



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



Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time / C

14 August 2022

PRIMARY SCHOOL



Ph.: 9558 5308
Principal:

Ms Frances Stewart
REC: Ms Christine Brais
Family Educ: Tania Chahoud
Email: info@stpedulwichhill.catholic.edu.au

With St Paul of the Cross we pray ...

For the sick

- Elmano Belo
 - Patrick Crowley
 - Sidney Luximon
 - Allen Portell
 - Leonor Delgado
 - Patricia Stack
 - Raul Cabrera
 - Sr Julianne Murphy
 - Natalina Gallace
 - Ruth Wilson
 - Raymond Hudson
 - Fr Jim Duggan
 - Pat Allport
 - Cardo, Zennie, Ian, Pat Christina
 - Francheska Bechara
 - Bonifacio Su Ramo III
- ### Recently Deceased
- Emma Dudge
 - Gavin Powell
 - Alfonso Costantini

Death Anniversary

- Peter Doyle
- Joaquim Martins
- Salvatore Gesimondo
- Florentino Rita

For the Souls

- Benvinda Gois
- Jose Sebastiao Freitas
- Maurilio Nobrega
- Antonia Nobrega Gomes
- Antonio Gomes
- Maria Nobrega Gomes

All forgotten Souls and Holy Souls in Purgatory

Special Intentions

- Juanita Fabia (thanksgiving)
- Henry & Tina and my Family
- Leah Tillam

"With so many witnesses...we too should throw off everything that hinders us...and keep running steadily in the race we have started."



Chariots of Fire is a movie that tells the true story of two English runners who competed in the 1924 Paris Olympics, Harold Abrahams and Eric Liddell (pictured). Harold trained hard hoping that, by his efforts, he could overcome his country's prejudice towards Jews. Eric also trained hard. As a devout Christian, he believed that his athletic ability was a gift from God and that, by running, he praised God.

The day chosen for the championship race was Sunday, a decision that resulted in a crisis of conscience for Eric since he considered Sunday to be the Lord's Day, a time for rest and prayer, not a day of competitive effort. He told his manager he wouldn't be able to run and rejected all the arguments put before him, including an appeal to patriotism by the future king of England. He is shown as participating in a championship race on another day where he would win a gold medal. The end credits of the movie note that he later became a Presbyterian missionary in China where he would die in 1945 in a Japanese prison camp.

The depth of his faith and his willingness to accept, in Christ's name, the challenges this faith put to him is obviously a constant theme of his life. It is also the theme of each of our readings for this Sunday and puts before us something that we all find uncomfortable-that faith, our relationship with God through Christ, can challenge us to go beyond what is comfortable and acceptable to us and to our society.

The Letter to the Hebrews has the image of running a race and *"running steadily...and not losing sight of Jesus who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection."* This image concludes the list of the great heroes of the Old Testament such as Abraham and Sarah (last week's reading) who are to be praised for their perseverance despite the obstacles they experienced. They had, as Paul would write about his own life in Christ, *"run the race to the finish"* and now awaited *"the crown of righteousness"*. Applying this to ourselves, we could consider all the gifts that God has given us, including and above all our faith. Do we, as Eric Liddell believed he did, use them to show our thanks and praise to God who is present among us?

The story of Jeremiah thrown into a well for *"disheartening the people"* by the message that God had asked him to deliver to his people tells us about another challenging aspect of faith: it can confront us and our society with questions that we would prefer not to face because responding to them in a way that emphasises our relationship with God may lead to persecution and rejection from all those who have their own answers. We could think of all the efforts our society makes to create a Utopia without God, where all the issues of life, the way we should live and what we should aim for, are discussed without any reference to God, let alone to the Christian faith that historically underpins our culture.

"Do you suppose I have come to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you but rather division." These are difficult words and they must have startled Jesus' disciples. They would seem to contradict the message of the angels, earlier in Luke's Gospel, that the baby Jesus would bring *"Peace on earth to people of good will."* This peace, the peace that Jesus came to give, however is a different kind of peace to the one that we are used to. Often what we describe as peace means no more than simply getting along with each other. Jesus lived and spoke in a way that provoked people to either accept or reject him. This is why the Letter to the Hebrews describes the *"shamefulness"* of his rejection and death on the cross as an act of courage. His resurrection proved the truth of what he came to give us even though his opponents believed that his death was the end of all that he stood for.

"I have come to bring fire to the earth." Jesus' words are directed at 'burning away' all the things, including our desire to simply 'fit in', that clutter our lives *"especially the sin that clings so easily."* It is no surprise when surveys reveal that for many Catholics their views on a whole range of issues, including moral issues, are essentially no different to those held by the rest of society. When we *"lose sight of Jesus"* we lose sight of who we are and where we should be going. We are running in our own race. We have dropped out of *"the race we have started"*.

Deacon Louis

A message from Aid to the Church in Need Australia: ACN is the Pontifical Foundation dedicated to supporting the suffering and persecuted Church. In areas of crisis, churches are often destroyed by violence. Where the faith is growing new churches are needed. ACN supports the reconstruction in these areas because a church is the centre of the life of faith and even the smallest chapel provides people with hope and a spiritual home. Can you help build churches to support the faithful throughout the world?
Visit: www.aidtochurch.org/construction



Feast/Solemnity/Memorial/Saint of the Week (15-20 August 2022)

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| Mon | 15/8 | The ASSUMPTION of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY |
| Tue | 16/8 | St Stephen of Hungary |
| Fri | 19/8 | St John Eudes, priest |
| Sat | 20/8 | St Bernard. abbot, doctor |

The **Feast of the Assumption** is one of the oldest holy days in the Church, with accounts of celebrations going back to the sixth century. Christians in the East, both Catholic and Orthodox refer to it as the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos, or "the falling asleep of the Mother of God." The earliest printed reference to the belief that Mary's body was assumed into Heaven dates from the fourth century, in a document entitled



"The Falling Asleep of the Holy Mother of God." The document is written in the voice of the Apostle John, to whom Christ on the Cross had entrusted the care of His mother, and it recounts the death, laying in the tomb, and assumption of the Blessed Virgin. Tradition variously places Mary's death at Jerusalem or at Ephesus, where John was living.

PARISH WEEKEND MASS ROSTER 20 & 21 August 2022

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| Readers: | 5:30pm | R Lazarus M Dos Santos |
| | 8:00am | P Tan M El Khoury |
| | 10:00am | L & J Scanlon |

Support Caritas Ukraine Appeal

As millions of people are likely to be displaced due to Russia's invasion, your support is more important than ever for the people of Ukraine.

Donate generously to the Caritas Ukraine Appeal: <https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/ukraine/>

Donations over \$2 are tax deductible.



Bookkeeper with MYOB experience required at the Sacred Heart Monastery in Kensington.

Flexible days (2-3) and hours. Lovely environment and small team.

To apply contact Catherine on 0419256522.

15th August 2022 Monday
The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Mass Times: 9:00am School Mass
7:00pm Evening Mass

First Communion
Our children's First Communion Mass will be on Saturday the 17th September at 10:00am

Registration and Information: Sunday the 14th August 9:00 am in the parish hall
There will be 4 preparation classes for the children either at 4:30pm Saturday or 9am Sunday in the parish hall
Dates for these classes are: 20th/21st August; 27th/28th August; 3rd/4th September; 10th/11th September.

Please speak to Deacon Louis if you have any questions

Thank you for supporting the CWF August Parish Appeal On behalf of this parish, we sincerely thank you for supporting the **Charitable Works Fund (CWF) August Appeal.** Through your generous gift, we are able to continue in our mission to provide care for the most vulnerable in our community through our CWF agencies and ministries, and to promote the good works of our faith in our seminaries, schools and universities. For more information, please visit www.ourfaithworks.org/cwf.

Billings LIFE are presenting a free webinar entitled "Fertility Literacy in the Digital World ~ the best use of fertility tracking apps" on Monday 22nd August at 7.30pm AEST Presenters from Australia, Mexico and NZ will review 3 fertility tracking apps. **See the Billings LIFE website or Facebook page for details and registration.** website: <https://www.billings.life/en/> Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/BillingsOvulationMethod/posts/pfbid02hgoXax8qx9uGJpRV7nGfJSJR5VpZ_NJC6BbXUo7vcD9oss64wwwhf4H5N8ShGVJFvI

Choir Notice
The next rehearsal will be on Monday 22nd August 2022 at 7:00pm

A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

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 and 4th Sunday of the month.

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

