

FR ALO WRITES...

“Preparing Your Heart for the Lord”

(Mark 1:1-8)

Our primary school children are so busy this week preparing for their Christmas Concert that will be held in the parish church on Wednesday, 10th December 2014. Each class has been taken by a teacher to the church at different times for practices and rehearsals. The kids are so **excited**. The teachers also might be wondering whether their children would perform well or not. While preparing for the concert, the school doesn't forget to prepare the kids spiritually as well. Reconciliation has been done for some classes. I assume also that everyone has passion to prepare for this event in various ways. I suppose the parents and relatives will be invited to watch this concert.

Imagining the school children inviting their parents and relatives to the concert with **great enthusiasm**, we may focus our eyes on John the Baptist whose life was fueled by one **burning passion** - to point others to Jesus Christ and to the coming of his kingdom. Who is John the Baptist and what is the significance of his message for our lives? Scripture tells us that John *was filled with the Holy Spirit even from his mother's womb* (Luke 1:15, 41) by Christ himself, whom Mary had just conceived by the Holy Spirit. When Mary visited her cousin Elizabeth, John leapt in her womb as they were filled with the Holy Spirit (Luke 1:41). The fire of the Spirit dwelt in John and made him the forerunner of the coming Messiah. John was led by the Spirit into the wilderness prior to his ministry where he was tested and grew in the word of God.



Jesus tells us that John the Baptist was *more than a prophet* (Luke 7:26). John was the *voice* of the Consoler who is coming (John 1:23; Isaiah 40:1-3). With John the Baptist, the Holy Spirit begins the restoration to the human race of the *"divine likeness"*, prefiguring what would be achieved with and in the Lord Jesus. John's baptism was for repentance - turning away from sin and taking on a new way of life according to God's word. Our baptism in Jesus Christ by water and the Spirit results in a new birth and entry into God's kingdom as his beloved sons and daughters (John 3:5). Jesus is ready to give us the fire of his Spirit that we may radiate the joy and truth of the gospel to a world in desperate need of God's light and truth. We may also go forth to our own world of Kensington and surrounding to proclaim "Christmas" – the Lord's coming. Preparation done by the Liturgy Committee and some other committees should be focusing also on preparing parishioner's hearts for Christ. Last year the Interim Leadership Committee had produced a "Christmas Flyer" which was distributed in Kingsford Area. We may be like John the Baptist **full of spirit** proclaiming and introducing Christ to people by distributing the flyer again not only to invite people to attend our Christmas celebrations but also in a way that people's heart are knocked to open for Christ to come.



THIS WEEK

SATURDAY 6 DEC

6:00pm Mass

SUNDAY 7 DEC

9:30am Mass + Kids Church, Morning Tea
11:00am Baptisms
3:30pm Indonesian Mass
6:00pm Mass + Kids Church

MONDAY 8 DEC

9:00am Mass
9:30am Reconciliation

WEDNESDAY 10 DEC

9:00am Mass

FRIDAY 12 DEC

9:00am Year 6 Graduation Mass

SATURDAY 13 DEC

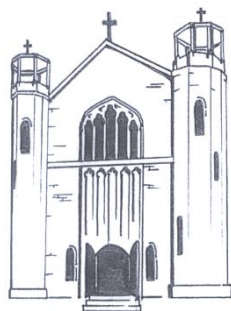
6:00pm Mass

SUNDAY 14 DEC

9:30am Mass + Kids Church, Morning Tea
3:30pm Indonesian Mass
6:00pm Mass + Kids Church

ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH?

Welcome! Let us know how we can support you in your faith journey. Please introduce yourself to the parish priest and/or one of the hospitality team at morning tea.



PARISH DIRECTORY

4 Roma Ave Kensington NSW 2033
 T: 9663 1070
 F: 9313 6348
 E: kensoparish@pacific.net.au
 W: <http://olrkensington.org.au>

PARISH PRIEST
Fr Aloysius Lamere msc

PARISH SECRETARY
 Maria Caetano (Mon-Fri, 9am-1pm)

MASS TIMES
 Sat - 6pm (Vigil)
 Sun - 9:30am (Family), 6pm
 Mon, Wed, Fri - 9am
 Indonesian Mass Sun - 3:30pm
 French Mass Third Sun - 11am

RECONCILIATION
 Mon 9:30am or by appointment

HOLY HOUR + RECONCILIATION
 Thursday before 1st Friday - 7:00pm

INDONESIAN COMMUNITY
 Fr Aloysius Tamnge msc – 0426 042 624

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

RESPONSES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON
 O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

FIRST READING
 Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11

RESPONSORIAL PSALM
 Lord, let us see your kindness and grant us your salvation.

SECOND READING
 St Peter 3:8-14

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

GOSPEL
 Mark 1: 1-8

COMMUNION ANTIPHON
 Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

OREMUS

Let us Pray

SICK
 Paul Liew, Vivien Christie, Margaret Carrick (Bowral), Lucienne Radzyminski, Miriam McKoy, Fr Roger Duggan msc, Neville Dunn, Mr MacKenzie, Fr Chris Murphy msc, Pam (Rose's friend), Derek Chick, Tony (Dulwich Hill), Br James Maher msc, Francesco Alessi, Fr Peter Robinson msc, Lucia Simeone, Assunta Ciaglia, Natalina Beghetto, Frank Zakrzewski, Llewellyn Samuel, Antonio Laquian, Joe Di Blasio, Rina Vecchief, Betty Mansfield, Anton's mum, Nella Custorella, Marie LaBrooy, Patty Ingram, Dee Piper, Rosaria Ciaglia, Frank George, Colleen Corcoran, Zanita Banzon, Angela Breen Ortega

BELOVED DECEASED
 Lindawati Alie, Phillip Hughes, Michael David Moyle

ANNIVERSARIES
 Fr Frank Fletcher msc (29/11), Fr Bede Mooney msc (17/11)

ROSTERS

DEC 6/7	SAT 6PM	SUN 9:30AM	SUN 6PM
Acolyte	George Bedirian	Roel Castillo	Terry Gormley
Readers	James Lynch Judith Lynch	Stephen Chiew Nani Widarto	Tony King Wil Thorp
E. Ministers	Jan Nicholas John Ryan	Stephen Gatt Francine Pirola Henny Ramali Sheila McAndrew Mary Martin Barbara Hitchcox	Lyn King Francine Pirola
KidsChurch	9:30am – Aubrey & Holly Curley 6:00pm – Mark and Fiona O'Farrell		
Counting	Terry & Val Gormley, Ratna Santoso, Rob Payten		
Comm to Sick	Sheila McAndrew, Mary Martin		
DEC 13/14	SAT 6PM	SUN 9:30AM	SUN 6PM
Acolyte	Dennis Fenech	Gun Alimhamzah	Fred Luca
Readers	Sr Helen Hearne Vacancy	Toni McGuinness Kelsey McGuinness	Selvi Ung Ben Keneally
E. Ministers	Alice Mouco John Dorahy	Roel Castillo Brigid Siely Trish Veness Hartono Ong Nani Widarto Dewi Suryani	Kristina Keneally Diana Woon
KidsChurch	9:30am – 6:00pm – Francine & Marcus Pirola		
Counting	Johannes Tantohardjono, Bob Brenac, Giovanna Ziccardi		
Comm to Sick	Thomas Chia, Grace Pandiangan		

YOUTH

Big KidsChurch

Join the team and lead the 9:30am Mass every fourth Sunday. Ages 10-15.
Contact: Ana Corpuz – 0416 166 149.

KidsChurch Catechists

We are delighted to see some parent/teenager teams join our KidsChurch catechists. Welcome to all our newcomers. We still have a few places available for the KidsChurch team, especially for Sunday evenings. For information, contact Francine 0433 451 433 or francine@marriagerc.org.

Looking to get more out of your summer?**Why not come along to the annual
iWitness Conference – Dec 11th – 14th!**

As the year draws to close, hundreds of young Catholics come together for a weekend of fun, relaxation and enrichment – all while soaking up by the sun by the beautiful Collaroy beach! There's talks, perpetual adoration, a range of outdoor activities and hundreds of joyful, exuberant young adults. Be inspired. Be challenged. Go to www.lifetothefull.com.au for more details and to register!

**YOUTH SUMMER SCHOOLS OF EVANGELISATION 2015****A Great Summer Retreat!**

What are you doing this summer? A week long retreat for young people wanting to grow in faith and share the Christian challenge with others. Theme: "Let Your Light Shine" 1 Peter 3:18. Includes lectures and seminars, prayer, music, loads of fun and new friends. Two locations in NSW – Bathurst and Paterson (11-18 January 2015). Run by the Disciples of Jesus Community for over 25 years. For ages 16-35. For more information see www.summerschool.org.au.

MARRIAGE & FAMILY

**Do you have a passion for sharing your faith with
the younger generation?**

Plans are in place to launch a youth group in 2015 for Yrs 7-10 (age 12-16). We're looking to recruit some adult leaders who would be willing to join a team to support the group which will get underway in late February. We need parents (especially fathers) and young adult mentors to be part of our adult support team with a variety of different skills including organisation/administration, hospitality, music, good listening, sporty etc. Can you do one of these things really well? Do you have children in this age bracket?

We're looking for expressions of interest in supporting this dynamic initiative. Contact Francine Pirola 0433 451 433 or the parish office and leave your contact details. Information Evening: Thursday Feb 5, 8pm.

PARISH CHAT.....

Holy Hour**First Thursday Vigil (7pm)**

This Hour of Grace and Mercy is a time to encounter the healing presence of Jesus and refresh your soul. Reconciliation is also available during Adoration.

MORNING TEA

Fr Alo and all of us wish to express our thanks and appreciation to all those who provided the morning tea after 9.30am Mass each Sunday. Their generosity and commitment has been outstanding.

There will be no Morning Tea served on 28th December because of holidays. For 2015 we would like some additional volunteers to help when Domenico and Myrna are overseas for an extended period. Please call Margaret 9313 8334 if you can help.

Anointing Mass

We will celebrate the Sacrament of Anointing of the sick on **Friday 19th December at 10:30am**. Mass will be followed by morning tea.



Everyone is welcome to attend.

Those requiring transport, please contact the parish office or Jan 0407 218 072.

Vinnies Xmas gift donations

The parish Vinnies Conference is preparing for the annual delivery of hampers to needy families. We are grateful for the support parishioners give us. Donations of appropriate festive food for hampers and toys/gifts for children would be very much appreciated. Gifts can be left in the boxes at the back of the Church. We desperately need gifts for boys and girls between 7-11 and 12-16. Please don't wrap gifts, as the volunteers need to know what each gift is. Thanks!

**Vinnies Xmas cards and
Columban Calendars**

Vinnies Xmas cards and Columban Calendars are on sale at the back of the church from this weekend. Packs of 10 cards - \$6 and 2015 Columban calendars - \$9 each.

WE'RE CELEBRATING...

6 December - Fr Alo's 22nd Anniversary

7 December - Baptisms

Gabriel Alexander Latumaliemna
Joshua Sutanto
Kyla Elizabeth Haryanto

NOTICES

HOME MANAGEMENT DIPLOMA

Kenvale College's one year Home Management Diploma Course assists women in professionally managing households, fostering family and community connections. Based on Catholic ideals, it offers a range of theoretical and practical modules, from home maintenance, de-cluttering and entertaining through to finance and time management – helping people achieve work-life balance.
Contact: **Nina Ovalle** at ovallex@kenvale.edu.au , 9314 6213
www.kenvale.edu.au/home-traditions

De La Salle Brothers Kensington – Cook Required

Cook required Mon-Fri. Midday meal for 10 people. Modern kitchen and facilities. Experience an advantage. Occasional domestic work also a possibility. Award salary. Permanent part-time. Contact: Gary Wilson on 8344 4100.

JOKE CORNER

"It Happened in Europe"

It was a cold and misty Christmas morning in the very depth of winter after a heavy fall of snow and only one farmer and the minister managed to arrive at the church for the morning service. 'Well' said the clergyman 'I guess there's no point in having a service today.' "Well that's not how I see it", said the farmer. "If only one cow turns up at feeding time, I still feed it".

Second Advent Candle

(Re-light the first candle before continuing)



Prayer:

God of the prophets: in the wilderness of Jordan you sent a messenger to prepare people's hearts for the coming of your son. Help us to hear the good news, to be truly sorry for our sins, and to be ready to welcome the Lord, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Lighting the second candle:

We light this candle to remind us of how the way was prepared for Jesus' coming. We hope that as the Advent light increases, our own readiness may also increase.

Prayer:

Christ Jesus, no one is a stranger to you. You prayed, but you also understood those who never prayed. You never hurt anyone, but you weren't ashamed to be crucified with common thieves. You make God known to us, and you make us known to God. You can make the darkness and the despair of our lives shine like day. You are the light of the world, the dawning of a new day. Live within us, we pray. Amen.

Carols in the Chapel

All are invited to OLSH Convent - 2 Kensington Road Kensington to join us in carol singing as we prepare for Christmas.
Friday 5th December, 7.30pm.

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL – LIGHTS OF CHRISTMAS 2014

The unique and spectacular Lights of Christmas at St Mary's Cathedral will this year be launched on **Tuesday, 09 December** and run through to and including Christmas Day night. Each night there will be music entertainment before the projections begin at 8.30pm and go to midnight. Hosted by the Archdiocese of Sydney the presenting partner this year is PAYCE and the theme is service – giving what we can to our family, friends and the community. Bring your family and friends to Cathedral Square for a free stunning display of laser lights and the true meaning of Christmas.

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE – Friday, 19 December 7.30pm

The Cathedral's spectacular service of readings and Christmas Carols with the renowned St Mary's Cathedral Choir, in the presence of Archbishop Fisher. The evening will consist of a rich selection of traditional Christmas carols, readings and choral music sung by the Cathedral Choir.