



# St Patrick's Parish

PO Box 547, 65 Clarke St  
Lilydale 3140

Ph. 9739 5977 Fax 9739 5373

Email: [Lilydale@cam.org.au](mailto:Lilydale@cam.org.au)

<http://stpatrickslilydale.cam.org.au>

St Patrick's Primary School Ph. 9735 4388

**Parish Priest:** Rev. Fr. Francis Denton  
**Email:** [lilydale@cam.org.au](mailto:lilydale@cam.org.au)  
**Pastoral Worker:** Mrs Debbie Edwards  
**Secretary:** Mrs Sharon Jacob

**Pastor Emeritus:** Fr John Dupuche  
**St Patrick's Primary School**  
**Principal:** Mr. Geoff Klep  
**Email:** [principal@splilydale.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@splilydale.catholic.edu.au)

16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> May 2020

## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (Year A)

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 65:1-7, 16, 20

**R. Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.**

Cry out with joy to God all the earth,

O sing to the glory of his name.

O render him glorious praise.

Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds!

'Before you all the earth shall bow;  
shall sing to you, sing to your name!  
Come and see the works of God,  
tremendous his deeds among men.

He turned the sea into dry land,  
they passed through the river dry-shod.  
Let our joy then be in him;  
he rules for ever by his might.

Come and hear, all who fear God.  
I will tell what he did for my soul:  
Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer  
nor withhold his love from me.

**R. Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.**

**Second Reading:** 1 Peter 3:15-18

**Gospel Acclamation:** cf John 14:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord said: I will not leave you orphans.  
I will come back to you, and your hearts will rejoice.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel:** John 14:15-21

**General Intercessions**

**LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**



### PARISH PRAYER LIST

#### Recently Deceased:

**Anniversaries:** Elaine Postlethwaite

**Sick:** Joan Keuken, Angela Del Guidice, Lynne Fleming, Jo Payne, Kim J, Cherie, Izaak, Anne-Maree Sullivan, Jim Reid, Peter & Aurelia Di Ciero, Tony Cunningham, Claudette & Gilbert, Florens, Luigi Mazzotti, Kate, Tim Lawson, John Hopper, Cassandra, Mary and John Hamilton, Carmel O'Healy, Michelle, Pat Robb, Robert Taylor, Nancy Leonard, Brian Walsh, Michael Paola, Barbara De Vincentiis, Emma, Wayne, Julian Monteiro, Dolly Maher, Salvacion Santos, Ricky, Giovanna Zammit, Michael Jordan, Anne Moroney, Catherine Fields, Sam Lawson, Trish Macpherson, Geoff, Grace Quinlivan, Bianca, , Mary Ovans, Stephen, Gael Holliday, Rob Meridith, Bill Meyer, Cathie & Jose Grima, Darren McInnes, Rose Roberts, Roman De Angelis, Tedi & Santi

### AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

**My Jesus,**

**I believe that You**

**are present in the Most Holy  
Sacrament.**

**I love You above all things,  
and I desire to receive You into  
my soul.**

**Since I cannot at this moment  
receive You sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my  
heart.**

**I embrace You as if You were  
already there and unite myself  
wholly to You. Never permit me  
to be separated from You.**

**Amen.**

## **Masses are back with Changes**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,  
On Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May the Archdiocese of Melbourne released its updated guidelines (10 pages worth!) for parishes regarding the lowering of restrictions for the administration of the sacraments. The key question everyone wants to know is: have public Masses resumed? The short answer is, not exactly. Priests are now permitted to say Mass with a congregation of up to ten, in addition to those with a designated function: Readers, technical crew for the livestreaming/recording of Mass, chorister, those assisting with registration etc. Those in attendance must be prearranged; please note that the doors of the church will not be open to the public, as this is currently not permitted. The limit of ten worshippers presents a challenge in terms of how we can 'select' such a tiny congregation in a fair and impartial way. If you would like to attend you must contact the parish office mobile. The first ten names will be registered as the attendees for a particular day and time. If the particular Mass you're seeking attendance at is full we will endeavour to book you in for the next available Mass. Those who attend are

required to 'sign in' on the day, and provide their contact details (in the unlikely event that we need to contact you regarding an outbreak of COVID19). They will also need to observe all the standard social distancing protocols (of which we're all very familiar with now!). The weekly Mass timetable has been amended (and simplified) so please take note of the new times:

### **Mass times at St Patrick's, Lilydale**

**Saturday vigil:** 6:00pm

**Sunday:** 10:30am

**Tuesday:** 9:10am

**Wednesday:** 9:10am

**Friday:** 9:10am

### **Mass times at St Brigid's**

**Sunday:** 8:30am

**Thursday:** 9.10 am

This new schedule will take effect from Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2020. We will follow this system until the Archdiocese of Melbourne provides further directives. I am mindful that this system is far from ideal and will no doubt cause some frustration for those who will miss out. On the positive side we can see this as a step in the right direction, as the restrictions are gradually lifted. For me it is something of a relief to be able to finally meet many of you in person, which I'm really looking forward to. Due to the very small numbers

permitted to attend we will continue recording the Vigil Mass so as to allow people to at least watch to Masses on YouTube. This can be accessed via the St Brigid's parish website.

### **To book a Mass please call the parish mobile**

**St Patrick's, Lilydale:  
0448658 418**

**St Brigid's, Healesville:  
0448664731**

As regards other sacraments, there is also a welcome loosening of restrictions. Scheduled times for the Sacrament of Penance (Reconciliation) will resume on Saturdays at 10:00am. Weddings and baptisms can now take place with a limit of 10 attendees in addition to those fulfilling official functions. Funerals can have up to 20 mourners inside the Church, or up to 30 are permitted in outdoor ceremonies. Once again, all the standard hygiene and social distancing rules apply to each of these situations. If followed, the guidelines drastically reduce the risk of contracting or spreading COVID19, however, nothing is fail-proof. There will always remain a small risk of contracting this highly contagious virus, which you ought to bear in mind. So please use common sense: if you are feeling unwell, if you are frail, elderly, vulnerable

or immune compromised you are strongly encouraged to stay at home. Due to the practical impossibility of everyone attending Mass, the Archbishop has ruled that the normative obligation to attend Mass on Sundays is currently suspended, and will remain so until the doors of our churches reopen.

Thanks to you all for your patience and forbearance with this situation. It's been a frustrating time for us all, but hopefully we have weathered the worst of the storm, and can begin to resume our normal lives (spiritually and practically) in the months ahead. With the eyes of Faith we can also look at this situation and see the hand of God at work. I think there have been many lessons for us to learn in terms of what we really value and prioritise, both individually and as a culture. For many our faith has been tested and strengthened by this trial. Let's pray that we can continue to keep our eyes on the Lord Jesus, who remains with us always, even until the end of time (cf. Matt 28:20).

Fr Francis Denton

#### **Prayer Requests**

Fr Francis and Fr John are continuing to record weekend Masses, which are available to be viewed at any time. The link is <https://bit.ly/StBsHville>. During this time of physical separation, we continue to pray for each other. If you have a prayer request for a special

intention, please email the parish, [lilydale@cam.org.au](mailto:lilydale@cam.org.au). Father will remember our special intentions as he says Mass, and we will pray for all parishioners' prayer requests in the Prayers of the Faithful each week. Special intentions will not be publicly mentioned, but we will all be praying together with one voice in support of those big challenges our parishioners are facing. If you would like to chat to Father, or parish staff, please let us know.



Mothers' Day was a real challenge this year! After much thought, our family 'zoomed' lunch, and our

meal was just as noisy, chaotic and messy as our lunches usually are. I sat back quietly and took time to appreciate the sight of my computer screen filled with images of our children and their families enjoying each other's company, despite the distance between us. We couldn't hug, but we were together. During this Easter season, we have been reading from John's Gospel. Contemplative and prayerful, our past few week's readings could be summed up in my opinion by Jesus' words from the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter: 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me'. That advice certainly keeps me afloat! In other years, we would have heard many stories about Jesus appearing to his friends in the time between his resurrection from the dead and the upcoming Feasts of the Ascension and Pentecost. Having suffered the trauma of his arrest, torture and death, Jesus' friends knew the deep, desolate pain of separation from him. Not only had he died, but he had died in the most horrible of ways, he had 'left them', their hopes in him dashed, and those who had put him to death were still a major threat to his supporters and those closest to him. As he appeared to those who loved him in the weeks following his resurrection, we can imagine how overjoyed they would have been to see him, to hug him, to eat with him, and to simply be with him once again. I love these stories! No skype or zoom, these meetings were physical. Jesus finished unfinished conversations. Mary Magdalene, Peter, John, and Thomas are mentioned by name, but there were many other personal encounters between Jesus and his disciples that went unrecorded in

the Gospels, just as our daily encounters with Jesus are largely unrecorded.

My article for the school newsletter this week encourages families in lockdown to imagine what we might say or do if someone we love who has passed through death were able to be with us again for even a short time. I have also suggested that families begin this week to assemble some hand-made puppets so that they are ready to role-play Jesus' ascension to his Father, and the experience of Pentecost. I want to encourage them to 'get involved', personally. If we place ourselves into these 'imagined scenes', we may gain so much more insight and vision than when we allow them to be mere words of a 'story' on a page in a book.

As we take quiet time to imagine Jesus visiting his excited friends, we too may grow more deeply into his eternal love. I am fond of saying that God does have favourites! Each of us is his favourite, for he loves us infinitely, perfectly, and you can't top that! We just need to grow into that realisation of his perfect love, for us an unfolding mystery. The real, genuine truth that God loves each and every one of us perfectly and without limit, infinitely and eternally, no matter what we have chosen to do or not do throughout our lives, can be really difficult to get our heads around. We are loved, no matter what, but our behaviour may not be! This distinction is so important. If we can come to accept this reality, our entire perception of ourselves is impacted, we are touched personally, within our most secret depths. It is very possible for us to quietly and privately imagine meeting again our dearly loved family members or friends, speaking with them and finishing conversations left incomplete. We can imagine those hugs. This experience is a deep, deep encounter with love, borne of pain and joy, not one to be shared carelessly or frivolously, and certainly not to be undervalued. And when that personal experience of love that is no longer tangible to our senses carries us to Jesus' side, we can feel, see, hear, and imagine that experience for Jesus and his friends, and for Jesus and ourselves. God cannot love Peter, or even Our Blessed Mother any more than he can love us, for his love for each of us is perfect! Now *that* is one to think through...

### THANKSGIVING CONTRIBUTIONS

**Your parish still needs your help to survive financially.** Please consider placing your donation in the letterbox slot, to the right of the area under the verandah, outside the Parish Office. **If you wish to donate via electronic funds transfer (EFT), please ring Sharon on 0448 658 418.**

A white envelope with green writing was left in the parish letterbox, unfortunately it got wet and I am unable read who it belongs to. If it was you can you please call me on 0448 658 418. Thanks Sharon

### RECONCILIATION

by appointment

### ANOINTING OF THE SICK

by appointment

**Marriages:** Please give at least six month's notice.

**Baptism:** Please contact parish office for details.

### PARISH OFFICE

Please call 0448 658 418

### PASTORAL WORKER

Wednesday 10.00am- 3.00pm

Friday 10.00am – 3.00pm

### ST VINCENT DE PAUL

If assistance is required please contact the Lilydale Centre on 1800 305 330

Mon-Fri 10.00am – 4.00pm

### CARE GROUP

Ann McCann, Debbie Edwards,  
Sharon Jacob,

Contact Parish Office 0448 658 418

### **Caritas Prayer for the COVID-19**

**Pandemic** May we, who are experiencing the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in Australia and are coming to terms with a new reality, remember the words of scripture "Be still and know that I am God". May we, who as adults struggling to process what is happening in our world, remember children who are fearful of a reality they cannot comprehend. May we,

who complain about the scarcity of commodities, remember those who are working to maintain the supply chain. May we, who observe the long queues of those seeking support, remember those for whom there is no government assistance or financial aid. May we, who rely on essential services, especially those in the medical profession, remember all those working on the front line. May we, who work to end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity, remember those living and working in vulnerable communities. May we, who are working from home, remember those who have no employment or home from which to work. May we, who have access to medical facilities and services, remember those who do not have basic health care. May we, who are beginning to experience border closures, remember refugees who cannot return home. May we give thanks for those who are working to help or bring some kindness, joy or humour to others, showing us the light of Christ lives. During this time of isolation as we close our doors, may we continue to keep our hearts open to our family, friends, local and global communities. We ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen St Oscar Romero, patron saint of Caritas Internationalis, pray for us. Patron Saints of Australia, Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us St Francis Xavier, pray for us. St Therese of Lisieux, pray for us. St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, pray for us



### WOULD YOU

APPRECIATE A

PHONE CALL?

If you would like to chat to Fr Francis or to Parish staff, please contact the office. Our problems seem lighter when shared! Parish staff are still available by phone to pass on any information you may need, and to care for your family in this time of stress and uncertainty.

Debbie's phone number is 0448 664 731 and Sharon's is 0448 658 418.

Parish email: [lilydale@cam.org.au](mailto:lilydale@cam.org.au)

### Humour

**A Perfect Marriage?**

A man and woman had been married for more than 60 years. They had shared everything. They had talked about everything. They had kept no secrets from each other, except that the little old woman had a shoe box in the top of her closet that she had cautioned her husband never to open or ask her about.

For all of these years, he had never thought about the box, but one day, the little old woman got very sick and the doctor said she would not recover.

In trying to sort out their affairs, the little old man took down the shoe box and took it to his wife's bedside.

She agreed that it was time that he should know what was in the box. When he opened it, he found two crocheted dolls and a stack of money totaling \$95,000. He asked her about the contents. "When we were to be married," she said, "my grandmother told me the secret of a happy marriage was to never argue. She told me that if I ever got angry with you, I should just keep quiet and crochet a doll."

The little old man was so moved; he had to fight back tears. Only two precious dolls were in the box. She had only been angry with him two times in all those years of living and loving. He almost burst with happiness.

"Honey," he said, "that explains the dolls, but what about all of this money? Where did it come from?"

"Oh," she said. "That's the money I made from selling the dolls."