

Solstice Greetings: Concerning the Seal of Confession: from Archbishop Fisher

In the last few days the ACT and South Australian governments has moved to extend mandatory reporting to priests hearing confessions and the PM and AG have indicated their support for this becoming the national position

- We all agree that the safety of children (and young people) is of paramount importance; but removing priest-penitent privilege from the law and requiring mandatory reporting of confessions will either have no effect on child safety...
- First, because perpetrators of this terrible sin very rarely seek out Confession and if mandatory reporting of Confessions were required they would almost certainly not confess; so there would be no effect on child safety
- Secondly, because any perpetrator who was minded to confess would almost certainly do so anonymously, so no mandatory reporting would be possible; again, children would be no safer. * **Thirdly**, because were trust in the absolute confidentiality of Confession undermined, then any chance a perpetrator would face the evil of their actions through Confession would be lost; any chance a priest-confessor might have to impress upon the penitent the seriousness of their actions, the duty to self-report to the authorities and to get professional help, etc. would also be lost...
- Fourthly, because were trust in the absolute confidentiality of Confession undermined, then any chance a victim would mention this in Confession to a priest would also be seriously diminished; any chance a priest-confessor might have to impress upon the victim the need to inform responsible adults (outside confession) and get to safety would also be lost.
- Paradoxically, then, while those seeking to remove confessional privilege hope thereby to make children safer, the net effect will be to make children less safe: by removing the seal, we lose the rare opportunity to point an offender or victim in the direction of the authorities and other assistance
- A wide range of citizens practice private Confession: Western Catholics, Eastern Catholics, members of the various Orthodox traditions, Mormons, and some Anglicans, Lutherans and Methodists; they do so understanding that Confession is a sacrosanct encounter between the penitent and God...Priests are required in our tradition to resign themselves to punishment, even martyrdom, rather than break the seal of Confession; the faithful likewise expect this of them. Cultures and politics like Australia's rightly recognise clear distinctions between 'Church' and 'State'; while the two necessarily intersect at various points... to break the seal of Confession would be overreach by the state into the domain of the 'sacred'.
- Freedoms of conscience, thought, speech, assembly, religious belief and practice are basic human rights, long recognised in international law, to some extent in Australian domestic law, and more broadly in Australian culture; not to recognise confessional privilege would go against these long standing norms; to force a priest (etc.) to breach the seal would be to force him to act against fundamental tenets of his faith. There is substantial social value in candid disclosures in lawyer-client, psychiatrist-patient, journalist-source and priest-penitent relationships.



The Parish and National Shrine of
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Randwick
St. Margaret Mary's, Randwick North
Land of the Gadigal People, Eora Nation
Conducted by Missionaries of the Sacred Heart
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聖母聖心堂歡迎您光臨
olshchinesecommunity@gmail.com

The Nativity of St. John the Baptist 23/24th June, 2018



Accessible Seats - Rows
5, 6, 7 and cross aisles.
Front 6 seats either side
of centre aisle.

1st Reading: Isiah 49:1-6

2nd Reading: Acts 13:22-26

Gospel: Luke 1:57-66, 80

Entrance Antiphon: A man was sent from God, whose name was John. He came to testify to the light, to prepare a people fit for the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: I praise you for I am wonderfully made.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! You, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Through the tender mercy of our God, the Dawn from on high will visit us.

Parish Office

Monday- Friday 9am-5pm (Closed 1pm-2pm)

Parish Staff

Trish Myers (Parish Secretary)(9am-5pm)
parishoffice@sacredheart.org.au

Anita Micallef (Accounts)(9am-2:30pm))
anitamicalef@sacredheart.org.au

Fr. Peter Hearn msc
Parish Priest

Fr Tim Brennan msc
Professional Standards Office

Fr. Tru Nguyen msc
truducnguyen@gmail.com

Fr Patrick Sharpe msc
Brigidine House Chaplain

Hospital Chaplaincy
9382 2222 then page Catholic Chaplain

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart

Monday: Midday Mass

Tuesday: 6:30am Mass, 11am (Holy Hour), Midday Mass.

Wednesday: 6:30am Mass, Midday Mass

Thursday: 11:30am (Novena), Midday Mass, 5:40pm Mass.

Friday: Midday Mass (Anointing Mass 2nd Friday), 5:40pm Mass, 6pm (Holy Hour)

Saturday: 11am (Reconciliation), Midday Mass, 5pm (Reconciliation), 6pm Vigil Mass.

Sunday: 8am, 10am, Midday, 6pm. 10.30pm

St. Margaret Mary's

Saturday: 5:15 (Reconciliation), 5:30pm Vigil Mass.

Sunday: 9.30am

Baptisms

Held at OLSH, 1:15pm Sundays.

Contact the Parish Office on 9399 6775.

Into your loving care we commend :

Recently Deceased: Helen Hodgson, Brother Dan Geary, MSC Fr Doug Smith, MSC, Ann Larkman, John Buchanan, Bridie O'Connor(Ireland)

Anniversaries/Remembrances/Deceased:

Mario Zappacosta, Alexander Tong, Siu Kim Tong, Lai Kim Moi, Leong Seng, Fun Fun, Leong Tou Ken, Antonio Lai, Francisco Lai, Ines I, Joan Ng, Raymond Leon, James Owen, Mary O'Connell, Ken Johnston, Rita Koh(birthday)Mona O'Sullivan, Richi Avanzo, Felicidad Tabayoyong, Margaret O'Farrell, William Crothers, James Owen, Ermelinda Tecson, Ibarra Cruz, Hilda Ellington, Sergio Ovelar, Jacob Smoljo, Len Jarman, Giovanni Castiglia, Maria Dempsey, Eileen Bollard.

Special Intentions/Birthday:/Thanksgiving

Forgotten Holy Souls, Anne Scarr(birthday) Chiyo Husband(surgery)

We welcome into our Catholic family

Branna Brodie.

CatholicCare

Our Family Support Services help families in the Sydney Archdiocese who may be struggling with managing daily life. To find out more call **13 18 19**, email connect@catholiccare.org

Young Adults:

Fr Tru: truducnguyen@gmail.com
We meet every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm in the cloister room. Bring a friend and enjoy the laughs, meals, laid back companionship, prayer and reflections.

Coming Up

- ⇒ **Weekend 23rd/24th June**
Birth of St John the Baptist
St Vincent De Paul Winter Appeal
- ⇒ **Monday 25 June :**
PPC meeting-7pm
- ⇒ **Wednesday 27 June:**
St Cyril of Alexandria
- ⇒ **Thursday 28 June:**
St Irenaeus
- ⇒ **Friday 29th June:**
Sts Peter & Paul , Apostles
- ⇒ **Saturday, 30th June:**
- ⇒ **Monday 1st July**
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Day

Communion from the Chalice

As the cold/flu season is upon us we have discontinued distribution of communion from the chalices until further notice.

Who is the happier the one who receives the knitted rug or the person who makes it.

Ask the Knitters.

We meet at **Ventnor** at 10am-11.30am 2nd and 4th Mondays. New members very welcome.

OLSH Parish Facebook Page

To stay up to date with the latest news, mass times and information about events in the Parish, LIKE our Facebook page www.facebook.com/olshparish.randwick

Annals – MSC Magazine available in foyer \$5: articles on suppression of monasteries under Henry VIII; Civil liberty and Christianity connected; Witchcraft and Exorcism

**The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney
Safeguarding Office**

If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Archdiocese of Sydney we invite you to contact us. We will listen to you respectfully, offer support and discuss the options you have available to you. Please contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office on ph 02 9390 5812.

St Vincent De Paul Winter Appeal:

We are quite familiar this annual appeal and always generous. Winter leaves people particularly vulnerable, as you would know. Last year the Randwick St Vincent de Paul Conference helped needy people on 672 occasions, with assistance valued at \$28,535. Remember Vinnies donations are TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

Spirituality of Jules Chevalier: *“Let us aim to spread the fire of his Love everywhere to combat egoism and indifference. This is the aim of our little Society.” Rules 1857*

Planned Giving Envelopes for 2018/2019 are available this weekend in the foyer of the Church. Please do not use your old envelopes for the new financial year as numbering has changed.

New Parishioners (Hand to a Priest or Acolyte after Mass)

Name: _____ Contact No: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____ Date Submitted: ___/___/____

Mass usually attended: _____

OLSH CHURCH REPAIRS: ACCESSIBLE ENTRANCE IS VIA THE CHOIR SIDE DOORS. Lead covering for the gables has begun and painting of eaves progresses well. PHMSC.

MSC Lay Associates: Our next meeting will be held on Sunday, 1st July at 1.15pm. Please bring something for lunch. Visitors welcome.

Urgent Request: Volunteers are needed to purify the sacred vessels. This takes approx. one hour. If we receive one volunteer you will be on a roster once every three weeks. If we receive two volunteers you will be on a roster once a month. Please contact Trish at the Parish on 9399 6775 or call in to the office.

Gentle Exercise and Meditation

Held on Wednesdays at Ventnor 11am. Term 2 will end Wednesday 20th June 2018 Term 3 begins Wednesday 25th July 2018.

Choir - Vigil Mass 2nd Saturday Month

Come and join us on the 2nd Saturday of each month at the Vigil Mass. No experience necessary just a love of singing. We meet at 5:15pm for a practice before the mass. Contact the Parish Office if you are interested in joining.

**‘TODDLER TALES’ FOR
PARENTS WITH PRAMS**

every Friday AT 9.30am Cloister Room