

CATHOLIC PARISH OF HEALESVILLE, INCORPORATING HEALESVILLE (ST BRIGID'S),
YARRA GLEN (ST ALOYSIUS) & MARYSVILLE (OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS)



Address: 15 High Street, Healesville, Victoria, 3777
Postal Address: PO Box 73, Healesville, Victoria, 3777
Phone: 5962 4026
Email Address: Healesville@cam.org.au
Website: <http://www.stbrigidshalesville.cam.org.au>
Link to weekly Masses: <https://bit.ly/StBsHville>

Administrator: Fr. Francis Denton
Pastoral Worker & Secretary (Admin): Mrs. Debbie Edwards 0448 664 731
Secretary (Finance): Mrs Sharon Jacob 0448 658 418

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
(YEAR B) 7th MARCH 2021

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Exodus 20:1-3,7-8,12-17

God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. 'You shall have no gods except me. 'You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it. 'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you. 'You shall not kill. 'You shall not commit adultery. 'You shall not steal. 'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. 'You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 18(19):8-11

R: Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

The law of the Lord is perfect,
it revives the soul.

The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple. R.

The precepts of the Lord are right,
they gladden the heart.

The command of the Lord is clear,
it gives light to the eyes. R.

The fear of the Lord is holy,
abiding for ever.

The decrees of the Lord are truth
and all of them just. R

They are more to be desired than gold,
than the purest of gold
and sweeter are they than honey,
than honey from the comb. R

Second reading: 1 Corinthians 1:22-25

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation: John 3:16

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of
endless glory!

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of
endless glory!

Gospel: John 2:13-25

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money-changers' coins, knocked their tables over and

said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

FROM FR FRANCIS

Volunteers Wanted!

Every Parish is like a family. In every family home there are a range of tasks and responsibilities that need to be done to make for a clean, happy and healthy home. So too for the parish church. The COVID lockdowns did a very effective job of scuttling our volunteers. Now that things start to return to normal, there are a number of 'house-chores' that need attending to. Among the most pressing needs at the moment is managing the up-keep and care of the grounds and buildings at St Brigid's. In particular we are looking for a team of church cleaners, gardeners and people who might be able to assist with working bees on a needs basis. As always, it's a case of 'many hands make light work' so the more people who can put their hand up to assist the easier it will be for everyone.

The past year has presented a range of challenges for the parish, especially as regards the government-mandated social distancing and contact tracing requirements in response to COVID19. Those requirements have shifted dramatically from month to month as the situation has unfolded, prompting the implementation of new systems (phone

booking, online booking, sanitising of the church, etc.). During this whole situation we have been greatly indebted to the generosity of Sharon Jacob and Debbie Edwards who were ready and eager to respond to the situation so as to maximise the parishioners' access to Mass and the sacraments. They have sacrificed countless hours across many weekends to assist with these mandatory processes. As the COVID19 situation stabilises the requirement to book in for Masses looks set to become the norm for the foreseeable future. Clearly it is an unfair burden for Sharon and Debbie to carry in the long term. Therefore we are looking to set up a team of volunteers who might be willing to assist with the signing in of parishioners for Masses, particularly on weekends. I am aware that the signing in process is an inconvenience for all concerned, however it is also a great opportunity to offer hospitality in greeting parishioners and welcoming new-comers to the parish. If you think you might be able to assist with this valuable service (even if it's on an irregular basis), be sure to make yourself known to Sharon, Debbie or myself. No prior experience required, you'll just need to arrive early to sign people in!

Finally, there have been some expressions of interest in a youth group. If you are a young person or know of young people who might be interested in being part of a parish-based youth group for socialising, games and faith formation, get in touch with the parish.

Given that this time of Lent is also an opportunity for us to grow in a spirit of service after the example of Christ, perhaps we can each prayerful consider what ways we might be able to contribute to the life of our parish family.

Yours in Christ,
Fr Francis Denton

OUR SUNDAY CUPPA IS BACK!!!



Please join us for our usual cuppa in the hall after Sunday Masses. Hope to see you there!

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION IN LENT

Fr Francis will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation for 30 minutes before Masses throughout Lent.

ANOINTING MASS – SAVE THE DATE

Thursday 25th March at 11 am followed by lunch in the hall. Please join us!



MASS TIMES AND LINKS THIS WEEK

Thursday 11th March, 9.15 am at St Brigid's

Sunday 14th March, 8.30 am at St Brigid's
Link <https://www.trybooking.com/BPLUY>

LENTEN PREPARATION GROUP

Fr Francis leads a Lenten reflection group via zoom every Thursday at 4:00pm during Lent, the Parousia Lenten program "No Greater Love: a Biblical walk through Christ's Passion". All welcome, no preparation required!

Join the Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81469092109?pwd=SFVLRy9lZXJ2WG5ZOUFmUF13ZF FmQT09>

Meeting ID: 814 6909 2109

Passcode: 734266

LENTEN RESOURCES – PARISH WEBSITE

Check the Parish website for Elissa's Lenten prayers and activities to do at home.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION FOR OLDER CHILDREN AND ADULTS

Our 2021 Religious Education program for school aged children who have not yet received the Sacraments according to our normal schedule is now underway. If anyone you know is considering Baptism for their child, or for themselves, please ask them to contact Debbie on 0448 664 731 as soon as possible.

SOME THOUGHTS FROM DEBBIE

One of my favourite hymns is 'Open My Eyes Lord', so familiar to our regular Mass goers. The words form a beautiful prayer that encourage us to pray 'please Lord, open my eyes to see you, my ears to hear you, my heart to love like you'. That last request is a doozy! Much easier said, sung, prayed, whatever, than done.

We are each wonderfully human, created in God's image, good people trying to live up to that honour. Yet, we are each also frustratingly human, equipped with free will that is critically important, a priceless gift to each of us from the God of love. Its great value goes mostly unrecognised within our 'comfortable' society. Those who live under threat of persecution or war, or who are prisoners or refugees, even those trapped by economic shackles understand just what it is to have little freedom to choose what happens to us physically. Yet great Saints like Maximilian Kolbe, who chose to die in the place of a family man in a World War II Concentration Camp, stand as wonderful examples of the courage that is sometimes necessary for us as human beings to choose good, even when circumstances hold us 'trapped'. When we meet God at the end of our days, face to face, with no veil between us, we will clearly know that whatever choices we made throughout our lifetime, we did so with total freedom to choose our own course of action in every decision. God does not force us to come to him, he invites us. It is squarely our choice to accept his love, or to reject it. Our consciences prompt us from deep within, encouraging us to feel just a little uncomfortable when we choose to do our own thing, hang its effect on others. This is also God's great gift to us. Circumstances certainly restrict our physical choices, but for the most part, it is our prerogative to choose whether to be an easy-going, co-operative, loving person in our relationships with others, or to be an obstructive, aggressive, difficult-to-deal-with pain in the neck. We each have the freedom to be either, and swing between the two depending on temptation, lack of sleep, illness, sadness, and all of the emotions that affect our defence systems in any given day. Thank God, he understands us completely. Jesus knows what it is to be human.

Our Lenten discipline encourages us to grow to a generous understanding of who we actually are, to accept that we are indeed human and that managing our free will responsibly is not an easy gig. Lent helps us to shine that light of reality on ourselves, to help us to work out whether we are helping others to love us through our chosen behaviour, or whether we make it hard for others to love like Jesus asks them to do. Jesus encourages us to take up our cross each day, and to carry it with courage, knowing that he is there to help us to drag it. The shape of that cross changes daily, and certainly changes from year to year, and from decade to decade. We live in relationship with others. No matter what we do, what choices we make, we affect others, positively and negatively. It is one thing to carry our own cross, it is another thing to become a cross for someone else to drag through our selfish choices! I am not talking about when we need physical help from others, such as when we are ill or vulnerable and can do little for ourselves. Others are happy to help then, and our neediness enables them to love generously. I am talking about when we are difficult to deal with, when we are grumpy, nasty, demanding, ungrateful or down-right unpleasant, which all of us can be at times. Then we force others to make that choice to love or not love. Not fair! And only we can work on better choices for ourselves in relationship with others, it is no one else's responsibility but our own. Maybe those torches need to come out this week, to shine into those dark little recesses that we all hide from view of others, and from ourselves, for a little honest self-examination.

COLLECTION TOTALS – THANK YOU!

St Brigid's Healesville, 28th Feb 21
 Thanksgiving: \$494.35
 Presbytery: \$194.90
St Aloysius, Yarra Glen 28th Feb 21
 Thanksgiving: \$65.00
Yarra Glen Op Shop: \$2500
Our Lady of the Snows, Marysville 21st Jan
 Thanksgiving: \$70.00

PROJECT COMPASSION – CARITAS AUSTRALIA

Project Compassion boxes and envelopes are available in the church. You can watch video clips or read the stories that accompany Caritas' 2021 Lenten campaign, entitled 'Be More', on their website:
<https://lent.caritas.org.au>

PARISH PRAYER LIST

WE PRAY FOR ALL WHO HAVE DIED

Brian Warton.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK AND FOR THOSE WHO CARE FOR THEM

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, 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, RadeKrstic, 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, Lydia, Joyce Slattery, Lawrie Field, Annie, Bob Ireland, Val & Michael Christie, Ted & Peter Bowling, Natasha, Mia, James, Richard Adams, Mitchell & Wynn Wilson, Anne Bateman, Veronica Ireland, Wendy Turner (Ireland), Lauren, Brooke, Anthony, Laura Baosde Pinto, Michelle, Judy, Annette Fromholtz,

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES ARE IN MARCH

Sr Nell Russell (03.03.16), Ronald Donchi (05.03.83), H. Weda (12.03.03), Rene Chandler (13.03.96), Helen Srafford, (16.03.08), Frank McDonald (12.03.04), John Doensen (17.03.17), Ziggy Nadolski (18/3/11), Claudio Latin (20.03.13), Mary Snell (22.03.12), Antionio Bariola (24.03.99), John Field (23.03.42), Mary Wood (23.03.03), Eva Jansen (2006), Erica Fries (2005), Mavis McKenzie (2006), Harry van de Ven, Susan Sosic (25.03.19)