

CATHOLIC PARISH OF St Brigid's HEALESVILLE, St Aloysius YARRA GLEN & Our Lady of the Snows MARYSVILLE
15 High Street, Healesville, 3777; PO Box 73, Healesville 3777 Ph: 5962 4026 Fax: 5962 2028
www.stbrigidshealesville.cam.org.au



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
SECRETARIES: Admin: Debbie Edwards Finance: Sharon Jacob email: healesville@cam.org.au
ST BRIGID'S PRIMARY SCHOOL Principal: Vicky Wissell 5962 4200
MOUNT LILYDALE MERCY COLLEGE Principal: Philip Morison 9735 4022

ALL PUBLIC MASSES ARE
SUSPENDED UNTIL
FURTHER NOTICE



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>

MASSSES WILL CONTINUE
TO BE RECORDED
WEEKLY
(THANKS ROD!)

COLLECTIONS

Healesville to 19th July
Church: \$5
Presbytery: \$5

Yarra Glen to 19th July
Church: \$40
Presbytery: \$5
Op Shop: \$2700

Marysville



FROM FR FRANCIS DENTON

What is the Mass?

Part 2: The Four Ends of the Mass

"The liturgy is the summit toward which the activity of the Church is directed; at the same time it is the font from which all her power flows. For the aim and object of apostolic works is that all who are made sons of God by faith and baptism should come together to praise God in the midst of His Church, to take part in the sacrifice, and to eat the Lord's supper." (Sacrosanctum Concilium, n.10; Vatican Council II)



Admittedly 'teleology' is not part of everyone's vocabulary. 'Telos' is the Greek word for 'end'. In Greek philosophy (particularly that of Aristotle) the concept of 'teleology' is a useful way of understanding what something is – if you want to know *what* something is, discover the *end* for which it is created. For example, if we ask 'what is a car?' a good part of the answers lies in its purpose as a mode of transport. Every aspect of a car's design is subordinated to its primary function as a mode of transport. That why there are no cars with square wheels. Something that looks like a car but that can't actually be driven (a concrete car sculpture for example) is not really a car because it fails to fulfil its essential function - transportation. The fundamental 'end' of a car lies not in its beauty, or cleanness, or comfort, but in its ability to get us where we need to go.

In part two of this series, "What is the Mass?" we can approach the question from a teleological angle, by posing the question: 'What is the purpose or 'end' of the Mass?' To formulate the question in a more relevant way we could ask: "What's the point of me coming to Mass anyway?" Catholics of all times and places would formulate varied responses to that question. Traditionally the Church has identified four essential 'ends' of the Mass: Adoration, Atonement, Thanksgiving and Petition. These spiritual 'ends' are not in competition with each other but serve the common end: the Glory of God. A brief word about each of these ends of the Mass:

Adoration: This is the ultimate end, not only of the Mass but of our human existence. As St Augustine said: "Lord our hearts were made for you and will be restless until they rest

in you." Yes, we were designed and created *by* God and *for* God. God is the ultimate *telos* (or end) of the human person. More specifically we were made to know, love, serve and adore God, and our human fulfilment in heaven will consist in being able to adore God for all eternity. When we come to Mass we participate in a real way in the adoration of God, joining with the angels and saints in one unending hymn of praise in adoration of the Holy Trinity.

Atonement: If we break it down the word atonement is 'at-one-ment'. The atoning sacrifice of Christ on the Cross for our sins is what enables us as Christians to be 'at one' with God the Father. The Catechism teaches that Christ "offered himself on the cross as a living victim, holy and pleasing to God, and whose blood has become the instrument of atonement for the sins of all men" (CCC n.1992). The Mass is the preeminent means by which Christ's faithful may participate in the work of Christ's Redemption, through which we are reconciled to the Father (cf. Col 1:20).

Thanksgiving: The word Eucharist is rooted in the Greek word for 'thanksgiving'. The Eucharist lies at the centre of the Mass because in the offering of the Body and blood of Christ we find our surest reason to 'give thanks' to God. There is so much that we can and should be grateful to God for: the gifts of life, family, friends, good health, peace, prosperity, etc. Moreover there is the gratitude we owe to God for all he has done for us in Christ: for in giving us his Son he gave all he had. Gratitude is the fundamentally correct disposition of the Christian, and our fervent participation in the Mass is the ultimate act of thanksgiving that we can render to God.

Petition: Every one of us comes to Mass bearing the burden of a thousand hopes, fears, anxieties and intentions: a sick relative; a deceased friend; an important interview; financial worries; an exam; and so on. Christ is never indifferent to these petitions: "Ask and you shall receive" (Matt 7:7). When we come to Mass Jesus want us to bring all these intentions before the cross and to trust in his power to answer the prayer of the heart. Jesus death on the cross was *intentional* – it was for the sake of our salvation that he entered into his Passion. The merits of Christ's Passion and Death can be applied to our present-day needs, and therefore it has long been customary for priests to offer Masses for a specific intention, especially for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed. It's a good custom for the lay faithful to join with the priest in placing upon the altar their own petitions.

It's valuable to revisit the importance of these four ends of adoration, atonement, thanksgiving and petition, which are perfectly fulfilled in the Mass. Many people think of the value of the Mass in terms of its personal 'rewards.' So often I've heard it said, "I stopped going to Mass because I wasn't getting anything out of it" as if to suggest that would be the only possible reason one would attend Mass. This attitude falsely assumes the primary value of the Mass lies in the individual's personal fulfilment or enjoyment. Of course, the Mass should be personally nurturing and fulfilling, as we are nourished with the Life of Jesus Christ in Word and Sacrament. The danger of neglecting the four proper ends of the Mass is that the Sacred Liturgy is at risk of being reduced to a form of entertainment that exists solely for our personal enjoyment. The Mass is for our sanctification, not our entertainment. In reality our personal, subjective 'enjoyment' of the Mass is a secondary effect. Let's be a little honest with ourselves here: do we not *occasionally* come to Mass and find ourselves tired, bored or distracted? Well, that doesn't mean that our attendance at Mass is pointless or fruitless. Irrespective of our subjective state of mind, the one eternal offering of the Son to the Father in the Mass means that it is always the perfect act of adoration, atonement, thanksgiving and petition.

ALL MASSES IN OUR PARISH HAVE NOW BEEN SUSPENDED

St Brigid's, St Aloysius and Our Lady of the Snows: No Masses until further notice.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation can be arranged on request, please phone Debbie on 0448 664 731.

SOME THOUGHTS FROM DEBBIE

Stepping out of my usual routine to help my 8 year old grandson with schooling from home has been an eye opener! It is an experience that thousands of families are currently sharing, and it all sounds easy enough on paper. Some of us are cut out for the opportunity to spend lots of quality time over sentence after sentence, and log ins and passwords galore, but I can imagine that some of us are equally out of our depth. I have a new appreciation of our hard working teachers, whose patience now seems heroic to me. So my column this week is short and sweet, with a big thumbs up to all the mums, dads, grandmas, grandpas, big brothers, big sisters and everyone involved in educating our kids, especially in this time of weirdness when nothing is normal. Another big shout out to those struggling along through VCE at the moment, a whole other set of challenges. And a big hurrah to all of our teachers, who look

after our precious minds of the future and blooming personalities of today, with such care and commitment. Our parish's job is to support you all, whomever you may be, in the best way that we can, with our prayers. We ask God to bless your efforts and to multiply their fruits, and to reward your dedication with abundant personal blessings. Thank you from us all!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

Congratulations to Tilly who celebrates her 91st birthday this week!



PLEASE PRAY:

For all of our parishioners, and their families and friends, and for their special intentions. For those who are sick and for those who care for them. For those affected by Covid 19 and for all who are serving our community in order to keep us safe. For the victims of violence, abuse, natural disasters, injustice, and for children everywhere. For all who have died and especially for those whose anniversaries occur in July.

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, Carina Warton.

FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES ARE IN JULY

Ann Maris (03.07.07), Julie Ann Ward (03.07.86), Nick Pitt (03.07.13), Margaret Brown (06.07.07), John Jansen (06.07.04), Ulick O'Boyle (07.07.11), Stenya Laszczewski (11.07.15), Jan Kisala (15.07.07), George Youngberry (18.07.67), Derek Beeby (18.07.11), Keith Chandler (20.07.13), Ronald Hosie (23.07.06), Theresa Humphries (25.07.11), Bernie Morrisey (26.07.00), Terry Fromholtz (28.07.12), Rev McCarter (30.07.96), Kevin Leahy.

