



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-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 07- 09 - 25

This week: Wis 9:13-18, Philemon 9-10, 12-17, Lk 14:25-33

Next week: Num 21:4-9, Phil 2:6-11, Jn 3: 13-17

'So, in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless you give up all your possessions.'

Tough words from Jesus in today's Gospel, but we have to understand what he's saying:
the possessions that prevent us from being disciples

are the possessions that possess us:

*those things that remove the freedom from our heart,
that mean that there's no real room for Jesus or the Gospel or its challenges.*

And those things, those possessions that possess us – rather than the other way round - come in many shapes and sizes:

- *it can indeed be money, property or wealth – when they own us and drive us;*
- *but I can also be the prejudices that we don't want to let go of;*
- *it can be our way of thinking when we lose the ability to be self-critical and consider that we may be wrong;*

it can be our refusal or inability to change.

Today's Gospel asks us to consider whether we really have the inner freedom, the freedom of heart, that's required if we're really going to be disciples. Or whether we've handed that freedom over to something that possesses us, rather than the other way round.

Fr Colin



A lovely weekend for a retreat in Gerroa!

"Our recent parish retreat for the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network was a wonderfully enriching experience. It was a welcome escape from the frantic daily challenges to seek calmness in a renewed focus towards prayer. We shared fun chats over delicious meals. All with superb guidance and in great fellowship at beautiful Gerroa Beach.

I returned home to face the challenges of life set before me.

Though, now in the tranquillity of prayer not just of my own intentions but also for the world around me.

I wish we all may seek the opportunity to find a renewed sense of calmness in our challenging lives through prayer and such retreats. Josie McCormick"



Welcome HOME Fr Colin



Join us for morning tea at the
next Children's Mass
Sunday 14th Sept

after 10.15am Mass

& SAY

G'DAY



Congratulations to the
Packwood family on the
baptism of Austin, Zara and
Elissa last Sunday



2025 FIRST HOLY COMMUNION



PARENT MEETING

Tuesday 16 September 7-8pm at St Brigid's Hall



CELEBRATIONS AT LINDFIELD

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Saturday 8 November at 6pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 9 November at 10.15am Children's Mass

AT KILLARA Sunday 12 November at 9am

PROGRAM SESSIONS

SESSION 1 SUN 21 Sept at 4.45 pm; followed by the Rite of Enrolment at 6pm Mass

~ school holidays ~

SESSION 2/3 SUN 19 Oct at 4.45pm; followed by Presentation of Lord's Prayer at 6pm Mass

SESSION 4 SUN 26 Oct at **9.15am**; followed by 10.15am **Commentated Mass**

For more info please contact our Sacramental Coordinator Mrs Maia Schulze-Tsang on maia@lindfieldkillara.org.au





Social Justice *news*

*Thank you to all who attended our
Social Justice Morning Tea.*

Special thanks to Brian Bissaker from Cana who spoke about the great support that Cana provides for the homeless. Amanda Hale also spoke about the Vinnies Brekkie Van initiative that provides breakfast for the homeless on Sunday mornings.

Thank you also to parishioners who purchased pantry goods from the Cana stall.

Onwards for the next initiative which is Food donations to JRS



For some time the parish has supported JRS Australia who rely on our generosity to ensure life-changing service can be offered to refugees and people seeking asylum. Our fellow brothers and sisters are yearning to create safe and dignified lives, whilst bravely navigating Australia's systems.

To support the daily needs JRS is seeking donations of the following items:

Shampoo
Pasta
Pasta sauce
Sweet biscuits
Dry Chickpeas
Instant noodles

At this stage, JRS have sufficient stock of these following items so please do not provide any of the following:
Rice, Milk, Oil, Lentils, Tea, Coffee

There will be boxes at both Killara and Lindfield churches and we will be collecting over the first three weeks in September.

Thank you always for your generosity and together we are making a positive difference for our community.

If you are interested in getting more involved please contact Heather Mahony on 0412 279 773

Healing Mass

Our next Healing Mass will be celebrated on

Friday 12 September at 10am

at Immaculate Heart of Mary
Church
at Killara

followed by morning tea
in St Joseph's Hall



Gather together
& get connected



Watch an
episode on a
topic of faith



Ask Qs and
share thoughts

Alpha

ON

TUESDAYS

7:00-9:00pm

@Parish Library

(above Lindfield Church)

Alpha is a series of sessions that freely explore the big questions of life.

It's an opportunity to:

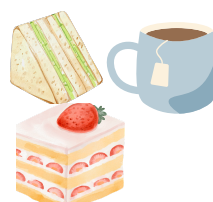
- get connected
- discover more about the Christian faith
- and share your thoughts in a friendly environment

And... it includes a **FREE MEAL!**

For more info: contact Teresa
alpha@lindfieldkillara.org.au

Seniors Group

at Lindfield Killara



**Friday
19 Sep
11am**

Meet above the church

(in the Shirley Wallace Centre - use
the lift in the foyer of the church)

Food for the spirit

True and False Notions of Freedom

*“Whoever does not carry his own cross
and come after me cannot be my disciple”*

(Lk 14:27)

CS Lewis tells the story of his conversion in a little autobiographical piece entitled, *Surprised by Joy*. His journey has some things to teach us.

For years he was blocked from committing himself to faith precisely because of his keen, uncompromising intellect. Brilliant, searching, skeptical of easy answers, he was unable to picture to himself how the great events of Christ's life and resurrection could have happened. Moreover, he saw commitment to faith as somehow selling short one's freedom. In all of this, he was constantly challenged by JRR Tolkien, the author of *Lord of the Rings*, a friend and a practicing Roman Catholic. Lewis recalls how, on many an evening, Tolkien and he would have dinner together and then walk the streets of Oxford for hours, arguing faith and religion. On one such evening, shortly before Lewis' conversion, Tolkien challenged him to this effect: “Your inability to picture for yourself the mysteries of Jesus' life is a failure of imagination on your part!” Lewis was stung by that remark, but realized too its truth.

Not long afterwards he converted to Christianity and, as *Surprised by Joy* puts it, on the night when he finally, first, knelt down to acknowledge his faith he did so not in a burst of joy and enthusiasm, but “as the most reluctant convert in the history of Christendom.” Parts of him were still in rebellion, but he knew he needed to kneel in a certain acquiescence because, as he put it, he had come to know that “the harshness of God is kinder than the softness of man and God's compulsion is our liberation.” Happiness and freedom, he realized, are paradoxical in the extreme. You can only have them by giving them away. Giving away freedom is what makes us free, just as jealously hoarding it is the ultimate enslavement.

Scripture speaks of truths that were “hidden since the beginning of the world.” What Jesus reveals about the relationship of love and freedom is one of these truths. What does he reveal? That the essence of love is a certain obedience, a free acquiescence, a giving over of one's freedom, a laying down of one's life for love, morality, duty. Freedom doesn't achieve its purpose by claiming itself for itself, but by giving itself away.

There is a great paradox in that and we see it stunningly portrayed in the scene where Jesus stands before Pilate during his trial. From every outward appearance, Jesus is unfree. He stands before Pilate and the crowd, shackled, helpless to walk away, seemingly a victim. Yet, in all of literature, one will never find an image of someone more free than Jesus at that moment.

When Pilate says to him: “Don't you know that I have the power to set you free or put you to death,” Jesus answers, “You have no power over me. Nobody takes my life. I lay it down of my own free will.” Pilate understood exactly what that meant: you can't make a saint into a victim or a martyr into a scapegoat. You can't take by force what someone has already freely given over.

Scholastic philosophy used to make a distinction around the notion of freedom that partly captures this. It spoke of freedom as “freedom-from” and “freedom-for.” The former designates a certain adolescent ideal, where freedom means lack of restraints, lack of duty, lack of moral inhibition, the capacity to do whatever you like. The latter designates the purpose of freedom itself, namely, the capacity for self-donation in love, for altruism, for morality, for duty, for service.

This is not something we understand or accept easily. We are all too easily seduced by the idea that freedom means “freedom-from”—from duty, from moral restraint, and from anything else that inhibits or ties us down. Duty, morality, and religion are then seen as unhealthy weights, shackles to be shed.

But that's a dangerous, unhappy, notion.

In Mark's gospel, the disciples of Jesus are cast in a particularly bad light. They don't just abandon Jesus during his passion and death, they misunderstand, betray, and get things wrong all the way along. That's partly the point of Mark's Gospel. For him, it's difficult, indeed impossible, to come to faith in Jesus unless we share precisely in the cross by giving away our freedom as Jesus did, freely, without resentment. In Mark's view of things, discipleship can only be grasped existentially, by participation in what lay at the heart of Jesus' mission, his giving away his freedom to his Father.

Simone Weil, a fiercely independent mind who died fighting for freedom, was once asked: “What are you searching for?” Her answer, in essence: “I'm searching for someone to be obedient to because without obedience we inflate and grow silly, even to ourselves.”

It was precisely this realization that drove a reluctant CS Lewis to his knees in genuflection. God's harshness is softer than our kindness and obedience in love is what sets us free.

ENTRANCE: GATHER US IN

Here in this place new light is streaming
Now is the darkness vanished away
See in this space our fears and our dreamings
Brought here to you in the light of this day
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken
Gather us in, the blind and the lame
Call to us now and we shall awaken
We shall arise at the sound of our name
We are the young, our lives are a mystery
We are the old who yearn for your face
We have been sung throughout all of history
Called to be light to the whole human race
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty
Gather us in, the proud and the strong
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly
Give us the courage to enter the song

*Marty Haugen ©1982, GIA Publications, Inc.**

DEDICATION OF THE GIFTS: IN FAITH AND HOPE AND LOVE

In faith and hope and love with joyful trust we
move towards our Father's home above.

- 1 Christ, our star, our map, our road
to the Father's high abode.
- 2 Christ, our bread along the way;
Christ, our rescue when stray.
- 3 Christ, our shelter, Christ our friend,
our beginning and our end.
- 4 Christ, our hope and our reward;
our redeemer and our Lord.

*Estate of James McAuley; Tune: Richard Connolly ©1976, Willow Publishing**

Used with permission. All rights reserved.

***OneLicense # A-730534 / **CCLI License #746289**

COMMUNION: I HEARD THE VOICE OF JESUS SAY

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Come unto me and rest.
Lay down, thou weary one,
lay down thy head upon my breast."
I came to Jesus as I was,
so weary and worn, and sad.
I found in him a resting place,
and he has made me glad.
I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Behold, I freely give
the living water, thirsty one;
stoop down and drink and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream.
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.
I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"I am the dawning light.
Look unto me, your morn shall rise,
and all your day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my star, my sun,
and in that light of life I'll walk
till trav'ling days are done.

Public Domain – Text: Horatius Bonar 1846; Tune: Kingsfold old English folksong 1893

RECESSIONAL: FORTH IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST WE GO

Forth in the peace of Christ we go
Christ to the world with joy we bring
Christ in our minds, Christ on our lips,
Christ in our hearts, the world's true King.
Prophets of Christ, we hear his Word:
he claim our minds, to search his ways
he claims our lips, to speak his truth
he claims our hearts, to sing God's praise.
We are the Church; Christ bids us show
that in his Church all nations find
their heart and home where Christ restores
true peace, true love, to humankind.

*O. Gibbons, J. Quinn ©1969,1987, OCP.**



DIocese OF BROKEN BAY PILGRIMAGE

SAT 29 NOV- WED 3 DEC



**FLIGHTS + 4 NIGHTS
ACCOMODATION + REGISTRATION**
\$1,645 PER PERSON, INCL GST
Limited opportunity for \$500 subsidy
Reducing cost to \$1,145

Day	Date	Event
Day 1	Sat 29 Nov	Departure (Travel Day)
Day 2	Sun 30 Nov	ACYF
Day 3	Mon 1 Dec	ACYF
Day 4	Tue 2 Dec	ACYF
Day 5	Wed 3 Dec	Return (Travel Day)

**TO REGISTER INTEREST
TO ATTEND ACYF -
PLEASE SCAN**



INCLUSIONS

- Economy class return airfare from Sydney
- 4 nights' Accommodation Holiday Inn Express
- Breakfast daily
- Broken Bay Group dinner 29 November
- Return airport coach transfers
- ACYF Melbourne Registration fee
- Broken Bay Pilgrim T-Shirt

Not included:

- Travel insurance
- Lunches and dinners on festival days

Pilgrimage is open to young people in Year 9 at school, through to the age of 25, and their leaders and clergy.

 **CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF
BROKEN BAY**
mission@bbccatholic.org.au



Friday! 19 September

Playgroup

Preschoolers, parents and carers, come and join us
at Holy Family, Lindfield for play sessions.

**Fortnightly
on Friday**

*Excluding
school
holidays

**9:00am -
10.00am**

**Meet above
the church**
(in the Shirley
Wallace Centre - use
the lift in the foyer
of the church)

**Held on the following
dates:**
19 Sep, 17 Oct, 31 Oct,
14 Nov, 28 Nov & 12 Dec

www.hflldb.catholic.edu.au | (02) 7256 2141 | 4 Highfield Road
Lindfield 2070

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.
Amen

The Psalm

Ps 89:3-6, 12-14, 17

You turn men back in to dust
and say: 'Go back, sons of men.'
To your eyes a thousand years
are like yesterday, come and gone,
no more than a watch in the night.
You sweep men away like a dream,
like grass which springs up in the morning.
In the morning it springs up and flowers:
by evening it withers and fades.
Make us know the shortness of our life
that we may gain wisdom of heart.
Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever?
Show pity to your servants.
In the morning, fill us with your love;
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.
Let the favour of the Lord be upon us:
give success to the work of our hands.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and
earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only
Son, our Lord,
(all bow at the following
words in bold):
who was conceived by the
Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius
Pilate,
was crucified, died and was
buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose
again from the dead;

he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand
of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to
judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Holy Catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Let your face shine on your servant,
and teach me your laws.

Alleluia!

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,
until you come again.



VOCATIONS

ANSWERING THE CALL:

*a celebration
of faith and hope*

THANK YOU
to all our Parishioners for
supporting our

**SEMINARIANS' BENEFIT
GALA DINNER**

LEVANDE
Retirement, living

ACU **harvest**
AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

WN BULL
FUNERALS



CatholicCare
DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY

THIS SEAT CHANGES LIVES

Aged Care Supports

Disability Supports

Domestic Violence & Therapeutic Services

Early Learning Centres & OSHCs

Homelessness & Family Services

Permanency Support Program

Volunteer Opportunities

Youth Supports

1800 324 924
SCAN FOR VACANCIES



Killara Church

5:30pm Vigil
9.00am*

Lindfield Church

6.00pm Vigil 8.30am 10.15am**
12noon Chinese Mass
6:00pm Youth Mass***

* Morning Tea follows the 9am Mass at Killara on the 1st Sundays

** The 10:15am Mass on the 2nd & 4th Sundays is a Children's Mass,

*** The 3rd Sunday after 6pm Youth Mass is Parish Pot Luck Supper

Weekday Mass this week

Mon.	8am	Killara - The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Tues.	8am	Killara
Wed.	10am	Lindfield
Thurs.	10am	Lindfield
Fri.	10am	Lindfield

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

Sunday Mass Roster

SATURDAY	6 SEPTEMBER	13 SEPTEMBER
Lindfield 6:00PM Killara 5:30PM	Fr Colin Fr Hien	Fr Colin Fr Stephen
SUNDAY	7 SEPTEMBER	14 SEPTEMBER
Lindfield 8:30AM Killara 9:00AM Lindfield 10:15AM Lindfield 12:00PM Lindfield 6:00PM	Fr Colin Fr Stephen Fr Colin Fr Hien Fr Colin	Fr Colin Fr Stephen Fr Colin TBC Fr Colin

How to contact us

Fr Colin Blayney PP VP, Parish Priest

0475 558 500 colin@lindfieldkillara.org.au

Fr Stephen Hill, Priest-in-residence

(voice only) 0474 303 261 fr.stephen@me.com

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

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

Holy Family School: 4 Highfield Rd, Lindfield

E info@holyfamily.nsw.edu.au **Ph.** 7256 2141

Ways that you can support our parish

Direct debit contributions from your bank A/C:

1st Collection:

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

BSB 062 784 Ac 10000 1624

2nd Collection:

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

BSB 062 784 Ac 10000 1623

Credit card:

Scan this code & then select each of our two collections



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.

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

SEPTEMBER

Sun 7	NO Morning Tea after 9am Mass in Killara
Fri 12	10am Healing Mass, followed by morning tea at Killara
Sun 14	10.15am Children's Mass
Tues 16	7pm Parent Meeting - First Communion
Fri 19	9am Playgroup 11am Seniors Group
Sun 21	Potluck Dinner after 6pm Mass
Every Tue	7pm Alpha
Every Wed	8am Meditation (online)

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays for 15 mins after Vigil Mass at Killara
Saturdays 5.15 - 5.45pm at Lindfield

Our Chinese Catholic Community

常年期第二十三主日 7.9.2025

中文主日彌撒正午12時

讀經一 (有誰能想像上主的意願?)

恭讀智慧篇 9:13-18

有誰能知道天主的計劃，有誰能想像上主的意願？必死的人的思想，常是不定的；我們人的計謀，常是無常的；因為，這必腐朽的肉身，重壓著靈魂；這屬於塵土的寓所，迫使精神多慮。世上的事，我們還難以測度；目前的事，我們還得費力追求；那麼，天上的事，誰還能探究？你如果不賜下智慧，從高天派遣你的聖神，誰能知道你的旨意？這樣，世人的道路，才得修正；眾人才可學習你所喜悅的事，並藉著智慧，獲得救援。——上主的話。

答唱詠 詠90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17

【答】：上主，從永遠到永遠，你是我們的靠山。(詠90:1)

領：你命世人歸回灰塵，說：歸來，亞當的子孫！因為千年在你的眼前，好像剛過去的昨天，又好像夜裡的一更。【答】

領：你使他們消逝，有如清晨一覺，又使他們有如剛萌芽的青草，早晨還青綠茂盛，晚上就凋謝枯萎。【答】

領：求你教導我們，數算自己的歲月，使我們學習內心的智慧。上主，求你歸來，尚待何時？求你快來憐恤你的僕役！【答】

領：讓我們清晨就飽享你的慈愛，歡欣鼓舞，天天愉快。願上主、我們的天主，廣施恩寵，使我們工作順利，事業成功。【答】

讀經二 (收下他，不再當一個奴隸，而是作可愛的弟兄。)

恭讀聖保祿宗徒致費肋孟書 9:10, 12-17

親愛的弟兄：

我這年老的保祿，現在為了基督耶穌，做囚犯的，寧願因著愛德求你，就是為我在鎖鏈中，所生的兒子敖乃息摩，來求你。我現在打發他，回去你那裡，【你收下他，】他是我的肝肺。我本來願意將他留在我這裡，

叫他替你服事我、這為福音而被囚的人，可是，沒有你的同意，我什麼也不願意做，好叫你的善行，不是出於勉強，而是出於甘心。也許他暫時離開你，是為你永遠收下他，不再當一個奴隸，而是超過奴隸，作可愛的弟兄；他為我特別可愛，但為你，不論是肉身方面，或是主方面，更加可愛。所以，如果你以我為同志，就收留他，當作收留我吧！——上主的話。

福音前歡呼

領：上主，求你向你的僕人，顯示你的慈顏，同時，也求你教導我：你的規範。(詠119:135)

福音 (你們中不論是誰，如果不捨棄他的一切所有，不能做我的門徒。)

恭讀聖路加福音 14:25-33

那時候，有一大夥人與耶穌同行，耶穌轉身向他們說：「如果誰要跟隨我，而不惱恨自己的父親、母親、妻子、兒女、兄弟、姊妹，甚至自己的性命，不能做我的門徒。」

「不論誰，如果不背起自己的十字架，跟隨我，不能做我的門徒。」

「你們當中，誰願意建造一座塔，而不先坐下，籌算費用，看是否有力完成呢？免得他奠基以後，竟不能完工，所有看見的人，都要譏笑他，說：這個人開始建造，但不能完工。」

「或者一個國王，要去同別的國王交戰，那有不先坐下，運籌一下，看能否以一萬人，去抵抗對方的兩萬人呢？如果不能，就得趁那國王，離得尚遠的時候，派遣使節，去求和。」

「同樣，你們中不論是誰，如果不捨棄他的一切所有，不能做我的門徒。」——上主的話。

彌撒後.請各教友參加午餐聚餐

Sunday School主日學 12:00 (中英雙語)

**牧職修女司徒金美修女 ☎0419- 426899

**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:

Recently deceased:

John Pera (Michelle's father), Dennis Tonitto (Liana Stella's uncle), Sylvia Yee Joy, Frank Hallissy

Anniversary:

Faye Bartlett, Patricia Darwell, June Connors, Eileen and Max Waring, Mary Younan, Francis Healy, Alexander Buchanan, Patricia Kenny

Please pray for those who are sick: Kath Kelly, Elvira Rodriguez, Wolfgang Liers, Tanya Walsh, Jutta Mathur, Jessica Keen, Ali Crawford, Barbara McMullen, William Wise, Janette Brennan.

Fr Richard Rohr OFM's Meditation: Reality as Communion

Father Richard views community and connectedness as central to the Christian life and intrinsic to Reality itself:

In the beginning God says, "Let us make humanity in our own image, in the likeness of ourselves" (Genesis 1:26). The use of the plural pronoun here seems to be an amazing, deep-time intuition of what Christians would later call the Trinity, which is the revelation of the nature of God as community, as relationship itself, a Mystery of perfect giving and perfect receiving. The Body of Christ is another metaphor for this bonding. "Reality as communion" is the template and pattern for our entire universe, from atoms to galaxies, and certainly in human community.

We come to know who God is through exchanges of mutual knowing and loving. God's basic method of communicating God's self is not the "saved" individual, the rightly informed believer, or even a person with a career in ministry. God communicates primarily through the journey and bonding process that God initiates in community: in marriages, friendships, families, tribes, nations, schools, organizations, and churches who are seeking to participate in God's love, maybe without even consciously knowing it.

Thomas Merton wrote, "The Christian is not merely 'alone with the Alone' in the Neoplatonic sense, but [is] One with all 'brothers and sisters in Christ.' The Christian's inner self is, in fact, inseparable from Christ and hence it is in a mysterious and unique way inseparable from all the other 'I's' who live in Christ, so that they all form one 'Mystical Person,' which is 'Christ.'" [1]

Until and unless Christ is experienced as a living relationship between people, the gospel remains largely an abstraction. Until Christ is passed on personally through faithfulness and forgiveness toward another, through concrete bonds of union, I doubt whether he is passed on by words, sermons, institutions, or ideas.

Living in community means living in such a way that others can access me and influence my life. It means that I can get "out of myself" and serve the lives of others. Community is a world where kinship with each other is possible. By community I don't mean primarily a special kind of structure, but a network of relationships. Sadly, on the whole, we live in a society that's built on competition, not on community and cooperation.

If the Trinity reveals that God is relationship itself, then the goal of the spiritual journey is to discover and move toward connectedness on ever new levels. The contemplative mind enjoys union on all levels. We may begin by making little connections with nature and animals, and then grow into deeper connectedness with people. Finally, we can experience full connectedness as union with God and frankly everything.

Without connectedness and communion, we don't exist fully as our truest selves. Becoming who we really are is a matter of learning how to become more and more deeply connected. No one can possibly go to heaven alone—or it would not be heaven when they got there.

References:

[1] Thomas Merton, *The Inner Experience: Notes on Contemplation*, ed. William H. Shannon (San Francisco: HarperSanFrancisco, 2003), 22. Note: minor edits made for inclusive language.

In 2023, Pope Francis invited us all to join in prayer for the historic gathering of bishops, priests, religious and laity as they reflected on the call to be a more synodal – that is, collaborative and discerning – Church.



For a synodal Church
communion | participation | mission





Mike O'Shea
Parishioner

Trusted Senior Sales Consultant for over 20 years. Mazda Artarmon is a family owned business for more than 40 years.

Please mention this ad for the VIP Special.

☎ **0401 220 878**

✉ michaelo@artarmonmazda.com.au

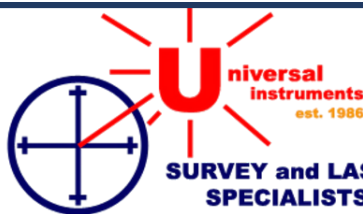
**RENOVATIONS & BUILDING
MAINTENANCE**
CHRIS IACONO

Parishioner
All work large and small

Lic 89879c
Fully Insured

50 years experience
0412 256 616

chris.iacono@bigpond.com



**SURVEY and LASER
SPECIALISTS**

Henry & Gloria Cheung,
Parishioners
**SURVEY and LASER
SPECIALISTS**

326 Pacific Highway, LINDFIELD

Ph: (02) 9416 5335 Fax: (02) 9416 1538

Email: sales@universalinstruments.com.au

Website: www.universalinstruments.com.au

Camille HAIR Designs
Hair designed for your life and style

New **HAIR
SALON**

@ East Lindfield Shops

23 year Experience

Street Level Access

Text / Call **0401 616 615**

**LAWYER
GROUPS**

Parishioner

Vanessa Robichaux

Conveyancing Lawyers

"Experienced and reliable conveyancing services for buying or selling property. Trust our expertise - contact us today."

☎ **0403456529**

✉ Vanessa@lawyergroups.com.au



Lindfield Dental Practice Dr Peter Chung
Suite 1. 345 Pacific Hwy, Lindfield (Next to
Lindfield Medical Practice) P : 9416 5000

**COULD YOU
ADVERTISE
HERE
AND SUPPORT
OUR PARISH?**

Youth News

LINDFIELD-KILLARA YOUTH MINISTRY FUNDRAISER

**Trivia
Night**

Have your brightest lightbulb moments at our Parish Trivia Night!
Join us for an evening of fun, brainpower, and great company – all in support
of our youth ministry.

Pizza, dessert and drinks will be provided.
BYO table snacks

Saturday, September 18th
6:45PM - 9PM

St Brigid's Hall,
(upstairs from the church)
Holy Family Parish, Lindfield

\$20pp Payable
on entry
Free for under 15
years old

RSVP using the QR code, or follow this link:
<https://forms.gle/TGeMcHSeFCMDrQeA>

Get in soon!
RSVP closes
September 10th



**Children's
Mass & COG**

Come along to our Children and Family Mass next Sunday!

Starting at 10:15am, please join us in the church for Mass.

After Mass, morning tea is served upstairs for the adults,
and COG downstairs for primary students. COG will start
downstairs next week for morning tea, then for something
different, we will have a little tour in the church

Contact Kate at youth@lindfieldkillara.org.au for
additional information

Join Our
Youth Ministry Team

Calling our amazing 16 - 30 year olds!

Want to volunteer and get more involved in parish life, connect
with young people, or even tick off community service hours?

We'd love you to join our Youth Ministry Team!

Opportunities to assist with:

- COG (Sunday School)
- High School Events
- Parish Family Events

Why?

- Up your experience and skills
- Boost your resume
- Positive impact in our parish



If this sparks your interest, please contact Kate at the address below

youth@lindfieldkillara.org.au

I'd love to have you onboard!

HSC | IB Mass

**SAVE
THE DATE**

Wednesday

October 1st 2025

6pm

Lindfield Church

