

HORNSBY CATHEDRAL PARISH

Letter from Fr Peter de Souza

10 May 2020



My dear Parishioners,

Greetings to you all! And a Happy Mother's Day weekend! You all deserve to be spoilt, so make the best use of the day.

Thank you for your gift as women, and more so women of faith. You make the difference in our lives, and those entrusted into your care and beyond.

Have a great one, as the year unfolds.

God Bless and prayers assured,
Fr Peter, Fr Biju and Roger



Mother's Day Blessing:

Loving God, as a mother gives life and nourishment to her children, so you watch over your Church. Bless these women, that they may be strengthened as Christian mothers. Let the example of their faith and love shine forth. Grant that we, their sons and daughters, may honour them always with a spirit of profound respect. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Prayer Source: Book of Blessings, prepared by International Commission on English in the Liturgy. A Joint Commission of Catholic Bishops' Conferences, The Liturgical Press, Collegeville, Minnesota, 1989)

In reflecting on the words of scripture this weekend, the opening lines of the Gospel, Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me." Jesus sees himself at this point in his life as having to make a painful journey alone. But, because of his journey, he will be able to lead his followers to that place as well.

In the next instance, Thomas is struggling with the desire, to know exactly the destination before we set out. Jesus invites him to make an act of faith and to take one step at a time. Following from that, Philip too must make a journey in which he wants to experience God directly. Jesus shows him that he has been experiencing God all the time by involving himself in the works which Jesus has been doing. And finally, Jesus sees himself on a journey to the Father, trusting that the work will continue because it is not his but the Father's.

Our Congratulations, blessings and prayerful wishes to Roger on his admission as a candidate for Sacred Orders. Our prayers accompany him on his journey.

Our Congratulations and blessings to Pat & Carole McCabe on their 60th Wedding Anniversary. May the goodness of the Lord surround you and your family and thank you for what you generously do for our community. It is a special blessing for us all.

Month of May has traditionally been a month dedicated to praying the Rosary in our homes and communities. May I request you in your families to do the same, and entrust our intentions of our Families, Communities and Nation into the care of our Blessed Mother.

Please remember in your prayers, those who are sick, and have died recently and whose anniversaries occur during this time. May I request you to keep all those who are struck with the virus, those tested positive and those in isolation in your special prayers.

Note of Gratitude: I would also like to say a big thank you to all those who are financially contributing to Parish Life, even as each of you come to terms with our own struggles. Your generosity is tremendous, and while I thank you, I assure you all of my prayers too.

We also deeply appreciate your efforts to continuing to support the CWF during such difficult times. If you would like to contribute: www.givenow.com.au/cwf Thank you for your ongoing support.

The Parish's first official Zoom meetings: My sincere gratitude to Mary and Louise on their initiatives in Zoom meetings for the Parish Missionary Council and Liturgy Committee. It was great to encounter all the members in a virtual world and with great enthusiasm. Keep up the cheer!

Good articles for reading and reflection: <https://litedliturgybrisbane.weebly.com/>

Please pray for our Broken Bay COVID-19 Chaplains:

- Fr Vincent Trung Nguyen for the Royal North Shore Hospital and the Lower North Shore
- Fr Anselam Lakra for the SAN and Hornsby Hospitals and the Upper North Shore
- Fr Shiju Simon OSH for the Northern Beaches Hospital and the Northern Beaches Deanery
- Fr Greg Skulski SDS for Gosford Hospital and the southern part of the Central Coast
- Fr Baby Thomas CFIC for the Wyong Hospital and the northern part of the Central Coast

Mass schedule: Daily Mass is live streamed at 7.00am. Sunday Mass is live streamed at 8.30am.

Please note, DO NOT come to the Cathedral during these times. Thank you for your understanding.

May I request that you stay tuned with us during these times. Your family Church is a continuation of our joint celebrations "gathering of families", 'The Body of Christ'.

Prayer Resources for Catholics at home is available on the Diocesan website:

www.bbcatholic.org.au/news-events/covid-19/prayer-resources

Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered to our people, even though it is *not possible to celebrate this Sacrament in the closed church*. Also note the official government regulation for physical distancing is important.

Sacrament of Anointing is available on request, and in an emergency, please feel free to call our emergency number 0458 351 843. **Please make sure if your family member is in the Hospital or Nursing Home, it should go through the hospital or nursing home authorities.**