

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	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
Tuesday	1:00pm (see p.5)	7:30am
Wednesday	9:15am	~
	6:00pm Yr 6 Grad'n Mass	
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

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT 9 – 12 – 18

This week: Baruch 5:1-9; Phil 1:3-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

Next week: Zeph 3:14-18; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND CANDLE OF THE ADVENT WREATH

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

The second candle is lit.

Celebrant: *O Emmanuel, Saviour of Israel, you are God-among us.*

All: Come and save us, O Lord our God.

Celebrant: *O Wisdom of the Most High God, you rule your people with gentle might.*

All: Come & teach us the way of prudence.

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

All: God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God.

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

All: Amen.

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

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

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

CHRISTMAS EVE EVENING :

Lindfield: 6:00pm Christmas Vigil Mass

Killara: 5:30pm Christmas Vigil Mass

These are the Children's Masses.

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



A CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS GIFT TO THOSE IN NEED:

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

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

CHRISTMAS MORNING :

Lindfield 8:00am Mass (not 8:15am)

Killara 9:30am Mass (not 9:15am)

Lindfield 10:15am Mass

NO Chinese Mass & NO evening Mass on Christmas Day.



Children's Involvement in our Christmas Masses



We invite the children to be actively involved in our Children's Christmas Vigil Mass at either Killara (5:30pm) or Lindfield (6:00pm), or in the children's choir at the 8:00am Mass on Christmas Day:

~ AT KILLARA ~

* Calling all shepherds and angels *

* Calling all older children who would like to help sing the Christmas story *

We invite the children who wish to participate in re-enacting the Christmas story during Mass to come to our **PRACTICE on Friday 22nd December at 5pm** at Killara church. Contact carolannisb@hotmail.com or bgcj.white@optusnet.com.au to book your costume.

~ AT LINDFIELD ~

- For those interested in being part of the Children's Vigil Mass: nativity play, choir and readers please email Rose at: roseingham@optusnet.com.au. The rehearsal will be held on **Friday 21st December at 10:15am** in Lindfield church.
- The younger children are also welcome to form the choir leading the singing at the early Mass (8:00am) on Christmas Day. The rehearsal for children wishing to take part in this Mass will be on **Friday 22nd December at 3pm** in Lindfield church.

Our Pre-Christmas Anointing Mass and pre-Christmas Luncheon



A reminder that our final Healing Mass for the year will be celebrated at Killara on the second Friday of the month, ***THIS Friday 14th December***, and at the later time of **11:00am** as it will be followed by **lunch**, rather than morning tea, in the parish hall at Killara.

We invite all who seek God's healing strength. We would especially invite our senior parishioners for the Mass and the luncheon afterwards.

If you or someone you know would like to attend but is unable to get there or needs assistance in travelling please ring Fran Grant who will be happy to organise transport: **9880 7679**.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS ON THE PARISH WEBSITE All the events for Advent and Christmas in the parish can be found by clicking the 'Advent and Christmas' hotlink box on the homepage of our parish website.

Preparing for Christmas – The Sacrament of Reconciliation

There will be a celebration of the **Second Rite of Reconciliation** on **Wednesday 19th December** at **7:30pm** which will be for the whole parish and will be held in Holy Family Church at Lindfield. We will have a similar celebration in Lent, on which occasion it will be held in Immaculate Heart of Mary Church at Killara.

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

APOLOGIES that due to a glitch in the roster there was no morning tea after 10:15am Mass last Sunday. Morning tea is served after the 9:15am and 10:15am Masses on the first and third Sundays of the month and the roster has now been fixed and there will indeed be morning tea next Sunday morning 16th December.



THE SEASON OF ADVENT . . .

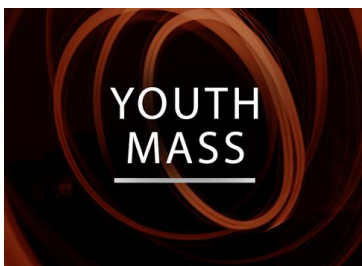
The Season of Advent is a beautiful season of our Church year, but it can so easily become a *lost* season – lost amidst the Christmas rush, the Christmas parties and the Christmas shopping. It takes some effort to allow Advent to realise its potential in our lives as individuals and as a community.

Some ways to keep the time of Advent:

- ❖ **WEEKDAY MASS** provides rich fodder for reflection in the selection of Advent Scripture readings, while the Eucharist itself brings us the daily encounter with the Lord whose coming we prepare for.
- ❖ **PRAYER TIMES AT HOME:** as usual, over these weeks we'll print some prayer celebrations that you can use at home to keep some of this time of Advent.
- ❖ **THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION** provides a forum for reviewing our discipleship and preparing for a new beginning as we enter another liturgical year.

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



OUR NEXT COMBINED YOUTH AND FAMILY MASS will be celebrated again on the second Sunday of the month, **TODAY Sunday 9th December, at 5:30pm (not 6pm)** in Holy Family church and will be followed by a 'pot luck dinner' for all in St Brigid's Hall above the church.



PARISH DIARY : DECEMBER

Sun. 9th Dec: Monthly Youth and Children's Mass at 5:30pm followed by parish potluck dinner.

Tues 11th Dec. at 1pm: Catechists' end of year Mass and luncheon (all are welcome to the Mass which will be upstairs in the Shirley Wallace Parish Centre).

Wed. 12th Dec. 10:45am: Playgroup Christmas Party (see p.9)

Wed. 12th Dec. 6pm Year 6 Graduation Mass.

Wed. 19th Dec. 11:15am End of year Advent Mass for our Parish School (all welcome). No 9:15am Mass.

Wed. 19th Dec. 7:30pm Second Rite of Reconciliation in preparation for Christmas (in Lindfield church) (see p.3).



PARISH YOUNG ADULTS' GROUP

The final gathering for the year will be a Trivia Night on **Sunday 16th December** 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

CHRISTMAS APPEAL~ ST VINCENT DE PAUL



The Society's annual Christmas Appeal for funds concludes this weekend. Money donated to this appeal enables the Society to put a little happiness into the lives of those in need, whatever the reason. Your local conference is at present providing assistance to four (4) cases within the Parish and your generous donation will enable this support to continue. Funds raised of course also assist SVdP in its work far beyond our own parish. Envelopes are available

throughout the church. Include your name and address for your receipt as donations of \$2 or more and tax deductible.

St Vincent de Paul Society

In other St Vincent de Paul news we congratulate **Brad Jones** who was formally installed as President of our Lindfield-Killara Parish Conference last week. Our thanks to Brad for taking on this role and our deep gratitude to **Eric Atkins** who has served our Conference as President and in other roles over many decades. *Fr Colin*

Aaron Tang, who along with his family, is a member of the Killara community within this parish has prepared this beautiful Advent reflection for us drawn from his recent visit to the Holy Land. Aaron is a member of our Parish Pastoral Council and is one of our two parish Child Protection Advocates who work with Alison, our Child Protection Coordinator, in ensuring that our parish is a safe and nurturing place for children.

An Advent Reflection

by Aaron Tang

When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them ‘What are you looking for?’ They said to him, ‘Rabbi, where are you staying?’ He said to them, ‘Come and see’...

As we prepare for Christmas it is a perfect opportunity to reflect upon the incarnation of Jesus; to ponder where He was born, and where he lived, died and rose. What was it like to meet Him- God as a baby, boy, and man? What was it like for Him to meet us?

Recently, I was privileged to encounter Jesus in a special way by a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Having read the Gospel stories for years, they had grown so familiar but to stand at the sites where those stories took place reinvigorated my faith with new life. He was not only in those places but also in prayer, in the Word and in the people I met. He revealed Himself in the big moments as well as in the small, surprising ways, like finding little treasures behind the doors of an Advent calendar...

Ascending Mt Tabor, (where Jesus was transfigured) I saw his radiance in the glistening church dome, but his call to transform me I heard in the gentle breeze during an outdoor Mass, on stones where monks had celebrated for hundreds of years. At Cana (where Jesus turned water into wine at the wedding), I renewed my marriage vows and tasted the better wine He poured to refresh my marriage. I touched him in the press of the crowds but also in the sandy solitude of the desert and in the cool waves washing my feet on the rocky shores of Galilee. I smelt him in baked bread and fragrant incense. I heard him in a cock crowing on the beach where He called Peter to love him and where he embraced me in an intimate sunrise. Further along that shoreline, he took my small offering and multiplied the loaves. On that hill, he took my spiritual poverty and pronounced ‘Rejoice! Blessed are you!’ We shared the weight of the Cross on the Via Dolorosa (Way of Sorrow) as he carries my cross each day. In the Tomb of Resurrection when the lights failed, He died with me in the darkness and we emerged together to new life.

A powerful personal journey, it was also a powerful communal one. The universality and unity of our faith was physically evident - Catholic, Protestant and Orthodox chapels side by side in Jerusalem, frescos from around the world decorating the Churches of Pater Noster (Our Father) and All Nations (Gethsemane), praying the Hail Mary with Russian and Coptic Orthodox, singing carols in Vietnamese in Bethlehem. Despite ongoing ecumenical and interfaith challenges, it was also wondrous to dance with Jews celebrating Sabbath at the Western Wall and to share with Muslims at the Dome of the Rock.

It was a particularly special experience to accompany Mary in the Advent journey of the Rosary: at the Church of the Annunciation altar inscribed *Verbum caro hic factum est* (the Word was made flesh here!) or waiting as in labour to touch the star in Bethlehem’s Nativity Grotto, where Christ was born. I was humbled to also witness some of their post natal persecution through sharing with Palestinian refugees struggling in their Occupied Territory. This Advent may we remember the road to peace and holiness in the Holy Land needs our action and prayers.

Daily, life giving moments marked my pilgrimage. Now that I have returned to Australia, like the disciplines returning from the road to Emmaus, the joyful journey must continue. This Advent, whatever our situation in life, just like Joseph and Mary, the Magi and the shepherds we too are called to continue the pilgrimage to the Manger in our own lives.

In the Holy Land, I profoundly felt that God was with me on the journey. Here in Lindfield-Killara, God too is dwelling with us - Emmanuel. O Come, let us see where he lives here!

CHARITABLE WORKS FUND APPEAL



Received from August appeal \$12,608.25
 Received from this appeal: \$17063.45
 Rec'd from first two appeals: \$29671.70
Shortfall after two appeals: \$ 328.30

<u>Amount req'd:</u>
\$15,000.00
\$15,000.00
\$30,000.00

Thank you all for your generous contributions.

APPEAL FOR PRESBYTERY REPAIRS



Estimated cost of works: \$90,000
 Received from our appeal: \$17,284
 + \$ 1,000 pledged by end of Dec.
TOTAL \$18,284

Many thanks for your generous contributions. Envelopes are still available in the foyers if you wish to contribute.



Celebrating Christmas - Making a Joyful Sound Unto the Lord ~ Please be part of a choir for Christmas ~

Even if you are not regularly part of our choirs, we invite you to be part of the special choir for the 10:30pm Vigil Mass for Christmas at Lindfield (and the Carols at 10pm preceding it). Please be part of making this Christmas celebration special.

Rehearsals take place on Saturdays 8th, 15th and 22nd December in Lindfield church from 10:00 - 11:30am, or contact Catherine Willis (catherinecwillis@gmail.com).

A MESSAGE FROM ACT: LINDFIELD~KILLARA PARISH SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP

We are working towards running a Cana stall next weekend on Sunday 16 December. On sale will be beautifully wrapped Christmas cakes, jams, chutneys, pasta sauces and more. Ideal last minute Christmas gifts. Bring your cash!

100% of profits go towards providing employment or education opportunities for disadvantaged people: www.canafarm.com.au

THE PRAYERS AND RESPONSES OF MASS

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

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION:

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! Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight God's paths: all people shall see the salvation of God. 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: Our God will come to save us!

Tues: The Lord our God comes in strength.

Wed: O bless the Lord, my soul.

Thursday: The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger, and rich in compassion.

Friday: Those who follow you, Lord, will have the light of life.

Saturday: Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

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

PLAYGROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY



Save the date! Christmas
Party with jumping
castle and a Father
Christmas visit. Please
come join us *this*
Wednesday 12th
December.

VIP: Contact Sue-Anne before Wednesday if
you're coming to discuss Santa's gift:
sue-anne@lindfieldkillara.org.au

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

COLUMBAN CALENDARS

Columban Calendars for 2019 are now on
sale for \$10 each. As usual the calendars
feature reproductions of many masterpieces
and they make a handy small gift to family
and friends. Please place your purchase
money in the Poor Box. *St Vincent de Paul
Conference*

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME DATES FOR 2019



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

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

A Service of Prayer to pray at home

Prayer before the Christmas Tree

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

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

Response: Lord, give light to our hearts.

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

Response: Lord, give light to our hearts.

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

Response: Lord, give light to our hearts.

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

Response: Lord, give light to our hearts.

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

The prayer of blessing:

All: Lord our God,
 we praise you for the light of creation:
 the sun, the moon, and the stars of night.
 We praise you for the light of Israel:
 the Law, the prophets,
 and the wisdom of the Scriptures.
 We praise you for Jesus, your Son:
 he is Emmanuel, God-with-us,
 the Prince of Peace,
 who fills us with the wonder of your love.
 May this tree, arrayed in splendour,
 remind us of the life-giving cross of Christ,
 that we may always rejoice in the new life
 that shines in our hearts.
 May the light and cheer it gives be a sign of the joy
 that fills our hearts.
 May all who delight in this tree think of the birth of Jesus,
 the true light who has come into the world.
 Lord, bless this tree and the gifts beneath it.
 And most of all bless us, so that we may know the meaning of giving
 during this Advent and Christmas Season.



Amen.

GIFTS FOR WATERLOO

To assist distribution will you please return your gift to either of our churches **TODAY** Sunday 9th December, or to the Parish Office by Monday 10th.
Peace and Joy to you all.



OUR PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

As you will recall, earlier this year in a number of forums (including at Sunday Mass) we consulted you, our community, about the issues you considered most important as we move forward as a Christian community.

Since then the Parish Pastoral Council analysed those responses to identify the ones that stood out as most important to the community.

These issue were then shared with several groups who were asked to produce a draft Mission Statement which captured those central issues which came from our community consultation.

Finally, the PPC met to discuss those various drafts and from them to produce a Mission Statement which we believed best expressed what our community had put forward.

That Mission Statement will be formally launched on the Third Sunday of Advent. In 2019 we will work together to find ways to allow that statement to shape who we are, what we do, and how we move into the future as the Catholic Parish of Lindfield-Killara.

The Mission Statement is:

We are a welcoming Christian community which embraces all people.

*We support each other to grow in faith
and create a loving and compassionate community.*

We aspire to live as Christ's witnesses of God's unconditional love.

Fr Colin

 <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 UNIVERSAL INSTRUMENTS 326 Pacific Hway, Lindfield NSW 2070 Tel no. 94165335 Fax no. 94161538 E:sales@universalinstruments.com.au</p>
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THE MARTYRS OF ALGERIA.....*for the love of Jesus, for the love of the people*

The beatification of the 19 Algerian martyrs will take place in the Basilica of the Santa Cruz, Oran on 8 December. The 19 martyrs, 16 French, two Spanish and one Belgian, were killed between 1994 and 1996 during the civil war in Algeria between the government and Islamist groups. All were Religious: seven Trappist monks, six sisters, four White Fathers, one Marist brother and Bishop Pierre Claverie, a Dominican. The one thing that they all shared in common was a love of Christ and a desire to serve the Muslim people of Algeria. The best known of the 19 is, undoubtedly, Fr Christian de Chergé, prior of the Trappist monastery at Tibhirine, whose spiritual testament and portrayal in the film *Of Gods and Men*, winner of the Grand Prix at the 2010 Cannes Film Festival, have brought him considerable posthumous fame.

While doing national service during the Algerian war of independence, de Chergé developed a spiritual friendship with a local policeman, Mohamed, a father of 11 and a devout Muslim. One day, a group of guerillas laid an ambush for de Chergé. Thanks to Mohamed's intervention, his life was saved. Shortly after, Mohamed was assassinated and his body was found by the roadside. Mohamed's death left an indelible mark on Fr de Chergé; he could never forget that his Muslim friend had given his life for him.

In October 1993, Christian de Chergé, like all other foreigners in Algeria, was put under sentence of death by the Armed Islamic Group, the GIA; they were given an ultimatum to leave Algeria by 1 December or face execution. Fr de Chergé knew the wisdom of his decision to remain in Algeria would be questioned, so he left us a spiritual testament: "When an À-Dieu is envisaged", it begins, "if it should happen one day – and it could be today – that I should be a victim of the terrorism which now seems to want to embrace all foreigners living in Algeria, I would like my community, my Church, my family to remember that my life was given to God and to this country." Fr de Chergé's reasons for risking his life – love of God and love of the Algerian people – also express the main motivation of the other 18 martyrs being beatified.

All of the 19 Religious wished to be Christ's presence to a suffering Muslim people, and live in solidarity with them in their time of trial. Some were also conscious of the need to assert the right to difference, to stand side by side with those Algerians who were resisting the oppressive uniformity that the Islamists sought to impose. The monastic community had developed a very close relationship with the local villagers, sharing their 12 hectares of land with four local families in a co-operative venture, and allowing the villagers to use one of the monastery rooms for prayer. In the particular context of a civil war between a military-backed government and Islamist fundamentalists, the villagers, unlike the monks, had no means of escaping the encircling violence; unlike the monks they had no choice about whether to stay or leave.

Conscious of their longstanding friendship with the villagers, the community did not wish to abandon them in their hour of greatest need. And, for their part, the villagers wanted the community to stay: first, because of the deep bonds of friendship that they had forged with them over a period of 58 years and second, because they thought that the presence of the community would protect them from the encroaching violence. The monks also wished to show solidarity with the tiny and beleaguered Christian community in Algeria. The Tibhirine monastery of Notre-Dame de l'Atlas was one of the "lungs" of the Church in Algeria. It was at Tibhirine that priests, Religious and lay Christians found spiritual refreshment in an overwhelmingly Muslim environment. *(cont'd next week)*

(from an article by Martin McGee osb in this week's edition of 'The Tablet')

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		8 Dec	15 Dec
Lindfield	6:00pm	Fr Colin Blayney	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel
Killara	5:30pm	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel	Fr Colin Blayney
Sunday		9 Dec	16 Dec.
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 Thomas Alackakunnel	Fr Thomas Alackakunnel
Lindfield	6:00pm	Fr Colin Blayney	Fr Colin Blayney

CHINESE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

將臨期第二主日

9-12-2018

讀經一（耶路撒冷！天主要向天下萬邦，顯示你的榮耀。）

恭讀巴路克先知書 5:1-9

耶路撒冷！請你脫去守喪時悲傷的衣服，永遠穿上天主光榮的華服，披上天主正義的披肩；在你頭上，戴上永生者光榮的冠冕；因為天主要對天下萬邦，顯示你的榮耀；給你起名，永遠叫「正義的和平」，和「虔敬的光榮」。

耶路撒冷！請你起來，站在高處，向東遠眺。看，你的子女奉聖者的命，由西方至東方集合；他們喜形於色，因為天主終於想起了他們。他們曾離你遠去，由仇人押送步行；如今，天主卻把他們給你再領回來；他們體面光榮，好像皇子一樣，被人抬著歸來；因為天主已命令，夷平一切高山和無盡的丘陵，填平所有山谷，使它們化為平地，好讓以色列在天主的光榮下，平安前行。

森林和一切香樹，要依照天主的命令，給以色列遮蔭；因為天主要在喜樂中，以他固有的仁慈和正義，在自己榮耀的光輝下，親自領回以色列。——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（為叫你們直到基督的日子，常是潔淨無瑕的。）

恭讀聖保祿宗徒致斐理伯人書 1:4-6,8-11

福音前歡呼

領/眾：亞肋路亞。

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

眾：亞肋路亞。

福音（凡有血肉的，都要看見天主的救援。）

恭讀聖路加福音 3:1-6

凱撒提庇留執政第十五年，般雀

比拉多作猶太總督，黑落德作加里肋亞分封侯，他的兄弟斐理伯作依突勒雅和特辣曷尼地方的分封侯，呂撒尼雅作阿彼肋乃分封侯，亞納斯和蓋法作大司祭時，在荒野中有天主的話，傳給匝加利亞的兒子若翰。若翰於是走遍約但河一帶地方，宣講悔改的洗禮，為得罪之赦。正如先知依撒意亞預言書上記載的：「在荒野中有呼號者的聲音：你們當預備上主的道路，修直他的途徑！一切深谷要填滿，一切山岳丘陵要剷平，彎曲的要修直，崎嶇的要闢成坦途！凡有血肉的，都要看見天主的救援。」——上主的話。

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(continued from p.16): manipulation, crass force, taking without giving, posturing an intimacy we don't mean, lack of respect for previous commitments, disregard for the wider relationships of family and community, or failure to respect long-range happiness and health. Annie Dillard's metaphor basically captures it: There is a fault in our chastity when we put a candle to the cocoon so as to unnaturally rush the process.

Chastity is about proper waiting and waiting is about patience in carrying the tensions and frustrations we suffer as we live the unfinished symphony that constitutes our lives.

There are some wonderful refrains in apocalyptic literature around the importance of waiting. Before the messiah can be conceived, gestated, and given birth to, there must always be a proper time of waiting, a necessary advent, a certain quota of suffering, which alone can create the proper virginal space within which the messiah can be born: "God is never in a hurry!" "Every tear brings the messiah closer!" "It is with much groaning of the flesh that the life of the spirit is brought forth!"

All of these phrases say the same thing: What's sublime depends upon there first having been some sublimation; a feast can only happen after there has first been some fasting; love can only be a gift if the gift is fully respected; and (as Carretto so poignantly puts it) we must learn to wait—for God, for love, for the bride, and for Christmas.

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

REFLECTING ON THIS SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURES

ADVENT—A TIME TO LEARN HOW TO WAIT

Carlo Carretto, the renowned spiritual writer, spent many years living alone as a hermit in the Sahara desert. He wrote a number of books from that place of solitude, including one entitled *Letters from the Desert*. In that book, he has a message for those of us who live busy lives in the world. “What is God trying to say to us in our busy lives?” He suggests this: “Be patient! Learn to wait—for each other, for love, for happiness, for God!”

Learn to wait! That's not something we do easily and many of our problems flow from that. We often don't wait properly for things.

Annie Dillard shares this story about proper waiting: She had been watching a butterfly emerge from its cocoon and was fascinated by the process until she grew impatient with how long it was taking and, to speed things up, took a candle and heated the cocoon, albeit very gently.

The experiment worked, but it was a mistake in the long run. The butterfly emerged more quickly; however, because adding heat violated something within the natural process, the butterfly was born with wings too weak to fly. Haste and prematurity had stunted and deformed a natural process. Some things can't be rushed.

Dillard understood immediately what had gone wrong. A certain chastity had been violated. Impatience had triggered an irreverence that had interfered with and damaged the natural order of things. In essence, the Christmas gift had been opened too early; the bride had been slept with before the wedding; a process that needed an allotted period of time had been short-circuited. There hadn't been enough advent.

Advent means waiting. Among other things, it celebrates the idea that the messiah must be born from a virgin. Why? Is sex something unworthy of God? If Jesus had been born in a natural way, would that somehow have given him less dignity? This is a dark underside in some spiritualities, but Jesus' birth from a virgin has nothing to do with that.

Scripture and Christian tradition emphasise that Jesus was born of a virgin to underscore the fact that he had no human father and also to teach an important truth, namely, that in order for something sublime to be born there must, first, be a proper chastity, a proper time of waiting, a season of advent. Why?

The answer lies in properly understanding chastity. Chastity is not, first of all, something to do with sex. Chastity has to do with how we experience reality in general, all experience. To be chaste is to have proper reverence—towards God, towards each other, towards nature, towards ourselves, towards reality in general, and towards sex.

Lack of chastity is irreverence, in any area of life, sex included. And reverence is a lot about proper waiting. We can see this by looking at its opposite: To lack chastity, to be irreverent, is to be impatient, selfish, callous, immature, undisciplined, or boorish in any way so that our actions deprive someone else of his or her full uniqueness, dignity, and preciousness. And we do this every time we short-circuit waiting.

Thus, it is understandable why the prime analogate for chastity is proper reverence in the area of sex. Sex, because it so deeply affects the soul, speaks most loudly about chastity or lack of it. Sex is only chaste when it is not short-circuited by impatience, selfishness, or lack of respect. Sadly, because sex is so powerful, these things are often short-circuited. We violate chastity in sex whenever there is prematurity, unfair pressure, subtle

(continued on page 15):