



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

Catholic Parish of Dulwich Hill, Archdiocese of Sydney, Established in 1907

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Bishop Richard Umbers DD VG (Bishop in Residence)

Fr. Andrew James (Parish Priest), (Deacon) Rev Louis Azzopardi



Our Lord JESUS CHRIST, KING of the UNIVERSE / B

21 November 2021

**PRIMARY
SCHOOL**



Ph: 9558 5308

Principal:

Ms Frances Stewart

REC: Ms Jo-Anne Ross

Email:

info@stpcdulwichhill.catholic.edu.au

**With St Paul of the
Cross we pray ...**

For the sick

Leonor Delgado

Noel Nacua

Patricia Stack

Jovito Redaja

Raul Cabrera

Angela Di Donato

Sr Julianne Murphy

Natalina Gallace

Ruth Wilson

Raymond Hudson

Fr Jim Duggan

Pat Allport

Cardo, Zennie, Ian, Pat

Francheska Bechara

Robyn, Eimy & Helen

Angelis Alima & Charlie

Recently Deceased

Nelson Velasquez

Edgar Labella

Josephine Scicluna

Clarita Pacheco

Erlinda Duque Swords

Death Anniversary

Isabelo Corpus (2nd anniv)

For the Souls

Andres, Pricilla, Ligaya

All forgotten Souls and Holy
Souls in Purgatory

Special Intentions

Maureen & Ron Giudice and

family

Rose Lukey

Anne Lowe

Mary Harb

Margaret Hampton

Leah Tillam

"All who are on the side of truth listen to my voice"

Every Saturday, the Sydney Morning Herald has a feature article called "The Two of Us." Using their own words, each of these articles explores the relationship between two people and the ways in which their lives have influenced each other. One of these articles explored the complex relationship between a mother and her daughter who had converted to Islam when she was 28.

At first, her mother thought, "Fine, she can be Muslim. No one is going to know." But when her daughter started wearing a head scarf, the mother panicked. The relationship between them became very strained, with her mother feeling ashamed and thinking that other mothers were judging her. The daughter, however, described her own conversion as a spiritual awakening. Her family was 'Catholic' she said. She had been an altar server, had read at Mass but her family had never talked about God or religion at home, even though her mother was a teacher in a Catholic school. In fact, she said that, growing up, she didn't really know what 'Catholic' meant and wasn't sure whether or not God existed.

Faced with this situation, the mother turned, not to the Bible or to the teachings of the Church or even to a study of Islam to see what her daughter found so attractive about it. Instead, she started reading 'spirituality books' by popular New Age writers and seeking advice from members of her meditation group. In the end, she reconciled with her daughter on the basis of 'accepting people for who they are'. Her daughter however spoke about her conversion as giving her peace and a connection with God that she had never experienced before.

This story highlights some very important issues in contemporary life, especially the nature of our relationship with Christ and, through him, with God. One particularly important issue is how common 'cultural Catholicism/Christianity' is. This is an experience of 'faith' that makes no demands on you "a Christianity dumbed down to the idea that there is a God and we should all be nice to each other and not much else. It doesn't impose any moral obligation or provide any moral inspiration to the Christian beyond what society approves of" (**Christians: the urgent case for Jesus in our world**). Implicit in all this is a vague sense that Jesus is just one among many great and inspiring teachers.

This does not include the many people who struggle and often fail to live the way of Christ but who persevere despite their failures. It would however include those who describe themselves as 'spiritual but not religious'; those who see no need to go to Mass, who reject basic Christian teachings and do not participate in the life of the Church but insist on describing themselves as Catholics.

The young woman experienced God for the first time through the demands of Islam - its teaching about God, the practice of regular daily prayer and both the expectations and support provided by the community she became part of. Where this will eventually lead her is ultimately known only to God. "The Church considers all goodness and truth found in non-Christian religions as a preparation for the Gospel and given by God who enlightens all men that they may at length have life" (**#843 Catechism of the Catholic Church**). As Jesus says in our Gospel reading, "all who are on the side of truth listen to my voice."

This voice speaks to us with authority because of who Jesus is. Jesus is not only a "son of man", someone who shares in our human life but also "a king, who came into this world to bear witness to the truth." It is this 'truth', that is, his share in the life of God, that gives Jesus' voice supreme authority in our lives and, as it were, 'demands' that we follow the Way that he has shown us. It is however a 'demand' that is made out of love for us and with a profound understanding of what we really need to make us happy. "Come to me all you who labour and are burdened and I will give you rest; for my yoke is easy and my burden light."

We are, of course, always free to reject this authority that Christ "the King of the Universe" wishes to exercise in our lives. In the end however it is a question of trust. Who do we trust to guide us in this one life that we have? Ourselves, our society, a particular ideology, a close friend? Of whom or what can we say, "truly your decrees are to be trusted...until the end of time"?

Reference: Greg Sheridan **Christians: the urgent case for Jesus in our world** Allen and Unwin Sydney 2001

Deacon Louis

Advent booklets 'Blessed'

As we countdown the days to Christmas during these difficult times, we pray that by meditating on God's Word in these daily Advent and Christmas reflections, you may be graced with moments of silence to ponder in your heart (cf. Lk 2:19) the many "blessings" in your life - inspiring you in your call to "blessedness" (that is, "holiness") where true happiness is gained (cf. Pope Francis, *Gaudete et exultate*, 64)

These are available at the front of the church \$2 donation



Aid to the
Church in Need
ACN AUSTRALIA

Job Vacancies - Could you share the stories of suffering Christians? Are you looking for flexible part time work? Aid to the Church in Need is recruiting for a number of Diocesan Outreach Assistants who will deliver monthly presentations in parishes across the Archdiocese. For all details visit, www.aidtochurch.org/work

Covid-19 Update

Please wear a mask in Church out of consideration for others.

First Holy Communion

Fourth lesson: Saturday 20 Nov 4:30pm or Sunday 21 Nov 9:00am

First Communion Mass:

Friday 26 November 2021 6:30pm

Saturday 4 December 2021 10:00am

CWF Parish Appeal

The Charitable Works Fund (CWF) August Appeal will be happening this weekend and we need your help!

Your donations will help those most struggling this winter - single mothers facing homelessness, those struggling with mental health and our Aboriginal communities. You will also be building a culture of support and encouragement for our hospital and university chaplains, and our future priests at the Good Shepherd Seminary.

Special envelopes are available at the parish. Alternatively, you can learn more and donate securely at www.ourfaithourworks.org/cwf. Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.



PARISH WEEKEND MASS ROSTER 27th and 28th November 2021

Readers:	5:30pm	R Lazarus P Allport
	8:00am	J Peters G Turnbull
	10:00am	B Yammine C Alam

Choir Practice on Monday at 7pm in the Church every fortnight. Next choir rehearsal on the **29th November 2021**.

'It's the most wonderful time of the year' - Your local **St Vincent de Paul** Conference is now holding it's Christmas Appeal!

Your kindness can help us feed families, help with essentials and support those in crisis. Together we can give practical and emotional support to those who are vulnerable in our community.

This year we have our very own website - we have a target of \$1,500 if you can help please go to our website here <https://my.fundraise.vinniesnsw.org.au/fundraise-your-way/dulwich-hill-conference-christmas-appeal>

You can also: * Fill an envelope and return to us or via poor box
* Over the phone on 13 18 12

All donations over \$2 or more are tax deductible - please see us for a receipt

Feast/Solemnity/Memorial/Saint of the Week (22 - 27 Nov 2021)

Mon	22/11	St Cecilia, virgin, martyr
Tue	23/11	St Clement I, pope, martyr St Columban, abbot
Wed	24/11	St Andrew Dũng-Lac, priest, and Companions, martyrs
Thu	25/11	St Catherine of Alexandria, virgin, martyr

St Cecilia is regarded as the patroness of music, because she heard heavenly music in her heart when she was married, and is represented in art with an organ or organ-pipes in her hand. She married Valerian and converted him to the Faith of Christ. She also converted Tiburtius, the brother of Valerian. Both these men and St Cecilia suffered martyrdom for the Faith.

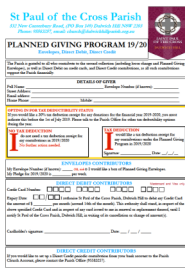


St Clement I, a Roman of Jewish extraction, owed his conversion to Sts Peter and Paul. He was ordained Bishop by St Peter. About the year 91, St Clement became Pope. St Clement wrote a classic Epistle to the Christians at Corinth. He died a martyr about the year 100.



St Columban

Born in Ireland, St Columban has remained famous as a result of the numerous monasteries he established in Gaul, Switzerland, and Italy. St Columban, Latin Columbanus, abbot and writer, one of the greatest missionaries of the Celtic church, who initiated a revival of spirituality on the European continent.



Planned Giving Program Form 2021/2022

Please return urgently the **Form** for the Planned Giving Envelope and tick/sign whether you are opting for **30% Tax Deduction** or **No Tax Deduction**. This form will also enable us to update your details such as address, email and phone number.

Email: church@dulwichhillparish.org.au

*Also, please do not
use your old envelopes
(2020/2021).*



Parish Office

Maria - Mondays

Cecilia - Wed-Friday

9.30am - 2:30pm

Parish & Hall enquiries

9558 3257

Mass Times

Sat: 5:30pm (Vigil)

Sun: 8am & 10am

Mon to Fri: 9:00am

Sat: 9:30am

Family Mass with Children's Liturgy

3rd Sunday of the

Month 10am Mass

Family Rosary & Morning

Tea - 2nd Sunday of the

Month after 10am Mass in

the Church Hall

Filipino Mass

1st Sun 11:30am

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

Any time on call

Devotions

Holy Hour & Rosary

Sunday - Friday

before morning mass

Rosary & Benediction

Sat 8:30-9:30am

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Wednesday 7pm

