the final and full task, while posing as the real thing. Don't hate your training wheels once you take them off your bicycle. You should thank them for getting you started on your cycling journey!

To easily get beyond this confusion, just substitute the word ego every time you hear Paul use the word flesh. It will get you out of this dead-end, false, and dualistic ping-pong game between body and spirit. The problem is not that you have a body; the problem is that you think you are separate from others—and from God. And you are not!

Adapted from Richard Rohr, Jesus as Liberator/Paul as Liberator (Center for Action and Contemplation: 2006).



THE PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE meets *this* Tuesday 8th May at 7:00pm in the Library in the Shirley Wallace Parish Centre.

SCHOOL MASS The 9:15am Mass this Thursday 10th May will be a School Mass celebrating Mothers' Day. All welcome.

PARISH SOCIAL NIGHT 2018

SATURDAY 19TH MAY

Mary MacKillop Hall @ 7pm—10.30pm

A CHANGE IS AS GOOD AS A HOLIDAY – OR SO THEY SAY...and so our PARISH SOCIAL NIGHT 2018 is something a little different – and extraordinary!

7pm Champagne/wine/beer and canapes

8-9pm Entertainment from UBUNTU CHOIR of Uganda. An hour of song and dance by Africa's acclaimed choir.

9~10.30 Dessert, coffee/tea and more socialising

Don't miss out! Grab some friends and book your tickets TODAY!

GREAT Mother's Day gift!

A wonderful experience for mum and you'll help a worthy cause!

Cost \$35 per person for concert, drinks and canapes.

Bookings available through www.trybooking.com/UQYW
or ring the Parish Office.



Who are the UBUNTU CHOIR???

The UBUNTU performers started singing as young children in the African Children's Choir in Uganda. They are famous around the world and have performed for world leaders and with renowned stars. Funds raised from their concerts & workshops will help support their university education, training them as Uganda's future leaders

UBUNTU will perform at a special Family Concert too!
Bring the kids—all ages will love the rhythm and sounds of Africa. A wonderful family experience!
Saturday 19 May from 4-5pm
Mackillop Hall
\$20 per adult & \$10 per child/concession
Tickets available through Trybooking:
www.trybooking.com/UVDV or ring the Parish Office.



OUR PARISH OUTDOOR MASS AND PARISH PICNIC

takes place TODAY Sunday 6th May,

with outdoor Mass on Queen Elizabeth Oval at 11:00am followed by the picnic.

Mass times this weekend:

Killara: Vigil Mass at 5:30pm

No 9:15am Mass

Lindfield: Vigil Mass at 6:00pm

Sunday 8:15am and 6pm

No 10:15am Mass



Please be there!

There will be a sausage sizzle if you don't want to bring your own picnic lunch.

Plus games for the kids.



IN THE CASE OF WET WEATHER:

If there has been heavy rain overnight resulting in a water-logged picnic ground, or if it is actually raining on the day, we will have to cancel the outdoor Mass and picnic. This will be advised by 8:30am on the special hotlink box which will appear on the homepage of the parish website. If the Mass and picnic are cancelled then the normal 9:15am and 10:15am Masses will be celebrated in our respective churches.



OUR NEXT COMBINED CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH MASS will be celebrated again on the second Sunday of the month, NEXT Sunday 13th May, at 5:30pm (not 6pm) in Holy Family church and will be followed by supper for Mothers' Day in the courtyard outside MacKillop Hall.



A Parish Retreat Experience? ~ Final Call ~

This year, instead of a parish retreat at Tarrawarra Abbey we are offering a shorter parish retreat experience at the Benedictine Abbey at Jamberoo (just 2 hours south of Sydney) in the beautiful location of the Jamberoo Mountain.

We have a booking for the following:

• Monday afternoon 17th September to 9am Thursday morning 20th September



We have a tentative booking for 6 double bed rooms and 6 single rooms.

We now have parishioner bookings confirmed for 10 of the rooms and so we now only have two rooms left to fill.

The single rooms have a tariff of \$60 per night & the double bed rooms are \$150 per night for a couple & \$100/ night for a single.

We now need to confirm our final bookings with the Abbey and have to inform them whether we require the remaining three rooms.

So if you would like to attend please contact Fr Colin by THIS Friday 11th.

Please consider taking part in this wonderful parish opportunity to take some time out and nurture the Spirit within us.



Fr Colin

ANOTE FROM THE YEAR 11 STUDENTS FROM ST ALOYSIUS WHO SPOKE RECENTLY AT MASS....

Dear Fr Colin,

On behalf of St Aloysius' College and ourselves, we would like to thank you very much for giving us the opportunity to speak at various Masses a few weeks ago and also thank the parishioners for their generosity in donating to our cause in raising money for our immersion to the Philippines. We were able to raise just over \$2 500 which will go towards building houses for those in impoverished communities who would otherwise be sleeping rough and vulnerable to natural disasters like typhoons and floods.

The support from the parish in this fundraising is greatly appreciated by us and also by the many families that will directly benefit from their generosity, particularly those that will soon have a safe and secure home.

From Alex Mowbray, Chris Nanayakkara and David Vucic.

THE PRAYERS AND RESPONSES OF MASS

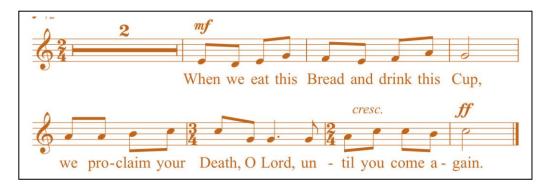
GLORIA:

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:



THE PSALM Ps 97:1~4

Sing a new song to the Lord for God has worked wonders. The Lord's right hand and holy arm have brought salvation.

The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations. The Lord has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord all the earth, ring out your joy.



At Masses at which the Psalm is sung the response is: The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! The Lord said: I will not leave you orphans. I will come back to you, and your hearts will rejoice. Alleluia!

Next Sunday 13th May, the seventh Sunday in the Season of Easter, is the great Easter feast of the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord. The following Sunday, 20th May, brings the Easter Season to its climax and conclusion with the great Easter feast of Pentecost, celebrating the outpouring of the Easter gift of the Holy Spirit.

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 RESPONSES TO THE PSALM FOR WEEKDAY MASS THIS WEEK:

Monday: The Lord takes delight in his people.

Tuesday: Your right hand has saved me, O Lord.

Wednesday: Heaven and earth are filled with your glory.

Thursday: The Lord has revealed to the

nations his saving power.

Friday: God is king of all the earth. **Saturday:** God is king of all the earth.

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

HYMN: CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT

This is the time of new beginnings. This is the time when heaven meets earth. This is the time filled with God's glory, promise of our new birth!

Refrain: Christ be our light!
Shine in our hearts, shine through the darkness.
Christ be our light!
Shine in your Church gathered today.

This is the time Christ our redeemer rose from the grave triumphant and free, leaving the tomb of evil and darkness empty for all to see. *Refrain*

Sing of the hope deeper than dying. Sing of the pow'r stronger than death. Sing of the love endless as heaven, dawning throughout the earth. *Refrain*

Bernadette Farrell

Our Parish SCRIPTURE STUDY GROUP meets as usual on the second Wednesday of each month (<u>this</u> Wednesday 9th May) from 10am – 11am. The venue is the Library in the Shirley Wallace Parish Centre.

We are working through John's Gospel and so it would be helpful to have read John chp 15 for the coming meeting.

All welcome. Fr Colin



OUR MONTHLY HEALING MASS



Our monthly Healing Mass (including the celebration of the Sacrament of the Sick) will take place as usual on the second Friday of the month (THIS Friday 11th May) at 10am in our church at Killara (no Mass at Lindfield or Killara at the normal Friday times on that day).

Mass will be followed by morning tea in the hall at Killara.

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.**

A MEETING FOR OUR PARISH AND SCHOOL RE THE COLES RE~DEVELOPMENT



As you probably know Coles is planning a major redevelopment of its Lindfield store which will involve a new supermarket with apartments above being built on the site of the current store and the outdoor carpark. Balfour Lane would be re-located to the western perimeter of the present carpark as part of this development.

We are grateful to Coles who have had regular meetings with us and have taken into account our needs and concerns (particularly for our school) as they have developed their plans. We have a Parish and School Committee involved in this process and a subcommittee consisting of our Principal, Lou Dogao, Anthony Cassidy (Chair of the Committee and our Parish Facilities Coordinator) and myself has met regularly with Coles representatives.

Coles is now preparing to submit a DA to Council and have kindly agreed to present to our parish and parish school community. This meeting will take place on **Wednesday** 23rd May from 7:30 – 9:00pm in MacKillop Hall.

The intent would be to provide high level information in regard to:

- Current status of the project
- Programme
- Context of the proposed Coles development (eg Community Hub, urban design, traffic overview, history of the site, trees, heritage, gateway development/plaza)
- Plans, of the proposed new laneway and the Coles development
- Q&A

All members of our parish and school community are welcome. Fr Colin

PARISH DIARY MAY – JUNE

Sunday 13th May: Our new monthly combined Children's & Youth Mass at 5:30pm at Lindfield and Mothers' Day Supper

Sundays 13 & 20 May: Charitable Works Fund Appeal.

Fri. 18th May: Workshops for Youth with the Ubuntu Choir (see p.4).

Sat. 19th May: Parish Social Night, featuring a performance by the Ubuntu Choir (see p.5).

Sun. 20th May: Morning tea after 10:15am Mass.

Wed. 23rd May (7:30pm): Parish and School meeting for presentation by Coles on their proposed redevelopment of the Lindfield store (see p.10).

Sat. 2nd June: Celebrations of Confirmation (both churches) 10am and noon.

Sat. 2nd June – Sat. 15th June: Year of Youth Cross visits our parish.

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

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

Sun. 10th June: Our new monthly combined Children's-Youth Mass at 5:30pm followed by bbq. Blast Youth Group meets prior to Mass and Fusion meets after Mass.

Sunday 20th June: morning tea after 10:15am Mass.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

As we enter the final two months of this Financial Year an update on our progress:

- a few weeks ago I reported that our Second Collection income (which provides all the operating funds for the parish) was \$30,000 behind compared to the same point last year. As of last weekend it is now \$38,000 behind.
- at the same time we reported that our First Collection (which supports Frs Colin and Thomas and the retired and ill priests of the diocese) was \$4,500 behind compared to the same point last year. It is now \$3500 behind.

Please help us to catch up on our shortfalls over the next two months.

Fr Colin

Forgive me Lord, for having spoken so badly. Forgive me for having spoken often to no purpose;

Forgive me for the days when I tarnished my lips with

hollow words,

false words,

cowardly words,

words through which you could not pass.

Uphold me when I must speak in a meeting, intervene in a

discussion, talk with a brother.

Grant above all, Lord, that my words may be like the sowing of seeds,

and that those who hear them may look to a fine harvest.

Michel Quoist



CHARITABLE WORKS FUND APPEAL

The third and final Charitable Works Fund Appeal will take place <u>next weekend 19/20 May</u>.

Through your donation you support:

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

If we do not achieve the quota set for our parish we have to make up the shortfall from our own parish funds.

Our quota for the whole financial year: \$45,683 Total collected in first two appeals \$33,100 Shortfall: \$12,583

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

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

BIBLE DONATIONS

Dear Parishioners

Due to your kind donation of bibles last year, that we are using in our Scripture classes, we have started 'Bible Days' during Scripture in our Public Schools. 3x a year, each child in each class, gets to read a Bible, learns how to find bible verses and we play fun games finding Bible verses. Our Bible Days are a huge success.

We are sending a letter home explaining what we've done in class and are asking if anyone would like a Bible of their own to take home.

Our Scripture classes are made up of practising Catholics, non-practising Catholics and those who are not Catholic. If we are lucky, about half of our number prepare for the Sacraments with us.

I think this is a wonderful opportunity to spread God's Word as a family who has specifically requested a Bible for their homes will read it.

If you are prepared to donate a Bible to a family, please go to https://www.trybooking.com/RTCU. The bibles are \$18 each for K-2 and \$14 for Yr 3-6. 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 <u>2 Beaumont Rd</u> ~ 12~12.30pm
- Thurs Yr 2/3 Killara 9.20-10am



Lindfield Dental Practice



Dr Peter Chung

DDS, MDS, PhD Clinical Assoc Professor

Open: Mon-Sat **P: 9416 5000**

Suite 1, 345 Pacific Highway (Scholastic Bldg) Next to Lindfield Medical Practice

Put those you love in the hands of those who care



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Jason Roach Licensed Real Estate 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.

CHINESE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

復活期第六主日

6/5/2018

讀經一(聖神的恩惠也傾注在各民族身 上。)

恭 讀 宗 徒 大 事 錄 10:25-26,34-35,44-48

當伯多祿到了凱撒勒雅時, 科爾乃略去迎接他,跪伏在他腳 前叩拜。伯多祿拉他起來,說: 「起來!我自己也是個人。」

伯多祿於是開口說:「我真正明白了:天主是不看情面的; 凡在各民族中,敬畏他,而又履行正義的人,都是他所中悅的。」

伯多祿還在講這些話的時候,聖神降在所有聽道的人身上。那些受過割損與伯多祿同來的信徒,都驚訝聖神的恩惠,也傾注在外邦人身上,因為聽見他們說各種語言,並頌揚天主。

那時,伯多祿就發言說: 「這些人既領受了聖神,和我們 一樣,誰能阻止他們接受水洗 呢?」於是,他吩咐人以耶穌基 督的名,給他們施洗。

以後,他們要求伯多祿再住 了幾天。——上主的話。(默想片 刻)

答唱詠 詠 98:1, 2-3, 3-4

【答】: 上主已將他的救恩顯示給 萬民。(參閱詠 98:2)

領:請眾向上主歌唱新歌,因為 他行了奇事。他的右手和他的 聖臂,為他獲得了勝利。 【答】

領:上主已經宣布了自己的救恩,將自己的正義,啟示給萬民。他記起了自己的良善和信實,即向以色列家族廣施的寬仁。【答】

領:全球看見了我們天主的救 恩。普世大地,請向上主歌舞、 請踴躍,請歡樂,請彈琴演奏。 【答】

讀經二(天主是愛。) 恭讀聖若望一書 4:7-10

(默想片刻)

福音前歡呼

領:亞肋路亞。 眾:亞肋路亞。

領:主說:誰愛我,必遵守我的話,我父也必愛他,我們要到他那裡去,並要在他那裡,作我們的居所。(若

眾:亞肋路亞。

福音(人如果為自己的朋友,捨掉性命,再沒有比這更大的愛情了。) 恭讀聖若望福音 15:9-17

那時候,耶穌對門徒說: 「正如父愛了我,同樣我也愛了 你們;你們應存在我的愛內。如 果你們遵守我的命令,便存在我 的愛內,正如我遵守了我父的命 令,而存在他的愛內一樣。

我對你們講論了這些事,為 使我的喜樂存在你們內,使你們 的喜樂圓滿無缺。

「這是我的命令:你們該彼此 相愛,如同我愛了你們一樣。

人如果為自己的朋友,

捨掉性命,再沒有比這 更大的愛情了。

「你們如果實行我所命令你們的,你們就是我的朋友。我不再稱你們為僕人,因為僕人不知道他主人所做的事。我稱你們為朋友,因為凡由我父聽來的一切,我都顯示給你們了。

「不是你們揀選了我, 而是我揀選了你們,並派你 們去結果實,去結常存的果 實;如此,你們因我的名, 無論向父求什麼,他必賜給 你們。

「這就是我命令你們的:你們應該彼此相愛。」 ——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. 20/5 起, 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 12nooon Parish Meeting Rm

盧伯榮神父 Fr. Peter Lo (香港基督勞工堂主任司鐸, 天主教香港聖經協會神師) 雪梨福傳之旅

日期:6/5 北區中心 中午12 時主禮中文彌撒, 午餐後,盧神父講座。

5:30pm 知味軒:盧神父聚餐

13/5 彌撒後, 午餐聚會舉行毋親節慶祝, 請各教友參加

5 月 聖母月, 13/5, 20/5, 27/5 彌 撒前上午 11: 50 頌唸玖瑰經, 請各教友參加

(continued from page 16):

to his inner identity as God's Beloved, an identity that he appropriated at his baptism and which shaped his very consciousness during all the years of his ministry. In Gethsemane, amidst everything that invites him (and us) into moral amnesia, Jesus manages to stay awake to his deeper reality and to his identity as God's beloved. His disciples don't. As the Gospels tell us, during Jesus' great struggle they fell asleep and their sleep ("out of sheer sorrow") was more than physical fatigue. This is evident when, immediately after Jesus has managed to ground himself against hatred and non-violence, Peter succumbs to both and cuts off the ear of the high priest's servant. Peter was asleep, in more ways than one, in a sleep that signifies the absence of prayer in one's life.

Prayer is meant to keep us awake, which means it's meant to keep us connected to a source outside of our natural instincts and proclivities which can keep us grounded in love, forgiveness, non-retaliation, and non-violence when everything inside of us and around us screams for bitterness, hatred, and retaliation. And if Jesus had to sweat blood in trying to stay connected to that source when he was tested, we can expect that the cost for us will be the same, struggle, agony, wanting in every fibre of our being to give in, clinging to love precariously by the skin of our teeth, and then having God's angel strengthen us only when we've been writhing long enough in the struggle so that we can let God's strength do for us what our own strength cannot do. Lord, teach us to pray!

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

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

Recently deceased: Mary Couper, Daphne Dawn McEwen, Anne Ducker, Arthur George ('Charlie') Smith (father of Fr Michael Smith), Nelson Contreras, Margaret Sullivan, Joyce Blomely, Donata Sebastian.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK: 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

"Whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you. This I command you: love one another."

OUR NEED TO PRAY

Unless you somehow have a foot outside of your culture, the culture will swallow you whole. Daniel Berrigan wrote that and it's true too in this sense: Unless you can drink in strength from a source outside yourself, your natural proclivities for paranoia, bitterness, and hatred will invariably swallow you whole.

The disciples in Luke's Gospel understood this. They approached Jesus and asked him to teach them how to pray because they saw him doing things that they did not see anyone else doing. He was able to meet hatred with love, to genuinely forgive others, to endure misunderstanding and opposition without giving in to self-pity and bitterness, and to retain within himself a centre of peace and non-violence. This, they knew, was as extraordinary as walking on water, and they sensed that he was drawing the strength to do this from a source outside him, through prayer.

They knew they themselves were incapable of resisting bitterness and hatred and they wanted to be as strong as Jesus and so they asked him: Lord, teach us to pray. No doubt they imagined that this would simply be a question of learning a certain technique; but as the Gospels make clear, linking to a divine source outside of ourselves isn't always easy or automatic, even for Jesus, as we see from his struggle in the Garden of Gethsemane, his "agony in the garden"

Jesus, himself, had to struggle mightily at times to ground himself in God as we see from his prayer in Gethsemane. His struggle there is described as an "agony," and this needs to be carefully understood. "Agony" was a technical term used at the time for athletes. Before entering the stadium or arena for a contest, athletes would first work their bodies into a sweat, a warm lather, an agony, to make their muscles warm and ready for the contest. The Gospels tell us that Jesus also worked himself into a sweat, except in his case he sweated blood as he readied himself in his heart for the contest, the test, he was about to enter, his passion.

And what was that contest? The test he was readying himself for wasn't as it is commonly believed an agonising over the decision whether to let himself be crucified or whether to invoke divine power and save himself from this humiliation and death. That was never the issue in his struggle in Gethsemane. He had long before accepted that he was going to die. The question was how, how would he die, in love or in bitterness?

In the end, it was a struggle to strengthen his will so that he would die with a loving, warm, forgiving heart. And it was a struggle; a positive outcome was in doubt. Amidst all the darkness, hatred, bitterness, injustice, and mis-understanding that surrounded him, amidst everything that stood unfairly against him and was antithetical to his person and message, Jesus struggled mightily to cling to a source that could give him the strength to resist the hatred and violence around him, that could give him the heart to forgive his enemies, that could give him the graciousness to forgive the good thief, and that could give him the inner strength to turn humiliation, pain, and injustice into compassion rather than bitterness.

The Gospels put this metaphorically as a struggle to "stay awake", namely, to stay awake (cont'd on page 15...)