

On true wisdom

After granddad was diagnosed with cancer, a series of intensive treatments allowed him to enjoy invaluable time with his family. The cancer eventually returned requiring even more care and medication. Unfortunately, over time the disease turned out to be incurable.

Granddad's response to his terminal illness took his family by surprise. He and his wife arranged an overseas trip, not only for themselves, but for the extended family. Two sets of parents and all their children were invited on the holiday. They didn't have to pay for a thing; not the plane flights or the accommodation. It was a very generous act by a man who was living on borrowed time.

Far from building bigger and better barns to safeguard his property, like the rich man in today's gospel (Lk 12), this man and his wife creatively and magnanimously shared what wealth they had with their family. The trip was a great success with many shared adventures and fond memories.

Today's readings offer us rich food for thought on the issue of the importance of wealth and possessions in our lives. The first reading from the book of Ecclesiastes sternly warns us of the "Vanity of Vanities", of a life of toil focussed on private material gain, all to be left behind when one's death comes, as it inevitably will. "Here is one who has laboured with wisdom and knowledge and skill, and yet to another who has not laboured over it, he must leave property."

Today's psalm then speaks of the power of God who has made us, who has saved us and who is our refuge. It reminds us that it is to God that we owe our love and our obedience, and that it is in God that we should place our trust. To place our trust in material wealth, to make this our anchor, is foolhardy. So let us, with the Psalmist, pray to God for the gift of wisdom: "Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain wisdom of heart."

The Letter to the Colossians in our second reading reinforces the message. It urges us to set our thoughts and focus our hopes on heavenly things, and to live our lives accordingly. It reminds us of our ultimate destiny: "There is only Christ: he is everything and he is in everything." We must be single-minded in focussing on what is good and right and set aside distractions that might divert us.

Finally, in today's gospel, Jesus, in his parable about the rich man who builds a barn, foolishly thinking that this will secure his property, his fortune and his future, warns against greed and avarice. Jesus is not demanding we go without those goods that are necessary for our needs, but he urges us not to place our trust in worldly riches, but in God. Instead of focussing on acquiring what is excessive to our needs, let us be generous in helping those less fortunate than ourselves.

Bellerive - Lindisfarne Catholic Parish

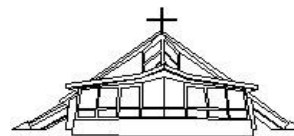
2 Alma St, Bellerive

PO Box 987, Rosny Park, 7018

Phone: 6245 0501

Fr Richard Ross PP

Fr Fidelis Udousoro



Email: bellerive@aohtas.org.au

Website: www.cdtas.org.au/bellerive

Facebook/Instagram: @belleriveparish

Eighteenth Sunday Year C

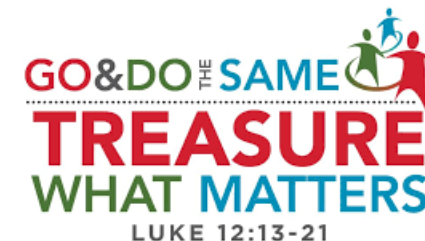
4th August 2019

Today's Reading:

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 2:21-23;

Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11;

Luke 12:13-21



Next Sunday's Readings:

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

Wisdom 18:6-9; Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19; Luke 12:32-48

Weekend Mass times:

Saturday vigil 6:00 pm Church of the Incarnation, Lindisfarne,

Sunday 8.30 am John Paul II, Rokeby

10.30 am Corpus Christi, Bellerive

6:00 pm Corpus Christi, Bellerive

Weekday Masses

Tuesday 12:00pm Church of the Incarnation, Lindisfarne

Wednesday 12:00pm Corpus Christi, Bellerive

Thursday 10:00 am John Paul II, Rokeby

Friday 9:30 am Corpus Christi, Bellerive

Dear Parish Family,

The appointment of Di O'Rourke as Acting Principal and Andrew Pinelli as Acting Deputy Principal at John Paul II Catholic Primary School was announced this week. This arrangement will be in place for the remainder of the year while the process of appointing a full time principal runs its course. Please keep Di and Andrew in your prayers in these important roles in our parish community.

The coming week sees the Feast Day of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. This is a special feast day for all Australians, but especially for the community of our own MacKillop College who will squeeze into Corpus Christi Church on Thursday to celebrate their patron saint. You are most welcome to join us, but you have been warned it will be standing room only!

A reminder, too, that we will welcome Archbishop Julian to our parish for the celebration of Confirmation on Tuesday 13th August at 7pm. The Sacrament will be conferred in a service not a Mass, as the candidates will receive the Eucharist for the first time in subsequent weeks. Parishioners are most welcome to join us for the celebration and support these young members of our community in prayer.

We received a thank you note from the Principal and Assistant Principal (Student Wellbeing) of Rose Bay High School saying the following:

We would like to thank you for providing some of our more needy students with the support packs delivered to Rose Bay High School this week. It is a fantastic idea and we have students who will benefit from this. I would ask that you pass on our thanks for the parishioners who have made this possible. Thank you very much for your generosity, it is much appreciated.

Blessings to all for the week ahead,

Fr Richard

The John Wallis Memorial Lecture 2019 will be presented by an experienced educational leader, Deborah Kent. Deborah, the CEO and Principal of Jesuit College of Spirituality, Melbourne, will speak on "*CONTINUING THE JOURNEY – charitable engagement with new frontiers*" at Guilford Young College (Hobart) on **Thursday 12 September**, at 7pm. All interested people are invited to attend. Further information: Eva Dunn 0417 734 503 or eva.dunn@gmail.com

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL

The Father's Heart Prayer Community

Invites you to join with us on Thursday 8th August. Time and place contact Cathy Green: 0401 927 952 Suellen Furjanic: 0400 345 018

SAINTS OF ITALY PILGRIMAGE

Fr Brian Nichols will be leading a 13 day pilgrimage to Italy, departing 18 May 2020. Organised and run by Harvest Journeys, the tour will follow the paths of many of our saints and will take in Rome, Montecassino, Pietrelcina, San Giovanni Rotondo, Monte Sant'Angelo, Lanciano, Loreto, Assisi, Siena and Florence. Contact the Sandy Bay parish office on 6224

PRAYER & REFLECTION ON HILDEGARD VON BINGEN.

Presenter: Moya Unthank rsj on Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th August at the Josephite Mission Centre 67 Clare Street New Town. BYO lunch, tea and coffee provided. Cost \$50. RSVP by 2nd August.

Phone 6228 1628 or email josephite.mission@sosj.org.au 23 or email sandybay@aohtas.org.au for more information

MASS HONOURING GOD AS FATHER

The annual Mass honouring the Fatherhood of God will be held at St. Mary's Cathedral on Wednesday August 7th at 7pm. It will be preceded by a Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration and prayer starting at 6pm. After the Mass there will be an opportunity to have prayer for healing. Enq. Maree 03 62287108