



# PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD YEAR A, 4TH & 5TH APRIL 2020



**ST COLUMBA'S**  
CATHOLIC CHURCH • LEICHHARDT NORTH

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.

## Parish Details:

📍 213 Elswick St, North Leichhardt 2040

☎ (02) 9569 2267

📠 (02) 9569 5381



Find us at  
[www.facebook.com/stcolumbasleichhardt/](http://www.facebook.com/stcolumbasleichhardt/)

✉ [admin@stcolumba.org.au](mailto:admin@stcolumba.org.au)

🌐 [www.stcolumba.org.au](http://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](mailto:pp@stcolumba.org.au)

## Parish Office Administrator

Marcia Droguett.....✉ [admin@stcolumba.org.au](mailto:admin@stcolumba.org.au)

## Pastoral Associate

Nicola Connors.....✉ [pa@stcolumba.org.au](mailto:pa@stcolumba.org.au)

## Pastoral Council

Secretary.....✉ [secretary@stcolumba.org.au](mailto: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....*

*Lord, remember not only people of good will but also people of ill will. Do not remember only the sufferings that have been inflicted on us, but remember too the fruit we have bought as a result of this suffering: the comradeship and loyalty, the humility and courage, the generosity and greatness of heart that has grown out of it. And when they come to judgement, let all the fruits that we have borne be their forgiveness.*

*(Prayer found in Auschwitz)*

**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**

**Live Masses can be found on [www.sydneycatholic.org/live-masses/](http://www.sydneycatholic.org/live-masses/)**

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

## TODAY'S LITURGY

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** *Cf. John 12:1, 12-13; Psalm 23:9-10*

Six days before the Passover,  
the Lord came into the city of  
Jerusalem, the children ran to meet him;  
in their hands they carried palm  
branches and with a loud voice cried out:  
Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you,  
who have come in your abundant mercy!  
O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher,  
ancient doors. Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is this king of glory?  
He, the Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory.  
Hosanna in the highest!  
Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant  
mercy!

**1ST READING:** *Isaiah 50 4-7*  
*I did not cover my face against  
insult and I know I will not be ashamed.*

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** *Psalm 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24*  
My God, my God,  
why have you abandoned me?

**2ND READING:** *Philippians 2:6-11*  
*He humbled himself to  
become like us and God raised  
him on high.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** *Philippians 2:8-9*  
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,  
king of endless glory! Christ  
became obedient for us even to  
death, dying on the cross. Therefore  
God raised him on high and have  
him a name above all other names.  
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ,  
king of endless glory!

**GOSPEL:** *Matthew 27:11-54*  
The passion of our Lord Jesus  
Christ according to Matthew.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** *Matthew 26:42*  
Father, if this chalice cannot  
pass without my drinking it, your will be done.



"To experience Holy Week is to enter more and  
more into God's logic of love and self-giving."  
~ Pope Francis via @pontifex

*Please note:*

*Names will be removed from the sick list*

### **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 .....*

**Anniversary:** *Ann Hodges, Domenico  
Carbona, Robert (Bob) Crowe, Joshua Saunders*

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

As updates come through, and we will  
communicate as effectively as we can on our website  
and Facebook page with direction from the  
Archdiocese of Sydney.

**"Third Pastoral Letter to the Clergy and Faithful  
of the Archdiocese of Sydney regarding the latest  
restrictions in response to the COVID19  
pandemic 30 March 2020" can be found on the  
landing page of our website.**

**We are very pleased to announce that **Channel 7**  
will broadcast the **Lord's Passion on Good Friday**  
**(10 April) at 3pm and the Easter Sunday Mass (12**  
**April) at 10:30am live from St Mary's Cathedral****

**List of live Masses can be found on**  
**<https://www.sydneycatholic.org/live-masses/>**

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

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



**Supporting the Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS)**

People seeking asylum do not have access to Centrelink, Medicare, or the pharmaceutical benefits scheme – your support is critical. For many people seeking asylum, JRS is their only safety net. Please help if you can.

**Urgently needed: Basmati Rice, Cooking oil, Long Life Milk, Tinned tuna, red kidney beans, lentils, chick peas, shampoo, toothpaste and toothbrushes, sanitary pads, soap, napkins ...**

Please leave donations at the Parish Office during opening hours on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. One of our team will make sure they get to JRS Centre at Westmead.

**The JRS Noticeboard.**

This will not be functioning until further notice.

**Spotlight on Aboriginal issues**

This Sunday, April 5, is the twenty-third anniversary of the 'Bring Them Home Report'. This was a National Inquiry conducted in 1997, into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from their families.

The Australian Human Rights Commission describes this report as 'a tribute to the strength and struggles of many thousands of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people affected by forcible removal'.

The report can be found in full with the following weblink: [https://www.humanrights.gov.au/sites/default/files/content/pdf/social\\_justice/bringing\\_them\\_home\\_report.pdf](https://www.humanrights.gov.au/sites/default/files/content/pdf/social_justice/bringing_them_home_report.pdf)

**A Police State?**

Several times last year we wrote about the case of Witness K and Bernard Collaery. They have been charged under Australia's anti-terrorism laws for revealing the truth about our government's attempts to swindle the East Timorese out of the gas and oil reserves of the Timor Sea. As it turns out in the case of the helium reserves there, ordinary Australians were fleeced as well by the government's duplicity. Guess where the profits went! Two excellent commentaries on this situation can be found by googling Bernard Collaery's Bombshell and Why this barrister is facing conspiracy charges.

**Let's stay connected!**

I'm a great believer that little acts of kindness can make a huge difference. I was in line at Woolies earlier this week and saw Carmel. The next day I was out walking and Steve rode by on his bike. Being greeted by big broad smiles from both Carmel and Steve felt good. Just these simple gestures gave me a deep sense of belonging to the St Columba's



community. Now with tighter lockdown laws I won't be going out much at all. I wondered how we as a community might stay connected. Then I thought of using our Bulletin to send messages. That might work! Would you like to send something? It could be a quick "hello", a prayer request, or perhaps you might like to tell us what your favourite piece of music is, share a recipe, write a short book review.... or ANYTHING. Please send your contributions to Marcia at the Parish office. We'd love to hear from you!

One small thing I've done is put a couple of teddies in our windows. I got the idea from our children, who saw it on FaceBook. They told me how much their own children enjoyed going on "Teddy Walks" and counting teddies. Hopefully my teddies might help to brighten someone's day.



What I'm about to share is quite long. For me thinking about my faith, this poem says it all. No matter what we go through, *"we are always encompassed by Love."*

**Lockdown by Fr. Richard Hendrick, OFM**

Yes there is fear.  
Yes there is isolation.  
Yes there is panic buying.  
Yes there is sickness.  
Yes there is even death.  
But,  
They say that in Wuhan after so many years of noise  
You can hear the birds again.  
They say that after just a few weeks of quiet  
The sky is no longer thick with fumes  
But blue and grey and clear.  
They say that in the streets of Assisi  
People are singing to each other  
across the empty squares,  
keeping their windows open  
so that those who are alone  
may hear the sounds of family around them.  
They say that a hotel in the West of Ireland  
Is offering free meals and delivery to the housebound.  
Today a young woman I know  
is busy spreading fliers with her number  
through the neighbourhood  
So that the elders may have someone to call on.  
Today Churches, Synagogues, Mosques and Temples  
are preparing to welcome  
and shelter the homeless, the sick, the weary  
All over the world people are slowing down and  
reflecting





**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 <i>Parish Priest</i>	David Hair
Bernard Ryan <i>Principal</i>	Jennifer Cheal
Nicola Connors <i>Family Ed.</i>	Therese Pacey
Renata Popovic-Tomac	Adrian Overs
<i>Chairperson</i>	Tino Mian
Vasile Tian <i>Secretary</i>	

All over the world people are looking at their neighbours in a new way  
 All over the world people are waking up to a new reality  
 To how big we really are.  
 To how little control we really have.  
 To what really matters.  
 To Love.  
 So we pray and we remember that  
 Yes there is fear.  
 But there does not have to be hate.  
 Yes there is isolation.  
 But there does not have to be loneliness.  
 Yes there is panic buying.  
 But there does not have to be meanness.  
 Yes there is sickness.  
 But there does not have to be disease of the soul  
 Yes there is even death.  
 But there can always be a rebirth of love.  
 Wake to the choices you make as to how to live now.  
 Today, breathe.  
 Listen, behind the factory noises of your panic  
 The birds are singing again  
 The sky is clearing,  
 Spring is coming,  
 And we are always encompassed by Love.  
 Open the windows of your soul  
 And though you may not be able  
 to touch across the empty square,  
 Sing.

**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

**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](mailto: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.

**Passion (Palm) Sunday**

**5<sup>th</sup> April 2020**

Celebrant: Sisters and brothers, on this Passion Sunday we unite the sufferings of the world with the sufferings and sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

By the Cross of Jesus may the fears and anxieties of humanity in the midst of this coronavirus pandemic be calmed:  
those sick and their apprehensive families,  
those now isolated because of age or other illnesses,  
those without income or facing homelessness. *(Pause 1, 2, 3) Lord hear us*

By the Cross of Jesus  
may the courage of many be sustained:  
those who care for the sick and dying,  
those who are engaged in research,  
those who are developing public policies. *(Pause 1, 2, 3) Lord hear us*

By the Cross of Jesus  
may our concern be for those who are particularly vulnerable:  
those across the world who live in dire poverty,  
those trapped in places of war and violence,  
those living in refugee camps. *(Pause 1, 2, 3) Lord hear us*

By the Cross of Jesus  
may justice be given to all now financially struggling:  
those whose employment has ceased or is threatened,  
those distressed about their children,  
those charities whose donations have dried up. *(Pause 1, 2, 3) Lord hear us*

By the Cross of Jesus  
may the dead be raised to new life:  
those who have died of the coronavirus,  
those who died alone and in fear,  
those who died, thirsting for the Sacraments. *(Pause 1, 2, 3) Lord hear us*

Celebrant: Loving and compassionate God,  
be close to us,  
so that realizing that churches are not closed,  
but only buildings,  
we, the living Church, will keep our hearts open  
to receive your love and to share it with others.  
Through Christ our Lord.