



26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 26TH & 27TH SEPTEMBER 2020, YEAR A



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

✉ 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

**PLEASE USE THE GOOGLE FORM TO
PRE-REGISTER FOR MASS**
<https://forms.gle/3Us7AkpE5GzN8imU7>

Sunday Mass Times:

Saturday Vigil.....5:00pm

Sunday.....8:00am

Sunday Family Mass.....10:00am

Weekday Services:

Friday: 9:15am

Reconciliation:

By appointment

**All sacraments are resuming at
St Columba's, Please contact the parish
office for more information**



From Fr Peter's Desk....

A father had three sons
one day he said to them,
"Go and work in the vineyard today".

The first said,
'Sure, Dad'. But he didn't go.

The second said,
"I wont go'. However,
later in the day he changed his mind
and went grudgingly.

The third said, "Sure, dad."
And he went immediately and willingly.
Which of the sons will feel closest to the
father at the end of the day?

The third, of course.
The more we do the will
of God out of love,
the more we will appreciate
his love for us.

Lord, save us from the darkness of
broken promises, and help us to walk in
the light of faithfulness.

**Please keep up to date on our
website and Face Book pag
Live Masses can be found on
www.sydneycatholic.org/live-masses/**



**Fr Peter's weekly Podcasts of the
Gospel are uploaded weekly onto
our website and Face Book page.**

<https://scln1.podbean.com/>

TODAY'S LITURGY

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: *Daniel 3:31, 29, 30, 43, 42*
*All that you have done to us,
O Lord, you have done with
true judgement, for we have sinned against
you and not obeyed our commandments.
But give glory to your name and deal with us
according to the bounty of your mercy.*

1ST READING: *Ezekiel 18:25-28*
*The sinner who decides to
turn against sinfulness deserves to live.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *Psalms 24:4-9*
Remember your mercies, O Lord.

2ND READING: *Philippians 2:1-11*
*In your minds you must be
the same as Christ Jesus.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *John 10:27*
Alleluia, alleluia!
My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;
I know them, and they follow me.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL: *Matthew 21:28-32*
He went out moved by regret,
The tax collectors and prostitutes
will precede you into the kingdom of God.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON *Cf. Psalm 118:49-50*
Remember your word to your servant,
O Lord, by which you have given me hope. This is my
comfort when I am brought low.

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:

Sharon Weetman, Carmella Scarpellino, Jirka Hendrich,
Mary-Terez Dowlings, Milada Pecnikova, Mirko
Popovic, Connie Kennedy, Monika Doktorova, 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: *Elaine Sherley, Thelma O'Keefe,
George & Jenette Daher, Marco Orsini*



Thank you for your patience and understanding with the new processes that have been put in place so we could resume celebrating Mass together, in a COVID-Safe environment. One of the most significant changes, is our ushers and cleaners at each weekend Mass. At the moment this is being done by the Pastoral Council and a couple of Volunteers. We need to create a roster moving forward for these roles. **IF YOU ARE ABLE TO DO EITHER OF THESE ROLES, PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE VIA EMAIL OR PHONE.**

FR PETER WILL BE CELEBRATING ALL WEEKLY MASSES AT ST COLUMBA'S

During this uncertain time, Clergy and faithful are encouraged to download the CovidSafe App and abide by the latest public health advisories.



The NSW Government has recommended parishioners wear face masks when attending religious services as an additional safeguard to help combat the spread of COVID-19.

Please use the following google form to register by LUNCH TIME WEDNESDAY for the Mass you would like to attend

<https://forms.gle/3Us7AkpE5GzN8imU7>

Every week you will need to complete a NEW MASS REGISTRATION FORM BY WEDNESDAY LUNCH TIME

As we are only able to accommodate a limited number of persons at each Mass, it is probable that you and/or members of your household will not be able to attend Mass every week.

If your Mass registration request was successful, you will receive a confirmation email from St Columba's Parish. If you do not have access to the internet, please phone the Parish Office to register for Mass.

If you don't hear back from the St Columba's Parish by 4pm on Thursday, you were unsuccessful and we encourage you to apply the following week again.

PLEASE DO NOT REGISTER FOR MASS IF YOU ARE UNWELL.

PLEASE ADHERE TO SOCIAL DISTANCING REGULATIONS WHILST ATTENDING MASS.

PLEASE SIT IN YOUR ALLOCATED PEW FOR THE DURATION OF MASS.

ONE HOUSE HOLD PER PEW (HOUSEHOLDS MAY INCLUDE 1 PERSON, 2 PEOPLE OR FAMILY).

PLEASE VISIT SYDNEY ARCHDIOCESE www.sydneycatholic.org AND NSW HEALTH www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19 For up to date regulations regarding COVID-19



Social Justice - St Columba's

September 27 – Migrant and Refugee Sunday

This Sunday is Migrant and Refugee Sunday. Celebrating it on the last Sunday in September brings the Australian Church into line with the rest of the Catholic Church. It is a day when we, as Catholics are called to listen to, acknowledge, pray for, and stand in solidarity with refugees and migrants. Pope Francis' theme for the celebration this year is "Forced like Jesus to Flee".

Jesuit Refugee Service is supporting two webinars this Sunday to support refugees, hosted by groups in the Sydney Archdiocese and the Diocese of Broken Bay. One of these we advertised last week:

"A Time for Grace": Webinar for the World Day of Migrants and Refugees 2020. Hosted by Nangami (Peace and Justice Group of Our Lady of the Way parish, North Sydney), JRS and the Justice and Peace Office.

Sunday September 27 5:00 – 6:00pm. Speakers include Bishop Vincent Long and Fr Frank Brennan. Register through Eventbrite. <https://www.eventbrite.com.au>

The other is:

"Forced like Jesus to Flee": Besides JRS, it's being supported by Social Justice Around the Bay. It explores what it's like to come to Australia seeking refuge, and what it's like today to be a refugee - through the eyes of those who support them. Time is 2:00 to 3:00pm. Once again, register through Eventbrite. <https://www.eventbrite.com.au>

Supporting the Jesuit Refugee Service

Thank you everyone, for your generosity in helping people seeking asylum by supporting JRS. Our donations mean a lot. The two mobile phones donated by a parishioner will make such a difference to those two families that needed them.



Foodbank stocks urgently needed: Basmati rice, cooking oil, long life milk, tinned tuna, red kidney beans, lentils, chick peas, canned tomatoes, oats and cereal, toiletry items.

Please leave all donations at the Parish Office on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday 10:00am – 2:00pm. One of our team will make sure they get to the JRS Centre at Westmead.

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

You can also donate to the JRS Australia's Emergency cash appeal. Please call 9356 3888 or email jrsreception@jrs.org.au.

Bernard Collaery /Witness K

I've written about the Bernard Collaery and Witness K prosecution a bit in recent times. The injustice of it – both to the individuals involved and to the people of Timor-Leste is extraordinary! The case isn't going away any time soon unless



the Attorney-General drops the charges. There is a petition for this from change.org. It has gathered a lot of support. If you would like to sign the petition, just google: *christian porter drop the charges*. In his blog *Pearls and Irritations* John Menadue gives a good summary of the case, and places it in the context of the general unaccountability of the Australian intelligence services. It's scary stuff. To find the article, Google: *john menadue we need a standing royal commission*.

Modern Slavery

Did you see last Monday's Four Corners program on modern slavery? It concerned the prosecution in England of the members of a slavery ring. Some interesting quotes: "There are 42 million victims [of modern slavery] worldwide."

"... a crime hidden in plain sight."

"We all touch, receive or buy something that has gone through a victim of human trafficking every day."

These quotes give some idea of the scale of the problem. And while so much remains to be done to curb slavery, at least the British have a law that works. Here in NSW, where our legislation was world-leading when passed in December 2018, the Act is still not enforced. This is so despite the Act being passed by two houses of our parliament, receiving royal assent, and having a subsequent inquiry which recommended that it proceed.

If you are interested in the related issue of ethical purchasing, the Baptist Church website is a great source of information. **Just google: Baptist ethical fashion**

Aboriginal deaths in custody is a serious issue across Australia.

On September 28, 1983, John Pat, an Aboriginal youth was killed while in police custody.

As published by Creative Spirits, an Aboriginal organisation, "a royal commission in 1987 investigated Aboriginal deaths in custody over a 10-year period, giving over 330 recommendations. Its recommendations are still valid today, but very few have been implemented. Every year, Aboriginal people continue to die in custody".

This only scrapes the surface of the deaths in custody issues around Australia. On this day, let's remember John Pat and all other Indigenous Australians who have been killed in police custody.

To find out more, you could also go to: sydneycatholicantislavery.org

Coming up

- "To Live Life to the Full: Mental Health in Australia Today": Justice and Peace Office Webinar Wednesday 30 September 6:30 – 7:30 pm

To register, contact Justice and Peace Office: jpinfo@sydneycatholic.org



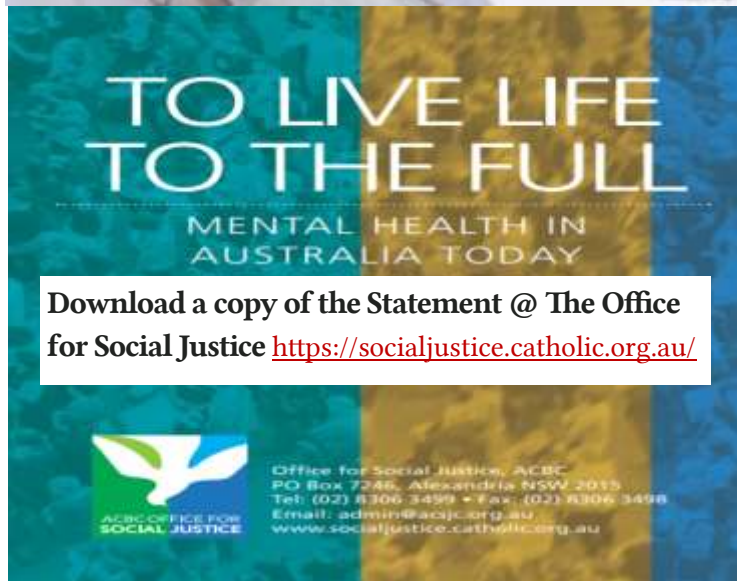
To celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the canonisation of Saint Mar MacKillop

We invite you to order your **free** copy of *Encountering Saint Mary MacKillop in Prayer*

The Sisters of Saint Joseph have created a commemorative prayer booklet to inspire us all to "take fresh courage..." as Mary did so often.

These prayers share details of her personal journey, highlighting Mary's values and spirit, and offering prayers and blessings for our modern world.

To order your exclusive copy please go to:
www.marymackilloptoday.org.au/prayer-book
 or call us on Ph: 02 8912 2777



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.

Sacrament of Confirmation



The Sacrament of Confirmation preparation has been delivered via Zoom. This was to ensure that we could gather as a Parish community while maintaining the safety of all the participants. So far the program has been working well.

We have incorporated a range of experiences, including breakout rooms, guest speakers and films. Thank you to all the participants in the first two sessions. We will have our final workshop on Wednesday 14 October 2020.

n Service

Candidates will be conferred over three liturgies to be held on:

Friday 23 October 2020

Friday 30 October 2020

Friday 6 September

Special thanks to Christina Gilio from the St Vincent de Paul Society who prepared a wonderful reflection on how Vincentians live out the Holy Spirit in their lives.



Sacrament of First Reconciliation



Congratulations to the students who received the sacrament for the first time on Wed 9 and Thurs 10 September 2020.



Sacrament of First Holy Communion

The Sacrament of First Holy Communion program will begin on Tuesday 13 October 2020. This program will run for four weeks via Zoom. Candidates will receive the sacrament in the month of November.



We ask the community to keep the students and families in your prayers.



CATHOLIC BUSHWALKING CLUB



Join Today - www.cbcsnw.org.au

Ph - 0478 919 427



 Catholic Bushwalking Club

 catholicbushwalkers



BUSHWALKING | ABSEILING | CANYONING | CAMPING | ROCK CLIMBING

INDOOR CLIMBING | ROGAINING | CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

BIKE RIDING | SOCIAL FUNCTIONS

WALKS EVERY WEEKEND



JRS Foodbank

During these unprecedented times, refugees and people seeking asylum in the community need your help more than ever. Non-perishable food, toiletries and financial donations are desperately needed and appreciated.

Food items:

- Basmati Rice
- Cooking Oil
- Long life milk
- Tinned tuna, red kidney beans, lentils, chickpeas and fruit
- Biscuits and muesli bars
- Oats and cereal

Toiletries:

- Nappies (large sizes)
- Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- Shampoo
- Sanitary pads and napkins
- Razors and shaving foam
- Deodorant (male & female)
- Soap

Thank you for walking with us at this critical time.

We provide emergency payments and food to hundreds of individuals, including children to pay for rent and life-saving medications. These people do not have access to Centrelink, Medicare, the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme so your support is critical.

Please leave all donations at the Parish Office on
Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday 10:00am – 2:00pm.

One of our team will make sure they get to the JRS Centre at Westmead
Volunteers are needed to pack and (especially) deliver food packages from Westmead.

If you can help, please email Jane Turner: jane.turner@jrs.org.au

The Universal Prayer
Sunday 27th September 2020
Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
World Day of Migrant and Refugee Sunday

Celebrant: Sisters and brothers, today we mark the 106th World Day of Prayer for Migrants and Refugees with its theme, *Forced like Jesus Christ to Flee*, with a focus this year on the pastoral care of internally displaced persons.

Service

1. May the commitment which Pope Francis has shown towards the spiritual, emotional and material needs of refugees inspire our Archdiocese and parishes to provide a welcome and a place of safety and support for them. **Lord, hear us. Lord, hear our prayer.**
2. May we see in the face of every refugee the face of Jesus Christ, who himself, along with his parents, was forced to flee from the land of his birth to a place where language, culture and faith were alien to him. **Lord, hear us. Lord, hear our prayer.**
3. May we remember especially today the people of Syria, who in the devastation and grinding poverty and fear caused by war, are feeling hope draining away as their anxiety for the safety and future of their children overwhelms them. **Lord, hear us. Lord, hear our prayer.**
4. May refugees and migrants, who have brought to our land and to our Church, a rich diversity of culture and faith, of resilience and hope, be welcomed as sisters and brothers **Lord, hear us. Lord, hear our prayer.**
5. May our dead bend their knee in the presence of Jesus and acclaim him as Lord to the glory of God the Father. We also remember.. *Elaine Sherley, Thelma O'Keefe, George & Jenette Daher, Marco Orsini* **Lord, hear us. Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant:

Lord, your word is truth for us,
a guide for justice,
an energy for mercy,
a blessing for peace;
be merciful to all people
mindful especially refugees
who are now homeless,
destitute and fearful,
who feel abandoned with no place to call home.
Through Christ our Lord.