



PARISH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION, NORTH WODEN

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6-7 JUNE 2020, The Most Holy Trinity Sunday Year A

MAY THE DECEASED REST IN PEACE AND RISE IN EASTER GLORY

Recently Deceased: John De Salis, Peter Tarantello, Fr Frank Morrissey OMI, Maria Phan Thi Nhuong, Paul Rollings, Fr Michael O’Dea, Hannah Sowry, Ruth Dunn, Colleen Cotter, Sr Mary Agnes (Carmelite Convent, Red Hill), Alec Reynolds, Cecil Wagstaff, Denis Hogan, Victims of the Corona virus, Noel Bissett, Bruce Fuller, Fr Peter Morrissey, Kathleen Rennie (parishioner since 1967), Four Victorian Police Officers, Sheila Rohan, Malcolm Allison, Shirley Evans, Keith Mc Laughlin, Hilda Quinones, Gloria Tin, Joyce Ryan, Maureen Boyle, Don Furner, Richard Arnel, Rod Frazer, Mary-Anne McGrath.

Anniversaries of Death: Tano Travia, Ellen Woods, Kathleen Majer, Molly Poole, Brian Lacey, Vonnie Beath, Margaret Joyce, Wendy Egan, Cecily Howden, Frank Williams, Kathleen Rowe, John Frawley, Doris Falzon and Falzon family members, Hartung and Marlow family members, Richard Pugh, Rosario Suazo, Gary Woods, Jack Perry, George Pugh, Desmond Lilley, Sylvia Cronin, Policarpio Barawid.

MAY THE SICK BE COMFORTED BY OUR PRAYERS

Emma Lowe, Hilary Halpin, Margaret Wilson, Rose Winstanley, Joseph Garside, those afflicted with Corona virus, Bella Davison, Leah Yaxley, John Kololo, Frederick Schinkel, Maree Peters, Witlock family, Timothy Francis Roberts, Rosa B Nguyen, Lourdes A Bautista, David Sandground, Kathleen Stuart, Dick Barry, Luke Ward, Eric Reiher, John Vincent, David Parker, Mark Shepherd, Violet Webster, Lucy Duncan, Rod Duncan, Edith Schumann, Kevin Cains, Stephen Evans, Dermott Cummins.

TO BE IS TO BE IN COMMUNION: SOLEMNITY OF TRINITY SUNDAY

During the week Pope Francis phoned Bishop Mark Seitz, bishop of El Paso Texas after his participation in a demonstration against racial discrimination. Pope Francis congratulated him for his stance. Bishop Mark told the pope *“that I felt it was imperative to show our solidarity to those who are suffering”* (CathNews, 5 June). Images of peaceful protest and violent unrest from across the USA bespeak underlying issues. *“Chanon Bah, 31, said she’s tried to explain the demonstrations to her 3-year-old son Cairo. Watching the television of riot police advancing on unarmed protestors has confused him, she said. “Mommy, who’s the bad guy?” he asked. “I tried to explain that sometimes, the police are the good guys, but sometimes they’re not,” Bah said. “We talk a lot about feelings. That maybe those people out there are not mad. Maybe they’re sad. Or scared”* (Washington Post 2 June).

God has met us in our needs, in our fears. He has become one-with-us, conquering all that separates us, even death. Today’s celebration of the Solemnity of the Holy Trinity affirms that as for God, so for us: to be is to be in communion. It was reflection of the post New Testament church on their experience that led to their understanding of God as three persons in one divine essence; Father, Son and Spirit. The Greek *koinonia* used with respect to the grace that results from being in communion under the influence of the Holy Spirit *“is not easily rendered in English. ‘Fellowship’ sounds too ‘churchy’, ‘communion’ too ‘theological’ – though it is probably to be preferred. ‘Koinonia’ refers to the bond created between the members through their common participation in a third thing. Here the third ‘thing’ is the experience of the Spirit. It is this experience, common to all believers, that is the foundation of unity”* (Brendan Byrne SJ).

Of course, the Spirit of God moves beyond yet consistent with the movement amongst believers. And so in the ‘consistent ethic of life’ espoused by the Church, respect for the dignity of each and every person is affirmed from the ‘womb to the tomb’. Pope Francis has therefore spoken of racism as a pro-life issue. He has also noted that violence begets violence and undermines community.

Living in communion under the Spirit and endeavouring as the Second Vatican Council reminds us to be *'a sign and instrument'* of God's love in the world, today's Gospel concludes with a stark affirmation and ongoing challenge. **Our response to the love of God made visible in Jesus will be judged not just on what we claim but what we do too. A true believer acts in accordance with their belief, after the model of Jesus who came to us in our need. As he did, so we are called to reach out to those most in need – the sad, the hurting, the fearful and the scared.**

However we are not called to respond simply on our own; we exist in community. We are reminded of this in the concluding verse of our Second Reading and the greeting with which we sometimes begin Mass: *"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all."* **Being so greeted and renewed in the liturgy, we seek to be that 'good news' of communion or oneness with God and each other, especially those most in need.**

Fr John

ONLINE LIVE STREAMING OF DAILY MASS: Mass is now live streamed from the chapel of St Christopher's Cathedral at 12.15pm, Monday-Friday, 9.00am Saturday and 11.00am Sunday. **NB: Being a live stream, you will need to access the Mass at the specific time by going to www.catholicvoice@cg.org.au.**

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL met last Thursday. Noted that many parishioners are perhaps not across emails etc. If you know of someone who needs assistance in that regard and cannot assist directly, please let the parish office know. Again, if you know of a parishioner who has not signed up to receive the parish bulletin email, have them forward their email address to the parish office. If you could assist with Children's Liturgy when Sunday Mass resumes, please contact the parish office. **PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL** met last Wednesday. Necessary maintenance work has continued, including new switchboard for Holy Trinity Church at cost of over \$8k.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL COVID-19 APPEAL, in lieu of the usual Winter Appeal and in response to increasing need as a result of the pandemic, seeks your support. You can donate at www.vinnies.org.au/covid19crisisappeal or by calling 13 18 12

MARRIAGE, FAMILY AND RELATIONSHIPS OFFICE OF THE ARCHDIOCESE invites Married couples to a free online conference, **'Catholic Marriage Summit'**, Thurs 11 to Sat 13 June featuring Catholic couples sharing on their living of the Sacrament of Marriage, <https://www.joyfuleverafter.org/>. Access afterwards and to materials arising is available from Lara Kirk, lara.kirk@cg.org.au 0429 192 869.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT: In lieu of the **First (for the support of the clergy of the Archdiocese) and Second Collection (for the support of the parish plant and programmes)**, you can still contribute by going to <https://www.bpoint.com.au/CATHOLICDEVELOPMENTFUNDARCHDIOCESEOFCANBERRA>. You can also contribute via the Qkr! App. **Thank you to those who during the pandemic have dropped off contributions to the Parish Office and, or who continue to do so via established electronic transactions.**

PARISH MEDITATION GROUP will continue to meet online. Details from Vikki McDonough, 0437 876 487 / mulvaney@netspeed.com.au

PROJECT COMPASSION: To date \$1451.95 has been received. If you still have any PC envelopes or boxes, these can be brought to the Parish Office, Monday, Wednesday or Friday, 9am - 3pm.

PARISH FACEBOOK PAGE: Early days but check it out at 'North Woden Parish Transfiguration'. Comments, thoughts?

Prayer Circle Support: Cathy Harris, 6281 2574.

Readings for The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) Sunday (A): Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14-16; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17; John 6:51-58.