

Bellerive - Lindisfarne Catholic Parish

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Fr Richard Ross PP

Dear Parish Family,

The easing of restrictions over the Christmas period is most welcome. What it means in effect is that we will not have to divide the congregation between the church and the hall for the Christmas Masses, but that all people will be accommodated in the church. This will see our Christmas Masses enjoy a strong sense of community and celebration. There will still be capacity for overflow into the O'Loughlin Room or outside the church, but the need for several extra Covid volunteers at each Mass is eliminated, as is the pressure created by the live-stream to a large crowd in the hall.

Those members of our community who are feeling vulnerable and who are comfortable with the enforced social distancing in the churches are asked to make this known to the Covid volunteers at the door who will do their best to ensure you have your sense of personal space respected. We have come through this unprecedented challenge so well together to this point, and I thank you for your ongoing patience and cooperation.

Our school communities have finished for the year and many beautiful moments were shared this week as students and staff celebrated the year with thanksgiving for its challenges and blessings. Grade Six students and their parents participated in very meaningful transition rituals as they concluded their time at primary school and moved on towards high school. As ever, it was a special privilege for me to share in these moments. We pray that these students will carry throughout their life the values and attitudes of faith, hope and love that have been modeled for them in our parish primary schools. Congratulations and thanks go to principals Marcus Donnelly, Clynton Scharvi and Brendan Gill and their dedicated and generous staff for their tireless efforts through a demanding year.

MacKillop College also farewelled Principal Eamonn Pollard who takes up his new role as Principal of St Aloysius College in Kingston. Eamonn is an outstanding Christian leader and he has made a significant contribution to MacKillop College during his five years as principal. Thankfully, Eamonn will remain as a parishioner of Bellerive-Lindisfarne Parish!

Enjoy Christmas week, and keep the focus of all celebrations on the coming of Christ into the world, and into our lives, and all that tis has and will mean for us.

Fr Richard

Masses this week

Tuesday	10:45am	Freemasons Home
Wednesday	10:00am	Corpus Christi (funeral Mass for Winsome Browning)
Thursday	4:00pm	Corpus Christi (Christmas Eve)
	10:00pm	Corpus Christi (Christmas Eve)
Friday	9:30am	Corpus Christi (Christmas Day)

Also outdoor family service, 6:00pm Christmas Eve on the school oval at JP11, Rokeby

Please note, church doors will be opened and attended by Covid volunteers one hour before the scheduled start time for Mass. Carols will be sung for 30 minutes prior to the start of each Mass. This timeline also applies to the outdoor family service.

VIRTUAL WAY TO ST JAMES PILGRIMAGE

Make your way through natural surroundings in a meditative way anywhere in the world on 9-10 January 2021. Join this Global "El Camino de Santiago" in the Spirit of the Annual Pilgrimage to St James Church in Cygnet in the Huon Valley.

Facebook link: <https://www.facebook.com/waytostjamescygnet/>

Website link: <https://www.waytostjames.com.au/>

COLUMBAN CALENDARS There are still plenty available after Mass \$10

The Standard: the latest edition is available on the table outside the office

THE SWAG: The summer edition is available on the reading table outside the office

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday	6:00pm	Church of the Incarnation (Reconciliation 5:30)
Sunday	8:30am	John Paul II (Live streamed)
	10:30am	Corpus Christi
	6:00pm	Corpus Christi

Next week's Readings: Gen 15:1-6, 21:1-3 or Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; or Col 3:12-21; Lk 2:22-40