

Third Sunday of Easter (Year A) 26 April 2020



Fr. Brian Egan, Parish Priest
Fr Chaminda Wanigasena, Assistant Priest
2 Burke St, Concord West NSW 2138
admin@stambrose.org.au
sacraments@stambrose.org.au
parishcouncil@stambrose.org.au
www.stambrose.org.au
Phone: 02 9743 1023
VASA: 9736 3686, 8765 1295
St Ambrose Primary School
Stuart St, Concord West
Principal: Ms Linda McFadden
Ph: 9743 5605
info@stambconcord.catholic.edu.au

2020 Sacraments Program

Our Sacramental Program has been suspended until further notice.

For those who wish to support the parish financially we now have an active 'donate' tab on our website. MasterCard or Visa donations can be made securely via this means. Select from the options available for your giving.

You may also opt for a monthly debit to your credit card. Please call or email the parish office for an authority form to have this option set up for you.

Sunday Masses: Sat Vigil 5pm

Sunday 9.30am & 5pm

Weekday Masses: 9am Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri (or Fri 9.15am school Masses)

Tuesday evening 7.30pm

Reconciliation: Sat 3.30 – 4.30pm

Adoration: Mon & Fri 6-9pm, Tues 5.45pm – 7.15pm,

Sat 3.30 - 4.30pm, Italian Cenacle: Mon 9.30am

Holy Hour & Cenacle: Wed after 9am Mass, Fri 9.30am

Baptisms: 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month at 11am by appointment.

Weddings: by appointment. Contact Parish Office.

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Br Julian's Reflection: Third Sunday of Easter

Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, Jesus explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself. Luke 24, 13-35

This Sunday's gospel is the story of the seemingly chance meeting that Cleopas and his friend had with the risen Jesus as they walked the seven miles from Jerusalem to Emmaus. They were so preoccupied with their own sense of loss and grief that they failed to recognise the stranger who joined them. At times, most of us can get so wrapped up in our own concerns that we become blind and deaf to what is going on around us. Moreover, we've probably all had the experience of having a complete stranger sitting next to us on a train, plane or bus who proceeds to give us an earful on some topic close to his or her heart. We do our best to be polite, but eventually just tune out. Now, if some very learned person decided to give you a full account of every allusion to himself that is to be found in the Jewish scriptures, ask yourself just how you would cope, especially if you were in a state of shock and grief. No wonder Cleopas and friend failed to recognise just who it was who had become their uninvited walking companion.



A few years ago I saw for the first time the painting above. It hangs in the National Gallery of Ireland in Dublin. It's by the Spanish artist Diego Velázquez, and is called *The Kitchen Maid with the Supper at Emmaus*. It picks up the theme of seeing and not seeing, prominent in this Sunday's gospel. While the kitchen maid is at the centre of the painting, her attention is directed towards what is happening at the background table in the top left-hand corner. Her gaze invites me to

look where she is looking and to ask myself just who is really at the centre of the painting. And that leads me to other questions like: "As I go about my day-to-day activities, whom do I notice and who escapes my notice? Who is at the edge of my attention and whom do I overlook completely? Are there people whom I am called to notice, but who miss out because I am preoccupied with my own concerns and self-interest? While coronavirus is currently at the front and centre of our attention, there is little chance of walking and sharing conversation with others, but there is still scope for walking alone in our neighbourhoods and trying to take in what might otherwise escape our attention, even if it's crying out to be addressed. Maybe we can look for signs of hope and new life, for indications of the presence of the divine, for anyone demanding for attention or simply looking for no more than an acknowledgement or a smile. After all, we are meant to be messengers of hope and instruments of resurrection for everyone we encounter.

The two disciples were no more insensitive or slower to get it than we are. They gave the stranger a very good summary of the events of the previous week that had robbed them of Jesus and thrown them into total confusion. But, like us, they had absorbed through their senses of sight and hearing what had gone on in the narrow world around them. However, their brains, like ours had developed filters that allowed them to see and hear only what they interpreted as necessary. It was only when Jesus repeated the familiar action of breaking and sharing bread that they felt the pull of the sacred and the familiar drawing them into communion with him and with one another, and lifting them up. It was that experience that drove them to rush back to Jerusalem where they joined Peter and the other disciples in affirming one another with the realisation that had hit them: "Yes, he really is risen!" We, too, can be deaf and blind to what others, including Jesus, want to bring to our notice. Sunday's gospel serves to remind us of that.

I conclude with a story called *The Bus to Emmaus*:

Eric, a final-year medical student had to break his internship experience to return to university for a month to complete his final exams. Upset and miserable at the prospect of leaving behind his fiancée, he made his way to the Sydney Bus terminal to start the long trip back. When the bus made a comfort stop at a roadside cafe about six hours into the journey, Eric drifted into the café, sat down on an unravelling, revolving seat at a grubby counter and ordered a cup of coffee. The counter was U-shaped, so he found himself sitting across from an elderly woman. She took one look at Eric and blurted out: "Dearie, you sure do look miserable." "I am", he replied and, before he knew it, his voice started to crack with emotion.

The woman reached across the counter to pat him on the cheek with a dirt-under-the-fingernail hand. When he saw it, he pulled back

instinctively. She simply asked: "What's wrong, honey?" So he told her about his fiancée, how much he loved her and how hard the next month would be for both of them. He even produced a photo of his fiancée from his wallet. "Oh, isn't she just the most beautiful young woman!" was the response.

The elderly woman then started to tell Eric how she had been married to a travelling salesman, who had died just a year or so back. She told how they would both weep each time he had to go away, but how happy they were on his return. "Marriage is wonderful," she said. "I'm sure you'll have a very happy marriage. You wait and see, everything will be fine."

She then suggested that he might feel better if he had something to eat, so without hesitating, she ordered a muffin from under the scratchy plastic. She picked it up, broke it in halves and handed it to him. Just then, there was an announcement that one of the buses at the roadhouse was about to depart. "Oh my goodness! My bus is about to leave." And she disappeared.

CWL Silver Circle Week 6 Results

1 st Prize	No. 24	\$20.00	Anne Vassily
2 nd Prize	No. 19	\$10.00	Nicky Antonio

SCAM ALERT – from Archdiocese

We have been made aware of another scam that is targeting some parishes. It appears as if your Parish has been set up to receive online donations through an online company or group. These emails seem sincere and request parishioners to make small donations. It also gives you an option for users to donate items to an online Marketplace and for the Parish to receive the proceeds of those sales.

Please make all your parishioners and staff aware of this fraud to avoid being scammed.

If you wish to donate to the parish please use our website which is a secure place to do so or contact the parish office for an authority for a recurring payment by credit card form.



Please remember in your prayers the following for whom Masses will be offered.

Recently Deceased:

Maureen Gleeson, Pedro Espado, Tony McLeod

Anniversaries:

Rema Flannery, Caterina Lorizio, George Crvenkovic, L A Fernandez, Ron & Ruby Tolhurst, Lidia Merlino, Julia Georges, Jack Kucina

Others:

Fr Kevin McGovern, Patrick & Margaret Egan, Veronica & Anne Gough, Mario Iannacito, Angelo Iannacito, Mabel & Kevin Rice, Peter Waters, Helen Timpanaro, Paul Broderick, Harry O'Hara, Eugene & Aileen Morris, Ted & Laura Merlino, Harriet David, Michael Culligan, Angelina Camuglia, Dr Leonado Dimaculangan, Jennifer Bast, Doug Kemp, Carmel Cullinan, Francesca Vizzari, Anthony Zovaro, Eric Pewal, Chris Elliott, Paola Pilosio, John Ferranda, Olivero Vendramin, Thomas Murickananickal & Kochappan, Joseph, Anna Nguyen, Gordon Bridges, John Baptist Nguyen, Giuseppe Rubbo, Teofilo Zamora, Paul, Filomena Agostino, Marie Madeleine Danev, Nicola Betro, Margaret Sharpe, Tamam Koloj, Helen Timpanaro, Mario Gemin, John Ryan, John Kennedy, Antoinette Constable, Ludivina Green, Agata Rodi, John Baptista Zammit, Catherine and John Manning, Joe and Mary Mangion, Rema Flannery, Margaret Jean Sharpe, John Pomroy, Mary & Ernest Vanzella, Gaetano Patamia, Filomena Agostino, Nino Restuccia, Ruby Madera, Caoile Families, Iannacito, Funaro & Di Iorio Families, Guiseppe & Maria Idiotta, Whiteford Family, Culligan Family, Cootes Family, Zammit Family, DeBono Family, Moses Family, Nancy's Family, Dahdah Family, Wheeler & Higgins Families, Morson Family, Abraham, George & Cherote Families, Kennedy and McGovern Families, John White, June Bates, Dorothy Vantwest, Thelma & Stephen Muller & Family, Soloman Family, Merrell, Bourke, Gielis & Shields Families, deceased members of St Vincent de Paul Society, dearly departed souls and all souls in Purgatory.

Please pray for the sick especially:

Jim Branley, David Bagnato, Angela, Imogen Warner, Rosaria Natalina Patamia, Felice Minutillo, Charlie Rossini, Kelly & Ursula, Giuseppina Algozzino, Peggy Kerr, Viru, Fr Paul Boyers, Kevin McGrath, John and Betty Gattenhof, Esther and Terry Tully, Gary and Leslie Mc Grath, Rosa Mastro, Tanya Greenaway, Gianna, Matthew, Luisa, Zia Pina, Grace Comare, Veronica Rutherford, Sean Peters, Elizabeth Esguerra, Juliet Walsh, Barbara Wayne, , Marilyn Deguara, Elijah, Adrian Vanzella, Matthew Chan, John Rodrigues, Belinda Nicholls, Nan Peters, Carmela Smigliani, Shinta Widzaza, Alan Borg, Rosa Maria Santos, Bhupinder Tamber, Rebecca Sinclair, Marina Arasaratnam, Teresa Domalewski, Adel Abraham, Anne Vassily, Gloria Clark, Kim Long, Bob & Marion Merrell, Terry Murphy, Stacey Spencer, Joanne Ford, David, Celia and Gomes Family, Warwick Cook, Louise, James Anthony Manassa, June Corcoran, Rosina Morson, Celina Shaw, Laurence O'Connell, Sam Carroll, Dr Bede Muller, Robert Carey, Carmen Zammit, Mario Bianco, Rochelle Rodrigues, Kevin Desouza, Pat Toohey, Charmaine Yu, Anne Collins, Anna Viteznik, Adrian Walker, Lauren Wedd, Sara Benjamin & Family, Peter Weinfeoe, Ivy Ross, Dr Siri Kannangara, Maria Rosa de Angelis, Frank Zappia, Cecily Culligan

Mass Intentions / Offerings (Effective 25 March 2020)

Mass intentions/offerings are welcome. Please email Fr Chaminda on mcrwanigasena@gmail.com

Information Required: Intention and the date intention to be offered. eg, kindly offer Mass for the soul of _____, on date. Please indicate if it for a special reason please eg, anniversary of death, recently deceased.

If your intention is related to recovery of illness, please supply name of the sick person and the date you would like the Mass offered.

For all other intentions please state basic intentions and the requested date.

If you or anyone you know within the Parish is experiencing distress or anxiety during this current situation, our priests are available to have a chat over the phone (parish office 9743 1023, please leave a message if unattended) or alternatively you can email Fr Chaminda on mcrwanigasena@gmail.com so that he may contact you.

In the event that you or someone you know is experiencing problems with lack of food please contact CatholicCare on 131819.

A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney

Abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you – or anyone you know – have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org or call (02) 9390 5810 or You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance.

The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

ST AMBROSE CHURCH IS TEMPORARILY CLOSED DUE TO COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,
I believe that You
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

Your intentions will be offered to God by us
in our private masses.

Fr. Brian Egan (Parish priest)
Fr. Chaminda Wanigasena (Assistant Priest)

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING PROJECT COMPASSION 2020

COVID-19 is affecting all of us. In these challenging times, your kindness and solidarity can make a world of difference to the lives of the most vulnerable. Your support is life saving.

**DO YOU HAVE PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES
AND CASH TO HAND IN?**

We know that many of you may not be able to hand in your PC Boxes, or cash, to parishes or schools at this time.

Did you know that you can go online at 'lent.caritas.org.au' and securely donate with your credit card, or you can send a cheque to Caritas Australia, GPO Box 9830, Sydney, NSW 2001. Alternatively, if you require assistance with your PC Box or cash Please call our friendly team on 1800 024 413.

Prayer Resources during time of Pandemic

The Archdiocese of Sydney has a dedicated webpage with prayers and scriptural reflections to help nurture your faith during these difficult times. You'll find the webpage here-

<https://www.sydneycatholic.org/coronavirus-updates/prayer-resources-for-the-coronavirus-pandemic/>

The poster is set against a background of various food items like rice, oil, and cereal. It features a large white box with text and a list of needed items. At the bottom right, there is a logo for JRS Australia, which includes a stylized human figure icon and the text "JRS AUSTRALIA" and "REFUGEE SERVICE".

JRS FOODBANK

During these unprecedented times people seeking asylum in the community need your help now more than ever. Non-perishable food, toiletries and financial donations are desperately needed and appreciated.

Food items:	Toiletries:
- Basmati Rice	- Nappies (large sizes)
- Cooking Oil	- Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- Long life milk	- Shampoo
- Tinned tuna, red kidney beans, lentils, chickpeas and fruit	- Sanitary pads and napkins
- Biscuits and muesli bars	- Razors and shaving foam
- Oats and cereal	- Deodorant (male & female)
	- Soap

Thank you for walking with us at this critical time! We provide emergency payments and food to hundreds of individuals, including children to pay for rent and life-saving medications. These individuals do not have access to Centrelink, Medicare, the pharmaceutical benefits scheme so your support is critical.

Please contact Amelia.Savage@jrs.org.au to donate.

