



2ND SUNDAY OF LENT 27TH & 28TH FEBRUARY 2021, YEAR B



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



www.facebook.com/stcolumbasleichhardt/

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

Weekend MassTimes:

Saturday Vigil.....5:00pm

Sunday.....8:00am

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

Weekday Services:

Friday..... 9:15am

Reconciliation:

By appointment

Marriages:

By Appointment, please email Marcia, admin@stcolumba.org.au to arrange.

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.



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

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



From Fr Peter's Desk....

CATECHESIS About Liturgy

Penitential lifestyle: Have you ever had to make a very difficult decision, and you finally made your choice and gathered up all the courage you had to go through with your decision? Then at the very last minute someone tells you to do something different and causes you to doubt your decision! Wouldn't you be a bit annoyed? Wouldn't you just want to go ahead with your choice and be done with it? I imagine that's a bit of what Abraham went through in today's reading. It is obvious that Abraham displayed great faith by unquestioningly following God's irrational command to slaughter his son. However, the nineteenth-century philosopher and theologian Søren Kierkegaard points out that Abraham's true obedience was shown in that last moment when God called out to him to stop. At that moment, Abraham obeyed just as unreservedly and immediately as he had done at the first command. Without questioning why God had made him go through all the anxiety of preparing for such a terrible act, without wondering why, when he had almost fulfilled God's will, he was commanded to do just the opposite. Without hesitation, Abraham obeyed quickly and willingly. Kierkegaard says that Abraham was able to do this only through an intimate relationship with God.

Lent is a time when we can strengthen our intimate relationship with God through acts of penance so that we can have this kind of unreserved faith. However, just as a relationship cannot grow unless we tend to it daily, we must commit to a penitential *lifestyle* that we nourish with more intense disciplines in this penitential season. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1435-37, gives us practices we can do daily to live this penitential lifestyle: "gestures of reconciliation, concern for the poor, the exercise and defence of justice and right, by the admission of faults to one's brethren, fraternal correction, revision of life, examination of conscience, spiritual direction, acceptance of suffering, endurance of persecution for the sake of righteousness. Taking up one's cross each day" (1435). We also turn more readily to God when we celebrate the Eucharist, read Scripture, pray the Liturgy of the Hours and the Lord's Prayer, do spiritual exercises and pilgrimages, and make sacrifices.

Living Liturgy: Spirituality, Celebration, and Catechesis for Sundays and Solemnities 2018, © 2017 The Order of St. Benedict, Liturgical Press, Collegeville, Minnesota 56321

TODAY'S LITURGY

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Cf. Psalm 26:8-9
Of you my heart has spoken:
Seek his face. It is your face,
O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face from me.

1ST READING: Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18
The sacrifice of Abraham,
our father in faith.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 115:10, 15-19
I will walk in the presence of
the Lord, in the land of the living.

2ND READING: Romans 8:31-34
God did not spare his own Son.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Matthew 17:5
Glory and praise to you,
Lord Jesus Christ!
From the shining cloud the
Father's voice is heard:
this is my beloved Son,
hear him. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL: Mark 9:2-10
This is my Son, the beloved; listen to him.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Matthew 17:5
This is my beloved Son,
with whom I am well pleased: listen to him.

ST COLUMBA'S MASSES—COVID-19 SAFE

- * We will continue with QR scanning
- * We have been able to increase the number of pews in the Church.
- * **Only one house hold per pew. Please ONLY sit in pews that are labelled,** and we ask that you sit closest to the wall, for social distancing and also makes it easier for wipe down between Masses.
- * If you do not have a mobile phone, please arrive

10/15 mins earlier, so Ushers can add you electronically.

* **If we reach capacity you will not be able to enter the Church.**

* **PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND MASS** If you or any member of your house hold are unwell or exhibiting common symptoms of COVID-19. (fever 37.5 ° or higher, cough, sore/scratchy throat, shortness of breath, loss of smell or loss of taste)

* **FACE MASKS ARE NOT MANDATORY IN PLACES OF WORSHIP, HOWEVER YOU ARE STILL WELCOME TO WEAR ONE**

* **PLEASE ADHERE TO SOCIAL DISTANCING REGULATIONS BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER MASS. PLEASE DO NOT MINGLE OUTSIDE THE CHURCH BEFORE OR AFTER MASS**

Again, thank you to all who have volunteered as Ushers, Cleaners and Readers for our Masses, during these challenging times. We are very grateful for your time and dedication to these roles.

PLEASE VISIT SYDNEY ARCHDIOCESE www.sydneycatholic.org AND NSW HEALTH <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/covid-safe/places-of-worship> For up to date regulations regarding COVID-19

Please note: Names will be removed from the sick

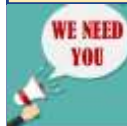
We pray for all those who are sick, including:

Mabel Winter, Sylvia Gallagher, Dorothy New and Patricia O'Toole, Roisin Smith and Family, Suzanne Campbell, Dan O'Brien, Sr Alice Sullivan rsj, Sharon Weetman, and all those at The Marion Aged Care and Lewisham Nursing Home



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

Anniversary: Colleen Schneider, Margaret Maunsell , Charles Caruana, Evam Flamikova.



USHERS, READERS and CLEANERS NEEDED FOR all MASSES

Thank you to those who have volunteered, if you would like to be part of our roster please fill in the google form with your preference for volunteering. Using this

[GOOGLE FORM](#)

Understandably things can change for availability as weekends approach, I will share the spreadsheet with those who have volunteered and leave one in the cupboard in the foyer. For readers, I have allocated 1 reader (Blue), but will still highlight who else has volunteered for the same Mass (Red). I will also email the readings for the weekend to everyone. **We are really hoping to expand the pool of volunteers to share the roles.**

USHERS: 2 per Mass: Keeping count ; Looking at peoples phones before entering the Church, checking QR tick; Adding people who don't have phones manually.

CLEANERS: Needed to wipe down pews that have been used and lectern approx 15mins) Thank you to those who have filled in the google form already. Here is the link with availability.

READER: First, Second Readings, Responsorial Psalm , Gospel Acclamation and Prayers of the faithful.



Social Justice - St Columba's

The first meeting for 2021 of the St Columba's Social Justice Group will be on **Wednesday MARCH 3 at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall**. Please note that COVID guidelines for social distancing will be strictly observed. There will be no shared meal. Please contact Fay Hair (fayhair11@gmail.com) if you are able to come. All welcome. We would love to meet you!

Supporting the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)

This Lent we are going to adjust our donations program to fit in with the JRS Lenten Appeal:

"6 Weeks of Lent – Give 6 Things." Because we're starting a bit late, we'll combine some weeks.

Week 1 and Week 2: Basmati Rice

***Week 3 (This coming week): tuna in oil**

Week 4: : Cooking oil (750mL, 1L or 2L bottles)

Week 5: Tinned lentils/chick peas/red kidney beans/tomatoes

Week 6: Pasta (any kind, but not tinned, please)

Right now, JRS is feeding 1000 people a week and the demand for help keeps growing. COVID-19 has disproportionately affected the lives of people seeking asylum and temporary migrants in Australia, as they remain excluded from all forms of Federal government support. This has meant that people who were once working and self-sufficient have had to rely on charities, like JRS, for rent, medication, bills and food.

We could make such a difference if we all donated just one item a week!

Please leave all donations in the JRS Food Basket at the Church Entrance (or at the Parish Office).

Wanted for the Wishlist: Mobile phone(s).

If you can help, please contact Fay at fayhair11@gmail.com

For the latest updates from JRS, go to: aus.jrs.net

Anti - slavery ... some steps we can take

Continuing our series of articles about modern day slavery and what we can do to combat it, this week we'll concentrate on **coffee**.

- There are two main kinds of coffee, Arabica and Robusta.
 - * Arabica comes mostly from Latin America, Ethiopia and Kenya
 - * Robusta comes from Brazil, Vietnam and Uganda.
- Coffee is the most popular beverage consumed in the developed world but it's also produced almost exclusively in developing countries. Coffee production has a long history of colonialism and slavery, and is still associated with worker exploitation and environmental degradation. Coffee farmers, mostly small landholders, have little bargaining power and mostly earn only a small percentage of the retail price. Child labour and indentured labour is



Social Justice - St Columba's

common. Many workers are in effect slaves. In recent years approximately one third of people assisted by the Society in NSW have been JobSeeker recipients: Every day our members saw how the old rate of pay forced people to choose between essentials such as putting food on the table, paying bills, or accessing vital healthcare.

How can we ourselves change this system of worker exploitation? There are many sources of ethically produced coffee. The Good Coffee Guide to Australia on the World Vision website, worldvision.com.au, has an extensive list of companies, and supermarket and café chains that supply at least some coffee that is produced in this way. We get our coffee from Aldi but Coles and Woolworths have ethical brands too. Just look for the Fairtrade symbol.

Stop press! For coffee pods, Shop For Good, the Sydney Archdiocesan ethical purchasing project, recommends Jasper Coffee.

This is our last article on modern day slavery for a while. We hope you have found them informative and have been motivated to try and buy slavery-free products. Alone we might not achieve a lot – but together we can!

Spotlight on Aboriginal Issues: Support a First Nations Voice

From the Vinnies Social Justice January Newsletter:

The Australian Government is currently running a co-design process to decide what a First Nations Voice to Parliament will look like. The public consultation process is open to everyone to contribute.

This is an opportunity to push for real, practical and structural reform in line with the changes First Nations people called for in the Uluru Statement from the Heart. As a supporter of the Statement, we encourage our members, volunteers and supporters to engage with this process, answering the Statement's invitation to walk "in a movement of the Australian people for a better future".

We are currently looking to arrange a webinar in partnership with the Indigenous Law Centre at UNSW for any Vincentians who would like to better understand the process and how to have your say. Register your interest by emailing social.justice@vinnies.org.au You can also find a copy of the Interim Voice Report, and access a range of resources, via the

[Uluru Statement website](#).

Cry of the Poor Prayer Reflection and Discussion: Lenten reflections from Caritas.

Caritas Australia are offering online weekly Prayer, Reflection and Dialogue sessions. Each week during this Lenten season, Caritas Australia is holding Virtual PTO...

Immersion opportunities for parishes via Zoom video conferencing. These digital engagements will allow participants to focus on prayer and reflection, Catholic Social Teaching and an interview and Q&A with Caritas International Program staff. Sessions will run Tuesdays and Thursdays for one hour across Australia. You can register by going to lent.caritas.org.au.



On Friday 5th March as part of the 9:15am Mass will be in memory of her 1 year Anniversary.

"Lent is a time for reconsidering our feelings, for letting our eyes be opened to injustice, to open our hearts to those suffering."
Pope Francis *Millennial*



Sacrament of Confirmation and Sacrament of First Holy Communion

Later this year, St Columba's Parish will offer a Sacrament of Confirmation and Sacrament of First Holy Communion program. More information to come. Families are welcome to email the Pastoral Associate pa@stcolumba.org.au to add their details to the contact list.

Then, St Columba's Parish will be able to email you information as soon as it becomes available.

Live masses can be found here:

<https://www.sydneycatholic.org/live-masses/>

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.



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 Tiano *Secretary*

David Hair
 Jennifer Cheal
 Therese Pacey
 Adrian Overs
 Tino Mian

6 WEEKS OF LENT GIVE 6 THINGS

This Lent, please donate 1 item each week to give to refugees living in this community.

WEEK 1:

Basmati Rice



WEEK 2:

Tuna in Oil



WEEK 3:

Cooking Oil



WEEK 4:

Tinned Tomatoes



WEEK 5:

Lentils/Chickpeas/
Red Kidney Beans



WEEK 6:

Pasta or Spaghetti



Second Sunday of Lent
28th February 2021

Celebrant: Brothers and sisters,
from the temptations in the wilderness,
to glory on the mountain top,
Jesus is always the one we listen to.

1. For a greater attention to reading and listening to the word of Jesus by all Christians, that he may lead us toward unity of faith and action. **Lord, hear us. Lord, hear our prayer.**
2. For Christians continuing to face persecution in many places, that they may hold fast to the truth, *with God on our side who can be against us?* **Lord, hear us. Lord, hear our prayer.**
3. For schools for deaf children in the Solomon Islands, that with the support of Caritas Australia, through Project Compassion, they can continue to improve their water supply, food security, and Covid 19 prevention. **Lord, hear us. Lord, hear our prayer.**
4. For the people of the Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, and the Pacific Island Nations, that Australia will be a true friend, and make available to them, for free, the vaccine against Covid 19. **Lord, hear us. Lord, hear our prayer.**
5. For those who have died because of a lack of suitable drinking water, or through drought, that they may find eternal life in the living waters flowing from the Heart of Jesus. We also remember.. *Colleen Schneider, Margaret Maunsell, Charles Caruana, Evam Flamikova.* **Lord, hear us. Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Lord of light and salvation,
in this time of Lent
nourish our faith,
increase our hope
and strengthen our charity.
Through Christ our Lord.