



CATHOLIC PARISH *of Lindfield- Killara*



*Holy Family Church
2 Highfield Rd, Lindfield*

3rd April 2020

*Immaculate Heart of Mary Church
76A Fiddens Wharf Rd, Killara*

Dear sisters and brothers in our parish community,

Our strange new life continues. Hopefully we can try to see within it new opportunities as well as the difficulties – time to slow down, to keep in touch with others, to read, to pray, to exercise. To ponder. To be in touch with God.

Our thoughts and prayers are particularly with those whose livelihood is being affected by the current health crisis. Please reach out in support to those who have been affected in this way.

We're about to enter Holy Week, the holiest time of our Christian year – and yet what a different time it will be this year. But then Holy week isn't meant to be a 'pleasant' time – its deep inner meaning is about the way of the Cross, about knowing – as Jesus did – that the love of God, the power of the Resurrection, is found in weakness, in struggle, in suffering, and even in death. This Holy Week can offer us the opportunity to experience perhaps more clearly than ever what it celebrates.

I hope that you have been able to draw strength for your discipleship from the resources we're making available for you in the special section of our parish website (www.lindfieldkillara.org.au). A reminder that it can all be accessed by clicking on the hotlink box on the homepage entitled 'Parish Life in the Current Situation' – or by simply clicking on this link: <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/lindfield-killara/news-events/parish-life-in-the-current-situation>

The page offers you a treasure trove of resources: both Sunday and weekday Mass online here in our parish, home prayer celebrations for Sundays, prayers, and helps for prayer, our Sunday homilies, helps for parents to lead the children in engaging with the Sunday liturgy, access to a number of parish activities and gatherings now taking place online, and much much more. We're constantly updating and adding to the page so please keep returning. It's our way of remaining connected as a parish community.

If I may, could I mention once again that our parish income has been shattered by the current situation with public Mass not being celebrated. One section of the above-mentioned webpage provides information on how you can support our parish financially by electronic or periodical giving.

And so the great feast of Easter approaches. As always it has the power to renew and strengthen our faith – more than ever this year. We certainly won't be leaving you unsupported during Holy Week. Please keep checking the special parish webpage: we'll be providing resources for prayer, the liturgy of the Easter Triduum (from Holy Thursday to Easter Sunday) on video online, children's resources and more. We'll be building this up over coming days so please keep coming back and checking. I've set out the basic details of our Easter celebrations at the bottom of this email.

This Sunday, which leads us into Holy week, is of course Palm Sunday. In section 1 of the 'Resources' on our webpage (the Resource entitled 'A Home-based Liturgy to celebrate at home on Sunday') we'll be including a short celebration preceding the main liturgy of the day in which you could gather in your garden, or just at the door of your home or apartment, for a home blessing of palms or some other greenery and the commemoration of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. Please have your greenery ready. For families this may be a great way to involve the children.

Some have found it good to make use of both the home-based liturgy and the video of Mass – celebrating the liturgy of the Word with the first resource and then tapping into the Eucharistic liturgy from the second resource.

Web: www.lindfieldkillara.org.au

Parish Office: PO Box 22 Lindfield NSW 2070

Ph. 02 9416 3702

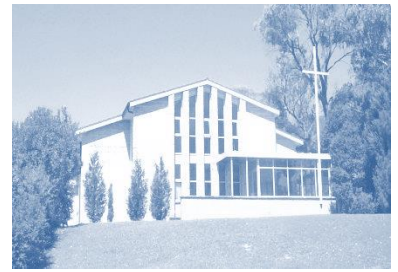
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And one final plug – please keep accessing the parish bulletin on our parish website – we aim to provide you with reflective and nourishing reading for these challenging days as well keeping you up-to-date with our parish life.

Please be assured that you are in Fr Thomas’ and my prayers, especially at the daily Masses being celebrated in the parish. Please likewise keep us in your prayers. These are challenging times for us all.

Be of good heart however. Whatever unfolds, it is God, dwelling in our hearts and in our community, who is our strength - and our final destiny. Our challenge is to remain connected as Christ’s Body in spirit even though we can’t gather in person. This Easter, while so very different, can also be a great time of grace. Let’s embrace this coming Holy Week in a special way this year, once again following Jesus along that path of suffering to the joy of the Resurrection.

In Christ Jesus our Lord.

Fr Colin

OUR EASTER CELEBRATIONS

Please visit our parish website (www.lindfieldkillara.org.au) and go to the special section ‘Parish Life in the Current Situation’ for a comprehensive treatment of our Easter resources for you. This will continue to be added to and updated as Holy Week progresses.

- ◆ There will be an online video of Mass here in our parish on the first three days of Holy Week, Monday—Wednesday.

THE EASTER TRIDUUM

The heart of our year is the Easter Triduum, stretching from the Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday (9th April), through Good Friday, climaxing in the Mass of the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday night (11th April) and concluding on Easter Sunday.

Holy Thursday: our website will have the link to the celebration of the Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper here in our parish available on demand on our website from 6pm onwards.



Good Friday: **The Stations of the Cross** will be available on demand online on our website from 3pm. It will be in the form we have every other year, with young people dramatising the Stations. Each Station will be prepared by a different family so physical distancing rules will be firmly obeyed.



The Solemn Liturgy of the Lord’s Passion, celebrated here in our parish, will be available online on demand from 3pm onwards on our parish website.

Holy Saturday: is the great day of waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Resurrection. As always we will have Morning Prayer. This will be available online on our website on demand as of 3am on Holy Saturday.

The Mass of the Easter Vigil (which of course will be celebrated in a much simpler form than usual) will be celebrated here in our parish and will be available on the website on demand as of 6:30pm on Holy Saturday night. This is the greatest celebration of our Church year—please enter into it.



Easter Sunday: Mass celebrated here in our parish will be available online on demand on our parish website as of 6am on Easter Sunday.

We’ll also provide **booklets** online to help you to participate in the celebrations, or to hold your own home celebrations, or to do a mixture of both.

*Let’s make this very different Easter a very special Easter:
~ a week of prayer, renewal and new birth ~*

We may not be able to be physically together but we can most certainly be spiritually together as a parish family as we make this year’s Easter journey.

Fr Colin and Fr Thomas

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