

CATHOLIC PARISH OF St Brigid's HEALESVILLE, St Aloysius YARRA GLEN & Our Lady of the Snows MARYSVILLE
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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
Next Mass: Sunday 19th July
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

The Ordinary and Extraordinary Forms of the Mass: “two usages of the one Roman rite”

In July 2007 (during my first year in the seminary) Pope Benedict XVI promulgated *Summorum Pontificum*, the much-anticipated *motu proprio* “on the use of the Roman Liturgy prior to the Reform of 1970.” The document was significant for a number of reasons, practically and theologically. Practically speaking, it permitted the free use of the traditional Latin Mass (1962) by any priest of the Latin Rite, and even encouraged a willingness on the part of priests to provide this form of the Mass where there was a pastoral need. Theologically it was significant in that judged that the Traditional Latin Mass had technically never been abrogated. This was contrary to the popular wisdom that argued that Vatican II had prohibited the Latin Mass. This is wrong on two counts. Firstly, the relevant Council documents themselves (primarily *Sacrosanctum concilium*) say nothing of the sort. Secondly, the Latin Mass was the only Mass known to the Fathers of the Second Vatican Council. The New Mass (Novus Ordo) of Paul VI did not come into effect until 1970, five years after the close of Vatican II in 1965.

In *Summorum Pontificum* Pope Benedict XVI sought to reconcile the ‘Old’ and ‘New’ Mass by presenting them as two expressions of the one Rite. He referred to the Novus Ordo as the Ordinary Form (in the sense that it is the more commonly used Form), and the Traditional Latin Mass as the Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite (Extra-ordinary in the sense that it is less widely used). He also spoke of the need for a “mutual enrichment” of the two forms. Benedict XVI concludes: “These two expressions of the Church’s *lex orandi* (rule of prayer) will in no way lead to a division in the Church’s *lex credendi* (rule of faith); for they are two usages of the one Roman rite.”

For many the difficulty of the Latin Mass is its ‘strangeness.’ Yet, paradoxically behind the ‘strangeness’ of the Latin Mass lies its hidden strength. The Latin Mass is so arrestingly unlike anything our culture has to offer that it carries an unrivalled capacity to convey a sense of transcendence. The Latin Mass is unapologetically supernatural in its unflinching orientation towards God. The strictly ritualistic form of the Latin Mass therefore resists the tendency of the modern liturgy to incline towards a worldly, socio-political notion of ‘relevance’, one that follows the popular causes of the day. In reality the primary ‘relevance’ of the liturgy lies in the worship it renders to the Triune God. Every other ‘end’ of the Mass is subordinate to the adoration we owe to our Creator and Redeemer. As Benedict XVI notes, it is the “constant concern that the Church of Christ should offer worthy worship to the Divine Majesty, “for the praise and glory of his name” and “the good of all his holy Church.”

I remember attending my first Latin Mass as a twenty-year-old and feeling a bit uneasy. I had attended the Catholic Mass all my life and yet here I felt like a foreigner, an outsider to my own religion. That first impression did not prompt me to rush back to the Latin Mass. In retrospect I went into it ‘cold’ without any explanation or preparation. I’ve since come to realise that the Mass is not made for ‘tourists’ who come once for the experience. The Mass presupposes a lifetime of regular familiarisation, to unpack the richness it contains. Over time my study of Church history and theology forced me to re-evaluate the Latin Mass. It is extraordinary to think that up until 1970, the entire Catholic world was united by a universal liturgy. Catholics in Tokyo, Johannesburg, Paris, Dublin, Lima, Montreal or Melbourne on any given day would all have attended a Mass that was virtually identical in form and content. And this was the case for well over a thousand years! The fact that such a complex ritual could exist essentially unchanged for centuries across vastly different cultures, and to flourish in the process, is a fact worth taking stock of. Benedict XVI writes: “In this way the sacred liturgy, celebrated according to the Roman usage, enriched the faith and piety, as well as the culture, of numerous peoples. It is well known that in every century of the Christian era the Church’s Latin liturgy in its various forms has inspired countless saints in their spiritual life, confirmed many peoples in the virtue of religion and enriched their devotion.”

In my experience the Latin Mass has the capacity to generate a wide array of responses, positive and negative. Alas, for some it (inexplicably) evokes paroxysms of rage! Others find themselves bored, confused or unsettled by its unfamiliarity. For others it is a source of curiosity, even fascination. Yet for a growing number of people (particularly those born after the promulgation of the new Mass in 1970) the discovery of the Latin Mass has transformed their experience of Catholicism – awakening a sense of awe and reverence before the mystery of God. Many who discover the Latin Mass find in it a refuge from the banality, nihilism and narcissism of the secular world. My own appreciation of the Latin Mass was a long slow process linked to my own conversion. I had to correct many of my own prejudices and short-comings (not least my grasp of Latin!) in order to appreciate that the Extraordinary Form of the Mass was in fact part of my own patrimony and culture as a Latin Rite Catholic. Of course, I have much to learn since this is still quite new to me, but I remain willing to grow ever deeper in my understanding of my Catholic heritage. As Pope Benedict XVI wrote in his pastoral letter to bishops: “what earlier generations held as sacred remains sacred and great for us too, and it cannot be all of a sudden forbidden or even considered harmful.”

With these considerations in mind and in response to numerous requests from local families I have decided to add a regular Mass in the Extraordinary Form on Saturdays at 9:00am at St

Patrick’s, Lilydale. All the regular Masses in the Ordinary Form will continue as normal. All are welcome however you will need to book via the parish phone number as per the other parish Masses. Should you have any questions feel free to enquire via the parish office.

THIS WEEK’S MASSES IN OUR PARISH

St Brigid’s: Sunday 8.30 am and Thursdays 9.15 am.

Bookings must be pre-arranged by phoning Debbie to book for each Mass, mob: **0448 664 731.**

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

130TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION OF ST ALOYSIUS CHURCH

Mass will be celebrated in St Aloysius church on Sunday 19th July 2020 at 5 pm. Please phone Debbie to book in.

LATIN MASS—SATURDAY MORNINGS AT ST PATRICK’S LILYDALE

Mass will be celebrated in the Extraordinary form (Latin Mass) each Saturday morning at 9 am at St Patrick’s, Lilydale, commencing on Saturday 4th July 2020. Bookings must be made by calling Sharon on 0448 658 418.

SOME THOUGHTS FROM DEBBIE

My article last week, included some musings on the astronauts on the space station, and their unique perspective as they take in the breathtaking sight of our earth from way ‘above’. Their view of Earth from space prompted me to consider the mind-boggling reality that God loves each of us on this tiny planet with the fullness of perfect love, and that there has never been even one anonymous life throughout the entire span of history that has passed by unnoticed or forgotten by the God of love. How many people, individuals with actual stories, does that add up to??? Taking this in stretches the brain, but also seems totally reasonable when you give God the credit he deserves. Each and every one of us has been created as a conscious act of love by God. He is the lover, we are the beloved. We are each created by God to live with him forever, unless we, ourselves, frustrate this design. God loves each of us into being, every one of the billions and billions the count takes in, and then remains with us, intimately interested in each moment we exist in this life, until we enter the fullness of eternity. ‘In him we live and move and have our being’. Happy those who tune in to his presence! Perhaps we doubt this at times, feeling alone, even abandoned? Even Jesus felt this way on the cross. But the truth could not be more different when we

feel like this. It is our prerogative as created beings with free will to attempt to open our eyes to God's presence, to explore his love for us, or to hide from him in our shame, to ignore him in our selfishness, or even to reject him outrightly. No matter what choices we decide to make as we live our complicated lives, with some making the worst possible choices, God continues to love us perfectly. This week I am ‘back to earth’, happily enjoying the wonder of what it is to be a kid whilst babysitting my beautiful grandchildren. Last week, it was the earth from space. This week, I have been boggled by video games that I can’t control, but that 7 year old fingers can do magic with, and facilitated the unbridled delight of being allowed to scoff 3 hot dogs in one sitting I have experienced the sheer joy of being 18 months old and running full pelt down the concrete garden path with full conviction that grandma will save me from plastic surgery at the end of the sloping runway. Run, run, ruuun, fly! Not once, but 29 times. At least. I have been reminded that little fingers find tiny holes, and that window sills make great seats, who cares about the spider webs? And that doing everything over and over and over wrings every ounce of joy out of one activity after another. When my granddaughter’s shoe fell off and I began an apparently well-worn expression that I didn’t even know I use, “oh, what?”, a little voice echoed “oh what? Oh no! Oh dear!, right alongside me. I stopped in my tracks. She knew my words before I said them myself! I had obviously used them to her dad when he was tiny, and he had taught them to her! News to me! I discovered my own voice in two whole new generations! I have passed on phrases to my children, hopefully I have also passed on my awareness of God to them, so that they can pass this gift on to their children in their turn. Our world is a marvellous place. It is also scary, unfair, sad, and wonderfully breathtaking. Why do things happen, good and bad? Because God loves each of us enough to give us free will to choose our own paths with total freedom, and life just happens. No matter what, God remains with us in every second, from the first moment of our existence through to the moment of our last breath, and beyond, no matter what today brings. The lover loves the beloved without waiver. As the hymn goes: ‘Open my eyes, Lord, help me to see your face...’.

PLEASE PRAY:

For all of our parishioners, and their families and friends. For the special intentions of our parishioners. For those who are sick. For those affected by Covid 19, for the victims of violence, abuse, natural disasters, injustice, and for children everywhere. For all who have died and for those whose anniversaries occur in July.

