



*We are a welcoming Christian community which embraces all people.
We support each other to grow in faith and create a loving and compassionate community.
We aspire to live as Christ's witnesses of God's unconditional love.*

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT 7 - 12 -25

*This week: Is 11:1-10, Rom 15:4-9, Mt 3:1-12
Next week: Is 35:1-6,10, James 5:7-10, Mt 11:2-11*



LIGHTING OF THE SECOND CANDLE OF THE ADVENT WREATH



Celebrant: *Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Saviour of the world. We gather around this Advent wreath, which we honour as a remembrance of your first coming at Bethlehem, your final coming in glory, and your daily coming amongst us in grace. Strengthen our hearts with the example of your love that we may receive you each day with joy & gladness.*

The second candle is lit.

Celebrant: *O Emmanuel, Saviour of Israel, you are God-among us.
All: Come and save us, O Lord our God.*

Celebrant: *O Wisdom of the Most High God, you rule your people with gentle might.
All: Come & teach us the way of prudence.*

Celebrant: *May this light remind us of Jesus, who is the true light of the world.
All: God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God.*

Celebrant: *During the Advent season may almighty God let the light of his Son shine upon us. May God fill our hearts with joy at the coming of Jesus and lead us to life everlasting. All: Amen*

Please join in singing the remaining verse of the hymn on page 4.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING ENVELOPES



are available on the pews in both our churches.

The contributions via the Christmas Offering supplements the funds raised via the First Collection for the support and upkeep of the priests of our parish and diocese. The fund it goes to depends very much on these special contributions at Christmas and Easter, without which it struggles to meet its commitments.

Please support the Christmas Offerings. The envelopes can be placed on the collection plates along with the normal collections over the next few weeks.

Say it with flowers !



As you know we always arrange for special & beautiful flower arrangements for our two churches for the celebrations of the Lord's birth at Christmas.

But as we're sure you also know, flowers aren't cheap. And all the more so for church-sized arrangements.

If you could make a contribution towards the cost please either drop your donation to the office or transfer it to Lindfield-Killara Church A/c at: BSB 062 784 Ac 10000 1623

Please put 'Christmas Flowers' as the reference.

Our Christmas Celebrations



CELEBRATIONS OF CHRISTMAS:

Children's Vigil Masses:

Wednesday 24th December:

5:30pm at Killara

6:00pm at Lindfield

Mass of Christmas Night:

Wednesday 24th December

10:30pm at Lindfield

preceded by a Service of Carols at
10:00pm

Christmas morning:

Thursday 25th December

8:00am at Lindfield

9:30am at Killara

10:15am at Lindfield

(no evening Mass on 25th December)



Gifts for children in Waterloo



Once again this year, through St Vincent de Paul Society, we will be providing gifts to children in the Waterloo area.

If you can help please take a tag from the Christmas Tree in the foyer of either church, purchase a gift and return by

THIS SUNDAY 7TH DECEMBER.

**REMEMBER: JUST ONE SATURDAY
EVENING VIGIL MASS FROM NOW ON:**



A reminder that we now have a single Vigil Mass at 5:30pm on Saturdays - at our Killara church.

There is no longer a 6pm Vigil Mass at Lindfield.

Advent and the Sacrament of Reconciliation

As the first season of the liturgical year Advent brings with it the invitation to renewal of heart, to 'prepare the way of the Lord'.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a beautiful and gentle way of entering into that movement of the heart.

The sacrament is celebrated on the Saturdays of Advent (see page 6 for times) and there will be a celebration of the **Second (community) Rite of Reconciliation on Wednesday 17th December at 7:00pm** in Holy Family church.



Please note though that there will be no celebrations of the Sacrament of Reconciliation following the final Saturday before Christmas.

Right: On Tuesday 25th November members of our parish gathered with members of Killara, Lindfield and Roseville Uniting Churches for an Advent Ecumenical Service, followed by supper in St Brigid's Hall.



Our Christmas Choir

**for the 10:30pm Mass of Christmas Night
on Wednesday 24th December
(preceded by the Service of Carols at 10pm)**



We hope you can take part!

Rehearsals will be as follows:

Saturday 6th Dec. 3pm to 5pm in Lindfield Church
Saturday 13th Dec. 3pm to 5pm in Lindfield Church
Saturday 20th Dec. 3pm to 5pm in Lindfield Church

*Please let Catherine Willis know if you can take part so that she can have music prepared for you:
catherinecwillis@gmail.com*

End of Year Healing Mass & pre-Christmas Lunch

As always, our December Healing Mass (**THIS** Friday 12th December at Killara) will be at the later time of **11:00am** and will be followed by **lunch** in St Joseph's Hall. We especially invite all our senior parishioners.



To help with catering please put your name down on the sheets in the foyers of both our churches.

A Service of Prayer to pray at home during Advent... Prayer before the Christmas Tree

The Christmas Tree can be a wonderful symbol of our rejoicing and giving in the Advent and Christmas Seasons. You might like to pray this prayer at home before your Christmas tree:

Leader: Let us ask God to bless us and this sign of our faith in the Lord.

Response: Lord, give light to our hearts.

That the Church may always reflect the joy of Jesus who enlightens our hearts, let us pray to the Lord. **R**

2. That this tree of lights may remind us of the tree of glory on which Jesus accomplished our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **R.**

3. That the joy of Christmas may always be in our homes, let us pray to the Lord. **R.**

4. That the peace of Christ may dwell in our hearts and in the world, let us pray to the Lord. **R.**

The prayer of blessing:

All: Lord our God, we praise you for the light of creation: the sun, the moon, and the stars of night.

We praise you for the light of Israel: the Law, the prophets, and the wisdom of the Scriptures.

We praise you for Jesus, your Son: he is Emmanuel, God-with-us,
the Prince of Peace, who fills us with the wonder of your love.

May this tree, arrayed in splendour, remind us of the life-giving Cross of Christ,
that we may always rejoice in the new life that shines in our hearts.

May the light and cheer it gives be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts.

May all who delight in this tree think of the birth of Jesus, the true light who has come into the world.

Lord, bless this tree and the gifts beneath it.

And most of all bless us,

so that we may know the meaning of giving during this Advent and Christmas Season. Amen.



As we gather in worship on this day we acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which our parish is found. We also pay our respects to Elders past and present.

Food for the spirit....

This week's appointment with the Doctor...



Pope Leo recently named St John Henry Newman, the famous 19th century convert from the Church of England to the Catholic Church, a Doctor of the Church - becoming one of the only 38 members of the Church in its 2000 year history to receive that title.

'Doctor' in this context comes from the original Latin meaning of that word - 'Teacher'. The Doctors of the Church are saints whose exemplary wisdom has been judged to offer a perennial teaching to the Church well beyond their own context and time.

The Catholic bishops of England and Wales have released a series of six short articles which explore the life, wisdom and teaching of St John Henry Newman, Doctor of the Church. We are publishing them here each week....

Part V: Scripture, the Fathers and Ecumenism

The philosophical and theological thought and the spirituality of Cardinal Newman, so deeply rooted in and enriched by Sacred Scripture and the teachings of the Fathers, still retain their originality and value. As a leading figure of the Oxford Movement, and later as a promoter of authentic renewal in the Catholic Church, Newman is seen to have a special ecumenical vocation, not only for his own country, but also for the whole Church.^[1]

Pope St John Paul II

Newman is at first sight an improbable ecumenist. His most famous work is an autobiographical account of how he became to believe that the Church of England was "not part of the Catholic Church", and that the Roman Catholic Church by contrast was "the one fold of Christ".^[2]

After his conversion he could and did publish dismissive statements about Anglicanism that were wounding to his former Anglican friends. But at a more fundamental level, Newman was a bridge figure between Catholicism and Anglicanism. His *Apologia pro Vita Sua* insisted on the reality and permanent value of his teenage Evangelical conversion, and the book is pervaded by affection and gratitude for the Anglican mentors from whom he learned and deepened his Christian faith. More fundamentally, he never abandoned the historical, scriptural and patristic studies that shaped his Anglican writings. His 1866 open Letter to Pusey formulated a rich Marian theology based entirely on Scripture and patristic writings, rather than the pious legends and extravagant emotion that partly characterised nineteenth-century Catholic Mariology. That reliance on Scripture and the Fathers would prove fruitful for

the twentieth-century movement, "nouvelle theologie," which helped revitalise Catholic theology, and influenced the theological idiom of the Second Vatican Council – for instance, the chapter in *Lumen Gentium* on the role of Mary in salvation history owes a great deal to Newman's example.

That same patristic emphasis had informed one of Newman's most important Anglican writings, the 1837 *Lectures on Justification*, intended as a distinctive Anglican alternative to the standoff between polarised Catholic and Lutheran theologies of Justification. In them Newman deployed instead the Greek patristic notion of deification, making the indwelling presence of Christ through the Holy Spirit the agent of Justification, breaking an impasse and greatly influencing modern Roman Catholic / Lutheran dialogue.

But perhaps Newman's greatest contribution to Ecumenism is the extraordinary fact that after his conversion, instead of repudiating his Anglican writings, he republished most of them, with only minor changes, a body of work shaped by Anglican theological method, which has proved a new and fertilising force for the ongoing renewal of Catholic theology.

^[1] Pope St John Paul II, "Letter to the Archbishop of Birmingham for the Centenary of the Elevation to the Cardinalate of John Henry Newman" (7 April 1979), in AAS, Vol. 71 (1979), 656-658 (at 657).

^[2] John Henry Newman, *Apologia pro Vita Sua* (Longmans, Green, and Co., 1908), 221, 235.

JUNIOR WORDSEARCH

Make a straight path for the Lord

Mt 3:1-9, 11

I B I U H N S Z O E P B J N U
P H O L Y S P I R I T A E P F
H A I R S R J C A E D P V Z T
S R G D U V U Q G K V T R P C
T I Q H N Z D T A T J I G R F
R V C V H I G A P U K S T H W
A E O L J R E Z A X G T C B O
I R O Q K X M O T Y Y P I V S
G V Y H O Y E E H M I U N O I
H N N T Q G N V J E S O J I N
T O M Z K N T X P B A Y K P S
V N F W A T E R F K I R S L I
S W S H O U T I N G A W U Z V
H O C R Q D X N I I H A W G X
A B T S A N D A L S K X N U P

Try to find these words:

Baptist
hair
Holy Spirit
Isaiah
judgement
path
river
sandals
shouting
sins
straight
water

ENTRANCE: O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O branch of Jesse, free
your children from all tyranny;
from depths of Hell your people save
and give them vict'ry o'er the grave. *Refrain*

*Then the lighting of the second candle.
We join in singing one more verse of the hymn:*

O come, O Key of David come
and open wide our heav'nly home;
make sure the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery. *Refrain*

Public Domain – Text: John Neale (1818-66). Music: adapt. by Thomas Helmore (1811-90)

**DEDICATION OF THE GIFTS: LORD OF ALL
HOPEFULNESS**

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever childlike, no cares can destroy,
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,
Be there at our homing, and give, us we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Public Domain – Jan Struther (1901-53) fr. Enlarged Songs of Praise 1931

COMMUNION: A NEW HEART FOR A NEW WORLD

Create a new heart, holy Lord,
Beckon our lives through your word,
Open our eyes to your call, united as one for your world.
Heighten our minds to your thoughts,
Heal us of pride and of hurt,
May we go forth in your name,
We pray our hearts change.

The heart of the cross lowly and poor, calls us on.
Lord, it is you promising hope, promising truth. *Ref.*

Restless the hearts who yearn for your peace in this land.
Deepen the dream, justice brings life, justice redeems.

T. Watts, M. O'Brien ©1985, Willow Publishing**

RECESSIONAL: ALL YOU WORKS OF GOD

All you works of God every mountain, star and tree
bless the One who shapes your beauty,
who has caused you all to be
one great song of love and grace, ever ancient, ever now:
Raise your voices all you works of God

Cantor:

1. Sun and moon:
2. All the earth:
3. All who live

ALL:

Bless your Maker

1. Stars of heaven:
2. Hills and mountains
3. Men and women:

Chant your praise

1. Showers and dew:
2. Snow storms and ice:
3. Servants of God

Raise up your joyful song.

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A reflection for the Second Sunday of Advent

by William Orbih. From the website U.S.Catholic



Integral to the season of Advent is the person and ministry of John the Baptist. He was, in every way, a strange character. His clothing was made of animal hair. He ate locusts and wild honey for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. He spent much of his time in the wilderness, far from human company. When he came to town—that is, to where people lived—it was usually to scream at the top of his lungs, calling everyone to repentance in preparation for the coming of the Messiah.

No one was spared. He challenged the soldiers and the tax collectors. He called out the Pharisees and the Sadducees. Not even the commoners were exempt. While many of them were pious, some were not. And none were free from sin. John the Baptist was intolerant of sin and even less patient with hypocrites. His invitation to everyone was simple: produce fruits as evidence of righteousness.

We appreciate John the Baptist better when we understand his mission in relation to the ministry of the promised Messiah, whose coming he dedicated his entire life to heralding. John knew what the coming of the Messiah meant for his people, who at that time were languishing under an oppressive Roman regime. He was deeply concerned about the pervasiveness of injustice in the land, especially the suffering of the poor—those at the receiving end of military brutality, extortion, and all other forms of dehumanisation. He was saddened that so many of his people had abandoned the path of righteousness and had succumbed to despair. Above all, he understood the urgency of his mission. He was preparing the way for

the Messiah, the only true king of justice & prince of peace.

In this season of Advent, the church presents John the Baptist to us as a model. John teaches us that waiting for the coming of Christ is not merely a joyful expectation—it is also careful preparation. It requires a commitment to making the world more just for everyone. It involves fearlessly challenging the structures of sin and oppression. Often, it means standing courageously against abusive power, protesting if necessary. Most importantly, it demands that our lives, at every moment, embody the fullness of the gospel of Christ, especially its emphasis on love, justice, mercy, and peace.

John the Baptist's total commitment to his mission as the herald of the Messiah is therefore very instructive. Pope Francis reminds us, in his 2013 apostolic exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium* (*The Joy of the Gospel*) that, through our baptism, God has called us all to be missionary disciples. This means that, like John the Baptist, everything about us must point to the Christian message. It is not enough to proclaim the gospel with our lips; we must live it.

As in the Baptist's time, our world today faces a myriad of challenges. Many parts of the world experience violent crises: Nigeria, Sudan, Ukraine, Israel-Palestine. Numerous people continue to live under repressive regimes & inhuman conditions. We must never forget that we are the hands, feet, & voice of Jesus to a world desperately in need of peace, justice, & mercy. The good news is not just the imminence of justice & peace, but that it is through our lives that God's justice & peace will flourish.

We abstain from the joyful words of the Gloria as we prepare our hearts to celebrate the Lord's birth at Christmas.

THE PSALM

PS 71:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17

O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement.

In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails:
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to earth's bounds.

For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor.

May his name be blessed for ever
and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,
all nations bless his name.

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

(all bow at the following words in bold):

**and by the Holy Spirit was
incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.**

for our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death & was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures

He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand
of the Father.

He will come again in glory
to judge the living & the dead
& his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds
from the Father and the Son,
who,
with the Father and the Son,
is adored and glorified,
who has spoken
through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy,
catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism
for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward
to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to
come. Amen

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight God's paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Save us, Saviour of the world,
for by your Cross and Resurrection
you have set us free..

FR RICHARD ROHR OFM'S MEDITATION:
MINDING POSITIVITY

Richard Rohr explores how our brains are wired to hold onto negativity, and how contemplative practice helps us choose positivity instead:

Brain studies have shown that we may be hardwired to focus on problems at the expense of a positive vision. The human brain wraps around fear and problems like Velcro. We dwell on bad experiences long after the fact and spend vast amounts of energy anticipating what might go wrong in the future. Conversely, positivity and gratitude and simple happiness slide away like cheese on hot Teflon. Studies like the ones done by the neuropsychologist Rick Hanson show that we must consciously hold on to a positive thought or feeling for a minimum of fifteen seconds before it leaves any imprint in the neurons. The whole dynamic, in fact, is called the Velcro/Teflon model of the mind. We are more attracted to the problem than to the solution, you might say.

Please don't simply take me at my word. Watch your own brain and emotions. You will quickly see there is a toxic attraction to the "negative," whether it's a situation at work, a bit of incriminating gossip you overheard, or a sad development in the life of a friend. True freedom from this tendency is exceedingly rare, since we are ruled by automatic responses most of the time. The only way, then, to

increase authentic spirituality is to deliberately practice actually enjoying a positive response and a grateful heart. And the benefits are very real. By following through on conscious choices, we can rewire our responses toward love, trust, and patience. Neuroscience calls this neuroplasticity. This is how we increase our bandwidth of freedom, and it is surely the heartbeat of any authentic spirituality.

Most of us know that we can't afford to walk around fearing, hating, dismissing, and denying all possible threats and all otherness. But few of us were given practical teaching in how to avoid this. It's interesting that Jesus emphasised the absolute centrality of inner motivation and intention more than outer behavior, spending almost half of the Sermon on the Mount on this subject (see Matthew 5:20-6:18). We must—yes, must—make a daily and even hourly choice to focus on the good, the true, and the beautiful. A wonderful description of this act of the will is found in Philippians 4:4-9, where Paul writes, "Rejoice in the Lord *always*" [italics added]. If you're tempted to write this off as idyllic "positive thinking," remember that Paul wrote this letter while literally in chains (1:12-13). How did he pull this off? You might call it "mind control." Many of us just call it "contemplation."

DON'T FORGET WEEKDAY MASS IN THIS SEASON OF NEW BEGINNINGS!

An opportunity to be nourished by the daily Scriptures and to draw closer to the Lord in the Eucharist.

A reminder that at Lindfield you can double park amongst the teachers in the church grounds, or park on the internal road (we'll now keep the Highfield Rd gate at the top of the road open until after Mass).



Killara Church

5:30pm Vigil
9:00am*

*Morning Tea follows the 9am Mass at Killara on the 1st Sundays.
** 10:15am Mass on the 2nd & 4th Sundays is a Children's Mass, and is followed by morning tea.
*** Parish Pot Luck dinner follows 6pm Mass on the 3rd Sunday.

Weekday Mass this week The Second Week of Advent

Mon. 8am Killara Solemnity, Immaculate Conception
Tues. 8am Killara
Wed. 10am Lindfield
Thur. 10am Lindfield
Fri. 11am Killara Healing Mass & Christmas lunch

The Ordinariate of Our Lady of the Southern Cross (gathering in our church at Killara):

Mass Wednesday 6pm (preceded by Exposition from 5pm)
Thursday 9am Friday 9am Sunday 12 noon
Evensong 4th Sunday of the month 4pm

Lindfield Church

8.30am 10.15am**
12noon Chinese Mass
6:00pm Youth Mass***

DECEMBER

Wed 10. 7.30pm Scripture study (online)

Fri 12. 9:00am Playgroup

11am Healing Mass followed by luncheon.

1.15pm Year 6 Graduation Mass

Sun 14. 10:15am Children's Mass

Wed 17. 10:00am School Mass celebrating Advent
7:00pm Advent Second Rite of Reconciliation

Fri 19. 11:00am Senior's Social Group

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 5:00-5:15pm at Killara

Sunday Mass Roster

| SATURDAY | 6 DEC. | 13 DEC. |
|-------------------|------------|------------|
| Killara 5:30PM | Fr Stephen | Fr Colin |
| SUNDAY | 7 DEC. | 14 DEC. |
| Lindfield 8:30AM | Fr Colin | Fr Colin |
| Killara 9:00AM | Fr Hien | Fr Anselam |
| Lindfield 10:15AM | Fr Colin | Fr Colin |
| Lindfield 12:00PM | Fr Hien | Fr Anselam |
| Lindfield 6:00PM | Fr Hien | Fr Colin |

How to contact us

Fr Colin Blayney PP VF, Parish Priest
0475 558 500 colin@lindfieldkillara.org.au

Parish Office Hours: Tue-Fri. - 9.30am - 4pm

Postal address: PO Box 22, Lindfield NSW 2070

P: 9416 3702 E: parishoffice@lindfieldkillara.org.au

Parish Website: www.lindfieldkillara.org.au

Fr Stephen Hill, Priest-in-residence
(voice only) 0474 303 261 fr.stephen@me.com

For all of our staff click on 'Our Parish' on the website.

Holy Family School: 4 Highfield Rd, Lindfield
E info@holyschool.nsw.edu.au Ph.7256 2141

Ways that you can support our parish

1. Direct debit contributions from your bank A/C:

1st Collection:

(providing for the priests of the parish & retired & sick clergy):

BSB 062 784 Ac 10000 1624

2nd Collection:

(providing for all the operating costs of the parish):

BSB 062 784 Ac 10000 1623

2. Credit card: Scan the code & then select each of our two collections

3. Periodic payments from your credit card:

Just click on the hotlink box entitled 'Supporting parish finances' on our homepage (www.lindfieldkillara.org.au) or email accounts@lindfieldkillara.org.au for assistance.

4. The Tap Machines are available in our two churches.



Our Chinese Catholic Community

將臨期第二主日 7.12.2025

中文主日彌撒正午12時

讀經一 (他將以正義維護弱小。)

恭讀依撒意亞先知書 11:1-10

那一天，由葉瑟的樹幹將生出一個嫩枝；由它的樹根將發出一個幼芽。上主的神，智慧和聰敏的神，超見和剛毅的神，明達和敬畏上主的神，將住在他內，【他將以敬畏上主為快慰。】他必不照他眼見的，施行審訊，也不按他耳聞的，執行判斷。他將以正義，審訊微賤者，以公理，判斷世上的謙卑者，以他口中的棍杖，打擊暴戾者，以他唇邊的氣息，誅殺邪惡者。正義將是他腰間的束帶，忠誠將是他肩下的佩帶。豺狼將與羔羊共處；虎豹將與小山羊同宿。牛犢和幼獅一同飼養；一個幼童即可帶領牠們。母牛和母熊將一起牧放；牠們的幼雛將一同伏臥。獅子將與牛一樣吃草。吃奶的嬰兒將遊戲於蝮蛇的洞口；斷奶的幼童將伸手探入毒蛇的窩穴。在我的整個聖山上，再沒有誰作惡，也沒有誰害人，因為大地充滿了對上主的認識，有如海洋洋溢海水。那一天，葉瑟的根，將成為萬民的旗幟；列邦必將尋求他；他駐節之地，將是輝煌的。——上主的話。

答唱詠 詠72:1-2,7-8,12-13,17

【答】：在他的歲月中，正義必要興盛，到處國泰民安。(詠72:7)

領：天主，求你給君王傳授你的權柄；求你給太子傳授你的公正。使他照正義統治你的百姓；使他按公道管理你的平民。【答】

領：在他的歲月中，正義必要興盛，到處國泰民安，直至月亮失明。他將統治大地，從這海到那海，由大河的流域，至地極的邊境。【答】

領：他必拯救哀號的貧民；他必扶持無援的窮人。他將憐恤不幸和貧乏的群眾，並要救護窮苦貧病者的生命。【答】

領：他的名號常存，永受讚揚；他的名號常留，與日爭光。萬邦要因他而得福；萬民要稱頌他。【答】

恭讀聖保祿宗徒致羅馬人書 15:4-9

弟兄姊妹們：

其實，凡經上所寫的，都是為教訓我們而寫的，為叫我

們因經典所教訓的忍耐和安慰，而獲得希望。願賜忍耐和安慰的天主，賞賜你們仿效耶穌基督的榜樣，彼此同心合意，一心一口，光榮我們的主耶穌基督的天主和父。為此，你們要為光榮天主，而彼此接納，猶如基督也接納了你們一樣。我要說：基督為了彰顯天主的信實，成了「割損」的僕役，為實踐那向先祖們所作的恩許，也使外邦人因天主的憐憫，而光榮天主，正如所記載的：「為此，我要在異民中稱謝你，歌頌你的聖名。」——上主的話。

福音前歡呼
領：你們當預備上主的道路；修直他的途徑。凡有血肉的，都要看見天主的救援。(路3:4,6)

福音 (你們悔改吧！因為天國臨近了。)

恭讀聖瑪竇福音 3:1-12

那時候，洗者若翰在猶太曠野出現，宣講說：「你們悔改吧！因為天國臨近了。」這人就是那藉依撒意亞先知所預言的：「在曠野裡有呼號者的聲音：你們該當預備上主的道路，修直他的途徑。」

這若翰穿著駱駝毛做的衣服，腰間束著皮帶，他的食物是蝗蟲和野蜜。那時，耶路撒冷、全猶太，以及全約但河一帶的人都出來，到若翰那裡，承認自己的罪過，並在約但河受他的洗。他見到許多法利塞人和撒杜塞人，來受他的洗，就對他們說：「毒蛇的種類！誰教你們逃避那即將來臨的憤怒？那麼，就結與悔改相稱的果實吧！你們自己不要想：我們有亞巴郎為父。我給你們說：天主能從這些石頭，給亞巴郎興起子孫來。斧刀已放在樹根上，凡不結好果子的樹，必被砍倒，投入火中。」「我固然用水洗你們，為使你們悔改；但在我以後，要來的那一位，比我更強，我連提他的鞋也不配，他要以聖神及火洗你們。他的簸箕已拿在手中，他要揚淨自己的禾場，將他的麥粒收入倉內，至於糠秕，卻要用不滅的火燒掉。」——上主的話。

彌撒後，請各教友參加午餐聚會

Sunday School主日學 12:00 (中英雙語)

**牧職修女司徒金美修女 0419-426399

**北區中心聯絡 Gloria Cheung 0416-118089

Lord, in Jesus your Son, you restored to us the gift of everlasting life. Grant that life to:

We pray in the hope of eternal life for Janice Swanson, of our Killara community, who died this last week. The Funeral Service for Janice took place last Friday.

Recently deceased: Marilyn O'Neill, Mary Moran, Gerard Say, Fr Paul Foley, Nicola ("Nick") Arena, Julie Moloney, Jenny Tesoriero, Maria Casella, John Pera, Dennis Tonitto, Sinead Walsh.

Anniversary: John Michael Swan, Hans Schanz, Jeanette McInerney, Maragret Ford, Kevin Surplice, Partrick Haynes, Stella Salvaris and Beverley Gledhill.

Please pray for those who are sick: Diana Rosewell, Genevieve Larkin, Elvira Rodriguez, Wolfgang Liers, Tanya Walsh, Jutta Mathur, Jessica Keen, Ali Crawford, William Wise, Janette Brennan, Barbara and John McMullen.



Did you know that our parish has a Book Group?

A relaxed gathering takes place in 'The Library' of the Shirley Wallace Parish Centre above Lindfield church on the fourth Wednesday of every month at 10:00am.

Why join in? The books for the first half of 2026 are:

- * 25th Feb.
- * 25th March
- * 22nd April
- * 27th May
- * 24th June

Jesus Wept: Seven Popes & the Battle for the Soul of the Catholic Church by Philip Shenon
A Wisdom of Ages by Jacinta Parsons
Beyond Priests by Paul Collins
The Book Club for Troublesome Women by Marie Bostwick
Murriyang by Stan Grant

For more information, please contact either Catherine Willis (catherinecwillis@gmail.com) or Elizabeth Reedy (elizabethreedy@msn.com).

News from our Parish School.....

Stage 3 Giving Back This Christmas:

Our Stage 3 students have truly embodied the spirit of giving this festive season! After baking delicious cakes and running a successful cake stall to raise funds, they headed to our local Coles with a shopping list and a set budget in hand. Their mission? To fill Christmas Hampers for St Vincent de Paul, supporting families who may be struggling to provide a meal on Christmas Day.

Thanks to their hard work and generosity, we managed to fill 25 hampers! This incredible effort has left us all with a deep sense of accomplishment and gratitude for the opportunity to give back to those in need. We are so proud of our students and their commitment as Youth Ministers to making a positive difference in our community.



Youth News

Children's Mass Next Weekend!

Join us for one of the last children's Masses of 2025!

After the Mass, everyone is welcomed up to St Brigid's Hall for a lovely morning tea.

December 14th
10:15am



SIGN UP TO OUR CHRISTMAS
EVE CHILDREN'S MASS
NATIVITY PLAY HERE



THURSDAY 11- SUNDAY 14
DECEMBER 2025
COBBITTY, NSW

YOU'RE
INVITED

RECEIVE THE
POWER AND BE
MY WITNESSES

ACTS 18

iWitness is an annual Catholic young adults conference in Sydney. Through inspiring talks, uplifting worship, and the sacraments, participants are invited to grow in faith, deepen their love for God, and be renewed in spirit.



iWitnessAustralia



iWitnessAustralia.com

Small Announcement

Please kindly note that Kate (our Youth Minister) will be away from November 28th to early January

During this period, please contact the parish office at parishoffice@lindfieldkillara.org.au regarding any youth related topics



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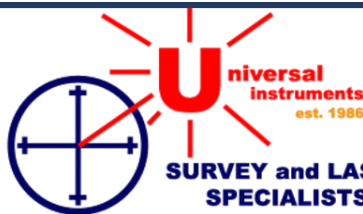
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Cana's mission is to care & support those people who suffer from illness, addiction and homelessness and are struggling to integrate into the community. The Farm offers a safe place to belong in a positive community.

Just in time for Christmas!!!

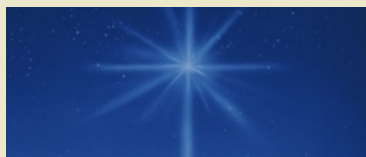


Stalls will be at both
churches after every Mass
6/7 December
13/14 December



jams & chutneys
oils and vinegars
candles
hampers
tote bags
and more...

cash & credit cards accepted



ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

Click on this hotlink box on the homepage of our parish website for all the information on Advent and Christmas in our parish.

Keeping the time of Advent



Let's not allow this Season which begins a new year of discipleship to pass us by:

* **Weekday Mass** in this Season provides us with the richness of the daily Scripture readings and our eucharistic encounter with the Lord whose birth we prepare to celebrate.

* **The Advent booklet 'History, Mystery, Majesty'** provided by our diocese is available in the foyers. It offers reflections based on the four Sunday Gospels of Advent. Please take one home and set a little time aside each week of Advent to enter into the reflection.

* **The Sacrament of Reconciliation** provides an opportunity to reflect on the year that has been and to seek the Lord's strength for a fresh beginning. Apart from the weekly times for this sacrament of mercy we also have our Second Rite of Reconciliation on Wednesday 17th at 7pm (see p.2)

Bishop Anthony's letters to us

As we begin our new Church year Bishop Anthony has set before us some exciting thoughts and opportunities:

A Pastoral Letter based on the discernment process for our North Shore Deanery and outlining directions ahead. Copies are available in the foyers or you can find it here: <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/mission/pastoral-discernment-north-shore/pastoral-letter>

A Charter of the Ecclesial life of the Diocese of Broken Bay: Witnesses to the Resurrection: This offers reflections on what might mark as a community of disciples. Copies are available in the foyers or you can find it here: <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/about/bishop/2025-diocesan-charter>

A Pastoral Letter announcing the 40th anniversary of the diocese in 2026 and a Diocesan Synod in 2027. This can be found here: <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/about/bishop>