

Fourth Sunday of Lent

26th March 2017

Entrance Antiphon: Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

First Reading from the first book of Samuel 16: 1, 6-7, 10-13

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second Reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians 5: 5-14

Gospel Acclamation: Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL: According to John 9: 1-41

Communion Antiphon: The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed, I saw and I believed in God.

MASS & STATIONS OF THE CROSS

First Friday of the month

Friday 7th April 2017 7.00pm

There will be Mass followed by Stations of the Cross



SYDNEY ARCHDIOCES NEWS:

CATHOLICCARE - Supporting the people of Sydney for 75 years. Our Early Intervention team work hard to ensure every child who is part of our programs can achieve their full potential. To find out more call **13 18 19**, email connect@catholiccare.org or visit www.catholiccare.org.

FATHERS ON TAP. Wednesday, **29 March** 5.30pm Mass, 6.00pm Dinner, 7.00pm Talk: Bishop Richard Umbers speaks on: "*Social Media: Friend or Foe? How do we re-evangelise the fathers?*" @ The Two Wolves Cantina, 202 Broadway, Chippendale. **RSVP** to David **0437 679 865**.

Men's Lenten Retreat Day – Notre Dame Sydney

On Saturday, 8 April from 09:30am to 4:30pm. The day will include Mass, time for reflection and reconciliation, lunch, afternoon tea, and inspiring talks. This year we have three fantastic speakers who will present the sessions: • Bishop Richard Umbers • Fr. Brendan Purcell • Fr. James Baxter OP The retreat will take place at The University of Notre Dame Australia on Broadway campus. Event is free, registration essential: <http://www.trybooking.com/PERK> or (02) 8204 4189.

St Christopher's Parish Holsworthy

We are a community striving for growth, unity, equality, love and commitment

Administrator: Rev. Andrew James
Assistant Priest: Rev Thomas Alukka Varghese
Permanent Deacon: Rev. Mr. Al Salu
Secretary: Mrs. Anne Bennell
Parish Office Hours Mon 10.00am—3.00pm
Tues & Thurs 9.00am—3.00pm
Address: 205 Heathcote Rd Holsworthy 2173
All correspondence to: PO Box 389, Moorebank 1875
Website: www.stchristophers.org.au
Email: stchris@tpg.com.au
Tel: (02) 9825 1679
Fax: (02) 9825 1488



St Christopher's Catholic School—*Through faith and love we serve*

Principal: Mr. Tony Boyd
School Tel: (02) 9825 3251
School Mail: 195 Heathcote Rd Holsworthy 2173

Fourth Sunday of Lent— Year A

26th March 2017



Our Lord, by the power of his word alone, could have healed the dis-ease of this man, blind since birth. Yet, he made a paste with spittle and put it over the eyes of the blind man. Just as God would have moistened the dust of the earth to shape the first human being, for the blind man, it was as though he had been created anew.

God rarely works by telepathy but has a preferred way of working through the elements of creation, especially in the Sacraments. So, with the Anointing of the Sick, pressing olive oil onto the forehead and hands of the sick or dying symbolises the Holy Spirit entering the very pores of the sick person, relieving that person of undue anxiety and giving strength for the next stage of life.

This sacrament is a formal ritual of healing by the Church. But there are a million informal ways, such as putting one's arm around someone who is lonely or unwell, which are sacramental to the world.

We could pause for a moment that we might go into the world like the man healed by Jesus, eyes wide open to see where we might exercise the healing power of the Lord of the Gospel.

Fr. Michael Tate ©

Parish Collections

19/3/2017 **First:** \$563.30 **Second:** \$1,003.45

St Christopher's Parish news:

stations
of the
cross



STATIONS OF THE CROSS are held in the Church on Friday evening's at 7pm during Lent.



Palm Sunday 9th April 2017 as usual we will be in need of Palms. Please phone the Parish Office on 9825 1679 if you will be able to donate a few branches. *Palms can be left in the church foyer on Friday 7th April 2017.*

SACRAMENT OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION there are enrolments forms in the church foyer for any parents whose child is eligible to receive this Sacrament. (Baptised Catholic and has received the Sacrament of Reconciliation). Once completed the form can be placed in the box in the church foyer, the parish Secretary will contact you upon her return on Tuesday 28th March 2017.

200 Club (cash raffle) The Fundraising Committee have only a few more tickets to sell then we can commence the raffle. The Fundraising Committee will be selling tickets after each of the Mass this weekend. All funds raised go towards the upkeep of the church.



PARISH FUNDRAISING DATES FOR 2017

March - Sale of "200 Club tickets"	April—Draw of "200 Club tickets"
May— Cake Stall (Date to be confirmed)	July 23rd BINGO
August—Sale of Christmas Raffle tickets	September 16th PARISH FETE
December 9th—Draw Christmas Raffle	

The Craft Stall always welcomes 'homemade items' knitted scarves, tea towels, baby items etc to sell. **The Garden Stall** is always in need of plants, while it is warm why not propagate some plants now and they will be established by Spring. Please keep these dates in your diary.

Next Nursing Home Mass will be Tuesday 11th April 2017 at 11am.

Offering Envelopes



CHURCH PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Parishioners as you are aware that the NSW State Government legislative made changes to the Planned Giving envelopes that no tax deductions can be issued from the 1st January 2017.

However, it is important for the ongoing future of the parish that Planned Giving donations continue in parishes. The regular giving of parishioners in this format is a way for our parish to be able to

budget for the ongoing expenses of the parish. There are forms in the church foyer should you wish to contribute to the Planned Giving envelopes.

Mass Intentions

Saturday 25th March 5.30pm.....Special Intention
Sunday 26th March 8.00amSpecial Intention
Sunday 26th March 9.30am.....Parish Intentions
Monday 27th March 9.15am.....Vocations
Tuesday 28th March 9.15am.....Special Intention
Wednesday 29th March 9.15am.....Souls in Purgatory
Thursday 30th March 9.15amFor the Sick
Friday 31st March 9.15amAustralian troupes serving overseas
Saturday 1st April**Reconciliation : 4:30 PM // Vigil Mass :5:30PM**

Syro-Malabar Liturgies:

Wednesday Mass at 7.00pm
Thursday Mass at 7.00pm followed by Adoration (in English)
Friday Mass at 7.00pm **except on the First Friday of the Month. During Lent Mass will follow Stations of the Cross.**
Saturday Mass at 9.30am
Every Sunday Mass at 11.30am **on the Third Sunday of the Month** this will be conducted in the School Hall.

The Samoan Community celebrates a **Sunday Mass** in the Church on the **Third Sunday of the Month at 11.30am.**

PARISH 2020

Parish 2020, the new pastoral project launched last year, is a journey of renewal in the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney. It is about all of us working together to explore and discern God's will for our Archdiocese. From January to March 2017, the Archbishop wishes to hear the views and opinions of as many people as possible across the Archdiocese on ways of renewing and strengthening our Parishes and communities for our future. You are invited to complete an online survey by visiting <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2V7XL9X>

*For those unfamiliar with technology, a paper version of the same survey is available at the back of the Church. **Completed surveys can be placed in the (First Communion forms Box at the back of the Church.***

For further information, presentations, resources and updates please visit <http://www.sydneycatholic.org/parishes/parish2020/>.

Information Contact: Parish 2020 Working Group – parish2020@sydneycatholic.org or 9390 5233



The next **Working Bee** will be held on **Saturday 1st April 1-4pm** please leave your contact details on the form provided.

We Pray For The Sick : Cyril Ferriere & Ian Howe

Recently deceased:

Anniversaries: