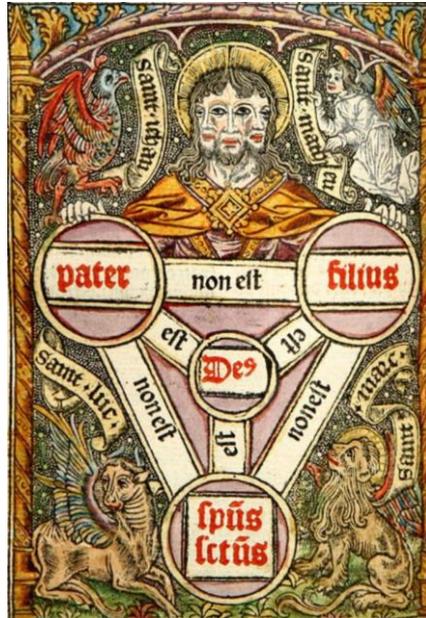


**NEWSLETTER OF THE PARISHES OF BALMAIN AND ROZELLE,  
ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY  
THE MOST HOLY TRINITY**

(YEAR B) 30 May 2021



**FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR**

Dear Parishioners,

Our **Parishes' Confirmations** were held at Rozelle and Balmain yesterday and were happy occasions. Many thanks to Bishop Terry Brady for administering this Sacrament to our young people and to those who helped make the celebration on the day so memorable, including the making of the sashes and the provision of music.

**The Family Mass** last Sunday evening at Balmain was attended by almost 200 people, many of whom stayed on for the supper in the Hall afterwards for some delicious food prepared by students from FJT School as part of their Pope Francis activities. Thank you so much for this contribution to the life of our school and parishes. The **next Family Mass** will be on Sunday 15 August. More details later.

Next weekend, the **St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal** is to be held. There will be speakers at each of the weekend Masses in both parishes. Your interest and support are greatly appreciated.

**Easter House Blessings:** I am pleased to report that quite a number of parishioners have had their houses blessed during Eastertide. This is a very old Catholic tradition. The house blessing may be given annually. The other time for house blessings is during the octave of the Epiphany (6 January).

**A mislaid Bible:** A well-thumbed black leather-bound King James Bible was found last week in St Augustine's and is being held at the Parish Office for collection by its rightful owner.

**The Benedictine Community at Colebrook in Tasmania**, where I recently spent a week, publishes a regular newsletter *Ab Austro* (meaning, "From the South"). Copies of the two latest issues may be taken from one of the tables at the entrances to the churches.

**Special intentions and Mass stipends:** Fr Gregory and I frequently receive envelopes asking for prayers for particular people and intentions at Mass. Sometimes, we do not know whether the prayers are being asked for the living or the dead and we have no way of knowing who has asked for the prayers, so as to follow up. *There are Mass intention envelopes at the entrances to both churches.* It would really help if all the details were filled in and the envelope given to a priest or left at the Parish Office. If you want a Mass said on a particular day for your intention, it is best to give reasonable notice. In accordance with canon law, a record is kept of the intentions received, the date it is received, the name of the donor, and the day the intention is carried (and in which church).

**Readers Roster:** We now have a cohort of readers at St Augustine's and the roster is being ably managed by Angela Mills. The names of the readers at Balmain will be published in the Bulletin hereon – both for the actual weekend of publication and for the following week.

**Altar Guild or Guilds:** We do not have any formal arrangements at either church for the provision of flowers for the altars. Things seem to be fairly in hand at Rozelle but I am wondering whether we should not formalize the responsibilities at Balmain by constituting a group or a guild. It would be nice to mark some of the greater feasts appropriately with flowers. If parishioners wished to donate flowers – perhaps in memory of a departed loved one – this could be noted in the Bulletin. Even just some greenery could add to the atmosphere. Both churches have plenty of vases and plenty of space to be decorated. I look forward to some expressions of interest.

Fr Richard Waddell  
*Parish Administrator*

**Parish Music Program:**

30 May: 3pm St Joseph's

Opus Now explores the works of Hayden, Beethoven & Shostakovich.

Bookings via <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/opus-now-presents-gerard-willems-harry-ward-and-chris-pidcock-tickets-154786902793>

11 June: St Joseph's

Opus Now concert - details TBA

**FORTHCOMING BAPTISM**

Oliver Cameron HOLLAND on Sunday 25 July at 12 noon

## READERS AT BALMAIN

### THIS WEEK 29/30.V.21

5pm - Michael Kennedy

9am - Greg Stewart

6pm - Faye Fitzgibbon

### NEXT WEEK 5/6.VI.21

5pm - Caroline Panounis

9am - Liz Adcock

6pm - Angela Mills

## SUNDAY MASSES

**Balmain:** Vigil Mass on Saturday at 5pm; Sunday at 9am and 6pm.

**Rozelle:** Sunday at 10.30am.

## DAILY MASSES THIS WEEK

(Monday: *The Visitation of the BVM*; Tuesday: *St Justin*; Thursday: *St Charles Lwanga and Companions*; Saturday: *St Boniface*.)

**Balmain:** Monday to Friday at 7.30 am and Saturday at 9 am (Tridentine Mass on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month). **Rozelle:** Wednesday 7. 30 am.

## EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION ON THE FIRST FRIDAY

After the 7.30am Mass at Balmain.

## CONFESSIONS

**Balmain:** On Saturday after the morning Mass and 4.15 to 4.45pm; after any other Mass; and by appointment.

## Catholic Weekly Pulpit Points 30 May 2021

- I shouldn't even be here
- Want to kill mum? It's how you feel ...
- A very dangerous lady
- Study backs parental key role
- Movie review: Those Who Wish Me Dead
- New lease of life for Catholic women

## PARISH INTERCESSIONS

*We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers (1 Thess 1: 2)*

**For the sick and those in old age:** Martha Lucia Gomez, Jaime Aponte, Roger Parsons, John, Bruce Fernandez, Patricia Webster, Anna Pasqua, Christine Forner, Jenni McEntee, Martha Lucia Gomez, Sylvia Gallagher, Shirley Lowe, Margo Buckingham, Karen, Ann Diver, Ray, Brenda Atkinson, Vincent Erskin, Marcella Holsten, Keith Yates, Pina Borg, Beverley Kerin, Vincent, Catherine and Eric Erskine, Nela and Brian Blakemore, Joan Leonard, Marie Meyrick, Mary Ferguson, Tony Carbon. Rosemarie Longworth, John Blunt, Lyn Wilson, Brent Egan, Paul Joseph Clark.

**For the faithful departed – those recently deceased:** Red O'Connor (06.02.21), Millie Leung (22.02.21), Veronica Jardin (27.02.21), Wendy Wheatley, Harry Fullerton, and Charlie Veech, Millie Leung, Pat Britton, Mary Haylen (23.04.21), and Carmelo Battaglia (30.04.21).

**As well as for:** Joyce Josephine & Bertie Joseph Clark, André, Michel & Ginette Comolle, Mary Anne, Anthony & Hugh Mulligan, John & Jackie Lowe, Mable & Catherine Miles, Vicky Pisani, Ron Bovey, Peter Modellino Charlie Camilleri, Martin Camilleri, Violet & Emanuel Camilleri,

Winifred & David Preece, Hazel & Bernie Olson, Maria Roach, Sr Marie McMahon, Doris Falzon, Rita Agius, Kate Kenna, Antoinetta Scalone and deceased members of Manuli, Nitopi & Scalone families, Bertie Joseph & Joyce Josephine Clark, Charlie, Teresa, Rose & Lawrence Borg, Sydney, Edna & Cecilia Edmonds, Anthony & Ron Barnes, William, Irene & Gertrude Briggs, Kathleen & Maxwell Harris, Bill Gallagher, Gary Dollar, Susan Hanchard, Mollie Monan, Joyce Shiner, John Bransby, Sr Mary Constable, Sr Marie McMahon, Marcia Cadiz McIlvenna, Mary Houghton.  
*Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis. Requiescant in pace. Amen.*

## **RECEIVING COMMUNION**

In receiving Communion, it is not sufficient to perform a soulless, external action. There must be an interior movement of our will which takes us out of ourselves, at least in desire. We are familiar with the fact that Christ 'comes to us' in Communion, but we forget the far more important aspect of this great mystery: in order for him to come to us, we must 'come to him'. We must allow ourselves 'to be drawn to him' by the Father. That is to say, in our Communion we must try to be conscious that we are *yielding ourselves to the divine action* which draws us into the mystery of Christ...We are not sufficiently conscious of this aspect of our Communion. We think of them perhaps as ritual acts of devotion with which we seek to please God, to offer him homage and gain merit for our souls. These things are true indeed. But let us look deeper, and we will discover that we are face to face with the mystery of God's love for our souls – we are confronted by our own ineffable and mysterious personal vocation to become 'other Christs' – we face the fact that this Communion is a sign that *we belong to God*, that we are *his possession*, his chosen ones, and for that reason he comes to us and gives himself to *us* as our possession. We also think far too little of the fact that in Communion we are freely uniting ourselves with the supreme designs of God's will for ourselves, committing ourselves in the highest and most perfect sense to his all-wise Providence, and carrying out the purposes of his love more fully than could be possible in any other way. We are not only performing a supremely pure act of adoration of the divine Being, but much more entering into the plan of God's will to "re-establish all things in Christ" – Merton, *The Living Bread*.

Apostolic Exhortation *Gaudete et exultate* of the Holy Father Francis on the call to holiness in today's world (continued)

## **CHAPTER FOUR**

### **SIGNS OF HOLINESS IN TODAY'S WORLD**

#### **BOLDNESS AND PASSION**

129. Holiness is also *parrhesía*: it is boldness, an impulse to evangelize and to leave a mark in this world. To allow us to do this, Jesus himself comes and tells us once more, serenely yet firmly: "Do not be afraid" (*Mk* 6:50). "I am with you always, to the end of

the world" (*Mt* 28:20). These words enable us to go forth and serve with the same courage that the Holy Spirit stirred up in the Apostles, impelling them to proclaim Jesus Christ. Boldness, enthusiasm, the freedom to speak out, apostolic fervour, all these are included in the word *parrhesía*. The Bible also uses this word to describe the freedom of a life open to God and to others (cf. *Acts* 4:29, 9:28, 28:31; *2 Cor* 3:12; *Eph* 3:12; *Heb* 3:6, 10:19).

130. Blessed **Paul VI**, in referring to obstacles to evangelization, spoke of a lack of fervour (*parrhesía*) that is "all the more serious because it comes from within".<sup>[103]</sup> How often we are tempted to keep close to the shore! Yet the Lord calls us to put out into the deep and let down our nets (cf. *Lk* 5:4). He bids us spend our lives in his service. Clinging to him, we are inspired to put all our charisms at the service of others. May we always feel compelled by his love (*2 Cor* 5:14) and say with Saint Paul: "Woe to me if I do not preach the Gospel" (*1 Cor* 9:16).

131. Look at Jesus. His deep compassion reached out to others. It did not make him hesitant, timid or self-conscious, as often happens with us. Quite the opposite. His compassion made him go out actively to preach and to send others on a mission of healing and liberation. Let us acknowledge our weakness, but allow Jesus to lay hold of it and send us too on mission. We are weak, yet we hold a treasure that can enlarge us and make those who receive it better and happier. Boldness and apostolic courage are an essential part of mission.

132. *Parrhesía* is a seal of the Spirit; it testifies to the authenticity of our preaching. It is a joyful assurance that leads us to glory in the Gospel we proclaim. It is an unshakeable trust in the faithful Witness who gives us the certainty that nothing can "separate us from the love of God" (*Rom* 8:39).

133. We need the Spirit's prompting, lest we be paralyzed by fear and excessive caution, lest we grow used to keeping within safe bounds. Let us remember that closed spaces grow musty and unhealthy. When the Apostles were tempted to let themselves be crippled by danger and threats, they joined in prayer to implore *parrhesía*: "And now, Lord, look upon their threats, and grant to your servants to speak your word with all boldness" (*Acts* 4:29). As a result, "when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God with boldness" (*Acts* 4:31).

134. Like the prophet Jonah, we are constantly tempted to flee to a safe haven. It can have many names: individualism, spiritualism, living in a little world, addiction, intransigence, the rejection of new ideas and approaches, dogmatism, nostalgia, pessimism, hiding behind rules and regulations. We can resist leaving behind a familiar and easy way of doing things. Yet the challenges involved can be like the storm, the whale, the worm that dried the gourd plant, or the wind and sun that burned Jonah's head. For us, as for him, they can serve to bring us back to the God of tenderness, who invites us to set out ever anew on our journey.

135. God is eternal newness. He impels us constantly to set out anew, to pass beyond what is familiar, to the fringes and beyond. He takes us to where humanity is most wounded, where men and women, beneath the appearance of a shallow conformity, continue to seek an answer to the question of life's meaning. God is not afraid! He is

fearless! He is always greater than our plans and schemes. Unafraid of the fringes, he himself became a fringe (cf. *Phil* 2:6-8; *Jn* 1:14). So if we dare to go to the fringes, we will find him there; indeed, he is already there. Jesus is already there, in the hearts of our brothers and sisters, in their wounded flesh, in their troubles and in their profound desolation. He is already there.

136. True enough, we need to open the door of our hearts to Jesus, who stands and knocks (cf. *Rev* 3:20). Sometimes I wonder, though, if perhaps Jesus is already inside us and knocking on the door for us to let him escape from our stale self-centredness. In the Gospel, we see how Jesus "went through the cities and villages, preaching and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God" (*Lk* 8:1). After the resurrection, when the disciples went forth in all directions, the Lord accompanied them (cf. *Mk* 16:20). This is what happens as the result of true encounter.

137. Complacency is seductive; it tells us that there is no point in trying to change things, that there is nothing we can do, because this is the way things have always been and yet we always manage to survive. By force of habit we no longer stand up to evil. We "let things be", or as others have decided they ought to be. Yet let us allow the Lord to rouse us from our torpor, to free us from our inertia. Let us rethink our usual way of doing things; let us open our eyes and ears, and above all our hearts, so as not to be complacent about things as they are, but unsettled by the living and effective word of the risen Lord.

138. We are inspired to act by the example of all those priests, religious, and laity who devote themselves to proclamation and to serving others with great fidelity, often at the risk of their lives and certainly at the cost of their comfort. Their testimony reminds us that, more than bureaucrats and functionaries, the Church needs passionate missionaries, enthusiastic about sharing true life. The saints surprise us, they confound us, because by their lives they urge us to abandon a dull and dreary mediocrity.

139. Let us ask the Lord for the grace not to hesitate when the Spirit calls us to take a step forward. Let us ask for the apostolic courage to share the Gospel with others and to stop trying to make our Christian life a museum of memories. In every situation, may the Holy Spirit cause us to contemplate history in the light of the risen Jesus. In this way, the Church will not stand still, but constantly welcome the Lord's surprises.

### **ST AUGUSTINE'S & ST JOSEPH'S DETAILS**

St Augustine of Hippo's Church, Eaton Street, Balmain

St Joseph's Church, Cnr Victoria Road and Gordon Street, Rozelle

The Presbytery/Office: 3 Jane Street, Balmain NSW 2041

**Parish Office:** Tuesday to Friday 9am to 3.30pm

**Parish Secretary:** Lorraine Thomy **Ministry Coordinator:** Barbara Howard

**Parish Safeguarding Officers:** David Kelaher 0458 352 257 & Kathleen Curry 0410 877 227

Phone: 61 2 9810 1157 (for both parishes)

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