



Catholic Parish of Lower North Shore

Serving the communities of
St Leonard's Naremburn, St Philip Neri Northbridge, St Thomas' Willoughby
Twinned with the Parish of Letefoho, Timor Leste

We wish to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we gather, the Cammeraygal and the Wallumedegal peoples, who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples to this Country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

Fifth Sunday of Lent Year B – 21 March 2021



REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

We want to see Jesus

I can observe a baby, but the parents 'see' their baby very differently. They gaze with total fascination, trying to perceive what this little bundle of flesh is really all about, trying to get an insight into its personality, visualising a possible future, hoping for a response.

This Gospel passage begins with a request from some Greeks 'to see Jesus', surely in all the ways parents see their baby. They were trying to perceive what this Jesus was really all about, trying to get an insight into his personality, imagining a possible future, hoping for a response.

And there was a response full of allusions to the future.

Jesus was as a grain of wheat. He died and was buried in the earth and that death was fruitful for the whole of humankind. He foresaw being nailed to the cross which would be dropped upright into a hole in the ground.

Our Lord says of that scene: 'When I am lifted up I will draw all people to myself.' How were people drawn to this scene? People saw the length to which Jesus was prepared to go in order to persevere in his mission to live out the message that his Heavenly Father was full of mercy and wanted all people to share in Divine Life. This led to his being lifted up on the cross, being buried in the ground like a grain of wheat, only to rise to new life.

We could take a moment to pray that we will shortly see all this with the eyes of faith as we participate in the rituals of Good Friday and Easter.

EASTER LITURGIES 2021	St Leonard's Church Naremburn	St Philip Neri Church Northbridge	St Thomas' Church Willoughby	STATIONS OF THE CROSS St Leonards Church, Friday 2nd April 2021 at 10.00 am. Contemporary reflections accompanied by a Tableaux of art music. Works by Stainer, Telemann, Bach and Dubois, with Faure's In Paradisum and Pie Jesu. Soloists and Choir from the Catholic Parish of the Lower North Shore, Director Lisa Lewis. Soprano Jennifer Bonner, Violinist Joshua Kok and Chamber Organ, Jim Forsyth.
Holy Thursday Thursday 1st April		7:30pm Mass	7:30pm Mass	
Good Friday Friday 2nd April	10:00am Stations of the Cross	10:00am Stations of the Cross	10:00am Stations of the Cross	
	3:00pm The Passion of our Lord		3:00pm The Passion of our Lord	
Easter Vigil Saturday 3rd April	7:00pm Mass			
Easter Sunday Sunday 4 th April	10:30am Mass 4:00pm Mass RNSH (Royal North Shore Hospital Chapel) **There is no 6:00pm Mass	9:00am Mass	8:00am Mass 9:30am Mass	



Parish Priest

Rev Fr Brian Moloney PP

Assistant Priest

Rev Fr Biju Mathew

Rev Fr Chima Ofor

RNSH Chaplain

Rev Fr Peter Dowd

Deacon

Rev Dr. Anthony Gooley

Seminarian Appointed

Rosan Mathew

Parish Missionary Council

Chair: Bev Jones

pmc@lins.org.au

Parish Office

182 High St, Willoughby

P: 9958 8846

E: office@lins.org.au

www.bbcatholic.org.au/lins

Parish Office Hours

Mon-Fri: 9:00am - 3:00pm

Parish Secretaries

Caitlin Douglas

Katrina Chemello

Sacramental Co-ordinator

Jessica Bousimon

Director of Liturgical Music

Lisa Lewis

Catechist Co-ordinator

Aida Moore

St Leonard's Church

Cnr Donnelly & Willoughby Rds

Naremburn

St Philip Neri Church

224 Sailors Bay Rd

Northbridge

St Thomas' Church

Cnr Horsley Ave & High St

Willoughby

St Philip Neri Primary School

67 Baringa Rd, Northbridge

Principal: Fiona Bylsma

9958 7136

St Thomas' Primary School

2 Horsley Ave, Willoughby

Principal: Jenny McKeown

9958 7308

PROJECT COMPASSION



poverty, providing a better future for all. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

Halima is raising two children in a Bangladeshi refugee camp while caring for her mother, who has a

disability. A Caritas Australia-supported program helped her with a shelter, cooking equipment and hygiene training. Halima now earns a small income as a trainer, helping to maintain the health and cleanliness of her community. **Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 and help improve health and wellbeing of communities in Indonesia so they can work towards eradicating**

ROBERT FITZGERALD AM

Sunday, March 28th, 2021 – 2.00pm – 4.00pm

VILLA MARIA PARISH HALL

Cnr Mary St and Gladesville Rd, Hunters Hill

"PEOPLE OF ENDURING HOPE, YOUR TIME IS NOW!"

HOW WILL THESE TURBULENT TIMES RESHAPE US AND OUR CHURCH, STATE AND SOCIETY?"

'For there is always light, if only we're brave enough to see it. If only we're brave enough to be it' (Amanda Gordon's 'The Hill We Climb')

An expansive conversation to explore the impacts of the current turbulent times on ourselves, our church and our society. As people of faith, how do we respond? What are our choices, challenges and opportunities? Where do we find hope and courage? Robert Fitzgerald, AM, was a Commissioner on the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to child Sexual Abuse for five years. He is currently the NSW Ageing and Disability Commissioner. Married to Gabrielle, he has three adult children.

Entry: \$10 per head or donation

Catalyst for Renewal PO Box 265 Swansea NSW 2281

T: 02 4971 4090 E: catalyst-for-renewal@tpg.com.au W:

www.catalystforrenewal.org.au

COVID SAFE ENVIRONMENT. USUAL RULES APPLY.

FACE MASKS MUST BE WORN IN THE HALL.

Catalyst for Renewal Inc is a not-for-profit group seeking through conversation to encourage renewal in the Church and wider society.



SEEKING PMC MEMBERS FROM ST PHILIP NERI

The PMC is a great way to connect with the community. This year we will be focusing on growing connection with our schools and establishing regular connection activities as you see in this update. It is important we have representation from all our churches. We currently have a need for new members from St Philip Neri.

CALLING VOLUNTEERS FOR AN EASTER LETTERBOX DROP

Easter is a time of togetherness and this Easter the Parish has created a bookmark designed to bring our local community together. The bookmark includes a special Easter message and mass details for Easter. We are looking for volunteers to help distribute the bookmarks to households in our local area. Distribution to households will be at the end of March and if you are interested in volunteering please email your contact details to PMC@lins.org.au to register.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...

Recently Deceased: Roslyn Coffey, Mara Cetinic, James Harte & Marcello Sirna.

Anniversaries: Giovanni Silvio, Ante Oreb, Giuseppe Terri,

Jose Dominigo Silva Gonzalez, Petar Pavisic & John Clyde Heuston.

Deceased: Joe Andrad, Peter Damian Bourke, John Martin Bourke.

Sick: Donata Manapat.



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 42:1-2

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

FIRST READING

Jer 31:31-34

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah
The days are coming when I will make a new covenant with Israel and I will forgive their iniquity.

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive – it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, ‘Learn to know the Lord!’ No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest – it is the Lord who speaks – since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 50:3-4. 12-15. R. v.12

(R.) Create a clean heart in me, O God.

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my offence. O wash me more and more from my guilt. and cleanse me from my sin. **(R.)**

2. A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **(R.)**

3. Give me again the joy of your help; with a spirit of fervour sustain me, that I may teach transgressors your ways and sinners may return to you. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

Heb 5:7-9

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

He learnt to obey and became for all the source of eternal salvation.

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 12:26

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord; and where I am, my servant will also be.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

Jn 12:20-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, ‘Sir, we should like to see Jesus.’ Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:

‘Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

I tell you most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies,

it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest.

Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life. If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too.

If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him.

Now my soul is troubled.

What shall I say:

Father, save me from this hour?

But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour.

Father, glorify your name!’

A voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.’ People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, ‘It was an angel speaking to him.’ Jesus answered, ‘It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.

‘Now sentence is being passed on this world;

now the prince of this world is to be overthrown.

And when I am lifted up from the earth,

I shall draw all men to myself.’

By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Tuesday 7pm St Leonards

Fridays 9:15am St Philip Neri

Fridays 7pm St Thomas’



RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Meets
Wednesday 6:45pm at the Parish Office.

GOSPEL SHARERS

Meet each week in the parish office
Thursday afternoon @ 3:45pm.
Breaking open the readings for Sunday. All Welcome!

WEEK DAY READINGS

MON: Dan 13:1-9,15-17,19-30,
33-62; Jn 8:1-11

TUE: Num 21:4-9; Jn 8:21-30

WED: Dan 3:14-20, 24-25, 28;
Jn 8:31-42

THUR: Is 7:10-14, 8:10;
Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1: 26-38

FRI: Jer 20:10-13; Jn 10: 31-42

SAT: Ezek 37: 21-28; Jn 11:45-56

WEEKEND MASSES	CHURCH	CLERGY 27 & 28 March
Sat 5:00pm	St Philip Neri	Fr Brian
Sat 6:00pm	St Thomas'	Fr Chima
Sun 8:00am	St Thomas'	Fr Brian
Sun 9:00am	St Philip Neri	Fr Biju
Sun 9:30am	St Thomas'	Fr Brian
Sun 10:30am	St Leonard's	Fr Biju
Sun 6:00pm	St Leonard's	Fr Chima
Sun 4:00pm	RNSH	Fr Peter

RECONCILIATION

St Leonard's Church

Sat: 9:30am - 9:45am

St Thomas' Church

Sat: 5:15pm - 5:45pm

St Philip Neri Church

Sat: 4:45pm

•Please remember to sanitise hands on your way into Mass.

•Sit 1.5m away from others.

•Follow the distance stickers on pews and for communion.

WEEKDAY MASSES	CHURCH
Mon 9:00am	St Thomas'
Mon 9:15am	St Philip Neri
Tue 9:00am	St Thomas'
Tue 9:00am	St Leonard's
Wed 9:00am	St Thomas'
Wed 9:15am	St Philip Neri
Thu 9:00am	St Leonard's
Thu 9:00am	St Thomas'
Thu 1:00pm	RNSH
Fri 9:00am	St Thomas'
Fri 9:15am	St Philip Neri
Fri 1:00pm	RNSH
Sat 9:00am	St Thomas'
Sat 9:00am	St Leonard's

BAPTISM PREPARATION

Takes place 2nd Tuesday of each month 11am & 3rd Tuesday at 7pm Parish Office. Forms are available from the back of each Church, or our website.

MEMORIAL PLAQUES AT ST THOMAS' CHURCH

If you would like to purchase a memorial plaque for a loved one, please contact the Parish Office.

CHILDREN'S BAPTISM

St Leonard's Church: 12:00noon

4th Sunday of the month

St Philip Neri Church: 12:00noon

2nd Sunday of the month

St Thomas' Church: 10:45am

2nd & 4th Sundays of the month

ADORATION

Tuesdays after 9:00am Mass at St Thomas' Willoughby concluding with Benediction at 10:30am.

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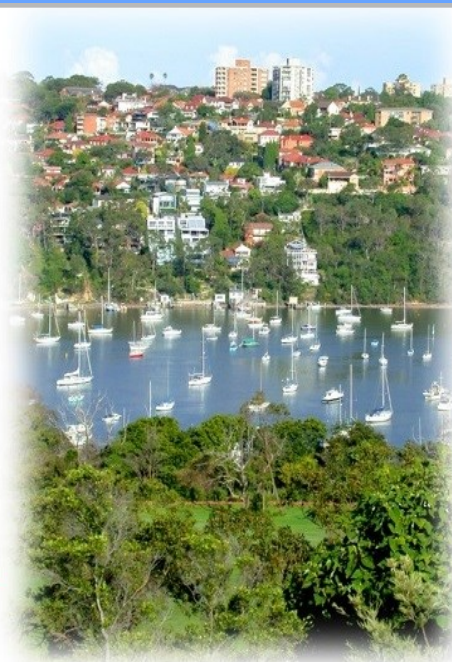
Tuesday to Sunday

Dinner on Friday night.

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Update from the Parish Missionary Council (PMC)

Easter Connection – Letterbox Drop

Easter is a time of togetherness and this Easter the Parish has created a bookmark designed to bring our local community together. The bookmark includes a special Easter message and mass details for Easter.

We are looking for volunteers to help distribute the bookmarks to households in our local area. Distribution to households will be over **the weekend of 26 to 28 March**. If you are interested in volunteering please email your contact details to Bev Jones at PMC@Ins.org.au. There will also be a volunteer sign up sheet at the back of the church.

This can be a family activity, using the time together to reflect on Easter.

PMC Contact Details

Bev Jones: 0407 033 773,

pmc@Ins.org.au

Jacqui Jones Speaker Event 22 April

Jacqui Jones is the founder of the Gratefulness Program and the author of The Gratefulness guide: How to think not what to think. Jacqui will be speaking at a parish event on **22 April**. We are coordinating covid appropriate logistics and will update you in future bulletins.

Are you interested in....

We have two connection opportunities we are exploring. The PMC wants to gather interest before putting in plans in place:

Winter Hamper Creation for Community Sunday in July.

Involving the collection of hamper items to our 3 churches, then rostering of small groups/ families to create hampers for issue to a local charity.

Street Retreat with Ralph Kershler. Ralph takes small groups of high school students and adults on a walk through the streets of Sydney to meet some of the local homeless people he connects with. Allowing you to hear their stories and understand their lives.

If you like the sound of these options, please email me with your contact details at PMC@Ins.org.au. Also, if you are aware of a charity that would appreciate hampers from us in July, please share their contact details.

Seeking PMC members from St Philip Neri

The PMC is a great way to connect with the community. This year we will be focusing on growing connection with our schools and establishing regular connection activities as you see in this update. It is important we have representation from all our churches. We currently have a need for new members from St Philip Neri.

BB35
CELEBRATING
35 YEARS
DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY



THE YEAR
OF ST JOSEPH
& THE FAMILY
2021

BB35 – Celebrating 35 years of the Diocese of Broken Bay

Thirty five years ago, the Diocese of Broken Bay was established and this anniversary is an opportunity to look back and remember the story of our Diocesan journey with hearts of gratitude, so that we might look forward to the future in hope.

In the Universal Church, Pope Francis has also proclaimed a year for St Joseph and the Family for 2021. The combination of these three themes allow us to approach our activities and mission this year with renewed depth of faith in what God is calling us to be in the community of the Church of Broken Bay.

Resources, including a logo have been developed to use in various contexts to help us mark the anniversary.

For more information about BB35, [see here](#).

If you have any stories you can share about the history of the Diocese of Broken Bay, and any old photos, please send them through to Melissa Loughlin, Editor, Broken Bay News news@bbcatholic.org.au



When women question the status quo with openness, frankness and boldness, they are ignored or figuratively told to go away by male gatekeepers, writes Good Samaritan Sister Patty Fawkner SGS.

I didn't know whether to laugh or cry, to be grateful or give vent to my frustration. This was

my honest, mixed reaction with the news that Pope Francis had changed Canon 230 of Canon Law. "Lay people" could now be admitted to ministries of lector (reader) and acolyte (altar server), whereas previously the canon was restricted to "lay men".

In the wake of Francis' announcement, I experienced the range of emotions expressed by other Catholic women.

Like me, some women were somewhat bemused, others surprised, not realising that previously women *weren't* allowed to fill these roles.

Methinks that these women must have been fortunate to have clergy who had "allowed" them to read and to serve in the sanctuary, not only as cleaners or flower arrangers!

Was this really a giant step for Catholic womankind? "Is it really progress to concede to women functions which they have carried out for decades, even during Masses in St Peter's, a recognition that no women's organisation ever asked for?" asked Veteran Catholic journalist [Lucetta Scaraffia](#).

Others were underwhelmed. Former Irish President, [Mary McAleese](#), in typical feisty style, said that the new law was "the polar opposite of earth shattering ... It is minimal but welcome all the same, for it is at last an acknowledgement that it was wrong of Pope Paul VI to ban women from the stable lay roles of lector and acolyte which remarkably he did after the Second Vatican Council." Needless to say, Pope Francis did not go there!

Other responses, such as that of UISG, the [International Union of Superiors General](#) of which I am a member, were affirming: "Thank you, Holy Father," and delicately diplomatic, subtly choosing to emphasise that women share in the life and mission of Christ, through baptism, rather than by ordination.

British theologian, [Tina Beattie](#), also took a nuanced approach. "This latest development may fall short of affirming the full sacramental dignity of women made in the image of God, but it can be embraced with integrity and affirmed as a genuinely welcome doctrinal development," she said.

Why does the story of the Canaanite woman in Matthew's Gospel (*Matthew* 15:21-28) come to mind? She is that gutsy foreigner who calls out to Jesus to cure her daughter. Jesus' initial response is to ignore her and remain silent while the embarrassed gatekeeper disciples suggest she be sent away. Not only is she a woman who doesn't know her place, she is 'other', a foreigner from the other side of Israel's border.

The woman's courageous persistence challenges Jesus' own understanding of his ministry and who is included and who is not. She broadens his perspective that perhaps she and her daughter can share the same bread with Jesus and his disciples. She would be satisfied to be like the dogs who get to eat the crumbs!

Like the Canaanite woman I am prepared to be grateful and to "celebrate small victories". However, women deserve – our Church deserves – so much more.

Despite Pope Francis' oft-repeated encouragement for all disciples to [speak with frankness, boldness and courage](#), women continue to be silent and silenced within the Church. Women may now be able to read the Word, but they are forbidden to "break open the Word"; they are forbidden to preach in church.

Are you tired of hearing only men speak when we celebrate Eucharist? I am. Are you bored during Sunday worship listening solely to male experience, male interpretations of the Scriptures, and nothing but male imagery for the Divine? I am.

By exclusively prioritising the male, the Church breathes with but one lung.

Opportunities for women to speak of their faith experience and share their biblical interpretations are limited. When women question the status quo with openness, frankness and boldness, like the Canaanite woman, they are ignored or figuratively told to go away by male gatekeepers on every rung on the hierarchical ladder.

But I am grateful for some fallen crumbs. Hundreds of people have been tuning in to Garratt Publishing's [Virtual Lent Series](#) where four Australian biblical scholars at Yarra Theological Union explore the lectionary readings for the following Sunday. I, and others I have spoken to, have particularly appreciated the input from the two female scholars, Sisters Mary Reaburn NDS and Mary Coloe PBVM.

Then there is the initiative from The Grail and Women and the Australian Church (WATAC), a new podcast series called [Australian Women Preach](#). The podcast was launched on International Women's Day and features women breaking open the Word of God as they preach on the following Sunday's Gospel. I have been asked to preach on the Gospel for Easter Sunday.

The sky will not fall in when women preach.

Actually, the current male monochromatic sky will become brighter.

Can the Church be like Jesus, and allow the exclusive status quo of who is in and who is out to be challenged, and change perspective and practice in response to that challenge? I look to the Canaanite woman and live in hope!

This article was first published in the March 2021 edition of The Good Oil, the e-journal of the Good Samaritan Sisters www.goodsams.org.au and is republished with permission.

**Charitable Works Fund
Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay
Survey 2021**

We invite you to complete the CWF Survey 2021. It will only take about 2-3 minutes of your time.

Listening to our parish community is important and we would love to know more about you and what you value most about CWF. Your feedback will help us better serve the community, plan our priorities and how to communicate with you more effectively.

The survey is open to all parishioners in the Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay. Closing date for responses is **Wednesday 7 April 2021**.

The online CWF survey can be found here - www.surveymonkey.com/r/CWF2021

We take your privacy seriously, and please be assured your answers are confidential. If you require a physical copy of the survey, please call David Armstrong 02 8379 1664 with your contact details.

Your support and generosity are gratefully appreciated and makes a huge difference to those we serve. May Christ be with you during the Lenten season.

CWF