



# 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.*

## Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C – 10 July 2022



### REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

It was not enough to want to follow Jesus and to be committed to him. Discipleship also demanded the ability to make shifts in understanding in order to recognise what following Jesus required. He did not merely repeat the religious tradition, he re-interpreted it. We too are called to understand the words and deeds of Jesus, but we must understand what they mean for us today. Today we need to make comparable shifts of understanding in order to bring the message of Jesus into conversation with the contemporary world.

Perhaps one of the most exciting and, at the same time, unnerving aspects of our religious tradition is its nonconforming nature. We think that we finally understand the way God is working in our lives and then something happens that seems to turn our understanding inside out. We are told to love our neighbour and when we ask who that might be we are told a story that turns the question around. 'Who is my neighbour?' or 'Whom should I love?' becomes 'Who acts as a neighbour?' or 'Who shows love?'

The same Sunday that we reflect on the paradoxical nature of the ways of God, we are told that the law of God, which appears to be so lofty, is really very close to us, in our mouths and in our hearts. This too is an unusual claim. Following the law results in a way of living that is inspired and informed by love, love of God and love of others, even, and perhaps especially, those whom we are not inclined to love.

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### CONFIRMATION ENROLMENTS NOW CLOSING

If your child is in Year 3 or above and is Baptised Catholic, they are eligible to enrol for the Sacramental Program which begins with Confirmation. Should you wish to enrol your child, please complete the form on our website and return it by 27<sup>th</sup> June via email to [sacraments@LNS.org.au](mailto:sacraments@LNS.org.au) or in person to our office at 182 High Street, Willoughby. Please attach a copy of the child's baptism certificate and a digital jpeg face shot.

There will also be a **compulsory parent information meeting** on:

- **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2022 at 10.45am - St Thomas' Church, Willoughby**
- OR
- **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2022 at 7pm - St Philip Neri Church, Northbridge**



### LET'S GATHER FOR COMMUNITY & CONNECTION

Each Wednesday between 9.30am and 11.00 am, you are welcome to drop in to the Parish Hall in Willoughby. There is fun, laughter and good company. Wheeled access is available. Enquiries Marie Harris 0417 077020.

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...

**Recently Deceased:** Gina Cragis.

**Anniversaries:** Kathleen Repko (1st), Antonino Graffeo, John Drayton & John Fernandes.

**Please Pray For:** Remegio Sioson, Elipdio Jala, Maria Trani & Clifford Sun.



## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 16:15

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

## FIRST READING

Dt 30:10-14

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

*Let the instruction of the Lord God be near you.*

Moses said to the people: 'Obey the voice of the Lord your God, keeping those commandments and laws of his that are written in the Book of this Law, and you shall return to the Lord your God with all your heart and soul. 'For this Law that I enjoin on you today is not beyond your strength or beyond your reach. It is not in heaven, so that you need to wonder, "Who will go up to heaven for us and bring it down to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?" Nor is it beyond the seas, so that you need to wonder, "Who will cross the seas for us and bring it back to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?" No, the Word is very near to you, it is in your mouth and in your heart for your observance.'

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 68:14. 17. 30-31. 33-34. 36-37. R. see v.33

**(R.) Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.**

This is my prayer to you, my prayer for your favour. In your great love, answer me, O God, with your help that never fails: Lord, answer, for your love is kind; in your compassion, turn towards me. **(R.)**

As for me in my poverty and pain let your help, O God, lift me up. I will praise God's name with a song; I will glorify him with thanksgiving. **(R.)**

The poor when they see it will be glad and God-seeking hearts will revive; for the Lord listens to the needy and does not spurn his servants in their chains. **(R.)**

For God will bring help to Zion and rebuild the cities of Judah. The sons of his servants shall inherit it; those who love his name shall dwell there. **(R.)**

## SECOND READING

Col 1:15-20

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

*All things were created through him and for him.*

Christ Jesus is the image of the unseen God and the first-born of all creation, for in him were created all things in heaven and on earth: everything visible and everything invisible, Thrones, Dominations, Sovereignities, Powers – all things were created through him and for him.

Before anything was created, he existed, and he holds all things in unity.

Now the Church is his body, he is its head.

As he is the Beginning, he was first to be born from the dead, so that he should be first in every way; because God wanted all perfection to be found in him and all things to be reconciled through him and for him, everything in heaven and everything on earth, when he made peace by his death on the cross.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

See Jn 6:63. 68

Alleluia, alleluia!

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life; you have the words of everlasting life. Alleluia!

### Baptism this Weekend

Oliver & Andrew Tan, Mya Pearse,

Charlie Barlin, Josie Siow,

Elea & Jodie Cozens



Welcome

Have you taken Communion to someone recently and still have the pyx in your car? Handbag? Somewhere at home? If you have a pyx that you're not using please return it to the Sacristy at St Thomas's so they are available for the next person who needs one. **Many Thanks**

## GOSPEL

Lk 10:25-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*Who is my neighbour?*

There was a lawyer who, to disconcert Jesus, stood up and said to him, 'Master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the Law? What do you read there?' He replied, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself.' 'You have answered right,' said Jesus, 'do this and life is yours.'

But the man was anxious to justify himself and said to Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?' Jesus replied, 'A man was once on his way down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of brigands; they took all he had, beat him and then made off, leaving him half dead. Now a priest happened to be travelling down the same road, but when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. In the same way a Levite who came to the place saw him, and passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan traveller who came upon him was moved with compassion when he saw him. He went up and bandaged his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them. He then lifted him on to his own mount, carried him to the inn and looked after him. Next day, he took out two denarii and handed them to the innkeeper. "Look after him," he said, "and on my way back I will make good any extra expense you have." Which of these three, do you think, proved himself a neighbour to the man who fell into the brigands' hands?' 'The one who took pity on him,' he replied. Jesus said to him, 'Go and do the same yourself.'

## BARTELS FAMILY GROUP

LUNCH 12 noon Sunday 17 July (note change of date)

**The Sailor Bar & Kitchen 128 Sailors Bay Road Northbidge**

Cost \$30 roast of the day

Reply by 13 July Kerrie 9958.8837 or 0407.914 699



### Parish Priest

Rev Fr Jose Philip OSH  
jose.philip@bbcatholic.org.au

### Assistant Priests

Rev Fr Biju Mathew  
Rev Fr Chima Ofor

### RNSH Chaplain

Rev Fr Peter Dowd

### Deacon

Rev Dr. Anthony Gooley

### Parish Missionary Council

Chair: Bev Jones

### Parish Office

182 High St, Willoughby  
P: 9958 8846  
E: office@lms.org.au  
www.bbcatholic.org.au/lms

### Parish Office Hours

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

### Parish Secretary

Caitlin Douglas

### Finance

Ilona Dudek

### Sacramental Co-ordinator

Jessica Bousimon

### Director of Liturgical Music

Lisa Lewis

### Catechist Co-ordinator

Henny Theodorus

### 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: Enrica Bova  
9958 7308

## PLENARY COUNCIL

This week has seen the second assembly of the Fifth Plenary Council take place in Sydney. The assembly brings to a close a four year process that has involved thousands of Catholics who have made submissions, acted as theological advisers and volunteered in their hundreds to animate the process. It has been a week of discernment in which the council has voted for an apology to Indigenous Australians, support for the Uluru Statement from the Heart, further apology to victims of abuse and an undertaking for study into its causes. The vote on the equal dignity of men and women, brought the Council to a standstill on Wednesday afternoon, when it failed to pass the Bishops deliberative vote, what happens to the new amendments being proposed today (Friday) is yet to be known. If you've missed all that has been happening the nightly catchup on from Garratt publishing is a great way to become informed of the weeks events, the videos can be found here [https://www.google.com/search?q=plenary+tracker+2&rlz=1C1CHBF\\_enGBAU761AU764&oq=plenary+tracker&aqs=chrome.1.69i57j0l131i433i512.6499j0j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8](https://www.google.com/search?q=plenary+tracker+2&rlz=1C1CHBF_enGBAU761AU764&oq=plenary+tracker&aqs=chrome.1.69i57j0l131i433i512.6499j0j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8)

## RCIA or HOW TO BECOME A CATHOLIC

Every year hundreds of people decide to become Catholic, and each one has their own special story. Each is drawn to the Church by different experiences and circumstances.

St Augustine, a great Saint of the Church said "Our hearts are restless O Lord, until they rest in you." The desire for God is written in the human heart, because humankind is created by God and for God; and God never ceases to draw all humankind to himself. Only in God will we find the truth and happiness we long for.

Any journey towards the Church is primarily a journey towards God. This journey towards God is found through Jesus Christ. He is the "Word made Flesh," as St John says (Jn 1:14). He reveals God to us: "To see me is to see the Father" (Jn 14:9)

The RCIA is offered to those who have never been baptised but may also benefit those already baptised who desire to become Catholic.

The non-baptised who are suitably prepared are joyfully received into the Catholic Church by the reception of the three Sacraments of Initiation, namely Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist. This takes place at the Easter Vigil in their local Catholic parish.

Those already baptised, following a period of preparation, are welcomed into full communion of the Catholic Church by the reception of the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Eucharist. This may take place at a suitable time during the liturgical year in their local Catholic parish. For more information contact the Parish Office.

## INFORMATION SEMINAR ON EUTHANASIA IN NSW - WHAT IS THE FUTURE FOR ETHICAL END-OF-LIFE CARE?

Date: **Saturday 9 July from 2 - 4 pm** (at St Anne's Hall, Bondi Beach)

Guest Speakers:

Dr Maria Cigolini - Palliative Care Specialist

Dr John Obeid - Geriatrician

Ms Anna Walsh - Lawyer

If you prefer to watch it live streamed, you can register here [EUTHANASIA IN NSW: What is the Future for Ethical End-of-Life Care?](https://www.catholicmedicine.org.au/euthanasia-in-nsw-what-is-the-future-for-ethical-end-of-life-care/) | [Australian Catholic Medical Association on Glue Up](https://www.catholicmedicine.org.au/euthanasia-in-nsw-what-is-the-future-for-ethical-end-of-life-care/) or email [admin@catholicmedicine.org](mailto:admin@catholicmedicine.org)

## ACCOMODATION REQUIRED

As part of the redevelopment of the Naremburn church precinct, Fr Jose and Fr Biju will be vacating the current presbytery at St Leonard's in mid September. Do you or someone you know have a suitable vacant property?

What is required:

- \* Proximity to the parish office and our churches, so the Priests can effectively continue their ministry.
- \* 3 bedrooms, so we can accommodate our seminarian Hien.
- \* 2-3 Bathrooms.
- \* Off street parking for two cars.
- \* A couple of living spaces.

Please contact Fr Jose or the parish office if you know of something suitable.



MASS/ SERVICE/ SCHEDULE	ST THOMAS' WILLOUGHBY	ST LEONARDS NAREMBURN	ST PHILIP NERI NORTHBRIDGE
<b>Sunday Masses</b>	6pm Vigil Saturday 8am & 9:30am Sunday	10:30am & 6pm Sundays	5pm Vigil Saturday & 9am Sunday
<b>Weekday Masses</b>	9am Mon to Sat	9am Tue -Thu - Sat	9:15am Mon - Wed - Fri
<b>Royal North Shore Hospital Chapel</b>	Weekday Mass Thursday & Friday 1pm	Weekend Mass 4pm Sunday	
<b>Reconciliation</b>	Saturday 5:15pm - 5:45pm	Saturday 9:30am - 9:45am	Saturday 4:45pm
<b>Youth Mass</b>		6pm Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> of the month	
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>	During 9:30am Mass Each Sunday in school term.		TBC
<b>Community Masses</b>		PNGCCAA 1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday 7pm	
<b>Healing Mass/ Anointing Novena to the Sacred Heart</b>	9am Mass 1 <sup>st</sup> Friday		
<b>Adoration</b>	Tuesday after 9am Mass During School Term		
<b>Baptisms</b>	11:30am 2nd & 4th Sundays	12.00 Noon 4th Sunday	11:30am 2nd Sunday
<b>Baptism Prep Parish Office</b>	2nd Tuesday of the month 11am 3rd Tuesday of the month 7pm		
<b>Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group CCCR</b>	St Thomas' Parish Hall 7:15pm Tuesday Evenings Enquiries 0419 977 531		
<b>Legion of Mary</b>	Meets every Friday in the 'Blue Room' at the Parish Hall 9:45am All Welcome		

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# The Neighbourliness of Global Citizens - Michael Tate Reflection

The lawyer asked a self-serving question: 'Who is my neighbour?' He could then set the limits, the boundaries of those close enough to merit his concern. Jesus replies with a story to show that the better question is: 'To whom should I be neighbourly?'

The answer is: To any person who is wounded in any way – physically, psychologically, socially, economically. And we have to do so overcoming the labelling, even bigotry, which can conveniently put a person outside the range of our concern. When we act like the Samaritan, we deserve the title 'Catholic' which means universal.

Pope Francis says that Christ is constantly inviting us, as he invited Thomas, to touch His wounds which are to be found in the wounded of our own time.

We could pause for a moment to thank God that we live in an age of technology which can enable us to be truly Catholic global citizens practising Mercy Without Borders. 'Do this and you will live.'

## Plenary Matters

### GETTING REAL

**No. 4: Wednesday, 6 July 2022**

Well, things got real today! As the canon law prescribes, for Plenary Councils, only the bishops cast what, in effect, is a decisive vote. Everyone else casts a consultative vote. In other words, the bishops can overturn what the others have previously decided. The hierarchical Church in full swing!

Today, the bishops kicked an own goal. They voted down motions related to the equality of dignity between women and men. Motions that included the possibility of women becoming deacons if Pope Francis paves the way. Other motions would have recognised the power imbalance that impacts women and the cultural assumptions within the Church that lead to inequalities for women. Significant acknowledgements that have not been made before by the Australian Church. And it looked like they would not be made again anytime soon.

Thankfully, the reaction from the Assembly members was visceral. Many female members were visibly upset and angry. The bishops appeared non-plussed and then rattled. Why so still puzzles me. The fact that this Plenary Council process has spent years consulting women and men and then have an episcopal vote effectively eradicates the major section of the Plenary's deliberations on women and men defies logic. Yet that is exactly what was delivered and what sparked a spontaneous revolt.

By any count, the members of this Plenary Council are rusted on and loyal Catholics. They have committed to the Plenary process and have a considerable emotional investment in its success. That they were prepared to stand up to the bishops and protest speaks to the point at which we have arrived. Enough is enough.

The Canon law describes a plenary council as a meeting of the churches. It is not a meeting of the bishops. Well, today, that was made very plain as the members, particularly the women, drew a line in the sand. This Plenary is not about episcopal control and preferences. It is meant to be about the decisions taken by all the members. And those members have become very exercised that the voices captured through the 17,000 plus submissions and the dialogue and listening sessions, along with the feedback through the thematic papers, needs to be heard in the deliberations of this Second Assembly.

So far, the motions before the Assembly can at best be described as tame. They have been crafted to pass any episcopal muster. Inoffensive, cautious, and taking the important issues effectively nowhere. Clearly, the members don't wish to be associated with what has the potential to be a 'non-event'. Already the Council is not on the radar of the Catholic community. Delivering what would be 'business as usual' would be an embarrassment.

The protest this morning did stir the pot and force a change of plan. The bishops hurriedly convened a meeting that had the effect of postponing the day's work schedule and revisiting the previous day's motions. The members were gracious enough to stay with the process in good faith even though the bishops did not reveal why they chose to vote down the motions that led to the fracas.

*Francis Sullivan is Board Chair of Catholic Social Services Australia*