

CATHOLIC PARISH OF St Brigid's HEALESVILLE, St Aloysius YARRA GLEN & Our Lady of the Snows MARYSVILLE
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ADMINISTRATOR: Fr Francis Denton: email: francis.denton@cam.org.au
PASTOR EMERITUS, Fr John Dupuche (In Pastoral relationship with Healesville & Lilydale)
PASTORAL WORKER: Debbie Edwards 0448 664 731 email: healesville@cam.org.au
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ST BRIGID'S PRIMARY SCHOOL Principal: Vicky Wissell 5962 4200
MOUNT LILYDALE MERCY COLLEGE Principal: Philip Morison 9735 4022

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

St Brigid's, Healesville
Sunday at 8.30 am
Thursday at 9.15 am

St Aloysius', Yarra Glen
Sunday 21st June at 5 pm

Our Lady of the Snows,
Marysville

Next Mass to be advised

OFFICE HOURS

PARISH STAFF ARE
CURRENTLY WORKING
FROM HOME

DEBBIE'S MOBILE NO:
0448 664 731

SHARON'S MOBILE NO:
0448 658 418



SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR
LINKS TO
TELEVISED MASSES
LINK:
<https://bit.ly/StBsHville>

TO BOOK IN TO
ATTEND MASSES
PLEASE PHONE:

0448 664 731

COLLECTIONS

Healesville to 14th June
Church: \$ 204
Presbytery: \$ 45

Marysville 20th February
Collection: \$55

Yarra Glen to 7th June
Collection: \$215
Presbytery: \$115
Op Shop: \$2700

Care Group: \$50
Caritas: \$20



FROM FR FRANCIS DENTON

This Sunday 21st June is the twelfth Sunday of Ordinary Time. It is also the Feast of St Aloysius Gonzaga, and therefore the patronal feast of St Aloysius Church in Yarra Glen. Whilst precedence is ordinarily given to the Sundays, with the Archbishop's permission we will celebrate the patronal feast of St Aloysius, Yarra Glen with a special Mass at 5:00pm.

Aloysius was born in 1568 into the illustrious Mantuan house of Gonzaga. Being born into the Italian nobility, his childhood was short-lived. From infancy Aloysius' parents had settled on a military career for their boy and by the age of five his father was delighted to watch his son leading a battalion of soldiers in formation. His mother was apparently less enthusiastic about the colourful new vocabulary he picked up from the soldiers! As Aloysius grew through boyhood into adolescence he was plagued by ill-health. Against his parents' wishes his thoughts turned increasingly away from military ambition towards another unlikely soldier – St Ignatius of Loyola, the soldier-turned-founder of the Society of Jesus. The stories of the Jesuit missionaries captivated the imagination of the young Aloysius who began to dream of being a Jesuit missionary like St Francis Xavier in India. Despite considerable opposition from his family, Aloysius was determined to become a Jesuit priest. The family hoped they might convince him to a pursue clerical career oriented to some prestigious bishopric, where the family name might be honoured (his cousin was an influential Cardinal, Scipione Gonzaga who could pull strings). In November 1985 Aloysius formally renounced all his rights of inheritance and to the title of Marquis in order to join the Society of Jesus. In 1587 he took vows of poverty, chastity and obedience as a Jesuit novice in Rome under the spiritual direction of St Robert Bellarmine, and began in earnest to prepare for ordination to the priesthood.

In 1591 Rome was struck with an outbreak of plague. The Jesuits were quick to attend to the sick and dying, and in spite of his ongoing poor health, Aloysius insisted against the advice of his superiors in caring for the sick. Such was his insistence that they eventually relented. Aloysius' privileged, aristocratic up-bringing did little to prepare him for the horrific sights, smells and physical labour involved in caring for the plague-ridden sick. Yet he learned to suppress his revulsion and to see Christ in the least of his brethren. He soon contracted the plague and on 21st June 1591 at the tender age of 23 passed into eternal life. St Aloysius never fulfilled his dream of becoming a priest or a missionary, yet

in his short life he ascending to the lofty heights of Christian sanctity and fulfilled his God-given vocation in laying down his life in service: "greater love hath no man than this: than to lay down his life for his friends". Even at his death St Aloysius Gonzaga was revered as a saint, noted for both his charity and purity. He was canonised in 1726 and is honoured as the patron of students, Christian youth, and victims of plague.

To shift gears from 16th century plague to our own pandemic, we have a few updates. As the government sanctioned COVID19 restrictions are gradually lowered the good news is that the places available for Mass attendance will increase. The directives from the Archdiocese state that from Monday 22nd June up to fifty people are permitted in attendance at services at any one time, provided the floor space of the church accommodates four square metres per person. In the case of St Brigid's church that means up to 35 people. While we are still some way from resuming a full return to normality, this is at least a step in the right direction. Although the bishops of Victoria have jointly advised that there is currently no formal obligation for Catholics to attend Mass, it would be hoped that more and more parishioners will seek to resume their regular Mass attendance as the places increase. I certainly look forward to the opportunity in the weeks and months ahead to meet many new parishioners, across the three churches of St Brigid's, St Aloysius and Our Lady of the Snows.

WEEKLY MASSES AT ST BRIGID'S CHURCH

St Brigid's: Sunday 8.30 am and
Thursdays 9.15 am. To book to
attend a Mass please call Debbie: 0448 664 731.

From tomorrow, up to 35 people are permitted to attend each Mass at St Brigid's church. Protocols for sanitising and social distancing will be strictly observed. Bookings must be pre-arranged by phoning Debbie to book for each Mass.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation can be arranged by appointment, and is also available on Saturdays at 10:00am at St Patrick's, Lilydale.

THE FEAST OF ST ALOYSIUS

Today we celebrate the Feast Day of St Aloysius, the Patron Saint of Yarra Glen's church. Mass will be celebrated in St Aloysius church at 5 pm. Please phone Debbie to book in to attend the Mass. At the time of printing, limited places remain.

SOME THOUGHTS FROM DEBBIE

God is love. We hear that expression again and again as we listen to the words of Scripture. Yet if you look around our world, sometimes it is hard to remember that love is at the bottom of all of the fears and trauma that assail our world each day. I have been thinking about Mary and Joseph and the enormous task that God entrusted to them in becoming the nurturing family of Jesus, son of Mary and Son of God. Maybe a little out of season you might think? Christmas is still 6 months away. Everything about Jesus' life is relevant to us every day of the year. No matter what we face today, Jesus and his family worked through our problems and joys before us, 2000 years ago. Mary faced the challenge of what to do with brand new motherhood, just as I did, and she and Joseph were well aware of the pressures of providing for their family, working through the same pressures that parents still experience today. I remember bringing home each of my own 6 children as newborns. Despite being a 'professional parent' by the time my youngest child was born, I remember the nervous doubts that still raised themselves in my mind at times: how could I possibly be a good mother to this beautiful new life? How could I provide him with everything he would need? What if I wasn't up to the task? I remember feeling that I couldn't even organise a decent meal at that point, and I wondered with exasperation, defeated by the enormity of my challenges, how I was ever going to provide my son with everything that he would need to grow to be a well-rounded, loving adult!! No matter how proficient a parent may be, doubts still are part of the process of love. I wanted the absolute, very best for my child. And all I had at my fingertips to achieve my lofty goals was my own fingerprints! Can you imagine holding tiny, newborn Jesus in your arms, knowing, without a doubt, that you are holding the Son of God, as Mary and Joseph did? The angel who announced his presence in their lives had even named him, and told them in no uncertain terms that Jesus would change the world. And as they held him, helpless, beautiful, as all babies are beautiful, the miracle of miracles, they knew the full weight of the responsibility that they faced. Tiny Jesus relied upon Mary and Joseph for everything that he needed, for food, for warmth, for safety, for love. Now *that* is pressure!!!

So how did they get through? With trust that God loved them, just as they were, and that he would provide what they would need. It is as simple as that. Did that mean that bad things would not come their way? Not at all! Jesus was nearly murdered as a baby, they fled as a refugee family to Egypt. And at his lowest ebb, Jesus hung on the cross, and asked why his Father had abandoned him. God gave Mary, Joseph, and Jesus himself exactly what they needed to get through. No matter what we face in our lives, we too can take our next step knowing, as Mary and Joseph knew, that God loves us in the same way that he loved them in their moments of doubt and fear. God is love, and he never leaves any of us, no matter what choices we may make. He loves each of us perfectly, and he will provide what we need to get through, no matter what we face, if we trust in him. It is exactly as simple as that.

SAFETY PROTOCOLS FOR MASSES

When you come to Masses, please be aware of yourself in relation to others. Sanitising on entry to the church, appropriate social distancing, especially as we queue to receive the Eucharist, and sanitising around the seat we have occupied will keep everyone as safe as we can make them. Our responsibility to each other is now more grave than it has ever been. As you come to receive Holy Communion, please try not to breathe on Father, or touch him, and please try not to touch surfaces as you move around the church. The collection basket is placed on a table near the door. After Mass, please practice safe social distancing as you pause for a chat with Father and your friends. Many of our parishioners are in high-risk categories, thank you for your thoughtfulness for us all.

PLEASE PRAY:

For all of our parishioners, and their families and friends. For the special intentions of our parishioners. For the victims of violence, abuse, natural disasters, injustice, and for children everywhere.

FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK

Babies Emmett, Noah Glen Christie, Tedi and Santi; Roman, Blake Smith, Trish Leahy, John Snell, Abby Sharp, Peter Munro, Megan, Bernie Jansen, Andrew Sharp, John, Glenn, Lyn Francis, Dorothy Barber, Maureen Fogarty, Fiona, Annie Preuss, Michelle Ryan, Damian, John, Alison, Heather, Julie Bates, Garry Dettman, Bradley Jordan, Jeanette Henkel, Richard Galbraith, Debbie Huby, Geoff Lucas, Sandra Donkin, Dorothy Fraser, Glen, Fred Bullas, Fred Coullas, Evie Gleeson, Indy Dawes, Rade Krstic, Megan Williams, Michael Wood, Bill Howie, Jennie, Michael, Margo & Stephen Youngberry, Marie Hammond, John Mulholland, Rhiannon Days, Val Savitt, Ron Garland, Jaz Nueber, James Cooney, Robert, Mary & Gerard Bariola, Tilly Van der Zee, Albert Slawinski, Lydia, Joyce Slattery, Lawrie Field, Annie, Bob Ireland, Val & Michael Christie, Ted & Peter Bowling, Natasha, Mia, James, Richard Adams, Mitchell & Wynn Wilson.

FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES ARE IN JUNE

Evelyn Hales (04.06.10), Margaret Plozza (05.06.11), Gwen Perry (07.06.91), Fr Paddy Fitzpatrick (07.06.08), Anna Maras (10.06.07), Shirlene Pigot (11.06.07), Margie Lovell (13.6.17), Bruce Jarvis (14.06.11), Noel Perry (16.06.91), Eileen Cullen (16.06.07), Douglas Pearce (16.06.13), Helen Warton (19.06.10), Kathleen Barratt (21.06.06), Patrick Gillece (22.06.16), Judith Giannone (23.06.10), Elizabeth Cushnahan (24.06.09), German Flores (24.06.03), Rosina Bariola (24.06.91), Annemienk Runharr (27.06.08), Des Carroll (27.06.14), Bev Nash (28.06.01), Sheena Sotko (30.06.97), Frank Richards (30.06.14), Robert de Koning, Marcia Keebaugh, Rosina Anastasio (3.06.19), Domenico Anastasio (15.06.15)

We pray especially for those whom no one remembers