



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.

We are committed to
 being a Child-Safe
 Community

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
 THE BEGINNING OF A NEW LITURGICAL YEAR**

1- 12 - 24

BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH AND LIGHTING THE FIRST CANDLE

Celebrant: Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Saviour of the world. We ask you to bless this Advent wreath, which we honour as a remembrance of your first coming at Bethlehem, your final coming in glory, & 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, & be prepared to meet you on the glorious day of our death.



The wreath is sprinkled with holy water and the first candle is lit.

Celebrant: Lord Jesus, you are the light of the world come that we might have life in its fullness.

All: Come and let your light shine forth in our lives.

Celebrant: Lord Jesus, you are the Flower from the root of Jesse, the sign of salvation for all.

All: Come and let your light shine forth in our lives.

Celebrant: Lord Jesus, you were heralded by all the prophets as the one who would save the people from their sins.

All: Come and let your light shine forth in our lives.

Please resume singing the hymn.

PASTORAL WORKS Broken Bay

Funding: Hospital chaplaincy, State School Catechist ministry, St Lucy's School and St Edmund's College supporting students with disabilities, and the Ephpheta Centre and its ministry among the deaf community.


Our target for this appeal: \$20,000
 Amount raised: \$13,727

Thank you all for your generosity!

However we do still have a current shortfall of nearly \$7000.

If you are still able to help, envelopes for the appeal (which allow for cash or credit card contribution) are still available near the church doors.

Or scan this code - but on the screen which appears make sure that you click on 'Billie Code' & scroll down to select 'Pastoral Works Appeal'.



End of year Healing Mass and pre-Christmas lunch

Our final Healing Mass for the year will be celebrated on Friday 13th December at Killara at the later time of 11:00am and will be followed by a pre-Christmas light lunch in St Joseph's Hall.



Parish Seniors' Social group

The next gathering will be, as usual, on the third Friday of the month - Friday 20th December - at 11:00am in St Brigid's Hall above Holy Family Church (lift access available).

If you'd like to attend the 10am Mass beforehand you're welcome to come upstairs straight afterwards for a cuppa.



AN ECUMENICAL PREPARATION FOR ADVENT
 Last Tuesday around 70 people gathered in Holy Family Church for our Advent Ecumenical Service. Pictured here is supper afterwards in St Brigid's Hall.

*As we gather in worship on this day we acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which our parish is found.
We pay our respects to Elders past and present.*

OUR CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

Children's Vigil Masses:

Tuesday 24th December

5:30pm at Killara

6:00pm at Lindfield

Mass of Christmas Night

Tuesday 24th December

10:30pm at Lindfield

*preceded by a Service of
Carols at 10:00pm*

Christmas morning

Wednesday 25th December

8:00am at Lindfield

9:30am at Killara

10:15am at Lindfield

(no evening Mass on 25th
December)



Advent and the Sacrament of Reconciliation

As the first season of the liturgical year Advent brings with it the invitation to renewal of heart, to 'prepare the way of the Lord'.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a beautiful and gentle way of entering into that movement of the heart.

The sacrament is celebrated on the Saturdays of Advent (see page 6 for times) and there will be a celebration of the Second (community) Rite of Reconciliation on Wednesday 18th December at 7:30pm in Holy Family church.

Please note though that there will be no celebrations of the Sacrament of Reconciliation following the final Saturday before Christmas.



Can you help ?



Due to a very generous parishioner donation we were able to put in a completely new sound and visual system at our Killara church the year before last - wonderfully enriching our liturgy.

However as you would well know the system at our Lindfield church is well past its use-by-date and its much-needed replacement has been on our radar for the last few years.

The good news is that we're now within striking distance of being able to do that. Generous donations from the Chinese Catholic Community mean that we now have \$ 55,000 towards this project - whose total cost is \$66,000.

This is beyond our operating budget so we can only proceed if we can raise the extra \$11,000 from parishioner donations while the quote remains valid. More good news: in the last week several parishioners have donated \$3000 towards this \$11,000 goal.

If you are able to contribute - however large or small - please contact the Parish Office or myself.

Fr Colin

Our Christmas Choir

**for the 10:30pm Mass of Christmas Night
on Tuesday 24th December
(preceded by the Service of Carols at 10pm)**



*We hope you can
take part!*

Rehearsals will be as follows:

Saturday 7th Dec. 3pm to 5pm in Lindfield Church
Saturday 14th Dec. 3pm to 5pm in Lindfield Church
Saturday 21st Dec. 3pm to 5pm in Lindfield Church

Please let Catherine Willis know if you can take part so that she can have music prepared for you:

catherinewillis@gmail.com

NORTH SHORE DEANERY PASTORAL DISCERNMENT

Many thanks to all who took part in the parish meeting several weeks ago. You can view the submission made to the diocese by going to our website and clicking on NEWS & EVENTS → NORTH SHORE PASTORAL DISCERNMENT. All are invited to the next phase: the CONVERSATION FORUM, on Saturday 7 December at 11:30am at St Agatha's Hall Pennant Hills. Details of how to register are on the above webpage of our parish website.

Food for the spirit

ADVENT — A TIME TO LEARN HOW TO WAIT

'When these signs begin to happen, stand erect & raise your heads because your redemption is at hand' (Lk 13:24)

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 what had gone wrong. A certain chastity had been violated. Impatience had triggered an irreverence that had interfered with & 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 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 & 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, & 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! (*Nikos Kazantzakis*)

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.

*Fr Ron Rolheiser OMI (from the Centre for Liturgy,
University of St Louis)*

ARE YOU, OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW, THINKING OF BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

Our RCIA ministry is our way of preparing people for the sacraments of new birth and membership of the Christian community.

The RCIA process starts around the middle of the year and leads to the following Easter. However if someone is seeking Christian faith but actually has no previous background to it we have a separate and earlier process to help them be ready for RCIA itself - this preparatory process starts around February.

In either case we'd love to hear from you NOW so that we can arrange for the best possible process to prepare you for your welcome into the Church.

Please contact Jos Beunen at jos.beunen@gmail.com or on 0427 993982 .



RCIA
A Journey In Faith

Hymns for the First Sunday of Advent

ENTRANCE: O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

Refrain Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, true wisdom from on high,
and order all things far and nigh;
to us the path of knowledge show,
and teach us in her ways to go. **R**

*Then the blessing of the Advent wreath and lighting
of the first candle. (See page 1). After the prayers
we join in singing one more verse of the hymn:*

O come, O branch of Jesse, free
your children from all tyranny;
from depths of Hell your people save
and give them vict'ry o'er the grave. **R**

Text: John Neale (1818-66). Music: adapt. by Thomas Helmore (1811-90)

DEDICATION OF THE GIFTS: SEEK, O SEEK THE LORD

Refrain Seek, O seek the Lord, while He is near;
Trust Him, speak to Him in prayer, and He will hear.

God be with us in our lives,
direct us in our calling;
break the snares the world contrives,
keep us from falling. **R**

God, increase in us the life
that Christ by dying gave us.
Though we faint with mortal strife,
His blood will save us. **R**

Strengthen in our hearts the love
we owe to one another.
How can we love God above
and not each other? **R**

*Text: © Estate of James McAuley;
Tune: Richard Connolly ©1971, Willow Publishing**

COMMUNION: AMAZING GRACE

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now am found
Was blind but now I see.

'Twas Grace that taught my heart to fear
And Grace, my fears relieved
How precious did that Grace appear
The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares
We have already come
'Twas Grace that brought us safe thus far
And Grace will lead us home.

Text: J. Newton (1725-1807), J. Rees (1828-1900). Tune: Virginia Harmony

RECESSIONAL: SEND DOWN THE FIRE

Refrain Send down the fire of your justice,
Send down the rains of your love;
Come, send down the Spirit,
breathe life in your people, and we shall be people of God.

Call us to be your compassion,
Teach us the song of your love;
Give us hearts that sing,
Give us deeds that ring,
Make us ring with the song of your love. **R**

Call us to witness your Kingdom,
Give us the presence of Christ;
May your holy light
Keep us shining bright,
Ever shine with the presence of Christ. **R**

*Martyr Haugen ©1989,1990, GIA Publications Inc.**

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MEMBERSHIP OF THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

The term of our present PPC comes concludes at the end of this year. We thank those who have served our parish in this way over the last three years (and some for longer).

We are now inviting expressions of interest from those who would like to serve the parish in this way for the next 3 years.

If you would like to find out more about the role of the PPC please go to our parish website, click on 'Our Parish' and scroll down to 'Parish Pastoral Council.' On that page you'll find information outlining the role of the PPC.

If you would be interested in becoming part of the ministry of the PPC in 2025 please contact Fr Colin by Friday 6th December.

ADVENT

Such movings, risings and such settings forth.
The world's astir with startings. Many go
From house to house seeking employment or
A room to live in. Voices everywhere
Are calling out loud slogans. War seems near
And there is easy fear.

Look at the mothers trying to seem calm,
See the sons and brothers who may be
Called up to go to war.

But this is also Advent, a good time
Once for a few and now for everyone.
A woman bears a child and carries it
Through the last month. She knows it is a son
And so does Joseph. Both are very poor
And their whole world is troubled. Romans have
Settled down and rule in Palestine.
Division, argument and pain are rife
But O a wonder's near,
A virgin girl is soon to give God life,
God as a man. How can we understand
That man can be divine?

We cannot but the centuries have told
This story as a fact and we believe.

O let us, even in our fear, join hands
As we think of a story that is old
Yet new each year. It is a mystery
How God took time and entered history.

Elizabeth Jennings

*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*

THE PSALM *Ps 24 (25): 4-5, 8-10, 14*

Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour.

The Lord is good and upright.
the Lord shows the path to those who stray,
and guides the humble in the right path;
God teaches his way to the poor.

God's ways are faithfulness and love
for those who keep his covenant and will.
The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him;
to them God reveals his covenant.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and
Resurrection you have set us free.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in 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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Psalm 84:8*)

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant
us your salvation. Alleluia!

**FR RICHARD ROHR OFM'S MEDITATION:
THE WEDDING BANQUETS**

Father Richard describes how several of Jesus' parables use the image of a wedding banquet:

In the New Testament, and particularly for Jesus, the most common image for what God is offering us is a banquet. It's not a trophy, not a prize, not a reward reserved for later, but a participative and joyous party now. A banquet has everything to do with invitation and acceptance; it is never a command performance.

Matthew's Gospel contains the parable of the wedding banquet (Matthew 22:1-14). A king sends out his servants to let the guests know that the banquet has been prepared. "But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business" (22:5). These are not bad things, but just "busyness with many things" that keep them from "the one important thing" (Luke 10:41-42), which is the banquet of conscious divine union. At the end of the parable, the king instructs the servants, "Go out and invite everyone you can find to the wedding feast." The servants returned with "the good and the bad alike" (22:9-10). That phrase has been shocking to most Christians, because we have been taught to believe that Jesus' message is primarily a moral matter in which "bad" people would clearly not belong. Once we know it is primarily a mystical matter, a realisation of union, it reframes the entire journey. Almost by accident, we find ourselves becoming "moral," but morality did not earn us a ticket to the banquet.

In Luke 14, we find three different banquet parables. People are either avoiding them, trying to create hierarchies at them, or simply refusing to come. Just as in Matthew 22, the host almost has to force people to come, and Jesus even offers a bit of nonsensical advice: "When you give a lunch or a dinner, don't ask your friends, brothers, relations, or rich neighbours" (Luke 14:12). He lists the people that we'd logically invite and says, "Don't invite them ... for fear they might repay you in return." (Remember, all rewards for Jesus are inherent, not about expecting something later.) But his message is also a warning against ego systems of reciprocity, and an invitation to pure gratuity.

Jesus is always undercutting what we think is common sense. This passage calls us to nondual thinking and to change our entire form of consciousness. "When you have a party, invite those who are poor, crippled, maimed, or blind, because *the fact that they cannot pay you back will mean you are fortunate*" (14:13)—because now you are inside of a different mind that will allow you to read all your life from a worldview of abundance instead of a worldview of scarcity. God is clearly into abundance and excess, and God's genuine followers share in that largesse: first in receiving it and resting in it, then in allowing it to flow through them toward the world.

SUNDAY MASS

Killara Church :

5:30pm Vigil 9:00am

Lindfield Church

6:00pm Vigil 8:30 am 10:15am **

12 noon Chinese Mass 6:00pm Youth Mass*

* On the 3rd Sunday of the month the 6pm Youth Mass is followed by a Parish Pot Luck Dinner in St Brigid's Hall.

** The 10:15am Mass on the 2nd & 4th Sundays is a Children's Mass, featuring our Children's Choir (followed by morning tea).

WEEKDAY MASS THIS WEEK

FIRST WEEK IN ADVENT

Mon: 8am Killara

Tues. **NO Mass**

Wed. 10am Lindfield

Thur.: 10am Lindfield

Fri.: 10am Lindfield

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays for 15 mins after Vigil Mass at Killara

Saturdays 5.15 - 5.45pm at Lindfield

THE ORDINARIATE OF OUR LADY OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS

(GATHERING IN OUR CHURCH AT KILLARA):

Mass: Sunday 12 noon

PLEASE NOTE: due to Fr Stephen's annual leave there will be no Ordinatee weekday Masses until 26th December.

Parish weekday Masses are as above.

SUNDAY MASS ROSTER

Saturday		30 Nov.	7 Dec.
Lindfield	6:00 pm	Fr Anselam Lakra	Fr Colin
Killara	5:30 pm	Fr David Strong	Fr David Strong
Sunday		1 Dec.	8 Dec.
Lindfield	8:30 am	Fr David Strong	Fr Colin
Killara	9:00 am	Fr Colin	Fr David Strong
Lindfield	10:15 am	Fr Anselam Lakra	Fr Colin
Lindfield	12:00 pm	Fr Anselam Lakra	Fr Joey Frez
Lindfield	6:00pm	Fr Colin	Fr Joey Frez

HOW TO CONTACT US

Fr Colin Blayney, Parish Priest

colin@lindfieldkillara.org.au 0475 558 500

Parish Office Hours: Tue-Fri. ~ 9.30am - 4pm

Postal address: PO Box 22, Lindfield NSW 2070

P: 9416 3702 E: parishoffice@lindfieldkillara.org.au

Parish Website: www.lindfieldkillara.org.au

Fr Stephen Hill, Priest-in-residence E. fr.stephen@me.com

P. 0474 303 261 (VOICE only—no SMS)

For all of our staff click on 'Our Parish' on the website.

Holy Family School: 4 Highfield Rd, Lindfield

E info@holyfamily.nsw.edu.au Ph.7256 2141

Ways that you can support our parish

◆ DIRECT DEBIT CONTRIBUTIONS from your bank a/c:

1st Collection: (providing for the priests of the parish & retired & sick clergy of the diocese):

BSB 062 784 Ac 10000 1624

2nd Collection: (providing for all the operating costs of the parish):

BSB 062 784 Ac 10000 1623

CREDIT CARD : scan this code & then

select each of our two collections:

◆ PERIODIC PAYMENTS FROM YOUR

CREDIT CARD: just click on the hotlink box entitled 'Supporting parish finances' on our homepage

(www.lindfieldkillara.org.au) or email

accounts@lindfieldkillara.org.au for assistance.

◆ The TAP MACHINES are available in our two churches.

**PARISH DIARY**

Every Wednesday: 8:00am Meditation (online)

DECEMBER

Wed. 4th	11:00am	Scripture group Christmas get-together.
Fri. 6th	1:30pm	Year 6 Graduation Mass
Sun. 8th	10:15am	Children's Mass with Children's Choir followed by morning tea and COG Christmas Party (see p.8)..
Fri. 13th	11:00am	Healing Mass & end of year lunch
Sun. 15th	6:00pm 7:00pm	Tarrawarra Group Pot luck dinner after 6pm Mass.
Wed. 18th	7:00pm	Second Rite of Reconciliation
Fri. 20th	11:00am	Parish Seniors' Social Group

OUR CHINESE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

將臨期第一主日 1.12.2024

讀經一 (我必由達味出生一枝正義的苗芽。)

恭讀耶肋米亞先知書 33:14-16

上主說：「看時日將到——上主的斷語——我實實踐我對以色列家和猶大家，所預許賜福的諾言。」

「在那些日子裡，在那時期內，我必由達味出生一枝正義的苗芽，在地上執行公道和正義；在那時日裡，猶大必獲救，耶路撒冷必享安寧；人將稱她的名字為：『上主是我們的正義。』」

——上主的話。(默想片刻)

答唱詠 詠 25 (24): 4-5, 8-10, 14

【答】：上主，我一心仰望你。(詠 25:1)

領：上主，求你使我認識你的法度，並求你教訓我履行你的道路；引我進入真理之途。我終日仰望你，因你是救我的天主。【答】

領：因為上主仁慈又正直，常領迷途者歸回正路，引導謙卑者遵守正義，教導善良者走入正途。【答】

領：對持守上主盟約和誠命的人，上主的一切行常是慈愛和忠誠的。上主親近敬畏自己的人民，也使他們認識自己的盟約。【答】

讀經二 (願主堅固你們的心，使你們在基督來臨時，無可指摘。)

恭讀聖保祿宗徒致得撒洛尼人前書 3:12-4:2

願主使你們彼此間的愛情，及對眾人的愛情，增長滿溢，就像我們對你們所有的愛情，好堅固你們的心，使你們在我們的主耶穌，同他的眾聖者來臨時，在我們的天主父前，在聖德上無可指摘。此外，弟兄們，我們在主耶穌內，還

請求和勸勉你們：你們既由我們學會了應怎樣行事，為中悅天主，你們就該怎樣行事，還要更向前邁進。你們原來知道：我們因主耶穌給了你們什麼誠命。——上主的話。(默想片刻)

福音前歡呼 (詠 85:8)

領：亞肋路亞。

【眾】：亞肋路亞。

領：上主，求你向我們顯示你的寬仁；求你賜給我們你的救恩。

【眾】：亞肋路亞。

福音 (你們的救援近了。)

恭讀聖路加福音 21:25-28, 34-36

那時候，耶穌對門徒們說：「日月星辰將有異兆出現；在地上，萬國要因海洋波濤怒號，而驚惶失措。眾人要因等待即將臨於天下之事，而恐懼昏倒，因為諸天萬象將要動搖。那時，他們要看見人子，帶著威能及莫大光榮，乘雲降來。」

「這些事開始發生時，你們應當挺起身，抬起頭，因為你們的救援近了。」

「你們應當謹慎，免得你們的心，為宴飲沉醉，及為人生的牽掛所拖累，那意想不到的日子，就臨於你們；因為，那日子有如羅網，要籠罩於全地面的一切居民。所以，你們應當時時醒寤祈禱，為使你們能逃脫即將發生的這一切事，並能立於人子之前。」

——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 正午 12 時

彌撒後，請各教友參加午餐聚會

主日學 正午 12 時，請聯絡北區中心

主牧職修女 司徒金美修女

0419 426 899

北區中心聯絡 Gloria Cheung

0416 118 089

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

Recently deceased: June Mercer, Owen McCormack, Mohtaram Lahooti, David Handley, Phillip Hill, Philip Kinsella, Joan Unwin. Anniversary: Shirley Smith, Robert Agus Heru Herlambang, Mary Graham, James Gibbons.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK: Bev Gledhill, Diane McGirr, Mary Moran, Peter Tsang, Wolfgang Liers, Tanya Walsh, Jutta Mathur, Jessica Keen, Therese Playoust, Ali Crawford, Morna Sutherland, Barbara McMullen, Jesse Langford, Cyril Ferriere, Alex Noble, William Wise, Rosanna Comastri, Janette Brennan.

Advent is a time of giving



Gifts for children in Waterloo

For many years our Parish, through the St Vincent de Paul Society, has provided Christmas gifts for children in the Waterloo area. If you can help please take a tag from the Christmas Tree in the foyer of either church, purchase a gift and return by **SUNDAY 8 DECEMBER**.



CANA Christmas Stall

Stock up on all your favourites. Cana goods make great gifts! And all profits from sales goes to help the most disadvantaged in Sydney. Stalls will be in the back of both churches on these weekends:

30 Nov/1 Dec 8/9 December 15/16 December



Food drive for Refugees

Please bring your non-perishable food items and toiletries to the back of both churches. Accepted until 16 December.



Vinnies Christmas Appeal

Please give generously for those in need this Christmas. Envelopes will be available for donations in December.

An Advent Prayer

Lord God, we adore you because you have come to us in the past.
You have spoken to us in the Law of Israel.
You have challenged us in the words of the prophets.
You have shown us in Jesus what you are really like.

Lord God, we adore you because you still come to us now.
You come to us through other people and their love and concern for us.
You come to us through men and women who need our help.
You come to us as we worship you with your people.

Lord God, we adore you because you will come to us at the end.
You will be with us at the hour of death.
You will still reign supreme when all human institutions fail.
You will still be God when our history has run its course.

We welcome you, the God who comes.
Come to us now in the power of Jesus Christ our Lord.

- Caryl Micklem, (Jesuit Resources)

Keeping the time of Advent



Let's not allow this Season which begins a new year of discipleship pass us by:

* **Weekday Mass** in this Season provides us with the richness of the daily Scripture readings and our eucharistic encounter with the Lord whose birth we prepare to celebrate.

* **The Advent booklet 'A Journey of Hope'** provided by our diocese is available in the foyers. It offers reflections based on the four Sunday Gospels of Advent. Please take one home and set a little time aside each week of Advent to enter into the reflection.

* **The Sacrament of Reconciliation** provides an opportunity to reflect on the year that has been and to seek the Lord's strength for a fresh beginning. Apart from the weekly times for this sacrament of mercy we also have our Second Rite of Reconciliation on Wednesday 18th at 7pm (see p.2)

CHILDREN & YOUTH PERMISSION FORM FOR PARTICIPATION

If you haven't completed the form for your child(ren) already, please scan the QR code to sign-up, or enter below link on your browser thank you:

<https://lindfieldkillara.chmeetings.com/forms/CBF1EE1F12CD9BDD>

SIGN UP NOW!



COG FEEDBACK

As it is coming up to the end of the year (WOW!), we would like to get some feedback on how we can improve our parish Sunday School (COG) and maybe see if we can provide more outreach ideas for our primary school parishioners.

Even if your child has never attended COG, I would love to hear how we can support your child's faith, so if you have a chance to, please take the time to fill out our survey (takes about 2 - 3 minutes to complete)

Scan the QR here or visit the link

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfRY1KVmiQFkRMah1nxxhz_OXqsj3aUbEP0CG-Ec2VKca6K9A/





We're so glad you can join us this weekend!

We have many activities for children and youth at our parish. Some activities we've had this year are the following:

Children's Mass (10:15am) on the 2nd and 4th Sunday at Lindfield. Children from every year group can be involved. We have a children's choir and Children can also take part in readings in the children's Mass.



COG (Children of God) after every Children's Mass. All students in years 2 to 6 are invited to COG which is a 45 minute session with games, morning tea and a scripture lesson.

Every Sunday night, we have a youth Mass at 6pm. On the 3rd Sunday of each month, we have our pot luck dinners straight after the Youth Mass upstairs in St Brigid's Hall. All are welcome!



We can't wait to welcome your family into our parish community!

COG CHRISTMAS PARTY

Come Celebrate Christmas with Us!

To celebrate the upcoming Christmas Season and the last COG session of the year, we'll be having a big celebration!

DECEMBER	8	SUNDAY
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STRAIGHT AFTER THE 10:15AM CHILDREN'S MASS

Come along for food, games, prizes, Christmas cookie decorating and... a mystery guest.

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