

## Reflection ...

A furore broke out in a country diocese some years ago about the retreat style of a priest who was taking Catholic students in their last year of high school or who were attending university away for weekend retreats. On the Friday night of the retreat this priest would tell the young people that by the end of the weekend they should make a decision about their Christian faith.

Some parents were shocked that their young people were given an ultimatum that included the possibility of rejecting their faith. The priest replied that Catholic youth have to make all sorts of decisions regarding career, lifestyle, residence, studies and relationships. Religion, he contended, often fell by the wayside, either not important enough on which to make a decision, or relegated to the personal shelf of neglect to be possibly taken down and dusted off years later for a hatching, matching or dispatching.

The priest argued that this wasn't good enough. After 12 years of Catholic education or many years of catechetics the Church had to take the risk of calling for a personal decision for faith. Some of the young people consciously chose membership in the Church. In making such a profession of faith many reported having a deep encounter with God and an experience of their faith in Christ. Other students made decisions against belonging to the Church, which is, of course, never irrevocable.

The entire retreat process was based on the question in today's Gospel: 'Who do you say that I am?'

The disciples, reflecting on their experiences with Jesus, offer various possibilities, but it is Peter who says that Jesus is the revelation of God for the world. This is the great profession of faith and the basis on which the Church comes into being.

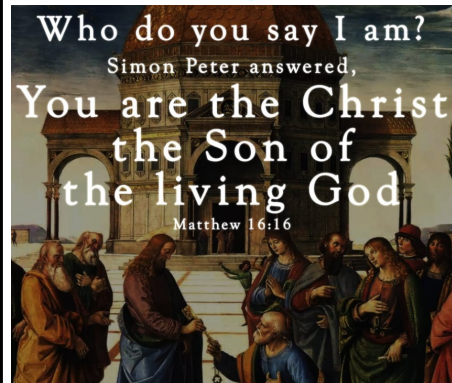
And what was true then, is true now. At some point, if we want our faith to move from being a code of law, a concept, or some excellent ideas to something we can experience, we must take the faith of the Church, which has nurtured us up to now, and make it our own. In doing so, when we encounter Christ, we contribute to the re-founding of the Church in our generation.

Just being part of the 'Catholic crowd' is hardly the challenge Jesus presents to the disciples in today's Gospel. We are commissioned like the disciples to bear witness to Christ's personal love in the workplace, with our friends and in our families.

It's always helpful to be reminded that we might be the only face of Catholicism, or even Christianity, that another person may encounter. The way in which we bind them up or set them free might be the measure by which they judge if the Church is the face of Christ in today's world and whether they could find a home with us.

And it all hinges on that great question which is asked of each of us today: 'Who do you say that I am?' How we answer this question reveals so much, including whether Christ is an idea we like, or the object of our passion.

**Richard Leonard SJ**



## THIS WEEK

### SATURDAY 22 AUG

6:00pm Mass

### SUNDAY 23 AUG

9:30am Mass

3:30pm Indonesian Community Mass

6:00pm Mass

### MONDAY 24 AUG

9:00am Mass

6:00pm Adoration

### WEDNESDAY 26 AUG

9:00am Mass

### THURSDAY 27 AUG

6:00pm Mass

### FRIDAY 28 AUG

9:00am Mass

### SATURDAY 29 AUG

6:00pm Mass

### SUNDAY 30 AUG

9:30am Mass

11:00am Baptisms - RCIA

3:30pm Indonesian Community Mass

6:00pm Mass



## PARISH DIRECTORY

4 Roma Ave Kensington NSW 2033

T: 9663 1070

E: [olrkensoparish@gmail.com](mailto: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 your ear, O Lord,  
and answer me; save the servant  
who trusts in you, my God.  
Have mercy on me, O Lord,  
for I cry to you all the day long.

### FIRST READING

Isaiah 22: 19-23

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Lord, your love is eternal;  
do not forsake the work of your  
hands.

### SECOND READING

Romans 11: 33-36

### ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are Peter, the rock on which  
I will build my Church the gates  
of hell will not hold out against it.  
Alleluia!

### GOSPEL

Matthew 16: 13-20

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The earth is replete with the fruits  
of your work, O Lord;  
You bring forth bread from the earth  
and wine to cheer the heart.

## 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

Gil San Gabriel, 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

22/23 Aug	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 9:30pm	Sun 6:00pm
<b>Acolyte</b>	Handojo Widjaja	Gus Alimhamzah	John Allen
<b>Readers</b>	Sr Nancy Fitzgerald Sr Diana Hayes	Isabel Reyes Patricia Reyes	Vacancy Vacancy
<b>Comm to Sick</b>	Thomas Chia		

### 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.




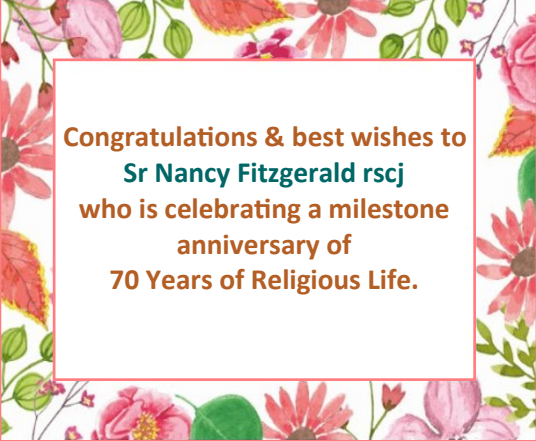
### COLLECTIONS - 15/16 AUG

<b>1st Collection</b>	<b>\$1,395</b>
<b>2nd Collection</b>	<b>\$246</b>
<b>Envelope Collection</b>	<b>\$755</b>



**HOLY HOUR**  
Join us for Adoration **Monday 24 August, 6pm-7pm**  
*(call in for a few minutes or stay the whole hour)*

**FIRST SATURDAY ROSARY**  
The Parish Rosary will continue on Zoom on Saturday **5 Sept at 3pm**. If you would like to join in, please private message Sarina through the Parish WhatsApp Group or contact the Parish Office. All welcomed.

**Congratulations & best wishes to Sr Nancy Fitzgerald rscj who is celebrating a milestone anniversary of 70 Years of Religious Life.**


**READERS WANTED**  
We currently need new readers for the Saturday vigil Mass and Sunday 6pm Mass. If you are interested in being part of this important ministry, please contact Maria at the Parish House: **9663 1070** or [email: olrkensoparish@gmail.com](mailto:olrkensoparish@gmail.com).

**MASS UPDATE**  
We have restarted our Sunday night 6pm Mass to allow as many people as possible to attend. As of last weekend we no longer have to register to attend Mass at OLR.

**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.

**OLR SCHOOL NEWS**  
**KB** - This term, Kindergarten will learn about three figures in the Old Testament: Moses, David and Jonah. The stories told in this unit highlight the love and faithfulness of God. These passages will be used to teach Kindergarten that God is always with us and will always protect us. Miss Curley and KB  
**1B** - This term, 1B will learn about the Creation story. This unit is built around God the Creator, who is present in all of Creation. It will focus on the goodness of creation, and how it is as a reflection of God's love and goodness. Psalms of Praise will be introduced as a way of students expressing their praise and thanks to God. Mr Calleja and 1B

**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).



**PARISH COLLECTIONS**  
The parish relies on your ongoing contributions (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> collection and planned giving), alternatives to passing collection plates are available via:

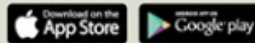
- **Tap and Go** (electronic via your credit/debit card) as you enter the side door of church.
- Drop your contribution in the two collection boxes (clearly marked 'first' and 'second') as you enter the church side door.
- **Electronic Transfer (EFT)** to church bank account: Kensington Parish Merchant 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](mailto: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](mailto: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



## 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 Hill on 0411 315 533**.

## 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.

## 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](mailto:office@houseofwelcome.com.au). Ph: 02 9727 9290 | [stfrancis.org.au/house-of-welcome](https://stfrancis.org.au/house-of-welcome).**

