



CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION AND ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS

Catholic Parish of Dulwich Hill,
Archdiocese of Sydney, Established in 1907
532 New Canterbury Road, Dulwich Hill NSW 2203
PO Box 149 Dulwich Hill NSW 2203 Ph: 9558-3257 Fax: 9559-3752
Facebook: www.facebook.com/StPotC Email:
church@dulwichhillparish.org.au or secretary@dulwichhillparish.org.au



Bishop Richard Umbers DD VG

Fr. John Ssemaganda (Administrator), Deacon Rev Louis Azzopardi



Made for Unity

A reflection on LEV 13:1-2, 44-46, 1 COR 10:31-11:1, Mark 1: 40-45

One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic. The four marks of the Catholic Church describe her through the role she is to play in the world today. We might ask ourselves, how are we to be unified, set apart for God, Universal, and sharing the good news of Christ?

A quick glance at the headlines of the world news and it seems rife with stories of destruction, devastation, sickness, scandal, or division of communities. At the level of world news, very rarely do we hear of anything positive. Indeed, the positive news seems to trickle in as we get to the level of individual countries, and even more so when we speak of particular communities, and greater still, at the level of families. Yet even in our families we find that at times we might dwell on the negative or the hurt that has been caused.

In our families we celebrate with joy and happiness so many things; birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, achievements, and simply being together. We are able to live those moments that help us to not only survive but thrive despite the struggles of the world around us. As the place in which we first experience community, our families then become the place where we learn how to live in community. For those of us fortunate enough, our communities themselves become a family.

There are times or events however, that might place us at odds with those communities. The first reading today illustrates that through no fault of their own, the lepers were separated from the rest of Israel. The pain and suffering, not only from the illness itself but the separation from their loved ones must have been great indeed.

Through Christ, many were healed, and this healing brought unity. The gift was so great that the leper in today's Gospel could not hold back from proclaiming the name and work of Christ. Christ however, did not heal everyone. He healed those who came to him in faith. This is the important step. It wasn't just about coming to Christ, but accepting who He is and understanding who we are in relation to Him, asking Him to be part of our lives.

Sometimes arguments amongst our loved ones can take us to the breaking point. We find that if we don't do something, there could be great disunity. The news is littered with examples where discord was allowed to escalate. The pain of separation drives us to reconciliation with each other, because otherwise, we are no longer a community. The process takes humility, and love for each other, or it simply continues to fall apart.

Once reconciled, we cannot help but rejoice at our unity. Much like the Leper, we find our hearts are lifted. Loving as Christ does allows us to be instruments of change and solidarity. Christ healed people of so much more than illness, and offered them a wonderful new relationship. One where we are invited to open ourselves up and receive the healing and grace that He so readily pours out. A relationship that is lived, and revealed by how we interact with the world today.

That's how we live the four marks, not alone, but in community. Our capacity to be Christ to each other is what we need because it is through Christ that we are made One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic. Together as His mystical body, we are made into more than just a community; we become kin, united with God as our Father. We celebrate all those things that families celebrate together.

Let us be aware of the horrible things we hear about in the news, but never lose faith in Christ who brings healing and unity. May the joy and love we gain through this family, help us to be Christ's witnesses to the world and inspire us to love each other better, so that through us, we can enrich and bring healing all we encounter. Especially through Lent as we prepare for Holy Week.

A Prayer for Ash Wednesday

Gracious God, today begins a period of inner reflection and examination. The days stretch before me and invite me inward to that silent, holy space that holds your Spirit. This special time beckons me to see my life through Christ's eyes and the truth and reality of your love incarnate. Give me the grace to enter the space of these days with anticipation of our meeting. And, when I open my soul to your presence, let your loving kindness flow over me and seep into the pockets of my heart. I ask this for the sake of your love. Amen



PARISH WEEKEND MASS ROSTER 17-18 Feb 2018

Acolyte:	5:30pm	Phillip
	8am	Ricardo
	11:30am	Andre
Readers:	5:30pm	J. Sullivan & J. Murphy
	8am	N. Dudley & C. Phillips
	10am	R. Rita & T. Lasala
Music:	5:30pm	Justine Sy
	8am	Beauti & Choir
	10am	Sri & Choir
Cleaning:	Georgette, Janette, Trudy & Leonor	
Laundry:	D. Cremona	
Environment:	Margaret	
Counters:	C. Corpus & P. Tan	

With St Paul of the Cross

we pray ...

For the sick

Victoria Pacheco, Cathy Consentino, Anne Keogh, Grace, Owen Gallagher, Josieann, Eileen Joyce, Lucia Nicotina, Anna Pezzuto, Anne Keogh, Alfonso Costantini, Sonia, Rodolfo Estrada, Domenic Capello, Marlowe, Jacutin, Sonny Martinez, Annette Rodriguez, Onofrio Ferraro, Salvatore Ferraro, Lolita A Japtan, Felisa C Hao, Nolene Conn, Anna Pezzuto, Lucia Ferraro, Frank Di Napoli

Recently Deceased

Ronalynne Stephenson, Fr. Peter Neville, Raimondo & Raffaella Dolce, Giovanni

Death Anniversary

Flordealiza Paraiso

For the Souls of

In-Nello Pillon and all forgotten Souls and Holy Souls in Purgatory

Special Intentions

Maria de Silva
Rian Galliot

Parish Office

Maria/Rian
Mon, Wed-Fri
9.30am - 2pm

Hall enquiries:
9558 3257

Mass Times

Sat: 5:30pm (Vigil)
Sun: 8am & 10am
Mon: 8 am
Tue - Fri: 9:00am
Sat: 9:30am

Family Mass with Children's Liturgy:
3rd Sunday of the Month 10am Mass

Filipino Mass:
1st Sun 11:30am

Il Gruppo di Rosario Italiano: Il gruppo di preghiera Italiano, si raduna ogni giovedì alle ore 10 nella sala parrocchiale.

Sacraments Confession
Sat 8:30—9:20am,
4:45pm or any time by - appointment

Baptism
Every 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sunday 11.15am

Marriage
At least 6 months notice required

Anointing of the Sick
By appointment

Devotions
Every Friday
Adoration
3-4pm

Rosary & Benediction
Sat 8:30-9:30am

Elsa George Rosary Group Second Saturday of every month at 2.30pm
9716 6676 All welcome

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Wednesday 7pm

ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES will be at **7am, 9am** and **7pm**. Don't Forget that like Good Friday, Ash Wednesday is a day of abstinence and fasting.

Anyone with Palms to donate for Ash Wednesday, Fr. John has requested that you please bring them in on Monday the 12th of Feb, 2018.

Stations of the Cross Every Friday through Lent at 7pm. Beginning on 16th of Feb, 2018.

A PROGRAM FOR THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION, 2018 is now ready. The dates are as follows: **INFORMATION AND ENROLLMENT THURSDAY 15 FEB, 6 PM** in the Parish Hall. **CLASSES** at 9 am **SUNDAYS- FEB 18, 25, MARCH 04, 11** in the Parish Hall and in the Church. Mass of your choice Sundays 8 or 10 AM. **SECOND RITE** 13TH MARCH- 6 PM – **TUESDAY NIGHT**. There are two forms (a release form and a registration form) at the back of the Church that will need to be filled out and brought to the enrolment session along with a copy of the child's Baptism certificate and \$50.

YOUTH GROUP

The Year of Youth has begun!
Youth nights: Mar 10, Apr 14, May 12, Jun 16, Jul 14, Aug 4, Sep 8, Oct 13, Nov 10, Dec 15.

Ages 10-15: 4pm-5:20pm before Mass

Ages 15-18: 6:30pm-8pm after Mass

Young Adults: Select days regularly

For more information or if you are interested in becoming a leader, call **Rian** on **0402 135 637**

Prayer Journals: There are copies of the 'God's Word 2018' Prayer journals for sale. They are \$15.95 each. If you would like to purchase one, please contact **Rian** on **0402 135 637**.

There will be Choir Practice in the hall on Wednesday the 21st of February from **7:30pm** in the Church. All choir members are encouraged to attend as well as anyone interested in joining. It will be a continuous event, happening every fortnight.

The Parish is providing all parishioners free access to *formed.org* as a new initiative for Lent. *Formed.org* is a digital streaming service for Catholics, similar to Netflix, providing high quality faith formation resources including e-books, movies, audio and study programs. Registration is free. See **Michael** After Mass for the code. Visit DulwichHillParish.formed.org

The Bishop's Blend: Join the Most Reverend Bishop Richard Umbers, Auxiliary Bishop of Sydney on **Tuesday, 27th February 2018 at 7:00am at the Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel Sydney**. Online booking is essential. For more information and to purchase tickets go to <https://thebishopsblendthirddedition.eventbrite.com> or contact us at bishopsblend@sydneycatholic.org

Men ALIVE retreat: If you are a bloke over 18, consider this: On the 17th and 18th of March, in Enmore. Come along and be inspired, encouraged, and rediscover God's purpose for your life. Enquiries, phone Johnnie McGinness on 0413126829, or Truman Lomi on 0413 781 089. To register go to Eventbrite.com.au and search for 'Menalive Enmore'

"Walk with me", this Lent, through a guided silent retreat given by the Verbum Dei Missionaries: Sunday 11th February 9.30am - 3pm. It will be held at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville and cost \$30. Please BYO lunch as no food will be provided. For more information contact Kylie 0403453620 or verbumdeisydney@gmail.com

Catholic Mindfulness Workshop THIS ASH WEDNESDAY: Join Catholic psychologist, Dr Gregory Bottaro at his workshop where he will teach you skills to help support the people in your communities. **When: Wednesday, February 14**

Where: Notre Dame University, Broadway Campus **Cost:** \$100 **Register:** www.rom.org.au

SAINTS of the WEEK (12 – 18 Feb, 2018):

Wed, 14th: Ash Wednesday

Sat, 10th: Commemoration of the 7 founders of the Servite order.