

ST. ALOYSIUS GONZAGA CATHOLIC PARISH OF CRONULLA

Incorporating: Our Lady of the Way Church, Bundeena & St John Fisher, Kurnell
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AS A COMMUNITY WE SERVE GOD

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SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

Prayer of the Church: Psalter Week 3

Entrance Antiphon:

O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.
I will sing to the Lord who has been
bountiful with me.

Responsorial Psalm:

The Lord is kind and merciful.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! Whoever keeps the
word of Christ, grows perfect in the
love of God. **Alleluia!**

Communion Antiphon:

I will recount all your wonders, I will
rejoice in you and be glad, and sing
psalms to your name, O Most High.

Acknowledgement to Country

St Aloysius Catholic Parish
acknowledges the Gweagal people of
the Dharawal Nation as the traditional
owners who have walked upon and
cared for this land for thousands of
years.

We acknowledge the continued deep
spiritual attachment and relationship
of Aboriginal and Torres Strait
Islander Peoples to this country and
commit ourselves in prayer and
action to the ongoing journey of
Reconciliation.

Congratulations To

Luca Banic and May Moffat
whom we welcome to our
Catholic community this
weekend. Through his Baptism
we pray they will love and serve
the Lord always.

Please be aware that all relevant
Archdiocese Policy, Protocols and
guidelines for safeguarding children, are
public documents and are available on the
Sydney Archdiocese website.

"We need to **see each
child as a gift** to be
welcomed, cherished and
protected." Pope Francis



Reflection from Deacon Greg Alessi

If someone insults you or tries to take advantage of you, how do you respond? Do you repay in kindness? Jesus approached the question of just retribution with a surprising revelation of God's intention for how we should treat others, especially those who mistreat us. When Jesus spoke about God's law, he did something no one had done before. He gave a new standard based not just on the requirements of justice - giving each their due - but based on the law of grace, love, and freedom.

Jesus knew the moral law and its intention better than any jurist or legal expert could imagine. He quoted from the oldest recorded law in the world: *If any harm follows, then you shall give life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burn for burn, wound for wound, stripe for stripe* (Exodus 21:23-25). Such a law today seems cruel, but it was meant to limit vengeance as a first step towards mercy. Jesus does something quite remarkable and unheard of. He transforms the law of mercy with grace, forbearance, and loving-kindness. Jesus also makes clear that there is no room for retaliation. We must not only avoid returning evil for evil, but we must seek the good of those who wish us ill.

What makes a disciple of Jesus Christ different from everyone else? What makes Christianity distinct from any other religion? It is grace - treating others, not as they deserve, but as God wishes them to be treated - with loving-kindness and mercy. Only the cross of Jesus Christ can free us from the tyranny of malice, hatred, revenge, and resentment and gives us the courage to return evil with good. Such love and grace has power to heal and to save from destruction. The Lord Jesus suffered insult, abuse, injustice, and death on a cross for our sake. Since God has been merciful towards us through the offering of his Son, Jesus Christ, we in turn are called to be merciful towards our neighbour, even those who cause us grief and harm.

How can we possibly love those who cause us harm or ill-will? With God all things are possible. He gives power and grace to those who believe and accept the gift of the Holy Spirit. His love conquers all, even our hurts, fears, prejudices and griefs. Only the cross of Jesus Christ can free us from the tyranny of malice, hatred, revenge, and resentment and gives us the courage to return evil with good. Such love and grace has power to heal and to save from destruction.

God knows our sinfulness and weaknesses better than we do - and he assures us of his love, mercy, and help. That is why he freely gives us his power, strength, and gifts so that we may not lack anything we need to do his will and to live as his sons and daughters (2 Peter 1:3). Do you want to grow in your love for God and for your neighbour? Ask the Holy Spirit to purify and transform you in the image of the Father that you may know and live in the joy and freedom of the Gospel.



**First reading: Leviticus 19:1-2,17-18 ::::**

You must love your neighbour as yourself.

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said: 'Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them:

"Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy.

"You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord."

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

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 102:1-4,8,10,12-13 ::::

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. **R.**

It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. **R.**

The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy. He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults. **R.**

As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. As a father has compassion on his sons, the Lord has pity on those who fear him. **R.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:16-23 ::::

You belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

Didn't you realise that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple.

Make no mistake about it: if any one of you thinks of himself as wise, in the ordinary sense of the word, then he must learn to be a fool before he really can be wise. Why? Because the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God. As scripture says: The Lord knows wise men's thoughts: he knows how useless they are; or again: God is not convinced by the arguments of the wise. So there is nothing to boast about in anything human: Paul, Apollos, Cephas, the world, life and death, the present and the future, are all your servants; but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

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

Gospel: Matthew 5:38-48 ::::

Love your enemies.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You have learnt how it was said: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well; if a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles

with him. Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons of your Father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike. For if you love those who love you, what right have you to claim any credit? Even the tax collectors do as much, do they not? And if you save your greetings for your brothers, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not? You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Lent 2020: A Journey of Reconciliation, Reflection and Renewal

Join fellow travellers this Lent on a Spiritual Journey of Reconciliation, Prayerful Reflection and renewal on matters that are part of our present-day experiences.

Sessions will run for 1 hour every Wednesday during Lent at 7pm in the Chapel at St Aloysius. Structure will include:

Prayer and Scriptural Reference

Information: guest speaker and/or background material

followed by discussion Time for Personal Reflection

Summary and commitment to possible personal action plan

Concludes with a relevant Prayer/Hymn

Wednesday 4th March: Protecting Our Home

Focus is on Pope Francis' Encyclical, '*Laudato Si'*' and what we can do as individuals to help protect God's creation ('*our common home*').

Wednesday 11th March: Refugees and Asylum Seekers

Focus is on how we can, as individuals, do more to support these people.

We need to be clear in our understanding of 'who is our neighbour'.

Wednesday 18th March: Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking

A Catholic perspective on how we can be aware of this issue and what we can do, as individuals and communities, to be more aware as we make decisions on purchasing products and services.

Wednesday 25th March: Mental Wellbeing

Focus is on families and young people and their need to experience understanding and support from all in their life for issues that concern them personally.

Wednesday 1st April: Breaking Open the 'Uluru Statement from the Heart'

(This session will be held at St John Fisher Catholic Church, Kurnell)
How should we respond, as Christians, to this Statement from our Indigenous Brothers and Sisters in 'Christ'? Can we join with our First Nations Peoples on their journey of **Voice, Treaty and Truth** with respect and love?

All are welcome to join this special Journey that takes us on a range of spiritual encounters as we prepare for the joy of the Resurrection at Easter.

This Lenten Journey has been designed and prepared by members of the St Aloysius Social Justice Group in consultation with Fr James McCarthy, local Catholic School leaders and various Catholic organisations within the Archdiocese of Sydney. Parishioners from nearby parishioners are most welcome to attend.

Calendar and Activities for the Coming Week

Monday:	Parish Office closed.
Tuesday:	Legion of Mary: 3.30pm in the Parish Centre. Social Justice Group: 5.00pm in the Parish Centre.
Wednesday:	Ash Wednesday: see bulletin for Mass times. Playgroup: 10.00am at Thornton Hall.
Thursday:	Finance Committee meeting: 6.30pm in the Parish Centre.
Friday:	Stations of the Cross: 7.00pm at St Aloysius Church.
Saturday:	Care & Concern Friendship Dinner: 6.00pm at Thornton Hall.

Stations of the Cross on Fridays in Lent

9.15am at St Francis De Sales Primary
12pm and 7pm at St Aloysius Cronulla
7pm starts on 28 February
9.15am & 12pm from 6 March

Weekday Mass Schedule for the Next Week

Tuesday 25 February - 7am Mass ONLY

(for soul of Brian Small)

Wednesday 26 February—Ash Wednesday

Thursday 27 February

7am Mass (Cronulla)

9.15am Mass (at St Francis de Sales Primary)

Friday 28 February -

8.15am today at De La Cronulla

7pm—Stations of the Cross (Cronulla)

Saturday 29 February

8am Mass

National Church Bushfire Appeal :: Thank you

Special collections at Masses across Australia on the Australia Day weekend raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to support people and communities affected by the devastating bushfires. Catholic Emergency Relief Australia (CERA) is a new collaboration of national Catholic organisations that will help coordinate the Church's ongoing response to the bushfire crisis and future domestic natural disasters. Find out more at www.cera.catholic.org.au

Project Compassion Begins during Lent

Envelopes and Boxes are available on the tables at the back of the Church so that you can begin to get ready for Lent.

Mass Schedule for Ash Wednesday - 26 February

(Day of Fasting and Abstinence)

St Aloysius Cronulla: 7am, 9.30am (with school students), 7pm

Mass at Stella Maris Cronulla: 11.15am

Mass: De La Salle College (School Hall) 12pm

Mass at OLMC School, Burraneer: 2pm

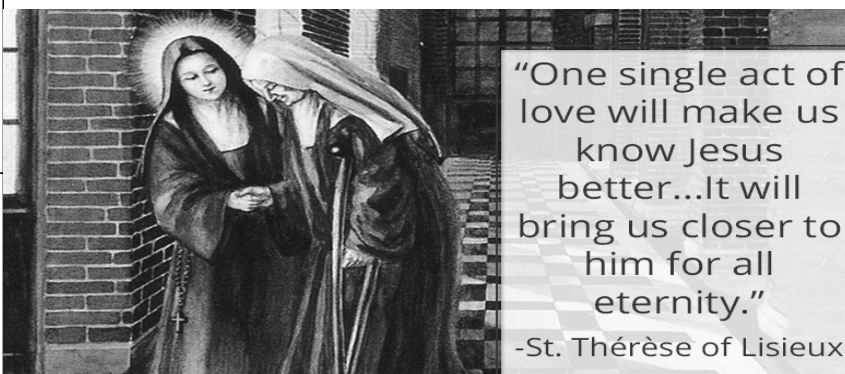
Mass at Bundeena: 7pm

Parishioners are welcome at all Masses

Abstinence from meat, and fasting, **must be observed by Catholics on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.** All who have completed their 18th year and have not yet begun their 60th year are **bound to fast.** All who have completed their 14th year are **bound to abstain.** **Lent in 2020 begins on Wednesday 26 February and continues until the Mass of the Lord's Supper (9 April).** The Easter Fast is observed during the Triduum on Good Friday until the Easter Vigil on the evening of 11 April.

Monday Night Lenten Program: 6pm—All Welcome

Please join us at 6pm in the chapel for a 5 week program during Lent, starting on Monday 2 March. The program will consist of reflecting on the Gospels of Lent, prayer and following the journey of St Therese of Lisieux from birth to sainthood. Each session will run for approximately 1 hour. No cost involved except your time! Please call Vicki Rolland on 0414523449 for more details.



Confirmation Parent Formation Evening—10 March, 7pm

The Confirmation Program, for students in Yr 6-Yr 8 will occur during Term 2 this year, with registration to occur online between 24 to 28 March, with an enrolment Mass to finalise all enrolments on 29 March at 6pm.



A Parent Formation Evening to discuss the upcoming Confirmation Program will occur at 7pm in the Parish Hall on Tuesday 10 March. At least one parent/guardian of each candidate enrolling will need to attend. Candidates should not attend the Parent Evening.

Nominate Now to Join One of the New Parish Committees!

The Parish has established three new committees to coordinate and lead the missionary and renewal activities of the Parish.

Some nominations have already been received. **Nominations will be received by the Parish Office until Tuesday 25 February.** Nominate by contacting the Parish Office. Please indicate the committee you are interested in participating in and something about the experience that you might bring to this missionary activity. The Pastoral Council will then discern the nominations to form the committees to begin during Lent this year.

It is anticipated that Committees will meet a minimum of 4 times per year. The three committees are the WORSHIP committee, the FORMATION Committee, and the GOOD TIMES/BAD TIMES Committee.

Ministerial Duties Next Weekend 29th February and 1st March							DIRECTORY Pastor..... Rev James McCarthy Email..... james.mccarthy@sydneycatholic.org Permanent Deacon..... Deacon Greg Alessi SeminarianMark Anderson Pastoral Associate.....Mrs Cathy Sammut Email pastoral@stalcron.org.au SecretaryMrs Kim Plummer Youth Minister Miss Anna Sammut Email.....anna@stalcron.org.au Parish Centre18 Giddings Ave CRONULLA 2230 Office Hours 8.30 am to 4.00 pm Tuesday to Friday Phone 02 8522 0300 Email..... admin@stalcron.org.au Website www.stalcron.org.au  Like us on Facebook St Aloysius Parish Cronulla
Masses Cronulla	Vigil Mass Saturday 5.00pm	8.00 am Sunday	10.00 am Sunday	6.00 pm Sunday	Bundeena Sunday 9.00am	Nursing Home	
Acolyte and Senior Servers							
Extraordinary Communion Ministers	I. O'Neill K. Eaton J. Bryant	P. Elwin L. Tesoriero A. Tesoriero F. Schembri	A. Palumbo F. O'Driscoll B. Slamon K. Vitanov	C. Snow T. Merlino R. Driscoll P. Morris			
Ministers Of the Word	M. Fennell	F. Schembri P. Elwin	C. Ianelli	R. Driscoll V. Ohis	M. Venn B. Maughan		
Prayer of the Faithful	M. Ball	M. Downes	S. Schembri	M. Brbot	J. Hills		
Children's Liturgy					Church Work Beate		
Cleaning (Saturday)	M. Donnellan L. Beaudoire						
Parish Counting Groups	This Week Group 3 A. Wagner, J. & M. Bainbridge, J. Lynch		Next Week Group 4 M. & S. Barlow, G. Newcombe, J. Small, M. Remedios, B. de Souza				

Mass and other Liturgical Schedules (Regular Schedule)

Sunday:

St Aloysius Church, Cronulla **Vigil Mass:** Saturday 5.00pm. **Sunday Masses:** 8.00am, 10.00am, 6.00pm
 Our Lady of the Way Church, Bundeena: **Sunday Mass:** 9am

Weekday Masses : St Aloysius Church, Cronulla: Monday: (No Mass)

Mass Tuesday: 7am (Cronulla only)
Wednesday : 7am & 9.15am
Thursday: 7am (Cronulla)
9.15am (At St Francis de Sales during School Terms)
Friday: 8.15am (At De La Salle Cronulla)

Mass Saturday: 8.00am (10.30am Anointing Mass on 1st Saturday of every 2nd month)

Weekday Masses during School Holidays (Tuesday to Saturday): 8am (at St Aloysius Church)

Weekday Masses at Stella Maris Aged Care Chapel—Coast Rd, Cronulla - 11.15am on Wednesday and Friday.

Sacrament of Penance (Confession) St Aloysius Church, Cronulla: Sat 4.15pm (or on request)

Our Lady of the Way Church, Bundeena: Before Sunday Mass.



We pray for **June Marler, Bernard Connellan, Elizabeth Beer, Beryl Moore, Frank Bonar, Terry McGee, Brenda Laxton and Dorothy Hennessy** who died recently. We pray for **Barbara Short and Eithne Gallagher** whose anniversaries occur around this time.

Let us also remember our relatives and friends who have departed this life, especially Reginald Buncombe, Brian Small, Gordon O'Donnell, Luke O'Donnell, Mick McMahon, Thelma & Ron Stannard, Harold Newcombe, Joseph Anthony Casaceli, Jim Downes, Helen Forbes, Mary Mullins and her sisters Monica and Julia, Jean & Jim Quinn, Paul & Jean Givney, Allan & Laurel Howarth and Megan Howarth.

MAY THEIR SOULS AND ALL THE SOULS OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED REST IN PEACE



Friendship across the sea

The St Aloysius Parish Community Cronulla
 linked in friendship with
 St Joseph Parish Hato Udo Timor Leste

