

Third Sunday of Easter

30th April 2017

Entrance Antiphon: Cry out with joy to God, all the earth;
O sing to the glory of his name, O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

First Reading from the Acts of the Apostles 2: 14, 22-33

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, you will show us the path of life.

Second Reading from the first letter of St Peter 1: 17-21

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! Alleluia

GOSPEL: According to Luke 24: 13-35

Communion Antiphon: The disciples recognised the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.

Saints of the Week

St Joseph the Worker (**Mon 1/5**) St Athanasius (**Tues 2/5**)
Sts Philip & James, apostles (**Wed 3/5**)

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

Principal: Mr. Tony Boyd
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Third Sunday of Easter— Year A

30th April 2017

One of the remarkable things about the Risen Jesus is that his friends and followers almost always fail to recognise him at first. In the instance on the road to Emmaus, two of the disciples are walking the road feeling sorry for themselves when Jesus joins them. It is, perhaps, an experience that is not unfamiliar in our own lives: so absorbed by what is happening to us that we fail to recognise the presence of Christ walking the journey with us – in spirit or in the guise of someone around us. Jesus allows the disciples to share their woes and their grief and then he slowly but surely relates all of what had happened to the scriptures and demonstrates to the disciples that the events of the previous few days were all part of God's plan. The disciples felt that their hopes and beliefs had been misplaced in Jesus; he hadn't delivered all that they had dreamed. But the Risen Jesus makes them realise that their hopes were not misplaced; they were right to trust and hope in Jesus and that belief will still bear fruit.

It is not until Jesus re-enacts the Last Supper breaking of bread that the disciples suddenly recognise him, but at that moment of recognition, Jesus vanishes from their midst. It must have been tantalising and frustrating for the two disciples – when they finally realised who they had been talking with and they could celebrate his presence Jesus disappeared. But the truth of what they had realised didn't abandon them. They reminded one another of the passion they had felt: 'Didn't our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road?' They are saying to each other, how stupid must we have been not to recognise Jesus? Only he could make us feel like that!



Fr Greg Sunter



Archdiocese of Sydney—Safeguarding and Child Protection Officer.

This initiative began in November 2016 to provide support to the Parish Priest in bringing awareness of Safeguarding and child Protection to parish staff, volunteers and the parish community. Anne Bennell, the parish secretary is our Safeguarding Officer for the parish.

The Archdiocese of Sydney has introduced a '**Code of Conduct for Working with Children and Young People**'. The Code is designed to help set our expectations for **all (volunteers-** whether you are a church cleaner, youth minister or a catechist etc, the standards and expectations are the same for everyone working within the parish.

This document is for anyone working in parishes in either a paid or a volunteer position who works with children. The Safeguarding Office recommends that **ALL** parish staff and **Volunteers** are aware of it and read and sign the form.

In the coming weeks parishioners who volunteer in the following roles will be notified and asked to attend a training session for the **Safeguarding and Protection of Children:** Acolytes, Children's Liturgy Coordinators, Choir Master's Group Leaders for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist & Confirmation, parish Youth Group coordinator & their helpers.

Fr. Andrew James as (Administrator) is requesting that all volunteers take the **Code of Conduct form** home to read, sign and place it in the box in the church foyer at your earliest convenience.

Parish Collections

23/4/2017 **First:** \$753.00 **Second:** \$838.45

St Christopher's Parish news:

200 Club (Cash raffle) Congratulations to the latest 200 Club winners - B. Aarde, M. Ramos, R. Leung, V. Modyanto and A. Villarica. All winning tickets are back in the barrel for this week's final 5 ticket draw. Next week is the big draw where one ticket holder will win the \$1,000 major prize.

PARISH FUNDRAISING DATES FOR 2017

April—Draw of "200 Club tickets"	May— Cake Stall 28th May
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.

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. Can anyone help these stalls, if so please contact the parish office so we can put you in touch with these stall holders.

PROJECT COMPASSION Please return your Caritas Project Compassion boxes no later than next weekend. These can be placed on any of the collection plates. We thank you for your generosity.

Understanding Parish Collections:

First Collection—Money collected from the collection support the needs of priests of the parish which includes, the priests' monthly salary, and housekeeper salary. Upkeep of the presbytery, e.g. food, utilities, cleaner etc. A small percentage to cover the expenses of the Archbishop especially in caring for elderly priests.

Second Collection—Money from this collection supports the maintenance of the parish buildings and pastoral programs. The parish must work within its own budget and is unable to draw funds for expenses from any source other than its own parish income. Some of the expenses covered are: Parish running costs, e.g. administration, insurance, utilities, general maintenance and upkeep of the church, presbytery and parish property. Parish staff salary including superannuation. Priests' car expenses, Charitable Works Fund shortfall per appeal (3 times a year).

Easter Water There is Holy Water in the church for parishioners. If you wish to have some, please bring a container.

We Pray For The Sick : Cyril Ferriere

Recently deceased: Eli Scicluna

Anniversaries: Santiago Quinon Snr & Jesus Quinon (RIP)

Mass Intentions

Saturday 29th April 7.00pm.....Harry Kat (RIP)
Sunday 30th April 8.00am ... Santiago Quinon Snr & Jesus Quinon (RIP)
Sunday 30th April 9.30am.....Parish Intentions
Monday 1st May 9.15am.....Souls in Purgatory
Tuesday 2nd May 9.15am.....Vocations
Wednesday 3rd May 9.15am.....For the Sick
Thursday 4th May 9.15am.....Paul Bennell (RIP)
Friday 5th May 9.15am.....Australian troops serving overseas
Saturday 6th May.....**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.**
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.**

SYDNEY ARCHDIOCESE NOTICES:

CWF Pastoral Appeal: Our parish will ask you to support the **Charitable Works Fund (CWF) Pastoral Appeal** next weekend. Your donations go directly towards the charitable and pastoral works of the Sydney Archdiocese for the benefit of this community so we ask you to kindly consider your support. Thank you

St Francis Xavier's Parish, Lurnea

Holy Land Pilgrimage

Our parish is planning a pilgrimage to the Holy Land early next year 2018. Anyone interested or for more information on this pilgrimage please contact Will on 0404 270 579 or email will.querubin@gmail.com

Archbishop Fisher has asked that a petition against the proposed changes to the NSW Abortion Laws be advertised in all parishes and has requested that copies of the petition be made available for signing after Mass this weekend 30/4).

Currently there are two bills before the New South Wales Parliament seeking to decriminalize abortion and to create so called "safe zones" around the clinics.

These Bills increase the potential dangers to pregnant women, allow the abortion of viable babies up until birth without restriction, fail to include safeguards to ensure women give fully informed consent, override any professional or conscientious objections that medical practitioners may have to abortion and disregard the reality that many women have abortions as a result of pressure, coercion or lack of support from others.

The petition is on the table in the church foyer for any one who wishes to do so.