

HORNSBY CATHEDRAL PARISH

Letter from Fr Peter de Souza

30 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,

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become My followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow Me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for My sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?" Matthew 16:24-26



Our call to discipleship, is a challenge, that calls us to holiness. The Catechism teaches, "The way of perfection", that is, the path leading to holiness, "passes by way of the Cross" (CCC 2015). "There is no holiness without renunciation and spiritual battle" (CCC 2015). To live out the same, is what we constantly work at and are aware of the same, all lasting achievement demands effort and sacrifice. Yet the sacrifice can be a satisfying part of experience, when orientated towards a high and valued goal. (Examples: athletic training; mountain-climbing; studying a language; practising any skill.) So, the self-discipline involved in Christian life, and accepting the circumstances in which God places us, contribute to our personal destiny. And we look forward in hope to the great reward of loyal service — when the Son of man, comes in glory. Matthew: 16:27

With all good wishes...

Fr Peter D

My dear Parishioners,

It is important now that **everyone at our celebration wear a mask**. People are encouraged to bring their own mask. For further guidelines about masks, including mask types and who should and shouldn't wear them can be found here: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/face-masks>.

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

My dear Parishioners,

Holy Name Catholic Church at Wahroonga, has been closed as a precautionary measure due to a Parishioner who attended church on Sunday 23/8/2020, tested positive for COVID-19, NSW Health has assessed the risk to Clergy and Parishioners, being low (casual contacts) due to COVID safety procedures, Anyone who attended the 9.30am Mass on Sunday 23/8/2020 is advised to monitor for symptoms and if symptoms appear, isolate immediately and get tested for COVID-19.

Our prayers of support to the community. May our Lord with His blessed Mother may accompany them through this time. Fr Peter D.

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.

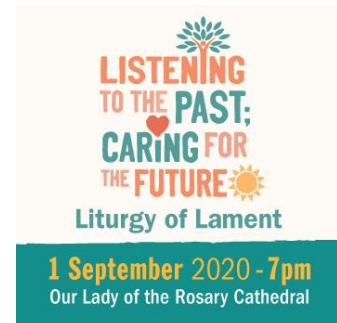
My Gratitude to those Parishioners who have come forward to clean up after our Masses during this time. Thank you for your generous service to the community. We still need many hands to continue the good work, please feel free to support us.

Month of September: Safeguarding Month

This is the fifth year that the Diocese of Broken Bay will highlight Safeguarding in the month of September. The theme for this year's Safeguarding Month is "Promoting the Rights of the Child".

Liturgy of Lament

The month will begin with the annual Liturgy of Lament to acknowledge and pray for those who have suffered harm by the Catholic Church. The theme for this year's Liturgy is "Listening to the past; Caring for the future". The Liturgy will be held on **Tuesday 1 September at 7.00pm** at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara. With restrictions still in place, a limited number of people will be present at the Liturgy, and for the first time it will be **live streamed for people to view at home**. You can view by clicking on the link provided on the Diocesan webpage.



4/9/2020: First Friday Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: will begin at 10.00am and end at 10.00pm, **the hour from 7-8pm will be dedicated in praying for Vocations. All are welcome to join** with the Lord in silent, meditative and reflective prayer.

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>

Clergy Retreat: The nominated days were set aside as 7- 11 September 2020.

However, this year we will not be having a large gathering due to the circumstances given, but we shall be spending those special days...please keep us in your prayers...

During the week Monday 7 to Friday 11 September:

- **There will be only one daily Mass at the Cathedral at 7.00am.**
- **No Wednesday OLOR Mass at 9.30am & No English Masses at QOP.**
- **Cathedral Chapel will close at 4.30pm.**
- **7am Mass live streaming will continue.**

Mass of the Oils: Due to the risk at this time in the pandemic, Bishop Anthony has decided to limit the number of clergy and people who will gather with him on **Thursday 17 September for the Mass of the Oils**. The Mass will continue but will be celebrated with a small, representative group of clergy and laity. It will be live streamed, and all will be encouraged to join with Bishop Anthony online. Further details of the ceremony will be forthcoming in the coming weeks.

Positions Vacant:

- **Catechist Coordinator, Lower North Shore Parish, Casual Role.**
- **Parish Administrative Assistant, The Lakes Catholic Parish, Part Time.**

Full advertisements on the Diocesan website: <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/people/positions-vacant>