

**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

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
(YEAR B) 21st MARCH 2021

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel (and the House of Judah), but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive – it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, ‘Learn to know the Lord!’ No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest – it is the Lord who speaks – since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

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

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 50(51):3-4,12-15

R: Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.

In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt

and cleanse me from my sin. R.

A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.

Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. R

Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,
that I may teach transgressors your ways
and sinners may return to you. R

Second reading: Hebrews 5:7-9

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

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

Gospel Acclamation: John 12:26

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord;
and where I am, my servant will also be.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel: John 12:20-33

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, 'Sir, we should like to see Jesus.' Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them: 'Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you, most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life. If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too. If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him.

Now my soul is troubled. What shall I say: Father, save me from this hour? But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name!' A voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, 'It was an angel speaking to him.' Jesus answered, 'It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours. 'Now sentence is being passed on this world; now the prince of this world is to be overthrown. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.' By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

FROM FR FRANCIS

In this past week the spiritual desert of Lent has been relieved by two great feast days: the Solemnities of St Patrick (17th March) and St Joseph (19th March). Both feast days have an added significance this year. As the parishioners of Lilydale are well aware, the feast of St Patrick this year marks the 150th anniversary of the dedication of the church at Lilydale, a

milestone that will be celebrated in a fitting way at the weekend Masses and our parish luncheon. The feast of St Joseph also has a pronounced significance this year given Pope Francis' declaration that this year will be dedicated to St Joseph. St Joseph is, among his many titles, the patron of the Universal Church. Devotion to St Joseph has become somewhat neglected in recent decades which is a great shame. Given the great crisis of Fatherhood in the 20th Century (both spiritual and natural) it seems more important than ever to take up recourse to St Joseph. The foster father of Jesus is a spiritual giant, whom God found worthy to entrust his only Son into his care. Given our communion with Christ in his Church, by a logical extension St Joseph would also have a fatherly solicitude for each one of us, the spiritual brothers and sisters of Christ. This is a great year to seek to grow in a filial love for St Joseph. I was myself, recently given a book entitled "Consecration to St Joseph – The Wonders of Our Spiritual Father" by Fr Donald Calloway MC. Fr Calloway argues that now is the moment for devotion to St Joseph in the Church. He writes:

"But why now? Why St Joseph? There are many reasons but I believe that there are two that are especially important. First, we need the spiritual fatherhood of St Joseph to help us protect marriage and the family. Marriage and the family have always been under attack, but in modern times, the threat have reached extraordinary heights. Many people no longer know what it means to be a man or a woman, let alone what constitutes a marriage and a family. Many countries even claim to have redefined marriage and the family. There is a great confusion on these matters, greater confusion than in any previous era of human history. The servant of God Sr Lucia dos Santos, the longest-lived visionary of the Fatima apparitions, knew the seriousness of the times and made a powerful statement about this issue. She

wrote: “*The final battle between the Lord and the Kingdom of Satan will be about marriage and the family.*” To combat and overcome Satan’s deceptions, the Church needs St Joseph. His example and protection are the only way out of the confusing mess we are in. Who else can we turn to who can help us understand what marriage and the family are all about if not to the head of the Holy Family and the Terror of Demons?

Second, the entire world needs to be re-evangelised, including the vast majority of baptized Christians. Saint Joseph was the first missionary. Today, he desires again to bring Jesus to the nations. Many nations and cultures that were previously Christian have fallen away from their Christian roots and are on a path of self-destruction. Countries once established on Judeo-Christian principles have become overrun by ideologies and organizations that seek to strip society of all that is sacred. Without a major turnaround, civilisation itself is going to self-destruct.” (Donald Calloway, *Consecration to St Joseph*, Marian Press, Stockbridge: 2020, p4.)

I strongly encourage all the parishioners of St Patricks’ and St Brigid’s to consider undertaking the 33 day consecration to St Joseph in this special year. I intend to do this myself for the Feast of St Joseph the Worker (1 May). If you’re not sure how, Fr Calloway’s book is a fantastic ready-made guide. Finally, on the Feast of St Patrick, which is also the feast of the Archdiocese of Melbourne, Archbishop Peter Comensoli delivered his second St Patrick Oration, addressed to the faithful of Melbourne. In this message the Archbishop stresses the importance of being a missionary Church at the local level. You can watch his address on the link below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sxdRR46pxCs>

Yours in Christ, Fr Francis Denton

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 THIS THURSDAY

You are invited!! Please join us!!

Thursday 25th March at 11 am followed by lunch in the hall. If you need transport please contact Maree: 0417 087 199 or Irene: 5962 4632

OUR SUNDAY CUPPA IS BACK!!!



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

MASS TIMES AND LINKS THIS WEEK

Thursday 25th March, 11.00 am at St Brigid’s, Anointing Mass and lunch.

Sunday 28th March, 8.30 am at St Brigid’s
Link <https://www.trybooking.com/BPXGX>

MASS TIMES FOR EASTER

We welcome Fr John O’Reilly who will be with us for the Easter ceremonies this year.

Trybooking links are now open. Please book online for each Easter ceremony if you can. Remember that visitors to the area will be booking too and numbers are still limited by Covid restrictions.

Mass of the Lord’s Supper, Holy Thursday
1st April 2021, **7.30 pm**, St Brigid’s.
<https://www.trybooking.com/BPQOA>

Stations of the Cross, Good Friday, 10 am at St Aloysius, Yarra Glen.
<https://www.trybooking.com/BPQOW>

Celebration of the Lord’s Passion, Good Friday, 3.00 pm, St Brigid’s
<https://www.trybooking.com/BPQOY>

Easter Vigil, Holy Saturday, **7.30 pm**, St Brigid's

<https://www.trybooking.com/BPQPE>

Easter Sunday Mass, 8.30 am, St Brigid's

<https://www.trybooking.com/BPQPH>

LENTEN PREPARATION GROUP

Fr Francis leads a Lenten reflection group via zoom every Thursday at 4:00pm during Lent.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81469092109?pwd=_SFVLRy9lZXJ2WG5ZOUFmUFI3ZFFmQT09

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.

Towards a St Brigid's Parish Pastoral Council

TOWARDS A ST BRIGID'S PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Dear friends, as we face together the challenges of the future we would like to announce that our parish is exploring the establishment of a Pastoral Council. A Council has the potential:

- to listen and learn from many different voices in our community
- to nourish, support, and link the roles and activities we currently have
- to explore new opportunities for being missionary people
- to support our parish priest and leaders in their roles
- and more!

We are at the earliest planning stage: **step 1** has been the formation of a Preparation Committee.

The members are:

Fr Francis Denton, Parish Administrator

Mrs Debbie Edwards, Parish Pastoral Associate

Mrs Elissa Roper, Parish Theologian

Dr Jo Drummond, Liturgy Leader

Mr Rod Hysted, Audio & Visual Leader

These are not the future members of the Council! Expressions of interest will be welcomed at a later stage.

Step 2 will involve information sessions for the parish to learn about Pastoral Councils, to ask questions, and to have discussions. **Information sessions will be held after Easter.** Short and sharp!

Everyone is encouraged to come along and get involved. We want to build our parish up together!

For more information email

elissaroper@hotmail.com, or contact any of the Committee.

SOME THOUGHTS FROM DEBBIE

Have you ever met someone who qualifies as Australia's entrant in the World Worry Contest? Some people seem wired to worry, even when there doesn't seem much to be worried about. The well-known Gospel passage about the lillies of the field, the birds of the air, and God's loving care for each creature, reminds us to let God do the worrying for us. Such wisdom, but as usual, we have to work hard at applying Jesus' words to our own lives, they don't always come naturally to all of us. Jesus reminded his friends that we need only to consider the flowers and the birds in their frail beauty in order to take encouragement that they survive and prosper in the care of our loving Father. God ensures that these tiny creatures have the necessities of life for survival without their concern over where their next meal will be coming from. Jesus then asks 'how much more important are you to God than the flowers or the little birds?' His message to us is 'Relax, my Father loves you and he will look after you! He knows you by your name!' Such comforting, reassuring thoughts, if only we can develop that trust without neglecting our own responsibilities for alertness and forward planning along the way. As always, it is all about balance. I try to follow Jesus' advice, but there are so many things that can and do go wrong in each day! Jesus' experience in the Garden of Gethemane before his arrest shows us the depths of the human fear that he experienced.

He actually sweated blood in his terror at what he knew was to come. His prayer to his Father to escape the torture he feared concluded with 'but your will be done, not mine'. As usual, he is our role model in every way. We all struggle with fear, the trick is to remember Jesus' promise that God will look after us, even in the dark.

A couple of years ago, I had the chance to think this through on a practical level when an impressive hail storm hit our house full force. For at least 15 minutes we were pounded by hail stones that were up to an inch round. I was actually amazed that no windows broke. Shade cloth we had anchored with wire and cable ties was ripped off its metal mounts by the wind and ice and my neighbour's veranda had holes drilled in it. The day after, I happened to notice the stunning number of birds that seemed to be everywhere. Cockatoos, galahs, water fowl, sparrows, maggies, doves, even great big ibis, our local area seemed to be teeming with birds that had had no shelter from the storm, yet here they all were, safe 'n sound. God had indeed looked after them, and I can't explain how. I know he has it all in hand for us too, even when we do strike disaster. Somehow we find the strength to cope, even when we have not avoided the blows. Perhaps he sends others along to help us get through. This is God at work for us, we just need to trust that he will never leave us alone. Deep within my thoughts, God wanders with me to the tasks or people I am thinking of, concerned about, or trying to avoid. I know I face each day in his company, and so do those I love.

In this last week of Lent, perhaps our challenge is to truly thank God for his faithful presence, and to ask him to help us to hold on to hope, even when it may be difficult to spot. As we prepare to accompany Jesus through his Passion and death, we remember that whatever we suffer, he has been there before us and conquered even death itself. Nothing is impossible to God. We walk with Jesus through his suffering and death. He walks with us through everything life throws at us each and every day. Resurrection awaits us at the end of it all.

COLLECTION TOTALS – THANK YOU!

St Brigid's Healesville, 7th Mar 21

Thanksgiving: \$298

Presbytery: \$192

St Brigid's Healesville, 14th Mar 21

Thanksgiving: \$433

Presbytery: \$238

St Aloysius, Yarra Glen 28th Feb 21

Thanksgiving: \$65

Yarra Glen Op Shop: \$2500

Our Lady of the Snows, Marysville 18th Mar 21

Thanksgiving: \$46.50

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>

Boxes may be returned at weekend Masses from Easter Sunday.

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)

