



Saint Mary MacKillop Catholic Parish

Birkdale · Thorneside · Wellington Point

(This Parish is Child Safety Aware and also complies with Australian Privacy Laws)



Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A - 26th January 2020



Happy Australia day

A man went to a barbershop to have his hair cut and his beard trimmed. As the barber began to work, they had a good chat. They talked about so many things and various subjects. When they eventually touched on the subject of God, the barber said: "I don't believe that God exists." "Why do you say that?" asked the customer. "Well, you just have to go out in the street to

realize that God doesn't exist. Tell me, if God exists, would there be so many sick people? Would there be abandoned children? If God existed, there would be neither suffering nor pain. I can't imagine a loving God who would allow all of these things." The customer thought for a moment, but didn't respond because he didn't want to start an argument.

Just after he left the barbershop, he saw a man in the street with long, dirty hair and an untrimmed beard. He looked dirty and unkempt. The customer turned back and entered the barber shop again and he said to the barber: "You know what? Barbers do not exist." "How can you say that?" asked the surprised barber. "I am here, and I am a barber. And I just worked on you!" No!" the customer exclaimed. "Barbers don't exist because if they did, there would be no people with dirty long hair and untrimmed beards, like that man outside." Ah, but barbers do exist! That's what happens when people do not come to me." "Exactly!" affirmed the customer. "That's the point! God, too, does exist! That's what happens when people do not go to Him and don't look to Him for help. That's why there's so much pain and suffering in the world."

On this Australia day let us reflect on how we might be able to live out our mission of showing to all the world that God is the meaning of our lives? We are grateful that each one of us is called to follow Jesus and our mission is to live as a people of faith and as a people with God in our lives. This is quite a challenge because we've got everything we need here, or everything we want is just right there within our reach. This easy accessibility to things sometimes leads us to believe we don't need God and we don't need faith anymore. But we do need God.....!

As we celebrate Australia Day this weekend, let us ask ourselves 'How grateful are we to God for giving us this beautiful country?'

Blessings

Fr. Dantus Thottathil

Parish Diary:

Monday 27th January

Australia Day Public Holiday
7:00pm Rosary

Tuesday 28th January

St Thomas Aquinas
7:00pm SVdP Meeting

Wednesday 29th January

10:00am Prayer Group
5:00pm Music Practice

Thursday 30th January

5:30pm Reconciliation
6:00pm **Mass** (in the Church)

Friday 31st January

St John Bosco
9:30am **Mass** (in the Church)

Saturday 1st February

6:15pm **Mass** (cup of tea)

Sunday 2nd January

The Presentation of the Lord
8:00am **Mass** (cup of tea)

QUOTE OF THE DAY:

*Use Your Voice for Kindness,
Your Ears for Compassion,
Your Hands for Charity,
Your Mind for Truth,
And Your Heart for Love.*

This Week's Readings:

First Reading: Isa 8:23 – 9:3 – *In the Galilean country, the people have seen a great light.*

Psalm Response: The Lord is my light and my salvation, of whom should I be afraid, of whom should I be afraid?

(Alternative Psalm Response if spoken): The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Second Reading: 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17 – *I appeal to you, my brothers and sisters, make up the differences between you.*

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom, and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matt 4:12-23 – *He went to Capernaum, that the prophecy of Isaiah be fulfilled.*



Next week's Readings First: Mal 3:1-4 Second: Heb 2:14-18 Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

Mass Times: Saturday 6:15pm & Sunday 8:00am

Reconciliation: Thursday 5:30pm

Parish Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9am to 1pm.
Wednesday Closed.

A VOCATION VIEW:

Jesus said: "Come after me and I will make you fishers of men." Today he could say: "I will make you mechanics of souls; doctors of wounded hearts, counsellors of broken families; clowns in a joyless society."
But regardless, Come.

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Please be mindful of our sick & all who care for them: Alicia Black, Tessa Gorogo, Mick Gauci, Paul McKean, Geoffrey Whall, Kevin Harrop, Judy Mullan, Charles Lilley, Ann Brown, Sally Legarda, Gemma Paxman, James Thomas, Cindy Cummins, John Bacon, Winifred Linton, Jodie Bromiley, Casey Whitby, Trish Swan, Ian Splatt, Jan Hurst, Steven West, Ava Loda, Joan Thorpe, Patricia Haines, Belinda Wheeler, Cely Salisbury, The Bade Family, Carol Parker, Brian Crimmins, Brian Johnston, Medi Camelli, Hazel Foster, Dan Mullan, Stana Matic, Page Brosnan, Dot Abrahams, Corrie Roser, Amelia Ramsay, Jeanette Moore, Nola Murphy, Christiana Becker, Cathy Leane, Pauline McNamee, Pat Crimmins, Gina Mather.

May God embrace all who have recently died: John Mills, Betty Reagan, Russell Corrie, Fr Ray O'Leary, Eileen Dickinson, Pauline Boevink, Avis Moore.

Anniversaries & Remembrances January: Ray Tiernan, Lionel Browning, Nancy Greco, Alberto Bandiera, Joan Bevan, Pastor Calunod Obligado, Tom Curran, Philip Pitts, Alaister Pitts, Nicola Pasqualini, Serena Ragagnin, William Peterson, Brian Cannon, Stefanie Boyd, Melinda Simo-Swer, Tina Toomey, Katerina Grudina, Maree Kearney, Margaret Campbell, Else Peters, David Stark, William Maclean, Harry Copas, John Harrison, Br Pat Doolin, Barry Logan, Bette Risson, Garth Brown, Nancy Greco, Frank Shearif, Lionel Browning, John Pearce, Aleida Wishey, Mario Vitali, Charles Brown, Liam Maher, John Boon, Doris McInroth, Baby Samuel, Fre Caterina, Margaret Duncan, Ray Stephenson, Theresa & Laurence Gormley, Irene Harrison, Peter Knights, John Bergin, Gianna Santarossa., Winnie D'Souza, Frances Nell, Bill Riley, Jenni McPhee, John Gormley, Thomas McNamee, Helen McNamee.

Please record any further names in the Anniversaries & Remembrance Diary at the Welcome Desk

Roster 1st & 2nd February

Junior Ministers 6:15pm Isabelle L Bianca L 8:00am Volunteers		Readers 6:15pm (1st) John E (2nd) Tom M (POF) Therese E 8:00am (1st) Megan B (2nd) Maeghan N (POF) Rob B		Extraordinary Ministers of Communion 6:15pm Lesley L, Paulina P, Matty M, Suzanne G, <i>Volunteer</i> 8:00am Julie C, Elaine H, Kerry B, 4 <i>Volunteers</i>		Music 6:15pm Gp 1 8:00am Gp 3 Powerpoint 6:15pm Alan B 8:00am Chris M Counters: Gp 1 Ken & Jan G, Kerry B Cleaning: Carole C & Marie P	
Weekend Mass Times Saturday Manly - 5:00pm Birkdale - 6:15pm Sunday Gumdale - 7:00am Birkdale - 8:00am Manly - 9:30am		Week Day Mass Times St John Vianney Manly Ph 3131 2610 Tuesday - 6:00pm and Wednesday - 9:30am St Mary MacKillop Birkdale Ph 3822 2139 Thursday - 6:00pm and Friday - 9:30am Carmelite Monastery 7:00am Monday to Saturday		Sacrament of Reconciliation St Mary MacKillop Birkdale Thursday 5.30pm to 6:00pm St John Vianney Manly Saturday 4.30pm to 5:00pm St Jude Gumdale Sunday following 7:00am Mass			

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The resurfacing of the concrete at the entrance of the Church commenced this week. There will be no access to the taped off area for the next week. Access to the Church will be via the entrance near the Parish Office and there will be **no access to the Chapel, Columbarium or Reflection Garden.** Weekday Masses will be celebrated in the Church this week.

We apologise for the inconvenience.

Australia Day weekend special collections Archbishop Mark Coleridge and the Australian Bishops have asked that special collections be taken up on Australia Day weekend (**WE WILL HAVE A RETIRING COLLECTION**) to support bushfire-affected communities. Money raised from this collection will support the Vinnies' bushfire appeal. Parishioners wishing to donate individually and receive a tax-deductible receipt can donate at www.vinnies.org.au. Thank you to those who have already contributed to support affected communities. We are also called to pray for those affected, especially those who have lost loved ones, for those fighting the fires and for an end to the ongoing crisis. Prayers and other resources can be found at www.catholic.org.au/bushfires

Garden Working Bee - The gardens and grounds are in need of a tidy up. We need helpers on **Friday 7th February from 4:00pm**. Please bring along tools, hats and sunscreen. Refreshments and water will be provided. Remember many hands make light work. ***If you are not available on Friday but would like to help out, you are welcome to come and weed and tidy the Garden of Reflection or Columbarium area at any time that suits you!!***

Small Coins for East Timor The collection jar for your SMALL COINS will be at the Welcome Desk each week. Total collected to date is **\$14,879.20**.

Columbarium We are now taking reservations for niches or plaques. If you would like to discuss your requirements or have any questions about the process, please contact the Parish Office on 3822 2139 to arrange a suitable time.

Celebrating 40 Years of St Anthony's Church Alexandra Hills Saturday 1st February, beginning the celebration with MASS at 5.30pm followed by complimentary Sit-Down Buffet. Drinks available for purchase in the San Antonio Centre, St Anthony's School. Numbers attending are essential for catering purposes. Please notify number of adults and children attending by Saturday **25th January 2020** by phoning Margaret 0412 161 924, Jackie 0412 999 744 or Lorraine 0419 785 994

The Little King's Movement - Once a year conducts a Church Appeal. The Movement caters for people with disabilities in social and spiritual activities. There is no Government funding and the Movement is staffed by volunteers. Each year the call for our services are increasing. The Movement, though based on Catholic beliefs, is truly ecumenical, and all members and people with disabilities are welcomed and respected for their own beliefs. There is no charge for any of the services provided by the Movement. The appeal for our Parish will be conducted on the weekend of **1st & 2nd February 2020**. In previous years this Parish has been very generous even in the most difficult financial times, for which volunteers are most grateful.

NEW PARISHIONER? WELCOME! If you are new to our Parish, you are most welcome. Please fill out the form below and place on one of the collection plates.

NAME(S): Mr / Mrs / Miss _____

ADDRESS: _____ PHONE: _____