

2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR A, 18TH & 19TH 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/

✉ 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.

Please visit our website or facebook page to hear an Easter Message from Fr Peter.



From Fr Peter's Desk....

Some people think that if you have enough faith life will be plain sailing for you.

But this is not so.

The fact that we can swim doesn't prevent us from being knocked out by the waves. In the same way faith doesn't shield us from the hard knocks of life or death.

What, then does faith do?

It gives us bearings and thus enables us to live in a topsy-turvy world without getting lost of giving into despair.

Just as swimmers trust that if they don't panic, and if they do a few simple things, then the power of the sea will uphold them, so believers entrust their lives to a power greater than themselves, a power greater than us all.

This power is the power for God, who brought his Son, Jesus back from the dead.

In response to the 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/

TODAY'S LITURGY

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: *1 Peter 2:2*
*Like newborn infants,
you must long for the pure,
spiritual milk, that in him
you may grow to salvation, alleluia.*

1ST READING: *Acts 2:42-47*
*The faithful lived together
and owned everything in common*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *Psalm 117:2-4, 13-15, 22-24*
*Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is
everlasting.*

2ND READING: *1 Peter 1:3-9*
*He has given us a new birth as
his children, by raising Jesus
Christ from the dead.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *John 20:29*
Alleluia, Alleluia!
*You believe in me, Thomas,
because you have seen me;
happy those who have not
seen me, but still believe!*

GOSPEL: *John 20:19-31*
*After eight days,
Jesus came in and stood among them.*

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: *Cf. John 20:27*
*Bring your hand and feel
the place of the nails,
and do not be unbelieving
but believing, alleluia*

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*

Anniversary: *Irene Turner, Noreen Agnes Terstegee, Fred Greech, Carmel McCarthy, Charles Agius, John Connelly*

Livestreaming of Parish Masses

Viewing numbers across the archdiocese with those streaming Masses are continuing to increase which is great. More than one million people across the country watched the Good Friday and Easter Sunday services live from St Mary's Cathedral last weekend on Channel 7.

The Passion of Our Lord on Good Friday reached 545,000 broadcast viewers with an additional 86,000 live-streaming and social media viewers reaching a total audience of 631,000, 42.4 per cent of the available audience. The Easter Sunday 10.30am Mass reached a whopping 568,000 broadcast viewers with a further 113,000 live-streaming and social media viewers reaching a total of 681,000 viewers – attracting a 46.3 per cent audience share.

Overwhelmingly, the audiences were highest in the Sydney metropolitan area, followed by NSW, the ACT, Western Australia and Queensland.

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/>

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.



**PROJECT
COMPASSION**
GO FURTHER TOGETHER

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING PROJECT COMPASSION 2020
COVID-19 is affecting all of us. In these challenging times, your kindness and solidarity can make a world of difference to the lives of the most vulnerable. Your support is life-saving.

DO YOU HAVE PC BOXES AND CASH TO HAND IN?

We know that many of you may not be able to hand in your PC Boxes, or cash, to parishes or schools at this time. Did you know that you can go online at lent.caritas.org.au and securely donate with your credit card, or you can send a cheque to Caritas Australia, GPO Box 9830 Sydney NSW 2001. Alternatively, if you require assistance with your PC Box or cash, please call our friendly team on 1800 024 413.



Social Justice - St Columba's

Supporting the Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS)

COVID-19 is creating an avalanche of need on the ground for people seeking asylum. Katie Spiroski, JRS Caseworker Manager, writes that, "More people are in crisis than ever before. Calls to our casework service have doubled in the space of two weeks. There are more than 100 families and individuals on our waiting-lists running out of food, rent, or money for medical payments. 90% of JRS' caseworker phone calls with clients involve discussions about homelessness and hopelessness. 80% contain suicidal ideations..."

Foodbank stocks urgently needed: Basmati rice, cooking oil, long life milk, tinned tuna, red kidney beans, lentils, chick peas, shampoo, tooth-paste and toothbrushes, sanitary pads, soap, napkins ...

Please leave donations at the Office. One of our team will make sure they get to the JRS Centre at Westmead. Please keep the donations coming in!

NB: During the school holidays, the Office will only be open on Thursdays.

Wishlist

Tallboy or chest of drawers: for family who need storage for newborn baby clothes.

Food vouchers: preferably in email/paper form so they can be posted out to clients.

Laptop: Single man studying English at TAFE. Needed so he can participate in virtual classes if you can help with any of these, please contact

fayhair11@gmail.com

Or, maybe you could **make a donation to the JRS Australia's Emergency cash appeal**. To donate, please call 9356 3888 or email jrsreception@jrs.org.au.

Volunteers are needed to pack and deliver food packages from Westmead. If you can help, please email Jane Turner: jane.turner@jrs.org.au

Spotlight on Aboriginal issues: An Acknowledgement of Country to reflect on....

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land which was never ceded where we are now gathered, the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation, and recognise that it continues to be sacred to them. We hail them: as guardians of the earth and of all things that grow and breed in the soil; as trustees of the waters – [the seas, the streams and rivers, the ponds and the lakes] - and the rich variety of life in those waters. We thank them for passing this wisdom and heritage to every people since the Dreamtime. We acknowledge the wrongs done to them by newcomers to this land and we seek to



be partners with them in righting these wrongs and in living together in peace and harmony with them and with the land. As we do this, we must also acknowledge the loss of their hunting grounds, the destruction of their ceremonial places and sacred sites, and the great loss of life from all kinds of violence and disease, and that the land was never given away. We must also acknowledge the voices of the people that we presented to us as the Voice from the Heart and listen to them. Claude Mostowik Msc

Why not include everyone?

JobSeeker legislation passed last week provides support to 6 million workers and families. It is the biggest support package in Australian history and can be seen as a win for civil society who campaigned through business leaders, community groups and unions to achieve this. However, more than 2 million workers in casual work or on temporary visas (including overseas students, people seeking asylum and refugees) remain excluded. The campaign to include them in either JobKeeper and JobSeeker must continue! It's not too late because the legislation gives the Treasurer broad discretion to change the eligibility for JobKeeper payments without the need to recall parliament. Can you contact the Treasurer and /or The Finance Minister to voice your concerns?

Let's stay connected!

A reflection from Amanda...

Well, it wasn't like any Easter we've had before! Although we don't live close enough to family to make family get-togethers part of our Easter rituals, there is usually the option of going to WA to see them, or attending Easter services in a holiday town, or enjoying being part of the St Columba's liturgies. This year it was live-streaming liturgies from our couch (we're enjoying the St John Bosco services, which are more family-friendly than others I've tried) and joining up with faraway family and friends on Zoom and Houseparty.

But we're finding that "different" is not necessarily "worse". Catch ups with faraway family and friends that are not usually possible due to impossibly busy schedules over several different time zones are happening more frequently. And, with nowhere to be, we've had more time to just "be" together - whether it's by the kids rediscovering their toys and puzzles, and getting along slightly better in the process (touch

wood), or exercising, or watching movies, or getting through house jobs that have been piling up over the years, or having-dinner together because no-one is commuting or stuck in the office. Just don't mention home-schooling ...!

What about you? What's happening in your households? What was your Easter like? Do you have any stories, poems, favourite music, books, recipes, that you'd like to share via the Bulletin. Please send your contributions to Marcia... We'd love to hear from you!



We are here to help



We want to reassure you that we are here to help. Our Home Care, Residential Aged Care and Retirement Living services are operating today and every day to ensure you keep receiving quality care and support.

For more information on our services please watch our Aged Care Services Explained vide to make the right choice of how we can help <https://youtu.be/pFpPt5RG1RU>

To contact us call 1800 225 474



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



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.

The Universal Prayer
Second Sunday of Easter
19th April 2020

Celebrant Sisters and brothers, the risen Jesus who greets his fearful disciples with the blessing of peace is the one acclaimed as Lord and God by the apostle Thomas.

1. May our leaders in government at the Federal, State and Local levels, have a concern for the common good and ensure that everyone in Australia is cared for 'according to what each one needs'. *(Pause 1, 2, 3) Lord hear us*
2. May those who work to help others during this Coronavirus Pandemic – all in the medical, nursing and pastoral services, staff in supermarket and other food outlets, delivery drivers, farmers and dairy producers, Police, Military, Ambulance drivers, and Emergency Services - be respected by us all in a spirit of deep gratitude. *(Pause 1, 2, 3) Lord hear us*
3. May those who struggle with their Christian faith, and those who search for a faith, find in the experience of the apostle Thomas, the grace to discover the risen Jesus through family and household prayer, the reading of the Scriptures, and by serving the poor and needy. *(Pause 1, 2, 3) Lord hear us*
4. May all who live in critical situations during this pandemic: in war zones and refugee camps and in places of poverty with limited medical services, where there is religious persecution, and in prisons and detention centres, not be forgotten by the wealthy nations of the world. *(Pause 1, 2, 3) Lord hear us*
5. May all of our sick in hospitals, in nursing homes and in their own homes, the frail aged and those with chronic illness or disability, and those cut off from families at this time, know that they too are our concern, held up to God in prayer. *(Pause 1, 2, 3) Lord hear us*
6. May all who have died at this time, denied a burial surrounded by their families and friends, know the blessed company of Mary and the Saints, praising the risen Jesus, the heavenly Father and the Divine Spirit.
We also remember... *Irene Turner, Noreen Agnes Tersteegen, Fred Greech, Carmel McCarthy, Charles Agius, John Connelly* *(Pause 1, 2, 3) Lord hear us*

Celebrant: Father, with St Thomas we acclaim Jesus as our Lord and God, and as we give thanks for every blessing received, in this time of concern and anxiety we will put all our trust in Jesus, who lives and reigns for ever and ever.



Emergency Cash Appeal.

During COVID-19, many refugees and people seeking asylum need help to prevent homelessness and entering into new heights of destitution and hunger. For many, JRS Australia is the only safety-net. Many cannot access Medicare. Our clients include children, women and men living in Sydney.

Donating to our Emergency Cash Appeal will help us replenish our foodbank, pay for urgent medication, rent, support women out of domestic violence situations and assist people who have lost their jobs.

It's hard for everyone right now, but together, we can make it through COVID-19.

- ***\$40 feeds a single adult for one week***
- ***\$70 feeds one family for a week***
- ***\$350-\$500 pays for a week's rent***

To help, please call (02)9356 3888 or email: jrsreception@jrs.org.au or click the link above this post.

Pictured: a donation to our foodbank. This food will be delivered to people seeking asylum and refugees.



LIKE IT. SHARE IT. AND FINALLY, THANK YOU FOR STANDING WITH PEOPLE SEEKING ASYLUM AND REFUGEES