



5TH SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A, 28TH & 29TH MARCH 2020

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS AND CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND ON WHICH WE STAND. WE WALK ON A LAND ONCE OCCUPIED BY THE GADIGAL PEOPLE OF THE EORA NATION, WHO LIVED IN THIS AREA FOR OVER 30,000 YEARS.
MAY WE CONTINUE TO LOVE AND RESPECT THE LAND AS THEY HAVE.



ST COLUMBA'S
CATHOLIC CHURCH • LEICHHARDT NORTH

Parish Details:

📍 213 Elswick St, North Leichhardt 2040

☎ (02) 9569 2267

📠 (02) 9569 5381



Find us at

www.facebook.com/stcolumbasleichhardt/

✉ admin@stcolumba.org.au

🌐 www.stcolumba.org.au

Office Hours:

9:30am-2:30pm Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

All bulletin notices to be in by 12pm Wednesday

(Please email or leave under office door and write your message clearly).

Parish Priest:

Fr Peter Smith.....✉ pp@stcolumba.org.au

Parish Office Administrator

Marcia Droguett.....✉ admin@stcolumba.org.au

Pastoral Associate

Nicola Connors.....✉ pa@stcolumba.org.au

Pastoral Council

Secretary.....✉ secretary@stcolumba.org.au

St Columba's School

Principal: Bernard Ryan.....☎ 9569 1270

If you would like to contribute to the Parish Planned Giving please speak to Fr Peter, pick up a form in the Church foyer or contact the office.



From Fr Peter's Desk....

*What can I say to you, my friend,
in your hour of grief?
Just a word from my heart.
In the midst of your sorrow seeds are
being sown—seeds of consolation,
hope, resignation, and even gratitude.
This winter will pass,
and spring will again visit the
garden of your heart.
You will see these seeds grow, blossom,
and bear fruit.
Then your sorrow will turn into joy,
a joy no one will be able to take from
you.*



In response to the most recent government regulations on COVID- 19, ALL MASSES AND PARISH EVENTS ARE CANCELLED until further notice.

This also means Baptisms and sacramental programs are suspended until further notice.

Please keep up to date on our website and FaceBook page

“Mass for you” is broadcasted on Channel 10 at 6am Sunday mornings

TODAY'S LITURGY

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Cf. Psalm 42:1-2
Give me justice, O God,
and plead my cause against
a nation that is faithless.
From the deceitful and
cunning rescue me,
for you, O God, are my strength

1ST READING: Ezekiel 37:12-14
*I shall put my spirit in you,
and you will live.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 129
With the Lord there is mercy
and fullness of redemption.

2ND READING: Romans 8:8-11
*If the Spirit of him who raised
Jesus from the dead is living
in you then he will give life
to your own moral bodies.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: John 11:25, 26
Glory and praise to you,
Lord Jesus Christ!
I am the resurrection
and the life; says the Lord;
whoever believes in me will not die for ever.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL: John 11:1-45
I am the resurrection and the life.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: John 11:26
Everyone who lives and believes
in me will not die for ever,
says the Lord.

Please note:

*Names will be removed from the sick list
after 2 months, unless parish office is notified.*

We pray for all those who are sick, including:

Carmella Scarpellino, Jirka Hendrich, Dot New, Mabel Winter, Sylvia Gallagher, Cecila Bryant, Mary-Terez Dowlings, Milada Pecnikova, Kim Rowels, Mirko Popovic, Connie Kennedy, Monika Doktorova, Peter McCann, Bill Leis, William Francis O'Connor, Fr George Carrol, Mary Gleeson, Steve Bates, Bill Patterson, Cienna Psaila, Patricia O'Toole, Ida Pavelka, Joan Windsor, Raquel Bailey, and all those at The Marion Aged Care and Lewisham Nursing Home



*We remember and pray for all our deceased
Relatives and Friends*

Recently Deceased: Jean Reardon,
Patricia Manning, Jim Walsh, Aileen Giles

Anniversary: Rita Consiglio, Pete Olas Snr, Luz Sitchon, , Silvia Jones, Catania

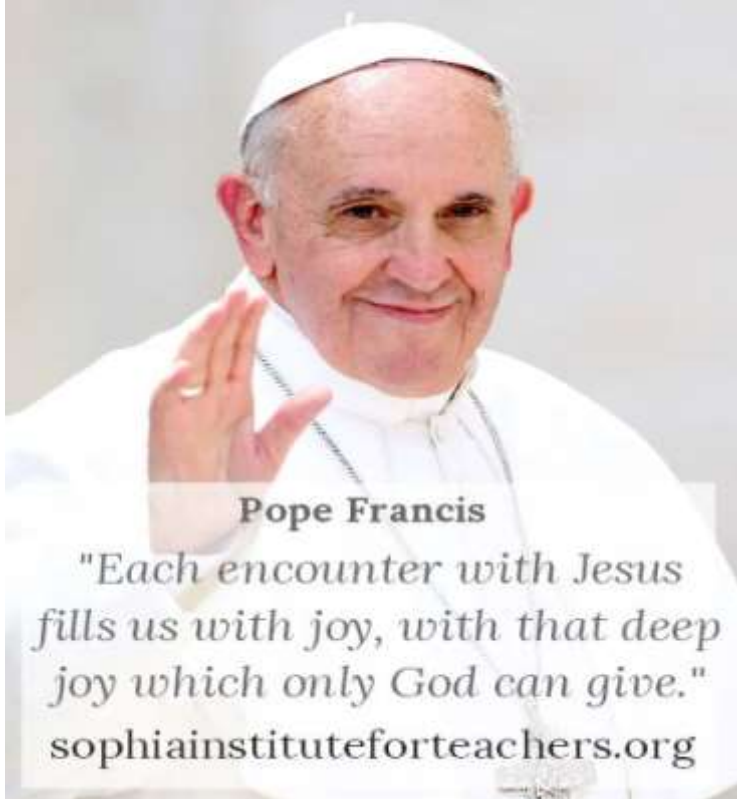
Thank you to everyone in our community with positive response to the changes that have been made because of COVID-19.

Information is changing rapidly, and we will communicate as effectively as we can on our website and Facebook page with direction from the Archdiocese of Sydney.

"Pastoral Letter to the Clergy and Faithful of the Archdiocese of Sydney regarding the latest restrictions in response to the COVID-19 pandemic 23 March 2020" can be found on the landing page of our website.

Sunday Homilies can be found towards the bottom of the landing page of the Sydney Archdiocese website.

<https://www.sydneycatholic.org/>



Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)

For the time being, our parish will continue supporting JRS with grocery donations. JRS are asking for donations of Basmati Rice, canned tuna in oil, Longlife milk, pasta/spaghetti, tinned tomatoes and/ or cans of chick peas. These can be left at the parish office during office hours on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Many thanks!



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Social Justice - St Columba's

Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Australia to serve refugees and people seeking asylum in need during the COVID-19 pandemic

The situation at our JRS centres in Western Sydney:

COVID-19 is having significant impacts on the Australian community: on physical health, on social connectedness and mental health, and livelihoods.

We share in the pain and anxiety that this is causing for all.

The more-than-3000 women, children, and men that JRS Australia serves in NSW are feeling these impacts especially hard. If nothing changes, the situation will be catastrophic.

Ali* came to Arrupe Place on Friday asking for fresh food, and money for rent. Ali had lost his casual job as a driver for a private car company. Ali has a young family with three children, and is worried about how they will survive.

Like all other people seeking asylum, Ali and his family have no access to any form of safety net in Australia, including under the government's newly announced welfare package.

Amongst the women, children, and men who are most vulnerable, many do not have work rights or cannot work for health reasons, are at acute risk of homelessness, are dealing with pre-existing physical or mental health illnesses, are immuno-suppressed, and do not have access to fundamental services such as Medicare. Many were already relying on emergency support from charities such as JRS Australia.

Azima*, a single mother without work rights and Medicare, told JRS Australia staff that she and her family will be at risk of destitution if foodbank and emergency payments cease to operate.

"I cannot buy food at the shops...I'm not sure what to do if I cannot come here."

JRS Australia's foodbank supports close to 400 families and individuals with staple foods such as rice, pasta, tinned tomatoes and chickpeas, long-life, milk and hygiene items such as nappies, tampons, and toilet paper. We provide emergency payments to hundreds of individuals, including children to pay for rent and life-saving medications.

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What we are doing.

JRS Australia is committed to reducing community transmission of the COVID-19 virus. We take seriously the responsibility to prioritise the health and safety of staff, volunteers, clients, and partners.

At the same time, we are working hard to ensure that we can meet the critical needs of the people we serve – in the absence of any federal government support.

This is a difficult and shifting balance.

For now, our focus is on ensuring that the people in greatest need have access to food, emergency financial support, and access to our specialist case work team.

We are also speaking to NGOs, Catholic, and cross-sector partners about the need for the federal and state governments to step in and support people seeking asylum with timely access to Medicare, work rights, and a safety net for those who are particularly vulnerable.

COVID-19 does not discriminate, nor should we.

More on this soon.

How can you help?

(1) Please donate money to JRS Australia's Emergency Cash Appeal. This money will go towards replenishing our foodbank, paying for medication, and rent, and supporting women out of domestic violence situations. To donate, please call (02) 9356 3888 or email jrsreception@jrs.org.au

(2) Please donate essential food and hygiene items to JRS Australia's foodbank. To donate, please call (02) 9098 9336 or email amelia.savage@jrs.org.au

(3) Please sign up to volunteer. We need people to pack food, act as drivers, and make phone calls. To volunteer, please call (02) 9098 9336 or email jane.turner@jrs.org.au

(4) Please follow our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages for updates on the situation for refugees and people seeking asylum and our response.

In solidarity,
Carolina Gottardo and the JRS Australia team

TO DONATE: <https://www.jrs.org.au/donate-now/>



Phone Buddy Network

Parishioners who want to be part of the program will register. Then, parishioners will be paired up with one another and become each others 'Phone Buddy.'

Buddies will then contact each other (via phone) a couple of times a week to have a chat, share a story, pray etc.

The community of St Columba's have launched 'Phone Buddy Network' to help everyone to stay connected during this challenging time.

How can you register into the program?

Email your name and phone number to the Pastoral Associate pa@stcolumba.org.au



Here's a way to practise physical distancing while keeping social connection...

You are invited to join by the Zoom link below the Australian Religious Response to Climate Change's (ARRCC) regular Multi-Faith spiritual sessions where someone will lead a reflection, followed by silence, some prayer and sharing. The sessions will be held for 45 minutes for Wednesdays during April starting April 1st, at 10 am AEDT (NSW, Vic and Tas). Include a Darug/Wiradjuri/Kamilaroi woman, Ceane Towers; a Catholic Religious, Sr Jan Barnett, a Muslim activist, Fahimah Badrulhisham and a Triratna Buddhist, Marian (Dhiracharita) van Enst.

You are invited to join via this Zoom link:

<https://zoom.us/j/199968983?pwd=N3MxZFpvQ3pDbGRFdKRoCXZsUDIvQT09>

Meeting ID: 199 968 983

Password: 004221

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/aeEoTqnhzy> my iPhone

The details are also on the [ARRCC Facebook](#) page

Clocks go BACK 1 hour on Sunday 5th April 2020



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

CONTACT: SECRETARY@STCOLUMBA.ORG.AU

VISION STATEMENT

To witness to the Gospel, through the power of the Holy Spirit, to the eternal love of Christ; by building and sustaining an open, welcoming and friendly community in which people grow in their relationships with God, each other and the wider community.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of St Columba's Parish Pastoral Council is to:

- welcome and embrace new parishioners;
- support and direct the work of the Parish Priest, Pastoral Associate, and parish groups;
- support and encourage the people of St Columba's parish;
- provide vision and direction to the people of St Columba's parish;
- collaborate with the parish school;
- give members of our parish community a voice; and
- empower people to lead and make positive contributions to our parish and the wider community.

TO ACHIEVE THIS, WE:

- see;
- judge;
- act; and
- review.

WE, AS A GROUP, ARE FUNDAMENTALLY COMMITTED TO:

- prayer and reflection;
- our shared Catholic faith;
- bringing Christ's love and grace to Leichhardt and the broader community;
- acting co-operatively as a group based on participation and consensus, not factions or parties; and
- facilitating the spiritual growth of all under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

MEMBERS OF THE PASTORAL COUNCIL ARE:

Fr Peter Smith *Parish Priest*
 Bernard Ryan *Principal*
 Nicola Connors *Family Ed.*
 Renata Popovic-Tomac
Chairperson
 Vasile Tian *Secretary*

David Hair
 Jennifer Cheal
 Therese Pacey
 Adrian Overs
 Tino Mian

A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

29th March 2020
Fifth Sunday of Lent

Celebrant: Sisters and brothers, the raising of Lazarus from the dead pointed mysteriously toward Jesus' own resurrection, and to the promise that God wills that we shall live forever

1. With deep concern in this time of the Coronavirus: for the recovery of those infected, for the safety of those caring for them, and for those engaged in research. *(Pause 1, 2, 3) Lord hear us*

2. With compassion for those vulnerable to the coronavirus for those who are highly anxious, and for those who are now isolated from family and loved ones. *(Pause 1, 2, 3) Lord hear us*

3. With solidarity with those facing a financial crisis:
for those whose employment has ceased,
for small business which are now collapsing,
for those seeking Centrelink support. *(Pause 1, 2, 3) Lord hear us*

4. With hope for those in crisis:
for disabled children and their families in Malawi
finding support through Project Compassion,
for those still struggling after the bushfires,
for farmers and communities still struggling because of the drought.
(Pause 1, 2, 3) Lord hear us

5. With unity in faith:
for Christians persecuted for their faith in the Middle East,
for those deprived of the Eucharist, open to finding Christ in the Scriptures, charity and in the poor, and for those searching for a deeper meaning to life. *(Pause 1, 2, 3) Lord hear us*

6. With trust in the mercy of God:
for those who have died of the coronavirus,
for those who have died alone,
for all who believe Jesus to be their Resurrection and their Life. *(Pause 1, 2, 3) Lord hear us*

Celebrant: Lord, you always hear the cry of your people,
stand close now to all humanity in these anxious times,
and awaken in the hearts of all the virtues
of kindness, concern and compassion.
Through Christ our Lord.