

OUR LADY OF FATIMA, KINGSGROVE

Opening to the challenge of renewal

Living out the Eucharist & Gospel of Jesus Christ

Fostering communal compassion and service

Fourth Sunday of Easter (Year A) - 3 May 2020



Complying with the NSW Government and Health Regulations, all Masses have been cancelled until further notice.



THE MEMORARE REMEMBER, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that any one who fled to Thy protection, implored Thy help, or sought Thy intercession, was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly unto Thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To Thee I come; before Thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions; but In Thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen



REFLECTION

Sheep have relatively poor eyesight. Because of the shape of their heads they have mainly lateral vision and limited forward vision. However, sheep compensate for their poor vision with excellent hearing. Put simply, sheep rely more on sound than on sight, which is why they engage in a lot of bleating. So voice-recognition is very important for sheep which is why Jesus stresses in today's Gospel that the sheep follow the shepherd "because they know his voice. They will not follow the stranger because they do now know the voice of a stranger."

It is very important for us also to know the voice of the Good Shepherd, who is among us though we cannot see him. We have to learn to recognize his voice and listen to him. This is not easy as there are many voices out there, some of them attractive and enticing, that claim to be the voice of the Good Shepherd but are not. In this regard, the Gospels are very important. In them, we meet the Good Shepherd who proclaims the great command of love, who forgives, who is challenging and merciful, and who reveals himself not only in his words but also in his actions of reaching out to lepers and the outcast, to the sad and needy, bringing healing and hope into their lives. We should only listen to shepherds whose lives and teaching are consistent with Jesus, the Good Shepherd. *God's Word 2020 Daily Reflections*

Forward Invitation

For the event of Jean Maria Rovali: It will be held on Wednesday, 6th May 2020 at 11:00 AM at the Mary, Mother of Mercy Chapel, Rookwood Cemetery. If you wish to join the live streaming funeral service from your home, please send your name and email address to: pastoralcare@olfkingsgrove.org.au to receive an access code.

Parish Priest: Fr Hamilton (Casey) Ureta Assistant Priest: Fr George Sigamony

Pastoral Care Coordinator: Monique Choueifati: pastoralcare@olfkingsgrove.org.au Sacramental Coordinator: Ana D Naduva,email: olfsacramentalcoordinator@gmail.com Youth Coordinator: TBA

> Secretaries: Katrina McNeill – Tuesday, Wednesday Imelda Dela Cruz - Thursday, Friday (Bookkeeper, Accounts) 89 Shaw Street, Kingsgrove NSW Postal Address: PO Box 377

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Ph: 9150 9665 Fax: 9554 9637 Email: info@olfkingsgrove.org.au Website: www.olfkingsgrove.org.au OLF Primary School Ph: 9502 3723 Email: info@olfkingsgrove.catholic.edu.au

Dear parishioners,

During this time of pandemic restrictions, all Sunday masses will be live streamed at 10am from our parish https://www.olfkingsgrove.org.au and click on YouTube or Facebook link. Please join us. Also, in order to further that connection, we would very much like you to send us a photo of yourself or your family. An A4 printout would be ideal as these will then be stuck onto the seats to create a virtual congregation. You may bring these to the office or slide them under the door of the meeting room next to the presbytery. PRAYER FOR 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. **REGARDING SACRAMENTS** If you or someone you love is ill and you wish to offer a prayer for them, Father Casey and Father George are available to pray for you over the telephone. Please call to organise. At the moment, Anointing of the sick and Holy **Communion** will be administered only as a Viaticum for the gravely ill and the dying. Funerals will still be conducted but with a limit of 10

mourners and need to comply with social distancing rules. A memorial Mass can be celebrated at a later date.

• **Weddings** will be conducted but with a limit of five people and need to comply with social distancing rules.

• **Reconciliation** is by appointment. Please contact the parish.

Please remember that you may offer Mass for anniversaries, special intentions, thanks giving or any reason simply by placing your request in an envelope and bringing that to the office or in the Mass Offering box at the presbytery.

Continue to check our parish website: <u>www.olfkingsgrove.org.au</u> as it is being updated. You may also contact us via Email: <u>info@olfkingsgrove.org.au</u> or Ph: 9150 9665 *Fr Hamilton (Casey) Ureta* Parish Priest



<u>Prayers from Our Parish to the</u> World

In this time of isolation, when we are deprived of the Mass and Sacraments, we do not fear because we trust in Our God. We are still the Our Lady of Fatima Kingsgrove Community. As a caring community, we reach out to each other in love and prayers, to our brothers and sisters living in our Parish, the City of Sydney, Australia, and the whole world, Bless and protect us all, guide our leaders, and guide our doctors and scientists in developing a vaccine. **PARISH DONATIONS** Thank you in advance for your continued financial support of the parish either by the planned giving envelopes or by credit card. Your contributions will enable us to keep the parish running. We don't want to pressure you and understand current circumstances but if you are able to help, it would be very much appreciated. For your donation via direct deposit or electronic funds transfer (EFT) below are our bank details:

Commonwealth Bank: BSB 062-784 Account Number: 5025001 Account Name: Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Kingsgrove

Reference: Name & envelope number (if Planned Giver and wish to claim 30% tax deduction)

GROWING IN FAITH Scriptural readings and Saints for this week

4 Mon Easter Weekday Saint Casimir Acts 11:1-18/Jn 10:11-18 (279)

5 Tue Easter Weekday Acts 11:19-26/Jn 10:22-30 (280)

6 Wed Easter Weekday Saint Colette Acts 12:24—13:5a/Jn 12:44-50 (281)

7 Thu Easter Weekday Saints Perpetua and Felicity Acts 13:13-25/Jn 13:16-20 (282)

8 Fri Easter Weekday Saint John of God Acts 13:26-33/Jn 14:1-6 (283)

9 Sat Easter Weekday Saint Catherine of Bologna Saint Dominic Savio, 1842–1857 Acts 13:44-52/Jn 14:7-14 (284)

10 SUN FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER The Forty Martyrs of Sebaste Acts 6:1-7/1 Pt 2:4-9/Jn 14:1-12 (52) Pss I

OLF CHURCH MAINTENANCE UPDATE

The central part of the roof of our beautiful church has finally been repaired. We hope this marks the end of our long-standing problems with water leaking through every time it rained. The repair work was carried out by Magic Glass and Practical Access Solutions (for safe roof access anchors), who worked efficiently and diligently for us, rain or shine. The cost to complete the job was \$46,860.

We thank all who helped us achieve this outcome including the parish works committee.

Dear parishioners,

This week we are starting a new section in our parish bulletin called

"Love in Action".

It is where we want to share our experiences of how we put into practice Gospel values during this

time of pandemic and beyond. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we wish to feature some of your experiences within the family or the wider community which highlight our love of neighbour and how we help one another grow in our spiritual life through words and actions. To this effect we will feature one story each week. It need not be long, we ask that you send us only one paragraph sharing your experiences. If you choose to include a photo as well please make sure you have permission from everyone in the photo. We welcome everyone's story, young and old alike. This week I'd like to start off by sharing this story with you.



During the week, through the generosity of one parisioner, we received three large shopping bags filled with groceries. I thought that the best thing would be to give these to people who might need them more than we

do here in the presbytery. That very afternoon as I walked back from my exercise I passed by a house to say hello to a family of parishioners. I had a nice talk with the parents and the young people of the family; I asked what the young people were doing to which they responded that they were getting bored with the current day to day routine. I suggested that perhaps they might like to join me in bringing those donated goods to three families within our parish. We did so the following day. What follows is their perspective on that experience.

"We are grateful for the opportunity to accompany Fr Casey to help the people in our parish. We saw many familiar faces. The people we visited showed kindness and sincere gratitude in the little things we provided to them. This opened our eyes to recall the many great blessings God has granted us and to always be thankful each day. Our mother would always tell us "God gives and God takes" based on the story of Job. A beautiful story that exemplifies trust and love in God. Although we may have little luxury we believe that with simple hearts we have the most trust in God to provide and care for us. Once again we feel blessed to have helped. We thank Fr Casey and Fr George for looking after the parish." Mary & John

From the initial gift of that one person at least six other lives were touched, including my own, those who gave and those who received. In the end we all received in some form or other. This is how the Spirit works within us. So please, if you would like to share your story, email it to our parish office info@olfkingsgrove.org.au

Fr Hamilton (Casey) Ureta Parish Priest Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church

The following is an excerpt from the Fourth Pastoral Letter of the Most Rev. Anthony Fisher, Archbishop of Sydney

"I'm confident that we have learnt a great deal through this time of pandemic and shut-down. As a gift to you at this time the Holy See has produced a free e-book Strong *in the Face of Tribulation*. I encourage you to download it and pray with it:

https://www.vaticannews.va/content/dam/lev/fortinella-tribolazione/pdf/eng/strong-in-tribulation.-20042020.pdf

Virtual Pentecost Pilgrimage

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney is an official sponsor of this virtual free pilgrimage which began on Sunday 26 April and will run for 6 weeks. The pilgrimage is aimed at helping Catholics nurture their faith in the lead up to Pentecost while public Masses are suspended during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Each Wednesday and Sunday, formative videos from will be released for registered participants to engage online. Each set of videos will reflect on the Sunday readings of that week with a particular focus on the role of the Holy Spirit in our Church and world. To register for this free online pilgrimage to Pentecost, simply go to <u>www.pentecostpilgrimage.com</u> and enter your details to receive a link to the videos as they are released over the next six weeks.



We are still accepting donations to Project Compassion till 15 May. Donation can also be given by cheque, direct deposit or Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT), bank details above,

reference: your name & Caritas. If claiming 100% tax deduction, please call office or send email for your name, address and phone number. Your generosity will assist many of the world's most vulnerable communities. When we **Go Further Together** in love and compassion, the whole world thrives. Thank you.

Exploring the Seasons of Grief

The Grief Care team from Catholic Cemeteries & Crematoria is conducting Zoom seminars on Understanding Change, Loss and Grief. Grief doesn't just occur as a result of a death. Many changes can lead to grief. Many people are experiencing grief due to the changes caused by COVID-19 restrictions. We explore: How change, loss, grief and behaviour might interact.

The effects of grief on our bodies, minds, and emotions.

How to take care of ourselves and others in grief.

For more information or to express your interest, please contact Leonie Duck: Email: Leoned@catholiccemeteries.com.aubile: 0412 497843.



We offer care, empathy and compassion to nurture all to live their grief.





PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS Parishioners living in retirement:

Coleen Davoren, (Huntington Gardens), Merle Kenna (Warrigal, Shell Cove), Esme Roberts (St Mary's Hostel, Berkeley) Maria Rvan (Bupa. Clemton Park), Mike Skennar (Maronite Sisters Village, Dulwich Hill), Jane Gallo (Blakehurst Aged Care Centre), Noreen McAvinue, Sid Dixon, Ted Cooper (Huntingdon Gardens), Patricia North (Southhaven Aged Care, Padstow Heights), Monica Cherry (Leigh Place, Roselands), Noelene Bennett and Enid Taylor (John Paul Village); Carmela Lazzaro (Menaville Nursing Home); Nancy Dawson (Stella Maris Retirement Home): Pat Parkinson (Bexlev Park Aged Care): Frances English (Strathfield Gardens), Patrick Lehane (Homewood Aged Care), Yuk Hwo Sin (Fairlea Aged Care), Millie Czerny (Huntingdon Gardens), Ian Ravaillion (Macquarie Lodge Aged Care Centre).

Parishioners who are Sick: Robert Powell (John Powells brother), Bambina Canosa, Jun Letran, Alida Banks, Govind Reddy, Peter Nair, Angela Braga, Colin Chandler, Grazia Passeretti, Maria Ryan, Margolit Phillips, Antonietta Roberto, Lou and Jean Rovali, Stephen Doyle, Josie Wenko, Renae Corban, Betty Maguire, Helen Donnelly, Joe Khoury, Don Khoury, Amanda Teer, Anne Marie Michels, Raigan Kerr, Larissa Anne Salt, Ben Xuereb, Christine Gale, Judy & Colin Elliott, Frank Brown, Rosalina Mirabueno, Maria Braga, John Fick, Ivan Bozic, Valerie McInnis, Samar Munoz.

Please pray for our Recently Deceased:

Jean Rovali, Yolly C. Ventoza, Annie Consunji, Juju Dizon, Ellen Quirk, Laraine Lay, William Chaar, Esther Perez, Regino Tamayo Jr, Ray Mason, Anna Proietto.

Anniversaries: Jack Defina, Kevin McGreal, Aires Lopes, Dora Collis, Andrew Kirk, Sr St Rock osu, Jospehine DeLaMotte, Pat Rowley, Norma Wigmore, Allan Foxe, Christine Harold, John Hickey, Mary O'Carroll, Patrick Compton, Ellen Wheeler, Thelma Howard, Bertha Revell, Paul Soo Lee, Agnello D'Argenio, Janina Rodkiewicz.

Also For: Thanksgiving for successful surgery of Apolonia Gener, birthday thanksgiving of Fidela Jasmin, answered prayers for Jason Jasmin, deceased Muriel Lillian Knighton, and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

Urgent appeal

Donations of personal hygiene products are urgently sought for Care Packages being put together for the thousands of seafarers trapped on ships coming into Sydney waters. Chaplain to the Seafarers, Sr Mary Leahy, said donations of shampoo, body wash, toothpaste, deodorant, razors, knitted beanies and chocolates are desperately needed for the thousands of seamen currently stranded on ships on our waterfront due to the Coronavirus. Sr Mary has spent

the past 20 years helping those who earn a living on the seas and said she has never seen conditions so dire.

Donations can be given at the parish office, Tuesday to Friday, 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Thank you.

ROSTERS

ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Prayers against the Spread of Corona Virus

God our Father, we come to you in our need. We ask for your protection against the COVID-19 Corona Virus, that has claimed many lives and has affected many. We pray for your grace for the people tasked with studying the nature and cause of this virus and its disease and of stemming the tide of its transmission. Guide the hands and minds of medical experts that they may minister to the sick with competence and compassion and of those governments and private agencies that must find a cure and a solution to this epidemic. We pray for those afflicted, may they be restored to health soon. Grant us the grace to work for good of all and to help those in need. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your son, who lives and reign with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. AMEN.

Prayer Resources during time of Pandemic

The Archdiocese of Sydney has a dedicated webpage with prayers and scriptural reflections to help nurture your faith during these difficult times. You'll find the webpage here-<u>https://www.sydneycatholic.org/coronavirus-updates/</u> prayer-resources-for-the-coronavirus-pandemic/



"Safeguarding in our Parish It is my responsibility and your responsibility!

To make our Parish a safer place, all volunteers in any Ministry in our Parish are requested to use their PC to register for an online training course at: <u>https://goo.gl/</u> <u>forms/wSkRi3ZO6PzkRfbo1</u> If you have

Safeguarding concerns you wish to raise, you can contact us via the e-mail address:

safeguardingPSSO@olfkingsgrove.org.au John Deacon and Gina Guiffrida, PSSO (Parish Safeguarding Support Officer)

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 <u>safeguarding equiles@sydneycatholic.org</u>. 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.