

Reflection ...

In our Lord's time, the division between Jews and Pagans was very profound. Pagans (most often called gentiles), were outside the chosen people, the children of God, and there was a long history of antagonism.

This is the setting for this remarkable gospel story. A pagan woman approaches a Jewish man: Jesus. The disciples react to a woman causing a commotion. She is causing a commotion, but for a good reason. She begs Jesus to heal her daughter with whom she maternally completely identifies: 'Have mercy on me.' He comments: 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' He is confirming his healing mission to the Jews. She and her daughter don't qualify!

What is going on? We know that the Prophet Isaiah was a great favourite and exemplar for Jesus. Jesus could open a scroll and quote passages which guided his own understanding of his mission. Jesus had evidently taken Isaiah's picture of a transformed Jewish people being a light to the pagan nations who would then be attracted to worship God in the right way.

That is the two-stage sequence which Jesus has embarked on. Jesus therefore gives a very dismissive answer to the woman: 'It is not fair to take the children's bread and throw it to the house dogs.' The children are obviously the Jewish people, and so Jesus' response is very confronting.

This remarkable woman, this remarkable pagan woman, stands her ground and engages in a verbal joust with Jesus! She decides to give him as good as she got! She argues: 'Yes, Lord, but even the house dogs get the crumbs that fall from their master's table.'

What a fantastic response! Jesus recognises her faith and the daughter was healed. What a fantastic woman! She, a pagan woman, helped Jesus see that his liberating mission, his healing, saving mission, was not a careful two-stage affair, Jews first, pagans later. His saving mission was for all those who had faith in him – wherever and whenever.

This story was treasured and remembered in the early church and then put into writing in the Gospels. Why? Because the biggest crisis facing the early church was relations between Jewish Christians and possible pagan converts who wanted to be followers of Jesus. This story would have been told to show how Jesus extended his saving mission to non-Jews in Pagan territory.

That is good news for us, Gospel for us, Gospel for billions of non-Jewish people over the course of history since then and into the future. That is why we are truly 'Catholic', which, as you know, is the Greek for 'universal', 'world-wide'.

This woman is the one whose story was treasured as opening up the Church to being truly universal – a home for all people – a place where the 'whole' of humanity can be made 'whole' in every way. That is what it means to be 'Catholic'.

Could this Canaanite woman be celebrated as the first 'Catholic'?

© Fr Michael Tate



**but even house dogs eat the scraps
that fall from their master's table**

THIS WEEK

SATURDAY 15 AUG

6:00pm Mass

SUNDAY 16 AUG

9:30am Mass

3:30pm Indonesian Community Mass

6:00pm Mass

MONDAY 17 AUG

9:00am Mass

6:00pm Adoration

WEDNESDAY 19 AUG

9:00am Mass

THURSDAY 20 AUG

6:00pm Mass

FRIDAY 21 AUG

9:00am Mass

SATURDAY 22 AUG

6:00pm Mass

SUNDAY 23 AUG

9:30am Mass

3:30pm Indonesian Community Mass

6:00pm Mass



PARISH DIRECTORY

4 Roma Ave Kensington NSW 2033

T: 9663 1070

E: olrkensoparish@gmail.com

W: <http://olrkensington.org.au>

F: <https://www.facebook.com/OLRKenso/>

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Aloysius Lamere msc

PARISH SECRETARY

Maria Caetano

(1:30pm - 3:30pm Mon to Fri)

MASS TIMES

Sat 6pm (Vigil),

Sun 9:30am (Family), 6pm

Mon, Wed, Fri - 9am, Thurs 6pm

Indonesian Mass Sun 3:30pm

RECONCILIATION

Mon 9:30am or by appointment

ROSARY

First Saturday at 3.00pm Rosary Room

INDONESIAN COMMUNITY

Fr Petrus Suroto msc - 0450 625 757

BAPTISMS

First Sunday - 11am, bookings required

WEDDINGS

By Appointment

SACRAMENTS

Contact parish office

OLR PRIMARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Marie Nilon - 9663 3346

OLSH COLLEGE PRINCIPAL

Jenny Fowler - 9662 4088

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Roy Rigotti - 9313 8334

John Hill - 9663 3222

Sr Pauline Richards – 0419 482 408

Nani Widarto – 0411 850 350

RESPONSES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Turn you eyes, O God, our shield;
and look on the face of your
anointed one;
one day within your courts is
better than a thousand elsewhere.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 56: 1, 6-7

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

O God, let all the nations praise you!

SECOND READING

Romans 11: 13-15, 29-32

ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News
of the kingdom and healed all
who were sick.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 15: 21-28

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

With the Lord there is mercy;
In him is plentiful redemption.

OREMUS

Let us Pray

SICK

Grace Veronica, Salvatore Messina,
Sr Margaret McKay rscj,
Sr Mary D'Apice rscj, Amina Chahrouk,
Elisabetta Nesci, Umberto Vaccarella,
Xavier Stratton, Maria Zic, Rose Alessio,
Joanna & family, David Lai, John Roberts,
Gavin Robertson, Chris (Cindy's husband),
Manuel Mouco, Eva (Nicole's mum),
Paul Galea, A.L., Plutarco Cadornigara,
John & Olga Nasser, Lynne Chaundhuri

PARISHIONERS IN RESIDENTIAL CARE/HOMEBOUND

Malcolm MacDonald, Nella Custorella,
Rose Kelter, John & Jill Rees, Mario De Roit,
John Borg, Gwen Smith, Laura Leonard,
Sebastiano Gentile, Margaret Stocker,
Maria Pockaj, Frances McLaughlin,
Lucienne Radzyminski, Nicole Chiaradia

BELOVED DECEASED

Conceicao Ferreira, June Cullen,
Br Ken McEwan cfc, Fr Neville Dunne msc,
Rida Rahardja

ANNIVERSARIES

Charles Munevar, Peter Mifsud, Joy Simon,
Fr Christopher Sheehy, Leo O'Sullivan,
Vincent McGuinness, Millar Kean Munro,
Marie Burke, Maria Sidoti, Ana Niel,
Br Charles Aquilina fms, Thereza Rodrigues,
Tom Longworth, John McClusky

ROSTER

	15/16 August 20	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 9:30pm	Sun 6:00pm
Acolyte		John Ryan	Roel Castillo	Danny Tjahjadi
Readers		Shilla Azalea Br Paul Rogers	Jeff Kildea Toni McGuinness	Marissa Meyn Marieann Duncan
Comm to Sick		Cathy Castillo	Nubia Suarez	

WHATSAPP MESSENGER

To connect to the OLR Parish
Community WhatsApp Group,
scan the QR code below with your
mobile phone. Alternatively,
please contact the parish office by email, phone,
or you can txt Jock Marmotta on 0412 116 133
with your name requesting to join.



COLLECTIONS - 8/9 AUGUST

1st Collection	\$430
2nd Collection	\$410
Envelope Collection	\$335



HOLY HOUR

Join us for Adoration Monday
17 August, 6pm-7pm
(call in for a few minutes or
stay the whole hour)

COVID-19 UPDATE

The NSW Government has recommended parishioners wear face masks when attending religious services as an additional safeguard to help combat the spread of COVID-19.

Church attendance numbers are limited to a maximum of 100 people, providing there is a four square metre space around each person, with the exception of people from the same household.



All parishes must ensure that their churches are not left unattended when their doors are open and must keep written records with names and contact details of everyone who comes into the church/Parish House at any time (at least one person from each family group). These records are kept for at least 4 weeks.

JRS APPEAL FOR FOODBANK DONATIONS

The Jesuit Refugee Service mobile food bank is a huge and growing operation. Since 1 April, they have collectively fed more than 5,000 women, children, and men who have lost jobs, been excluded from Federal Government financial support and cannot return home. In one week alone they fed close to 800 people, including by providing more than 300 kg of rice, 300 kg of pasta, 300 litres of long life milk, 500 cans of tuna and much more! Regardless, **their stocks of rice, pasta, oil, tuna, and long life milk are RUNNING LOW**. If you can donate these items we have drop off spots around Sydney. In the absence of Federal Government support for people in need, we continue to need your help. Please visit: <http://jrs.org.au/how-to-help-refugees-and-people-seeking-.../> and learn how you can support people who have no other means to buy these basics for their families. This short video also shows what happens to food donations that are made: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=293160638622911>.

Drop off Points:

Paddington - VivCourt

Ph: 9356 5100 Mon-Fri 10am-3pm

Broadway - The two Wolves Community Cantina

Ph: 0426 366 544 Mon-Fr 11am-2pm

Kings Cross - St Canices Parish Office

Mon & Wed 9am-11am



SACRAMENTS FOR NON-OLR STUDENTS

As we have only received one response to our request for expressions of interest for the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion, we will not be offering the Sacraments through the Parish this year. Any Parish children who attend OLR Primary School will be receiving the Sacraments through the school as usual - this message only refers to children who attend local public and other schools. We hope to be able to offer the Sacraments to our Parish families (outside OLR Primary) next year as usual. Liturgically speaking there is no issue with children receiving the Sacraments a year or two later so please know we are here to support you and will have our program back up and running as soon as viable.

SUPPORT FOR THE HOUSE OF WELCOME

The House of Welcome works with people seeking asylum and refugees to provide critical casework, housing, employment, foodbank and emergency living assistance. During COVID-19 the demand for financial assistance has risen. HOW has increased the Emergency Living Package program by 216% to respond to the amplified levels of distress and hardship amongst their clients. In the last few months House of Welcome has delivered emergency assistance and been able to support clients to maintain their tenancies and assisted those who have come to the centre homeless. There are a number of ways that you can help such as donating to the Emergency Relief Package or donate staple food items to the House of Welcome foodbank.

Contact: office@houseofwelcome.com.au

Ph: 02 9727 9290 | stfrancis.org.au/house-of-welcome




PARISH COLLECTIONS

The parish relies on your ongoing contributions (1st, 2nd collection and planned giving), alternatives to passing collection plates are available via:

- **Tap and Go** (electronic via your credit/debit card) as you enter the side door of church.
- Drop your contribution in the two collection boxes (clearly marked 'first' and 'second') as you enter the church side door.
- **Electronic Transfer (EFT)** to church bank account: Kensington Parish Merchant Clearing Account | BSB: 062 784 | Account No: 4250100 | Reference as follows: 1st Collection - "First", 2nd Collection - "Second" and Envelope Collection - "Surname & Planned Giving Number" (eg Smith123) or contact Maria by emailing olrkensoparish@gmail.com or on 9663 1070.
- Make a payment through **BPOINT** facility: <https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/kensingtonparish>.



BE COVIDSAFE



Get notified quickly

if you come in contact with COVID-19

Download now

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

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.

Do you know any seniors in your community who could use a little help at home?



Call CCareline to find out more

CCareline 13 18 19
CatholicCare.org

SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2020-21

The ACBC Office for Social Justice have released the Social Justice Statement for 2020-21, entitled *To Live Life to the Full: Mental Health in Australia Today*. This year's Statement encourages faith communities, governments, and each one of us to make mental health a priority—a timely message in a year of bushfires and pandemic. The COVID-19 pandemic has also influenced the way in which the Statement and associated materials are being distributed this year. Given that face-to-face gatherings are restricted this year, demand for physical copies of the Statement was difficult to predict. Therefore the Social Justice Statement and prayer card for 2020-21 have been made available online as free downloads. To download your copies now, please visit <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au> or visit the ACBC online shop at <https://www.catholic.org.au/shop/acbc-shop>. Please note that from this year, the date for Social Justice Sunday has shifted to the last Sunday in August. Consequently, Social Justice Sunday will this year be celebrated on **30 August 2020**.

CATHOLICCARE OUTREACH TO THE LONELY AND ISOLATED

CatholicCare, through its CCareline 13 18 19 number and the Parish Volunteer Program in partnership with the Archdiocese of Sydney, is working together as the 'hands and feet of Christ in the community' reaching out to those most in need in our parishes and beyond. To register or learn more about the Parish Volunteer Program call CCareline on 13 18 19.

DISABILITY SUPPORT WORKER

Thierry is a Cameroonian Asylum Seeker who has lived in Sydney for over 6 years and who has been associated with our parish in Kensington. He is an experienced disability support worker who enjoys providing support assistance to individuals and groups with disabilities living within their communities. A kind and compassionate provider, supportive both emotionally and intellectually he is highly organised and efficient. He is currently working with the Cerebral Palsy Alliance empowering children with severe autism and physical disabilities. Thierry would like to offer his services in our community. Anyone who would like to utilise his services could contact John on 0411 315 533.



MAXIMUS E-NEWS FOR MEN

As part of our Maximus apostolate for men, we have begun a fortnightly E-Newsletter that provides details of every men's group in Sydney, as well as advertises our podcast and the challenges our podcast guests issue to the audience. Even despite the restrictions and lockdowns, great things are happening in men's ministry in Sydney. If you'd like to sign up to the newsletter, please email me - chris.dasilva@sydneycatholic.org - and I'll add you to the list!