

A letter to the parish from Fr Colin - 6th June 2020

Dear all in the parish,

The return of Sunday Mass! I'm delighted to say that we will see Sunday Mass return to our parish as of **next** weekend of 13th/14th June. We are so looking forward to gathering together again on the Lord's Day for the celebration of the Eucharist as a community of faith. The easing of government restrictions now means that 50 people may attend a Mass and so Fr Thomas and I will now introduce a weekend Mass schedule of **ten Masses each weekend** so that all may come to share in the celebration of the Eucharist. We will also continue with the online Mass for those who cannot come to a physical celebration at this stage.

Our new Mass schedule for the time being (starting **next** weekend) is:

Killara church (Celebrant: Fr Thomas)	Lindfield church (Celebrant: Fr Colin)
4:00pm Vigil	6:00pm Vigil
5:30pm Vigil	8:30am
9:00am	10:00am
10:30am	11:30am
5:30pm Youth Mass	6:00pm Youth Mass

So that we may comply with public health restrictions it will be essential **to make a booking** to attend Mass each week – however this is very simple, taking only a few seconds. Either go to the special hotlink box on the homepage of our parish website (www.lindfieldkillara.org.au) or click on this link: <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/lindfield-killara/mass-and-prayer-times/the-return-of-sunday-and-weekday-mass-with-50-people>

If you or someone you know is not comfortable with online bookings just call Philita in the Parish Office (Tues. – Fri. 9:30am-4:00pm) and she will do it for you.

Your health and safety We have made every provision to ensure that our gatherings are safe:

- the pews and other hard surfaces will be sanitised after every Mass
- we have also placed signs on the pews with a green tick like this: ✓ Please sit **DIRECTLY ON THE SIGN (they'll be sanitised as well!)**, not just anywhere on the pew. We have placed them to obtain maximum physical separation. Immediate family may of course sit together but everyone else must sit on a separate tick sign.
- Please use the hand sanitiser at the doors when entering and leaving the church.
- Holy Communion will not be given on the tongue – but on the hand only.
- There is no holy water at the church entrances and we will offer the sign of peace simply by a friendly smile and wave to those around us.
- For health and safety we won't pass round the collection bowls – however there will be two boxes clearly labelled **FIRST COLLECTION AND SECOND COLLECTION** in a prominent position in the centre of the church. We hope that after the long period of church closure you can resume your weekly giving. There are also Tap and Go machines in Lindfield church and the homepage of our website gives details on how online contributions may be made.
- If you – or anyone at home in your household – has even the mildest sign of a cold or other respiratory infection **PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND MASS**.

Could you lend us a hand? To comply with the public health provisions we need a. to sanitise the public spaces of the churches after each Mass and b. to have welcomers at the door to admit those who have booked, to admit those who haven't if space permits, and to close the doors during Mass. If you can help in either or both of these ways please contact Alison in the Parish Office as soon as possible (alison@lindfieldkillara.org.au). We can only maintain our ten Sunday Masses if we have volunteer teams for these roles.

Our young people We're very much are looking forward to seeing our young families and our young people also. You will see above that the two Sunday evening Masses are going to be – to the best of our ability in these current circumstances – Youth Masses (though of course those of every age are welcome). Our high school youth group (Fusion) has been continuing to have activities online – and those who have been taking part are forming a great bond and having lots of fun. We hope that all of our youth will get involved - see the youth section of our parish website.

Stay in touch Don't forget to access the parish bulletin each week as it is our way of both keeping you informed and of providing some nourishing spiritual reflection. It will of course be available once again in our churches at Sunday Masses, and it is also accessible on our parish website.

And we continue to provide you with a rich range of resources during this time when life is still far from returning to normal – click on the hotlink box 'Parish Life in the Current Situation' on the homepage of our parish website (www.lindfieldkillara.org.au).

For those who have health concerns We will have weekday Mass each day from Monday - Saturday at 10am (with up to 50 people) in one or other of our churches (see the bulletin for details – bookings also need to be made for weekday Mass). But we will also have a Mass at 12 noon on Tuesday at our Killara church **for 10 people only** – this is reserved for those over 70 or who have an underlying health condition.

In addition, we can accommodate a few people who need a greater physical distancing in the choir loft at Lindfield for Sunday or weekday Mass. This cannot be booked online – please contact the Parish Office if you wish to arrange to be seated in the choir loft.

Looking forward to seeing you Our governments are looking forward to re-starting the economy. It falls to all of us to 're-start the Church'. We have been separated from one another physically for all too long – let's all play our part now in coming together as a community to celebrate the awesome, precious gift of the Eucharist. We can't wait to see you!

Regards,

Fr Colin