

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A, 14TH & 15TH MARCH 2020



ST COLUMBA'S
CATHOLIC CHURCH • LEICHHARDT NORTH

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS AND CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND ON WHICH WE STAND. WE WALK ON A LAND ONCE OCCUPIED BY THE GADIGAL PEOPLE OF THE EORA NATION, WHO LIVED IN THIS AREA FOR OVER 30,000 YEARS. MAY WE CONTINUE TO LOVE AND RESPECT THE LAND AS THEY HAVE.



Parish Details:

📍 213 Elswick St, North Leichhardt 2040

☎ (02) 9569 2267

📠 (02) 9569 5381

✉ admin@stcolumba.org.au

🌐 www.stcolumba.org.au



Find us at

www.facebook.com/stcolumbasleichhardt/

Office Hours:

9:30am-2:30pm Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

All bulletin notices to be in by 12pm Wednesday

(Please email or leave under office door and write your message clearly).

Parish Priest:

Fr Peter Smith.....✉ pp@stcolumba.org.au

Parish Office Administrator

Marcia Droguett.....✉ admin@stcolumba.org.au

Pastoral Associate

Nicola Connors.....✉ pa@stcolumba.org.au

Pastoral Council

Secretary.....✉ secretary@stcolumba.org.au

St Columba's School

Principal: Bernard Ryan.....☎ 9569 1270

Sunday Mass Times:

Saturday Vigil.....5:00pm

Sunday.....8:00am

Sunday Family Mass.....10:00am

Weekday Services:

Tuesday: 8:30am (Communion Service)

Friday: 8:45am (Rosary)

Friday: 9:15am (Mass)

Anointing Mass:

Last Friday of each month at 9:15am

Reconciliation:

Saturday 4:30pm

Baptisms

1st Sunday of the month, except January. Please email Marcia, admin@stcolumba.org.au, to arrange an appointment prior.

Marriages:

By Appointment, please email Marcia, admin@stcolumba.org.au to arrange.

If you would like to contribute to the Parish Planned Giving please speak to Fr Peter, pick up a form in the Church foyer or contact the office.



From Fr Peter's Desk....

There is a thirst in every human heart.

Each of us is like that lonely Samaritan woman.

We are thirsting for something, something that will satisfy all our longings.

But often we search in the wrong places.

We draw water from many wells:

the water of praise to quench our thirst for self-esteem;

the water of success to quench our thirst for importance;

the water of pleasure to quench our thirst for joy....

But we still get thirsty.

Only God can give us what we are looking for.

He alone can cause a spring to well up inside us.

The water from this spring will sustain us in our journey to the Promised Land of eternal life.

This Week....

Tuesday: 8:30am Communion

Friday: 8:45am Stations of the Cross

Friday: 9:15am Mass

Saturday: 4:30pm Reconciliation

Saturday: 5:00pm Vigil

Sunday: 8:00am Mass

10:00am Family Mass

All welcome

TODAY'S LITURGY

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: *Psalm 24:15-16*

My eyes are always on the Lord,
for he rescues my feet from the snare.
Turn to me and have mercy on me,
for I am alone and poor.

1ST READING: *Exodus 17:3-7*

Give us water to drink.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *Psalm 94:1-2, 6-9*

If today you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts.

2ND READING: *Romans 5:1-2, 5-8*

*The love of God has been poured
into our hearts by the Holy Spirit
which has been given to us.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Cf. John 4:42,15*

Glory to you, Word of God,
Lord Jesus Christ! Lord, you
are truly the Saviour of the world;
give me living water, that I may
never thirst again. Glory to you,
Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL: *John 4:5-16, 19-26, 39-42*

The water that I shall
give will turn into a spring
of eternal life.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: *John 4:13-14*

For anyone who drinks it,
says the Lord, the water I
shall give will become in him
a spring welling up to eternal life.

Please note:

Names will be removed from the sick list

We pray for all those who are sick, including:

Carmella Scarpellino, Jirka Hendrich, Dot New, Mabel Winter, Sylvia Gallagher, Cecila Bryant, Mary-Terez Dowlings, Milada Pecnikova, Kim Rowels, Mirko Popovic, Connie Kennedy, Monika Doktorova, Peter McCann, Bill Leis, William Francis O'Connor, Fr George Carrol, Mary Gleeson, Steve Bates, Bill Patterson, Cienna Psaila, Patricia O'Toole, Ida Pavelka, Joan Windsor, Raquel Bailey, and all those at The Marion Aged Care and Lewisham Nursing Home



*We remember and pray for all our deceased
Relatives and Friends*

Recently Deceased: *Margaret Maunsell*

Anniversary: *Liz Gill-Beckett, Leonilde Ceroli, Pat Harrison, David Watson*



Spanning through the six weeks of Lent each year, Project Compassion is an extraordinary, ongoing demonstration of the faith, love and generosity of Caritas Australia's caring supporters, all in the name of justice and peace. Millions of Australians come together in solidarity with the world's poor to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. Thank you for your generosity.

To our Readers, Commentators, Eucharistic Ministers & Offertory Processors

Thank you for continuing to support your parish in this special way. Please remember to **always check the roster and, if you are no longer available on one of your rostered dates, could you please arrange a replacement using the contact list provided with the roster.** *(The roster can be found on the website).*

ROSTER NEXT WEEKEND: 21st & 22nd March - 4th Sunday of Lent
Hosea 5:15-6:6 ; Psalm 50:3-4, 18-21 ; Cf. Psalm 94:8 ; Luke 18:9-14 ; Luke 18:13

	SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
	5pm		8am	10.00am
Commentator	John Arnold		Loretto Richardson	Rosa Riotto
Reader	Anne-Marie Whelan		David Hair	Paula Ceroli
Offertory	Volunteer		Therese Briggs Volunteer	Family Mass
Ministers of the Eucharist	Miriam Meaney Robyn Rodwell		Adrian Overs Janie De Beck	Paula Ceroli Catherine King Gordon Burke
Altar Server	Leo & Hamish			Elizabeth & Carlo

Marion Eucharistic Minister

Thursday 19th March—Anne Marie Whelan



Social Justice - St Columba's

The Social Justice Group meets on the first Wednesday of every month at 6.30pm in the Parish Hall. Please feel free to join us and share a meal. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 1st April. All welcome! We look forward to seeing you. If you have any questions, ideas or would like to know more, please feel free to contact Therese Briggs theris58@gmail.com or Fay Hair fayhair11@gmail.com

Supporting the Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS)

The Jesuit Refugee Service has, since its inception in 1980, worked to bring justice to refugees across the world. Here in Australia they care for refugees and people seeking asylum by promoting their physical well-being with food, clothing and shelter, and their legal and emotional needs through casework support. JRS also does advocacy work to reverse injustices. www.jrs.org.au

At our last Social Justice Group meeting we reflected on the sobering fact, presented in Laudato Si by Pope Francis, that it is the marginalised who will suffer most from climate change - bushfires, drought... and from epidemics like coronavirus. Along with a long history of supporting Vinnies and Cana, our parish has been supporting JRS for 12 months now. As part of the team that deliver our donations to JRS at Westmead, I can tell you that we all make an incredible difference to people seeking asylum. It's not only the material goods we donate, but the fact that we care that is such a support. So, thank you, everyone!



The targeted grocery item for JRS for March is: Basmati Rice (500gms or 1kg bags) Please leave your donations in the basket on the altar.

The JRS Noticeboard.

If you have any items that you think JRS might need, please send a photo with a short description to fayhair11@gmail.com

Parish Visit to the JRS Westmead Centre

Our parish visit to the JRS Westmead centre will be **Thursday 19 March from 11.00am - 1.00pm**. If you need transport to get there, spaces are available in a couple of cars that will be going on the day. Please let Fay know if you'd like one of these spots.

The visit will be a great opportunity for us all to see what happens to our donated goods. JRS staff will give us a short guided tour followed by sharing in the community lunch. We'll be able to meet and connect with people seeking asylum as well as with some of the staff and see first-hand the kind of work they do. **It would be great if you could join us!** RSVP Fay by email fayhair11@gmail.com or by phone 0407917040

This year one of the main focusses of the Social Justice Group will be Indigenous issues. At the Steering



Group's first meeting last week, it was decided to include a spotlight on indigenous issues in the Bulletin each week.

Spotlight on Aboriginal issues

This week marks the first anniversary of Deacon Boniface Perdjert's death (18 March), a respected Elder and the first Aboriginal permanent deacon. In honour of his anniversary, let us reflect on these words that he wrote in the late 1970s:

"God did not begin to take an interest in people with the incarnation of his Son, nor with Abraham. My people existed here in Australia thousands of years before Abraham. In all that time God was with my people. He worked through their culture. He was saving us despite human weakness. He was preparing us for the day when he would see the features of Aboriginals in the image of his Son. So I must recognise, I must use the things of God that are in my culture. I must use them in his service. If I do not do this, my faith and my service are shallow. They are pretending. They belong to someone else, not to me.

God has asked us to love him with whole mind, heart and soul. So I must give myself to God as an Aboriginal. This is what God wants or he would not have made me what I am".

<http://www.natsicc.org.au/a-tribute-to-deacon-boniface.html>

Last week..

6th March was the National Day of Unplugging (USA)

It was a day to encourage people to unplug, unwind, relax and do things other than using digital technology, electronics and social media for 24 hours... an interesting (and challenging) idea <http://sabbathmanifesto.org/unplug>

Coming up

Harmony Day Saturday 21 March: A day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home. A day to celebrate our cultural diversity <http://www.harmony.gov.au>

Palm Sunday Rally Sunday 5 April

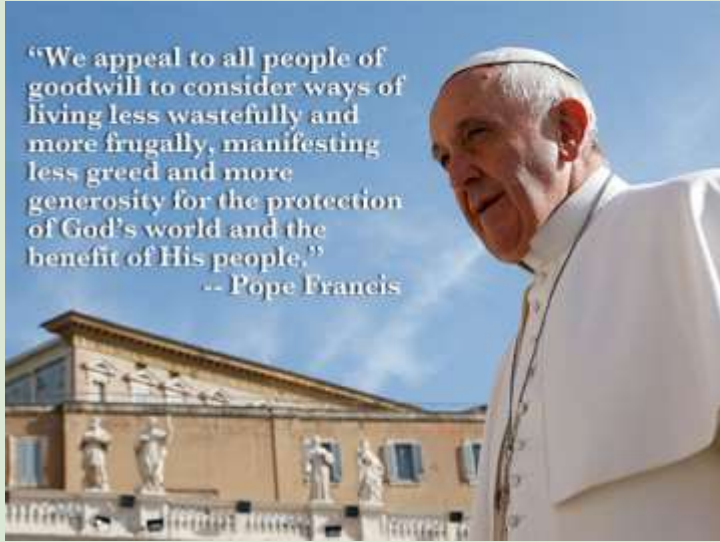
Belmore Park. 2pm- 4:pm More information coming

Read all about it!

Bernard Collaery's book *Oil Under Troubled Water* is now out. Not only does it discuss Australia's reprehensible treatment of East Timor over the Timor Sea resources but it also provides further information about the murders of the Balibo Five. Well worth a read! **NB: Sydney launch (with Kerry O'Brien) is on Tuesday, March 17, 6pm, Gleebooks, Glebe.**

POPE FRANCIS SAYS....

"We appeal to all people of goodwill to consider ways of living less wastefully and more frugally, manifesting less greed and more generosity for the protection of God's world and the benefit of His people."
-- Pope Francis



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

CONTACT: SECRETARY@STCOLUMBA.ORG.AU

VISION STATEMENT

To witness to the Gospel, through the power of the Holy Spirit, to the eternal love of Christ; by building and sustaining an open, welcoming and friendly community in which people grow in their relationships with God, each other and the wider community.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of St Columba's Parish Pastoral Council is to:

- welcome and embrace new parishioners;
- support and direct the work of the Parish Priest, Pastoral Associate, and parish groups;
- support and encourage the people of St Columba's parish;
- provide vision and direction to the people of St Columba's parish;
- collaborate with the parish school;
- give members of our parish community a voice; and
- empower people to lead and make positive contributions to our parish and the wider community.



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

If you are interested in becoming a Reader or Eucharistic Minister for our weekend Masses, please put your name up on the sheet in the foyer or contact the parish



What: UNHCR film night
When: 9 May at 7pm
Where: St Columba's Parish Hall.
Film, popcorn, lucky door and



raffle prizes and of course the now famous Rocky Road for Refugees will be for sale.

Stay tuned - more information to follow.

Contact Therese Briggs for more information
theris58@gmail.com or 0409560232

All welcome!



Sacrament of First Reconciliation

Last week the Sacrament of First Reconciliation groups commenced. The four week program will help the candidates and their families to prepare for **Thursday 30 April 2020** when they will receive the sacrament for the first time. We ask the community to keep the students and families in your prayers.

Sacrament of Confirmation



This year the Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on **Friday 29 May at 7pm**. If you would your child/ren to participate in the program, please collect an Enrolment Form and information note in the church foyer.

Forms must be returned by 6 April 2020.

TO ACHIEVE THIS, WE:

- see;
- judge;
- act; and
- review.

WE, AS A GROUP, ARE FUNDAMENTALLY COMMITTED TO:

- prayer and reflection;
- our shared Catholic faith;
- bringing Christ's love and grace to Leichhardt and the broader community;
- acting co-operatively as a group based on participation and consensus, not factions or parties; and
- facilitating the spiritual growth of all under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

MEMBERS OF THE PASTORAL COUNCIL ARE:

Fr Peter Smith *Parish Priest*
Bernard Ryan *Principal*
Nicola Connors *Family Ed.*
Renata Popovic-Tomac
Chairperson
Vasile Tian *Secretary*

David Hair
Jennifer Cheal
Therese Pacey
Adrian Overs
Tino Mian

A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.