

# FR ALO WRITES...

## “Lifted up to Love”

(John 3:14-21)

Our first reading reminds us of the Old Testament prophet’s conviction, to never cease speaking of God’s faithfulness and compassion for those who needed the humility to humble themselves and turn away from sin. Humility is what enables us return to God with repentant hearts, trust, and obedience (2 Chronicles 36:15).

A few years ago, I was made the leader of one of our MSC communities. I saw it as a great opportunity for me to put in place some of the plans I had been conceiving prior to my appointment. I said to myself: *“This is the best time for me to do whatever I wish. No one would question me because I have the authority to judge and act. I can consult other people but I will have the final say.”* Initially, I felt confident and comfortable with this notion of leadership. However, as I started implementing my ideas, I faced a lot of challenges and even disagreements with my own community members. Some of them did not simply strongly oppose my plans, but they also took it to a personal level. They chose to play the person instead of the ball. Undoubtedly this affected our fraternal/communal relationships. During an MSC General Conference in Rio de Janeiro which I attended, I shared my experience of MSC communal leadership with another MSC Provincial Leader from a different country. Responding to my sharing, he said: *“Sometimes we think that when we are in power, we are powerful. But when you are in power you realise that you are powerless. And being powerless is our strength”*. Those words reminded me of St. Paul’s teaching on Jesus’ crucifixion: *“... [the cross of Jesus] to Jews a stumbling block and Gentiles foolishness, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, is the power and wisdom of God”* (1 Corinthians 1:23-24).

How do we understand the healing power of Christ’s redeeming love and victory which he won for us on the cross? My experience of leadership was an affirmation of the true meaning of the power of Jesus’ cross. Changing from being “possessive of power” to “humility” was not easy. However, because of my new understanding of the power and humility of the cross, I was very determined to change, and gradually I was able to. Jesus’ passion models for us, a leadership that is not harsh and commanding but one that is loving and redeeming.

Traditionally when Kings begun their reign, they were literally “lifted up” and enthroned above the people. A symbol of authority and supremacy, this kind of power was for governing and ruling other people. In today’s gospel, Jesus explains that the Son of Man must be “lifted up” (crucified) to show the power and authority of God’s reign. Contrary to the earthly kingdoms, this power embodied a leadership of love and service. God proved his love for us by giving us the best he had to offer - his only begotten Son. And Jesus freely gave of himself as an offering to God for our sake and as an atoning sacrifice for our sin and the sin of the world (John 3:16). And Jesus was lifted up to draw everyone to himself (*“And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto Me.”* John 12:32). In many ways, we have authority over our “little kingdoms”. Today, I pray for the grace that God will help us exercise our authority with service and love. For “lifted up”, the greatest virtue that Christ embodied for us is LOVE!



### THIS WEEK

**SATURDAY 14 MAR**

6:00pm Mass

**SUNDAY 15 MAR**

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

**MONDAY 16 MAR**

9:00am Mass  
9:30am Reconciliation

**WEDNESDAY 18 MAR**

9:00am Mass

**FRIDAY 20 MAR**

9:00am Mass

**SATURDAY 21 MAR**

6:00pm Mass

**SUNDAY 22 MAR**

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.*

### SIGN UP!

*Get the OLR eNews in your inbox each Friday afternoon.*

Visit [www.olrkensington.org.au](http://www.olrkensington.org.au)



# PARISH DIRECTORY

4 Roma Ave Kensington NSW 2033  
**T: 9663 1070**  
 F: 9313 6348  
 E: [kensoparish@pacific.net.au](mailto:kensoparish@pacific.net.au)  
 W: <http://olkensington.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 1<sup>st</sup> 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

**JUSTICE OF THE PEACE**  
 Roy Rigotti - 9313 8334, is a JP and is happy to sign documents as required.

## RESPONSES

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**  
 Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

**FIRST READING**  
 Chronicles 36: 14-16, 19-23

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**  
 Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

**SECOND READING**  
 Ephesians 2:4-10

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**  
 Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

**GOSPEL**  
 John 3: 14-21

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**  
 Jerusalem is built as a city bonded as one together. It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, to praise the name of the Lord.

## OREMUS

*Let us Pray*

**SICK**  
 Leo O’Sullivan, Min Keating, Tonia Pastorelli, Manuel Mouco, Baby Alessio, Ashika Nandan, Vivien Christie, Lucienne Radzysinski, Fr Roger Duggan msc, Neville Dunn, Fr Chris Murphy msc, Derek Chick, Tony (Dulwich Hill), Br James Maher msc, Francesco Alessi, Lucia Simeone, Fr Peter Robinson msc, Assunta Ciaglia, Natalina Beghetto, Frank Zakrzewski, Llewellyn Samuel, Antonio Laquian, Joe Di Blasio, Rina Vecchief, Anton’s mum, Nella Custorella, Marie LaBrooy, Patty Ingram, Dee Piper, Rosaria Ciaglia, Frank George, Colleen Corcoran, Zanita Banzon, Angela Breen Ortega

### BELOVED DECEASED

### ANNIVERSARIES

## ROSTERS

MAR 14/15	SAT 6PM	SUN 9:30AM	SUN 6PM
Acolyte	Dennis Fenech	Roel Castillo	George Bedirian
Readers	Thelma Slunsky Cathy Shiner	Toni McGuinness Kelsey McGuinness	Marissa Meyn Ben Keneally
E. Ministers	Dewi Suryani Judith Lynch	Henny Ramali Nani Widarto Margaret Rigotti Roy Rigotti Thomas Chia Briant Koh	Kristina Keneally Diana Woon
KidsChurch	9:30am – Melissa Rossato 6:00pm – Erin & Harriet Beavis		
Counting	Johannes Tantoharjono, Bob Brenac, Giovanna Ziccardi		
Comm to Sick	Margaret Rigotti, Thomas Chia		
MAR 21/22	SAT 6PM	SUN 9:30AM	SUN 6PM
Acolyte	John Allen	Handojo Widjaja	Fred Luca
Readers	Agnes Irhia Sr Helen Hearne	Big Kids Church Big Kids Church	Nicholas Black Virginia Black
E. Ministers	John Ryan John Dorahy	Grace Pandiangan Sheila McAndrew Barbara Hitchcox Amelia Iovanella Stephen Gatt Hartono Ong	Lyn King Francine Pirola
KidsChurch	9:30am – Christina Halim 6:00pm –		
Counting	James Lynch, John Sparke, Helen Liew		
Comm to Sick	Grace Pandiangan, Sheila McAndrew		

**CHILDREN'S SACRAMENT PROGRAM 2015**

Registration is now open for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation (Yr 2, September 2 & 3), First Communion (Yr 3, Oct 11, 17 & 25) and Confirmation (Yr 6, Aug 5). Please visit the parish website for information on the preparation courses and to enroll your child. [www.olrkensington.org.au](http://www.olrkensington.org.au)

**AFTERNOON FOR COUPLES HOPING TO CONCEIVE**

Married couples (Catholic or otherwise) who are hoping for children, struggling to conceive, or who wish to better understand what the Church offers and promotes in regards fertility awareness and assistance are invited to an afternoon of information and discussion. It is also an important opportunity for fellowship with other couples facing similar difficulties. WHERE: Catholic Adult Education Centre, 3 Keating Street Lidcombe. WHEN: **Saturday 28 March 2015**, 2:00pm-5:00pm Please direct RSVPs and inquiries to [lifemarriagefamily@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:lifemarriagefamily@sydneycatholic.org) or phone (02) 9307 8403.

**DAY OF THE UNBORN CHILD – SUNDAY, 22 MARCH**

All are warmly invited to attend the celebration of the **Day of the Unborn Child** on Sunday, 22 March, beginning with 10.30 am Mass at St Mary’s Cathedral, Sydney. Following the Angelus at 12 noon, a procession will be led through the CBD by the His Grace Archbishop Anthony Fisher. Celebrated in many countries on the Sunday closest to the Feast of the Annunciation, the Day of the Unborn Child is a wonderful opportunity to pray for the unborn and for a greater cherishing of the beauty and preciousness of human life. Further information available at [www.fli.org.au](http://www.fli.org.au) or telephone 9519 9111.

**THE BENEDICT XVI RETREAT CENTRE**

The **Benedict XVI Retreat Centre** now offers a series of fun, innovative facilitated activity programs to complement and enrich any group retreat. Whether you are looking for adventure, team building, opportunities for reflection or simply to have fun with your group, our specially trained facilitators can tailor a program to meet your needs and budget. Activities include flying fox, archery, bushwalking, leadership challenge, communications challenge, camp craft, environmental programs and more. Contact Danielle Puhlmann on (02) 4572 2899 / email [danielle.puhlmann@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:danielle.puhlmann@sydneycatholic.org) to find out more or visit [www.benedictxvicentre.org.au](http://www.benedictxvicentre.org.au).

**HOUR OF GRACE & MERCY**

Thursday (First Friday Vigil) | 7-8pm  
Reconciliation available.

**SICK/HOUSEBOUND PARISHIONERS**

If you have a neighbour, or know any parishioner who is sick or housebound and would like Communion taken to them in their home, would like transport to and from Mass, or would like a visit from a Parish member please contact Maria at the Parish House 9663 1070.

**CHOCOLATE PASCHAL LAMBS**



**\$10 each or 6 for \$50**  
Made from Cadbury chocolate  
(White and Milk)

Funds raised will go towards new KidsChurch supplies and youth ministry.

Available for sale after Sunday Mass.



**Fourth Sunday of Lent**

**PROJECT COMPASSION**



In Nepal, many farmers in rural communities struggle to grow enough food to feed their families. However, a highly successful fish raising program has changed life for one Nepalese community. Mother of three, Sarita, could barely grow enough food for her family on her tiny farm plot. In 2007, she joined a program, run by Caritas Nepal, that gave a community group the training and support they needed to start a fish-raising business. Thanks to their hard work, Sarita and the group now have a thriving enterprise and a life-long source of food and income.

**Please donate to Project Compassion 2015 and help people in rural Nepal create a life-long source of food and income to benefit entire communities.**

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.

**ADULT EDUCATION - IMPROVE YOUR ENGLISH**

Brother Greg McCann msc has been teaching English overseas for ten (15) years. He is now retired and is available to teach English from beginners level to advanced level. His wide experience as an IELTS examiner also allows him to teach IELTS here in the Eastern suburbs to help people improve their IELTS score and to enhance their opportunities for employment and/ or further study. He may be contacted on Mob: 0410 866 043 or at Sacred Heart Monastery, 1 Roma Ave., Kensington.

# WE'RE CELEBRATING...

## NOTICES

### SENIORS MASS AT ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL 19 MARCH 2015, 10.30AM

You are invited to attend the Seniors Mass celebrated by Fr. Geoffrey Plant with concelebrant Fr. Paul Hilder Dean of St Mary's Cathedral. This Mass is supported by Life Ascending Australia and concentrates on Spirituality, Friendship and Loving Service for senior or retired people. Everyone Welcome! For more information telephone: **Roy Cooke 9771 3609.**

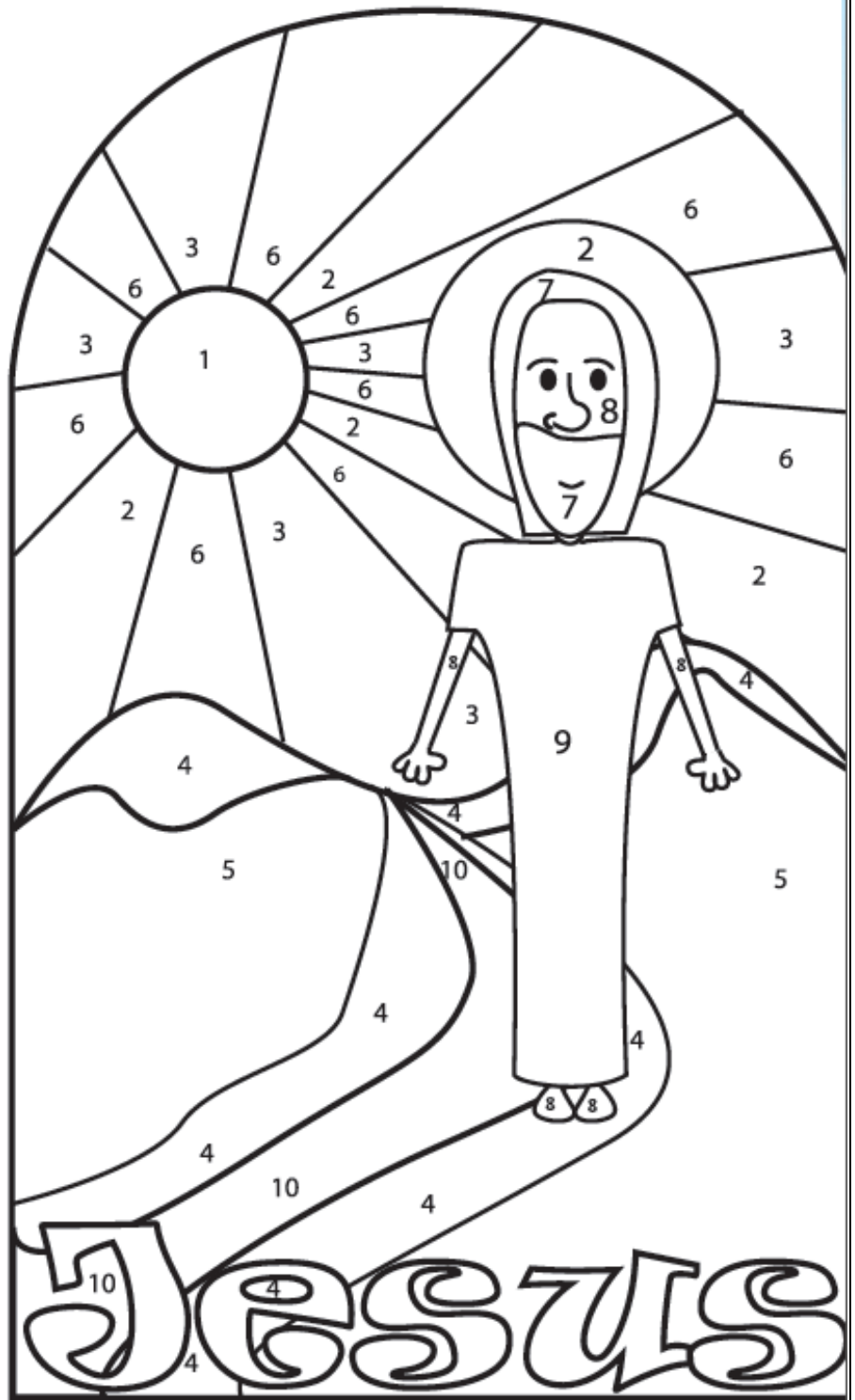
### LITTLE COMPANY OF MARY SPIRITUALITY AND VOCATIONS MINISTRY OFFICER

This is a part-time position assisting the Spirituality and Vocations Ministry Director in presenting the Little Company of Mary charism. This ministry seeks to support those on their spiritual journey, including discerning a vocation. This role includes the development of resources, workshops and programs. Please contact Sheila Scott [sscott@lcm.org.au](mailto:sscott@lcm.org.au) for a position description. **Applications close on 22 March 2015.**

## JOKE CORNER

### GIVING UP DURING LENT

A Catholic man walked into a restaurant on the first Friday of Lent. He ordered the fish plate. After the meals finished, he paid the bills, but left no tip. He repeated this every Friday during Lent at the same restaurant. On the last Friday of Lent, the waitress finally asked the man: "Excuse me sir. You have been eating here every Friday, and not once did you leave me a tip. Didn't I provide good service to you?" The man replied: "The service you provided was excellent, but because it is Lent, I have to give up something. So, I decided to give up tipping".



Colour By Number: Use the Key below to colour in the stained glass window of Jesus

- |               |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1= Red        | 5= Dark Green | 9= White      |
| 2= Yellow     | 6= Light Blue | 10= Dark Blue |
| 3= Orange     | 7= Brown      |               |
| 4= Lime Green | 8= Pale Pink  |               |