



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.

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 19 - 9 - 21

This week: Wis 2:12, 17-20; Jas 3:16 – 4:3; Mk 9:30-37
Next week: Nm 11:25-29; Jas 5:1-6; Mk 9:38-43. 45. 47-48

'They did not understand him.'

A challenging phrase which asks us whether **we** really understand Jesus, whether we grasp the essence and heart of the Gospel.

Because it can be easy in the life of faith to get caught up in inessentials, in what's peripheral, in what is superficial.

The Gospel invites us to the heart of things, to ensure that love – and its **prerequisite**, justice – is the core of all that we do.

Do we **understand** Jesus? Do we **grasp** and live the heart of his message?

Fr Colin

SOMETHING FOR THE CHILDREN ON SUNDAYS DURING LOCKDOWN:

Children's Liturgy of the Word goes online

We now have a short, engaging and fun Children's Liturgy of the Word each Sunday at 9:00am via Zoom.

It goes for around 20 minutes and is a chance for the kids to have an enjoyable time of prayer and reflection based on the Sunday Scriptures -

- there'll be prayer, readings, a very short homily for children by Fr Colin, song, and a chance to share.



To take part just click on the special hotlink box (pictured here) on the homepage of our parish website:

www.lindfieldkillara.org.au

Please note: for child protection purposes families just need to register for each session via Trybooking—an email will follow giving you the Zoom login details. Just click the button on the webpage mentioned above to register and receive the link.

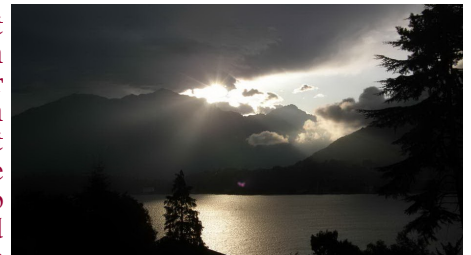
If you wish, after the Children's Liturgy of the Word session is finished you can go to our online parish Mass and scroll ahead to the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

If your children would like to take a turn at reading the Scripture passage please let Jean know: youth@lindfieldkillara.org.au

Hope you can join in at 9:00am ! *Fr Colin*

Light on the horizon !

The great news is that it seems that the time when we can gather together as a community of faith to share in the great mystery and gift of the Eucharist is now not too far away - the second half of October if the government's target of 70% of the eligible population having been vaccinated is achieved.



Of course the process of 'opening up' will be a gradual one and, for a time at least, a number of restrictions will remain in place to ensure the safety of all. The government has so far advised that with respect to our gatherings for Mass in the early stages our capacity will be set by the one-person per four square metre rule, masks will be required, singing will not be possible, and entry will be restricted to those who have been fully vaccinated. With time hopefully the various restrictions will be reduced, though unlike last year, as with the rest of the world we have to accept that CoVid will continue to be present in the population—and, as the government constantly advises, the most effective way to protect oneself **and one another** is through vaccination. We are fortunate that we live in a community with one of the highest rates of vaccination in the country.

Fr Thomas and I are so looking forward to being with you once again to share in the Eucharist together. Until then let's continue to seize all the opportunities that we have to nourish and sustain our faith and the life of the Spirit within us and amongst us.

We have had a long Eucharistic 'fast' - but perhaps one that has been able to deepen our yearning and longing for, and love for, the beautiful mystery of God's presence and grace in the Eucharist. So I thought that over these last weeks before we can gather again for that mystery I might write a short reflection each week on the Eucharist to help focus our love and desire for it. You'll find the first instalment on page 3 of this bulletin.

Let's begin to ready our hearts for gathering together as a family of faith.
Fr Colin

Mass during this lockdown

We continue to provide our parish Mass online via Youtube both on weekdays and Sundays.

Just go to our parish website: (www.lindfieldkillara.org.au) and click on the box 'Online Mass'.

The page also provides a link to a booklet with the prayers, readings and hymns for the Mass. A text copy of the Sunday homily is also available.



LOOKING AHEAD TO WHEN WE CAN GATHER FOR THE EUCHARIST AGAIN

As you no doubt know, the Premier announced this week that when the number of fully vaccinated people reaches 70% public worship (with certain restrictions on capacity) will resume. That landmark should arrive in mid-October.

The government has also foreshadowed that only those fully vaccinated will be able to attend. So please book in for that vaccination if you haven't as yet as we'd love to see you when Mass returns.

Fr Colin

WHAT IS THE PLACE OF MARY AND THE SAINTS IN OUR FAITH?

PART V

THERE ARE FEASTS AND THERE ARE *FEASTS*

When we talk about 'feast days' there are actually three levels of 'feast' and a '**Feast**' proper is just one of those levels. These levels reflect the centrality of what is being celebrated to our faith.

At the top of the rung are **SOLEMNITIES**. A Solemnity is essentially 'a Sunday on a weekday'. It has all the bells and whistles. Indeed, although the lower grades of festival miss their turn in the years when they fall on a Sunday, a Solemnity is celebrated even when it falls on a Sunday.

Like a Sunday a Solemnity sees the Gloria makes its appearance, as well as the Creed, and there are three Readings as on a Sunday. The Solemnities in our Christian year are:

Solemnity of the Lord's birth (Christmas Day)

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (1st January—the Octave Day of Christmas)

Solemnity of the Epiphany

Solemnity of St Joseph (19th March)

Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord (25th March)

Solemnity of the Blessed Trinity (Sunday after Pentecost)

Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ ("Corpus Christi") (Sunday after Trinity Sunday)

Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (Fri after Corpus Christi)

Solemnity of the Birth of John the Baptist (24th June)

Solemnity of SS Peter & Paul (29th June)

Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary (15th August)

Solemnity of All Saints ("All Saints' Day' ~ 1st November)

Solemnity of Christ the King (34th & last Sunday of Ordinary Time)

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary (8th December).

At the very least, amongst all the array of feast days, the Solemnities of the year should lie at the heart of our own personal Christian year.

You might be wondering where Easter Sunday and Pentecost are? Surely they're Solemnities, not some lesser grade of feast? The answer of course is that Easter and Pentecost are as high above other celebrations as the angels are above us! They are the very heart of the Christian year and all the other feasts in one way or another celebrates the power of Easter and Pentecost working in the lives of Mary and the saints.

Fr Colin

(to be continued)



September has become **Safeguarding Awareness month**, where each week, our diocese promotes messages and resources to raise awareness of Safeguarding within our Diocese. This year's theme is *Participation of Children and Young People in our Catholic Communities*. A schedule of weekly initiatives is available:

<https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/our-faith/safeguarding/safeguarding-month-2021>

REFLECTIONS ON THE EUCHARIST AS WE PREPARE TO GATHER AGAIN PART I

The Eucharist is, first and foremost, *mystery*: it is an encounter with God and at the initiative of God. It isn't something we do: it is something *God does* within us and amongst us.

We can perhaps identify four great aspects to the Eucharistic mystery: a gathering as a community of faith, a sharing in a sacred meal, a participation in the saving sacrifice of Jesus, and a commissioning or missioning.

Gathering: There can be no celebration of the Eucharist without a community of faith which celebrates it. A word for the Eucharistic celebration in the early church was the Greek word *synaxis*, which literally means a gathering together. We are all members of Christ's body but that body is scattered for much of the time as we go about our own lives and occupations. But to be truly who we're called to be—Christ's Body—that body has to be gathered—*synaxis*—each week on the Lord's Day. And from the earliest days of the Church the Eucharist has done that—it has gathered the many parts of Christ's Body together so that with one voice and one heart we can praise God.

And so the first aspect of the Eucharist we need to turn our hearts to is *one another*. We've not only been separated from the sacrament of Christ's body since the end of June. We've also been separated from one another. This lockdown is a call to treasure and to love Christ's Body which is our community of faith, which is one another.

Can we bring that to our prayer this week as the day for our re-assembly draws nearer? *Fr Colin*

ONCE AGAIN A BIG THANK YOU for your on-going financial support of our parish during these very different times.

If I may however could I just mention that in recent weeks there has been a decline in our weekly online income for both collections so please continue your generous support if you can.

The details of the three ways that contributions can be made are on page 7 of this bulletin and also on our parish website via the hotlink box on the homepage. *Fr Colin*

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

TWENTY-FIFTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

Monday: Memoria of Ss Andrew Kim Taegon, Paul Chong Hasang and their companions

Tuesday: Feast of St Matthew, apostle and evangelist

Thursday: Memoria of St Pius of Pietrelcina



The latest issue of *Broken Bay News* will not of course be a print edition.

It can be accessed online at:

https://issuu.com/bbcatholic/docs/broken_bay_news_september_2021_issue_211

OUR DETAILS HAVE CHANGED !..

For those who wish to make direct contributions from your bank account to the parish bank accounts please note that our account numbers have changed. The new details are:

1st Collection: (providing for Frs Colin & Thomas & also for retired & sick clergy of the diocese)

BSB 062 784 Acct 10000 1624

(Lindfield-Killara Parish Pastoral Revenue A/c)

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

BSB 062 784 Acct 10000 1623

(Lindfield Killara Parish Church Account)

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

~ DELAYED WINTER APPEAL ~



As you can imagine there is a great call on the services of St Vincent de Paul at the moment. The Winter (now Spring!) Appeal by our parish Conference of SVdP is now open

Contributions are tax deductible.

To contribute please scan this QR code or just go to <https://my.fundraise.vinniesnsw.org.au/fundraise-your-way/vinnies-appeal/>:



CHILDREN AND YOUTH

♦ During lockdown we are providing two alternative versions of Sunday Mass on YouTube - one of which has a homily directed at the younger children.

♦ There is a youth page in each edition of the parish bulletin.

♦ **Online Catechesis** for students in State Schools is available—see elsewhere in this bulletin.

♦ Children's Liturgy of the Word is now taking place on online (see adjacent notice)



FOR THE KIDS

Those who serve others are greatest

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B



The disciples travelled to Jesus' home and they argued along the way. Help them get to Jesus so that he can help them settle their argument.



Gospel

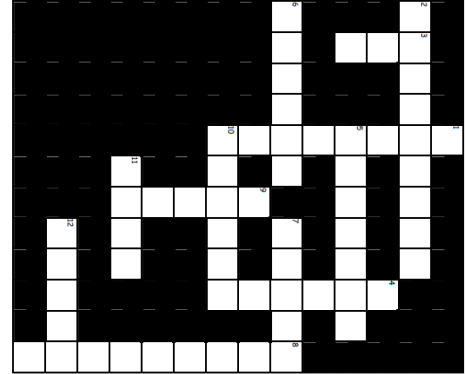
Mk 9:33-37

Jesus and his disciples came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the road?' They said nothing because they had been arguing which of them was the greatest. So he sat down, called the Twelve to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself last of all and servant of all.' He then took a little child, set him in front of them, put his arms round him, and said to them, 'Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name, welcomes me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B | NZCPS/SLB, 2003, CMG:rt1

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CROSSWORD
Those who serve others are greatest



- Across
- Jesus and his disciples went to his home in this place
 - Jesus wanted to know what the disciples were _____ about
 - Jesus sat down and told the disciples to _____ around him
 - Jesus said, 'when you welcome a _____ you welcome me'
 - There were this many disciples with Jesus
 - Jesus said, 'when you welcome me, you welcome the one who _____ me'
 - a type of building people live in
- Down
- the disciples argued about which of them was the _____
 - this part of your body has a hand and an elbow on it
 - the opposite of outside
 - these people went with Jesus to his home in Capernaum
 - Jesus said, 'If you want the place of honour you must become a slave and _____ others'

MK-933-37

How can you be of service to others? Complete the following statements with words or pictures.

I can serve members of my family by...

I can serve my friends by...

I can serve people in my community by...

The original questions are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1956, 1977 and 1984 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.

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International Day of Peace

To celebrate this day you are invited to join an online

Interfaith Prayer Service

On Tuesday 21 September 2021 at 2pm on Zoom
<https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/96010303812>

Occasional address: Rev. Simon Hansford, the Moderator of the Uniting Church in Australia NSW & ACT Synod.

Religious leaders from Aboriginal, Bahai, Brahmakumaris, Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Islamic, Jain, Jewish, Mandaean, Sikh, Sufi and Zoroastrian communities will offer prayers for peace. There will be opportunity to light a candle for Peace during the service. So please keep a candle and matchbox ready.

For further information contact **Rev. Dr. Manas Ghosh** on 0429 892 548 or email: revmanasghosh@gmail.com

Online opportunities to gather in our parish during lockdown ...

Each week there are a variety of ways to gather using Zoom (if you are unfamiliar with Zoom just give Fr Colin a call on 94167195. It's very simple).

- ◆ **Scripture study with Fr Colin** - 2nd & 4th Wednesdays at 7:30pm and 1st & 3rd Wednesdays at 11am.
- ◆ **Parish Book Club** - on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 10am.
- ◆ **Morning tea** - a group gathers for a cuppa after the 8:30am Mass each week and this is now taking place online each Sunday at 9:30am. A fun and relaxing get-together and chat.
- ◆ **Adult faith enrichment:** our current online series is Robert Barron's 'The Creed'.

If you'd like to take part in any of these just let me know and I'll let you know how to log in.

Fr Colin



5 Food for the soul

Taking a child, he placed it in the their midst, and putting his arms around it, he said to them, "Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me." (Mk 9:36)

THE POWER OF POWERLESSNESS

There are different kinds of power and different kinds of authority. There is military power, muscle power, political power, economic power, moral power, charismatic power, and psychological power, among other things. There are different kinds of authority too: We can be bitterly forced into acquiescing to certain demands or we can be gently persuaded into accepting them. Power and authority are not all of a kind.

Imagine four persons in a room: the first is a powerful dictator who rules a country. His word commands armies and his shifting moods intimidate subordinates. He wields a brutal power. Next to him sits a gifted athlete at the peak of his physical prowess, a man whose quickness and strength have few equals. His skills are a graceful power for which he is much admired and envied.

The third person is a rock star whose music and charisma can electrify an audience and fill a room with a soulful energy. Her face is on billboards and she is a household name. That's still another kind of power. Finally, we have too in the room a newborn, a baby, lying in its crib, seemingly without any power or strength whatsoever, unable to even ask for what it needs. Which of these is ultimately the most powerful?

The irony is that the baby ultimately wields the greatest power. The athlete could crush it, the dictator could kill it, and the rock star could out-glow it in sheer dynamism, but the baby has a different kind of power. It can touch hearts in a way that a dictator, an athlete, or a rock star cannot. Its innocent, wordless presence, without physical strength, can transform a room and a heart in a way that guns, muscle, and charisma cannot. We watch our language and actions around a baby, less so around athletes and rock stars. The powerlessness of a baby touches us at a deeper moral place.

And this is the way we find and experience God's power here on earth, sometimes to our great frustration. And this is the way that Jesus was deemed powerful during his lifetime. The entire Gospels make this clear, from beginning to end. Jesus was born as a baby, powerless, and he died hanging helplessly on a cross with bystanders mocking his powerlessness. Yet both his birth and his death manifest the kind of power upon which we can ultimately build our lives.

The Gospels describe Jesus' power and authority in exactly this way. In Greek, the original language of the Gospels, we find three words for power or authority. We easily recognise the first two: energy and dynamic. There is a

power in energy, in physical health and muscle, just as there is a power in being dynamic, in dynamite, in having the power to generate energy; but when the Gospels speak of Jesus as "having great power" and as having a power beyond that of other religious figures, they do not use the words energetic or dynamic. They use a third word, *exousia*, which might be best rendered as vulnerability. Jesus' real power was rooted in a certain vulnerability, like the powerlessness of a child.

This isn't an easy concept to grasp since our idea of power is normally rooted in the opposite, namely, the notion that power lies in the ability to overwhelm others, not underwhelm. And yet we understand this, at least somewhat, in our experience of babies, who can overpower us precisely by their powerlessness. Around a baby, as most every mother and father has learned, we not only watch our language and try not to have bitter arguments; we also try to be better, more loving persons. Metaphorically, a baby has the power to do an exorcism. It can cast out the demons of self-absorption and selfishness in us. That's why Jesus could cast out certain demons that others could not.

And that's how God's power forever lies within our world and within our lives, asking for our patience. Christ, as Annie Dillard says, is always found in our lives just as he was originally found, as a helpless baby in the straw who must be picked up and nurtured into maturity. But we are forever wanting something else, namely, a God who would come and clean up the world and satisfy our thirst for justice by showing some raw muscle power and banging some heads here and now.

We are impatient with quiet, moral power that demands infinite patience and a long-term perspective. We want a hero, someone with the blazing guns of a Hollywood superhero but the heart of a Mother Teresa. The guns of the world, which are blasting away evil, that's what we want from our God, not the power of a baby lying mute and helpless against the cruel powers of our time. Like the Israelites facing the Philistines, we are reluctant to send a shepherd boy against an ironclad giant. We want divine power in iron, muscles, guns, and charisma.

But that's not the way intimacy, peace, and God are found.

Fr Ron Rolheiser omi, The Centre for Liturgy, University of St Louis

PARISH LIFE AT THIS TIME we have lots of resources available for you at this time on our website:
www.lindfieldkillara.org.au

THE PARISH OFFICE is physically closed at this time. For office enquiries please contact Alison via email on Monday, Wednesday or Thursday.

Do you need to drop something off to the office?

There is a letter slot in the side door (on the Pacific Hwy side) of Holy Family church which leads into a locked box. Parish staff check this regularly.

OUR PARISH BOOK GROUP



meets (online at present) on the **fourth Wednesday of each month at 10:00am.**

The book for Wednesday 22nd September is *Brand Luther* by Andrew Pettegree.

If you'd like to join in please contact Catherine Willis (catherinewillis@gmail.com) or Elizabeth Reedy (elizabethreedy@msn.com).

OUR CHINESE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

常年期第二十五主日 19.9.2021

讀經一(判他受可恥的死刑。)

恭讀智慧篇 2:12, 17-21

惡人胡思亂想, 說:「我們要陷害義人, 因為他太令我們討厭, 反對我們的作為, 指責我們違犯法律, 控訴我們行為不檢。我們要看他的話, 是否屬實, 看他究竟有什麼結局。」因為, 如果義人是天主的兒子, 天主一定會幫助他, 拯救他脫離敵人的手。來吧! 我們用恥辱和酷刑試驗他, 查看他是否溫良, 考驗他是否忍耐。我們判他受可恥的死刑, 看他是否蒙受眷顧, 如同他所說的一樣。」惡人這樣思想, 真是荒謬, 因為邪惡使他們喪失了理智。——上主的話。

答唱詠 詠54:3-4, 5, 6, 8

【答】: 上主必扶持我的生命。(詠54:6)

領: 天主, 求你因你的名, 拯救我; 求你並以你的權能, 為我伸冤。天主, 求你俯聽我的祈求, 側耳傾聽我的投訴。【答】

領: 因為傲慢的人, 起來攻擊我; 蠻橫的人, 想謀害我的生命。他們沒有把天主放在眼內。

【答】

領: 請看, 天主必定給我助陣; 上主必扶持我的生命。上主, 我甘願向你奉上祭獻, 我要讚頌你的美名。【答】

讀經二(正義的果實, 是在和平中種植的。)

恭讀聖雅各伯書 3:16-4:3

親愛的:

那裡有嫉妒和紛爭, 那裡就有擾亂, 及種種惡行。至於從上而來的智慧, 它首先是純潔的, 其次是和平的、寬仁的、柔順的、充滿仁慈, 及善果豐碩的、不偏不倚的、沒有偽善的。為締造和平的人, 正義的果實, 是在和平中種植的。你們中間的戰爭, 是從那裡來的? 爭端是從那裡來的? 豈不是從你們的肢體, 因私慾的爭鬥而來的嗎? 你們貪戀, 如果得不到, 於是, 便要兇殺; 你們嫉妒, 如果不能獲得, 於

是, 就要爭鬥, 起來交戰。你們得不到, 是因為你們不求; 你們求而不得, 是因為你們求的不當, 只想滿足自己的淫樂。——上主的話。

福音前歡呼

領: 亞肋路亞。

眾: 亞肋路亞。

領: 天主藉著福音, 召叫了我們, 為使我們獲得主耶穌基督的光榮。(參閱得後2:14)

眾: 亞肋路亞。

福音(人子將要被交在人手中……誰如果想做最大的, 就得做眾人的僕役。)

恭讀聖馬爾谷福音 9:30-37

那時候, 耶穌和門徒經過加里肋亞。耶穌不願叫人知道, 因為他那時正教訓他的門徒。耶穌給他的門徒說:「人子將要被交在人手中, 為人所殺; 被殺以後, 過了三天, 他必要復活。」門徒卻不明白這番話, 又害怕詢問他。他們來到葛法翁, 進入屋裡, 耶穌問他的門徒說:「你們在路上爭論些什麼?」他們都默不出聲, 因為他們在路上, 彼此爭論誰最大。耶穌坐下, 叫那十二人過來, 給他們說:「誰如果想做最大的, 就得做眾人中最小的, 並要做眾人的僕役。」耶穌於是拉一個小孩子過來, 放在門徒中間, 又抱起他來, 給門徒說:「誰因我的名字, 收留一個這樣的小孩子, 就是收留我; 誰收留我, 並不是收留我, 而是收留那派遣我來的。」——上主的話。

**華人天主教會北區中心 Lindfield Holy Family Church

每月第二及第四主日舉行彌撒聖祭, 正午12時,

**牧職修女 司徒金美修女 0419-426899

**北區中心聯絡 Gloria Cheung ☎ 0416-118089

Catholic Parish of Lindfield -Killara

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colin@lindfieldkillara.org.au 9416 7195

Fr Thomas Alackakunnel VC, Asst Priest

thomas@lindfieldkillara.org.au; 0421 406162

Parish Office

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

Postal address: PO Box 22, Lindfield NSW 2070

Phone: 9416 3702

Email: parish@lindfieldkillara.org.au

Parish Website: www.lindfieldkillara.org.au

Parish Staff

Parish Secretary

Philita Marundan philita@lindfieldkillara.org.au

Parish Office Coordinator; Child Protection Coordinator

Alison Williams (M,W,Th only)

alison@lindfieldkillara.org.au

Sacramental Coordinator

Maia Schulze Tsang:

sacramental@lindfieldkillara.org.au

Parish Facilities' Coordinator (volunteer)

Anthony Cassidy: anthony@lindfieldkillara.org.au

Youth Ministry Coordinator (volunteer)

Jean Shatek: youth@lindfieldkillara.org.au

Parish School

Holy Family School: 4 Highfield Rd, Lindfield 2070

Principal: Mr Lou Dogao Phone: 9416 7200

Email: info@holyfamily.nsw.edu.au

School Website: www.hfldbb.catholic.edu.au

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

Recently deceased: Fr James Duck, Fr Sean Coghlan, Anthony Wallace, Guido Zanella, Alan Tan, Fortunato Glinoga, Bayani Atangan, Fr Paul Purcell, Tom Van Dijk, Charles Pak, Norma Campbell, Alvin Marundan, Carlos De Leon, John (Jack) O'Leary, Frank Breslin, Nancy Brady, Ruth Peel, David and Carline Miller, Veronica Fitzgerald, James O'Connor. **Anniversary:** Marion Grace Blayney, Aleykuttel Alackakunnel.

And for: George Joseph Blayney

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Albert Yu, Shirley Smith, Barbara McMullan, Sally Cogle, Trevor Bailey, Nicholas Sutherland, Jesse Langford, Anthony Ellison, Wolfgang Liers, Cyril Ferriere, Alex Noble, William Wise, Lise Therese Ferriere, Ian Coffey, Maureen Hobbs, Russell Adams. **And for all affected by COVID.**

PARISH DIARY ~ SEPTEMBER

Sun. 19th	9:00am	Online Children's Liturgy of the Word
	9:30am	Morning tea (online)
Tues. 21st	6:00pm	Tarrawarra group (online)
Wed. 22nd	8:00am	Meditation (online)
	7:30pm	Scripture group (online)
Sun. 26th	9:00am	Online Children's Liturgy of the Word
	9:30am	Morning tea (online)

FR RICHARD ROHR OFM'S MEDITATION: PARTICIPATION IS THE ONLY WAY

Some of the most exciting and fruitful thought in recent theology can be described as the "turn toward participation." Religion as participation is a rediscovery of the Perennial Tradition that so many saints and mystics have spoken of in their own ways. It constantly recognizes that we are a part of something more than we are observing something or "believing" in something.

Both the work of the German philosopher Karl Jaspers (1883–1969) and the English scholar Owen Barfield have given me a schema for understanding this "turn." We moved away from deep participatory experience into nonparticipation, the 'wilderness' or "null point between original and final participation," in Barfield's words. Today each autonomous individual is on his or her own, especially those with economic privilege.

Roughly before 800 BC, it seems, most people connected with God & reality through myth, poetry, dance, music, fertility, & nature. Although it was a violent world focused on survival, people still knew that they belonged to something cosmic and meaningful. They inherently participated in what was still an utterly enchanted universe where the "supernatural" was everywhere. Barfield calls this state of mind "original participation."

What Jaspers calls Axial Consciousness emerged worldwide with the Eastern sages, the Jewish prophets, and the Greek philosophers, coalescing around 500 BC. It laid the foundations of all the world's religions and major philosophies. It was the birth of systematic and conceptual thought. In the East, it often took the form of the holistic thinking that is found in Hinduism, Taoism, and Buddhism, which allowed people to experience forms of participation with reality, themselves, and the divine. In the West, the Greek genius gave us a kind of mediated participation through thought, reason, and philosophy. At the same time, many mystics seemed to enjoy real participation, even though it was usually seen as a very narrow gate available to only a few.

Among the people called Israel there was a dramatic realisation of intimate union and group participation with God. They recognized the individually enlightened person like Moses or Isaiah, but they did something more. The notion of participation was widened to the Jewish group and beyond, at least for many of the Hebrew prophets. God was saving the people as a whole. Participation was historical and social, and not just individual. It is amazing that we have forgotten or ignored this, making salvation all about private persons going to heaven or hell, which is surely a regression from the historical, collective, and even cosmic notion of salvation taught in the Bible. Remember, God was always saving Israel and not just Abraham.

Both the Hebrew Scriptures and experience itself created a matrix into which a new realisation could be communicated. Jesus offered the world full and final participation in his own very holistic teaching. This allowed Jesus to speak of true union at all levels: with oneself, with neighbours, with outsiders, with enemies, with nature, and—through all of these—with the Divine. The net and sweep of participation was total. What else could truly "good news" be?

Can we help ?

If you would like a phone call and chat from time to time please let us know.

Just contact Fr Colin (9416 7195) or Fr Thomas (0421 406162).

Three ways that you can support our parish

1. What's NOT happening:

- with no public Mass we have no collections, no Tap Machines, and no rent for our parish halls and meeting areas which are normally rented.

2. What CAN happen:

◆ **DIRECT DEBIT CONTRIBUTIONS** from your bank account to our parish accounts can be made as follows:

1st Collection: (providing for Frs Colin & Thomas & also for retired & sick clergy of the diocese)

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(Lindfield-Killara Parish Pastoral Revenue A/c)

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

BSB 062 784 Acct 10000 1623

(Lindfield Killara Parish Church Account)

Please note that these are **NEW** account numbers)

OR

◆ **YOU CAN HAVE A TAP MACHINE AT HOME (ALMOST!)**

In lieu of our tap machines which are unavailable at this time, **credit card contributions** can be made by scanning this code and then selecting each of our two parish collections:



OR

◆ **YOU CAN ARRANGE FOR PERIODIC PAYMENTS FROM YOUR CREDIT CARD:**

just click on the hotlink box entitled 'Supporting parish finances during the public health restrictions' on the homepage of our website (www.lindfieldkillara.org.au) and scroll down to 2 i.b. for the form. (or simply email Alison (alison@lindfieldkillara.org.au) for assistance.

'BAY CONNECTS'

Our diocese announces an online programme of regular activities commencing on 30th August, to converse, reflect and connect spiritually online with our communities

Mondays @ 7:30-8:45pm via Zoom - **THE CHOSEN**

MONDAY - Join us as we go through the first season of The Chosen, viewing one episode every Monday, breaking open some themes and coming to know Jesus in a fresh new way.

Tuesdays @ 7:00-7:30pm via Instagram Live (@cybbaus) -

TUESDAY NIGHT LIGHTS - A place for the community to come together for prayer and to praise God from the setting of your home. All youth, young adults, singles and families, parishioners and clergy are invited.

Wednesdays @ 7:00-7:30pm via Zoom - **HUMPDAY**

HANGOUT W/ BR BERNARD - Our jolly friar Br. Bernard Mary will host the session with time for prayer, 'Banger' of the week, casual chat and an entertaining selection of activities.

Fridays @ 7:00-8:00pm via Zoom - **FORMATION FRIDAYS** -

An opportunity to get some simple Catholic formation on various aspects of the faith, from the basics to the hot topics, featuring a different guest speaker each week, followed by some time for questions/discussion.

Visit www.bbcatholic.org.au for full details

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REPORT

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