

**Fifth Sunday of Lent**

**2nd April 2017**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

**First Reading from the prophet Ezekiel 37: 12-14**

**Responsorial Psalm:** With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

**Second Reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 8: 8-11**

**Gospel Acclamation:** Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will not die for ever. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

**GOSPEL: According to John 11: 1-45**

**Communion Antiphon:** Everyone who lives and believes in me will not die for ever, says the Lord.

### **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](mailto:parish2020@sydneycatholic.org) or 9390 5233*

**We Pray For The Sick :** Cyril Ferriere

**Recently deceased:**

**Anniversaries:** Mark Cavallaro, Alfonso Miranda Leon &  
Rosa Flores De Miranda

## **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](http://www.stchristophers.org.au)  
**Email:** [stchris@tpg.com.au](mailto:stchris@tpg.com.au)  
**Tel:** (02) 9825 1679  
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### **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

## **Fifth Sunday of Lent— Year A**

**2nd April 2017**



The third, fourth and fifth Sundays of Lent in Year A feature significant passages from the gospel of John. The first of the three readings was the story of the Samaritan woman at the well, to whom Jesus described himself as Living Water. The second was the healing of the blind man and Jesus declaring himself to be the Light of the World. In today's passage about the death and raising of Lazarus, Jesus declares, 'I am the resurrection and the life.' Living Water; Light of the World; and the Resurrection and the Life – three important images of Jesus that all emerge from the gospel of John. Each of the events relate to Jesus' response to some physical need: thirst; blindness; and death. However, in each case, Jesus not only responds to the physical need but also reveals a truth about himself that leads people to belief.

The raising of Lazarus marks a turning point in the gospel of John. Chapter 11 concludes with the Jewish authorities plotting to arrest Jesus and then Chapter 12 begins the final week of Jesus' life in Jerusalem. The significance of this episode is highlighted by the disciples who question Jesus about the wisdom of going back to Judea when the people there had wanted to stone Jesus to death. In going to save the life of his friend, Lazarus, Jesus knows that he is journeying towards his own death. In fact, the end of Chapter 11 makes clear that it is some of the witnesses to the raising of Lazarus who go and complain to the authorities and precipitate the action against Jesus. In the gospel of John, it is the episode with Lazarus that effectively signs Jesus' death warrant. The gospel makes clear that Jesus gives up his own life so that Lazarus may live.

*Fr. Greg Sunter*

### Parish Collections

26/2017 **First:** \$1,040.00 **Second:** \$1,082.20

### **St Christopher's Parish news:**



**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.**

**200 Club (cash raffle)** The Fundraising Committee have less than 20 tickets to sell then we can commence the raffle. There will be sellers after each of the Mass this weekend. All funds raised go towards the upkeep of the church.



### **PARISH FUNDRAISING DATES FOR 2017**

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

### **Parish Fete:**

**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.

### **St. Christopher's Youth Group:**

Hello St. Christopher's youth group and parents, Just wanted to say thank you to all who helped and participated in our Youth Gathering on Sunday, 26th March, 2017. We all had a great time; playing games, and breaking open the word of God through a Bible study session. Special thanks to Fiona, Farrah and family who baked and brought cupcakes to share. They were delicious! For your information, I will be away on holiday throughout the month of April. Those who attended the last gathering would have been informed already. Marion and Ivan Fernandez from the St. Cecilia Choir have kindly offered to run a session in April during my absence. Please stay tuned for more information. *Marie—Youth Coordinator*

### **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. Should you wish to contribute to the Planned Giving envelopes there are forms in the church foyer.

### Mass Intentions

Saturday 1st April 5.30pm.....Special Intention  
Sunday 2nd April 8.00am ... Alfonso Miranda Leon & Rosa Flores De Miranda (RIP)  
Sunday 2nd April 9.30am.....Parish Intentions  
Monday 3rd April 9.15am.....Mark Cavallaro (RIP)  
Tuesday 4th April 9.15am.....Vocations  
Wednesday 5th April 9.15am.....**No Mass**  
Thursday 6th April 9.15am .....For the Sick  
Friday 7th April 9.15am .....Australian troops serving overseas  
Saturday 8th 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.**

### **Thursday of Holy Week 13th April**

There will be no Reconciliation today

Chrism Mass at St Mary's Cathedral: 10.30am

### **Mass of the Lord's Supper at St. Christopher's: 7.00pm**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until Midnight

### **Good Friday: 14th April**

**Stations of the Cross 10.00am**

### **Celebration of the Lord's Passion: 3.00pm**

- I. Liturgy of the Word
- II. Veneration of the Cross
- III. Holy Communion.

### **Holy Saturday 15th April**

#### **The Easter Vigil: 7.00pm**

- I. Service of Light
- II. Liturgy of the Word
- III. Blessing of Water
- IV. Liturgy of the Eucharist
- V. Concluding Rite

### **Easter Sunday 16th April:**

**Mass: 8.00am & 9.30am**