

Bellerive - Lindisfarne Catholic Parish

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Fr Fidelis Udousoro

Dear Parish family,

We are gradually coming to an end of this liturgical year. Scripture readings during this time usually call on us to reflect on 'the last things'. The last things are the various stages through which we shall experience the reconciling and renewing love of God. They are - death, judgment, heaven, hell, purgatory, Second Coming of Christ, resurrection and the consummation of all things in the perfection of the Kingdom of God (R. McBrien, *Catholicism* Vol II).

The Church believes that at the moment of death, the soul goes to Heaven, or to Hell, or to Purgatory, following its relations with God. The communion of life and love with the Trinity, with the Virgin Mary, the angels and all the blessed is called Heaven. The state of definitive self-exclusion from communion with God and the blessed is called Hell. The state meant for the final purification of the elect so that they can achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven is called Purgatory (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1022-1031).

Let's consider heaven for this week. Do we attain heaven by the works of our hands? The answer is **NO**. We are saved by **grace**; unmerited favour/unmerited gift of God (Ephesians 2:8-9). Since we are saved by grace, does it mean that we should not strive for goodness, truth and beauty? If truly we are living a life of grace, goodness, truth and beauty will become our second nature; "For we are God's art, created in Christ Jesus for good works" (Ephesians 2:10).

My dear friends, although God has saved us through his Son, Jesus Christ, we are constantly called to participate actively in God's saving action. This call is shown in all our readings today - 'For you who fear (love) my name, the sun of righteousness will shine out with healing in its rays,' *Malachi 3:20*, 'Be not idle in doing good,' *2 Thessalonians 3:7-12*, and in the Gospel, Jesus says - 'Your endurance (in doing good and being faithful to God and his teachings) will win you your lives,' *Luke 21:19*.

May the grace of God make its home in us. Amen.

Your brother In Christ,

Fr Fidelis

WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon & Tues 11:00am Funeral Mass Corpus Christi - No Mass Lindisfarne Tues

Wed 12pm Corpus Christi

Thurs 10:00 am John Paul II

Thurs 11:00am Funeral Lindisfarne

Fri 9:30am Corpus Christi

WEEKEND MASSES

Sat 6:00pm Incarnation

Sun 8:30am John Paul II

10:30am Corpus Christi

6:00pm Corpus Christi

Advent Reflection: Fr Michael Tate will deliver an Advent reflection on the "Our Father" in the O'Loughlin Room at Corpus Christi on Tuesday 3rd December at 7pm. Parishioners are warmly invited to attend this wonderful opportunity as we prepare for the Christmas season. The idea is to reflect on the "Our Father", explaining its meaning from the cultural setting of the time, and using the original language of the Gospels (but not too technically!). This is not presented in a cold tutorial fashion but in a way which should enhance the prayer life of participants. By increasing our understanding of the situation in Jesus' time, and drawing on recent Reflections by Pope Francis, we will be able to pray this prayer more whole-heartedly.

Bellerive-Lindisfarne Catholic Community Christmas Entertainment and Afternoon Tea/ quiz/ raffle/ door prizes / trade table etc Entertainment by Cantiamo December 4 2019 Venue: Lindisfarne Citizens Activities Centre at 1.30 p.m. Cost: \$8 (which will include a little gift from Santa) We hope you can make up a table and join us for a great afternoon. *As usual offers of sandwiches, slices, cream cakes will be gratefully received and transport will be available. For these and any other queries please call Catrina Boon 0417439269 or Mary Hemming 0438136396*

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Come and hear Fr Fidelis Udousoro discuss "Knowing the Heart of God" Join us at St Francis Xavier Hall, corner Anglesea and Adelaide Sts, South Hobart (underneath St Francis Xavier's Church, parking off Anglesea St) at 8:00 am on Saturday 30th November. Come and enjoy some singing, inspiration, fellowship, and breakfast. It is a weekend, and the main activities will be over by 9:30 am. A small donation will help to defray costs. Please bring a friend. To assist catering, please RSVP: By return email: themcstones@gmail.com Or ring Duncan MacFarlane 0400 095 807 M Or Martin Stone 6223 8132 H

EDUCATION OF PRIESTS COLLECTION: Envelopes are in the foyer of the church.

Next week's Readings: Sam5:1-3; Col 1:12-20; Luke 23:35-43