



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 EASTER YEAR A—7TH MAY 2023



REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA ©

The gospel readings for the Sundays just before the feast of Pentecost are all taken from Jesus' last discourse in the Gospel of John. In them, Jesus prepares his followers for his death and resurrection and his ultimate exaltation. This Sunday Jesus says that it is through his death that he goes to God. However, it is as he is raised up in crucifixion that he is exalted. The author of the epistle declares him 'chosen and precious in the sight of God' but it is as the stone that was rejected that he is so honoured. If we ever wonder how the exaltation of Jesus will effect us, we have Jesus' own words of explanation. He promises to go ahead of us and make arrangements for us to share in his exaltation in the house of the one he calls Father. All we need do is follow him. Today's readings suggest that the exaltation of Jesus is most dramatically manifested in the character of the community of those called by his name. It is revealed in the way Christians settle their differences so that all parties are treated fairly. Jesus is the cornerstone upon which this community is built, and the community mirrors his influence in its life. Christians also participate in the exaltation of Jesus by spreading the good news to others. In Acts we see how the witness of life and the preaching of the word of God increased the number of believers.

PRAY FOR OUR CHILDREN PREPARING FOR THEIR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

This week we present our Sacramental Program children to you as they begin to prepare for the sacrament of First Eucharist. They will be seeking out parishioners to pray for them over the next 4 weeks so please show them your warm smiles as they walk around with their "Pray for me" cards. This week the children have been learning about Jesus being "the bread of life" and tying into what they know about meal times at home. Jesus often ate with his disciples and people on the margins of society as a way to minister to them. The children learned all about the "Feeding of the 5000", which is a miracle that foreshadows the last supper and the practice of receiving Jesus in the Eucharist as we continue to do today. As you pray for the children, pray for their families as well. That they too will learn something about the Eucharist and will be drawn closer to Jesus in their preparations with their children.

Kristy Komadina Children's Sacramental Program Co-ordinator



ST THOMAS' PROCLAIMERS & SENIOR SERVERS MEETING

Over the coming months the Parish will be bringing some of our existing Ministries together to thank them, hold a small workshop & update rosters. There will be one for each Church community starting with St Thomas' on Thursday 11th at 7pm. All Senior Servers will meet in St Thomas' Church and all the Proclaimers will meet in St Thomas' Hall. After the workshop both will come together for refreshments in the Hall.

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 97:1-2

O sing a new song to the Lord,
for he has worked wonders;
in the sight of the nations
he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

First Reading

Acts 6:1-7

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 32:1-2. 4-5. 18-19. R. v.22

(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp, with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. **(R.)**
2. For the word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love. **(R.)**
3. The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 Pt 2:4-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so

that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

Gospel

Jn 14:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am now going to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said:

'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.

No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen him.' Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me?

'To have seen me is to have seen the Father, so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself: it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work. You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason. 'I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father.'

Feast & Memorial Days

MAY

Wednesday 10th - St John de Avila
priest, doctor

Saturday 13th - Our Lady of Fatima



**SPN
KID'S CHOIR**

4:30pm practice | 5:00pm Mass

Come and join the kid's choir at our
monthly Saturday night Family Mass.
Our next Mass is:

Saturday 13 May

Contact Lynda Lee with any questions
lynda.lee1@icloud.com



Cuppa N' Conversation

We gather in the Front
Room of the Parish Hall

every Wednesday
between 9.30am and 11.00am.

All welcome. Marie Harris
0417 077 020

**Next Weekend during all
Masses we will be
celebrating and
honouring all our
mother's for Mother's
Day.**



The 2023 Mass Count for the
Diocese will commence this weekend
for the month of May. Please be
aware that there will be people
allocated to count at each Mass.



Parish Priest

Rev Fr Jose Philip OSH

jose.philip@bbcatholic.org.au

Assistant Priests

Rev Fr Biju Mathew

Rev Fr Vincent Nguyen

Rev Fr Emmanuel Obiche

RNSH Chaplain

Rev Fr Peter Dowd

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

Ursula O'Hare

Monday - Friday

Dionne Soares

Mon & Fri

Children Sacramental Coordinator

Kristy Komadina

Tuesday & Wednesday

Director of Liturgical Music

Lisa Lewis

Catechist Co-ordinator

Henny Theodorus

Finance

Ilona Dudek

Tuesday Only

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



For Our Combined Parish Consultation

You'll be aware that in recent weeks, we have organised four parish discernment sessions - for parishioners at each of our three church communities, and for students at St Thomas' Primary School. The purpose of these sessions has been to give everyone an opportunity to listen, discuss and share their thoughts, hopes and ideas for our parish. We have received lots of wonderful feedback from these sessions, and our facilitator, Deacon Peter McCulloch, has been collating the ideas into one document. We would now like to present the feedback we've received to a combined parish consultation to be held at **St Thomas' Church Hall at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 9 May**. This will be an opportunity for everyone to discuss what has been raised so far, and to add any new ideas you may have. The results of this consultation will be used to guide the preparation of our new Parish Pastoral Plan. I hope you can join us. Refreshments will be available. *Fr Jose Phillip OSH* **Parish Priest**

Primary School. The purpose of these sessions has been to give everyone an opportunity to listen, discuss and share their thoughts, hopes and ideas for our parish. We have received lots of wonderful feedback from these sessions, and our facilitator, Deacon Peter McCulloch, has been collating the ideas into one document. We would now like to present the feedback we've received to a combined parish consultation to be held at **St Thomas' Church Hall at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 9 May**. This will be an opportunity for everyone to discuss what has been raised so far, and to add any new ideas you may have. The results of this consultation will be used to guide the preparation of our new Parish Pastoral Plan. I hope you can join us. Refreshments will be available. *Fr Jose Phillip OSH* **Parish Priest**



JOIN US FOR ROSARY

St Thomas' Church at 8.30am Monday to Saturday

St Philip Neri Church after 9.15am Mass on Monday, Wednesday and Friday

PASTORAL WORKS Broken Bay

This month is the launch of our Diocesan-wide Pastoral Works Broken Bay (PWBB) May Appeal. PWBB supports two key charitable works in the Diocese - the Confraternity of

Christine Doctrine or CCD and our Hospital Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care Program. PWBB also supports children with disabilities at St Lucy's School and St Edmund's College in our Diocese, and the Ephpheta Centre for the deaf community. The mission of the Diocese is community-centred where every gift or donation adds to the happiness of someone else, brings comfort and friendship or opens the doorway to a faith-filled life. Next weekend there will be new donation envelopes or a QR code will take you directly to a donation page on our website where donations can be made at any time. However this PWBB May appeal is the last one for the financial year 2022/2023 and all donations over \$2 are tax deductible. **Our remaining quota for the Parish is 69,000.00. Thank you for your generosity.**

ATTENTION - We remind everyone to be considered of our neighbour at 2 Forsyth St when parking in the surrounding of our office. We have received complaints about vehicles blocking their driveway. We kindly ask that you avoid parking in front of their driveway at anytime. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding in this matter.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...

Recently Deceased: Paul Lai, Kata Separovich and Ferris Germanos

Anniversaries: Samuel Farina, Ian and Rose Leong, Kate Tomas, Jennifer and Thomas Thorpe, Vince Barry, Family Milat and Family Petkovic.

Sick: Albert Hodges, Family Milat, Family Petkovic, Robert Hunter and Bishop Peter Ingham



MASS/ SERVICE/ SCHEDULE	ST THOMAS' WILLOUGHBY	ST LEONARD'S NAREMBURN	ST PHILIP NERI NORTHBRIDGE
Sunday Masses	6pm Vigil Saturday 8am & 9:30am Sunday	10:30am & 6pm Sunday	5pm Vigil Saturday & 9am Sunday
Weekday Masses	9am Mon to Sat	9am Tue -Thu - Sat	9:15am Mon - Wed - Fri
Royal North Shore Hospital Chapel	Weekday Mass Thursday & Friday 1pm	Weekend Mass 4pm Sunday	
Reconciliation	Saturday 5:15pm - 5:45pm	Saturday 9:30am - 9:45am Sunday 9.45am - 10.15am	Saturday 4.15—4:45pm
Youth Mass		1 st & 3 rd Sunday of the month at 6pm	
Children's Liturgy	During 9:30am Mass Each Sunday in school term.		9:00am on the 4th Sunday of the month
Community Masses		Italian Mass Any request please contact Irma 0437607918 PNGCCAA 1 st Saturday 7pm	
Healing Mass/ Anointing Novena to the Sacred Heart	9am Mass 1 st Friday	9am Mass 3rd Saturday	
Adoration	Tuesday after 9am Mass ALL YEAR	Saturday after 9am Mass ALL YEAR	
Baptisms	11:00am 2nd & 4th Sundays	12pm 4th Sunday	12pm 3rd Sunday
Baptism Prep Parish Office	2nd Tuesday of the month 11am 3rd Tuesday of the month 7pm		
Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group CCCR	St Thomas' Parish Hall 7:15pm Tuesday Evenings Enquiries 0419 977 531		
Legion of Mary	Meets every Friday in the 'Blue Room' at the Parish Hall 9:45am All Welcome		

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The World Community for Christian Meditation (NSW) presents:

‘MEDITATE IN MAY’

Free 4-week Course via Zoom

An introduction to silent meditation in the Christian Tradition. This course is delivered in 4-sessions; each session has a different topic and there is time for practice and questions.

Each session is around 1hr and 20 minutes.

Sessions are **Mondays 7:30pm** Sydney time on the following dates: 1-May; 8-May; 15-May and 22-May.

Enquiries/Booking: email to maximoc@gmail.com or
SMS 0431 996 108

**Coronation
Anthems**

George Frideric Handel

**Chichester
Psalms**

Leonard Bernstein

Finlandia

Jean Sibelius

**Carmina
Burana**

Carl Orff

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willoughbychoir.com.au





St Philip Neri Primary School Northbridge



OPEN DAY 2023

Tuesday May 23

Principal's address commences at 9:15am-10:30am

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St Philip Neri, Northbridge is a great
choice for your children.



Fiona Bylsma, Principal
St Philip Neri Catholic
Primary School 67 Baringa
Rd, Northbridge
T: 02 9958 7136 E:
spn@dbb.catholic.edu.au



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love learning, to use their talents to be the very
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The Shrine of St John Paul II presents a...

MEN'S RETREAT DAY

'A Ceaseless Spirit: St Joseph the Worker'

29th April | 9am - 3pm | St John Paul II
Pastoral Centre | Men 18+ | Booking Essential

Book via <http://square.link/u/dvdfzeA5> or
contact JP11.Centre@bbcatholic.org.au

Mass | Formation Session with Very Rev Dr David
Ranson | Adoration | Prayer | Community time



The Shrine of St John Paul II presents a...

WOMEN'S RETREAT DAY

The Feminine Genius: Imitating the Blessed Mother

13th May | 9am - 3pm | St John Paul II Pastoral
Centre | Women 18+ | Booking Essential

Book via <http://square.link/u/LUKZH452> or
contact JP11.Centre@bbcatholic.org.au

Mass | Formation Sessions | Adoration | Prayer |
Community time