

**Pentecost Sunday**

**4th June 2017**



**Entrance Antiphon:** The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world and that which contains all things understand what is said, alleluia.

**First Reading from the Acts of the Apostles 2: 1-11**

**Responsorial Psalm:** Lord, send our your spirit and renew the face of the earth.

**Second Reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 12: 3-7, 12-13**

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Come, Holy spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia

**GOSPEL: According to John 20: 19-23**

**Communion Antiphon:** They were filled with the Holy spirit and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.

*Saints of the Week*

St Boniface (Mon 5/6) St Norbert, St Marcellin Champagnat (Tues 6/6)

St Ephrem (Fri 9/6)

**SYDNEY ARCHDIOCESE NOTICES:**

**CATHOLICCARE** is well placed to assist families to navigate the new world of the NDIS for their children with a disability. Our expert Customer Service Advisors can remove some of the complexity, working with people, their families and carers to put in place the support that is best for them. Contacting **CatholicCare** is as simple as calling **13 18 19** or emailing [connect@catholiccare.org](mailto:connect@catholiccare.org).

**Australian Catholic Youth Festival** This three day festival will be held in Sydney **7-9 December 2017**. The event will attract 15,000 young people and is for those aged Year 9 to 30 years. It's a Catholic Festival a bit like World Youth Day! For more information, [www.acyf.org.au](http://www.acyf.org.au)

**FATHER FACTOR. DID YOU KNOW** *that men who had a good relationship with their father have a higher life satisfaction level later in life?* This June Robert Falzon, acclaimed co-author of **The Father Factor**, will address the critical importance of fathering for success & happiness, provide practical info on intentional fathering & recovering from poor or absent fathering. **7.30pm Tues 13 June**, School/ Parish Hall, 21 Twentieth Ave, **Hoxton Park**. **7.30pm Wed 14 June**, Parish Hall, 3 Mary St, **Hunters Hill**. **7.30pm Thurs 15 June**, Parish Hall, Crn Belmont and Flora St, **Sutherland**. Free Entry, all are welcome! **There are brochures in the church foyer.**

**Lismore Flood Appeal** Archbishop Fisher is supporting the Diocese of Lismore Flood Appeal that was launched by Bishop Gregory Homeming to help those who have suffered in the recent floods on the North Coast of NSW. To donate to the Appeal go to [www.dioceseoflismorefloodappeal.org](http://www.dioceseoflismorefloodappeal.org).

**St Christopher's Parish Holsworthy**

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

<b>Administrator:</b>	Rev. Andrew James
<b>Assistant Priest:</b>	Rev Thomas Alukka Varghese
<b>Assistant Priest:</b>	Rev Nicholas Rynne
<b>Permanent Deacon:</b>	Rev. Mr. Al Salu
<b>Secretary:</b>	Mrs. Anne Bennell
<b>Parish Office Hours</b>	Mon 10.00am—3.00pm Tues & Thurs 9.00am—3.00pm 195 Heathcote Rd Holsworthy 2173
<b>Address:</b>	<u>PO Box 389, Moorebank 1875</u>
<b>All correspondence to:</b>	<a href="http://www.stchristophers.org.au">www.stchristophers.org.au</a>
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="mailto:stchris@tpg.com.au">stchris@tpg.com.au</a>
<b>Email:</b>	(02) 9825 1679
<b>Tel:</b>	(02) 9825 1488
<b>Fax:</b>	



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

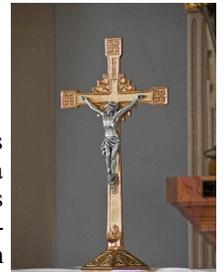
<b>Principal:</b>	Mr. Tony Boyd
<b>School Tel:</b>	(02) 9825 3251
<b>School Mail:</b>	195 Heathcote Rd Holsworthy 2173

**Pentecost Sunday**

**4th June 2017**

**The Cross in The Middle of the Altar**

Some people may have noticed that the practice of placing the cross in the middle of the Altar is present in this parish. This is not a universal practice and is not done in every parish. Does this constitute an inadmissible innovation? Paragraph 308 of *The General Instruction of the Roman Missal* states the following with regard to the Altar.



308. There is also to be a cross, with the figure of Christ crucified upon it, either on the altar or near it, where it is clearly visible to the assembled congregation. It is appropriate that such a cross, which calls to mind for the faithful the saving Passion of the Lord, remain near the altar even outside of liturgical celebrations.

The passion of the Lord should not be forgotten in the celebration of the Sacred Liturgy. This is why the Cross is appropriate for the Altar. The practice is not mandated, but it is not prohibited and we are thus in line with the Church in having a cross on the altar. An objection that is given is that the Cross will obstruct our view of what is going on and we will not be able to see what is going on at Mass. In his book *The Spirit of the Liturgy* Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger (Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI) points out that the Cross can in fact give us a point of focus for the Mass. Both the Priest and the people can unite in their common focus on the sacrifice of the Lord. Ratzinger writes...

*Continued on Page 2*

Continued from page 1.

The cross can serve as the interior "east" of faith. It should stand in the middle of the altar and be the common point of focus for both priest and praying community. In this way we obey the ancient call to prayer: "Conversi ad Dominum", Turn toward the Lord! In this way we look together at the One whose death tore the veil of the Temple—the One who stands before the Father for us and encloses us in his arms in order to make us the new and living Temple. Moving the altar cross to the side to give an uninterrupted view of the priest is something I regard as one of the truly absurd phenomena of recent decades. Is the cross disruptive during Mass? Is the priest more important than the Lord? This mistake should be corrected as quickly as possible; it can be done without further rebuilding. The Lord is the point of reference. He is the rising sun of history. That is why there could be a cross of the Passion, which represents the suffering Lord who for us let his side be pierced, from which flowed blood and water (Eucharist and Baptism), as well as a cross of triumph, which expresses the idea of the Second Coming and guides our eyes toward it. For it is always the one Lord: Christ yesterday, today, and forever

We should remember that there is nothing special to see in the Priest's actions during Mass. The change in substance of the bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ does not remove the accidents of bread and wine. As Cardinal Ratzinger says the priest is not more important than the Lord and our focus during the Eucharistic prayer is on our Lord and a cross helps us to remember the love God has for us as evidenced by the sacrifice he made for us.

Joseph Ratzinger, *The Spirit of the Liturgy*, trans. John Saward (San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2000), 83–84.

**Parish Collections**

28/5/2017 **First:** \$1, 294.85 **Second:** \$803.05

**St Christopher's Parish news:**

**SACRAMENT OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION.** We have 53 candidates who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist (First Holy Communion) on the weekend 17/18 June 2017. There will be candidates at the Saturday Vigil 17/6 & at the 9.30am Sunday Mass. There is another mass at 2.00pm on Sunday 18th June. Please keep these children and their family in your prayers.

**SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION** Parents if your child is in year 6 or older and has received the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation and the Eucharist he/she is eligible to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Enrolment forms can be either downloaded from our parish website: [www.stchristophers.org.au](http://www.stchristophers.org.au) from the 1st June 2017 or available in the church foyer for people who don't have access to a printer in their homes.

**Offering Envelopes**



**PARISH PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES 2017/2018** once again it is nearly time to distribute the New Financial Year Envelopes 2017/2018 which will be in the church foyer from 24/25 June 2017 for collection. 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.

**Mass Intentions**

Saturday 3rd June 5.30pm.....Maria Sakorn Kingkaew (RIP)  
Sunday 4th June 8.00am .....Parish Intentions  
Sunday 4th June 9.30am.....Valentine Vamadevan (RIP)  
Monday 5th June 9.15am.....Helen Roberts (RIP)  
Tuesday 6th June 9.15am.....Vocations  
Wednesday 7th June 9.15am.....Australian troupes serving overseas  
Thursday 8th June 9.15am.....Souls in Purgatory  
Friday 9th June 9.15am.....Years 1 & 5 Grade Mass  
Saturday 10th June.....**Reconciliation : 4:30 PM // Vigil Mass :5:30PM**

**Syro-Malabar Liturgies:**

**Fr Thomas is on leave until the 9th June, there will be No evening Masses on Wednesday, Thursday & Friday evenings, & Saturday morning Mass.**

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.**

**Thank You** for everyone involved in making the parish Cake Stall a success last weekend \$1,155.00 was raised. This amount will go towards much needed funds for air-conditioning in the church .

**The St Vincent de Paul Society** will be conducting its annual **Winter Appeal** on the weekend: Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June and Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June.

Donations can be made in the envelopes available on the church pews on that weekend. Your support will add a little comfort, dignity and hope for people facing a cold, bleak winter.

Mrs Anne Bennell is the Parish Safeguarding & Protection of children Officer for the Parish. Should you have any queries, please contact the Parish Office on 9825 1679.



**SYDNEY CATHOLIC SCHOOLS—GONSKI 2.0—What are the risks?**

**ONLINE PETITION** - The Catholic School community have been deeply concerned that our Catholic students could be seriously disadvantaged by the Federal Government's proposed school funding model changes outlines in the 2017/2018 Federal Budget.

Please show your support by signing our online petition <http://bit.ly/2rxfMFF>. We need bipartisan commitment to a fair deal for our Catholic school kids.

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

**Recently deceased:** Helen Roberts & Valentine Vamadevan

**Anniversaries:** Maria Sakorn Kingkaew

