

## HORNSBY CATHEDRAL PARISH

Letter from Fr Peter de Souza

16 August 2020



**Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for August:  
The Maritime World: We pray for all those who work and live from the sea,  
among them sailors, fishermen and their families.**

My dear Parishioners,

In Matthew's Gospel this weekend, we have a story of a Woman, of a great faith. To put the story in a right perspective, we must look at the preceding passage which tells of the Pharisees' continued hostility to Jesus. It was because Jesus was rejected by the religious leaders then, that Jesus decided to "leave that place" and "withdraw" to a foreign environment. The "Canaanite woman" does not represent women only, but all people who are passionately committed to a noble cause. All the various aspects of her faith are worth meditating on, starting from our experience of great people we have known. For example, she was unconcerned about what others thought of her – she "came out" and immediately "started shouting".



Then there is the good humour which enabled her to turn Jesus' harsh words to her advantage, while keeping her dignity intact: "I don't mind being considered one of the house dogs since that means that I have a right to scraps from the children's food". Turning our focus back to Jesus, we are touched by the extraordinary discretion of "may your wish be granted". He makes no mention of the problem she faced.

For our continued journey....

"the region of Tyre and Sidon", ending up experiencing a radically new dimension to his mission. So often an experience of rejection leads to new possibilities being opened up. Our personal "region of Tyre and Sidon" turns out to be a place of new beginnings. We pray that the Lord will help us explore the same.

With all good wishes...

Fr Peter D

---

My dear Parishioners,

I need to stress with the utmost urgency: ***If you are feeling unwell, and especially if you have any flu-like symptoms you must cease work, stay home, isolate and get tested.*** This advice is paramount to those who are in contact with such a wide range of people in the course of their ministry. ***Please be hyper-vigilant for COVID-19 symptoms. These include: Fever (37.5°C or higher). Cough. Sore/scratchy throat. Shortness of breath. Loss of smell or loss of taste.***

If you have been in a COVID-19 hotspot cluster, immediately self-isolate until 14 days after you were last there and get tested even if you have no symptoms.

Let us be sure to look after one another with great care during these challenging times.

Yours in Christ,

Fr Peter de Souza

---

**Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Saturday 15 August** – a Holy Day of Obligation but also note that the dispensation is still in effect for all the Faithful in the Diocese from the obligation to participate at Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation (cc.87 §1 ; 1247).

**You are welcome to join us online: Saturday 7am livestreamed from the Cathedral.**

Cathedral Mass at 7am (limit of 97). QOP Church Mass at 7.30am (limit of 64).

The Livestream link can be found at the top of the parish website: [www.bbcatholic.org.au/hornsby](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/hornsby)

**A warm Welcome:** to those who were Baptised into the faith and welcomed into the community. As I welcome the little ones, may your families continue to be blessed. I welcome you all with God's special grace and blessings. May He continue to be part and parcel, of your commitment. Count on Him every day of your lives.

**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.

**We pray for all our Catechists** who have returned in Term 3, to our local public schools.

**Place of Worship COVID-19 Safety Plan.** We have been registered for the same, may request all those who part take in worship and use the Cathedral and Queen of Peace, please be mindful of our responsibility as a Community of faith responsible for the well-being, of one another. Failing to fulfil our duty and obligation, we are bound by a heavy penalty.

**Calling on... but under COVID-19 restrictions:**

I do understand, and given the situation, we do not have Congregational Singing within the Community. Yes, it is true, so that we minimise the risk of spreading the virus. But there are ways without engaging the community in singing. We can make our worship meaningful and beautiful in our responsibility for one another and uplifting for a God experience. So therefore, can I ask instrumentalists who would like to offer their talent "that priced Pearl" to play at various Masses over the weekend, I personally am happy to help you out in this venture. Please come forward, and make no hesitation, remember as a **disciple gifted with that priced pearl, you are helping and touching someone on their journey of faith and being enriched yourself.** Fr Peter D

**My Gratitude to those Parishioners** who have come forward to clean up after our Masses during this time. Thank you for your generous service to the community. We still need many hands to continue the good work, please feel free to support us.

**CWF first appeal collection for this financial year will be held 5-6 September 2020.**

Donations can be made through the parish website: <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/hornsby/our-parish/donations-online-payments>

**Expression of Interest for FUTURE FOCUSED SCHOOL LEADERS**

*"You can do what I cannot do. I can do what you cannot do. Together we can do great things."  
Mother Teresa*

We are seeking ambitious, inspirational and future-focussed leaders to join our Broken Bay system of Catholic schools in 2021.

The Diocese of Broken Bay encompasses 44 systemic Catholic schools stretching across Sydney's North Shore, Northern Beaches, and up through the Central Coast.

Creating positive outcomes for our students and enriching our school communities imbued with the Spirit of Christ is at the heart of everything we do in the Diocese of Broken Bay.

Experience the benefits of a forward looking, growth focused system of Catholic schools with opportunities for quality leadership development and targeted professional learning. Be inspired by the vision of authentic professional Catholic education delivered with care and compassion. Under the leadership of Bishop Anthony Randazzo, we are entering an exciting time of transformation to equip our schools and our people to be future ready, inspiring hearts and minds to know Christ, to love learning and to use their talents to be the very best they can be.

To express your interest in positions of responsibility including Principal, Assistant Principal and Religious Education Coordinator, please email our recruitment team at [hr@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:hr@dbb.catholic.edu.au) or call us on 9847 0596. We look forward to hearing from you.

**Position Vacant – Catechist Coordinator, Lower North Shore Parish, Casual Role.** View the full advertisement on the Diocesan website: <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/people/positions-vacant>