



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 Website: dulwichhillparish.org.au

Email: church@dulwichhillparish.org.au, secretary@dulwichhillparish.org.au



Bishop Richard Umbers DD VG (Bishop in Residence)

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



Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time / C

2 October 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

Bernadette O'Shea

Mary Duggan

Elmano Belo

Patrick Crowley

Sidney Luximon

Allen Portell

Leonor Delgado

Patricia Stack

Raul Cabrera

Sr Julianne Murphy

Ruth Wilson

Raymond Hudson

Fr Jim Duggan

Pat Allport

Cardo, Zennie, Ian, Pat

Christina

Recently Deceased

Paul Alexander James

Josephine Corrine Roehrig

Marita Jimenez-Waugh

John Bradstreet

Rolando Binuya

Danny Hernandez

Death Anniversary

Tony Attard

John Michael McGrath

Tess Lasala

For the Souls

Giobata, Pietro, Maria, Angelo

Vigolo

Luigia Pretto

All forgotten Souls and Holy

Souls in Purgatory

Special Intention

Henry & Tina and my family

Leah Tillam

"God's gift was not a spirit of timidity but the Spirit of power and love and self-control"

'Brother Andrew' was the code name for Anne van der Bijl who died last Tuesday aged 94. He became famous as 'God's Smuggler' for his success in smuggling Bibles and religious literature into the Communist countries of Eastern Europe. His story is an example of what Jesus meant by his response to the apostles' request: "Increase our faith."

He was born in Holland and, at 18, joined the army and was sent to Indonesia where the Dutch were trying to reclaim their colonial empire after World War II. When he was in hospital after being wounded, he started to read the Bible his mother had given him. This, and his own sense of guilt at the brutality and repression he had participated in, changed his life. When he returned to Holland, he reconnected with his evangelical faith and prayed to know what direction his life should take.

Recalling that time in his life, he wrote, "There wasn't much faith in my prayer. I just said, Lord, if you will show me the way, I will follow you. Amen." A holiday in then communist Yugoslavia made him realise how restricted Christians living there were. He returned the following year but this time with Bibles and religious literature hidden in various parts of his VW. As he watched the police at the border crossing checking the cars in front of him, he remembers praying, "Lord, in my luggage I have scripture that I want to take to your children across this border. When you were on earth you made blind eyes see. Now, I pray, make seeing eyes blind. Do not let the guards see those things you do not want them to see."

The police waved him through the check point. He went again the following year and, encouraged by his success, he did the same in other countries within the Soviet bloc, including Russia itself. He then recruited others to do as he did. None were ever arrested. He later founded an international aid organisation called Open Doors which provided aid, religious literature and advocacy for persecuted Christians throughout the world.

Brother Andrew's story brings together some of the most important things our Scripture readings teach us this week. When the apostles asked Jesus "Increase our faith", he replied by speaking about the smallest seed they knew, a mustard seed. Faith, even though it may seem as tiny as a mustard seed, can have a dramatic effect beyond anything they could imagine - something that they would have thought was as impossible as a mulberry tree uprooting and planting itself in the sea. If our faith in Christ is truly a living thing in our lives, then God would work through this producing results beyond our imagining. The apostles would themselves experience this when they went on to continue Jesus' mission.

Brother Andrew never forgot how tiny his faith seemed to him, especially at the beginning, but God had worked through him to produce extraordinary results. His work was also a response to a call for help that echoed the prophet Habakkuk's own prayer for his people, "How long, Lord, am I to call for help and you will not listen?" God's response was, "if it comes slowly, wait; for come it will, without fail." Brother Andrew's simple, though dangerous, mission of delivering religious literature that spoke of hope and God's love for us, kept open the door to a better way of life to people living in the closed and repressive societies the various communist regimes had created.

He was also not "ashamed of witnessing to the Lord", even though many questioned how effective he was and how he was putting his own life in danger. All the stages of his mission, from its planning to its successful completion demonstrate what St Paul describes as the gift of "the Spirit of power and love and self-control." A "spirit of timidity" would never have undertaken such a difficult and, in our view, such an impossible mission.

It is a reminder to us to trust completely in God's power to work through us and through the faith we have been given, even though it may seem insignificant to us compared to the challenges we experience to our faith in our lives. Christian faith is not primarily about us and our ideas about God. It is about Christ who is "God with us" in our world, like a tiny seed, quietly transforming our lives and our world, since "nothing is impossible for God."

Reference: "Died: 'Brother Andrew' who smuggled Bibles into Communist countries" Christianity Today 27/9/22

Deacon Louis

Mass & Blessing of the Sick at Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto rear of St James Avenue EARLWOOD. 2206

The Society of Our Lady of Lourdes would like to extend an invitation for the parishioners to come and join in the Celebration of the Mass & Blessing of the Sick on **Sunday 9th October, 2022**. Proceedings will commence with the recitation of the Rosary at 2.30pm & followed by the Mass & Blessing of the Sick at 3pm. The main celebrant will be Bishop Danny Meagher. **ALL WELCOME.**

National Catholic Men's Gathering - MAX2022 in Sydney @ Benedict XVI Retreat Centre: Oct 7-9

MAX2022 is a National Catholic Gathering of men which is a collaboration between menALIVE and the Sydney Centre for Evangelisation. The theme this year is—RENEW / REFRESH / RECONNECT. After several years of almost no live events, we are looking forward to gather to listen, learn and long for the fullness of life. We desire to grow into the men we were made to be, better husbands, fathers, and men of God.

Men from all over Australia will join us and there will be nothing this year in Australia like it! Online registrations open now: <https://app.tickets.org.au/MA/MAX2022Syd>

Catholic Men's Fellowship

Catholic Men's Formation and Prayer Group currently meet Thursdays 8pm till 9pm, via online conference (zoom). We are a group of men who have met on a regular basis over the past ten years. We invite men to various formation programs, and to conclude with Prayer of the Church. Our chaplain is Deacon Louis Azzopardi. We are currently using Kapaun's Men, Virtue Series.

For details on how to connect, contact Lee Caruana via email leecaruana@hotmail.com

Dear parishioners of St Paul of the Cross Church,

We are delighted to invite to see and purchase hand-made religious articles made by the sisters of St Elisabeth Convent (Belarus).

The exposition will take place on the **17th October 2022 Monday** after the 9:00am Mass.

We are happy and thanking God for the opportunity to introduce and offer them to you.

With Love in Christ,
Sisters of St Elizabeth Convent

(The whole text of this letter and a flyer are on the bulletin board.)

Feast/Solemnity/Memorial/Saint of the Week (3 - 8 Oct 2022)

Tue	4/10	St Francis of Assisi
Thu	6/10	St Bruno, priest
Fri	7/10	Our Lady of the Rosary

Our Lady of the Rosary

The 7th October is the anniversary of decisive victory of the combined fleet of the Holy League of 1571 over the Ottoman navy at the Battle of Lepanto. In thanksgiving for this event, which was attributed to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin through the recitation of the Holy Rosary, St Pius V instituted an annual feast under the title of Our Lady of Victory.

Pope Pius V dedicated the day as one of thanksgiving to Our Lady of Victory. Pope Gregory XIII later changed the name to the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. The story of the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary focuses on the intercessory power of Mary. It shows that when Christians are in danger, they can go to Mary.



Volunteer Accounts Officer/Bookkeeper

Are you a retired Accounts Officer looking to contribute your bookkeeping skills to a Catholic Charity?

Palms Australia facilitates our response, as church, to global communities who seek mentors to build the capacity of their organisations and individuals and so reduce poverty. Securing a part-time volunteer Accounts Officer will allow Palms to use more of their donations to recruit, prepare, send, and support the qualified and experienced Catholics who volunteer for our mission abroad. Kevin Wilson will be delighted to discuss the possibilities
Ph 0412 550 902 OR E-mail kevin@palms.org.au

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.

PARISH WEEKEND MASS ROSTER 8 - 9 October 2022

Readers:	5:30pm	M Dos Santos P Allport
	8:00am	J Peters G Turnbull
	10:00am	B Yammine C Alam

Choir Notice
The next rehearsal will be on Monday 3rd October 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.

2022 Annual Marriage Mass
Are you celebrating a significant wedding anniversary in 2022? Renew your vows to each other at Annual Marriage Mass celebrated by His Grace Archbishop Anthony Fisher at 10:30am on Sunday 16th October at St Mary's Cathedral. All families welcome! Please RSVP by the 12th of September at <https://sydneycatholic.eventsair.com/marriage-mass/marriagemass22>. For any queries, email lifemarriagefamily@sydneycatholic.org or phone 9307 8480.

